

Our climate change roadmap to 2050

This roadmap presents a high-level overview of the timelines and actions on which we will respond to climate change as an organisation and how the Council plans to support climate action in Tairāwhiti. The actions cover mitigation, adaptation, and just/equitable transition pieces of work.

For Council

2022 – 2023

Research and assessment

- Adopt a net-zero 2030 target for Council.
- Assess options to meet the net-zero 2030 target.
- Establish adaptation outcomes.
- Staff consider climate change in everything we do.

2023 – 2024

Strategy

- Align climate change strategy projects with our Long Term Plan priorities and community outcomes.
- Complete a climate change strategy that supports government policy.
- Understand what level of climate risks our organisation will accept.

2025 – 2027

Short-term: How we'll achieve targets

- Reduce Council emissions by 70-90% by 2027.
- Complete landfill gas capture at landfills.
- Work on fleet conversion to EVs.
- Action adaptation projects.

2028 – 2032

Mid-term: How we'll achieve targets

- Continue to reduce our organisation's remaining emissions and become a net-zero organisation by 2030 through carbon in-setting.
- Progress fleet conversion.
- Start larger organisational adaptation projects.
- Complete a review of our organisational climate change strategy and plans.
- Update the climate action strategy.
- Develop the plan for our future organisational climate action.

2033 – 2035

Review

- Complete a review of our organisational climate change strategy and plans.
- Update the climate action strategy.
- Develop the plan for our future organisational climate action.

2036 – 2040

Continue

- Action mitigation projects that take us from net-zero to a zero-carbon organisation.
- Increase our organisational adaptation work.

2041 – 2050

Long-term: How we'll achieve targets

- Become a zero-carbon organisation by 2050.



For Tairāwhiti region

2022 – 2023

Research and assessment

- Start Tairāwhiti's first climate change risk assessment.
- Start working with Community groups and iwi to progress regional climate change response.
- Support the region to reduce carbon emissions.
- Continue existing adaptation actions such as flood mitigation and Waingake Planting.

2023 – 2024

Strategy

- Complete Tairāwhiti's first climate change risk assessment.
- Understand what level of climate risks our community can accept.
- Continue to support the region to reduce carbon emissions.
- Progress existing and new adaptation work.

2025 – 2027

Short-term: How we'll achieve targets

- Develop a plan to address Tairāwhiti's climate risks.
- Work with Treaty partners and stakeholder groups to reduce emissions and progress regional just/equitable transition projects.

2028 – 2032

Mid-term: How we'll achieve targets

- Continue to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in our region.
- Work with Treaty partners and key stakeholder groups on big regional adaptation projects.
- Work with Treaty partners and key stakeholder groups on just transition projects.

2033 – 2035

Review

- Complete a review of our regional climate change strategy and plans.
- Consider how we better support regional climate action.

2036 – 2040

Continue

- Support large projects that tackle climate change issues in Tairāwhiti.
- Work with Treaty partners and stakeholder groups to reduce climate change risks in the region to an acceptable level.

2041 – 2050

Long-term: How we'll achieve targets

- Work with Treaty partners and stakeholder groups to achieve regional decarbonisation.
- Work with Treaty partners and stakeholder groups to ensure our region's economy is protected from impacts of climate change.
- Work with Treaty partners and stakeholder groups to ensure that climate change risks in Tairāwhiti are reduced and we are resilient to further change.

Mitigation is how we reduce greenhouse gas emissions which are the causes of climate change. This simply means how we take action to reduce emissions.

Adaptation is how we take action to reduce the negative impacts and manage the risks of climate change.

Adaptation Projects enable communities to adapt to the potential impacts of climate variability and change.

Carbon in-setting means that instead of purchasing carbon credits to offset our residual emissions, we invest the money into an internal project that either helps to reduce emissions at source or sequesters carbon. An example is the Waingake native planting programme.

Just/equitable transition is how we carry everybody in the region along to avoid unfair outcomes as we move from a carbon-intensive system to a low-carbon future. This also means that people will not lose their employment or suffer other impacts because of climate change action.

Net-zero is when the atmospheric emissions of greenhouse gasses are balanced by removal measures.

Zero-carbon is when there is no atmospheric emission of greenhouse gasses.