







AGENDA
RĀRANGI TAKE

COUNCIL

10AM, Wednesday 22 November 2023

Council Chambers, 37 Ayr Street, Ohakune

RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ruapehu

NOTICE OF MEETING

A MEETING OF RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 37 AYR STREET, OHAKUNE ON WEDNESDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 2023, AT 10AM

Members

Mayor	Weston Kirton
Deputy Mayor	Vivienne Hoeta
Councillors	Robyn Gram
	Janelle Hinch
	Channey Iwikau
	Fiona Kahukura Hadley-Chase
	Lyn Neeson
	Rabbit Nottage
	Brenda Ralph
	Korty Wilson

Clive Manley
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Quorum (5)

THE PUBLIC BUSINESS PART OF THE AGENDA IS LIVE STREAMED TO COUNCIL'S FACEBOOK PAGE

RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ruapehu

ORDER PAPER

A MEETING OF RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 37 AYR STREET, OHAKUNE ON WEDNESDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 2023, AT 10AM

PUBLIC BUSINESS | KAUPAPA O WAHO

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1 Opening Karakia | Karakia Timatanga

2 Apologies (includes leave of absence notification)

3 Declarations of Interest

Members need to stand aside from decision-making when a conflict arises between their role as a Member of the Council and any private or other external interest they might have. This note is provided as a reminder to Members to review the matters on the agenda and assess and identify where they may have a pecuniary or other conflict of interest, or where there may be a perception of a conflict of interest.

If a member feels they do have a conflict of interest, they should publicly declare that at the start of the meeting or of the relevant item of business and refrain from participating in the discussion or voting on that item.

4 Notification of Additional Items

Matters Requiring Urgent Attention as Determined by Resolution of Ruapehu District Council

Pursuant to Sections 46A(7) and 46A(7A) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, to receive the Chairperson's explanation that specified item(s), which do not appear on the Agenda of this meeting and/or the meeting to be held with the public excluded, will be discussed. The item(s) may be allowed onto the agenda by resolution of the Ruapehu District Council with an explanation as to why they cannot be delayed until a future meeting.

Minor Matters relating to the General Business of Ruapehu District Council

Any additions in accordance with Section 46A(7A) may be received and discussed, but no resolution, decision, or recommendation may be made in respect of the item except to refer it to a subsequent meeting of the Ruapehu District Council for further discussion.

5 Confirmation of Order of Meeting

		Page
6	**Public Forum** A period of up to 30 minutes is set aside for public participation at the commencement of any meeting of the Council. Public forums are designed to enable members of the public to bring matters of their choice, not necessarily on the meeting's agenda, to the attention of the Council. Council standing orders do not apply.	*5*
7	**Confirmation of Minutes of Council Meeting(s)** The minutes of the previous Council Meetings will be put to the Council for confirmation.	*6*

Please Note: The contents of the Reports attached to this Order Paper have yet to be considered by Council, and officer recommendations may be altered or changed by the Council in the process of making the formal Council decisions. This Order Paper may be subject to amendment.

REPORTS

8	**Deputation from Community Board Chairs: Interim Speed Management Plan**	*32*
9	**Deliberation Report: Interim Speed Management Plan**	*33*
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11	**Elected Member Appointment to Risk and Assurance Committee**	*72*
12	**Civil Defence Training Update**	*74*
13	**Financial Monitoring Report for the Month Ending 31 October 2023**	*76*
14	**Mayor's Monthly Report**	*85*
15	**Chief Executive's Monthly Report**	*87*
16	**Receipt of Minutes of Risk & Assurance Committee for Information**	*97*
17	**Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chief Executive and Elected Members' Verbal Reports** (to provide updates on upcoming events, and other matters of general interest)	*112*
18	**Resolution to Exclude the Public for Consideration of Council Business** (to consider and adopt confidential items)	*113*

PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS | KAUPAPA Ā ROTO

Please Note: The contents of the Reports attached to this Order Paper have yet to be considered by Council, and officer recommendations may be altered or changed by the Council in the process of making the formal Council decisions. This Order Paper may be subject to amendment.

Report to: Council

Meeting Date: **22 November 2023**

Subject: **Public Forum: Temporary Suspension and Reinstatement of Standing Orders**

Report for: **Decision**

Author(s): Tasha Paladin **GOVERNANCE MANAGER**

Endorsed By: Clive Manley **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Purpose of Report | Te take mō te pūrongo

1.1 The purpose of this report is to enable the Council to temporarily suspend Standing Orders to allow Elected Members and the Public to address the Council.

Recommendation(s) | Ngā tūtohunga

That the Council**:**

1 Receives the Report **Public Forum: Temporary Suspension and Reinstatement of Standing Orders**; and

2 Pursuant to Section 27(4) Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002, temporarily suspends the following Standing Orders to enable members of the Public to address Council, and members to engage in discussion in a free and frank manner:

(a) 21.2 Time limits on speakers | Te tepenga wā mā ngā kaikōrero

(b) 21.5 Members may speak only once | Kotahi noa iho te wā e āhei ai te mema ki te korero; and

(c) 21.6 Limits on number of speakers | Ngā tepenga mō te maha o ngā kaikōrero.

The Council received addresses as follows:

RESOLVED

That the Council**:**

1 Pursuant to Section 27(4) Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002, reinstates Standing Orders in their entirety for consideration of the Agenda.

Public Forum Guidelines

2.1 Council has adopted the following Public Forum Guidelines:

(a) A period of up to 30 minutes, or such longer time as the meeting may determine, will be available for the public forum at each scheduled Council meeting;

(b) Speakers can speak for up to **five minutes**. Where the number of speakers presenting exceeds six in total, the chairperson has discretion to restrict the speaking time permitted for all presenters;

(c) The Public Forum is designed for members of the public to speak about matters of interest to them to Council. It is not intended as a forum to question Council members. Council members may ask questions of speakers to clarify their statement;

(d) Members of the public wishing to speak must advise the Chief Executive (or delegate) at least one clear working day prior to the meeting;

(e) The Chairperson may refuse applications which are repetitious or offensive and may terminate a speaker in progress where the subject matter is disrespectful or offensive;

(f) There are not to be criticisms of individual Council members or individual staff members.

Report to: Council

Meeting Date: **22 November 2023**

Subject: **Confirmation of Minutes of Council Meeting**

Report for: **Decision**

Author(s): Tasha Paladin **GOVERNANCE MANAGER**

Endorsed By: Clive Manley **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Purpose of Report | Te take mō te pūrongo

1 The purpose of this report is to present the minutes of the Council Meetings held on 18 and 25 October 2023 for confirmation as true and correct records.

Recommendation(s) | Ngā tūtohunga

That the Council**:**

1 Confirms the Public Business Minutes of the Ruapehu District Council meeting held Wednesday, 18 October 2023 as attached, as a true and correct record.

2 Confirms the Public Business Minutes of the Ruapehu District Council meeting held Wednesday, 25 October 2023 as attached, as a true and correct record.

Attachment(s) | Ngā āpitihanga

1 Ruapehu District Council Public Business Minutes

RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ruapehu

MINUTES

THE MEETING OF RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 59-61 HUIA STREET, TAUMARUNUI ON WEDNESDAY, 18 OCTOBER 2023, AT 1:04PM

PUBLIC BUSINESS | KAUPAPA O WAHO

Present | Tuhinga

Mayor	Weston Kirton	
Deputy Mayor	Vivienne Hoeta	
Councillors	Robyn Gram	
	Janelle Hinch	
	Fiona Kahukura Hadley-Chase	
	Lyn Neeson	
	Brenda Ralph	1:37PM Item 5.2
	Korty Wilson	

In Attendance | I Tae Mai

Clive Manley	Chief Executive
Melissa Jackson	Manager Policy & Strategy
Kareen Cadman	Strategic & Policy Advisor
Tasha Paladin	Governance Manager

External Speakers	**Item**
Simon O'Neill	**4.1 and 5.3**
Cassie Pui	**5.1**
Chester Peñaflor	**5.2**

Absent **| Ngaro**

Councillors	Rabbit Nottage
	Channey Iwikau

1 Welcome

Mayor Kirton welcomed the speakers to the Hearings.

2 Apologies

The Chairperson invited notice from members of apologies, including apologies for lateness and early departure from the meeting.

RESOLVED
Moved: Deputy Mayor Hoeta
Seconded: Cr Wilson

That the Apologies from Councillor Nottage and Councillor Ralph (lateness) be accepted.

3 Declarations of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

Note: The meeting moved to Item 5: Hearings Report Smokefree and Vapefree Policy

5 Hearings Report Smokefree and Vapefree Policy

Members considered a report providing a list of submitters who had indicated that they wished to speak in support of their submissions to the Smokefree and Vapefree Policy Statement of Proposal.

5.1 The Cancer Society, Submission Number 60

Cassie Pui spoke to The Cancer Society's submission, representing the Whanganui, Rangitikei and Waimarino region. Cassie prepared a presentation for Elected Members (see **Minute Attachment)**. She noted the high level of smoking in the Ruapehu District compared to the average for New Zealand; additionally, it was noted the District has a higher level of Pasifika and Māori smokers compared to other ethnic groups. The statistics were based on smoking prevalence only as there is currently vaping data is not available.

Whilst vaping is being used as a cessation tool, dual use of continuing to smoke whilst vaping has been observed. Additionally, vaping is seen as a gateway to smoking for rangatahi, and data suggested they were not selecting the low percentage nicotine products. It was acknowledged that there is not enough support to help people to quit; support is falling short in both cities and rural areas.

The Cancer Society has a desire to create a safe place for future generations rather than allowing them to be influenced by their surroundings, rangatahi and tamariki should not be exposed to smoking or vaping when in cafés or at the playground.

There is a growing interest in denormalisation strategies to influence society's norms and modify addictive behaviours, but vaping has challenged the progress made. Within the Whanganui, Rangitikei and Waimarino region, only Whanganui District Council has a smokefree and vapefree policy in place, Rangitikei is considering developing a vapefree policy over the next few months, and The Cancer Society welcomes Ruapehu District Council joining them.

It was recommended Council considers an educational based approach to support the community such as cafés and restaurants on how to handle scenarios throughout the implementation of policy.

Minute Attachment(s)
1 Cancer Society Presentation

Note: Councillor Ralph joined the meeting at 1:37PM

5.2 Te Whatu Ora Whanganui, Submission Number 69

Chester Peñaflor spoke to Te Whatu Ora Whanganui's submission. He acknowledged the growing concern of the link of early introduction to vaping leading to alcohol use and smoking. 51 per cent of the referrals to the youth addiction clinic in Whanganui are from vaping.

He noted the allure overshadows the risk of vaping; there are health concerns including long term effects that are still under study. Vaping is seen as a gateway for alcohol use, and quite often the two behaviours occur together. In his opinion, the normalisation of the behaviour leads to confidence to experiment with other substances. He feels there is a lack of information on the associated risks of and there is a need for better education.

Note: Councillor Neeson left the meeting at 1:47PM and re-entered at 1:48PM

5.3 Simon O'Neill, Submission Number 58

Simon O'Neill spoke to his submission. Mr. O'Neill works in the health sector and is supportive of any reduction in smoking and vaping. He is against implementing a Bylaw unless Council has the means to enforce the rules, but advocates for an educational approach lead by the national health organisation, supported by council.

He recommended Council take advice from the health organisations to ensure consistent messaging across New Zealand and would like to see Council working with agencies on messaging that vaping is 'safer' not 'safe' and develop positive messaging for places where children are present.

RESOLVED
Moved: Cr Kahukura Hadley-Chase
Seconded: Cr Hinch

That the Council:
*1 Receives the Report **Hearings Report Smokefree and Vapefree Policy;** and*
2 Receives and considers the verbal submissions from the following persons, as presented in support of their written submissions to Council's Smokefree and Vapefree Policy Statement of Proposal, for consideration at the deliberations to be held on Wednesday 22 November 2023 in the Council Chambers, Ohakune.

Submission Number	Submitter
58	Simon O'Neill
60	The Cancer Society
69	Te Whatu Ora Whanganui

Note: The meeting returned to Item 4: Hearings Report Smokefree and Vapefree Policy

4 Hearings Report: Interim Speed Management Proposal

Members considered a report providing a list of submitters who had indicated that they wished to speak in support of their submissions to the Interim Speed Management Proposal: Ruapehu Schools.

4.1 Simon O'Neill, Submission Number 49

Simon O'Neill spoke to his submission. He feels reducing speed limits is essential around schools to make it safer for children to walk to and from school and it may slowly reduce the traffic congestion for drop off and pick up times.

Residents of National Park would like to drop the speed limit uniformly across the whole of the village; Mr. O'Neill feels Council needs to apply any speed reductions practically for the larger centres such as Taumarunui and Ohakune, however acknowledged this creates enforcement challenges.

He advocated for education and signage to go hand in hand with speed reductions, however, he expressed that education needs to be more than a sign and Council should consider physical mechanisms such as chicanes and raised crossings. Mr. O'Neill also advocated for areas where children congregate in large groups such as Raurimu around the Blue Mountain Adventure Centre, and advocated for moving the speed limits on the State Highways at Ōwhango and Ohakune.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Gram
Seconded: Cr Wilson

That the Council:

1 *Receives the Report* ***Hearings Report: Interim Speed Management Proposal;*** *and*
2 *Receives and considers the verbal submissions from the following persons, as presented in support of their written submissions to Council's Interim Speed Management proposal, for consideration at the deliberations to be held on Wednesday 22 November 2023 in the Council Chambers, Ohakune.*

Submission Number	Submitter
49	Simon O'Neill

The Public Business part of the meeting concluded at 2:18PM.

Closing Karakia | Karakia Whakamutunga

Councillor Korty Wilson

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Council Meeting held this 22nd day of November 2023.

Weston Kirton, JP
MAYOR

RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ruapehu

MINUTE ATTACHMENT(S)

THE MEETING OF RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 59-61 HUIA STREET, TAUMARUNUI ON WEDNESDAY, 18 OCTOBER 2023, AT 1:04PM

Item		Page
5	**Hearings Report Smokefree and Vapefree Policy**	*2*
	1 Cancer Society Presentation	

Oral Submission 18/10/2023

Support for Ruapehu District Council Statement of Proposal Draft Smokefree and Vapefree Policy 2023

Cassie Pui
Toitū te whenua / Health Promoter
Cancer Society
Whanganui - Rangitikei - Waimarino

Cancer Society
Te Kāhui Matepukupuku o Aotearoa

Aotearoa New Zealand's smokefree journey

1948 – First posters in New Zealand link cancer with smoking

1963 – Cigarette advertising on tv and radio banned

1974 – First health warning on cigarette packets

1984
- Strong health warnings linking smoking to heart and lung disease appear on the front and back of cigarette packets sold in NZ
- Strong public support for restrictions on smoking at work and indoors in public

1990
- Smoke-free Environments Act 1990 comes into force
- Auahi Kore Smokefree brand launched

1999 – Quitline launched

2003 – WHO FCTC signed 16 June 2003

2004 – All licensed premises and other workplaces become smokefree indoors in New Zealand

2010 – First of ten annual tobacco excise tax increases of 10%

2011 – Following the Māori Affairs Select Committee process in 2010, the New Zealand Government responded with a goal of a Smokefree New Zealand by 2025

2016 – Stop Before You Start campaign launches

2018 – Tobacco standardised packaging introduced

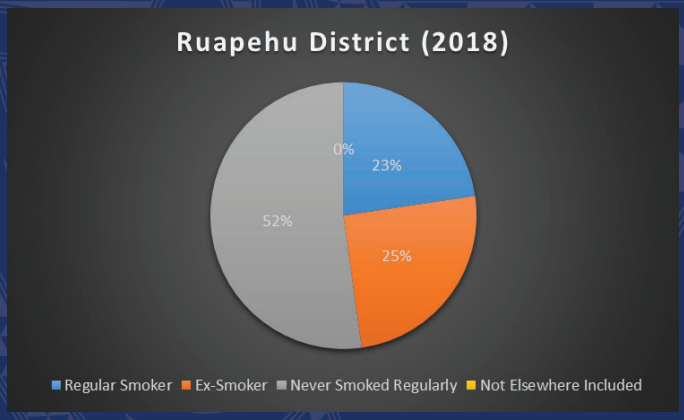
2019 – Vaping Facts website launched

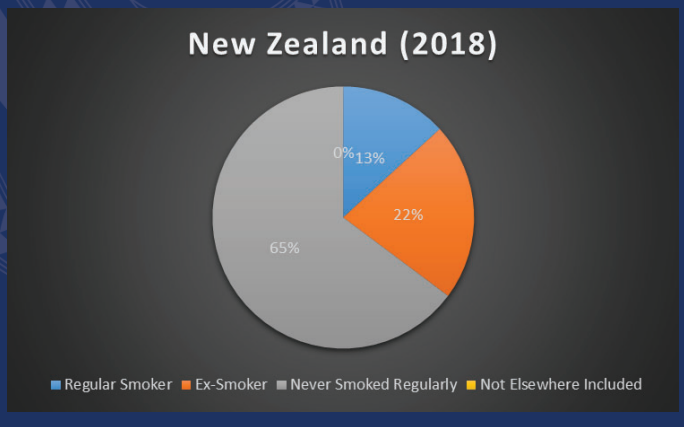
2020 – Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products (Vaping) Amendment Act 2020 comes into force on 11 November 2020

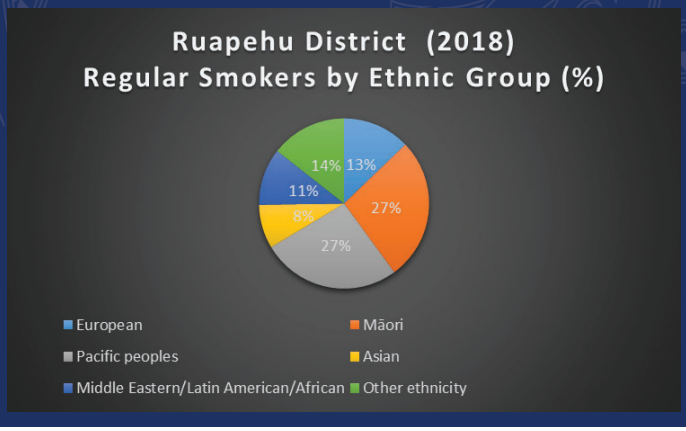
2021
- Smoke-free Environments (Prohibiting Smoking in Motor Vehicles Carrying Children)
- Smokefree 2025 Action Plan launched 9th December

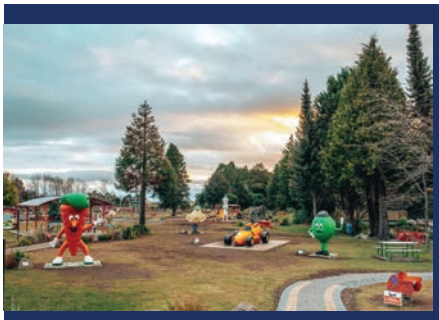
2023
- Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products (Smoked Tobacco) Amendment Act comes into force on 1st January
- Low Nicotine Technical Expert Advisory group forms and completes its work

Cigarette smoking behaviour for Ruapehu District Council (2018 Census)











STUDIES SHOW THAT ENVIRONMENTS INFLUENCE WELLBEING ACROSS THE LIFECOURSE AND ARE CENTRAL IN BOTH UNDERSTANDING AND ADDRESSING HEALTH INEQUITIES.

Halfon et al., 2014











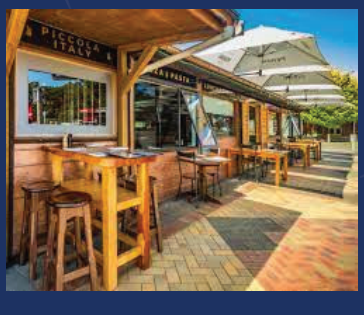


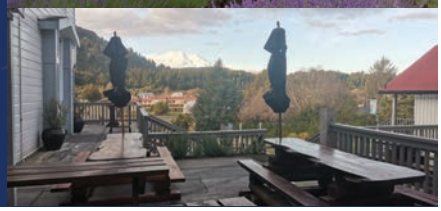
International evidence indicates that having outdoor hospitality areas increase quitting attempts and reduce relapses.

Chaiton et al., 2016









Smokefree Outdoor Policies

Rangitikei - Ruapehu- Whanganui

SMOKEFREE 2025 Haere whakamua, hoki whakamuri

Rangitikei District Council	Ruapehu District Council	Whanganui District Council

Outdoor Dining *Bylaw	Outdoor Dining *Leases	Outdoor Dining *Voluntary	The Fresh Air Project	CBD/Civic Spaces	Green Spaces	Events	Council Bulidings	Transport Hubs	Social Housiung	Vapefree	Beaches Lakes/Rivers	Council Committed to Smokefree 2025

Smokefree Outdoor Policies

Rangitikei - Ruapehu- Whanganui

SMOKEFREE 2025 Haere whakamua, hoki whakamuri

Rangitikei District Council	Ruapehu District Council	Whanganui District Council
	Outdoor Dining *Bylaw	Outdoor Dining *Leases
Outdoor Dining *Voluntary	The Fresh Air Project	CBD/Civic Spaces
Green Spaces	Events	Council Bulidings
Transport Hubs	Social Housiung	Vapefree
Beaches Lakes/Rivers	Council Committed to Smokefree 2025	



TOGETHER WE CAN REDUCE BURDEN OF CANCER IN OUR COMMUNITIES, THROUGH ENHANCING AND PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENTS IN WHICH WE ALL LIVE, WORK AND PLAY, NOW AND INTO THE FUTURE.















RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ruapehu

MINUTES

THE MEETING OF RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 59-61 HUIA STREET, TAUMARUNUI ON WEDNESDAY, 25 OCTOBER 2023, AT 10:06AM

PUBLIC BUSINESS | KAUPAPA O WAHO

Present | Tuhinga

Mayor	Weston Kirton
Deputy Mayor	Vivienne Hoeta
Councillors	Robyn Gram
	Janelle Hinch
	Channey Iwikau
	Fiona Kahukura Hadley-Chase
	Lyn Neeson
	Korty Wilson

In Attendance | I Tae Mai

	Clive Manley	Chief Executive
	Vini Dutra	Executive Manager Infrastructure
	Fiona Ferrar	Acting Manager, Finance, Strategy & Governance
	Pauline Welch	Executive Manager Community & Economic Development
	Mana Robinson	Financial Accountant
	Melissa Jackson	Manager Strategy & Policy
	Simon Pallin	Senior Management Accountant
	Candice McNaught	Manager Community Relationships & Wellbeing
	Tasha Paladin	Governance Manager
By Zoom	Lyn Hura	Executive Manager People, Capability & Safety
	Paul Wheatcroft	Executive Manager Communications
	Warrick Zander	Executive Manager Regulatory & Customer Services
	Holly Buckley	Housing & Facilities Support Manager
	Peggy Veen	Manager Community and Economic Development
	Rina Hepi	Manager Community & Recreational Facilities
	Carole Colquhoun	Community Property Assets Officer
	Tessa Owen	Executive Assistant Regulatory & Customer Services

External Speakers		**Item**
Clarence Susan	Audit New Zealand	**8**
Kay Oloro	Audit New Zealand	**8**
Jo Kennedy	Visit Ruapehu	**C2**

Absent **| Ngaro**

Councillors	Rabbit Nottage
	Brenda Ralph

1 Opening Karakia | Karakia Timatanga

Councillor Iwikau

2 Apologies

The Chairperson invited notice from members of apologies, including apologies for lateness and early departure from the meeting.

RESOLVED
Moved: Deputy Mayor Hoeta
Seconded: Cr Wilson

That the Apologies from Councillor Nottage and Councillor Ralph be accepted.

3 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Gram declared her interest in Item 10: Forestry Regulations Update: National Environmental Standard on Commercial Forestry (NES-CF).

4 Notification of Additional Items

There were no additional items not on the Agenda.

5 Confirmation of Order of Meeting

The order of the meeting was confirmed.

6 Public Forum: Temporary Suspension and Reinstatement of Standing Orders

There were no requests for Public Participation

7 Confirmation of Minutes of Council Meeting

RESOLVED
Moved: Cr Kahukura Hadley-Chase
Seconded: Cr Hinch

That the Council:

1 Confirms the Public Business Minutes of the Ruapehu District Council meeting held Wednesday, 27 September 2023 as attached, a true and correct record subject to the following amendment.

Apologies
Request to amend the apologies received from Councillor Iwikau and Councillor Wilson should have been apologies for lateness.

The Motion was PUT and CARRIED upon voting 5 votes to 3.
Councillor Gram, Deputy Mayor Hoeta and Councillor Neeson requested their votes AGAINST the motion be recorded.

8 Adoption of the Annual Report and Annual Report Summary 2022/23

Members received a report presenting the Annual Report and the Annual Report Summary for the year ended 30 June 2023 and, subject to any amendments, to recommend the report for adoption. Council's responsibilities in relation to the Annual Report arise from section 98 of the Local Government Act 2002 which sets out the purposes of an Annual Report, and Schedule 10 of that same Act. Council is responsible for meeting the requirements of Schedule 10 and must prepare and adopt an Annual Report and Annual Report Summary in respect of each financial year within four months of the end of that financial year.

The draft Annual Report 2022/23 for Ruapehu District Council was presented to the Risk & Assurance Committee meeting 12 October 2023 where it resolved to recommend the report to Council to adopt this report, with any further amendments to be agreed between the Council and Audit New Zealand.

Council's Acting Executive Manager Finance & Strategy and Financial Accountant spoke to the report, Clarence Susan and Kay Oloro of Audit New Zealand were in attendance to answer Members' questions.

Council's Financial accountant brought Members' attention to corrections to the Annual Report that had been made after the distribution of the Agenda.

Clarence Susan and Kay Oloro shared the Independent Auditor's Report (see **Minute Attachment)** noted that it should have been included in the Agenda pack to provide Members with time to digest the information. Audit has issued an Unqualified Opinion with an emphasis of matter on the uncertainty over the Water Services Reforms.

Minute Attachment(s)

1 Independent Auditor's Report

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Neeson
Seconded: Cr Kahukura Hadley-Chase

That the Council:

1 *Receives the Report **Adoption of the Annual Report and Annual Report Summary 2022/23**;*
2 ***Notes** that at its meeting on 12 October 2023, the Risk & Assurance Committee recommended that Council adopt the Annual Report 2022/23;*
3 *Adopts the audited Annual Report and Annual Report Summary of the Ruapehu District Council for the year ended 30 June 2023, with the inclusion of the audit opinion to be received from Audit New Zealand, in accordance with Section 98 of the Local Government Act 2002;*
4 *Approves for publication the audited Annual Report and Annual Report Summary of the Ruapehu District Council for the year ended 30 June 2023, in accordance with Section 98 of the Local Government Act 2002;*
5 *Receives the draft 'Representation Letter for the Year Ended 30 June 2023 and approves the letter to be signed by the Mayor and Chief Executive of Ruapehu District Council; and*
6 *Delegates authority to the Ruapehu District Chief Executive to make minor editorial changes to the 2022/23 Annual Report prior to publication (if necessary).*

9 Adoption of Council's Wellbeing Framework

Members received a report presenting Council's draft Wellbeing Framework for adoption as the strategic framework the Long Term Plan (LTP) 2024. After consideration of Council's current strategic context, it was felt Council would benefit from a wellbeing framework to promote a holistic focus to decision making going forward.

Council's Executive Manager Community & Economic Development spoke to the report and answered Members' questions. Council's Manager Policy & Strategy, and Manager Community Relationships & Wellbeing were in attendance. Members were advised the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) attached to the report were examples, and the Policy and Strategy Team will be responsible for their development and presentation to Council for endorsement. It was emphasised that any agreed KPIs needed to be measurable and able to be audited.

Council's Chief Executive added that once the census results are released, officers would be looking to breakdown the New Zealand Index of Deprivation (NZDep) score for Ruapehu into the nine variables to identify where Council can influence and make positive changes to its NZDep score.

RESOLVED
Moved: Cr Neeson
Seconded: Cr Iwikau

That the Council:

1 *Receives the Report:* ***Adoption of Council's Wellbeing Framework****;*
2 *Concurs that the adoption of the Wellbeing Framework is considered moderately significant; and*
3 *Adopts the Wellbeing Framework as Council's strategic framework for the Long Term Plan 2024.*

10 Forestry Regulations Update: National Environmental Standard on Commercial Forestry (NES-CF)

Members received a report for information providing an update on the recent changes to the National Environmental Standard on Production Forestry (NES-PF). These changes will come into effect on Thursday 2 November 2023 under a new National Environmental Standard called the National Environmental Standard on Commercial Forestry (NES-CF).

Council's Manager Policy & Strategy and Executive Manager Regulatory and Customer Services. Members were advised that there needed to be an investigation into the volume of work to be undertaken to understand the cost to enact changes to the District Plan, in addition to other elements of the District Plan that Council would like to review and incorporate the RMA reforms.

RESOLVED
Moved: Cr Neeson
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Hoeta

That the Council:

1 *Receives the Report* ***Forestry Regulations Update: National Environmental Standard on Commercial Forestry (NES-CF)*** *for information.*

11 Elected Member attendance at LGNZ YEM Annual Hui: 6 to 8 December 2023, Far North District

Members were presented with the expressions of interest from Council's Young Elected Members to attend the LGNZ Annual Hui at the end of the year. This is the first triennium that Council has sought to select delegates to this annual conference and will continue to do so to ensure the majority of eligible Members can attend the YEM Annual Hui during their term as an Elected Member.

Expressions of interest to attend the 2023 YEM Annual Hui in the Far North District were received from: Molly Jeffries, Deputy Chair Taumarunui-Ōhura Community Board; Oriwia Wanakore, Taumarunui-Ōhura Community Board; and Anthony Gurr, Chair Ōwhango-National Park Community Board.

Members were advised that since the publication of the Agenda, the YEM hui has reached capacity, and a waiting list is in place. All three Community Board Members have been placed on the waiting list.

RESOLVED
Moved: Cr Gram
Seconded: Cr Hinch

That the Council:

1 *Receives the Report Elected Member attendance at LGNZ YEM Annual Hui: 6 to 8 December 2023, Far North District; and*
2 *Approves that Elected Members Molly Jeffries, Oriwia Wanakore and Anthony Gurr attend the LGNZ YEM Annual Hui between 6 and 8 December 2023 in representation of Ruapehu District Council.*

12 Adoption of Council Meeting and Workshop Schedule 2024

Members were presented with the proposed Ordinary Meeting and Workshop Schedule for the period from January to December 2024 for consideration and approval. Governance Manager spoke to the report and answered Members' questions.

RESOLVED
Moved: Cr Kahukura Hadley-Chase
Seconded: Cr Hinch

That the Council:

1 *Receives the Report **Adoption of Council Meeting and Workshop Schedule 2024**;*
2 *Approves and adopts the schedule of ordinary meetings for the Council for the period of February to December 2024 to be the following Wednesdays at 10AM with at least two meetings to be held on Marae:*

Southern Venue	*Northern Venue*
28 February	*21 March*
21 April	*29 May*
21 June	*28 August*
25 September	*23 October*
27 November	*13 December (National Park)*

3 Approves and adopts the schedule of workshops for Elected Members for the period of January to December 2024 to be the following Wednesdays at 10AM with at least two workshops to be held on Marae:
- *(a) January 31*
- *(b) February 7, 14 and 21*
- *(c) March 6, 13 and 20*
- *(d) April 3,10 and 17*
- *(e) May 1 and 8*
- *(f) June 6, 12 and 19*
- *(g) July 31*
- *(h) August 7 and 14*
- *(i) September 4, 11 and 18*
- *(j) October 2, 9, 16 and 30*
- *(k) November 6, 13 and 20*
- *(l) December 4 and 11*

4 Notes that additional ordinary, and extraordinary meetings may be scheduled, and workshops may be rescheduled or cancelled from time in consultation with the Mayor and Chief Executive.

5 Approves for the Long Term Plan Hearings to be scheduled on two consecutive days, one day to be a Wednesday, in May;

6 Notes the Community Board Meetings schedules as follows:
- *(a) The Owhango-National Park and the Taumarunui-Ohura Community Boards have resolved to meet on an eight-weekly basis; and*
- *(b) The Waimarino-Waiouru Community Board has resolved to meet on a six-weekly basis at community venues within the ward area as per the **attachment.***

7 Instructs the Chief Executive to investigate holding Council workshops in public and provide a report to a future Council Meeting; and

8 Agrees to explore changing Council's Meetings and Workshops to a different day of the week for 2025.

13 Financial Monitoring Report for the Month Ending 30 September 2023

Note: Councillor Hinch left the meeting at 11:27AM and reentered at 11:30AM
Deputy Mayor Hoeta left the meeting at 11:32AM and was absent for the decision

Members received a report monitoring Council's financial performance against the Annual Plan 2022/23. Council's Senior Management Accountant spoke to the report and answered Members' questions.

RESOLVED
Moved: Cr Iwikau
Seconded: Cr Gram

That the Council:

*1 Receives the Report **Financial Monitoring Report for the Month Ending 30 September 2023** for information.*

14 Mayor's Monthly Report

Note: Deputy Mayor Hoeta was absent for this item

Members received a report advising Elected Members of appointments and meetings undertaken by the Mayor during the month of September 2023. The report also outlines fee waiving applications approved (if any) by the Mayor during the same period. Mayor Kirton spoke to the report and answered Members' questions.

RESOLVED
Moved: Mayor Kirton
Seconded: Cr Neeson

That the Council:
*1 Receives and notes the Report **Mayor's Report** for information.*

15 Chief Executive's Monthly Report

Note: Deputy Mayor Hoeta reentered the meeting at 11:34AM

Members received an update of the organisation's activity over the September 2023 period. The report provides a snapshot of the wider legislative environment and focus from a regional perspective, an overview of the wellbeing of the District, and highlights key achievements and activity over the period, including significant projects from the Chief Executive's perspective since the last Council meeting.

Councillor Hinch requested the Council seek assistance from Local Government New Zealand to amend local Bylaws and prevent land banking.

RESOLVED
Moved: Cr Kahukura Hadley-Chase
Seconded: Cr Wilson

That the Council:
*1 Receives and notes the Report **Chief Executive's Report** for information.*

16 Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chief Executive and Elected Members' Reports (Verbal)

Members each gave verbal updates on recent and upcoming events, and other matters of general and topical interest to the District.

17 Resolution to Exclude the Public for Consideration of Council Business

Section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 gives the Council the right by resolution to exclude the public from the whole or any part of the proceedings of any meeting only on one or more of the grounds contained within that Section.

RESOLVED
Moved: Cr Wilson
Seconded: Cr Hinch

That the Council:

1 *Receives the **Report Resolution to Exclude the Public for Consideration of Council Business**;*

2 *Excludes the public from the following part(s) of the proceedings of this meeting;*

3 *Notes the general subject of the matters to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds for excluding the public, as specified under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:*

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
C1 Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes of the Council Meeting 27 September 2023	For the reasons set out in the Public Business Minutes of the Council Meeting 27 September 2023.	
C2 Confidential Deputation: Visit Ruapehu Section 17A Review	s7(2)(a) To protect the privacy of natural persons that may be impacted as a result of the resolution of Council following the review.	s48(1)(a)(i) the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 7.
C3 Section 17A Review Economic Development RTO isite	s7(2)(a) To protect the privacy of natural persons that may be impacted as a result of the resolution of Council.	
C4 Confidential Briefing by the Chief Executive	s7(2)(c) To protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence where the making available of the information would be likely to: prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, where it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied; or would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest	

4 *Approves that representatives of Visit Ruapehu are permitted to remain at this meeting after the public has been excluded to present Item C2.*

5 *Approves that representatives of Morrison Low are permitted to remain at this meeting after the public has been excluded because of their knowledge of Item C3.*

The Public Business part of the meeting concluded at 12:02PM.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Council Meeting held this 22nd day of November 2023.

Weston Kirton, JP
MAYOR

ITEMS BROUGHT INTO THE PUBLIC BUSINESS MINUTES

C2 Confidential Deputation: Visit Ruapehu Section 17A Review

Jo Kennedy, General Manager, and Antoinette Rolls, Chair of Visit Ruapehu made a presentation to Members regarding the Economic Development Section 17A review as tabled at Item C3 of the Agenda (see Minute Attachment). Members were advised the intention of the deputation was to support the process and to help Council find the right decisions for the community that meets the needs of the District's visitors.

Councillor Hinch's position as the Council appointed Director to the Visit Ruapehu Board was noted; she clarified her position and expressed she did not feel she had a conflict of interest.

Minute Attachment(s)

1 Visit Ruapehu Presentation

RESOLVED

Moved: ***Cr Kahukura Hadley-Chase***

Seconded: Cr Hinch

That the Council:

*1 Receives the Confidential Deputation **Visit Ruapehu Section 17A Review** for information;*

*2 **Does** record this resolution in the Public Business Minutes of this meeting; and*

*3 **Does Not** release this report as publicly available information.*

Councillor Neeson requested her vote AGAINST the motion be recorded

RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ruapehu

MINUTE ATTACHMENT(S)

THE MEETING OF RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 59-61 HUIA STREET, TAUMARUNUI ON WEDNESDAY, 25 OCTOBER 2023, AT 10:06AM

Item		Page
8	**Adoption of the Annual Report and Annual Report Summary 2022/23**	*2*
	1 Independent Auditor's Report	

AUDIT NEW ZEALAND
Mana Arotake Aotearoa

Independent Auditor's Report

To the readers of Ruapehu District Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2023

The Auditor-General is the auditor of Ruapehu District Council (the District Council) and its subsidiaries and controlled entities (the Group). The Auditor-General has appointed me, Clarence Susan, using the staff and resources of Audit New Zealand, to report on the information in the District Council's annual report that we are required to audit under the Local Government Act 2002 (the Act). We refer to this information as "the audited information" in our report.

We are also required to report on:

- whether the District Council has complied with the requirements of Schedule 10 of the Act that apply to the annual report; and
- the completeness and accuracy of the District Council's disclosures about its performance against benchmarks that are required by the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014.

We refer to this information as "the disclosure requirements" in our report.

We completed our work on 25 October 2023. This is the date on which we give our report.

Opinion on the audited information

In our opinion:

- the financial statements on pages xx to xx of section two:
  - present fairly, in all material respects:
    - the District Council and Group's financial position as at 30 June 2023;
    - the results of the operations and cash flows for the year ended on that date; and
  - comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand in accordance with the Public Benefit Entity Reporting Standards;
- the funding impact statement on page xx of section two, presents fairly, in all material respects, the amount of funds produced from each source of funding and how the funds were applied as compared to the information included in the District Council's Long-term plan;

- the statement of service provision (referred to in the annual report as Council Activities) on pages xx to xx of section one:
    - presents fairly, in all material respects, the levels of service for each group of activities for the year ended 30 June 2023, including:
        - the levels of service achieved compared with the intended levels of service and whether any intended changes to levels of service were achieved;
        - the reasons for any significant variation between the levels of service achieved and the intended levels of service; and
    - complies with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand; and
- the statement about capital expenditure for each group of activities on pages xx to xx of section one presents fairly, in all material respects, actual capital expenditure as compared to the budgeted capital expenditure included in the District Council's Long-term plan; and
- the funding impact statement for each group of activities on pages xx to xx of section one, presents fairly, in all material respects, the amount of funds produced from each source of funding and how the funds were applied as compared to the information included in the District Council's Long-term plan.

Report on the disclosure requirements

We report that the District Council has:

- complied with the requirements of Schedule 10 of the Act that apply to the annual report; and
- made the disclosures about performance against benchmarks as required by the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014 on pages xx to xx of section two, which represent a complete list of required disclosures and accurately reflects the information drawn from the District Council and Group's audited information and, where applicable, the District Council's Long-term plan and annual plans.

The basis for our opinion is explained below and we draw attention to uncertainty over the water services reform programme. In addition, we outline the responsibilities of the Council and our responsibilities relating to the audited information, we comment on other information, and we explain our independence.

Emphasis of matter – Uncertainty over the water services reform programme

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note XX on page XX, which outlines developments in the Government's water services reform programme which will affect the District Council in future years.

The Water Services Entities Act 2022, as amended by the Water Services Entities Amendment Act 2023 on 23 August 2023 and the Water Services Legislation Act 2023 on 31 August 2023, establishes ten publicly owned water services entities to carry out responsibilities for the delivery of three waters services and related assets and liabilities currently controlled by local authorities. Water services entities' establishment dates are staggered, with all the water services entities becoming operational between 1 July 2024 and 1 July 2026. The financial impact of the water services reform on the Council as outlined in note XX remains uncertain until the relevant water services entity's establishment date is known, and the allocation schedule of assets, liabilities, and other matters to be transferred is approved.

Basis for our opinion on the audited information

We carried out our audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Professional and Ethical Standards and the International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. We describe our responsibilities under those standards further in the "Responsibilities of the auditor for the audited information" section of this report.

We have fulfilled our responsibilities in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on the audited information.

Responsibilities of the Council for the audited information

The Council is responsible for meeting all legal requirements that apply to its annual report.

The Council's responsibilities arise under the Local Government Act 2002 and the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014.

The Council is responsible for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable it to prepare the information we audit that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the information we audit the Council is responsible for assessing its ability to continue as a going concern. The Council is also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless there is an intention to amalgamate or cease all of the functions of the District Council and the Group or there is no realistic alternative but to do so.

Responsibilities of the auditor for the audited information

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the audited information, as a whole, is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an audit report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit carried out in accordance with the Auditor General's Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements are differences or omissions of amounts or disclosures, and can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of readers taken on the basis of this audited information.

For the budget information reported in the audited information, our procedures were limited to checking that the budget information agreed to the District Council's Long-term plan.

We did not evaluate the security and controls over the electronic publication of the audited information.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. Also:

- We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the audited information, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- We obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District Council and Group's internal control.

- We evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Council.

- We determine the appropriateness of the reported intended levels of service in the statement of service provision (referred to in the annual report as Council Activities), as a reasonable basis for assessing the levels of service achieved and reported by the District Council.

- We conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the Council and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast a significant doubt on the District Council and Group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our audit report to the related disclosures in the audited information or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the District Council and the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.

- We evaluate the overall presentation, structure, and content of the audited information, including the disclosures, and whether the audited information represents, where

applicable, the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

- We obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the audited information of the entities or business activities within the Group to express an opinion on the consolidated audited information. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the Group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with the Council regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Our responsibilities arise from the Public Audit Act 2001.

Other Information

The Council is responsible for the other information included in the annual report. The other information comprises the information included on pages xx to xx and xx to xx of section one and pages xx to xx and xx and xx of section two, but does not include the audited information and the disclosure requirements, and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the audited information and our report on the disclosure requirements do not cover the other information, and we do not express any form of audit opinion or assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information. In doing so, we consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the audited information and the disclosure requirements, or our knowledge obtained during our work, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on our work, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Independence

We are independent of the District Council and Group in accordance with the independence requirements of the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the independence requirements of Professional and Ethical Standard 1: International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (including International Independence Standards) (New Zealand) (PES 1) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

In addition to our audit and our report on the disclosure requirements, we have carried out engagements in the areas of a limited assurance engagement related to the District Council's debenture trust deed, which are compatible with those independence requirements. Other than these engagements we have no relationship with or interests in the District Council.

Clarence Susan
Audit New Zealand
On behalf of the Auditor-General
Tauranga, New Zealand

Report to: Council

Meeting Date:	**22 November 2023**	
Subject:	**Deputation from Community Board Chairs: Interim Speed Management Plan**	
Report for:	**Information**	
Author(s):	Tasha Paladin	**GOVERNANCE MANAGER**
Endorsed By:	Clive Manley	**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Purpose of Report | Te take mō te pūrongo

1 The purpose of this report is to provide an opportunity for the Community Board Chairpersons to address Council on the recommendations arising from the deliberations of the Interim Speed Management Plan consultation that affect their respective Community Board areas.

Recommendation(s) | Ngā tūtohunga

That the Council**:**

1 Receives the Report **Deputation from Community Board Chairs: Interim Speed Management Plan** for information**.**

Significance and Engagement | Takenga mai

2 **Significance**
This report does not trigger the Significance and Engagement Policy.

Discussion | He Kōrerorero

3 The Chairperson of each Community Board will address Council.

Report to: Council

Meeting Date: **22 November 2023**

Subject: **Deliberation Report: Interim Speed Management Plan**

Report for: **Decision**

Author(s): Melissa Jackson **MANAGER: POLICY & STRATEGY**

Endorsed By: Vini Dutra **EXECUTIVE MANAGER: INFRASTRUCTURE**

Purpose of Report | Te take mō te pūrongo

1 The purpose of this report is to present for deliberation the analysis of the submissions to Ruapehu District Council's Interim Speed Management Plan.

Recommendation(s) | Ngā tūtohunga

That the Council**:**

1 Receives the **Deliberation Report: Interim Speed Management Plan**; and
2 Approves the following Council Officer recommendations made within this report for inclusion in the final version of the Ruapehu District Council Interim Speed Management Plan:
   (a) Kaitieke School has a permanent speed limit of 40km/h with an 80km/h buffer zone;
   (b) Manunui School has a Variable Speed Limit of 30km/h enforceable only during school pick-up and drop-off times outside the school with a 50km/h speed limit (excluding the State Highway) at all other times;
   (c) Matiere School has a 30km/h Variable Speed Limit on Ōhura Road that is only operational and enforceable during pick up and drop off times outside the school with a 60km/h speed limit at all other times, and a permanent speed limit of 60km/h in the township of Matiere;
   (d) A permanent 30km/h speed limit throughout the village of National Park (Excluding State Highway 4);
   (e) Ngakonui Valley School has a permanent speed limit of 40km/h with 60km/h buffer zones, incorporating Hia-Kaitupeka Marae;
   (f) Ōhura Valley Primary School has a 30km/h Variable Speed Limit on Mangaparo Road that is only operational and enforceable during pick up and drop off times outside the school with a 50km/h speed limit at all other times;
   (g) Ongarue School has a permanent speed limit of 30km/h with a 60km/h buffer zone;
   (h) A permanent 30km/h speed limit throughout the township of Ōwhango;
   (i) St. Patrick's Catholic School has a 30km/h permanent speed limit;
   (j) Taumarunui High School has a 30km/h Variable Speed Limit that is only operational and enforceable during pick up and drop off times outside the school with a 50km/h speed limit at all other times;
   (k) Tarrangower School has a 30km/h permanent speed limit;
   (l) A 30km/h Variable Speed Limit outside Turaki School and Taumarunui Primary School only operational and enforceable during pick up and drop off times;
   (m) Te Kura o Ngapuke has a permanent speed limit of 40km/h with 80km/h buffer zones;
   (n) Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Taumarunui has a permanent speed limit of 30km/h outside the school;
   (o) Tokirima School has a permanent speed limit of 40km/h, that extends closer to the intersection with State Highway 43 than the original proposal, with 80km/h buffer zones (if possible);
   (p) A permanent 30km/h speed limit for road areas directly outside Ruapehu College;

(q) A permanent 30km/h speed limit for road areas directly outside Ohakune School, extending past Manuka Street towards Ohakune township to Conway Street (if possible);
(r) A Variable Speed Limit of 30km/h speed limit for Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngāti Rangi for pick-up and drop-off times only;
(s) Orautoha School has a permanent speed limit of 30km/h with 80km/h buffer zones; and
(t) Raetihi Primary School has a permanent speed limit of 30km/h that incorporates the Raetihi school bus stop on Seddon Street (if possible).

Well-Being Outcomes

In accordance with Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA): the purpose of Local Government is to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future.
Refer: Pūwhenua ki Ruapehu Portal

		Contributes	Detracts	No Impact
2.1	**Social:** Safe, healthy communities	☒	☐	☐

Lowering speed limits around schools aims to ensure the safety of students, parents, and pedestrians within school zones, promoting a sense of community safety. Reducing the number of accidents and injuries within the Ruapehu District ("the District") supports Council's goal of a safe and healthy community environment.

Speed plays an undeniable role in the high numbers of people being killed or seriously injured on New Zealand's roads. Implementing safer speeds around the schools in the District is one way Ruapehu District Council (Council) can contribute to a safer road network, thereby improving social wellbeing in the communities of the District.

		Contributes	Detracts	No Impact
2.2	**Economic:** Thriving economy	☒	☐	☐

Lowering speed limits around schools promotes the economic wellbeing of the District, by enhancing productivity and efficient transport corridors through minimising disruptions caused by accidents in school zones. The reduction in both healthcare costs and loss of productivity associated with injuries resulting from speed related accidents is also positive for the District's economic wellbeing.

		Contributes	Detracts	No Impact
2.3	**Environmental:** Sustaining beautiful environments	☒	☐	☐

Lowering speed limits around schools will have a positive impact on the District's environment. The minimisation of the risk of accidents will assist in the preservation of the environment as there will be less likelihood of environmental damage occurring due to a speed related accident i.e., petrol or diesel spillage, glass or debris etc. Carbon emissions and air pollution may also be lowered because of the promotion of smooth traffic flow.

The lowering of speed limits around schools may also encourage people to pursue active transport such as walking or cycling, instead of driving, which will positively impact air quality and public health and wellbeing.

		Contributes	Detracts	No Impact
2.4	**Cultural:** Vibrant and diverse living	☒	☐	☐

Lowering speed limits around schools reflects a commitment to valuing the safety and wellbeing of the District's children and young people. Prioritising the safety of the District's children and young people, during their journey to and from school, demonstrates the importance of education and providing a conducive environment for learning.

Council's goal of promoting cultural wellbeing is further demonstrated by recognising the importance of ensuring the safety of historic buildings and landmarks, which promotes vibrant and diverse living.

Significance and Engagement | Takenga mai

3.1 The public was consulted regarding the Interim Speed Management proposal (the proposal) using the Special Consultative Procedure (SCP) process outlined in Section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) and Section 87 of the LGA. Council was not required to consult using this process but deemed it appropriate to do so.

3.2 The engagement process undertaken in relation to the proposal is outlined later in this report.

Background | Tuhinga

4.1 On 23 August 2023 Council approved the draft Interim Speed Management Plan for public consultation. The consultation period ran from Monday 4 September through to Friday 29 September 2023.

4.2 The consultation page on Council's website contained maps showing the locations of the schools where speed limit changes were being proposed. A Survey Mokey survey was used to obtain the views of submitters. The survey gave the submitters the opportunity to indicate if they supported or opposed the proposal, as well as the option to make specific comments on that part of the proposal.

4.3 Council received 75 written submissions during the consultation period. A submission book containing all the submissions received was included in the Agenda for the public hearings regarding the proposal on Wednesday 18 August 2023. From the submissions received there were 66 online surveys completed, four written emails (freeform submissions), and five handwritten surveys completed that were entered into the online survey platform by Council Officers for ease of analysis.

4.4 Five members of the public indicated they wished to speak to their submission. For assorted reasons four declined to speak. One speaker spoke at the public hearings at the Taumarunui Chambers on Wednesday 18 August 2023.

SUMMARY OF SUBMISSIONS

5.1 The tables below provide a breakdown of the number of submitters in support of and opposed to the specific proposals for each school or area, as indicated by their response to the online form. The green fill indicates where the number of submitters that supported the proposal exceeded the number who opposed it. The red fill indicates where the number of submitters who opposed the proposal exceeded the number in support.

5.2 **Summary of Submissions: Northern Ruapehu Schools**

School – Northern Ruapehu	Total	Support	Opposed
Kaitieke School	5	4	1
Manunui School	20	19	1
Matiere School – including a 60km/h speed limit in the township of Matiere	17	16	1
National Park School – Option A Permanent 30km/h throughout entire village	29	16	13
National Park School – Option B Permanent 30km/h outside school only	29	13	16
Ngakonui Valley School*	8	5	4
Ōhura Valley School	7	5	2
Ongarue School	7	4	3
Ōwhango School – Option A Permanent 30km/h throughout entire village	7	6	1
Ōwhango School – Option B Permanent 30km/h outside school only	7	1	6
St Patrick Catholic School	14	13	1
Taumarunui High School	18	16	2
Tarrangower School	14	13	1
Taumarunui Town Centre Schools Cluster – Option A Permanent 30km/h throughout entire town Variable 30km/h outside Taumarunui Primary during pick-up and drop-off times	22	4	18
Taumarunui Town Centre Schools Cluster – Option B Variable 30km/h outside Taumarunui Primary and Turaki Primary during pick-up and drop-off times	22	18	4
Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Taumarunui – Option A Permanent 30km/h with larger school speed zone	10	4	6
Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Taumarunui – Option B Permanent 30km/h with smaller school speed zone outside school only	10	6	4
Te Kura o Ngapuke 40km/h outside school with 80km/h buffer zone	6	6	0
Tokirima School	11	9	2

*In addition to the online form submissions, the Ngakonui Valley School results include 1 freeform submission that was in support of the proposal.

5.3 **Summary of Submissions: Southern Ruapehu Schools**

School – Southern Ruapehu	Total	Support	Opposed
Ohakune Schools Cluster – Option A Permanent 30km/h throughout entire town Variable 30km/h outside Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngāti Rangi during pick-up and drop-off times	13	1	12
Ohakune Schools Cluster – Option B Permanent 30km/h outside schools only Variable 30km/h outside Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngāti Rangi during pick-up and drop-off times	13	12	1
Orautoha School	5	5	0
Raetihi Primary School	6	6	0

5.4 In addition to the submissions made using the online form, a further three freeform submissions were made which expressed general support to the proposed speed limit changes.

5.5 The one freeform submission that related specifically to Ngakonui Valley School has been included in the total for that school in the table above.

6 **ENGAGEMENT**

6.1 Throughout the consultation period the proposal was widely promoted through Council's communication channels. In addition to the consultation page on Council website, the consultation document was made available at the Council offices in Taumarunui, Ohakune and Raetihi at the Customer Service Centres and Libraries.

6.2 Each school was provided with an information pack that included details of the proposals and information that they could share with school families in their school newsletters to encourage engagement and participation in the consultation process. Council Officers also attended a Northern Ruapehu Kāhui Ako Principals Association hui to present the proposal to and discuss it with school representatives. Regarding the Southern Ruapehu schools, Council Officers attended a Board of Trustee meeting at Orautoha School and Raetihi School, a marae-based hui at Maungārongo Marae that involved Te Kura Kaupapa o Ngāti Rangi, and hand delivered information packs to Ohakune School and Ruapehu College.

6.3 The consultation process was promoted using a mixture of print and radio advertising and promoted on Council's social media platforms. Community drop in events were held in Taumarunui, National Park and Ohakune to engage with the community directly to encourage engagement and participation in the consultation process. Community Board members were posted consultation material and asked to engage directly with their communities to encourage engagement and participation in the consultation process. This included business type cards with a QR code on the back that members of the community could scan to take them directly to the consultation page on the Council website, and printed submission forms.

6.4 Marae based hui were held at Maungārongo Marae in Ohakune and Morero Marae in Taumarunui to engage directly with the Māori community, as the proposals impact a number of marae and kura kaupapa Māori. A Council Officer (who is also a trustee of the marae) attended a trustee hui at Hia-Kaitupeka Marae on behalf of Council to engage directly with

the marae trustees regarding the Ngakonui Valley School proposal, as Hia-Kaitupeka falls within the proposed school zone of Ngakonui Valley School.

ANALYSIS OF SUBMISSIONS: NORTHERN RUAPEHU

7 This area of the report contains detailed results of the online survey used to obtain community views on the proposal. The survey comments were analysed thematically and summarised under each question. The submission book containing all the submissions received was included in the Agenda for the public hearings regarding the proposal on Wednesday 18 August 2023.

7.1 Please note that the ability to leave comments was not available for all questions i.e., some questions were yes / no type questions. On other questions where the ability to leave comments was available, i.e., for questions around the size of the school zone, leaving a comment was not a requirement for filling out the survey, which is why the number of comments under each question varies.

7.2 Where freeform submissions relate to a particular school, the analysis of those submissions is included in this report under the area that relates to that school.

8 KAITIEKE SCHOOL (CATEGORY 2 SCHOOL WITH A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 60KM/H)

8.1 **Do you support the proposal for a permanent speed limit of 40km/h with an 80km/h buffer zone for Kaitieke School?**
Answered: five

Yes	80%	4
No	20%	1

8.2 **Do you agree with the size of the proposed school zone for Kaitieke School?**
Answered: five

Yes	80%	4
No	20%	1

8.2.1 There were no comments left in relation to this question.

8.3 Submission from Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga Ministry of Education

8.3.1 Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga Ministry of Education (the Ministry) provided a thorough submission in support of the proposal.

8.3.2 The Ministry's submission includes some modifications to consider. The modifications mainly relate to rural Category 2 schools, of which Kaitieke School is. The Ministry would prefer Kaitieke School to have a permanent speed limit of 30km/h with a 60km/h buffer zone. The reasoning behind that modification proposal is the Ministry's view that this buffer speed would makes it easier for vehicles to slow down when entering the school zone. The Ministry also proposed consistency across schools with a recommendation of permanent 30km/h speed limits around all schools, including a specific recommendation of 30km/h for Kaitieke School instead of a permanent 40km/h limit.

8.4 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: Should Kaitieke School have a permanent speed limit of 40km/h with an 80km/h buffer zone?

8.5 COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that Kaitieke School have a permanent speed limit of 40km/h with an 80km/h buffer zone for the following reasons:
(a) The majority of respondents were in support of the proposal.
(b) The existing road design is already supportive of the proposal.
(c) A variable speed limit is not feasible in this location as the rural nature of this school makes installation of an electronic sign challenging and costly.
(d) The surrounding rural roads are used by various road users, including freight and commuters, so both efficiency and safety need to be balanced when considering what speed limit to apply.

9 MANUNUI SCHOOL (CATEGORY 1 SCHOOL WITH A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 30KM/H)

9.1 **Do you agree with the size of the proposed school zone for Manunui School?**
Answered: 20

Yes	95%	19
No	5%	1

9.2 **Analysis of comments**
(a) Five respondents left comments in the online survey.
(b) All comments were in support of the proposal.
(c) One respondent stated they do not agree with the cost (estimated costs were included in the Consultation Document: $54,000).
(d) Three comments highlighted the current potential dangers in this location.
(e) One comment requested the school zone be extended, however that comment appears to seek to use the lower speed limit to mitigate speed issues that relate to neighbouring businesses and an intersection that is not in close proximity to Manunui School.

9.3 **Submission from Taumarunui-Ōhura Community Board Deputy Chair Molly Jeffries**

9.3.1 Molly Jeffries provided a freeform submission confirming discussions she had with 69 parents who have children attending Manunui School:
(a) Everyone spoken to support the speed change along the State Highway.
(b) 47 were in support of the entire proposal, however they questioned the indicative cost (estimated costs were included in the Consultation Document: $54,000).
(c) The school Principal was in support of the proposal.
(d) 25 stated that due to the layout of Rata Street, speeding down that street is not possible during pick-up and drop-off times, due to traffic congestion.
(e) A request was made for a pedestrian crossing on the State Highway.
(f) Rata Street Pre-School have, in the past, queried if speed bumps can be installed along Rata Street, or whether it is possible to turn the street into a one-way street. That feedback has been passed onto Council's roading team.

9.4 **Submission from Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga Ministry of Education**

9.4.1 The Ministry proposed consistency across schools with a recommendation of permanent 30km/h speed limits around all schools, including a recommendation of 30km/h for Manunui School, instead of a variable 30km/h limit. The Ministry did however acknowledge that Council has no jurisdiction over State Highway speed limits, which apply to part of the proposal in relation to Manunui School.

9.5 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: Should Manunui School have a variable speed limit of 30km/h enforceable during school pick-up and drop-off times only as proposed?

9.6 COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that Manunui School have a variable speed limit of 30km/h enforceable only during school pick-up and drop-off times outside the school with a 50km/h speed limit (excluding the State Highway) at all other times as proposed for the following reasons:

(a) All respondents were in support of the proposal.
(b) The only comment from the online form submissions that sought to extend the school zone appears to seek to use the lower speed limit to mitigate speed issues that relate to neighbouring businesses and an intersection that is not close to Manunui School.
(c) A permanent speed limit would not be viable here since Miro Street has a wide road design which, without significant changes to the road design, does not support a permanent 30km/h speed limit without significant changes to the roading design of Miro Street.

10 **MATIERE SCHOOL (CATEGORY 1 SCHOOL WITH A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 30KM/H) INCORPORATING A REDUCTION IN SPEED FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MATIERE FROM 70KM/H TO 60KM/H.**

10.1 **Do you support a 30km/h variable speed limit on Ōhura Road that is only operational and enforceable during pick up and drop off times outside the school with a 60km/h speed limit at all other times?**
Answered: 17

Yes	94.12%	16
No	5.88%	1

10.2 **Do you agree with the size of the proposed school zone for Matiere School?**
Answered: 15

Yes	93.33%	14
No	6.67%	1

10.3 **Analysis of comments**

(a) Four respondents left comments in the online survey.
(b) One comment questioned the cost (estimated costs were included in the Consultation Document: $60,000) and stated that other areas of Ōhura Road are more unsafe and highlighted that the school drop off zone is away from the main road and carpark.
(c) One comment stated that logging trucks speed past the school.
(d) One comment stated that speed past the school is an issue, along with visibility issues along the road near the school entrance.
(e) One comment requested a pedestrian crossing be installed next to the rail roads.
(f) No comments related to the reduction in speed for the township of Matiere from 70km/h to 60km/h.

10.4 **Submission from Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga Ministry of Education**

10.4.1 The Ministry proposed consistency across schools with a recommendation of permanent 30km/h speed limits around all schools, including a recommendation of 30km/h for Matiere School instead of a variable 30km/h limit.

10.5 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: Should Matiere School have a 30km/h variable speed limit on Ōhura Roadd that is only operational and enforceable during pick up and drop off times outside the school with a 60km/h speed limit at all other times, and a permanent reduction of speed in the township of Matiere from 70km/h to 60km/h?

10.6 COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that Matiere School have a 30km/h variable speed limit on Ōhura Road that is only operational and enforceable during pick up and drop off times outside the school with a 60km/h speed limit at all other times, and a permanent speed limit of 60km/h in the township of Matiere for the following reasons:

(a) The majority of the comments were in support of the proposal in respect of Matiere School.
(b) There were no comments opposing the speed reduction from 70km/h to 60km/h for the township of Matiere.
(c) Due to the rural nature of Matiere School and the level of use of Ōhura Road by other traffic, a variable speed limit is appropriate so the reduction in speed is only effective during school pick up and drop off times. This balances the safety of students and staff during pick up and drop off times with the use of Ōhura Road by other rural road users.
(d) The average driving speed past Matiere School is currently approximately 50-54km/h so a buffer zone of 60km/h is appropriate. It also aligns with the permanent speed change for the township of Matiere, so will be consistent with the speed for the wider township area.

11 NATIONAL PARK SCHOOL (CATEGORY 1 SCHOOL WITH A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 30KM/H)

11.1 **Do you support: Option A - a permanent 30km/h speed limit throughout the village for National Park School? Or Option B - a permanent 30km/h speed limit outside National Park School? (and 50km/h outside of school zone in Village).**
Answered: 29

Option A	55.17%	16
Option B	44.83%	13

11.2 **Question: If you support Option B for National Park School do you agree with the size of the proposed school zone for this option?**
Answered: 16

Yes	81.25%	13
No	18.75%	3

11.3 **Analysis of comments**

(a) Six respondents left comments in the online survey: all six comments were in support of the proposal.
(b) Two were in support of the permanent 30km/h speed limit throughout National Park village.
(c) One comment questioned the costs (estimated costs were included in the Consultation Document: Option A $32,000, Option B $16,000) stating that they appear “undercooked” as in the respondent’s view infrastructure changes are required in addition to signs to make the speed reduction effective.
(d) Two comments relate to the reduction of speed along State Highway 4, of which the Council does not have jurisdiction as a road controlling authority.

11.4 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: Should there be a permanent 30km/h speed limit throughout the village of National Park? Or should there be a permanent 30km/h speed limit outside National Park School only?

11.5 COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that there be a permanent 30km/h speed limit throughout the village of National Park, (Excluding State Highway 4), for the following reasons:

(a) The majority of respondents supported this option.
(b) The existing road design is already supportive of a lower 30km/h speed limit.
(c) Option A aligns to the principle that children travel to school from multiple directions. The average operating speeds in National Park village are already low (<30km/h) so the impact of a permanent 30km/h speed limit is expected to be low, as it is what most people are travelling at already.

12 **NGAKONUI VALLEY SCHOOL (CATEGORY 2 SCHOOL WITH A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 60KM/H) INCORPORATING HIA-KAITUPEKA MARAE AS IT IS IN THE PROPOSED 60KM/H SCHOOL BUFFER ZONE.**

12.1 **Do you support a permanent speed limit of 40km/h with 60km/h buffer zones for Ngakonui Valley School?**
Answered: nine

Yes	60%	5
No	40%	4

12.2 **Do you agree with the size of the proposed school zone for Ngakonui Valley School?**
Answered: seven

Yes	50%	4
No	50%	3

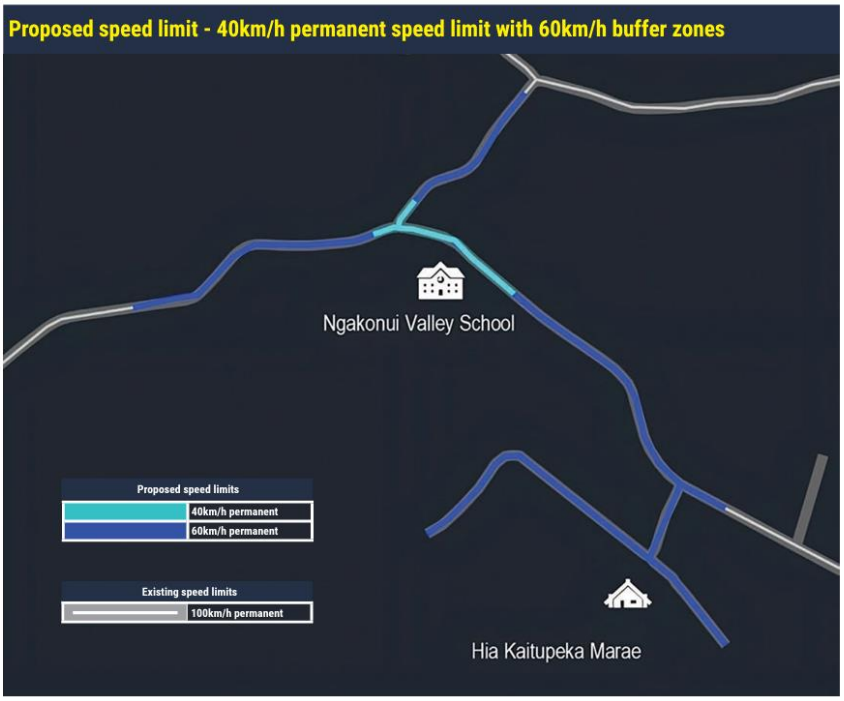
12.3 **Analysis of comments**

(a) Two respondents left comments in the online survey.
(b) One comment was in support of the proposal but asked Council to consult with kaitiaki of the area.
(c) One comment was in support of the 40km/h limit outside the school but not the 60km/h buffer and preferred an 80km/h buffer. The respondent went on to state that they have not in 15 years seen anyone walking between the school and neighbouring Hia-Kaitupeka Marae.

12.4 **Submission from the Trustees of Hia-Kaitupeka Marae**

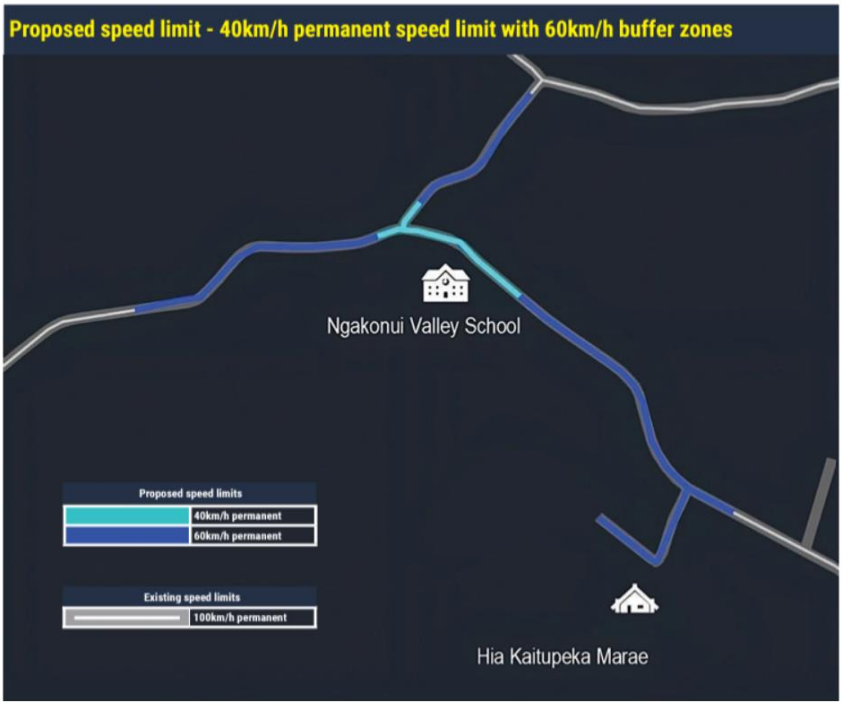
12.4.1 The Trustees of Hia-Kaitupeka Marae (the Trustees) were in support of the proposal and confirmed their support of a safer environment for Ngakonui Valley School and its environment. The Trustees did however question the proposed buffer zone indicated on the map used for consultation with the community. Council Officers investigated the concerns and discovered that the map used for consultation erroneously included road in the school buffer zone that sits outside the ownership of Council. A new map has been created and is attached to this report. Council Officers have communicated with the Trustees to confirm the error has been rectified and thanked them for bringing it to Council's attention.

Ngakonui Valley School



Map 1: Incorrect Ngakonui Valley School proposal

Ngakonui Valley School



Map 2: Correct Ngakonui Valley School proposal

12.5 **Submission from Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga Ministry of Education**

12.5.1 The Ministry proposed consistency across schools with a recommendation of permanent 30km/h speed limits around all schools, including a specific recommendation of 30km/h for Ngakonui Valley School instead of a permanent 40km/h limit.

12.6 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: Should there be a permanent speed limit of 40km/h with 60km/h buffer zones for Ngakonui Valley School?

12.7 COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that there be a permanent speed limit of 40km/h with 60km/h buffer zones for Ngakonui Valley School for the following reasons:

(a) The majority of respondents supported this option.
(b) The Trustees of Hia-Kaitupeka Marae support this option.
(c) The existing road design is already supportive of slower speeds.
(d) The average operating speeds in the area are higher than 30km/h so drivers may find 30km/h uncomfortable without changes to the road design.
(e) Ngakonui Valley Road is used by various road users, therefore both efficiency and safety need to be balanced when considering what speed limit to apply in regards to both the school zone and the buffer zone.

13 **ŌHURA VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL (CATEGORY 1 SCHOOL WITH A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 30KM/H)**

13.1 **Do you agree with the size of the proposed school zone for Ōhura Valley Primary School?**
Answered: seven

Yes	71.43%	5
No	28.57%	2

13.2 **Analysis of comments**

(a) Two respondents left comments in the online survey.
(b) One comment opposed the proposal due to the small role of Ōhura Valley Primary School and the cost (estimated costs were included in the Consultation Document: $54,000).
(c) One comment supported the proposal but recommended the school zone be increased due to children walking to school from throughout the village. The respondent went on to request a pedestrian crossing across Mangaparo Road, and highlighted that speeding is an issue in the village.

13.3 **Submission from Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga Ministry of Education**

13.3.1 The Ministry proposed consistency across schools with a recommendation of permanent 30km/h speed limits around all schools, including a specific recommendation of 30km/h for Ōhura Valley Primary School instead of a variable 30km/h limit.

13.4 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: Should Ōhura Valley Primary School have a 30km/h variable speed limit on Mangaparo Road that is only operational and enforceable during pick up and drop off times outside the school with a 50km/h speed limit at all other times?

13.5 COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that Ōhura Valley Primary School have a 30km/h variable speed limit on Mangaparo Road that is only operational and enforceable during pick up and drop off times outside the school with a 50km/h speed limit at all other times for the following reasons:

(a) The majority of respondents were in support of the proposal.
(b) A variable speed limit of 30km/h that is only operational and enforceable during pick up and drop off times outside the school balances safety of students and staff with road use efficiency at this location.
(c) A permanent 30km/h speed limit would not be credible without major design changes to Mangaparo Road.

14 ONGARUE SCHOOL (CATEGORY 1 SCHOOL WITH A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 30KM/H)

14.1 **Do you agree with the size of the proposed school zone for Ongarue School?**
Answered: seven

Yes	57.14%	4
No	42.86%	3

14.2 **Analysis of comments**

(a) Three respondents left comments in the online survey.
(b) Two respondents questioned the cost of the proposal (estimated costs were included in the Consultation Document: $24,000).
(c) One comment requested the school zone be extended to the intersection with Taupō Road and closer to the intersection with Ongarue-Waimiha Road.
(d) Two comments stated that due to the school's location at the end of a dead-end road, it is impossible to go faster than 30km/h past the school.

14.3 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: Should Ongarue School have a permanent speed limit of 30km/h with a 60km/h buffer zone as proposed?

14.4 COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that Ongarue School have a permanent speed limit of 30km/h with a 60km/h buffer zone as proposed for the following reasons:

(a) The majority of respondents were in support of the proposal.
(b) The existing road design is already supportive of the proposal.
(c) The average operating speeds on Ongarue Village Road are already low (<30km/h) so the impact of a permanent speed limit is expected to be low.
(d) The nature of the location of Ongarue School (at the end of a dead-end road) is also supportive of the proposal.

15 **ŌWHANGO SCHOOL (CATEGORY 1 SCHOOL WITH A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 30KM/H)**

15.1 **Do you support: Option A, a permanent 30km/h speed limit for all of Ōwhango township, OR Option B, a permanent 30km/h speed limit around Ōwhango Primary School.**
Answered: seven

Yes	85.71%	6
No	14.29%	1

15.2 **If YES to Option B do you agree with the size of the proposed school zone for Ōwhango School?**
Answered: one

Yes	100%	1
No	0%	0

15.3 **Analysis of comments**

(a) Two respondents left comments in the online survey.

(b) One comment questioned the costs (estimated costs were included in the Consultation Document: Option A $18,000, Option B $14,000) stating that they appear "undercooked" as in the submitters view infrastructure changes are required in addition to signs to make the speed reduction effective.

(c) One comment related to the reduction of speed along State Highway 4 and how Council needs to do more.

(d) One comment was in support of the proposal due to the potential reduction in dust from unsealed roads.

15.4 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: Should there be a permanent 30km/h speed limit throughout the township of Ōwhango, OR outside Ōwhango Primary School only?

15.5 COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that there be a permanent 30km/h speed limit throughout the township of Ōwhango for the following reasons:

(a) The majority of respondents supported this option.

(b) The existing road design is already supportive of the proposal.

(c) The average operating speeds in Ōwhango township are already low (<30km/h) so the impact of a permanent speed limit for the entire township is expected to be low.

(d) Option A aligns to the principle that children travel to school from multiple directions and the township streets are all low speed and designed for low speeds currently, so a 30km/h zone would have minimal impact on drivers.

(e) There is a reserve access on Ohinetonga Road which experiences high numbers of walkers, pushchair pushers, cyclists, and other vulnerable users, therefore a 30km/h permanent speed limit for Ōwhango township would allow for this to be extend to the reserve road and benefit these road users.

16 **ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL (CATEGORY 1 SCHOOL WITH A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 30KM/H)**

16.1 **Do you agree with the size of the proposed school zone for St Patrick's Catholic School?**
Answered: 14

Yes	92.86%	13
No	7.14%	1

16.2 **Analysis of comments**
(a) One respondent left a comment in the online survey.
(b) The respondent stated that they do not think East Street should be permanently 30km/h.

16.3 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: Should there be a 30km/h permanent speed limit outside St Patrick's Catholic School as proposed?

16.4 COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that there is a 30km/h permanent speed limit outside St Patrick Catholic School as proposed for the following reasons:
(a) The majority of respondents were in support of the proposal.
(b) The existing road design is already supportive of the proposal.
(c) The average operating speeds on the streets within the proposed school zone are already low, so the impact of a permanent 30km/h speed limit is expected to be low.
(d) A variable speed limit at this location would be a high-cost measure for little benefit since most people are already driving at speeds <30km/h at all times of the day.

17 **TAUMARUNUI HIGH SCHOOL (CATEGORY 1 SCHOOL WITH A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 30KM/H)**

17.1 **Proposal for a 30km/h Variable Speed Limit only operational and enforceable during pick up and drop off times outside the school. Do you agree with the size of the proposed school zone for Taumarunui High School?**
Answered: 18

Yes	88.89%	16
No	11.11%	2

17.2 **Analysis of comments**
(a) One respondent left a comment in the online survey.
(b) The respondent was in support of the proposal.

17.3 **Submission from Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga Ministry of Education**

17.3.1 The Ministry proposed consistency across schools with a recommendation of permanent 30km/h speed limits around all schools, including a specific recommendation of a permanent speed limit of 30km/h for Taumarunui High School, instead of a variable 30km/h limit.

17.4 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: Should Taumarunui High School have a 30km/h variable speed limit that is only operational and enforceable during pick up and drop off times outside the school with a 50km/h speed limit at all other times?

17.5 COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that Taumarunui High School have a 30km/h variable speed limit that is only operational and enforceable during pick up and drop off times outside the school with a 50km/h speed limit at all other times for the following reasons:

(a) The majority of respondents were in support of the proposal.
(b) There are known safety issues around this school during pick up and drop off times and a reduced speed limit during these hours will help improve safety for the students walking and being dropped off on the main road.
(c) The benefit of the variable speed limit sign is that it does not impact on speeds outside of school pick up and drop off hours.
(d) A permanent speed limit would not be viable here since Golf Road is used by various road users, therefore both efficiency and safety need to be balanced when considering what speed limit to apply.
(e) A 30km/h permanent speed limit would not be credible without a major design change to the road.
(f) The average operating speeds on Golf Road are approximately 47km/h indicating most people are comfortable at these speeds on this road.

18 TARRANGOWER SCHOOL (CATEGORY 1 SCHOOL WITH A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 30KM/H)

18.1 **Do you agree with the size of the proposed school zone for Tarrangower School?**
Answered: 14

Yes	92.86%	13
No	7.14%	1

18.2 **Analysis of comments**

(a) One respondent left a comment in the online survey.
(b) The respondent opposed the size of the school zone stating that they believe the proposed zone is too big and that it should only include Manson Street and Tarrangower Avenue from Manson Street to Hikurangi Terrace.

18.3 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: Should there be a 30km/h permanent speed limit outside Tarrangower School as proposed?

18.4 COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that there is a 30km/h permanent speed limit outside Tarrangower School as proposed for the following reasons:

(a) The majority of respondents were in support of the proposal.
(b) The existing road design is already supportive of the proposal.
(c) The average operating speeds on the streets within the proposed school zone are already low, so the impact of a permanent 30km/h speed limit is expected to be low.
(d) A variable speed limit at this location would be a high-cost measure for little benefit since most people are already driving at speeds <30km/h at all times of the day.

19 **TAUMARUNUI TOWN CENTRE SCHOOLS CLUSTER - INCLUDES TAUMARUNUI PRIMARY SCHOOL AND TURAKI PRIMARY SCHOOL (BOTH CATEGORY 1 SCHOOLS WITH A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 30KM/H)**

19.1 **Do you support: Option A,** a permanent speed limit of 30km/h throughout the main town centre and river flat area of Taumarunui south of Hakiaha Street capturing Turaki School, Taumarunui Primary School, Ngāpuwaiwaha Marae and Morero Marae**, OR Option B,** a variable speed limit that is only operational and enforceable during pick up and drop off times outside Taumarunui Primary School and permanent 30km/h speed limit outside Turaki Primary School (Ngāpuwaiwaha Marae and Morero Marae are outside the Option B school zone).
Answered: 22

Option A	18.18%	4
Option B	81.82%	18

19.2 **If you support Option A do you agree with the size of the proposed school zone for this option?**
Answered: 10

19.3 **Analysis of comments**
(a) Six respondents left comments to this question.
(b) Five comments opposed Option A.
(c) One comment supported Option B.

19.4 **If you support Option B do you agree with the size of the proposed school zone for this option?**

19.5 **Analysis of comments**
(a) Nine respondents left comments to this question.
(b) Five comments opposed Option A.
(c) One respondent supported Option B and went on to suggest that Council should consider a speed limit of 40km/h instead of 30km/h for Option A. They went on to suggest improvements to the Short Street Hakiaha Street intersection.
(d) One respondent questioned Council's ability to enforce the speed reduction along State Highway 4.
(e) Two comments supported Option B.

19.6 **Submission from Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga Ministry of Education**

19.6.1 The Ministry proposed consistency across schools with a recommendation of permanent 30km/h speed limits around all schools, including a specific recommendation of 30km/h for Taumarunui Primary School and Turaki Primary School instead of a variable 30km/h limit.

19.6.2 The Ministry acknowledged that the Council has no jurisdiction over State Highway speed limits. Taumarunui Primary School is located on Hakiaha Street, which is part of State Highway 4.

19.7 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: Should there be a permanent 30km/h speed limit throughout the township of Taumarunui (incorporating Turaki School, Taumarunui Primary School, and Ngāpuwaiwaha Marae) and a 30km/h Variable Speed Limit only operational and enforceable during pick up and drop off times outside Taumarunui Primary School (located on Hakiaha Street, which is part of State Highway 4, which falls outside Council's jurisdiction as a road controlling authority)? OR should there be a 30km/h Variable Speed Limit outside Turaki School and Taumarunui Primary School only operational and enforceable during pick up and drop off times?

19.8 COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that there be a 30km/h Variable Speed Limit outside Turaki Primary School and Taumarunui Primary School only operational and enforceable during pick up and drop off times for the following reasons:

(a) A high level of respondents opposed Option A.
(b) The majority of respondents were in support of the Option B proposal.
(c) The benefit of the variable speed limits are that they do not impact on speeds outside of school pick up and drop off hours.
(d) Variable speed limits have a maximum length of 700m and additional constructability constraints due to their size and installation requirements, so they are only able to capture the proposed areas and cannot be extended further than shown on the map to capture the wider town or marae.

20 **TE KURA O NGAPUKE (CATEGORY 2 SCHOOL WITH A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 60KM/H) INCLUDING KAURIKI MARAE DUE TO ITS PROXIMITY TO THE KURA**

20.6 **Do you support a permanent speed limit of 40km/h with 80km/h buffer zones for Te Kura o Ngapuke?**
Answered: nine

Yes	88.89%	8
No	11.11%	1

20.7 **If YES do you agree with the size of the proposed school zone for Te Kura o Ngapuke?**
Answered: six

Yes	100%	6
No	0%	0

20.8 **Analysis of comments**

(a) Three respondents left comments to this question.
(b) One comment was in support of the proposal.
(c) Two respondents raised the lack of a designated pick up and drop off area for the kura's bus that is off the road as a safety issue.

20.9 **Submission from Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga Ministry of Education**

20.9.1 Ministry expressed their preference that Te Kura o Ngapuke to have a permanent speed limit of 30km/h with a 60km/h buffer zone. The reasoning behind that modification proposal is the Ministry's view that this buffer speed would makes it easier for vehicles to slow down when entering the school zone.

20.10 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: Should Te Kura o Ngapuke have a permanent speed limit of 40km/h with 80km/h buffer zones?

20.11 COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that Te Kura o Ngapuke have a permanent speed limit of 40km/h with 80km/h buffer zones for the following reasons:

(a) The majority of respondents were in support of the proposal.
(b) The existing road design is already supportive of the proposal.
(c) The average operating speeds on the road are approximately 60km/h, so a permanent speed of 30km/h as preferred for outside schools wouldn't be feasible without changes to the road design. A reduced speed limit of 40km/h is recommended which improves safety for the students at Te Kura o Ngapuke but is still credible within existing budget constraints and aligns to current operating speeds.
(d) There is a risk to students and residents who walk between the nearby Kauriki Marae and Te Kura o Ngapuke at times outside the standard pick up and drop off times. A permanent speed limit allows for children and the community to use this road as needed at a safer speed limit.

21 TE KURA KAUPAPA MAORI O TAUMARUNUI (CATEGORY 1 SCHOOL WITH A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 30KM/H)

21.6 **Do you support: Option A,** a larger school speed limit zone including Esplanade, Makere Street, and Reu Street, Pororu Street and Para Street south of Taupo Road **OR, Option B,** a smaller school speed limit zone covering the frontage of Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Taumarunui (a section of Makere Street west of Reu Street and part of Porou Street).
Answered: 10

Option A	40%	4
Option B	60%	6

21.7 **Analysis of comments**

(a) Three respondents left comments to this question.
(b) One comment supported Option B.
(c) One comment supported the lowering of speed limits in general around Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Taumarunui.
(d) One comment requested that a pedestrian crossing on Makere Street be considered in the final Speed Management Plan.

21.8 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: Should there be a larger speed limit zone or smaller speed limit zone around Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Taumarunui?

21.9 COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that there be a smaller speed limit zone of 30km/h around Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Taumarunui for the following reasons:

(a) The majority of respondents supported this option.
(b) This option meets the legislative and design viability requirements of a 30km/h speed limit of at least 500m long.
(c) Council Officers acknowledge that this option may create consistency and driveability challenges due to multiple changes of speed limits over short road sections, however that must be balanced with the views of the majority of respondents who supported Option B.

22 **TOKIRIMA SCHOOL (CATEGORY 2 SCHOOL WITH A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 60KM/H)**

22.1 **Do you support a permanent speed limit of 40km/h with 80km/h buffer zones for Tokirima School?**
Answered: 11

Yes	81.82%	9
No	18.18%	2

22.2 **If YES do you agree with the size of the proposed school zone for Tokirima School?**
Answered: nine

Yes	77.78%	7
No	22.22%	2

Analysis of comments

(a) Seven respondents left comments to this question.
(b) One respondent used this comment area to encourage Council to consider lowing the speed limit in Raurimu village. That comment will be considered when Council prepares its Final Speed Management Plan.
(c) One comment supported the proposal.
(d) Two comments stated that speeding past Tokirima School is an issue.
(e) Two comments requested that the speed outside Tokirima School be lowered to 30km/h.
(f) Two comments advise that children walk along Tokirima Road to access the Tokirima Hall.
(g) Two comments requested that the school speed zone be extended closer to the State Highway 43 turn off.
(h) One respondent advised that the school's bus is parked outside the school for half of the day so people should be travelling at 20km/h anyway. They went on to add that children often ride their bikes down the road, and they run school cross country in paddocks across the road.

22.3 **Submission from Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga Ministry of Education**

22.3.1 The Ministry would prefer Tokirima School to have a permanent speed limit of 30km/h with a 60km/h buffer zone. The reasoning behind that modification proposal is the Ministry's view that this buffer speed would makes it easier for vehicles to slow down when entering the school zone.

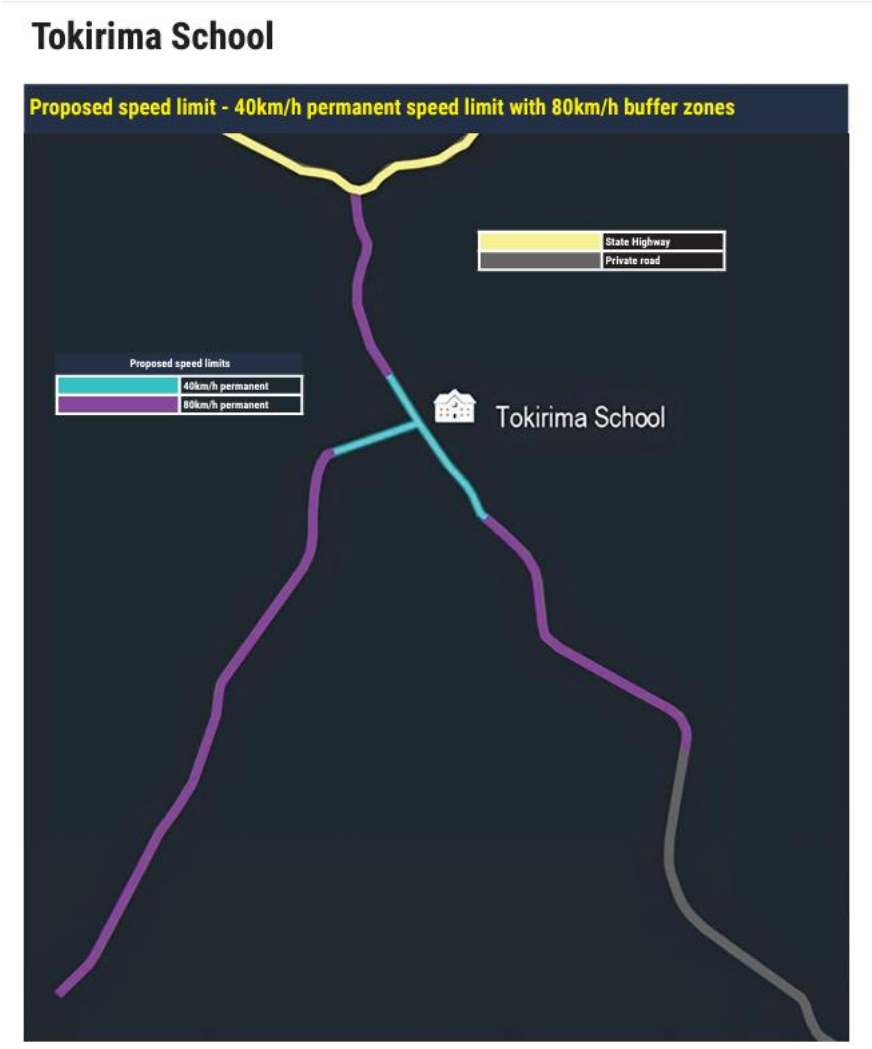
22.4 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: Should there be a permanent speed limit of 40km/h with 80km/h buffer zones for Tokirima School?

22.5 COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: Tokirima School should have a permanent speed limit of 40km/h, that extends closer to the intersection with State Highway 43 than the original proposal, with 80km/h buffer zones for the following reasons:

(a) The majority of respondents supported this option.

(b) The comment in relation to the school bus and the requirement of travelling past the school at 20km/h because the bus is parked outside of the school for half of the day is incorrect. The 20km/h speed limit passing a school bus only applies when the bus has stopped for the purpose of picking up and dropping off school children, so does not apply when the bus is parked outside the school while not in use.

(c) The requests to slow traffic speed from closer to the State Highway 43 turnoff have merit. The respondents make a valid point that most traffic that passes the school comes from State Highway 43, so the earlier after the turnoff drivers are aware of the 40km/h speed zone outside of the school the easier it will be for them to have slowed to the speed limit by the time they reach it. The distance between the State Highway 43 turnoff and Tokirima School is relatively short. See Figure 1 below (the State Highway is highlighted in yellow).



Map 3: Tokirima School proposal

ANALYSIS OF SUBMISSIONS – SOUTHERN RUAPEHU

23 **OHAKUNE SCHOOL CLUSTER:** INCLUDES OHAKUNE SCHOOL, RUAPEHU COLLEGE, TE KURA KAUPAPA MĀORI O NGĀTI RANGI (ALL CATEGORY 1 SCHOOLS WITH A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 30KM/H). MAUNGARONGO MARAE IS IN THE PROPOSED VARIABLE 30KM/H SCHOOL ZONE FOR TE KURA KAUPAPA MĀORI O NGĀTI RANGI.

23.1 **Do you support: Option A,** a permanent 30km/h speed limit for the wider township and CBD of Ohakune, the Junction, outside Ruapehu College and a variable 30km/h speed limit for Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngāti Rangi for pick-up and drop-off times **OR Option B,** a permanent 30km/h speed limit for road areas directly outside both Ruapehu College and Ohakune School and a variable 30km/h speed limit for Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngāti Rangi for pick-up and drop-off times.
Answered: 13

Option A	7.69%	1
Option B	92.31%	12

23.2 **If you support Option A do you agree with the size of the proposed school zones for this option?**
Answered: four

Yes	75%	3
No	25%	1

23.3 There were no comments left in relation to this question.

23.4 **If you support Option B do you agree with the size of the proposed school zones for this option?**
Answered: 10

Yes	80%	8
No	20%	2

23.5 **Analysis of comments**

(a) Nine respondents left comments to this question.
(b) Four respondents opposed Option A.
(c) Three comments related to frustration around existing traffic congestion.
(d) One respondent stated that they believe the over extension of school speed zones will cause frustration and delays, which may increase the incidence of accidents occurring. This respondent went on to express that students need to be educated in road safety and that they would prefer more signage than an extended school speed zone.
(e) One respondent stated that they think the school speed zone should be expanded to extend past Manuka Street towards town to Conway Street because cars are often parked on both sides of the road. This respondent has provided some vital on the ground intel and a good reason to extend the school speed zone.
(f) One respondent opposed Option A but requested that a 30km/h speed limit be considered along Clyde Street and around the Junction due to the high proportion of pedestrian traffic.
(g) Three respondents expressed concern around parking issues.
(h) One respondent opposed both options and requested crash information in respect of Arawa Street and Tainui Street. The respondent went on to state that changes to Arawa

Street are required to reduce congestion and to manage parking, and to request that on the western side of the street the yellow line be extended from the pedestrian crossing up past the small bridge. Council Officers have passed these comments on to the roading team and plan to answer this respondent's questions when completing the 'closing the loop' process with all submitters.

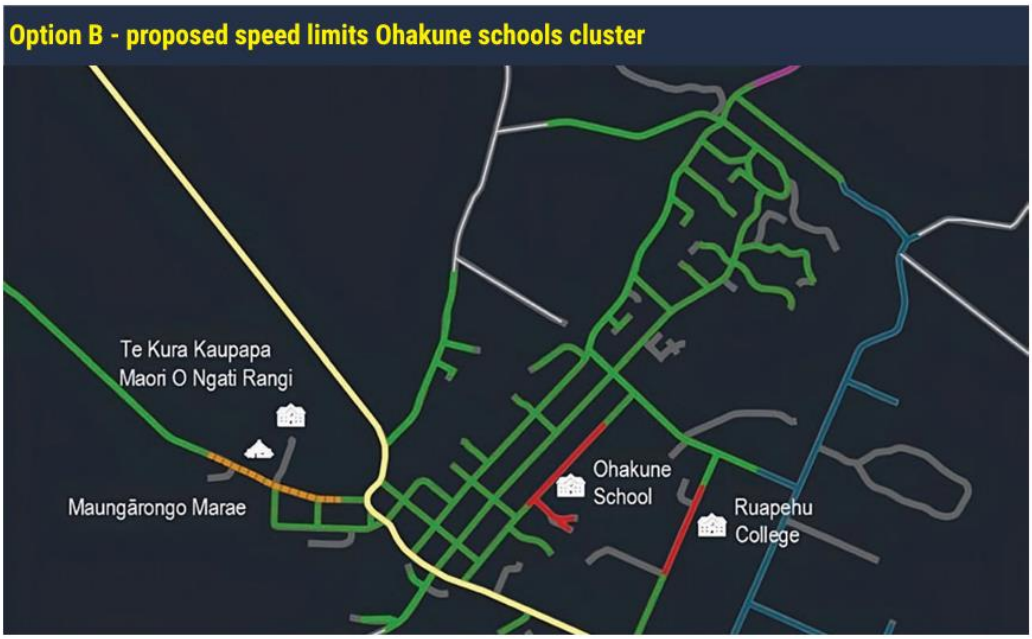
23.6 **Submission from Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga Ministry of Education**

23.6.1 The Ministry proposed consistency across schools with a recommendation of permanent 30km/h speed limits around all schools, including a specific recommendation of 30km/h for Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngāti Rangi instead of a variable 30km/h limit.

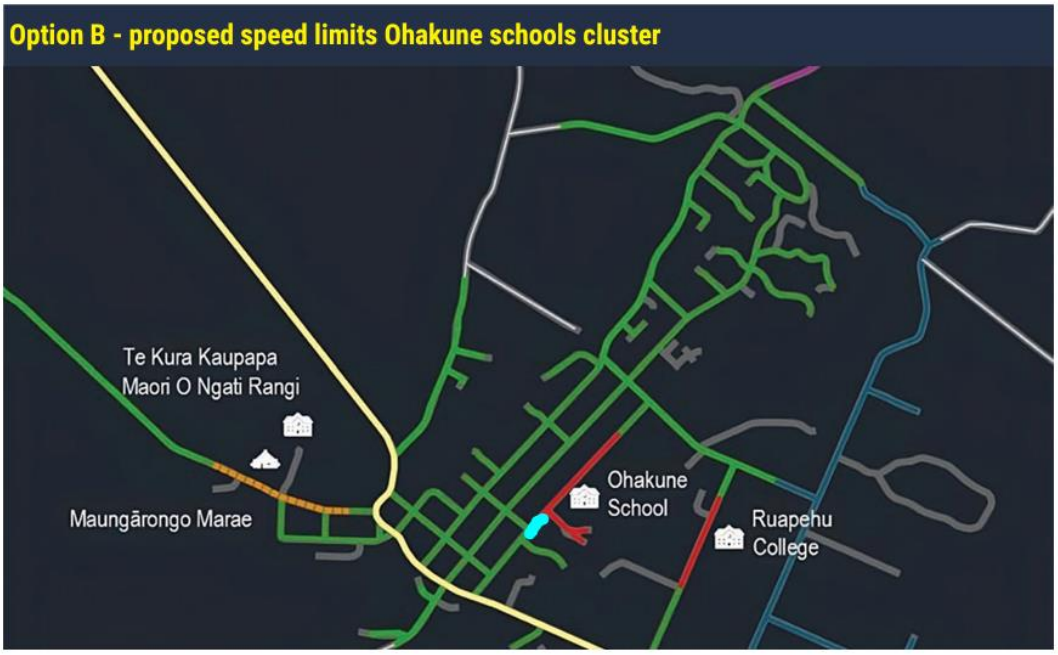
23.7 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: should there be a permanent 30km/h speed limit for the wider township and CBD of Ohakune, the Junction, outside Ruapehu College and a variable 30km/h speed limit for Te Kura Kaupapa Maori o Ngati Rangi for pick-up and drop-off times **OR,** a permanent 30km/h speed limit for road areas directly outside both Ruapehu College and Ohakune School and a variable 30km/h speed limit for Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngāti Rangi for pick-up and drop-off times only?

23.8 COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: that there be a permanent 30km/h speed limit for road areas directly outside Ruapehu College; a permanent 30km/h speed limit for road areas directly outside Ohakune School, extending past Manuka Street towards Ohakune township to Conway Street (if possible); and a Variable Speed Limit of 30km/h speed limit for Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngāti Rangi for pick-up and drop-off times only, for the following reasons:

(a) The majority of respondents supported this option.
(b) The existing road design is already supportive of the proposal.
(c) To promote the safety of students entering and exiting cars during school pick-up and drop-off times the school speed zone around Ohakune School should be expanded to extend past Manuka Street towards Ohakune township to Conway Street, as suggested by a respondent in their submission.
(d) A permanent speed limit outside Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngāti Rangi would not be viable as Burns Street is used by various road users, including freight and commuters, so both efficiency and safety need to be balanced when considering what speed limit to apply. The safety of students and staff is also less of a risk at this location as the pickup and drop off point is not directly on Burns Street.
(e) The average operating speeds on Burns Street are approximately 40km/h indicating most people are comfortable at these speeds on this road so a reduction in speed to 30km/h during school pick-up and drop-off times is viable.
(f) A 30km/h permanent speed limit would not be credible without a major design change to Burns Street.



Map 4: Original Option B Ohakune proposal



Map 5: Extended Option B Ohakune proposal (see blue area)

24 ORAUTOHA SCHOOL (CATEGORY 1 SCHOOL WITH A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 30KM/H)

24.1 **Do you support a permanent speed limit of 30km/h with 80km/h buffer zones for Orautoha School?**
Answered: 5

Yes	100%	5
No	0%	0

24.2 **Do you agree with the size of the proposed school zone?**
Answered: 4

Yes	100%	4
No	0%	0

24.3 **Analysis of comments**

(a) Two respondents left comments to this question.
(b) One comment was in support of the proposal.
(c) Both respondents requested a 30km/h speed limit around the Raetihi bus stop. These comments will be responded to in the area of the report that deals with Raetihi School.

24.4 **Submission from Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga Ministry of Education**

24.4.1 The Ministry would prefer Orautoha School to have a permanent speed limit of 30km/h with a 60km/h buffer zone. The reasoning behind that modification proposal is the Ministry's view that this buffer speed would makes it easier for vehicles to slow down when entering the school zone.

24.5 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: should there be a permanent speed limit of 30km/h with 80km/h buffer zones for Orautoha School?

24.6 COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: there should be a permanent speed limit of 30km/h with 80km/h buffer zones for Orautoha School for the following reasons:

(a) The majority of respondents supported this option.
(b) The existing road design is already supportive of the proposal.
(c) Pukekaha Road is used by various road users so both efficiency and safety need to be balanced when considering the speed limit of buffer zones for Orautoha School.

25 RAETIHI PRIMARY SCHOOL (CATEGORY 1 SCHOOL WITH A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 30KM/H)

25.1 **Do you agree with the size of the proposed school zone?**
Answered: 6

Yes	100%	6
No	0%	0

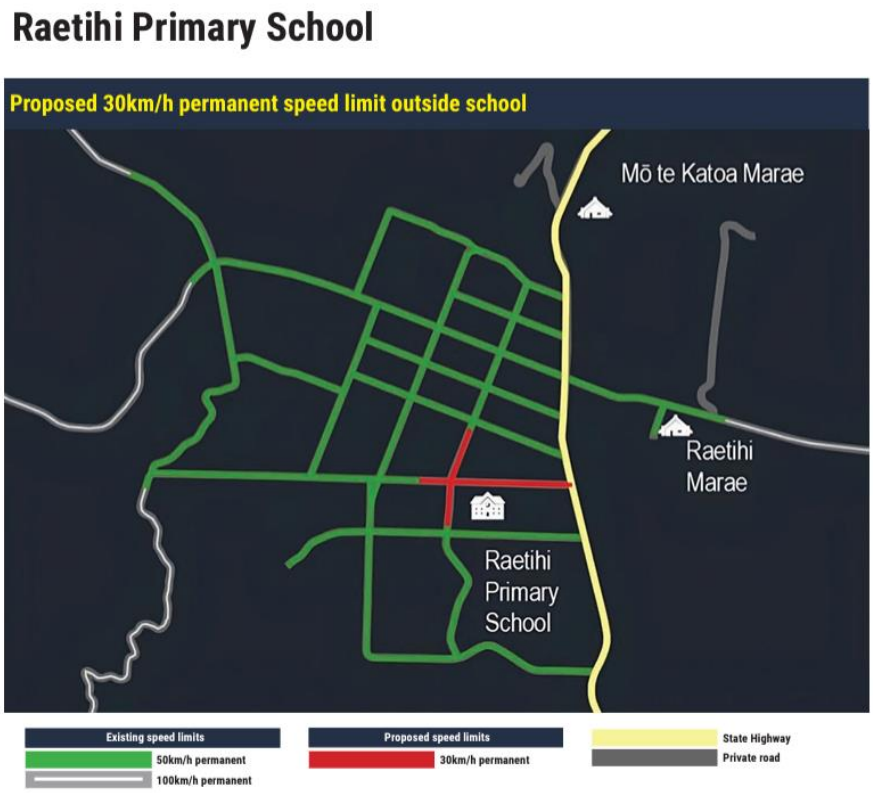
25.2 **Analysis of comments**

(a) One respondent left a comment to this question.
(b) The respondent's comment was in support of the proposal.
(c) There were two comments left in the online comment area for Orautoha School that relate to the Raetihi bus stop on Seddon Street in Raetihi. The two comments request that the speed limit outside the bus stop be reduced permanently to 30km/h.

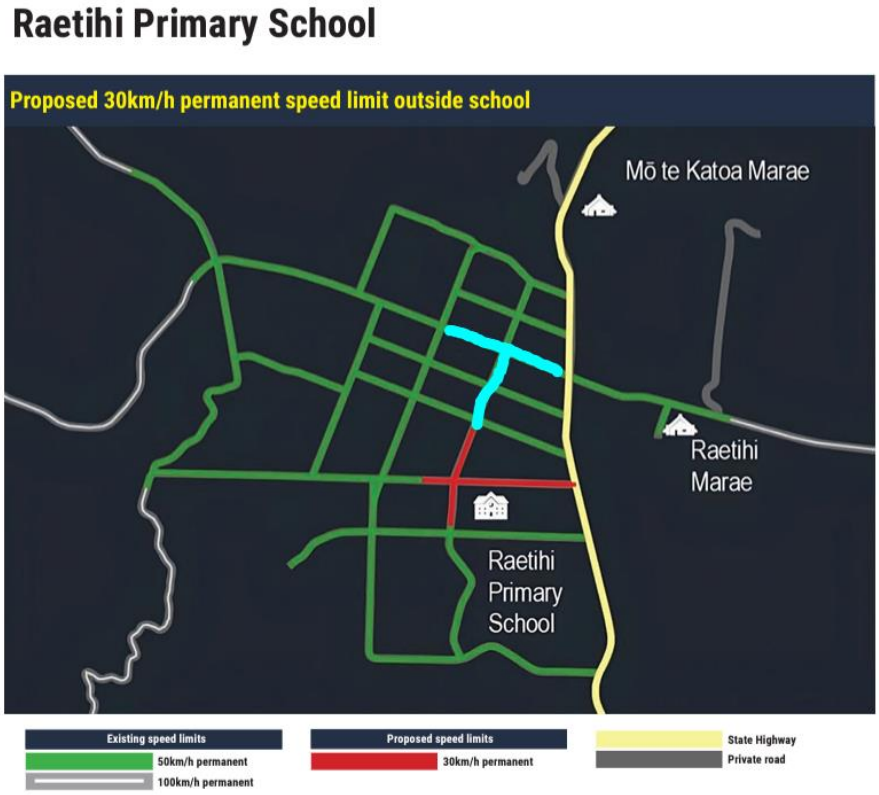
25.3 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: should there be a permanent speed limit of 30km/h outside Raetihi Primary School as proposed?

25.4 COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: there should be a permanent speed limit of 30km/h outside Raetihi Primary School and extend to the school bus stop on Seddon Street (if possible) for the following reasons:

(a) The majority of respondents supported this option.
(b) The existing road design is already supportive of the proposal.
(c) The school zone should be extended to incorporate the Raetihi school bus stop on Seddon Street, if possible, as it has been highlighted by members of the community that there are concerns regarding the safety of the children who use that bus stop.
(d) The average operating speeds on these streets are already low (<30km/h) so the impact of a permanent 30km/h speed limit is expected to be low, as it is what most people are travelling at already.



Map 6: Original Raetihi School proposal



Map 7: Extended Raetihi School proposal (see blue area)

ANALYSIS OF OTHER SUBMISSIONS

26 SUBMISSION FROM TE TĀHUHU O TE MĀTAURANGA MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

26.1 The Ministry provided a thorough submission in support of the Proposal. The Ministry's submission as it relates to relevant schools has been analysed under the area in this report that applies to the relevant schools.

26.2 The Ministry requested information around the collection of average vehicle speed data across the Ruapehu District. The Council's technical advisors collected, analysed, and interpreted that data. Council Officers will obtain the information requested from its technical advisors and provide that to the Ministry when completing the 'closing the loop' process with all submitters.

27 SUBMISSION FROM PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES, MIDCENTRAL, TE WHATU ORA HEALTH NEW ZEALAND

27.1 Public Health Services, MidCentral, Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand (MidCentral Te Whatu Ora) submitted in support of the proposal.

27.2 Aspects of MidCentral Te Whatu Ora's support include the proposal's likelihood of:

(a) Reducing serious injury of people near schools.
(b) Encouraging active forms of travel to and from schools which promotes physical activity.
(c) Assisting in climate change adaptation and mitigation through the improvement of air quality by reducing the District's greenhouse gas emissions, in respect of emissions relating to vehicles travelling to and from schools.

Next Actions | Ngā mahinga e whai ake nei

28 If the Council decide to proceed with the recommended changes to the size of the school zone around Tokirima School, Ohakune Primary School and Raetihi Primary School then Council Officers will take advice from Council's technical experts accordingly.

29 If Council's technical experts deem these to be appropriate changes, they will be incorporated into the final Interim Speed Management Plan.

30 Council Officers will table the final Interim Speed Management Plan for adoption at the 15 December 2023 meeting of the Council.

Attachment(s) | Ngā āpitihanga

NIL

Report to: Council

Meeting Date:	**22 November 2023**	
Subject:	**Deliberation Report: Smokefree and Vapefree Policy**	
Report for:	**Decision**	
Author(s):	Karee Cadman	**STRATEGY & POLICY ADVISOR**
Endorsed By:	Fiona Ferrar	**ACTING MANAGER: FINANCE, STRATEGY & GOVERNANCE**

Purpose of Report | Te take mō te pūrongo

1 The purpose of this report is to:
- (a) Present for deliberation the analysis of the submissions to the Smokefree and Vapefree Policy (the Policy);
- (b) Offer proposed amendments to the draft Policy; and
- (c) Seek approval of the amendments to the draft policy in preparation for the adoption of the Policy at the 15 December 2023 meeting of the Council.

Recommendation(s) | Ngā tūtohunga

That the Council**:**

1 Receives the **Deliberation Report: Smokefree and Vapefree Policy;**

2 Approves the following Council Officer recommendations for inclusion in the final version of the Smokefree and Vapefree Policy:
- (a) That public areas in the Ruapehu District are designated smoke and vape free.
- (b) That vaping is included in the Policy.
- (c) That any events that Council is involved in be designated smoke and vape free.
- (d) That outdoor dining areas on the footpath are designated smoke and vape free.
- (e) That any business currently offering outdoor dining on the footpath be included in the Policy immediately.
- (f) That Council take an education-based approach towards compliance with the Policy.

3 Approves an amendment to the Draft Policy to review the Smokefree and Vapefree Policy every five years effective from the date of adoption, or as determined by Council, or in response to legislative or policy changes, including any potential changes to the Smokefree Aotearoa 2025 goal (whichever arises first).

Well-Being Outcomes

In accordance with Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA): the purpose of Local Government is to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future.
Refer: Pūwhenua ki Ruapehu Portal

		Contributes	Detracts	No Impact
2.1	**Social:** Safe, healthy communities	☒	☐	☐

This policy contributes to safe healthy communities by encouraging behavioural changes that reflect our community values, de-normalising smoking and vaping behaviour and reducing the harm caused by smoking, vaping and tobacco use on non-smokers.

"It has to be the community. You can have the funding but it's when the community stands up and says, 'Hey we don't like this' and sending the message from their own people."

		Contributes	Detracts	No Impact
2.2	**Economic:** Thriving economy	☒	☐	☐

Hospitality and tourism are important sectors in the Ruapehu District (the District). Council Officers acknowledge concern may arise that a Smokefree and Vapefree Policy may negatively impact some businesses who have clientele who would prefer to smoke and vape in public areas, and that tourists may be deterred from visiting the District due to public areas being smokefree and vapefree.

Recent research undertaken in tourist destination Hamner Springs may provide some comfort that hospitality and tourism may not be adversely impacted by the proposed Smokefree and Vapefree Policy. The research in Hamner Springs evaluated the attitudes of local businesses, residents, and visitors regarding a trial of a voluntary smokefree and vapefree zone, that covered the central business streets. Overall, 84 per cent of responding visitors indicated that they supported the zone being both smokefree and vapefree (83% of international and 84% of domestic visitors).

A further 8 per cent of responding visitors indicated vaping should be allowed in the zone (but supported smokefree) and 9 per cent indicated both vaping and smoking should be allowed in the zone (i.e., did not support the zone).

Further, 54 per cent of responding visitors indicated that they would be more likely to visit other places with smokefree and vapefree zones, 40 per cent indicated no preference, and 6% indicated that they would be less likely to visit other places with smokefree and vapefree zones.

In terms of what we do know, the economic impact to the community will be cost for new signage to identify sites that are smokefree and vapefree, however the cost of signage is expected be funded through existing budgets.

		Contributes	Detracts	No Impact
2.3	**Environmental:** Sustaining beautiful environments	☒	☐	☐

The Smokefree Vapefree Policy will contribute to sustaining beautiful environments through a reduction of litter caused by cigarette butts and packaging, and disposable vapes. Additionally, it provides clean air environments free of chemicals including nicotine for the community.

	Contributes	Detracts	No Impact
2.4 **Cultural:** Vibrant and diverse living	☒	☐	☐

The implementation of a Smokefree and Vapefree Policy in the District will promote cultural wellbeing as our tamariki and rangatahi will see less smoking and vaping in public places, thereby de-normalising smoking and vaping behaviour in public places. The hope is that this will lead to less of our population, especially Māori, taking up smoking and vaping. The Māori population of the District is 43.4 per cent significantly higher than the New Zealand average of 17.4 per cent. The level of smoking in the District's Māori population is 35.8 per cent compared with the New Zealand average of 28.3 per cent. Despite smoking rates falling since the adoption of the Smokefree 2025 target, disparities in smoking rates still exist.

Significance and Engagement | Takenga mai

3 **Significance**

This report itself does not tigger the Significance and Engagement Policy. When conducting a significance assessment under Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, the draft policy was determined as significant through its impact on the community.

3.1 Although outcomes of the Policy will include positive health benefits, the proposed Smokefree and Vapefree Policy was determined to have been likely to have importance to some members of the community such as smokers, vapers, and businesses who hold a license to occupy whose patrons may smoke or vape.

4 **Engagement**

The public was consulted using the Special Consultative Procedure (SCP) process outlined in Section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) and Section 87 of the LGA. Council was not required to consult using this process but deemed it appropriate to do so.

4.1 Smoking and vaping pose a risk to the public's health and safety, additionally some members of the community may feel that the prohibition of smoking in some areas will infringe on their rights and freedoms. Therefore, it was vital that the public were consulted and affected parties were invited to present their views and given the opportunity to be heard.

4.2 To meet the principals of consultation under Section 82 of the LGA the following steps were taken:

(a) Access to relevant information was provided to the community on the purpose and impact of the Policy in a clear and timely manner.
(b) Options and analysis were provided to the community to form their decision.
(c) Affected parties were provided the opportunity to be heard.
(d) Views of the public will be received with an open mind and given due consideration.
(e) A clear record and description of the decisions made by Council will be made accessible to all parties.

Background | Tuhinga

5.1 Following an inquiry by the Māori Affairs Select Committee in 2010 that identified that smoking rates among Māori and Pacific Peoples were rising, and that Māori women had the highest rates of lung cancer in the world, in March 2011, the Government adopted the goal of New Zealand being smokefree by 2025.

5.2 In support of the Government's Smokefree 2025 vision, and the Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products Act 1990, a smokefree and vapefree policy gives effect to the purpose of local authorities to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future, as provided for under the Local Government Act 2002. Additionally, Section 23 of the Health Act 1956 makes it the duty of every local authority to improve, promote and protect public health within its district.

5.3 Most local authorities have implemented smokefree policies. Ruapehu District Council (Council) is one of few councils that does not have an existing policy in this regard.

5.4 Council approved the creation and development of a Smokefree and Vapefree Policy in the Ruapehu District at the 22 February 2023 meeting of the Council.

5.5 The Smokefree Vapefree Statement of Proposal and Draft Policy was adopted by Council for community consultation at the 23 August 2023 meeting of the Council.

5.6 Council consulted with the community regarding the Smokefree Vapefree Policy Statement of Proposal and Draft Policy during the month of September 2023 through community planned pop-up events, social media, newspaper campaigns and radio.

5.7 National, Regional and Community Health professionals and stakeholders were contacted and encouraged to contribute to the policy including:
(a) Te Whatu Ora Whanganui
(b) Te Whatu Ora Waikato
(c) Cancer Society Whanganui–Rangitikei–Waimarino
(d) Asthma Foundation
(e) Kokiri Trust Whanau Ora
(f) Ngā Waihua o Paerangi Trust (formerly Ngāti Rangi Trust) Whanau Ora
(g) Kahui Ako – Communities of Learning in both Northern and Southern Ruapehu
(h) Ruapehu Health

5.8 Council received 69 Submissions to the Smokefree and Vapefree Statement of Proposal:
(a) 64 online forms
(b) three written emails
(c) two handwritten forms

5.9 Nine members of the public indicated they wished to speak to their submission. For assorted reasons six declined to speak. Three speakers spoke at the public hearings at the Taumarunui Chambers on 18 October 2023. A submission book containing all the submissions received was included in the Agenda for the public hearings.

5.10 This report contains detailed results of the survey used to obtain community views on the proposed policy. The survey comments were analysed thematically and summarised under each question.

5.11 Please note that leaving a comment under a question was not a requirement for filling out the survey, hence why the number of comments under each question varies. Some respondents also gave more than one reason for their answer.

SUMMARY OF SUBMISSIONS

6.1 **Overall, do you agree with public areas being smoke and vape free?**
Answered 67

Yes	85%	57
No	15%	10

6.1.1 **Analysis of comments**
49 respondents left comments to this question.

6.1.2 Of those that responded YES:
(a) 27 commented that they wanted a smokefree and vapefree environment for health-related reasons.
(b) 18 commented that they were concerned about the effects of vaping and smoking on youth/rangatahi and children/tamariki - in particular, the prevalence of youth vaping.
(c) Two felt that those smoking and vaping impinged their rights to a smoke and chemical free environment.
(d) Two felt that the Policy sends a positive health message for the Ruapehu Community.

6.1.3 Of those that responded NO:
(a) Four commented that they did not agree smoking and vaping was an issue in outside public places as most are discrete and that existing laws were already in place.
(b) Two agreed that public areas should be smoke-free, but vaping should not be included.
(c) One commented that the Policy was an overreach on behalf of the council.
(d) One commented that there should have been two questions as they supported smokefree in public areas but not vapefree.

6.1.4 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: Should Public Areas in the Ruapehu be designated smoke and vape free?

6.1.5 COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that public areas in the Ruapehu District are designated smoke and vapefree for the following reasons:
(a) A large majority of respondents agreed that public areas in the Ruapehu District should be smoke and vapefree.
(b) Midcentral and Waikato, Te Whatu Ora and the Cancer Society have supplied strong research and professional opinion on how a Smokefree and Vapefree Policy will contribute to the wellbeing and health of the Ruapehu Community, in particular youth/rangatahi and children/tamariki.
(c) A Smokefree and Vapefree Policy supports central government's Smokefree 2025 vision, and the Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products Act 1990. A Smokefree and Vapefree Policy gives effect to the purpose of local authorities to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future, as provided for under the Local Government Act 2002. Additionally, Section 23 of the Health Act 1956 makes it the duty of every local authority to improve, promote and protect public health within its district.

6.2 **Do you support vaping being included in the proposed policy?**
Answered 66

Yes	85%	56
No	15%	10

6.2.1 **Analysis of comments**
44 respondents left comments to this question.

6.2.2 Of those that responded YES:
(a) 16 commented that they wanted a vapefree environment for health-related reasons.
(b) 13 commented that they were concerned about the effects of vaping on youth/rangatahi and children/tamariki.
(c) 12 commented that vaping is no different to smoking and should be treated the same way.
(d) Two commented around concerns on how it will be policed.
(e) Two commented that vaping impinges on an individual's right to have a chemical free environment.

6.2.3 Of those who responded NO:
(a) Two mentioned that vaping should be allowed as it is a tool to reduce smoking.
(b) One commented they did not agree vaping was an issue in outside public places as most are discrete.
(c) One commented that it was an overreach by Council.
(d) One commented that other regulations or restrictions should be used to reduce vaping.
(e) One commented that it is discrimination against those who choose to vape.

6.2.4 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: Should vaping being included in the proposed policy?

6.2.5 COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that vaping be included in the Policy for the following reasons:
(a) A large majority of respondents agreed that vaping should be included in the Policy.
(b) Midcentral and Waikato, Te Whatu Ora and the Cancer Society have provided strong research and professional opinion on why vaping should be treated the same as smoking.
(c) The Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products Act (1990) outlines areas in which it is prohibited to both smoke tobacco and vape. Therefore, Council's proposal to include vaping in the Policy aligns with this Act's language and intention.
(d) While vaping was introduced as a tool for the cessation of smoking as it is considered less harmful than cigarette smoking, there are concerns regarding the normalisation of vaping in those who have never smoked, especially youth/rangatahi and children/tamariki.

6.3 **Do you support any events Council is involved with being smoke and vape free?** Answered 66

Yes	89%	59
No	11%	7

6.3.1 **Analysis of comments**
38 respondents left comments to this question.

6.3.2 Of those that responded YES:
(a) 10 commented that this supports a culture of healthy change.
(b) 10 commented that this protects the health of the community.
(c) Seven commented that it is important to protect youth/rangatahi and children/tamariki.
(d) Five commented that individuals have the right to attend events with smokefree and vapefree surroundings.
(e) Two commented it supports Smokefree Aotearoa 2025.
(f) Two commented it is the right thing to do.

(g) Two commented that it would be a good opportunity to provide education, support, and advice to stop smoking.
(h) One commented that Council needs to be consistent in being smoke and vapefree in all its public spaces.
(i) One commented that children are significantly influenced by the environments in which they live and play. They are likely to copy what they observe and may come to believe that smoking and vaping are normal activities, especially when it is occurring around them.

6.3.3 Of those that responded NO:
(a) One commented that smoking and vaping areas should be provided.
(b) One commented that it was discrimination against people who choose to smoke and vape.
(c) One commented that this was overreach by Council.

6.3.4 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: Should any events Council is involved in be smoke and vape free?

6.3.5 COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that any events Council is involved in be smoke and vape free for the following reasons:
(a) Smokefree events demonstrate to younger generations that smoking is not the norm, as well as providing support for those going through the quitting process.
(b) Creating and endorsing smoke and vape free events shape an environment that supports the health and well-being of the community, provides an opportunity for good role-modelling for youth and de-normalises smoking and vaping behaviour so children are less likely to start.
(c) Midcentral and Waikato, Te Whatu Ora and the Cancer Society have provided strong research and professional opinion on why events should be smoke and vape free.

6.4 **Do you support outdoor dining areas on the footpath being smoke and vape free?**
Answered 67

Yes	82%	55
No	18%	12

6.4.1 **Analysis of comments**
37 respondents left comments to this question.

6.4.2 Of those that responded YES:
(a) 19 commented that people who do not smoke and vape should be able to enjoy these spaces without breathing or smelling smoke or chemicals.
(b) 10 commented that it is detrimental to the public's health to be subjected to smoking and vaping when outdoor dining on footpaths.
(c) Three commented it was harmful to youth/rangatahi and children/tamariki to allow smoking and vaping in outdoor dining areas on the footpath.
(d) Two commented that smoking outside businesses looks terrible.
(e) Two commented that being smokefree and vapefree could increase business.

6.4.3 Of those that responded NO:
(a) Two commented that it could negatively affect businesses.
(b) One commented that ratepayers should have the right to smoke and vape on the footpath if they choose to.
(c) One commented that it is a public space.

(d) One commented that if a business does not have the capacity to have a designated private smoking and vaping area they should be allowed to smoke and vape on the footpath outside.

6.4.4 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: Should outdoor dining areas on the footpath be smoke and vape free?

6.4.5 COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that outdoor dining areas on the footpath are smoke and vape free for the following reasons:

(a) A large majority of respondents agreed that outdoor dining areas on the footpath should be smoke and vapefree.
(b) Midcentral and Waikato, Te Whatu Ora and the Cancer Society have provided strong research and professional opinion on why outdoor dining areas on the footpath should be smoke and vape free.
(c) Even when smoking is kept outside people indoors are still exposed to smoke drifts from outdoor areas. Studies looking at outdoor dining areas have found that the smoke particulate levels can be three to nearly five times higher than recommended exposure levels (World Health Organisation).
(d) Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) has long been seeking national legislation for smokefree outdoor hospitality areas since 2015 when over 70% of local councils supported a remit: 'That LGNZ requests that the government develop and implements legislation to prohibit smoking outside cafés, restaurants, and bars' (Thomson & Wilson, 2017).
(e) The outside areas of bars and cafés remain one of the most dangerous places in Aotearoa for someone quitting (Thomson et al., 2021). International evidence also indicates that having smokefree outdoor hospitality areas increase quitting attempts and reduces relapses (Chaiton et al., 2016).

6.5 **If adopted, should businesses currently offering outdoor dining on the footpath be included in the Policy immediately or upon dining licence renewal?**
Answered 63

Immediately	57%	36
Upon licence renewal	43%	27

6.5.1 **Analysis of comments**
34 people commented on this question.

6.5.2 Of those who responded IMMEDIATELY:

(a) Nine commented that there needed to be consistency to avoid confusion.
(b) Five commented that this was important to protect community health.
(c) Four commented that this would reflect the urgency and importance of the smokefree vapefree message.
(d) Three commented that public spaces need to be smoke and vape free.
(e) Three commented that this was needed to protect youth/rangatahi and children/tamariki.

6.5.3 Of those who responded UPON LICENCE RENEWAL:

(a) Nine commented that it would be the right thing to do to provide businesses and staff with the time to transition.

6.5.4 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: Should any should businesses currently offering outdoor dining on the footpath be included in the Policy immediately or upon dining licence renewal?

6.5.5 COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that any businesses currently offering outdoor dining on the footpath be included in the policy immediately, for the following reasons:

(a) Businesses that currently hold a licence to occupy / alfresco dining permit only need to renew this when the ownership of the premises changes.

(b) As the policy is recommended as an education-based policy, businesses will be supported during the transition. Te Whatu Ora provide free Smokefree Aotearoa 2025 signage and stickers and free to print vapefree stickers and signs. An effective promotional campaign combined with signage will assist with the community's understanding of and compliance with the Policy.

6.6 **Do you support Council taking an education-based approach towards compliance?**
Answered 64

Yes	75%	48
No	25%	16

6.6.1 **Analysis of comments**
31 respondents left comments to this question.

6.6.2 Of those that responded YES:

(a) Eleven commented that they preferred a gentle approach that allow the community time to change their behaviour.

(b) Eleven commented that it is important the community is educated to understand the harm and consequences of smoking and vaping.

(c) Two commented that if an educational approach was not successful, they would like to see a stronger approach taken, especially in locations such as parks and schools.

6.6.3 Of those who responded NO:

(a) Four commented they would like a stronger approach including bylaws and fines.

(b) Three commented that it is not Council's job to educate around smoking and vaping.

6.6.4 POINT FOR DELIBERATION: Should Council take an education-based approach towards compliance?

6.6.5 Council Officer Recommendation: It is recommended that Council take an education-based approach towards compliance for the following reasons:

(a) A large majority of respondents agreed that and education-based approach to the Policy would be appropriate.

(b) An alternative approach would be to develop a Council bylaw to enforce the Policy. This would require new operating resources to monitor and enforce, without any additional penalties or enforcement tools being available. This option is not recommended.

(c) An education-based approach is in line with Ruapehu District Council's Regulatory Strategy.

6.7 **Do you have any other comments?**

6.7.1 Other Comments included:

(a) If smoking and vaping is not illegal then individuals and businesses should be able to decide themselves if they will be smoke or vape free.

(b) That public spaces are for smokers and vapers too.

(c) That this policy is an overreach and ratepayer money would be better spent in other areas.

(d) Comments congratulating Council on being proactive and supporting health.

(e) A comment requesting that in the future questions should be more clear and neutral as they felt some of them were loaded.
(f) Congratulating Council on ensuring a better future for upcoming generations.

6.7.2 **Analysis of other comments**

(a) Council Officers note the comments regarding the restrictions of the rights of individuals that choose to smoke and vape and the Policy being an overreach of Councils responsibilities. These type of comments are recurrent throughout survey feedback and must be balanced with the rights of individuals who choose not to smoke and vape and Council's role and responsibilities regarding community wellbeing.
(b) Suggestions made on improving the clarity of the survey have been noted and will be considered by Council Officers when undertaking future consultation.

6.8 **Analysis of Recommendations to the Policy by Te Whatu Ora**

6.8.1 Te Whatu Ora made several recommendations to Council alongside their submission to the draft policy which are discussed below:

(a) That Ngāti Rangi and Ruapehu District Māori Council being involved in this policy's implementation. Te Whatu Ora believe that these collectives have critical insights into how the Policy's implementation could affect Māori communities.
(b) Te Whatu Ora support Council's proposal to review this policy every five years from adoption, or as determined by Council, and suggest the addition of the clause - or in response to legislative or policy changes, including any potential changes to the Smokefree Aotearoa 2025 goal (whichever arises first).
(c) That Council make submissions to Central Government on any changes in Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products Act or Regulations when they are reviewed. Te Whatu Ora stated that Council is a powerful voice to Central Government, with an ability to comment on the implications of legislation and regulations in Council's jurisdiction.
(d) That maunga in the district become smoke and vapefree spaces under this policy. Te Whatu Ora believe that a blanket provision to prohibit smoking and vaping on the maunga will encourage Ruapehu communities and visitors to respect the maunga as tūpuna for the district.
(e) That Council establish a smoke and vapefree reference group to oversee the policy's implementation or make use of existing reference groups. They acknowledged that doing so will require a financial investment from Council and stated that if it is not viable at present to make the required investment, they encourage Council to explore reference group options to implement at the policy's next five-year review in 2028/2029.

6.9 **Council Officers Analysis of external recommendations**

(a) Council Officers agree with the comments in respect of Māori involvement in the policy's implementation and will involve both iwi and Māori organisations in the implementation process. For successful ongoing outcomes and implementation continued relationship building and engagement with iwi, hapū, Māori organisations and other stakeholders will be necessary.
(b) Council Officers agree with the suggestion that an amendment to the draft policy be made regarding review cycle to review the Policy every five years from adoption, or as determined by Council, or in response to legislative or policy changes, including any potential changes to the Smokefree Aotearoa 2025 goal (whichever arises first). A resolution seeking the approval of this change to the draft policy has been drafted earlier in this report.
(c) Advocating on behalf of the community to Central Government falls within the existing goals and key performance indicators of Council so Council Officers note this comment in relation to future advocacy opportunities.
(d) Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Ltd (RAL), which operates both Whakapapa and Turoa ski areas, introduced a smokefree policy in all indoor and outdoor areas of both ski fields in 2018.

Council does not have a role in lease agreements regarding the maunga but can continue to advocate on behalf of the community.

(e) Council Officers are considering the comment around the establishment of a smoke and vapefree reference group however resourcing and budgeting constraints at present make this valuable suggestion something to aim for in the future.

Next Actions | Ngā mahinga e whai ake nei

7 Council Officers will prepare the final Smokefree and Vapefree Policy, based on the decisions made today, for adoption at the December meeting of the Council.

Attachment(s) | Ngā āpitihanga

NIL

Report to: Council

Meeting Date: 22 November 2023

Subject: Elected Member Appointment to Risk and Assurance Committee

Report for: Decision

Author(s): Tasha Paladin **GOVERNANCE MANAGER**

Endorsed By: Clive Manley **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Purpose of Report | Te take mō te pūrongo

1 The purpose of this report is to approve Mayor Kirton's appointment of Councillor Robyn Gram to the Risk and Assurance Committee following Councillor Channey Iwikau's decision to step down from his appointment.

Recommendation(s) | Ngā tūtohunga

That the Council**:**

1 Receives the Report **Elected Member Appointment to Risk and Assurance Committee**;

2 In accordance with Schedule 7, Clause 31 of the Local Government Act 2022, with effect from 22 November 2023, approves the appointment of **Councillor Robyn Gram** to the Council's Risk and Assurance Committee for the remainder of the 2022-25 triennium; and

3 Approves for the appointment to be updated on the Ruapehu District Council website.

Well-Being Outcomes

In accordance with Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA): the purpose of Local Government is to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future.
Refer: Pūwhenua ki Ruapehu Portal

		Contributes	Detracts	No Impact
2.1	**Social:** Safe, healthy communities	☐	☐	☒
		Contributes	Detracts	No Impact
2.2	**Economic:** Thriving economy	☐	☐	☒
		Contributes	Detracts	No Impact
2.3	**Environmental:** Sustaining beautiful environments	☐	☐	☒
		Contributes	Detracts	No Impact
2.4	**Cultural:** Vibrant and diverse living	☐	☐	☒

Significance and Engagement | Takenga mai

3 **Significance**
This report does not trigger the Significance and Engagement Policy.

Background | Tuhinga

4 At the first meeting of Council 30 November 2022, Councillor Channey Iwikau was appointed to Council's Risk and Assurance Committee for the 2022-25 triennium. He has advised Mayor Kirton he wises to step down from this appointment.

4.1 Mayor Kirton has appointed Councillor Robyn Gram to the vacancy created by Councillor Iwikau, effective 22 November 2023.

4.2 The composition of the Risk and Assurance Committee, effective 22 November 2023, for the remainder of the 2022-25 triennium is as below:

Council Committee	Representation	2022-25 Appointed Representative(s)
Risk and Assurance Committee	Chair (Independent) Mayor Deputy Mayor Two Elected Members	Philip Jones Mayor Weston Kirton Deputy Mayor Vivienne Hoeta Councillor Robyn Gram Councillor Lyn Neeson

Next Actions | Ngā mahinga e whai ake nei

5 Following the approval of the appointment, appointment correspondence will be sent out to the Risk and Assurance Committee and any calendar invitations distributed

Attachment(s) | Ngā āpitihanga

NIL

Report to: Council

Meeting Date:	**22 November 2023**	
Subject:	**Civil Defence Training**	
Report for:	**Information**	
Author(s):	Andrew Chambers	**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**
Endorsed By:	Pauline Welch	**EXECUTIVE MANAGER: COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Purpose of Report | Te take mō te pūrongo

1 The purpose of this report is to introduce Elected Members to the Civil Defence training site Takatū and guide them through the Civil Defence foundation course.

Recommendation(s) | Ngā tūtohunga

That the Council**:**

1 Receives the Report **Civil Defence Training** for information.

Well-Being Outcomes

In accordance with Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA): the purpose of Local Government is to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future.
Refer: Pūwhenua ki Ruapehu Portal

		Contributes	Detracts	No Impact
2.1	**Social:** Safe, healthy communities	☒	☐	☐

Civil Defence training aims to empower residents to take an active role in their own safety and the well-being of the community which will help to strengthen the community's resilience in the face of disasters. Training also empowers community leaders to take initiatives and support one another during emergencies.

		Contributes	Detracts	No Impact
2.2	**Economic:** Thriving economy	☒	☐	☐

While small communities may rely on regional/national support during major disasters, having the ability to respond locally also helps with the economic recovery.

		Contributes	Detracts	No Impact
2.3	**Environmental:** Sustaining beautiful environments	☐	☐	☐

While Civil Defence emergencies can cause significant environment disasters having sustainable practices in disaster preparedness, such as community gardens, rainwater harvesting, and renewable energy sources, to enhance resilience are all ways we can encourage environment protection.

		Contributes	Detracts	No Impact
2.4	**Cultural:** Vibrant and diverse living	☐	☐	☐

We need to recognise that cultural diversity may impact disaster response and recovery and be prepared and trained to work with diverse community.

Significance and Engagement | Takenga mai

3 **Significance**
This report does not trigger the Significance and Engagement Policy.

Background | Tuhinga

4.1 Council is committed to being prepared for a Civil Defence emergency. Its goal is that the Emergency Management team will contribute to a safe environment for residents and visitors to the district through the provision of a modern and well-resourced emergency management system, in order to protect people and property in the district from natural hazards.

4.2 Given the size of the district, there are considerable challenges to cover, and there is the potential to have key staff unable to respond to emergencies which makes communications and community resilience a key element for an effective response.

4.3 Training helps to equip people with the knowledge and skills needed to protect themselves and their families during emergencies and having community leaders trained can help communities work together to respond effectively to disasters.

Discussion | He Kōrerorero

5 **CURRENT STATISTICS AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

5.1 Currently Council has 73 per cent of staff that have completed the foundational training, and 50 per cent have completed intermediate or higher, including controllers and alternative controller.

5.2 Council has recently completed two intermediate training courses, and staff have attended Function courses. Civil Defence is also part of Council's induction for new staff.

5.3 The purpose of this report is for the Emergency Manager to introduce all Elected Members to the Takatū website, and to encourage everyone to undertake the foundation course online.

Attachment(s) | Ngā āpitihanga

NIL

Report to: Council

Meeting Date:	**22 November 2023**	
Subject:	**Financial Monitoring Report for the Month Ending 31 October 2023**	
Report for:	**Information**	
Author(s):	Simon Pallin	**SENIOR MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT**
Endorsed By:	Fiona Ferrar	**ACTING EXECUTIVE MANAGER: FINANCE, STRATEGY & GOVERNANCE**

Purpose of Report | Te take mō te pūrongo

1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update of the Council's financial performance against the current budget and to show the impact of any budget changes made to date on Council's expected year end position.

Recommendation(s) | Ngā tūtohunga

That the Council**:**

1 Receives the Report **Financial Monitoring Report for the Month Ending 31 October 2023** for information.

Significance and Engagement | Takenga mai

2 **Significance**
This report does not trigger the Significance and Engagement Policy.

Background | Tuhinga

3.1 Every three years, Council develops a long-term plan (LTP) in consultation with its community. This sets Council's vision, direction, budgets, and work plans for each of the next 10 years. An Annual Plan is produced in the two years between each LTP being developed and shows any changes to the LTP proposals for that year. Annual Plans and the first year of the LTP set out the annual budget that Council use as a benchmark to report its actual financial results to.

3.2 After the Annual Plan is adopted, Council makes decisions that further impact the financial expectations and outcomes for the year. These have been considered in this report and changes made in Council's budget are reported through Council's Forecast. This allows Council to see the impact of these decisions on the expected year-end financial performance and position.

3.3 Financial performance to date is tracked by comparing year-to-date (YTD) actuals, against Council's Forecast, as this is the most up to date budgeting information available.

3.4 This monthly report presents the financial performance of Council, focussing on the key financial metrics, compared with Council's forecast and significant changes to the budget, since the previous months report to Council.

3.5 This report does not consider the impact of decisions beyond the current year (2023/24).

Discussion | He Kōrerorero

4 OVERALL FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

4.1 Overall financial results to date show a YTD deficit of $0.4 Million, which is $1.9 Million lower than the YTD budget (compared to $0.8 Million lower in September).

4.2 The year-to-date outcome is largely due to higher than budgeted year to date operating expenditure. This is reflected in the Other Expenses which are now $2.4 Million higher than budgeted. These include:

(a) $0.8 Million of Land Transport maintenance costs which is a timing variance and will be managed within existing budgets for the full year;
(b) $0.4 Million of Waters maintenance costs which is which is a timing variance and will be managed within existing budgets for the full year;
(c) $0.3 Million of rates expenditure paid earlier than budgeted;
(d) $0.2 Million of Three Waters consultancy fees, the which are supported from National Transition Unit Funding received from Department of Internal Affairs (DIA);
(e) $0.1 Million of interest expenses which are higher than budgeted due to increases in interest rates compared to Annual Plan assumptions.

4.3 Other highlighted movements for the year to date include:

(a) Capital Subsidies received are $0.8 Million lower than budgeted (see point 9.3).

5 DETAILED COMMENTARY

5.1 Operating Financial Performance

5.1.1 Key metrics are disclosed in the Operating Performance Dashboard. Year to Date (YTD) financial performance is based on Council's forecast.

5.1.2 The Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses (**attached**) shows the operating performance of all of Council, with significant variances to budget identified. This statement does not include capital expenditure, as this is included in the Statement of Financial Position but does includes capital revenue.

5.2 Forecast Operating Performance

5.2.1 The dashboard line graphs for Whole of Council Revenue and Expenditure include a grey forecast line.

5.2.2 The forecast is prepared based on an extrapolation of the YTD variances recognising one off items and ongoing items that are not part of the extrapolation.

6 GROUPS OF ACTIVITIES FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

6.1 The Groups of Activities Performance Dashboard shows the financial performance compared to the phased Group of Activity Funding Impact Statements in the Annual Plan.

6.2 The Dashboard shows YTD actuals compared with the phased Annual Plan budget for:
(a) Revenue (including rates and capital subsidies);
(b) Operating expenditure (including overheads);
(c) Capital expenditure (against the Annual Plan excluding subsequent resolutions of Council); and
(d) Commentary on the main variances is included in this and the attached dashboard report.

7 SUNDRY AND RATES DEBTORS

7.1 Aged Sundry Debtors are $0.8 Million; of which $0.5 Million is greater than 90 days overdue. All debtors are followed up in the normal course of business and the Finance team is reviewing larger aged balances outstanding.

7.2 Rates Arrears are at $5.8 Million, of which 79 per cent is for the current year. Overall rates arrears are in line with this time last year ($5.3 Million for October 2022), with the increase in arrears due to inflationary increases in overall rates. Debt from prior years totals $1.5 Million ($1.6 Million in September).

8 TREASURY MANAGEMENT

8.1 Current Council Debt is $49.9 Million. The Annual Plan forecasted this to increase to $60.6 Million at year end. No budget changes have been made to date that have an impact on Debt. There are no expectations that any additional debt beyond that highlighted in the Annual Plan will be required this financial year.

8.2 Treasury Performance Measures Are Met

Policy Compliance for the Month	Yes/No
Are all treasury transactions in compliance with policy?	Yes
Are all the fixed rate hedging percentages within policy control limits?	Yes
Is liquidity maintained within policy control limits?	Yes
Are all counterparty exposures within policy control limits?	Yes
Are all borrowing covenants / limits being complied with?	Yes

9 CAPITAL FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

9.1 Overall, the capital programme is behind the original planning assumptions with approximately 18 per cent of planned work in progress year to date. This is due to the increase in FY 2023/24 planned capital expenditure following the carry forward of capital projects from FY 2022/23.

9.2 Subsidy revenue, reported in the operating revenue and expenditure report, is currently down $0.4 Million against the year-to-date budget. This is primarily made up of:
(a) $0.4 Million higher operating subsidies including $182,000 to support Three Waters Transition related costs and $153,000 from Waka Kotahi for Land Transport operations, and
(b) $0.8 Million lower capital subsidies received as the budgets were spread evenly across the year, but the projects have not yet started primarily in relation to:
    (i) $0.5 Million for Town revitalisation projects.
    (ii) $0.4 Million for Land Transport projects

10 CAPITAL COMPLETION AGAINST APPROVED BUDGETS

Year to Date October 2023		
Activity	**Actual Spend $**	**Annual Budget $**
Community Facilities	612,620	6,888,019
Community Support	27,564	292,145
Land Transport (Roading)	3,388,986	16,527,342
Stormwater	102,032	146,446
Support	81,252	1,766,536
Waste Management and Minimisation	14,938	296,774
Wastewater (Sewerage)	746,573	2,594,021
Water Supply	1,618,235	8,823,680
Grand Total	**6,592,200**	**37,334,963**

Table 1.1 – Year to Date Capital Expenditure Actual and Full Year Budget by Activity Group

11 CAPITAL BUDGET TRANSFERS

11.1 No further budget movements have been proposed that require Council's review of approval since its approval of the FY2022/23 capital project carry overs at the Council Meeting 23 August 2023.

12 EMERGING ISSUES

12.1 There are currently no new emerging issues.

13 REPORTING DEVELOPMENT

13.1 The financial statements **attached** are presented in the same format and terms as required by Generally Accepted Accounting Practice and Local Government Legislation / Regulation.

14 READING THE DASHBOARD AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

14.1 Favourable and Unfavourable assessments are applied on the following basis:

(a) Revenue under budget is Unfavourable
(b) Expenditure under budget is Favourable
(c) Capital Expenditure under budget is Unfavourable

14.2 Capital expenditure underspends are considered unfavourable as, traditionally Council struggles to complete its capital programme and therefore being under budget is considered an Unfavourable variance against budget, however this means a cost overrun on a project would appear in the reports as Favourable. This should be reflected in the attached commentary.

Attachment(s) | Ngā āpitihanga

1 Finance Dashboard to 31 October 2023

Ruapehu Financial Dashboard - October 2023

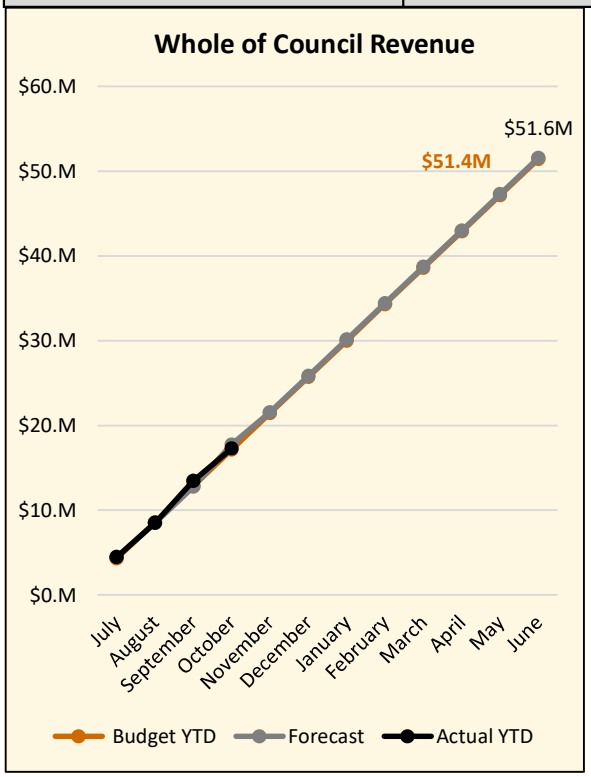
Operating and Debt Performance

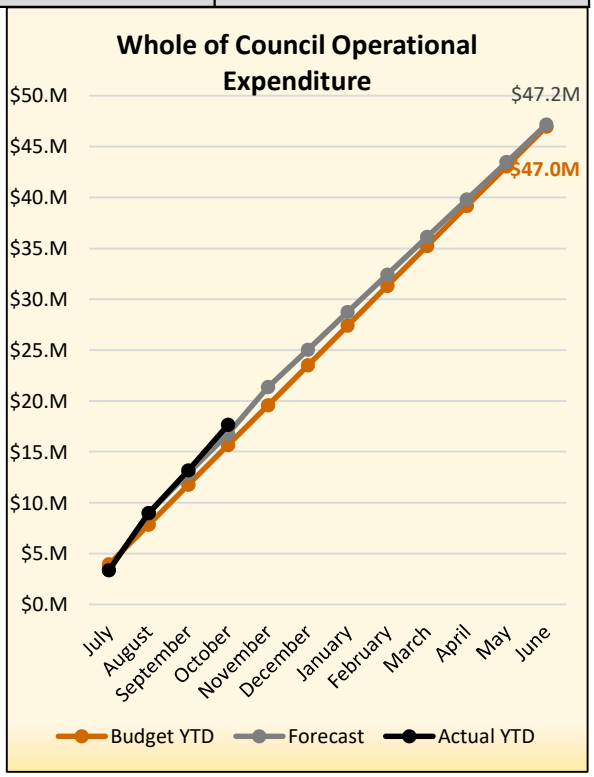
YTD Actual to Forecast

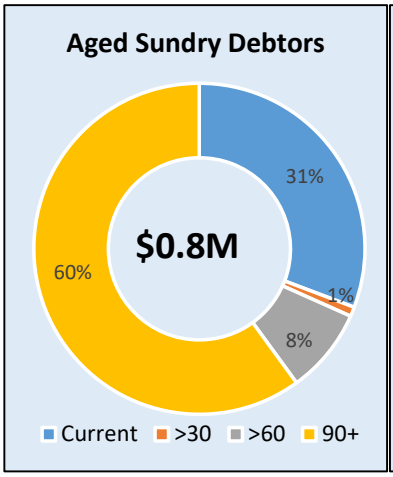
YTD Revenue	YTD Operational Expenditure	YTD Surplus / (Deficit)
$17.3M	$17.7M	($0.4M)
$0.1M Favourable	$2.0M Unfavourable	$1.9M Unfavourable

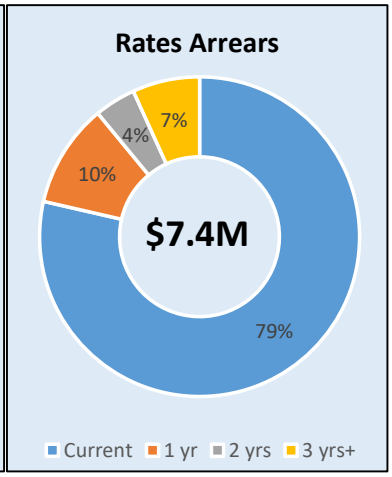
Forecast YE

Revenue	Operational Expenditure	Surplus / (Deficit)
$51.6M	$47.2M	$4.4M
$0.1M Favourable	$0.2M Unfavourable	$0.1M Unfavourable









YTD Change in Debt

$5.0M (July $5M)

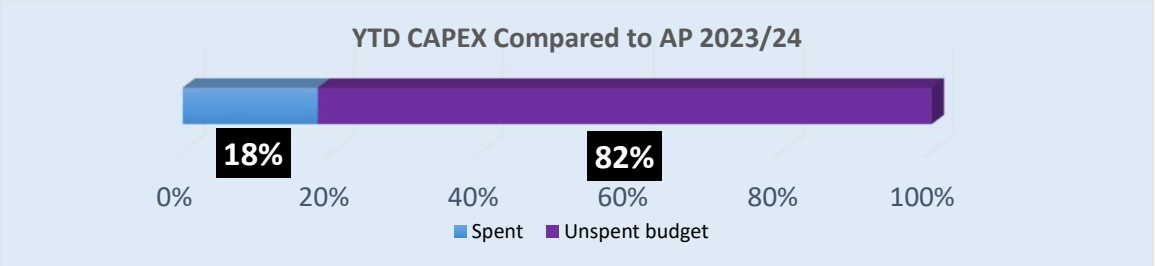
Current Debt

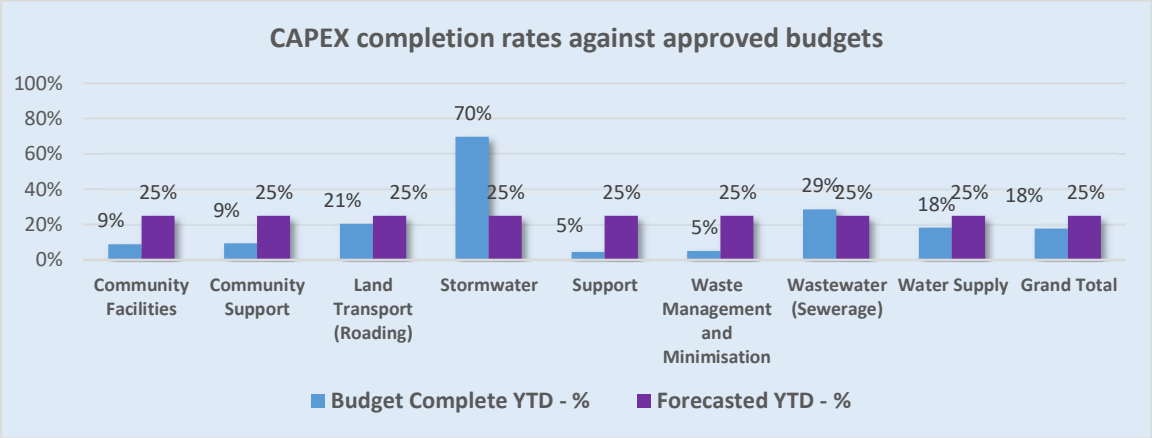
$49.9M

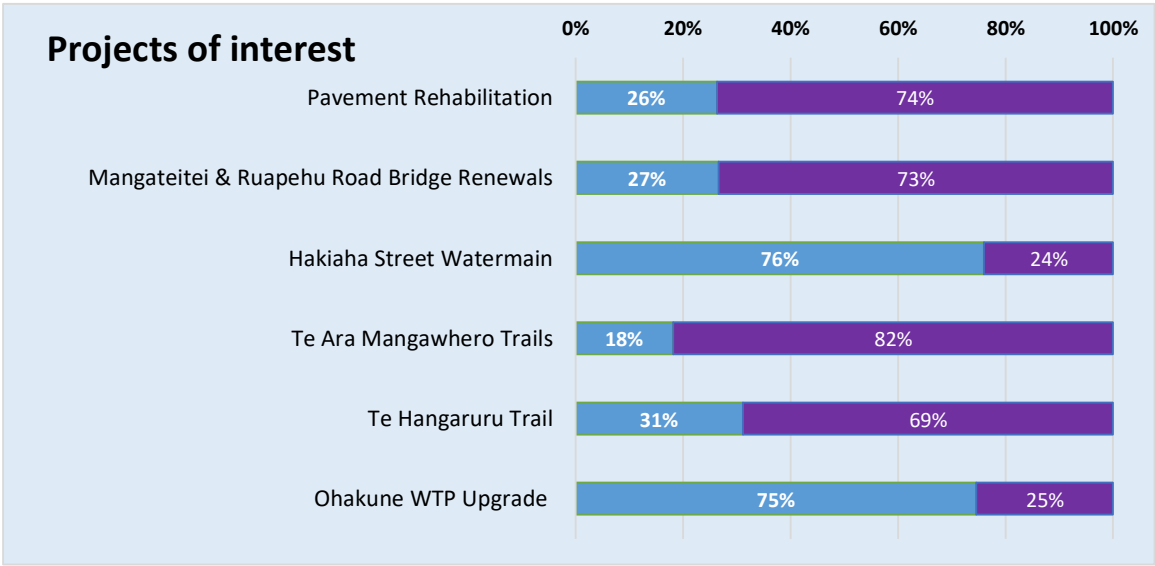
(FY Bud $60.6M)

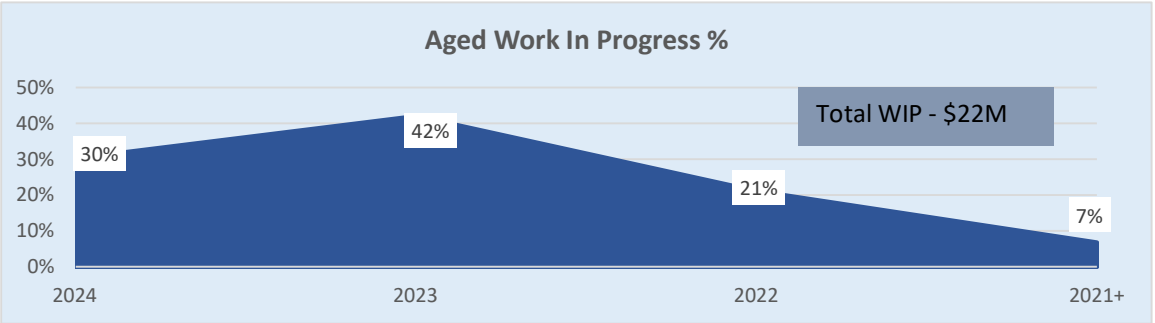
New Emerging Issues	NO
New Material Variances	NO
Policy and KPI Compliance	✓

Capital Performance Year to October 2023









Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense

For the period ending 31 October 2023

	Actual YTD ($000)	Budget YTD ($000)	Variance YTD ($000)	Notes	Annual Plan ($000)
Revenue					
Rates	9,584	9,396	188		28,189
Subsidies and Grants	6,031	6,445	(414)	1	18,616
Interest Revenue	91	9	82		26
Fees and Charges	856	730	126		2,188
Development and Financial Contributions	105	77	28		232
Other Revenue	604	491	113	2	1,473
Gains	-	-	-		-
Total Operating Revenue	17,271	17,148	123		50,723
Expense					
Personnel Costs	2,431	2,395	36		7,183
Finance Costs	939	903	36		2,708
Depreciation and Amortisation Expense	3,734	4,173	(439)		12,518
Other Expenses	10,554	8,186	2,368	3	24,562
Losses	-	-	-		-
Total Operating Expenditure	17,658	15,657	2,001		46,971
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	**(387)**	**1,491**	**(1,878)**		**3,752**
Gain / (Loss) on Property, Plant & Equipment Re	(19)	-	(19)		4,771
Total Other Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses	**(19)**	**-**	**(19)**		**4,771**
Total Comprehensive Revenue and Expense / (Deficit) for the Year Attributable to Council	**(406)**	**1,491**	**(1,897)**		**8,523**

Notes to the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense

Note	Comment - Actual to Phased Annual Plan
1	**Subsidies and Grants: $414K Unfavourable** This variance reflects $802K lower than budgeted capital subsidies received as the budgets were spread evenly across the year but some projects have not yet started. This variance is primarily in relation to town revitalisation projects. These are offset by $388K higher than budgted operating subsidies including $182K to support 3 Water Transition related costs and $153K from Waka Kotahi for Land Transport operations.
2	**Other Revenue $113K Favourable** In line with last month, the other revenue favourable variance relates to majority of dog registrations being paid in July and August while the budget has been spread across the year ($86K). In addition to these Council has also received higher than budgeted revenue from I-Sites and Solidwaste.
3	**Other Expenses: $2.368M Unfavourable** Other expenses are higehr than budget mainly due to Maintenance and Land Transport maintenance works being undertaken ($1.41M). For the full year these costs are expected to be managed within approved budgets. $750K of these expenses are timing related and will be offset by either underspends through the remainder of the year or additional income received during the year including $320K for rates paid earlier than budgeted, $230K for 3 Waters costs supported by transition funding from DIA and $110K related to the 6 monthly payment of the Visit Ruapehu Contract paid in August.

Statement of Financial Position For the Period Ending 31 October 2023	Actual YTD ($000)	Annual Plan 2024 ($000)	Notes
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2,969	2,197	
Receivables	7,456	1,278	
Prepayments and Accrued Income	2,228	1,704	
Inventory	327	348	
Total Current Assets	**12,980**	**5,527**	
Non-Current Assets			
Investment in CCOs and Other Similar Entities	67	67	
Other Financial Assets	1,463	967	
Property, Plant & Equipment	545,495	597,193	
Intangible Assets	139	-	
Investment Property	5,689	6,915	
Total Non-Current Assets	**552,853**	**605,142**	
Total Assets	**565,833**	**610,669**	
Current Liabilities			
Creditors and Other Payables	4,753	4,356	
Borrowings	3,000	19,000	
Employee Entitlements	351	498	
Income in Advance	9,149	1,612	
Total Current Liabilities	**17,253**	**25,466**	
Non-Current Liabilities			
Borrowings	46,900	41,612	
Provisions	230	217	
Total Non-Current Liabilities	**47,130**	**41,829**	
Total Liabilities	**64,383**	**67,295**	
Net Assets	**501,450**	**543,374**	
Accumulated Funds	294,689	310,398	
Other Reserves	206,761	232,976	
Total Equity	**501,450**	**543,374**	

Report to: Council

Meeting Date: **22 November 2023**

Subject: **Mayor's Report: October 2023**

Report for: **Information**

Author(s): Weston Kirton **MAYOR**

Endorsed By: Clive Manley **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Purpose of Report | Te take mō te pūrongo

1 The purpose of this report is to inform Councillors of appointments and meetings other than Council, Committee and Community Board meetings and workshops undertaken by the Mayor during October 2023.

1.1 The report also outlines fee waiving applications approved (if any) by the Mayor during the same period.

Recommendation(s) | Ngā tūtohunga

That the Council**:**

1 Receives and notes the Report **Mayor's Report** for information.

Significance and Engagement | Takenga mai

2 **Significance**
This report does not trigger the Significance and Engagement Policy.

Discussion | He Kōrerorero

3 **APPOINTMENTS UNDERTAKEN BY THE MAYOR DURING OCTOBER 2023.**

3.1 Members are advised that when the Mayor is unavailable for an appointment, he will deputise to the Deputy Mayor or a Councillor.

OCTOBER 2023	
2 October	• Trunk FM Radio Interview • Peak FM Radio Interview
3 October	• Attended Te Hangaruru Trail Groundbreaking Ceremony in Horopito
5 October	• Attended meeting with Ruapehu Creative regarding premises • Attended Horizons North Island Rail Project (NIRP) meeting via Zoom
7 October	• Attended Waimarino Arts Awards Gala Prizegiving in Raetihi
9 October	• Trunk FM Radio Interview • Peak FM Radio Interview • Attended Maru Trust meeting in Te Kuiti

OCTOBER 2023	
10 October	• Attended Mayors' Taskforce for Jobs meeting with REAP and Peggy Veen • Attended Creative Waikato evening in Hamilton
11 October	• Attended Ngāti Haua Meeting with the Chief Executive
12 October	• Met with Lines Company Executives in Taumarunui with the Chief Executive • Attended Local Government NZ (LGNZ) Leader's Zoom
13 October	• Attended Te Kōpuka Nā Te Awa Tupua Hui by zoom
14 October	• Attended Manunui Volunteer Fire Brigade 2023 Honours Night and 25 Year Gold Star Presentation • Deputy Mayor Viv Hoeta attended Raetihi Fire Brigade Honours Night on behalf of the Mayor
16 October	• Trunk FM Radio Interview • Peak FM Radio Interview • Attended opening of Rebel Business School in Taumarunui • Teams meeting with Mayor Andrew Tripe, Mayor of Whanganui, regarding a Regional City Deal • Attended Kirikau River Valley meeting
17 October	• Attended Regional Transport Matters | Regional Chiefs' Matters (fortnightly catch-up) by Zoom • Attended Hearing Committee meeting around Objection to Disqualification as a Dog Owner with the Deputy Mayor and Cr Gram • Attended meeting with Councillor Gram regarding St John's Service • Attended Ngakonui River Valley Meeting
19 October	• Turaki School Visit with Hiraina Tarawa
20 October	• Met with Gloria Campbell, Ministry of Social Development • Attended Rebel Business School – Presentation of Certificates
26 October	• Attended Silver Fern Farms Taumarunui Field Day at Alan and Cathy Donaldsons
27 October	• Attended Horizons Regional Manifesto Meeting by Zoom
28 October	• Attended Waiouru Playground Community Engagement Day
30 October	• Trunk FM Radio Interview • Peak FM Radio Interview • Tarrangower Primary School Visit with Hiraina Tarawa
31 October	• Attended Nga Kaumatua o te Mauri Atawhai Community Network hui

4 WAIVING OF FEES

4.1 Hall hire fees were waived in October for Miriama Community Centre for School Holiday Circus Skills Workshop

Attachment(s) | Ngā āpitihanga

NIL

Report to: Council

Meeting Date: **22 November 2023**

Subject: **Chief Executive's Report: October 2023**

Report for: **Information**

Author(s): Clive Manley **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Purpose of Report | Te take mō te pūrongo

1 The purpose of this report is to present an update of the organisation's activity during October 2023 for Elected Members' information. It provides a snapshot of the wider legislative environment and focus from a regional perspective, an overview of the wellbeing of our district, and highlights key achievements and activity over the period, including significant projects from the Chief Executive's perspective since the last Council meeting.

Recommendation(s) | Ngā tūtohunga

That the Council**:**

1 Receives and notes the Report **Chief Executive's Report** for information**.**

Chief Executive Summary

2 Central government activity and impacts on local government

2.1 The General Election final official vote count for this year's election was released on 3 November.

2.2 Coalition discussions are being held between the National, Act and New Zealand First parties. The first parliament meeting will need to take place within six weeks of the formation of such government, as mandated.

2.3 Initially the impact for many Councils will be the potential repeal of the Three Waters reform legislation and local government borrowing and how that will look going forward.

3 APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE MANAGERS

3.1 Lyn Hura, Executive Manager People, Capability and Safety commenced her role in mid-October.

3.2 Quentin Speers, Executive Manager Finance, Strategy & Governance started on 13 November.

3.3 Sharon Robinson, Executive Manager Regulatory & Customer Services started her role on 20 November.

Legislative Briefing

4 Central Government Consultation Updates: MANAGER POLICY & STRATEGY

4.1 The following Government initiatives (related to the local government sector) are currently open for public submissions:
(a) Transitional National Planning Framework. No proposed action.
(b) Horizons Regional Council Engagement on the Region's provisional water quality targets. Closes 13 December 2023. Response being prepared.

5 Bills on the Horizon: this section will recommence after the new government releases the Bills they intend to engage on.

Governance Meetings and Workshops Overview

6 ELECTED MEMBERS' WORKSHOPS: OCTOBER 2023: GOVERNANCE MANAGER
(a) 11 October: Long Term Plan Workshop with Ngāti Hāua provided an overview of the long term plan process to date, sharing the projects falling within Ngāti Hāua's rohe to facilitate prioritisation discussions.
(b) 18 October: Event Strategy Workshop was delivered by Jason Cameron providing a background of the Ruapehu event environment and case studies of hallmark events within the District, with the purpose of enabling the Ruapehu Events Strategy.

6.1 Members in attendance: the numbers in brackets refer to the workshops and Council attended, compared to the number of workshops or Council Meetings available from the commencement of the Triennium (NB. does not include swearing-in).

	Workshops	Council Meetings
Mayor Kirton	(27/28)	(11/12)
Deputy Mayor Hoeta	(24/28)	(10/12)
Councillor Gram	(26/28)	(11/12)
Councillor Hinch	(25/28)	(10/12)
Councillor Iwikau	(13/28)	(9/12)
Councillor Kahukura Hadley-Chase	(28/28)	(12/12)
Councillor Neeson	(27/28)	(12/12)
Councillor Nottage	(19/28)	(10/12)
Councillor Ralph	(21/28)	(10/12)
Councillor Wilson	(21/28)	(10/12)

Social Well-Being Overview: Safe, healthy communities

7 EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION: MANAGER COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

7.1 The September quarter numbers are not yet available and will be reported in the next month's report.

7.2 A week-long Rebel Business School event was held in Taumarunui with support from the Mayors' Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ) and Ministry of Social Development; the Rangatahi Hustle.

7.3 The week-long event focused on self-employment and developing business ideas. Graduates created or developed a business plan they were passionate about or had an interest in and embarked on rapid learning sessions that were well presented and challenging.

7.4 Several business ideas were developed and overall, there were some great small business ideas. Other outcomes that became evident was the group support and participation leading to increased confidence where attendees presented their ideas on the final day and were presented with certificates of completion by Gloria Campbell, Ministry of Social Development (MSD) Regional Commissioner, and Mayor Weston Kirton.

7.5 There were a range of backgrounds and ages in the group including students from Taumarunui High School and the week was supported by MSD staff each day with catering and refreshments so everybody was ensured a comfortable and welcoming environment. The graduates are supported by Rebel Business school post course as well as MSD and the MTFJ.

8 COMMUNITY SAFETY

8.1 The latest data shows that, compared with July, the August crime rate in Ruapehu district has increased by 2.8 per cent, and is now 40 per 10,000, but remains steady as measured against other districts (29/68).

9 CIVIL DEFENCE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATES: EMERGENCY MANAGER

9.1 **Training Provided**

(a) Members of the Executive Leadership Team and Civil Defence participated in the Horizons CDEM group exercise
(b) Intermediate course run in Ohakune
(c) CIMS 3 course for Ngāti Rangi response team
(d) Logistics course postponed to November due to Council audit
(e) Self development course under way with Response & Recovery Aotearoa NZ

9.2 **Local and Regional Civil Defence Update**

(a) Regional Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) 2024 training hui to plot courses
(b) Attended Manawatu – Whanganui Welfare Coordination Group hui
(c) National Park facility on track for December
(d) Ruapehu and Taupō District Councils now have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to assist each other.

10 COMMUNITY FACILITIES OPERATIONAL UPDATES: MANAGER, COMMUNITY & RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

10.1 Recreational Services Limited is currently rebranding to Green By Nature. This is being rolled out in New Zealand region by region, with the Far North complete and Manawatū underway.

10.2 Installation of cemetery berms at Manunui (complete) & Taumarunui (waiting on concreting)

(a) Seasonal planting of Ohakune Main Street, Maa Rose Gardens prepped, Te Peka furniture water blasted, Tangiwai picnic tables cleaned and repainted
(b) Taumarunui Sports fields marking carried out
(c) Installation of soft fall at Raurimu Playground
(d) Bollard & sign cleaning started in Ohakune
(e) Council section in Waiouru; broom removed and section tidied
(f) Street sweeping throughout the district

10.3 **Housing: Housing & Facilities Support Manager**

(a) Social housing survey results have closed and the results are currently being analysed.
(b) Annual social housing tenancy inspections have been completed this month with 92 inspections completed.

10.4 **Waimarino Rest Home Upgrade Project Update:**

(a) Commenced on site mid-August
(b) Prioritisation plan complete
(c) Communication plan with tenants being finalised
(d) Planned completion of first tranche of units on15 December 2023
(e) Planning an open house viewing & lunch on site once first two units are complete

11 LICENSING AND COMPLIANCE ACTIVITY: LICENSING & COMPLIANCE MANAGER

11.1 **Alcohol Licensing**

(a) Renewing applicants and special licences for events being held in the district this month have kept staff and the District Licensing Committee (DLC) busy.
(b) Decisions from the previous month's hearings held in Ohakune were received and issued with a Temporary Authority and On Licence for one applicant being refused due to the DLC not satisfied that the applicant is a suitable entity to hold a licence and a manager's certificate for a further applicant being issued on a probationary basis of 12 months.

11.2 **Health**

(a) Two complaints were investigated at two separate premises this month and an initial verification completed for a new premises.

11.3 **Compliance**

(a) A Disqualification Hearing was held this month for a multiple dog owner with the decision to disqualify upheld by the Hearings Committee.
(b) Three dogs were Classified as Menacing and one that was previously classified as Menacing is now classified as Dangerous.

Economic Well-Being Overview: Thriving economy

12 OUT OF DISTRICT SPEND TRENDS: MANAGER BUSINESS RELATIONSHIPS & DEVELOPMENT

12.1 Data for 2022/23 shows that total visitor spend was $91 Million, down 3 per cent on 2021/22, and down 34 per cent on 2018/19.

13 EVENTS

13.1 Ohakune Blues & Roots Festival was held on 7 October. This was supported by the Thermal Explorer Regional Events and while the weather was not the best, the overall event was enjoyed by many and is an addition to the events calendar in Ruapehu.

13.2 There was a capability and capacity building workshop provided by Thermal Explorer Regional Events, held in Ohakune on 27 October and well attended by event organisers across the district for both community and commercial events.

13.3 The workshop was facilitated by Sarah Meikle. Sarah, is the CEO of the Wellington Culinary Events Trust, Festival Director of Wellington on a Plate and also the Event Director of

Beervana. The workshop was well received. The workshops will continue to run in Ruapehu in 2024 to support the event sector.

14 BUSINESS

14.1 The introduction of the Tongariro Alpine Crossing booking system was successfully introduced at the start of the season (Labour weekend), with a voluntary booking form being provided from the Department of Conservation. This is not mandatory, at this stage, but rather a stepping stone to test the process and review for the future.

14.2 The positive impact of this will be felt by many businesses within the Ruapehu District as well as promoting Ruapehu for sustainable tourism with a blueprint for other iconic tourism areas.

14.3 Ruapehu Alpine Lifts closed its ski operation for the season, after Labour weekend, and indicated that it will re-open the Sky Waka at Whakapapa for the summer season.

14.4 More businesses closed in the last month (10) than opened (8).

15 AVERAGE HOUSE PRICES

15.1 The source we were getting the housing data from has been sold, and we are currently working on getting it from the new source, and this should be available in the new year.

Environmental Well-Being Overview: Sustaining beautiful environments

16 RESOURCE CONSENT & LAND INFORMATION MEMORANDUM (LIM) ACTIVITY FOR OCTOBER 2023: EXECUTIVE MANAGER REGULATORY & CUSTOMER SERVICES

16.1 LIM activity remains steady for this period with all applications processed within statutory timeframes.

16.2 During October the following consents were received or processed, all with the statutory timeframe:

(a) One Land Use (LUC)
(b) Two deemed Permitted Boundary Activities and processed.
(c) Two subdivision consent application received, a total of three applications processed.

Consent Details	Days Taken	Consent Type	Status	Date	Zone	Address
Two lot subdivision with density issue for two relocated dwellings and associated earthworks	16	Subdivision	Granted	11/10/2023	Residential	25 New Road
Boundary adjustment between four titles reducing them to two titles	18	Subdivision	Granted	10/10/2023	Rural	River Road
Proposed six lot subdivision plus an access lot with	16	Subdivision	Granted	13/10/2023	Rural	Middle Road

Consent Details	Days Taken	Consent Type	Status	Date	Zone	Address
amalgamation conditions						
Yard encroachment	2	Land use - DPBA	Issued	13/10/2023	Rural	26b Ongarue Waimiha Road
Yard encroachment into side and rear boundary	1	Land use - DPBA	Issued	18/10/2023	Residential	8 Tainui Street

17 BUILDING CONSENT ACTIVITY FOR OCTOBER 2023: EXECUTIVE MANAGER REGULATORY & CUSTOMER SERVICES

17.1 The Building Team is still working through IANZ Audit clearance. The consent numbers were lower this month which gave the team a chance to focus on unconsented buildings.

17.2 12 Building consents were issued in October compared with 26 during October last year. The variance is likely due to the National Election.

17.3 150 inspections were undertaken compared with 124 during October last year.

17.4 All building consents were issued within the 20 days statutory required period, with the average number of processing days to issue a building consent at 7.1 days.

18 DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS ACTIVITY FOR OCTOBER 2023: EXECUTIVE MANAGER REGULATORY & CUSTOMER SERVICES

18.1 There were ten Development Contribution (DC) assessments carried out during October. Of these, four consents were deemed as payable. Three were for Building Consents and one was for a Resource Consent.

18.2 The total assessed value of DC fees was $10,200.00.

18.3 Four Building Consents were invoiced for DC fees. The total value invoiced was $11,182.00.

19 REFUSE, RECYCLING AND REUSE STATISTICS FOR OCTOBER 2023: ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER

19.1 The Waste Minimisation Act 2008 regulation amendment for record-keeping and reporting by activity categories has further expanded to with the release of definitions. This will require resetting some of our recording categories and methods. Anticipating this change the project “measuring success” was delayed last year to ensure there was funding to align measurement changes with government changes.

20 TRANSFER STATION AND RESOURCE RECOVERY: SUSTAINABILTY FACILITATOR

20.1 **Taumarunui**

(a) The Resource Recovery Centre was open for 26 days with 356.57 hours of volunteer help.
(b) The conservation volunteers were used to build more storage and remove items which have not been rehomed, moving the site back inside its original footprint.
(c) Diverted 8,709.49 kg from landfill
(d) Rehomed 5,441 items

20.2 **Waimarino**

(a) The Resource Recovery Centre diverted 15,363 kg from landfill, rehoming 2,958 Items.
(b) The contractor has installed a shipping container to utilise as a workshop to increase their recovery and repair work.

20.3 **Community Support Provided by Taumarunui**

(a) Three sets of tigger works and worm farming advice to community members
(b) Training and beeswax wrap workshop kit to Te Kohanga Reo o Atutahi so they can make wraps with their Tamariki.
(c) Free resources to:
    (i) Plywood to Owhango Alive for their trap roof.
    (ii) Ice cream containers and lids for Kauriki Marae for eliminating food waste.
    (iii) Strawberry plants for Women's Refuge Safe House Garden.
    (iv) Plywood for St Patrick's School for making props for their production.
    (v) Clothes and paper bags for My Sister's Wardrobe.
    (vi) Paper drying rack for Paraone Kindergarten.
    (vii) Three balls for Taumarunui Primary School
    (viii) Te Reo game for Kura Kaupapa o Matapuna.
    (ix) Plant pots for Maniapoto Training Agency.
    (x) Five pairs of sports shoes for Pete Boyle (free sports shoe programme).

20.4 **Community Support Provided by Waimarino**

(a) Events kit for the Blues and Roots festival.
(b) Taihape community 888 kg of cloths for free distribution.

Cultural Well-Being Overview: Vibrant and diverse living

21 VISIT RUAPEHU QUARTERLY UPDATE: VISIT RUAPEHU

21.1 A quarterly update was requested by Elected Members and provided to the September meeting. The next update will be provided to the December meeting.

22 VISITOR USAGE STATISTICS: VISIT RUAPEHU

22.1 In September there were a total of 160,000 visitor nights, 95 per cent being domestic. Saturday 2 September saw the largest number of daily visitors with just under 12,000, and the following two Saturdays with 10,000 each. The final two weeks of September saw a higher than normal number of visitors during the week (school holiday period).

Executive Manager Summaries

23 EXECUTIVE MANAGER, PEOPLE, CAPABILITY AND SAFETY

23.1 Microsoft 365 was migrated to the Cloud on 18 September with no major issues. The move to the cloud will improve access to our document management system and integration to other cloud-based services.

23.2 The upgrade from copper lines to fibre is in progress with completion due before the end of December. This will enhance the connectivity speed in the Raetihi office, Ohakune and Taumarunui isites, National Park's Park & Ride and Caroll Street Hall.

23.3 The implementation of these changes will result in cost savings.

24 EXECUTIVE MANAGER, REGULATORY & CUSTOMER SERVICES

24.1 The Compliance Team has dealt with a number of dangerous or menacing dogs during October, with one disqualification of a dog owner.

24.2 Investigations are underway into a series of unrelated dog attacks and the Compliance Officers are working hard, alongside their legislative duties, to take an educational approach around the requirements for responsible dog ownership.

24.3 The planning team has experienced an increase in information requests mainly relating to the resource consent applications for Teitei Drive, Ohakune.

24.4 A productive meeting was held with a representative of Ngāti Hāua Iwi Trust, to address concerns raised in Council's consenting processes and to advance our commitment to working together.

25 EXECUTIVE MANAGER, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

25.1 The team has been working on a number of Long-Term Plan focused workshops, project briefs and a number of other workstreams that need to be completed for the LTP.

25.2 We are working through the 35 applications for the Empowering Communities Fund, many of which needed additional information.

25.3 Business as usual include community meetings, and Civil Defence courses.

26 ACTING MANAGER, FINANCE STRATEGY & GOVERNANCE

26.1 The team was very pleased to have the Annual Report competed and signed off in accordance with expected timeframes. The focus is now on the Long-Term Plan with the financial information being completed by the end of December.

26.2 Our rating revaluation has been delayed due to OVG pausing it to allow time for QV to gather further info, particularly around the mountain and our rural rating units. The revaluation file has been resubmitted to OVG and we are expecting to hear from them by 10 November and can provide an update at the meeting.

26.3 The team welcomes its new, permanent Executive Manager, Quentin Speers in November.

27 EXECUTIVE MANAGER, INFRASTRUCTURE

27.1 The Roading activities in October included strong focus on reseals across the district. With the construction season starting, more traffic management will be seen while the teams develop onto the reseals programme.

27.2 A meeting was held with Waka Kotahi NZTA to discuss the various points raised by the community during the last year. Issues such as speed management are high in the priority list, which includes speed management signage at Taumarunui Primary and Manunui Schools, the extension of the 50km/h zone at State Highway 49 in Ohakune and Waiouru next to the Police Station.

27.3 Discussions were held with suppliers regarding the upgrades to drinking water standards to all water treatment plants that are currently non-compliant. Ōwhango and Ōhura water treatment plants are the focus for the upgrades, with peripheral aspects being considered (resource consents, land access and additional sampling).

27.4 Samples were collected from the Taringamotu River next to the old Taumarunui landfill after discoloured liquid was spotted coming from the riverbank. It is suspected that this liquid could be coming from the old landfill. Samples were also collected from up and downstream from this location, so a comparison could be undertaken, and conclusions made whether there is contamination from the landfill of not. An ongoing sampling regime is being considered.

28 EXECUTIVE MANAGER, IWI RELATIONSHIPS

28.1 13 October: Attended first relationship meeting alongside leadership of Ngāti Rangi to formulate and discuss next steps in terms of giving effect to the Memorandum of Relationship which was signed earlier this year. Further discussions to take place and the working group to be formalised.

28.2 27 October: Part of our team attended Ohia Mano, which was hosted by Te Pou Tupua at Ngapuwaiwaha Marae. Ohia Mano was a one-day design sprint to brainstorm solutions for the hauora and wellbeing of the people that live within the Te Awa Tupua catchment area.

28.3 The Iwi Relationships team continues to support various internal teams:
(a) Infrastructure: water, roading and community facilities.
(b) Facilitation of workshops for further agreement discussions, and organisation of Te Tiriti ō Waitangi workshops for both elected members and staff coming up in November.

Key Infrastructure Capital Project Updates: EXECUTIVE MANAGER INFRASTRUCTURE

29 THIS SECTION OF THE REPORT PROVIDES A BRIEF UPDATE ON KEY CAPITAL PROJECTS:

29.1 The Ohakune Water Treatment Plant had the electrical installation works continuing during the month and it is expected that it will be completed by early December 2023. The decision is made that the backwash waste tank will be bolted steel supplied by Tasman Tanks as a replacement to the original concrete tank.

29.2 The Hakiaha Street water main upgrade is progressing well with the directional drilling and the installation of the 180mm PE100 pipe at Hakiaha Street completed. The remaining part is the 63mm ridermain between 158 and 178 Hakiaha Street. Late in the month, the road crossing trenching started at the northern end of the street with the installation of the pipe sleeve. This will enable Veolia and Hydracare to install the 450mm at the SH4 crossing and under the railway, connecting with the 450mm main at Bell Road. The plan is to complete the project installation works by the end of November 2023 and commissioning by this Christmas.

29.3 The work at Te Ara Mangawhero Cycle Trail continued well during the month, with the lower section of the trail being formed. The next step will be to apply the surfacing material onto the new section and the installation of the two already constructed bridges.

29.4 With Te Hangaruru Cycle Trail construction works also starting, the team has progressed from Matapuna Road towards Mangaturuturu River. Late in October, a site visit took place with Horizons Regional Council consent officers to check on the proposed works. The meeting focussed on the practical aspects of the proposed work. KiwiRail has been contacted to review the proposed works and to provide access to the construction site over the railway. Discussions are still pending.

29.5 The pavement rehabilitation programme continues to progress well. Both sites, Ongarue-Waimiha and Ruatiti Roads are ready for seal to be applied. These will be sealed by the end

of November 2023, if the weather allows. The next sites to have pavement rehabilitation projects done within this construction season are Matiere-Ohura turn off and Ohakune Mountain Road and Ruapehu Road bridge. Earthworks will begin in November.

Attachment(s) | Ngā āpitihanga

NIL

Report to: Council

Meeting Date: **22 November 2023**

Subject: **Receipt of Minutes of Risk & Assurance Committee**

Report for: **Information**

Author(s): Tasha Paladin **GOVERNANCE MANAGER**

Endorsed By: Clive Manley **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Purpose of Report | Te take mō te pūrongo

1 The purpose of this report is to present the minutes of the Risk & Assurance Committee meeting held on 12 October 2023 for information.

Recommendation(s) | Ngā tūtohunga

That the Council**:**

1 Receives the Public Business Minutes of the Risk and Assurance Committee meeting held Thursday, 12 October 2023 as attached, for information.

Attachment(s) | Ngā āpitihanga

1 Risk and Assurance Committee Public Business Minutes

RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL
RISK & ASSURANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

THE MEETING OF THE RISK & ASSURANCE COMMITTEE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 59-63 HUIA STREET, TAUMARUNUI ON THURSDAY, 12 OCTOBER 2023, AT 11AM

PUBLIC BUSINESS

Present | Tuhinga

Chairperson	Philip Jones	(Independent – Appointed by Council)
Mayor	Weston Kirton	
Councillor	Lyn Neeson	

By Zoom

Deputy Mayor	Vivienne Hoeta	11:03AM Item 6, Left 12:47PM Item 11

In Attendance | I Tae Mai

Clive Manley	Chief Executive
Neil Ward	Acting Manager, Finance, Strategy & Governance
Natasha Poloai	Executive Manager People, Capability & Safety
Lyn Hura	Executive Manager People, Capability & Safety
Melissa Jackson	Manager Policy & Strategy
Tasha Paladin	Governance Manager

External Speakers		**Item(s)**
Miles O'Connor	Bancorp Treasury	**9**
Clarence Susan	Audit New Zealand	**10, 11, C2**
Kay Oloro	Audit New Zealand	**10, 11, C2**

Absent **| Ngaro**

Councillor	Channey Iwikau

1 Opening Karakia | Karakia Timatanga

Melissa Jackson

2 Apologies

The Chairperson invited notice from members of apologies, including apologies for lateness and early departure from the meeting.

No apologies were received.

3 Declarations of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

4 Notification of Additional Items

4.1 There were no additional items not on the Agenda.

4.2 Minor Matters relating to the General Business of Risk & Assurance Committee

In accordance with section 46A(7A) of the Local Government Official Information and Meeting Act 1987, the Chairperson stated that the following item will be discussed in Item 7: Key Issues and Risks, but that no resolution, decision, or recommendation may be made in respect of the item.

Item
Ōwhango Water Treatment Plant Protozoal Compliance.

5 Confirmation of Order of Meeting

The order of the meeting was confirmed.

6 Confirmation of Minutes of Committee Meeting

Note: Deputy Mayor Hoeta joined the meeting at 11:03AM

RESOLVED
Moved: Cr Neeson
Seconded: Mayor Kirton

That the Risk & Assurance Committee:

1 Confirms the Public Business Minutes of the Risk & Assurance Committee meeting held Friday, 19 May 2023 and reconvened on Friday 16 June 2023 as attached, a true and correct record.

7 Key Issues and Risks

Members were presented with a report outlining top corporate risks and insights on key issues facing the organisation. Council's Chief Executive spoke to the report and answered Members'

questions.

He highlighted the three key risks to Council:

(a) **People**: Council's new Executive Manager People, Capability & Safety was introduced to the Committee. It was highlighted there was a risk to the organisation experiencing a higher turnover than previously, however, Council was presently able to manage the churn. The committee was also advised the new Executive Manager Finance, Strategy & Governance would be commencing in November.

(b) **Value for Money**: whilst budgets for the Long Term Plan were being worked on, it was envisaged that rates may provide a 'double digits' challenge.

(c) **Ōwhango Water Treatment Plant Protozoal Compliance.**: Following the recent issues with Queenstown's water, Taumata Arowai has issued a directive to rectify treatment processes to all supplies across the country where protozoa removal treatment does not currently exist. Ōwhango's raw water is not filtered at the Water Treatment Plant, and instead is dosed with chlorine; the raw water quality is generally very clean, however, it can become turbid during weather events.

The council has been notified that it needs to meet full standards by December 2024. The Committee was advised that there is an approved budget for Ōwhango, and the project had been planned for the current financial year. It is estimated the upgrades will cost approximately $1 Million.

It was noted the potential change in Government presented concerns around the risk and uncertainty of the Three Waters Reform and the affordability issue for Councils. Council's Chief Executive advised Council does not have the capacity to undertake all that is required; however it was set in legislation that the timeframe for Ruapehu District Council to hand over to the new entity was October 2025. He advised the risk to Council lay with managing the expectations of the regulator until finances were made available, in addition to the risk of a potential repeal of the legislation with nothing immediately in place.

RESOLVED

Moved: Member Jones
Seconded: Cr Neeson

That the Risk & Assurance Committee:

*1 Receives the Report **Key Issues and Risks** for information.*

8 People and Safety

Members were presented with a report providing an update on Council's People and Safety Programme as well as the reported incidents of harm and near misses for the last quarter, as reported by Council and contractors' staff. Council's Executive Manager People, Capability & Safety spoke to the report and answered Members' questions.

Members were advised staff wellbeing and contractor audits had been the main programme of work since the last report to the Committee. The goal of the observation audit was to provide Council with assurance that the contractors' Health and Safety plan was being implemented from practical perspective. Resulting action points were followed up with the Contractor and there are plans for future inspections with other contractors.

Members were advised that Council was not an early adopter of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its stance was to not rely totally on AI for input. Development of a formal policy was being discussed within the wider Local Government forum. Whilst access is controlled and monitored

by Council's IT, a greater risk to Council is if officers use data from the AI source without validation.

RESOLVED
Moved: Cr Neeson
Seconded: Mayor Kirton

That the Risk & Assurance Committee:
1 Receives the Report ***People and Safety Report*** *for information.*

9 Bancorp Treasury Services Limited's Quarterly Treasury Report to 30 September 2023

Members were presented with Bancorp Treasury Services Limited's quarterly treasury report to Council. Council's Acting Executive Manager Finance, Strategy & Governance spoke to the report, and Miles O'Connor of Bancorp provided an updated presentation to September 30, 2023 and answered Members' questions.

It was noted there is uncertainty surrounding the effect of the General Election on interest rates; however, there is a feeling the cash rate will not rise and has probably peaked. The markets are not projecting the cash rate to fall until the end of 2024 or early 2025 but there is a feeling it may happen sooner.

There is also uncertainty around the Three Waters Reforms effect on debt post-election; for reference it was noted Council had projected $34 Million of Three Waters associated debt (total debt of $60Million) and water rates revenue was projected to be $8 Million (total revenue of $28Million).

RESOLVED
Moved: Member Jones
Seconded: Cr Neeson

That the Risk & Assurance Committee:
1 Receives the Report ***Bancorp Treasury Services Limited's Quarterly Treasury Report to 30 September 2023*** *for information.*

Minute Attachment(s)
1 Bancorp Treasury Presentation

10 Audit Plan and Proposed Audit Fees for the Year Ended 30 June 2023 to 2025

Members were presented with the Audit engagement and arrangements for the financial years ending 30 June 2023, 2024, and 2025. Council's Acting Executive Manager Finance, Strategy & Governance spoke to the report, Clarence Susan of Audit New Zealand was in attendance to answer Members' questions.

Members were advised the Audit Plan is usually presented before an audit commences, however, Audit was in the process of completing the 2022 audit at time, hence the delay. The Audit Engagement letter sets out the responsibilities for three years, and is issued either every three years or when there is a change of Mayor.

Audit's Proposal Fees have been phased over three years and the intention is to review the hours invested after the current audit, to ensure the estimated charges are fair and accurate; the past two years have not provided a stable base to work from. Members expressed their concerns that the increase in fees seem excessive and will add to end rate cost to the

community.

Members questioned the variance of the budget versus actual costs for June 2022 and were advised the report sets out the actual costs to Audit, and whilst there was a recovery it was not a full recovery of costs from Council. In 2022, the country saw huge increases in the value of assets and many local authorities did not anticipate needing to undertake a revaluation. Due to the significant increase in value, the Audit and Accounting Standards required both Council and Audit to undertake more work. Council is considered a Tier 1 under the Audit requirements; it was suggested the tiers need to be reviewed. It was noted there is an appetite within the sector for the scope of an audit to be reviewed as costs are hamstringing smaller councils.

Audit felt there was an advantage to being on site for efficiency but noted it adds to travel and accommodation costs. Members were advised Council needed to adopt the Annual Report for Audit to issue its opinion. The draft management report would be presented at the Committee's next meeting.

RESOLVED

Moved: Mayor Kirton
Seconded: Member Jones

That the Risk & Assurance Committee:

1 Receives the Report ***Audit Plan and Proposed Audit Fees for the Year Ended 30 June 2023 to 2025*** *for information.*

11 Audit New Zealand Management Report to Council for the Year Ended 30 June 2022

Members were presented with Audit New Zealand's management report for the year ended 30 June 2022. Council's Acting Executive Manager Finance, Strategy & Governance spoke to the report, Clarence Susan of Audit New Zealand was in attendance to answer Members' questions.

Members were advised Audit had encountered significant issues in the reporting of Work in Progress (WIP) revaluations and had made recommendations to improve the process. It was reported the current audit process was demonstrating the learnings from 2022 had been implemented. It was recommended Council move the revaluation date from 1 July to 30 June and noted that other councils have opted for dates in the middle of the year as it reduces the chances of the revaluation being material for audit purposes.

From an audit perspective the Ruapehu Alpine Lifts loan agreement has been impaired as it appears unlikely the full amount will be recovered. Members were advised that under the new accounting standards Council needed to assess its long term expected credit losses. Management felt the chances of the loan being recovered was slim and therefore it has been treated as an expected credit loss in the annual report. Members were reassured that it did not mean Council was writing off the loan however, by anticipating the credit loss Council was meeting the accounting standards process.

RESOLVED

Moved: Mayor Kirton
Seconded: Member Jones

That the Risk & Assurance Committee:

1 Receives the Report ***Audit New Zealand Management Report to Council for the year ended 30 June 2022*** *for information.*

The Meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:47PM and reconvened at 1:20PM

Note: Councillor Hoeta left the meeting at 12:47PM

12 Update Report: Long Term Plan 2024-2034

Members were presented with an update on the progress of the Long-Term Plan 2024-2034 (the LTP). Council's Manager Policy & Strategy spoke to the report and answered Members' questions. The committee was advised the LTP was running according to schedule thus far.

In relation to the risk identified in the report regarding the availability and capacity of auditors to complete the audit review, hot review, and Audit, Members were advised that initial discussions around the timing for the LTP had taken place with Audit. The anticipated timeframe is for Audit to be on site February 2024, conduct the hot review mid-March 2024, with sign off at the end of March to be able to go out for consultation in April 2024.

Audit noted the five key issues it would be addressing in its review:
(a) The topic of affordability needs to be addressed in Council's LTP Consultation Document
(b) The Consultation Document needs to be readable
(c) Council's capital ability
(d) Council's high risk assets and the resilience and condition of those assets
(e) Climate Change and how it feeds into Council's activity plans and specific measures.

The uncertainty surrounding the Three Waters was reiterated, noting that all LTPs would be at risk if the Three Waters legislation was repealed. Council is required to comply with legislation, and therefore, even if the decision is made to delay the LTP due to the Three Waters, Council will still need to prepare a robust Annual Plan for 2024/25. Members were advised that it cannot be underestimated how challenging it was to prepare the current LTP.

The capability and capacity of Council Officers, and resources available within Council to undertake the work required to produce the LTP, alongside business as usual was also noted as the recruitment to the Policy team vacancies had not been fruitful.

RESOLVED
Moved: Member Jones
Seconded: Mayor Kirton

That the Risk & Assurance Committee:
*1 Receives the Report **Progress Report: Long Term Plan 2024-2034** for information.*

13 Update on Policy Work Streams

Members were presented with an update on the Policy Work programme for 2023/24. Council's Manager Policy & Strategy spoke to the report and answered Members' questions. Members were advised that every piece of work required under legislation was underway and the level of risk to Council on other requirements had been assessed.

RESOLVED
Moved: Member Jones
Seconded: Cr Neeson

That the Risk & Assurance Committee:
*1 Receives the Report **Update on Policy Work Streams** for information.*

14 Resolution to Exclude the Public for Consideration of Committee Business

Section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 gives the Committee the right by resolution to exclude the public from the whole or any part of the proceedings of any meeting only on one or more of the grounds contained within that Section.

RESOLVED

Moved: Mayor Kirton

Seconded: Cr Neeson

That the Risk & Assurance Committee:

1 *Receives the* ***Report Resolution to Exclude the Public for Consideration of Committee Business****;*

2 *Excludes the public from the following part(s) of the proceedings of this meeting;*

3 *Notes the general subject of the matters to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds for excluding the public, as specified under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:*

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
C1 Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes of the Risk & Assurance Committee Meeting 19 May 2023	For the reasons set out in the Public Business Minutes of the Risk & Assurance Committee Meeting 19 May 2023 and reconvened on 16 June 2023.	
C2 Annual Report 2022/23	s7(2)(c) To protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence where the making available of the information would be likely to: prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, where it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied; or would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest. The final document will be released in the Public Business of the Council Meeting 25 October 2023.	s48(1)(a)(i) the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 7
C3 Legislative Compliance Risk	s7(2)(a) To protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural person	
C4 Confidential Briefing by the Chief Executive	s7(2)(c) To protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence where the making available of the information would be likely to: prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, where it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied; or would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest.	

4 *Approves that Clarence Susan of Audit New Zealand and Aaron Pendergrast, Contractor are permitted to remain at this meeting after the public has been excluded because of their knowledge of the reports presented at C2 and C3.*

The Public Business part of the meeting concluded at 1:42PM.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Committee Meeting held this 12th day of December 2023.

Philip Jones
CHAIR PERSON

ITEMS BROUGHT INTO THE PUBLIC BUSINESS MINUTES

C2 Annual Report 2022/23

Note: Council's Chief Executive left the meeting at 2PM and was not present for this item. Council's Acting Manager, Finance, Strategy & Governance deputised.

Members were presented with the draft Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2023 and, subject to any amendments, to recommend the report to Council for adoption. Council's Acting Executive Manager Finance, Strategy & Governance spoke to the report, Clarence Susan of Audit New Zealand was in attendance to answer Members' questions.

Key highlights of the financial results were:

(a) A technical breach on debt to meet the liquidity ratio for Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA) for three days is reflected in the financial benchmarks;
(b) Finance and Other Expenses were $2 Million versus $931,000 budgeted. Interest rates were a major factor in the significant increase along with additional costs in roading maintenance and Three Waters expenses;
(c) The additional spend on capital should be viewed as a positive outcome for Council;
(d) Rates penalties increased from $248,000 to $430,000; Officers undertook to review if the increase is a reflection of the economic environment.

Council's Acting Executive Manager Finance, Strategy & Governance acknowledged the Finance Team and Audit for their efforts to produce the report within the timeframes.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Neeson
Seconded: Member Jones

That the Risk & Assurance Committee:

*1 Receives the Confidential Report **Annual Report 2022/23**;*
2 Considers the draft Ruapehu District Council Annual Report 2022/23 and recommends the draft Annual Report 2022/23 to Council for adoption and publication pursuant to section 98 of the Local Government Act 2002, with the inclusion of the audit opinion to be received from Audit New Zealand, and any further amendments as agreed between Council and Audit New Zealand;
*3 **Does** record this resolution in the Public Business Minutes of this meeting; and*
*4 **Does Not** release this report as publicly available information.*

C3 Legislative Compliance Risk

Members were presented with a report on the status of Council's compliance with legislation and the risks associated with non-compliance. Council's contractor, Aaron Pendergrast, spoke to the report and answered Members' questions.

Council's Chief Executive advised Members that there will be some non-compliance reported in the following year regarding the failure to meet response times to LGOIMAs for Teitei Drive, Ohakune. Although there was a reported increase in non-compliance, it did not present an increased risk to Council.

There were a couple of Privacy Act breaches; as a response the systems are being upgraded and improved to provide a high degree of confidence that will improve risk controls. It was noted the trends reported in staff turnover was reflective of the training and re-training required as institutional knowledge is lost.

It was recommended that it would be timely to coincide with the Long Term Plan that legislative updates to consider new legislation e.g. Te Awa Tupua are updated in the Quantate system; currently Council is in process of assessing its obligations against the new legislation manually.

RESOLVED

Moved: Member Jones

Seconded: Mayor Kirton

That the Risk & Assurance Committee:

1 Receives the Confidential Report Legislative Compliance Risk for information;

*2 **Does** record this resolution in the Public Business Minutes of this meeting; and*

*3 **Does** release a redacted version of this report as publicly available information.*

RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL
RISK & ASSURANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTE ATTACHMENT(S)

THE MEETING OF RISK & ASSURANCE COMMITTEE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 59-63 HUIA STREET, TAUMARUNUI ON THURSDAY, 12 OCTOBER 2023, AT 11AM

Item		Page
9	**Bancorp Treasury Services Limited's Quarterly Treasury Report to 30 September 2023**	*2*
	1 Bancorp Treasury Presentation	



Quarterly Treasury Report

30 September 2023

STRICTLY PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

BANCORP
BANCORP TREASURY SERVICES LIMITED

Economic Commentary

Global (for the Sept 2023 quarter)

Traditionally, September and October are known as months of high volatility, and September lived up to its reputation as central bankers struggled to allay inflationary fears as traders and speculators adopted a 'risk-off' environment. US financial markets had a volatile September 2023, with stocks and bonds both falling sharply, which contributed to higher yields and a stronger US-dollar. The Nasdaq fell -7.5% as investors attempted to diversify away from the 'magnificent 7' while the S&P500 fell -6.7% to record its worst monthly performance since March 2020. The DJI fell -5.3%. Bond markets also struggled to attract buyers, which saw rates increase sharply throughout the month, with the 10-year US Treasury yield reaching a 17-year high of 4.554% while the 2-year is threatening to breach its 14-year high at 5.27%.

At its September meeting, the Federal Reserve ("Fed") maintained its benchmark Fed funds range at 5.25%-5.50%; however, the pause could easily have been classified as a 'hawkish pause' as the central bank also indicated it expects one further rate hike before year-end while the 'dot-plots' suggested fewer rate cuts in 2024 and 2025 than previously indicated. Conversely, the Fed's decision to pause its hiking cycle in September was also seen as an acknowledgement there are growing concerns about the risk of a recession with Chair Jerome Powell emphasising, "We have come very far, very fast. We are taking advantage of the fact that while we have moved quickly, we now have to move a little more carefully as we find our way to the right level of restriction to get inflation back down to 2%," before adding, "we must proceed carefully!" Overall, the Fed's September meeting was a cautious one with the central bank clearly concerned about the risks of a recession while also remaining committed to fighting inflation.

The European Central Bank ("ECB") stuck to its guns and raised their key interest rates for a 10th consecutive time with a 25bp hike, lifting the deposit rate to a record 4.00% and the main refinancing rate to 4.50%, its highest level since 2001. With a 'dovish' tone, the central bank signaled that it is likely done with the current tightening cycle, as inflation has started to decline, although they also warned they see inflation remaining persistently high while ECB President Christine Lagarde acknowledged she "can't say" if European rates have peaked. Policymakers also cut their growth and core inflation forecasts for every year through to 2025. Meanwhile the Bank of England ("BOE") surprised markets by easing back on its aggressive hiking cycle for its first pause, holding the cash rate at 5.25%, although it was a fine line with the MPC voting 5-4. Governor Andrew Bailey had the casting vote and said at the post meeting press conference that "the good news is that inflation in the UK is coming down (although the) BOE has to stay the course on the inflation fight."

Despite a raft of stimulatory measures announced, the outlook for the Chinese economy still looks problematic, with the 5.0% growth target under threat as record youth unemployment and falling house prices continue to undermine consumer confidence and thus domestic demand. Fresh concerns at property developers Evergrande Group, China Oceanwide Holdings, and Country Garden have seen executives detained as defaults loom. Bank loans to property developers were down 25% in August from a year ago, and with Chinese President Xi trying to move his country away from debt fuelled growth, it seems that the issues facing the Chinese economy aren't going to go away anytime soon.

Global bond yields moved sharply higher in September as concerns mount that inflation would be stickier than previously expected, and the market struggled to absorb the increased issuance by the US, which is needed to fund the increasing budget deficit. The benchmark US 10-year Treasury bond yield started September at 4.09% and has since climbed relentlessly to its current level of 4.74%, a yield not seen since 2007.

Economic Commentary

New Zealand (for the September 2023 quarter)

	OCR	90 day	2 years	3 years	5 years	7 years	10 years
30 June 2023	5.50%	5.70%	5.47%	5.09%	4.69%	4.55%	4.50%
30 Sept 2023	5.50%	5.74%	5.72%	5.48%	5.22%	5.17%	5.18%
Change	+0%	+0.04%	+0.25%	+0.39%	+0.53%	+0.62%	+0.68%

In the August *Monetary Policy Statement* ("MPS"), the Reserve Bank of New Zealand ("RBNZ") again left the Official Cash Rate ("OCR") at 5.50% and, in a reiteration of the July *Monetary Policy Review* stated that "*The Committee agreed that the OCR will need to remain at a restrictive level for the foreseeable future.*" However, the RBNZ was confident that "*consumer price inflation will return to within its target range*". The MPS could be summed up as being slightly more hawkish than anticipated with the projected track for the OCR increasing from 5.5% to 5.6% (which implies a 40% probability of an increase to 5.75%) and pushing out the timing of the projected OCR cuts to early 2025. The justification for this appears to be in the wording "measures of core inflation remain too high" and "*In the near term, there is a risk that activity and inflation measures do not slow as much as expected.*" Some commentators have interpreted the slight upward revision to the OCR track and the pushing out the timing of the first cut as a bit of a warning to the market not to unnecessarily pre-empt the easing as there is still a way to go on the inflation fighting front.

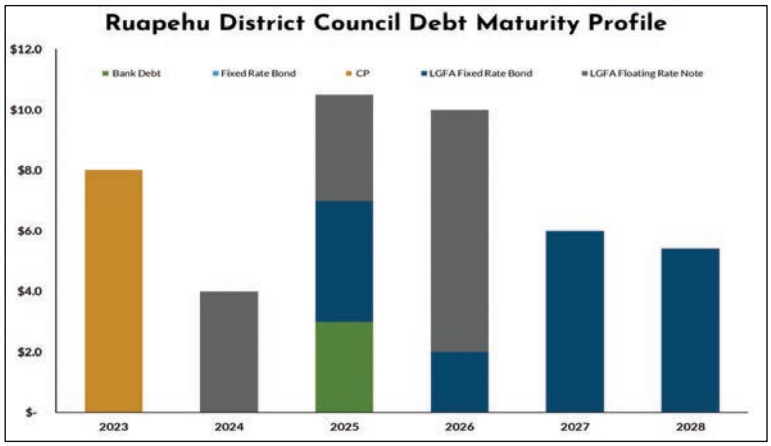
Ahead of the general election, the New Zealand Treasury's Half Year Economic and Fiscal Update (HYEFU) highlighted the Treasury will require an additional NZD9bn over the next 4 years, however, the expected borrowings were not as severe as initially forecasted, which is a positive. The Treasury is forecasting local economy will avoid a 'double dip' recession, which was supported by the Q2 GDP print which exceeded expectations at 0.9% while, for the year to June, GDP reached 1.8%, but that was where the good news ended with March 2024 growth downgraded from 2.2% to 1.2%, the unemployment forecast was upgraded to 4.6% from 4.1%, while the 2023-2024 budget deficit is expected to reach NZD11.4bn, although return to a surplus has been extended by a year to 2027. Ultimately, the HYEFU suggests businesses should prepare for a slower growing economy and higher interest rates while consumers should be prepared for a higher cost of living and a tighter labour market.

New Zealand's Q2 GDP came in far higher than expectations, at 0.9% for the quarter, against expectations of 0.4%. For the year to June, GDP was up 1.8% against expectations of 1.2%. The technical recession was also revised away as March quarter GDP was increased slightly on review to be flat for the March quarter. The industries that saw the greatest gains were mining, utilities, public administration and safety, recreation and other.

Following the stronger than expected GDP print, markets are now pricing in one more rate hike from the RBNZ to take the OCR to 5.75% by April 2024, and then for it to decline to 5.50% by October 2024 and 5.25% by February 2025. Swap rates have moved sharply higher during the quarter, due primarily to moves in the US bond market, but also aided by the stronger than expected local GDP data. The 2-year rate climbed from 5.33% to 5.76%, while the 10-year rate rose from 4.36% to 5.18%.

BANCORP

Liquidity and Funding



Policy Compliance	Compliant
Have all transactions been transacted in compliance with policy?	Yes
Is fixed interest rate cover within policy control limits?	Yes
Is the funding maturity profile within policy control limits?	Yes
Is liquidity within policy control limits?	Yes
Are counterparty exposures within policy control limits?	Yes

Debt
$49.9m
External Council Drawn Debt

Core LGFA
$49.9m
Funds Drawn from LGFA

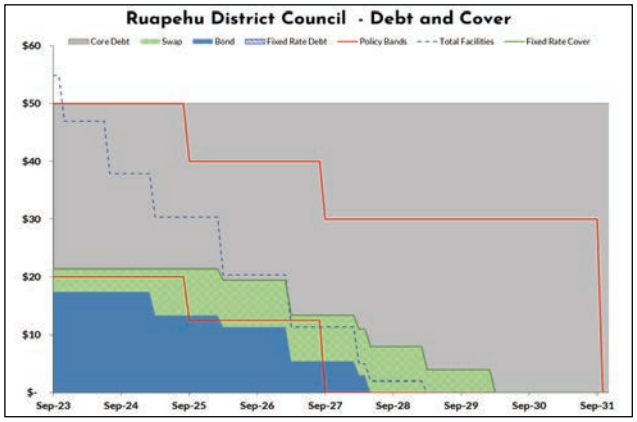
Liquidity
$10.21m
Undrawn bank facility + cash in bank

Liquidity Ratio
120.46%
Definition: (Cash Reserves + Lines of Credit + Drawn Debt)/Drawn Debt

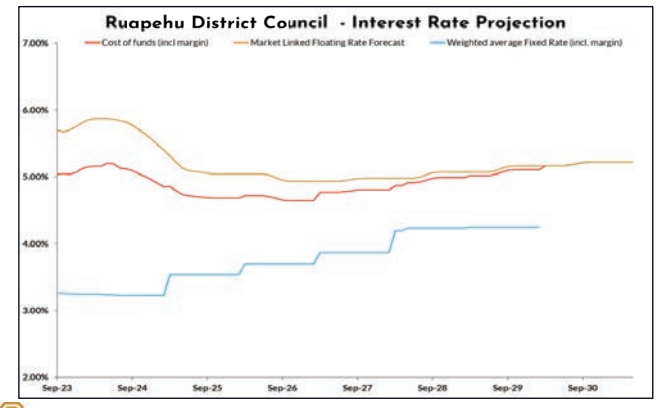
Cost of Funds
5.07%

Interest Rate Risk Management

5



Current % of Debt Fixed	42.8%
Current % of Debt Floating	57.2%
Value of Fixed Rate (m)	$21.4
Weighted Average Cost of Fixed Rate Instruments	3.16%
Value of Forward Starting Cover	$8.0
Value of Floating Rate (m)	$28.6
Current Floating Rate	5.70%
All Up Weighted Average Cost of Funds	5.07%
Total Facilities In Place	$54.9



Fixed Rate Hedging Bands			
	Minimum	Maximum	Policy
0 - 2 years	40%	100%	Compliant
2 - 4 years	25%	80%	Compliant
4 - 8 years	0%	60%	Compliant

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LGFA Borrowing Rates

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Listed below are the credit spreads and applicable interest rates as at the end of September for Commercial Paper ("CP"), Floating Rate Notes ("FRN") and Fixed Rate Bonds ("FRB"), at which Ruapehu DC could source debt from the Local Government Funding Agency ("LGFA").

Maturity	Margin	FRN (or CP Rate)	FRB
3-month CP	0.20%	5.91%	N/A
6-month CP	0.20%	6.03%	N/A
April 2024	0.52%	6.23%	6.40%
April 2025	0.58%	6.29%	6.44%
April 2026	0.58%	6.29%	6.15%
April 2027	0.72%	6.43%	6.07%
May 2028	0.87%	6.58%	6.06%
April 2029	0.99%	6.70%	6.12%
May 2030	1.09%	6.80%	6.17%
May 2031	1.13%	6.84%	6.20%
April 2033	1.19%	6.90%	6.25%
May 2035	1.24%	6.95%	6.32%
April 2037	1.25%	6.96%	6.42%

Ruapehu DC - Funding

As at 30 September 2023, RDC had $49.9 million of core debt, all of which is sourced from the LGFA using Commercial Paper, FRNs, and FRBs. WDC also has a bank facility with Bank of New Zealand for $5 million that matures in July 2024. Details of WDC's drawn debt as at 30 September is as follows:

Instrument	Maturity	Yield	Margin	Amount
LGFA CP	24-Nov-23	5.84%	N/A	$8,000,000
LGFA FRN	29-Jul-24	6.46%	0.79%	$4,000,000
LGFA FRB	20-Mar-25	2.79%	N/A	$4,000,000
LGFA FRN	20-Mar-25	6.26%	0.59%	$3,500,000
LGFA FRN	20-Mar-26	6.33%	0.66%	$3,000,000
LGFA FRN	20-Mar-26	6.28%	0.61%	$5,000,000
LGFA FRB	20-Mar-26	5.67%	N/A	$2,000,000
LGFA FRB	20-Mar-27	2.60%	N/A	$2,000,000
LGFA FRB	20-Mar-27	1.97%	N/A	$2,000,000
LGFA FRB	20-Mar-27	5.15%	N/A	$2,000,000
LGFA FRN	20-Mar-27	6.45%	0.78%	$3,000,000
LGFA FRB	20-Mar-28	2.18%	N/A	$2,400,000
LGFA FRB	20-Mar-28	4.09%	N/A	$3,000,000
LGFA FRN	20-Mar-28	6.51%	0.84%	$4,000,000
LGFA FRN	20-Mar-29	6.58%	0.91%	$2,000,000

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Report to: Council

Meeting Date:	**22 November 2023**	
Subject:	**Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chief Executive and Elected Members' Verbal Reports**	
Report for:	**Information**	
Author(s):	Tasha Paladin	**GOVERNANCE MANAGER**
Endorsed By:	Clive Manley	**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Purpose of Report | Te take mō te pūrongo

1 The purpose of this report is for the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chief Executive and Elected Members to provide verbal updates on upcoming events and other matters of general and topical interest to the District.

Report to: Council

Meeting Date: **22 November 2023**

Subject: **Resolution to Exclude the Public for Consideration of Council Business**

Report for: **Decision**

Author(s): Tasha Paladin **GOVERNANCE MANAGER**

Endorsed By: Clive Manley **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Purpose of Report | Te take mō te pūrongo

1 In accordance with section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act (or sections 6, 7 or 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may be) the Council has the right by resolution to exclude the public from the whole or any part of the proceedings of any meeting on one or more of the grounds contained within that Section.

Recommendation(s) | Ngā tūtohunga

That the Council**:**

1 Receives the Report **Resolution to Exclude the Public for Consideration of Council Business**;
2 Excludes the public from the following part(s) of the proceedings of this meeting;
3 Notes the general subject of the matters to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds for excluding the public, as specified under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
19 Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes of the Council Meeting 25 October 2023	For the reasons set out in the Public Business Minutes of the Council Meeting 25 October 2023.	
20 Receipt of Public Excluded Minutes of Risk & Assurance Committee	For the reasons set out in the Public Business Minutes of the Risk & Assurance Committee Meeting 12 October 2023.	
21 Confidential Briefing by the Chief Executive on local tourism matters.	s7(2)(c) To protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence where the making available of the information would be likely to: prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, where it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied; or would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest.	s48(1) the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 7.