



# Agenda

**Notice is hereby given of  
an Ordinary Council Meeting**

**Tuesday 22 July 2025**

10.15am

Council Chamber  
Waimate District Council  
125 Queen Street  
Waimate

[www.waimatedc.govt.nz](http://www.waimatedc.govt.nz)

**Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Waimate District Council, 125 Queen Street, Waimate, on Tuesday 22 July 2025, commencing at 10.15am.**

**Elected Members**

Craig Rowley	Chairperson
Sharyn Cain	Deputy Mayor
John Begg	Councillor
Peter Collins	Councillor
Sandy McAlwee	Councillor
Tom O'Connor	Councillor
Colin Pankhurst	Councillor
Lisa Small	Councillor
Rick Stevens	Councillor

Quorum – no less than five members

**Significance Consideration**

Evaluation: Council officers, in preparing these reports have had regard to Council's Significance and Engagement Policy. Council and Committee members will make the final assessment on whether the subject under consideration is to be regarded as being significant or not. Unless Council or Committee explicitly determines that the subject under consideration is to be deemed significant then the subject will be deemed as not being significant.

**Decision Making**

The Council, in considering each matter, must be:

- i. Satisfied that it has sufficient information about the practicable options and their benefits, costs and impacts, bearing in mind the significance of the decision;
- ii. Satisfied that it knows enough about and will give adequate consideration to the views and preferences of affected and interested parties bearing in mind the significance of the decisions to be made.

Stuart Duncan  
Chief Executive

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## OPENING

### 1 MEETING OPENING

Cr Lisa Small will invite students from Waituna Creek School to open the Council Meeting.

### 2 PUBLIC FORUM

### 3 APOLOGIES

The Chair will call for any apologies.

### 4 VISITORS

### 5 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

As per the Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968 (as below), the Chair will enquire if there are any Conflicts of Interest to be declared on any item on the agenda, and if so, for any member to declare this interest.

**Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968**

Councillors are reminded that if they have a pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda, then they must declare this interest and refrain from discussing or voting on this item and are advised to withdraw from the meeting table.

### 6 IDENTIFICATION OF MAJOR (URGENT), MINOR OR PUBLIC FORUM ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

1. The Chair will call for any major (urgent business) or minor items not on the agenda to be raised according to Standing Orders, as below:

- a. **Standing Orders 3.7.5 – Major Items**

An item not on the agenda for a meeting may be dealt with at the meeting if the local authority by resolution so decides, and the presiding member explains at the meeting at a time when it is open to the public –

- i. The reason why the item was not listed on the agenda; and
    - ii. The reason why discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.

- b. **Standing Orders 3.7.6 – Minor Items**

An item not on the agenda for a meeting may be dealt with at the meeting if –

- i. That item is a minor matter relating to the general business of the local authority; and
    - ii. The presiding member explains at the beginning of the meeting, at a time when it is open to the public, that the item will be discussed at the meeting; but
    - iii. No resolution, decision, or recommendation may be made in respect of that item except to refer that item to a subsequent meeting of the local authority for further discussion.

**MINUTES****7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES****7.1 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 17 JUNE 2025**

**Author:** Karalyn Reid, Committee Secretary and PA to the Mayor

**Authoriser:** Tina Stevenson, Corporate Services Group Manager

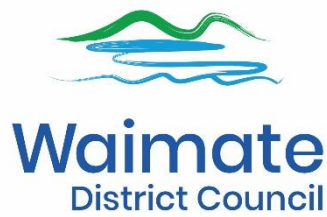
**Attachments:** 1. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 17 June 2025

**PURPOSE**

To present the unconfirmed Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 17 June 2025 for confirmation.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 17 June 2025 be adopted as a true and correct record.



# **MINUTES**

## **Ordinary Council Meeting**

**17 June 2025**

**MINUTES OF WAIMATE DISTRICT COUNCIL ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WAIMATE DISTRICT COUNCIL, 125 QUEEN STREET,  
WAIMATE ON TUESDAY 17 JUNE 2025, COMMENCING AT 9:30AM**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Craig Rowley (Chair), Deputy Mayor Sharyn Cain, Cr John Begg, Cr Peter Collins, Cr Sandy McAlwee, Cr Tom O'Connor, Cr Colin Pankhurst, Cr Lisa Small, Cr Rick Stevens

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Stuart Duncan (Chief Executive), Rachel Holley-Dellow (Human Resources Manager), Michelle Jones (Executive Support Manager), Dan Mitchell (Asset Group Manager), Dylan Murray (Regulatory and Compliance Group Manager), Tina Stevenson (Corporate Services Group Manager), Nicole Timney (Community and Strategy Group Manager), Karalyn Reid (Committee Secretary)

## **OPENING**

### **1 MEETING OPENING**

Deputy Mayor Sharyn Cain opened the Council Meeting with a quote on democracy.

### **2 PUBLIC FORUM**

There were no speakers at the Public Forum.

### **3 APOLOGIES**

Nil

### **4 VISITORS**

Nil

### **5 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

The Chair called for Conflicts of Interests. There were no Conflicts of Interest identified.

### **6 IDENTIFICATION OF MAJOR (URGENT) OR MINOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

There were no major/minor items identified.

## **MINUTES**

### **7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

#### **7.1 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 20 MAY 2025**

##### **RESOLUTION 2025/61**

Moved: Cr Lisa Small

Seconded: Cr Tom O'Connor

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 20 May 2025 be adopted as a true and correct record.

**CARRIED**

**7.2 MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 27 MAY 2025****RESOLUTION 2025/62**

Moved: Mayor Craig Rowley

Seconded: Cr Rick Stevens

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 27 May 2025 be adopted as a true and correct record, with the below amendment to the reason on Decision Item 7 (page 23):

7	<b>Let's talk policy</b> Question: Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission and Postponement Policy?	All	Council agrees with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission and Postponement Policy.	<b>A statement regarding rates remission on Maori freehold land is a legislative requirement. This was the most preferred option. The removal of the rates remission on the community housing is in line with Council's direction in having community housing moving towards being self-sustaining.</b>
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**CARRIED**

**Note:**

5: Conflicts of Interest: Cr John Begg's spouse is a member of Waimate2gether, not the Chair.

**8 RECEIPT OF MINUTES****8.1 MINUTES OF THE LOWER WAITAKI SOUTH COASTAL CANTERBURY ZONE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 14 MAY 2025****RESOLUTION 2025/63**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Sharyn Cain

Seconded: Cr Rick Stevens

That the unconfirmed minutes of the Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee Meeting held on 14 May 2025 be received.

**CARRIED**

**Note:**

Deputy Mayor Sharyn Cain noted it is disappointing there is little detail provided on the new 'Local Leadership Groups', following the review of the Zone Committees.

**8.2 MINUTES OF THE ORARI-TEMUKA-OPIHI-PAREORA ZONE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9 JUNE 2025****RESOLUTION 2025/64**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Sharyn Cain

Seconded: Mayor Craig Rowley

That the unconfirmed Minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Zone Committee Meeting held on 9 June 2025 be received.

**CARRIED****8.3 MINUTES OF THE WAIMATE COMMUNITY ANZAC GROUP MEETING HELD ON 21 MAY 2025****RESOLUTION 2025/65**

Moved: Mayor Craig Rowley

Seconded: Cr Lisa Small

That the unconfirmed Minutes of the Waimate Community ANZAC Group Meeting held on 21 May 2025 be received.

**CARRIED****8.4 MINUTES OF THE WDC COMMUNITY AND SPORTS GRANTS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 30 MAY 2025****RESOLUTION 2025/66**

Moved: Mayor Craig Rowley

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Sharyn Cain

That the unconfirmed Minutes of the WDC Community and Sports Grants Committee Meeting held on 30 May 2025 be received.

**CARRIED****REPORTS****9 MAYOR'S REPORT****9.1 MAYOR'S REPORT****RESOLUTION 2025/67**

Moved: Mayor Craig Rowley

Seconded: Cr John Begg

That the Mayor's Report is accepted.

**CARRIED**

**Note:**

Council noted the disappointing turnout at the Local Water Done Well Community Chats around the district, however the Council stand at the Waimate Market and outside the New World supermarket were better attended.

Council discussed the draft unconfirmed minutes provided from the Canterbury Mayoral Forum, particularly the cost to councils on developing any future Regional Deals, and the opportunities for Council to review and provide feedback on the 2026-2028 Triennial Agreement.

**10 DEPUTY MAYOR'S REPORT****10.1 DEPUTY MAYOR'S REPORT****RESOLUTION 2025/68**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Sharyn Cain

Seconded: Mayor Craig Rowley

That the Deputy Mayor's Report is accepted.

**CARRIED****Note:**

The Deputy Mayor noted she had received a number of positive comments on the Council stand at the Waimate Market, and suggested it would be good to have a regular presence at the market on important topics.

**11 COUNCILLORS' REPORT****11.1 COUNCILLORS' REPORT****RESOLUTION 2025/69**

Moved: Cr Sandy McAlwee

Seconded: Cr Peter Collins

That the Councillors' Report is accepted.

**CARRIED****12 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT****12.1 COMMON SEAL REPORT****RESOLUTION 2025/70**

Moved: Mayor Craig Rowley

Seconded: Cr Rick Stevens

That the following documents are executed under the Common Seal of the Council:

- a. Deed of Grant for Stock Underpass on Fitzmaurice Road – February 2025

**CARRIED****Note:**

Council noted the entire document is not required in future agendas.

**12.2 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ACTIVITY REPORT****RESOLUTION 2025/71**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Sharyn Cain

Seconded: Mayor Craig Rowley

That the Chief Executive's Activity Report is accepted.

**CARRIED****13 COUNCIL ACTIONS REPORT****13.1 OUTSTANDING COUNCIL ACTIONS REPORT - PUBLIC****RESOLUTION 2025/72**

Moved: Mayor Craig Rowley

Seconded: Cr Lisa Small

That the Outstanding Council Actions Report – Public is accepted.

**CARRIED****14 HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT**

Nil

**15 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE REPORT****15.1 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE CHAIR'S REPORT****RESOLUTION 2025/73**

Moved: Cr Rick Stevens

Seconded: Cr Tom O'Connor

That the Audit and Risk Committee Chair's Report is accepted.

**CARRIED****Note:**

The Mayor will send a letter to Damian Hogue and thank him for his work for the past few years as Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee.

**16 GENERAL REPORTS****16.1 FINANCE REPORT FOR THE 10 MONTHS ENDED 30 APRIL 2025****RESOLUTION 2025/74**

Moved: Mayor Craig Rowley

Seconded: Cr Rick Stevens

That the Finance Report for the 10 months ended 30 April 2025 is accepted.

**CARRIED**



**Note:**

A minor correction to Public Toilets – Waimate Town (New Toilets) also includes expenditure in the previous financial year.

Council discussed Promotions – Storage for Community Xmas Tree of \$21,000 and noted this may come in under budget.

**16.2 RISKPOOL: UPDATE AND PROPOSED MEMBER CONSULTATION**

Council received an update regarding the winding up of Riskpool and proposed member consultation.

**RESOLUTION 2025/75**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Sharyn Cain

Seconded: Cr John Begg

That the Riskpool: Update and Proposed Member Consultation report is received.

**CARRIED****Note:**

Council noted the Deputy Mayor attended the recent Civic Services Annual General Meeting remotely.

**16.3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEW ZEALAND (ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING) REMITS****RESOLUTION 2025/76**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Sharyn Cain

Seconded: Cr Rick Stevens

That Council considers the remits and gives guidance to their presiding delegate, Mayor Craig Rowley.

**CARRIED****Note:**

Council noted the five remits are not substantial.

1. Security system payments: Opposed
2. Improving joint management agreements: Opposed
3. Alcohol licensing fees: Supported
4. Aligning public and school bus services: Opposed
5. Review of Local Government arrangements to achieve better balance: Opposed.

**17 CONSIDERATION OF MAJOR (URGENT) OR MINOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Nil

## PUBLIC EXCLUDED

## 18 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC REPORT

## RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

**RESOLUTION 2025/77**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Sharyn Cain

Seconded: Cr Tom O'Connor

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject matter of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48 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 for the passing of this resolution
<b>18.1 - Public Excluded Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 20 May 2025</b>	s6(a) - the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial	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 6 or section 7
<b>18.2 - Outstanding Council Actions Report - Public Excluded</b>	s7(2)(a) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons  s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities  s7(2)(i) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	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 6 or section 7
<b>18.3 - Alpine Energy Limited Draft Statement of Corporate Intent 2026-2028 Shareholders Group Feedback</b>	s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities	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 6 or section 7

**CARRIED**

**19 RE-ADMITTANCE OF THE PUBLIC REPORT****RESOLUTION 2025/78**

Moved: Cr Rick Stevens

Seconded: Cr Lisa Small

That Council moves out of Closed Council into Open Council.

**CARRIED****MEETING CLOSURE**

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 10.51am.

The Minutes of this meeting are to be confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting scheduled on 22 July 2025.

.....  
**CHAIRPERSON**

**7.2 MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 30 JUNE 2025**

**Author:** Karalyn Reid, Committee Secretary and PA to the Mayor

**Authoriser:** Tina Stevenson, Corporate Services Group Manager

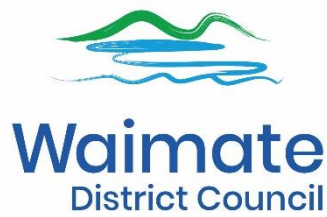
**Attachments:** 1. Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 30 June 2025

**PURPOSE**

To present the unconfirmed Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 30 June 2025 for confirmation.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 30 June 2025 be adopted as a true and correct record.



# **MINUTES**

## **Extraordinary Council Meeting**

**30 June 2025**

**MINUTES OF WAIMATE DISTRICT COUNCIL  
EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WAIMATE DISTRICT COUNCIL, 125 QUEEN STREET,  
WAIMATE ON MONDAY, 30 JUNE 2025, COMMENCING AT 3:00PM**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Craig Rowley, Deputy Mayor Sharyn Cain (via Microsoft Teams), Cr John Begg, Cr Peter Collins, Cr Sandy McAlwee, Cr Tom O'Connor, Cr Lisa Small, Cr Rick Stevens

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Stuart Duncan (Chief Executive), Rachel Holley-Dellow (Human Resources Manager), Dan Mitchell (Asset Group Manager), Dylan Murray (Regulatory and Compliance Group Manager via Microsoft Teams), Tina Stevenson (Corporate Services Group Manager), Nicole Timney (Community and Strategy Group Manager), Melissa Thomson (Accountant)  
Shey Taylor (Strategic Planner/Policy Advisor), Riddhish Parekh (Communication Officer), Karalyn Reid (Committee Secretary)

## **OPENING**

### **1 MEETING OPENING**

There was no formal Meeting Opening of this Extraordinary Meeting of Council.

### **2 PUBLIC FORUM**

There was no Public Forum offered at this Extraordinary Meeting of Council.

### **3 APOLOGIES**

#### **RESOLUTION 2025/64**

Moved: Cr Lisa Small

Seconded: Cr Rick Stevens

That an apology from Cr Colin Pankhurst be received and accepted.

**CARRIED**

### **4 VISITORS**

Audit New Zealand Director, Rudie Tomlinson (via Microsoft teams).

### **5 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

The Chair called for Conflicts of Interests. There were no Conflicts of Interest identified.

### **6 IDENTIFICATION OF MAJOR (URGENT) OR MINOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

There was no Identification of Major (Urgent) or Minor Items not on the Agenda offered at this Extraordinary Meeting of Council.

## REPORTS

### 7 GENERAL REPORTS

#### 7.1 LTP 2025-34 ADOPTION OF AN UNBALANCED BUDGET

Council were presented with an Unbalanced Budget report for the draft Long Term Plan 2025-2034 (LTP).

#### RESOLUTION 2025/65

Moved: Mayor Craig Rowley

Seconded: Cr Rick Stevens

1. That the LTP 2025-34 Adoption of an Unbalanced Budget report is accepted; and
2. That Council, in accordance with the requirements of Section 100 of the Local Government Act 2002, resolves that it is financially prudent to adopt the Long Term Plan 2025-34 that contains budget deficits on certain activities. This decision takes account of:
  - (a) The estimated expenses of achieving and maintaining the predicted levels of service provision set out in the draft long-term plan, including the estimated expenses associated with maintaining the service capacity and integrity of assets throughout their useful life; and
  - (b) The projected revenue available to fund the estimated expenses associated with maintaining the service capacity and integrity of assets throughout their useful life; and
  - (c) The equitable allocation of responsibility for funding the provision and maintenance of assets and facilities throughout their useful life; and
  - (d) The funding and financial policies adopted by Council.

**CARRIED**

**7.2 ADOPTION OF WAIMATE DISTRICT COUNCIL LONG TERM PLAN 2025-2034**

Council were presented with the draft Waimate District Council Long Term Plan (LTP) 2025-2034 for adoption.

Elected Members were emailed two documents prior to the meeting:

- Signed Auditors Opinion; and
- Long Term Plan Misstatement corrections to the LTP.

Both documents, along with the final draft LTP, were tabled at the meeting at 3.00pm.

Addition to wording (page 8):

Policy Changes: Council's Decision: Council agrees with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission and Postponement Policy. Council's Reason: **A Statement on** the rates remission on Maori freehold land is a legislative requirement. The removal of the rates remission on the community housing is in line with Council's direction in having community housing moving towards being self-sustaining.

**RESOLUTION 2025/67**

Moved: Mayor Craig Rowley

Seconded: Cr Tom O'Connor

1. That the Adoption of the Waimate District Council Long Term Plan 2025-2034 report is accepted; and
2. That Council receives the final Audit opinion; and
3. That Council adopts the following policies and strategies that are included within the Long Term Plan:
  - (a) Financial Strategy
  - (b) Infrastructure Strategy
  - (c) Financial Contributions Policy
  - (d) Investment Policy
  - (e) Liability Management Policy
  - (f) Revenue and Financing Policy
  - (g) Significance and Engagement Policy
  - (h) Rates Remission and Postponement Policy; and
4. That the Long Term Plan 2025-2034 is adopted in accordance with Section 93 of the Local Government Act 2002.

**CARRIED**

**Attachments**

- 1 Misstatement Changes LTP
- 2 Signed Auditors Opinion



**7.3 RESOLUTION TO SET RATES FOR 2025/26**

Council considered setting and assessing rates, and the due dates for payment, for the 2025/26 financial year commencing 1 July 2025 and ending 30 June 2026.

**RESOLUTION 2025/68**

Moved: Mayor Craig Rowley

Seconded: Cr Tom O'Connor

1. That the Resolution to Set Rates for 2025/26 report be accepted; and
2. Waimate District Council resolves to set and assess rates under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, on rating units in the district for the financial year commencing 1 July 2025 and ending 30 June 2026, as follows; and

**District Rates 2025/26**

Note:

- a Values (such as Capital Value and units) use estimates for 2025/26 as close as possible to 30 June 2025.
- b All monetary values throughout the tables within this resolution are GST inclusive.

Council is setting rates for the 2025/26 rating year in accordance with the Long Term Plan 2025/26 and the Funding Impact Statement as follows:

	<b>Annual Plan 2025/26</b>
<b>General Rates</b>	
1. General Rates	\$3,344,042
	<b>\$3,344,042</b>
<b>Targeted Services</b>	
2. Civic Amenities Rate - Targeted differential	4,829,452
3. Roading and Footpaths	3,921,924
4. Civil Defence	251,136
5. Sewer	1,015,417
6. St Andrews Sewer	14,935
7. Waste Collection	1,419,128
8. Recycling Drop-off	145,745
9. Rural Water Schemes (excluding Downlands)	2,741,116
10. Urban Water	1,582,226
11. Downlands Rural Water Supply	633,631
	<b>\$16,554,708</b>
<b>Targeted Community Rates</b>	
12. Waimate Event Centre	220,020
13. Community Halls	67,762
	<b>\$287,782</b>
<b>Total Rates</b>	<b>\$20,186,532</b>

Total rates of \$20,186,532 will be payable in four equal instalments.

### General Rate

A general rate is set as a rate in the dollar on the capital value of every Urban, Rural 1, Rural 2, Electricity generators and other transmission providers, and Forestry operators and forest blocks rating unit in accordance with the Rating Boundary Map for the Waimate District, assessed on a differential basis. The differential is based on land use for Electricity generators and other transmission providers, and Forestry operators and forest blocks or, for Urban, Rural 1, and Rural 2, where the land is situated and is classified as either Urban, Rural 1, or Rural 2. The Rating Boundary Map is available for inspection at the Council office, 125 Queen Street, Waimate.

### Differential

The General Rates required from each differential sector is calculated on an activity-by-activity basis as described in the Funding Needs Analysis.

The object of including a differential in the General Rate is to achieve a fair and equitable distribution of the general rate between categories of land having regard to meeting the current and future needs of the community for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses by providing infrastructure, services, and performance that are: efficient, and effective, and appropriate to present and anticipated future circumstances.

A component of the general rate requirement is funded by investment returns. In the case of negative differential, the activities' funding requirement is less than the investment returns applicable to that type of land use.

		<b>General Rate Per Dollar of Capital Value for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>	<b>Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>
<b>General Rate</b>	<b>Differential Factor</b>		
Urban	1.00	\$0.0011590	\$ 1,110,994
Rural 1	0.43	\$0.0004989	\$ 1,894,065
Rural 2	0.39	\$0.0004529	\$ 307,029
Electricity generators and other transmission providers	0.07	\$0.0000785	\$ 31,954
<b>Total Revenue</b>			<b>\$ 3,344,042</b>

## Targeted Rates

### Civic Amenities Rate

The Civic Amenities Rate contributes towards the funding of the following activities:

- Community Representation
- Community Property (Public Toilets)
- Library
- Cemeteries
- Parks and Public Spaces
- Swimming
- Waste Management (Resource Recovery Park Operation)

The Civic Amenities Rate is set and assessed, for Electricity generators and other transmission providers, and Forestry operators and forest blocks, on land use, for Business 1 and Business 2 rating units, as defined in the Waimate District Plan, or for Urban, Rural 1, and Rural 2 on each separately used or inhabited parts of a rating unit (as defined above).

### Differential

The Civic Amenities Rate is assessed on a differential basis. The differential is based on land use for Electricity generators and other transmission providers, Large Industrials, and Forestry operators and forest blocks, definition of Business 1 or Business 2 within the Waimate District Plan or, for Urban, Rural 1, and Rural 2, where the land is situated and is classified as either Urban, Rural 1, or Rural 2. The Civic Amenities Rates required from each differential sector is calculated on an activity-by-activity basis as described in the Funding Needs Analysis.

The object of including a differential in the Civic Amenities Rate is to achieve a fair and equitable distribution of the targeted rate between categories of land having regard to meeting the current and future needs of the community for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses by providing infrastructure, services, and performance that are: efficient, and effective, and appropriate to present and anticipated future circumstances.

	Differential Factor	Civic Amenities Rate for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)	Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)
<b>Civic Amenities Rate</b>			
Urban (On SUIP)	1.00	\$ 1,254.60	\$ 2,272,055
Rural 1 (On SUIP)	0.93	\$ 1,169.80	\$ 2,061,265
Rural 2 (On SUIP)	0.89	\$ 1,119.80	\$ 321,388
Business 1 and Business 2 (On per rating unit)	0.34	\$ 431.20	\$ 34,926
Electricity generators and other transmission providers (On capital value)	0.0000002	\$0.0002976	\$ 121,079
Large Industrials (On capital value)	0.0000001	\$0.0001314	\$ 15,856
Forestry operators and forest blocks (On capital value)	0.0000001	\$0.0001005	\$ 2,883
<b>Total Revenue</b>			<b>\$ 4,829,452</b>

**Roading and Footpaths Rate**

The Roothing and Footpaths targeted rate is set as a rate in the dollar on the capital value of every Urban, Rural 1, Rural 2, Electricity generators and other transmission providers, and Forestry operators and forest blocks rating unit in accordance with the Rating Boundary Map for the Waimate District, assessed on a differential basis. The differential is based on land use for Electricity generators and other transmission providers, and Forestry operators and forest blocks or, for Urban, Rural 1, and Rural 2, where the land is situated and is classified as either Urban, Rural 1, or Rural 2.

**Differential**

The Targeted Rates required from each differential sector is calculated on an activity-by-activity basis as described in the Funding Needs Analysis.

The object of including a differential in the Roothing and Footpaths Rate is to achieve a fair and equitable distribution of the targeted rate between categories of land having regard to meeting the current and future needs of the community for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses by providing infrastructure, services, and performance that are: efficient, and effective, and appropriate to present and anticipated future circumstances.

	Differential Factor	Targeted Rate for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)	Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)
<b>Roothing and Footpaths Targeted Rate</b>			
Urban	1.00	\$0.0004030	\$ 386,333
Rural 1	1.61	\$0.0006477	\$ 2,458,803
Rural 2	1.46	\$0.0005867	\$ 397,707
Electricity generators and other transmission providers	2.95	\$0.0011875	\$ 483,210
Forestry operators and forest blocks	16.94	\$0.0068279	\$ 195,871
<b>Total Revenue</b>			<b>\$ 3,921,924</b>

**Civil Defence Rate**

The Civil Defence targeted rate is set as a rate in the dollar on the capital value of every Urban, Rural 1, Rural 2, and Electricity generators and other transmission providers rating unit in accordance with the Rating Boundary Map for the Waimate District, assessed on a differential basis. The differential is based on land use for Electricity generators and other transmission providers or, for Urban, Rural 1, and Rural 2, where the land is situated and is classified as either Urban, Rural 1, or Rural 2.

**Differential**

The Targeted Rates required from each differential sector is calculated on an activity-by-activity basis as described in the Funding Needs Analysis.

The object of including a differential in the Civil Defence Rate is to achieve a fair and equitable distribution of the targeted rate between categories of land having regard to meeting the current and future needs of the community for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses by providing infrastructure, services, and performance that are: efficient, and effective, and appropriate to present and anticipated future circumstances.

	Differential Factor	Targeted Rate for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)	Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)
<b>Civil Defence Targeted Rate</b>			
Urban	1.00	\$0.0000272	\$ 26,118
Rural 1	1.61	\$0.0000440	\$ 167,005
Rural 2	1.47	\$0.0000399	\$ 27,072
Electricity generators and other transmission providers	2.79	\$0.0000760	\$ 30,940
<b>Total Revenue</b>			<b>\$ 251,136</b>

**Sewer Rate**

The Sewer targeted rate is set based on the provision or availability of service provided to the rating unit. The Sewer targeted rate is differentiated based on the connection or the number of water closets available and contributes towards the funding of the Sewerage and Sewage activity as follows:

- a) Serviced - The number of connections (within each rating unit) to the Council's sewer reticulation system
- b) Unserviced - Rating units not connected to the Waimate sewer scheme but where the service is available/provided
- c) Number of water closets within a Rating Unit (with more than 2 but less than 11 water closets) per water closet
- d) Number of water closets within a Rating Unit (11 or more water closets) per water closet

<b>Sewer Targeted Rate</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Differential Factor</b>	<b>Sewer Rate for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>	<b>Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>
Sewer Serviced	a) Serviced - The number of water closets and urinals (for a residential unit or with 2 or less within each rating unit) to the Council's sewer reticulation system	1.00	\$ 479.60	\$ 866,643
Sewer Unserviced	b) Unserviced - Rating units not connected to the Waimate sewer scheme but where the service is available/provided	0.50	\$ 239.80	\$ 31,654
Sewer Multi 1	c) Number of water closets and urinals within a Rating Unit (with more than 2 but less than 11 water closets and urinals) per water closet and urinal	0.80	\$ 383.70	\$ 65,610
Sewer Multi 2	d) Number of water closets and urinals within a Rating Unit (11 or more water closets and urinals) per water closet and urinal	0.60	\$ 287.80	\$ 51,509
<b>Total Revenue</b>				<b>\$ 1,015,417</b>

**St Andrews Sewer Rate**

The St Andrews Sewer targeted rate is set based on the service provided to the rating unit and charged per applicable rating unit. A list of applicable rating units is available for inspection at the Council office, 125 Queen Street, Waimate. The St Andrews Sewer targeted rate contributes towards the funding of the Sewerage and Sewage activity as follows:

<b>St Andrews Sewer Rate</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Sewer Rate for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>	<b>Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>
St Andrews Sewer	Extent of provision of service	\$ 266.70	\$ 14,935
<b>Total Revenue</b>			<b>\$ 14,935</b>

**Waste Collection Rate**

The Waste Collection targeted rate is set based on the provision of service provided to the rating unit and contributes towards the funding of the Waste Management activity as follows:

- a) Standard set of bins consisting of: 240 litre organics bin collected weekly, 240 litre recycling bin collected fortnightly, 140 litre rubbish bin collected fortnightly and 45 litre glass recycling crate collected weekly to those rating units receiving the service.
- b) Large set of bins consisting of: 240 litre organics bin collected weekly, 240 litre recycling bin collected fortnightly, 240 litre rubbish bin collected fortnightly and 45 litre glass recycling crate collected weekly to those rating units receiving the service.

A map of the mandatory waste collection areas is available for inspection at the Council office, 125 Queen Street, Waimate.

		Differential Factor	Targeted Rate for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)	Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)
Waste Collection Targeted Rate	Category			
Waste Collection - Standard	a) Serviced Rating Units	1.00	\$ 485.90	\$ 1,334,767
Waste Collection - Large	b) Serviced Rating Units	1.16	\$ 565.90	\$ 59,420
Additional Organic Bin (240 lt)	Upon request to serviced rating units	0.27	\$ 130.00	\$ 3,120
Additional Recycling Bin (240 lt)	Upon request to serviced rating units	0.12	\$ 60.00	\$ 3,000
Additional Rubbish Bin (140 lt)	Upon request to serviced rating units	0.31	\$ 152.00	\$ 1,824
Additional Glass Recycling Crate (45 lt)	Upon request to serviced rating units	0.06	\$ 27.00	\$ 81
Additional Rubbish Bin (240 lt)	Upon request to serviced rating units	0.48	\$ 232.00	\$ 15,776
Glass Recycling Bin (240 lt)	Upon request to serviced rating units	0.12	\$ 60.00	\$ 1,140
<b>Total Revenue</b>				<b>\$ 1,419,128</b>

**Recycling Drop-off Service Rate**

The Recycling targeted rate is set according to the provision or availability of service provided to the rating unit for any SUIPs not receiving a Waste Collection Service and contributes towards the funding of the Waste Management activity as follows:

SUIP not receiving a Waste Collection Service but provided with a recycling drop off point.

		Differential Factor	Targeted Rate for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)	Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)
Recycling Drop-off Service Rate	Category			
Recycling Drop-off Service	SUIP not receiving a Waste Collection Service but provided with a recycling drop off point.	1.00	\$ 120.60	\$ 145,745
<b>Total Revenue</b>				<b>\$ 145,745</b>

**Rural Water Rate**

The Rural Water supply targeted rates are set based on the water allocation provided to each rating unit. The rate is assessed on a per litre of water supplied per day and contributes towards the funding of the water supplied to the Cannington-Motukaika, Hook-Waituna, Lower Waihao, Otaio-Makikihi, Waihaorunga and Waikakahi rural water schemes included in the Rural Water activity as follows:

	<b>Targeted Rate Per Litre for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>	<b>Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>
<b>Rural Water Scheme</b>		
Cannington-Motukaika	\$ 0.4122	\$ 162,534
Lower Waihao normal supply	\$ 0.6015	\$ 575,885
Otaio-Makikihi	\$ 0.4477	\$ 460,691
Waihaorunga	\$ 0.8667	\$ 267,248
Waikakahi	\$ 0.6333	\$ 690,299
Hook-Waituna domestic supply	\$ 0.3630	\$ 574,601
Hook-Waituna irrigation supply (55%)	\$ 0.1997	\$ 9,857
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>\$ 2,741,116</b>

**Urban Water Rate**

The Urban Water targeted rate is set based on the provision or availability of service provided to the rating unit in the township of Waimate. The Urban Water targeted rate is differentiated based on the connection and contributes towards the funding of the Urban Water activity as follows:

- a) Serviced - The number of connections (within each rating unit) to the Council's urban water reticulation system
- b) Unserviced - Rating units not connected to the Waimate urban water scheme but where the urban water reticulation is available for connection

<b>Targeted Rate</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Differential Factor</b>	<b>Targeted Rate for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>	<b>Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>
Water Scheme Urban	a) Serviced - The number of connections (within each rating unit) to the Council's urban water reticulation system	1.00	\$ 752.00	\$ 1,546,881
Water Scheme Urban Vacant	b) Unserviced - Rating units not connected to the Waimate urban water scheme but where the urban water reticulation is available for connection	0.50	\$ 376.00	\$ 35,344
<b>Total Revenue</b>				<b>\$ 1,582,226</b>



**Downlands Rural Water Supply Rate**

The Downlands water scheme is a Joint Operation between Timaru, MacKenzie and Waimate District Councils. The scheme is managed by Timaru District Council who determine the charge per connection type. Each Council sets the rate for the connections within its district and collects the revenue on behalf of the Joint Operation. The connections are differentiated by location of the rating unit whether within the St Andrews township where a Domestic charge is rated, as opposed to outside the township where a Service charge on the number of connections and Unit/Point charge on the units of water is charged as follows:

	<b>Targeted Rate for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>	<b>Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>
<b>Targeted Rate</b>		
Domestic	\$ 1,270.00	\$ 87,630
Unit/Point	\$ 363.00	\$ 304,739
Service	\$ 907.00	\$ 241,262
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>\$ 633,631</b>

**Waimate Event Centre Rate**

The Waimate Event Centre targeted rate is set on a uniform basis and is assessed on the district wide number of separately used or inhabited parts of a rating unit (as defined above) and funds principal and interest repayments for the Waimate Event Centre loan as follows:

<b>Targeted Rate</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Rate for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>	<b>Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>
Waimate Event Centre	Charged per separately used or inhabited parts of a rating unit	\$ 57.00	\$ 220,020
<b>Total Revenue</b>			<b>\$ 220,020</b>

NOTE: Refer to Council's Rates Remission and Postponement Policy, Remission 11 as published in the Long Term Plan 2025-34 for remissions applicable to the Waimate Event Centre targeted rate.

**Community Halls Rate**

The Hall rates are set on an SUIP basis and are based on where the land is situated in relation to each hall. A map of SUIP's relative to each hall is available for inspection at the Council office, 125 Queen Street, Waimate.

<b>Community Hall</b>	<b>Targeted Rate for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>	<b>Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>
St Andrews Hall	\$ 40.00	\$ 6,440
Ikawai Memorial Hall	\$ 40.30	\$ 4,232
Arno Hall	\$ 28.80	\$ 3,168
Waihaorunga Hall	\$ 51.10	\$ 3,168
Glenavy Hall	\$ 46.00	\$ 10,856
Hunter Hall	\$ 50.00	\$ 4,000
Southburn Hall	\$ 70.00	\$ 5,600
Studholme Hall	\$ 28.80	\$ 1,901
Hook Hall	\$ 57.50	\$ 3,623
Kurow Memorial Hall	\$ 25.00	\$ 3,000
Willowbridge Hall	\$ 70.00	\$ 4,130
Waituna Creek Hall	\$ 35.00	\$ 4,690
Makikihi Hall	\$ 52.00	\$ 2,964
Lyalldale Hall	\$ 40.00	\$ 1,360
Bluecliffs Hall	\$ 46.00	\$ 2,346
Maungati Hall	\$ 45.00	\$ 2,835
Cattle Creek Hall	\$ 75.00	\$ 3,450
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>\$ 67,762</b>

**Rating Base**

Number of rating units at end of preceding year	4,401
Total capital value of rating units at end of preceding year	\$ 5,940,523,750
Total land value of rating units at end of preceding year	\$ 3,805,460,000

3. That Council set the following due dates for each instalment, of an equal amount:

	Instalment Period	Instalment Due Date
Instalment 1	1 July 2025 – 30 September 2025	29-Aug-2025
Instalment 2	1 October 2025 – 31 December 2025	28-Nov-2025
Instalment 3	1 January 2026 – 31 March 2026	27-Feb-2026
Instalment 4	1 April 2026 – 30 June 2026	29-May-2026

#### **Payment of Rates**

Rates shall be payable by cash, or eftpos at the Local Government Centre, 125 Queen Street, Waimate or electronically via the Council website online payment gateway or through the use of Direct Debit, internet or phone banking facilities.

**CARRIED**

#### **7.4 2025/26 RATES PENALTIES RESOLUTION**

Council considered the Rates Penalties regime for the 2025/26 financial year.

#### **RESOLUTION 2025/69**

Moved: Mayor Craig Rowley

Seconded: Cr Rick Stevens

1. That the 2025/26 Rates Penalties Resolution report is accepted; and
2. That Council resolves to authorise the Rates Penalties regime for the 2025/26 financial year:

##### **(a) An Additional Charge**

An additional charge under section 58(1)(a) of 10% of any amount of an instalment that remains unpaid after the due date of that instalment will be added on, or after, 1 September 2025, 1 December 2025, 2 March 2026, and 2 June 2026 (respectively for each instalment).

##### **(b) Further Additional Charges**

A further additional charge under section 58(1)(b) and 58(1)(c) of 10% of any amount of rates that remain unpaid from previous financial years will be added on or after 8 July 2025 and 8 January 2026 if unpaid by then.

**CARRIED**

**7.5 FEES AND CHARGES 2025/26**

Council considered the Waimate District Council Fees and Charges for 2025/26.

Council noted a change to the heading within the Roothing Fees and Charges from Development Contribution to 'Footpath Contribution'.

**RESOLUTION 2025/70**

Moved: Mayor Craig Rowley

Seconded: Cr Rick Stevens

1. That the Fees and Charges 2025/26 report is accepted; and
2. That Council adopts the Waimate District Council Fees and Charges for 2025/26, effective 1 July 2025, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**MEETING CLOSURE**

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 3.33pm.

The minutes of this meeting will be confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 22 July 2025.

.....  
**CHAIRPERSON**

**7.3 MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 1 JULY 2025**

**Author:** Karalyn Reid, Committee Secretary and PA to the Mayor

**Authoriser:** Tina Stevenson, Corporate Services Group Manager

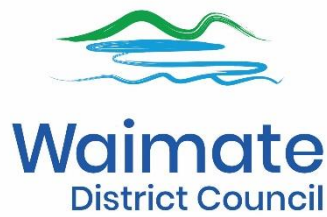
**Attachments:** 1. Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 1 July 2025

**PURPOSE**

To present the unconfirmed Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 1 July 2025 for confirmation.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 1 July 2025 be adopted as a true and correct record



# **MINUTES**

## **Extraordinary Council Meeting**

**1 July 2025**

**MINUTES OF WAIMATE DISTRICT COUNCIL  
EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WAIMATE DISTRICT COUNCIL, 125 QUEEN STREET,  
WAIMATE ON TUESDAY 1 JULY 2025, COMMENCING AT 1:00PM**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Craig Rowley, Deputy Mayor Sharyn Cain (via Microsoft Teams),  
Cr John Begg, Cr Peter Collins, Cr Sandy McAlwee, Cr Tom O'Connor,  
Cr Lisa Small, Cr Rick Stevens

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Stuart Duncan (Chief Executive), Rachel Holley-Dellow (Human Resources  
Manager), Michelle Jones (Executive Support Manager), Dan Mitchell (Asset  
Group Manager), Dylan Murray (Regulatory and Compliance Group Manager  
via Microsoft Teams), Tina Stevenson (Corporate Services Group Manager),  
Nicole Timney (Community and Strategy Group Manager)  
  
Shey Taylor (Strategic Planner/Policy Advisor), Riddhish Parekh  
(Communication Officer), Karalyn Reid (Committee Secretary)

## **OPENING**

### **1 OPENING MEETING**

There was no formal Opening Meeting at this Extraordinary Council Meeting. The Chair advised the meeting would be recorded and welcomed Councillors, staff and members of the public in the public gallery and on Microsoft teams.

### **2 PUBLIC FORUM**

There was no Public Forum held at this Extraordinary Council Meeting.

### **3 APOLOGIES**

#### **RESOLUTION 2025/70**

Moved: Cr Lisa Small

Seconded: Cr Tom O'Connor

That an apology from Cr Colin Pankhurst be received and accepted.

**CARRIED**

### **4 VISITORS**

Nil

### **5 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

The Chair called for Conflicts of Interests. There were no Conflicts of Interest identified.

### **6 IDENTIFICATION OF MAJOR (URGENT) OR MINOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

There was no Identification of Major (Urgent) or Minor Items not on the Agenda at this Extraordinary Council Meeting.

## REPORTS

### 7 GENERAL REPORTS

#### 7.1 LOCAL WATER DONE WELL CONSULTATION DECISION

Council, after bearing in mind all submissions to the LWDW Consultation and following the Submission Hearings held on 30 June 2025, considered which consultation option will form the basis of the Water Services Delivery Plan to be submitted to the Minister for Local Government by 3 September 2025.

#### RESOLUTION 2025/71

Moved: Mayor Craig Rowley

Seconded: Cr John Begg

1. That the Local Water Done Well Consultation Decision report is accepted; and
2. That Council decides that an internal water services unit will form the basis of the Water Services Delivery Plan to be submitted to the Minister for Local Government by 3 September 2025.

CARRIED

**Voted Against the Motion: Cr Rick Stevens**

## MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 1.35pm.

The Minutes of this meeting will be confirmed at the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 22 July 2025.

.....  
**CHAIRPERSON**



**8 RECEIPT OF MINUTES**

Nil

## REPORTS

## 9 MAYOR'S REPORT

## 9.1 MAYOR'S REPORT

**Author:** Karalyn Reid, Committee Secretary and PA to the Mayor

**Authoriser:** Michelle Jones, Executive Support Manager

**Attachments:** 1. LGNZ Four Monthly Report [↓](#) 

## LGZ FOUR MONTHLY REPORT FOR MEMBERS COUNCILS

1. We have attached, for the information of Council, LGNZ's Four Monthly Report (March to June 2025).

## EXTERNAL MEETINGS &amp; FUNCTIONS ATTENDED BY THE MAYOR

2. To present for the information of Council a register of external meetings and functions attended by the Mayor outside of Waimate District Council meetings and general business from 7 June 2025 to 11 July 2025.

Date	Meetings and Functions
9 June 2025	Monday Morning Meeting with Deputy Mayor and Chief Executive – Council
9 June 2025	Meeting with Environment Canterbury Councillors – Council
10 June 2025	Audit and Risk Committee Meeting – Council
13 June 2025	Mayors Taskforce for Jobs Core Group Meeting – via Microsoft Teams
17 June 2025	Infometrics Session for Waimate Council with Brad Olsen – Council
18 June 2025	Local Water Done Well Meeting with Federated Farmers – via Microsoft Teams
23 June 2025	Monday Morning Meeting with Deputy Mayor and Chief Executive – Council
24 June 2025	Catch up with Local Government Minister – via Microsoft Teams
2 July 2025	Alpine Energy Limited Shareholders workshop and Annual General Meeting – Timaru
3 July 2025	Catch up with Waitaki MP Miles Anderson – Waimate
3 July 2025	Local Leadership Groups Discussion with Environment Canterbury Facilitator – Council
4 July 2025	Audit and Risk Chair Interviews – Council
7 July 2025	Monday Morning Meeting with Deputy Mayor and Chief Executive – Council
11 July 2025	Mayors Taskforce for Jobs Waimate Council visit – Council

## RECOMMENDATION

That the Mayor's Report is accepted.



# LGNZ four-monthly report for member councils

// March - June 2025





## Ko Tātou LGNZ.

This report summarises LGNZ’s work on behalf of member councils and is produced three times a year. It’s structured around LGNZ’s purpose: to serve local government by **championing**, **connecting** and **supporting** members.

Please consider putting this report on the agenda for your next council meeting so that all councillors can review it and provide feedback. Sam, Susan or other National Council members are very happy to join council meetings online to discuss the report or any aspect of it – just let us know.

This report complements our regular communication channels, including *Keeping it Local* (our fortnightly e-newsletter), providing a more in-depth look at what we do.

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## Introduction

March to June has been intensely busy for LGNZ, as we advocated around reform and other issues like council metrics/profiles, engaged with the Government, and launched new products and services for members.

In early April, LGNZ launched our new *Local Government Quarterly Economic Insights*. This report is exclusive to member councils. It's designed to ensure elected members are the best-informed people on local government economic data. Developed in partnership with Infometrics, *Insights* will be released quarterly, with the second issue published in early July.

Our Ratepayers Assistance Scheme is advancing in leaps and bounds. The RAS would allow ratepayers to borrow cheaply for ratepayer charges like development contributions/levies and rates postponement, and could be used for specific property improvements (like solar panels). It leverages the high credit quality of local government rates to access capital market financing. Minister Watts has written to LGNZ expressing his support and confirming DIA will begin policy work on RAS in August. As well as successfully securing capital commitments from councils and third parties, we are seeing growing media interest in RAS.

Membership was top of mind during this period. Before Easter we sent out invoices alongside our [value of LGNZ membership report](#). This report provided a comprehensive summary of our advocacy wins over the last year, a specific list of how we save councils money, and a summary of all the other work we do for members. While Western Bay of Plenty voted to leave before invoicing started, all other members have since renewed, with the exception of Waikato Regional Council, which is voting again on membership in July.

Other highlights of these four months included:

- We launched pre-elected learning for anyone considering standing for council. This interactive course steps potential candidates through what it means to be an elected member. It's freely available without an Ākōna log-in and has proved very popular.
- Our well-attended 1 May All-of-local-government meeting, focused on delivering infrastructure for growth, featuring an engaging q+a with Minister Watts. Other speakers included Minister for Building and Construction Chris Penk and Simplicity's Sam Stubbs, as well as the Infrastructure Commission, S&P Global Ratings and the Treasury.
- In June we secured funding from councils to sustain Policy.nz, which otherwise would have ceased to exist. This platform allows candidates to upload their profiles and policies so that voters have easy access to this information.
- We have had strong media engagement on issues of the day – from electoral reform to rates capping and benchmarking and the safety of elected members, as well as facilitating the Candidates Corner pre-election series with the Sunday Star-Times.

We always welcome your comments and feedback.

Ngā mihi  
Sam and Susan



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## Champion

### Government relations

Because our relationships with individual Ministers are now stronger and more mature, we're increasingly able to have robust and constructive discussions with them. For example, on resource management reform and potential implications for local government's functions/structure, rates capping, and ensuring that funding and financing tools announced as part of Pillar 2 of the Going for Housing Growth programme actually deliver the desired outcomes for councils and communities.

We've been staying closely in touch with Minister Watts on benchmarking (including DIA's metrics release) and rates capping through informal discussion and formal meetings, including in late June.

LGNZ met with the Prime Minister in early April and discussed our approach to the rates capping conversation. We all agree that no one wants high rates increases. We all agree that rates rises need to come down. However, we also set out rates capping's potential unintended consequences for councils and ratepayers (see more on rates capping below). We also note that recent rates increases have been driven by the need to fund essential infrastructure and services – and because of the increasing volume of unfunded mandates from central government.

We met again with the Prime Minister for another of regular meetings in early June. We raised cross-portfolio issues such as pressures on growth councils and low voter turnout in local elections.

Voter authorisation of major projects has been floated by several politicians. This refers to running public referenda to make key decisions, like large infrastructure purposes. We will explore with Ministers whether there is any real commitment to this approach from the Government. We'll also have conversations about this idea with members.

We've also begun quarterly meetings with other political parties, which currently in the policy development phase. We met with Labour's local government spokesperson Tangi Utikere and sought cross-party support for our electoral reform work. We also briefed him on LGNZ's funding and financing tools project, and received an update on Labour's "no unfunded mandates" policy work. We had a meeting with the Green Party in June and we are working to lock in dates with NZ First and ACT. We have a date secured with ACT's local government spokesperson for after SuperLocal.

We have requested to meet with the Justice Select Committee to brief them on our electoral reform work after it is launched at SuperLocal

### Media

We have had significant engagement with the media on a range of topics – and are proactive or reactive in our approach depending on the issue at hand.

Late February saw Housing Minister Chris Bishop announce some of the new funding and financing tools we've been calling for, at our Metro and Rural & Provincial sector meetings. This resulted



in stories appearing on [1News](#), [ThreeNews](#), [RNZ](#), [Stuff](#), [NZ Herald](#), [Gisborne Herald](#), [The Press](#), [The Post](#) and the [Waikato Times](#).

The All-of-local-government meeting also saw media cover topics LGNZ has been championing, from talking about alternatives to rates capping and four-year terms to a new stalking bill and housing growth. Local Government Minister Simon Watt's speech and [rates capping](#) took centre stage, with stories on [Newsroom](#), [NBR](#), [BusinessDesk](#), [RNZ](#), [The Press](#) and [The Post](#).

[Four-year terms](#) for local government has been a popular discussion point. Sam appeared on [Mike Hosking breakfast](#) on [Newstalk ZB](#) to discuss the issue, with his comments included in [The Post](#) and [Waikato Times](#). Mayors Alex Walker and Hon Dr Nick Smith also publicly addressed the issue via the [NZ Herald](#), [1News](#) and [95bFM](#).

Then in March the release of LGNZ's Electoral Reform Working Group's (ERWG) [draft position paper](#) swiftly become one of local government's biggest stories this year. Media were intrigued by the proposed move to booth voting, with stories appearing in the [Post](#), the [Press](#), [Waikato Times](#), [ODT](#) and [NZ Herald](#), and Mayor Nick speaking with [RNZ](#), [Newstalk ZB](#) (also [here](#)) and on [95bFM](#). The announcement continued to spark debate across [Newstalk ZB](#), the [Post](#) and the [Press](#).

[Rates capping](#) continued to be a topic of discussion, with LGNZ President Sam Broughton speaking to [RNZ](#) and [Newstalk ZB](#) on the recent S&P downgrading decision for 18 councils. Rates capping articles also appeared in the [Press](#), the [Post](#) and [Waikato Times](#), with Mayor Neil Holdom appearing on the [Platform](#).

The stalking and harassment of elected members remains in the spotlight. In February LGNZ Chief Executive Susan Freeman-Greene and Invercargill councillor Alex Crackett spoke with [Stuff/ThreeNews](#) and [Newstalk ZB](#) about the Government's proposed [stalking legislation](#), with [RNZ](#) also running a story on this issue. In recent weeks LGNZ's position has carried in stories on [1News](#) and [Stuff](#). LGNZ CE Susan Freeman-Greene spoke alongside multiple councillors and Mayors on [TVNZ Breakfast](#) about the impact this has on members. There have been a large number of follow-up stories in April, driven by [a University of Otago study](#), setting out disturbing behaviour experienced by elected members.

LGNZ also weighed in on the [RMA reforms](#), expressing cautious support while signalling to the Government it needs to ensure that communities have a voice and regional councils play a key role in the changes going forward.

In other funding and financing coverage, LGNZ President Sam Broughton spoke with [the Press](#) about LGNZ's position on a bed tax, while also covering how [GST sharing on new builds](#) could help bring rates down.

[Stuff news](#) and [RNZ](#) covered the Te Maruata hui in April.





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We sent out a media toolkit to Mayors, Chairs and CEs when we released our new Infometrics' quarterly economic insights, with ideas on how councils can use this data to encourage local discussion.

Electoral reform has been a hot topic, with Wellington City Council calling for a [lowering of the voting age](#), Invercargill City Council supporting the report's call for improved [civics education](#), and Ashburton District Council [supporting a shift to four-year terms](#) for local and central government. LGNZ partnered with Infrastructure New Zealand to [urge the Government](#) to include a move to four-year terms for local and central government in the referendum.

Susan's announcement about [moving on from LGNZ](#) in August was covered by [the Post](#), [the Press](#) and [NBR](#).

Ex-Grey Power Vice-President Peter Matcham wrote an [opinion piece](#) in April on why a rates cap should be opposed at all costs. Elected member abuse and harassment also continued to dominate the headlines, with stories appearing on [TVNZ](#), [RNZ](#), the [Press](#) and [ODT](#).

LGNZ waded into the truancy debate, with LGNZ President Sam Broughton saying that the Government asking mayors to help lift school attendance doesn't align with its "back to basics" direction for councils. This was a lead story in the [Post](#), [Press](#) and the [Waikato Times](#). Sam also spoke to [ThreeNews](#) about the Government's new scheme to allow self-assessment for some trade work.

[Elected member safety was in the spotlight](#) following our All-of-local-government meeting in May, where we shared [a new guide for members on how to stay safe](#). This media advocacy led to the Remuneration Authority asking us for the guide, to aid their work towards considering an allowance to support elected members' home safety.

LGNZ's oral submission on congestion charging, led by Transport Forum Chair Mayor Neil Holdom, also resulted in a number of stories across various outlets [calling for more local input](#).

Following the Budget, LGNZ spoke out in support of the Government's [Rates Rebate Scheme](#) expansion to cover all SuperGold card holders, and how increased support for [local journalism](#) will positively impact elections later this year.

We've been working closely with the Sunday Star Times on a "Candidates Corner" series detailing key issues ahead of elections. Recent articles covered [rates capping](#) along with the case for and against [council mergers](#), with Mayor Neil Holdom and Mayor Nick Smith sharing their thoughts.

Rates – and the lack of other revenue-raising options for local government – were the focus of [an article by LGNZ Vice President Campbell Barry](#).

LGNZ's [How to stay safe' guide](#) continued to receive positive press in the [Otago Daily Times](#), [Stuff](#), [The Press](#) and [1News](#), while our submission on congestion charging appeared in the [Herald](#) and [RNZ](#). Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs was also in the spotlight, thanks to an article in the [Otago Daily Times](#).



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### Local government funding and financing

#### Ratepayer Assistance Scheme (RAS)

On 21 March, Minister Watts wrote to LGNZ expressing his support for the RAS and confirming DIA will begin policy work on the initiative in August. The Minister has asked LGNZ to update the RAS business case to help the work progress quickly. We are working on this with project partners as well as seeking the necessary council capital commitments. With RM reform meaning a move away from development contributions (more on this below), the RAS could support financing of development levies as an alternative to other structures for this purpose (such as the IFFA). The RAS would be cheaper, more efficient and more flexible than the IFFA.

Since then significant progress has been made towards making a decision to establish the RAS. The RAS Steering group has been meeting with local authorities to affirm support for the RAS and secure establishment funding for the scheme. At the request of the Minister for Local Government, the group has also been meeting with developers to test the scheme's design with them. We have secured preliminary equity pledges from councils, and developers are supportive of the scheme.

We have secured a \$400k repayable grant from the Energy Efficiency & Conservation Authority. We have raised the \$2.5 million to progress to a stop/go decision – and with several councils taking decisions in the next few weeks, we may be a little oversubscribed. This demonstrates the high level of support for the RAS.

DIA continues to engage on the scheme: their substantive policy work is set to begin in August.

#### Infrastructure funding and financing

The Infrastructure Minister announced changes to New Zealand's infrastructure funding and financing settings at our late February All-of-local-government meeting. The Government will replace development contributions with a development levy system, allowing councils to charge developers a share of long-term infrastructure costs. There will be regulatory oversight of these development levies to ensure charges are fair and appropriate. Councils will also have more flexibility to set targeted rates based on the date of subdivision, allowing them to apply to new developments. Finally, the Infrastructure Funding and Financing (IFF) Act will be improved for developer-led projects and expanded to support major transport projects like those led by NZTA.

LGNZ welcomed these changes, which were in our funding and financing toolkit. We will work with officials to ensure these reforms make sense on the ground for councils.

This legislation likely to be introduced in September. DIA is unlikely to issue a substantive consultation on the changes, although they have engaged with technical experts from high-growth councils, and an early draft may be circulated to some individuals for feedback. While DIA is open to input from councils, given the Government's direction there may be limited scope for changes.

We will continue to engage on the development levy regulation when introduced, and with the regulatory regime. We understand this is likely to be in two stages: initial information disclosure requirements, followed by the creation of a regulator (or empowering an existing regulator with oversight of development levies).

We have raised with Under-secretary Simon Court the importance of balancing local democracy and the needs of communities with changes to the Infrastructure Funding and Financing Act. Potential



changes include limiting councils' ability to withhold endorsements of developer-led special purpose vehicles. We also discussed the need to disentangle the proposed new functions of the IFFA with the RAS, thresholds and legal frameworks for regulatory takings under the forthcoming RMA, and our support for ACT's proposed GST-sharing policy.

#### **Budget 2025**

LGNZ was in the Budget lock up so we could [analyse the impact of the Budget on local government](#). There were no significant new local government funding initiatives launched or changes to funding and financing tools. Points of note included the Government:

- Raising the threshold for the rates rebate scheme and increasing the maximum rebate.
- Introducing regionally specific transport funding boosts.
- Announcing new funding for the 2023 North Island weather events recovery.
- Cutting public transport and transport resilience funds.

The Government's accelerated depreciation policy and increases to employer contribution for KiwiSaver will also have impacts for councils.

#### **Local Government Quarterly Economic Insights**

On 7 April, LGNZ launched our new Local Government Quarterly Economic Insights report. This report, developed in partnership with Infometrics, will be produced quarterly and provides insights into the economy with specific relevance to local government. The report is exclusive to LGNZ members and is intended to make sure they are the best-informed people on local government economic data. It will also support LGNZ's policy and advocacy work.

The first edition was well received. There were high levels of engagement in the associated zoom, and we received positive and constructive feedback from members. We then worked with Infometrics on the briefing schedule and the next issue, which was released in early July. We are keen to respond to member feedback, and have identified rates capping, contextualising rates against utilities and other charges, and regional sector specific topics as areas to explore in future editions.

#### **DIA metrics release ("council profiles")**

These profiles, based on a range of metrics taken from LTPs and annual reports, were originally scheduled to be released on 30 June, although this was later delayed. National Council discussed the profiles and associated issues at a special meeting on 30 May.

In May, LGNZ proactively sought changes from DIA based on a range of concerns. As a result of this advocacy:

- DIA shared group medians and the data of other councils within that council's group.
- Each council profile will now link to that council's website (for example, a page with LTP or other plan data) and councils will be able to specify what page.
- The government metrics website and guide will provide specific context about why some councils might be different from the median; for example, being high growth, high tourism, or recovering from a natural disaster.



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While we are pleased that DIA agreed to these changes as a result of our advocacy, we recognise members will remain concerned that there's not enough information about their specific context, including the specific pressures on your council and how you are dealing with them, or what your community gets for this investment.

On 11 June, we released a guide to support councils' communication planning for the launch, which is now expected to be in mid July. We've received positive feedback on the guide from members.

### **Regional deals**

Cabinet announced that the first Regional Deal Memorandum of Understanding will be decided before July (and announcements of the regions selected were subsequently made in early July). These regions will negotiate a final deal, which may require enabling actions to take place. The end of 2025 is the target for signing the deal.

### **Rates capping**

In March, we submitted on a petition before Parliament seeking to limit local authority rates increases to a maximum of the annual inflation rate. We do not expect this petition to progress through Parliament due to its overlap with the Government's local government work programme. However, submitting on the petition was a good opportunity to set out the clear evidence against rates capping and highlight the pressures facing councils to Parliament.

We understand that rates capping was discussed at the Cabinet Economic Policy Committee in the week of 31 March. To support these discussions, LGNZ sent letters to Ministers on this committee highlighting the likely impacts of rates capping on their portfolios and objectives. LGNZ also reiterated concerns about rates capping to the Prime Minister and Minister of Local Government during our regular meetings as discussed above.

In line with direction from the May National Council meeting, we developed a paper on our approach to rates capping, including that a stronger public campaign may be needed, and shared that with members for discussion at this year's AGM. We also held a zoom to help members prepare for the AGM discussion. If the AGM agrees the direction of travel, then we will develop a plan for this campaign and hold an AGM in 2026 to gain a member mandate before launching that campaign.

We have also supported member advocacy against rates capping by developing and distributing a set of messages and a letter template that can be used by elected members.

As part of our advocacy, there needs to be an acknowledgement of the public mood around rates. We also need to clearly set out other approaches to achieving the Government's aims. To take the next step in our advocacy, we want to engage with members on exactly what this response could look like.

### **Water services reform**

During this period, councils were consulting on aspects of their Water Service Delivery Plans with communities. This has included decision making about the future water services delivery model. For many, this has put these reforms (and their implications for councils) in the spotlight. Plans need to be finalised and submitted to the Secretary for Local Government by 3 September 2025. The



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Minister has called for councils to consider including other councils in their delivery model – and has made it clear that extensions of time are unlikely to be granted.

LGNZ made its oral submission to the Finance and Expenditure Committee in March on the Local Government (Water Services) Bill. This submission sought a range of improvements to the legislation to provide greater clarity and certainty for councils. The committee reported back to Parliament on 3 July 2025 and adopted several of our suggested changes. These include: adding supporting growth as an objective for water service providers; clarifying the development contribution provisions to ensure a smoother transition of these for councils who set up water organisations; and clarifying the accountability framework to give water organisations greater separation from shareholding councils (as is the case for other CCOs).

### **Resource management reform**

#### **RMA replacement**

The Government announced further details of its plan to replace the Resource Management Act, following the reporting back of the Expert Advisory Group tasked with designing a “blueprint” for replacement legislation. This has significant implications for local government in a variety of areas. The current RMA will be replaced with a Planning Act and a Natural Environment Act. Both will be enabling of development.

While there is plenty to support in the reforms, there is a significant move towards standardisation and narrowing of the scope of the resource management, which could mean limiting local input into planning and environmental management decisions.

We developed and shared [an explainer](#) identifying key issues for councils, and held an Ako Hour webinar with Buddle Finlay on 16 May. We’ve recently shared an analysis of [what we think councils need from the new system](#) and are seeking member feedback.

Another particular area of note is the implications for regional councils if the proposal to remove compliance, monitoring, and enforcement functions and shift them to a centralised body goes ahead. The Government has noted that this raises questions about the structure and functions of the local government system as a whole, and it will consider this and what should be done to address it later this year.

We have raised the issues flagged above in our regular meetings with Under Secretary Simon Court and Minister Chris Bishop, and are approaching the Ministry for the Environment on how we can work more closely with them as further policy decisions are made.

We’re also working closely with Taituarā, Te Uru Kahika, and the New Zealand Planning Institute on our response to the reforms, particularly on how we can collaborate together to input constructively into the new spatial planning system.

#### **National direction changes**

The Ministry for the Environment has opened consultation on [16 new or changed pieces](#) of National Direction under the RMA. These are in three packages:

- [Package one](#) – infrastructure and development changes (covering electricity generation and network changes, housing changes, and natural hazards)



- [Package two](#) – primary sector changes (covering marine aquaculture, highly productive land, commercial forestry, stock exclusion, and mining and quarrying)
- [Package three](#) – proposals to amend the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 and the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Freshwater) Regulations 2020. Further consultation will be undertaken later this year through an exposure draft process, which will have more detail.

Consultation for the first three packages is open until 11.59pm, Sunday 27 July. We expect a fourth package looking at how the first pillar of the Going for Housing Growth programme could fit into the new resource management system to be consulted on in early June. We're currently reviewing what all this means for councils and will submit on aspects of these proposals.

### Transport

We submitted on the Government's legislation to enable time of use (congestion) charging. While we are highly supportive of time of use charging, we have concerns about the highly centralised model that the Government is proposing, which would see councils having little control of the design or operation of the schemes, and how any revenue from them is spent.

Our Transport Forum met virtually on 12 May. They covered a range of topics: potentially proposing alternatives now that NZTA has halted its proposed emergency works changes; transport perspectives on resource management reform; and an update from the Road Efficiency Group.

Looking ahead, the Government has indicated it will be taking Cabinet decisions on transitioning to Road User Charges for all vehicles this quarter, and we'll be looking closely at the details given the implications it will have for asset management and funding and financing in the transport space.

In April, NZTA announced it would no longer be going ahead with changes to its emergency works funding. These changes would have seen a significant reduction in the additional funding made available to councils to repair transport networks following a natural disaster.

The proposed cuts would have significantly affected local transport networks, particularly in rural areas and other isolated communities, and came at a time where many councils were grappling with the cost of repairing damage caused by the severe weather events of early 2023.

LGNZ advocated strongly on this issue, including through speaking directly with the Minister of Transport and NZTA, submitting on the consultation document, and raising our concerns in the media. NZTA has signalled they will now work on alternative reform options, and we will engage constructively to ensure they land on an option that works for councils.

### Climate change

We engaged with the Climate Change Commission on the second National Climate Change Risk Assessment (NCCRA). The assessment will look at all the climate risks the country faces and identify priorities to focus on. This risk assessment is due to be delivered to the Minister of Climate Change by August 2026 and will inform the Government's National Adaptation Plan.

With the Government's climate adaptation framework set to be released later this year, we are planning member engagement to inform our submission. This legislation is expected to have



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significant impacts for local government and the topic is politically sensitive. Collating and mediating divergent member views will require care.

### **Other policy issues**

#### **Seismic strengthening**

With the work of the Government's review into the seismic strengthening regime progressing at pace, our reference group chaired by Manawātū District deputy mayor Michael Ford met to get an update from the local government representatives on the MBIE steering group, and to start considering LGNZ's submission on the eventual legislation.

#### **Electoral Reform Working Group**

We consulted on the Electoral Reform Working Group's draft position paper, with this closing on Monday 28 April. Engagement included all zone meetings, the Local Government Business Forum, and with members of Auckland Council's local boards.

The Electoral Reform Working Group presented its final recommendations for endorsement by National Council at its May meeting. After National Council agreed to the working group's recommendations, we finalised the position paper. This will be launched at SuperLocal by working group chair Mayor Nick Smith. As well as this plenary session, the working group will host a breakout that explores the final recommendations in depth.

We are now planning post-launch actions, in terms of government relations and concepts like a local government week.

In June we secured funding from councils to sustain Policy.nz, which otherwise would have ceased to exist. The Electoral Reform Working Group's recommendations reinforce the importance of voters being able to access information about candidates and their policies.



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## Connect

### Member visits and zone engagement

We continued our member visits, visiting, Waipa District, Waikato Regional, Waitomo District, Tauranga City, Whanganui District, and Manawatu District during this period as well as connecting with a range of Mayors and CEs.

Sam or Campbell and at least one LT member attended in-person all zone meetings between March and June.

### Women in Local Government

In late February we emailed all women elected members with an update on our work, including a link to a Whatsapp group where they can chat with each other, our advocacy on the anti-stalking legislation and a link to Australian research. More recently we have facilitated media around the threats some women are experiencing, with Susan also providing comment as discussed in the media section above. Minister for Women Nicola Grigg launched a toolkit targeted at women leaders at our 1 May All-of-local-government meeting, which has been positively received.

We are planning a breakfast event ahead of SuperLocal, which has strong registrations. The keynote speaker will be former Minister Tracey Martin.

### All-of-local-government meetings

The 1 May All-of-local-government meeting was the last before the elections. Before the main programme, we held a session on abuse and harassment that elected members are facing. Minister Nicola Grigg will launch her toolkit, and a guest speaker from Reliance Risk covered practical tools and strategies any elected member can use when you're faced with this behaviour in the community. We also launched a toolkit that pulled together all the work we have done on elected member safety and security in the past 18 months, so that it's easy for members to access and use.

The main programme for that meeting focused on delivering infrastructure for growth. Highlights included Minister Watts participating in an engaging q+a with attendees, speakers including Minister for Building and Construction Chris Penk, industry thought leaders such as Infrastructure Commission and Simplicity's Sam Stubbs, as well as speakers from S&P Global Ratings, the Treasury, and the Opposition – alongside a number of high-quality case studies.

We are having early conversations with current sector chairs to plan for the November sector meetings. These sector meetings will be an opportunity to connect as a sector for the first time in the new triennium and vote on sector chairs. There will be time set aside for priority setting, which will feed into subsequent National Council strategy sessions.

The theme for the first All-of-local-government meeting of the new triennium in February will be "Making an impact in our communities – the role of data, collaboration and innovation". We are currently working to secure Sir Brian Roche as our keynote speaker.





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### **SuperLocal25**

We launched promotion and registration for SuperLocal 2025 on 10 April. We have a stellar line up of speakers One NZ's Chief Executive Jason Paris, who will provide his reflections on the value of a strong local government sector to the business community; Google Cloud New Zealand's Natalie de Boursac who heads the local government team and will focus on technology's role in driving efficiencies and high performance; and our final key note speaker Mark Di Somma – a strategist behind LGNZ's first localism campaign. Key political speakers include Deputy Prime Minister David Seymour, Minister Chris Bishop, Minister Simon Watts and Minister James Meager (with Minister Louise Upston speaking to MTFJ), along with the Leader of the Opposition. The Prime Minister will be providing a video.

The programme was finalised in June, with speaker briefings and panel meetings underway. We have a comprehensive breakout programme this year to complement a tightened plenary, with a wide range of topics covering current issues and reforms, driving change, tools for success and benchmarking.

Our three key pieces of LGNZ work launching at Superlocal are an economic data piece which quantifies the contribution of local government's investment to the country's economy; the final recommendations from the Electoral Reform Working Group Chaired by Mayor Nick Smith; and a guide spearheaded by CBEC on improving relationships between councils and community boards.

Sponsorship has been strong despite a difficult economic environment. Similarly, exhibitors have been strong, with booths sold out. We have successfully used all our channels to promote attendance and we are also keeping a close eye on conference costs.

Finalists for the SuperLocal Awards have been announced. We saw an excellent quantity and calibre of entries this year, with the largest category receiving over 20 entries. Winners will be announced at the Awards Night, again sponsored this year by Fulton Hogan. Our judges have been very generous with their time – it has not been a small task to review, score and comment on every entry.

### **2026 events calendar and forward planning**

We have developed a draft events calendar for 2026 that has received National Council feedback and will be circulated to members in July.

### **Vote25**

We updated the Candidates Guide and other material on the Taituarā-hosted VoteLocal website – this has launched with the Ākona pre-elected learning for candidates (discussed further below).

We are rolling out a social media campaign designed to support people to register, stand and vote. This includes a focus on what councils do and why this matters to communities.

We have been engaging with policy.nz, which has struggled to secure funding for its web platform for candidates. We are pleased to report that in June LGNZ coordinated between councils to raise the funding needed to keep the platform in place for the 2025 elections. Policy.nz is the only comprehensive, nationwide source of candidate information that's hosted by a neutral third party. Being able to easily find out information about candidates is an important part of the local



democratic process and policy.nz was identified as a useful tool for voters by our Electoral Reform Working Group.

### **Regional Sector**

The President briefed Chairs, Mayors, and CEs of the Regional Sector in April on his conversation with the PM around potential impacts on local government of RM reform. There was a discussion on the best approach to this issue at the regular LGNZ meeting with Minister Bishop.

The May Regional Sector Meeting focused on the future resource management system, with Secretary for the Environment James Palmer speaking. The meeting also included engagement with the Minister of Conservation, Māori Crown Relations and Māori Development Tama Potaka.

LGNZ has supported planning for Te Uru Kahika's plenary session, which brings together CEs, Chairs and Mayors, and the leaders of the Te Uru Kahika's special interest groups. This will be held on 11 September 2025.

We have been working with the new Chair and co-deputy Chair to help establish them in their new roles. The next Regional Sector meeting will be online on the morning of 8 August. This is likely to focus on the wide range of reforms currently affecting the Regional Sector, including resource management and water.

LGNZ Acting Policy Director Simon Randall will accompany the Regional Sector on their annual pre-conference tour, which will visit the West Coast.

### **Te Maruata**

Te Maruata whānui held an in-person hui in Taupō from 3-4 April with the theme Ngā Maunga Koutuutu. This acknowledges the three tipuna maunga in the rohe and the role they hold in terms of kaitiakitanga. It also references bringing people together to wānanga and share kōrero and insights to support each other. Over 60 Te Maruata members from across the motu attended the event. Speakers included Tina Porou (Poipoia), Sharon Te Rangi (Tainui Live) and Lauren Fletcher (Tūrangitukua Chair) covering kaupapa such as Taiao, Partnership and Elections. Members visited key locations in Taupō including He Whare Hono o Tūwharetoa – a building owned by Tūwharetoa that brings together the Iwi, council and other key agencies under one roof; and Pūkawa Marae, a significant landmark in the connection between Tūwharetoa and the Kiingitanga. The final evening was a celebration of all the great mahi the network has seen over the last triennium, with Trevor Maxwell and Peter Moeahu being inducted into the Te Maruata Hall of Fame.

Te Maruata Rōpū Whakahaere met in April and are working on several key kaupapa, including supporting the development of a plan that spans Vote25, elections and induction, to support Te Maruata members and councils holding referendum. Also top of mind is Te Maruata involvement in the development and delivery of SuperLocal.

Te Maruata Rōpū Whakahaere met again at the end of May for an in-person hui. Several key kaupapa were discussed, including preparations for SuperLocal 25. The Te Maruata pre-conference hui will be held on 15 July at the Christchurch Town Hall, with the theme being Te ngana o Tū te pou o Rongo – which speaks to the balance of all things and how this intersects the roles and responsibilities of Māori elected members.



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Te Maruata rūpū whakahaere will be supporting several aspects of the SuperLocal programme including the whakatau, poroporoaki, awards and breakout sessions.

Also discussed at the hui were opportunities to guide RM reform submissions, the ongoing workplan and the mahi around support heading into elections (specifically around Māori wards referenda), and induction.

### **Young Elected Members Network**

We are producing an induction document for YEM that includes its history, the purpose of the committee, the programme of events and key achievements so far. We are working with the YEM Committee on a plan to release it.

The Young Elected Member Network committee met in early June to sign off the programme for their pre-Conference hui. Former National Minister Paula Bennett and Former Labour Minister Kelvin Davis will be guest speakers.

The committee agreed a fee would apply for all in-person events in the next triennium, apart from the pre-conference hui for member councils. The committee noted that, to stay true to the network's roots, YEM events need to strike the right balance between a structured agenda with time to network and leveraging the safe space YEM has created over the years.

### **Community Boards**

CBEC met in May to discuss a range of issues including their forthcoming guide launch at SuperLocal. CBEC will have a booth in the exhibition space so that this work has maximum visibility and we are working with them on what that will look like.



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## Support

### Ākōna and Induction 2025

The pre-election learning was launched on 14 April. This interactive course steps potential candidates through what it means to be an elected member. It offers three videos, two e-modules and a range of downloadable resources designed to educate potential candidates and offer insight to the general public on the reality of being an elected member. The three animated videos look at: 'Structure of Local Government', 'Roles within a council' and 'How councils are funded'. The two e-modules cover: 'Stepping into Local Leadership: The role of an elected member' and 'Stepping into Local Leadership: The life of an elected member'.

As of mid-June, since the launch of the pre-election learning, the site had received 1,028 views, with 453 people actively accessing the learning. These are very good numbers, especially given registration to run for office did not open until 1 July and interest in elections is only just ramping up. Feedback from councils has been all positive, with those spoken to confirming that they are sharing the links and promoting the learning on their websites.

We have decided to allow non-members to attend Mayors' and Chairs' Schools and elected members induction at a premium rate. We believe this is appropriate from the principle of supporting councils setting themselves up for success at the start of the triennium. Attending helps non-members understand the full breadth of LGNZ's work and makes rejoining more likely. The price differential will be sufficient to avoid disincentivising membership.

Logistics for the Mayor Induction, Chair Induction and EM Induction hui are almost in place with agenda construction nearly finalised.

In other work, development of the Team Builder Toolkit is going well and it's on track for release in August. Development of the 2026 workshop schedule and Ako Hour Academy schedule is also going well, with both due for release in July. Construction of the updated Ākōna site and conversion of the Emodules is nearing completion. The Ākōna team continues to work with councils to ascertain what local content they want added to the Ākōna site.

### Te Korowai – CouncilMARK

In April, we launched the new Te Korowai webpage and digital prospectus, making it easier than ever for councils to explore what the new programme offers and how it can support their improvement journey.

We have already completed three assessments under the new programme,:

- Waikato Regional Council
- Otago Regional Council
- Ōtorohanga District Council

In May, we were on the ground with Central Hawke's Bay District Council for their on-site assessment. Next up, we're excited to launch the Integrity Survey with Marlborough District Council



ahead of their July assessment. This will be our first unitary authority to participate under the refreshed Te Korowai banner. Central Otago District Council is also preparing for its assessment in August.

Undertaking an assessment during an election year provides multiple benefits: it supports operational continuity, offers valuable insights for incoming elected members, and gives councils a clear, independent view of how they're tracking—like a 'warrant of fitness' for local government.

For councils not ready to commit to a full assessment, Te Korowai also offers staged entry options. A great starting point is the Integrity Survey. This tool goes beyond traditional engagement surveys by assessing how well strategy and values are aligned across the organisation, including with elected members. It's also an effective early intervention tool for identifying issues before they escalate.

Other staged options allow councils to focus on specific areas—for example, a targeted assessment of financial health.

Te Korowai is presenting at SuperLocal as part of two breakout sessions.

### **Roading Efficiency Group**

The Road Efficiency Group (REG) programme is now in its 10th year of LGNZ involvement, and is coming to the end of this financial year's work plan. We are proud to be a Roothing Efficiency Group (REG) partner and will continue to support the 2024-2027 programme.

We have worked hard to further develop the REG relationship and ensure alignment with our Transport Forum and add value where we can.

Our involvement provides increased support for the sector, and over the past five months we have seen significant increased activity in the REG programme. We are planning to develop an online platform for REG, which involves developing an online learning solution for REG and migrating all the historical content over the course of the next two years to Ākōna.

REG is presenting at Conference as part of two breakout sessions.

### **Governance support**

We are currently supporting several councils to navigate sensitive issues, albeit on the sidelines given we have not formally been asked by the council to intervene. Alongside this work are the numerous calls we receive for general advice and support.

Work continues on updating LGNZ's suite of governance guides. The first products of the shelf were the Standing Orders' templates and the Standing Orders' Guide. The templates and Guide were updated to reflect legislative changes made over the last three years and to incorporate additional guidance where this has been requested, for example, information on workshops following advice from the Ombudsman and clarity on the new quorum rules.

Other guides to be updated include:

- Guidance for new mayors and chairs;



- 
- The community boards' governance guide (this will also include the council/community board relationship guide when complete);
  - The tax guide for elected members; and
  - The CE Recruiting Guide.

LGNZ has received a number of queries from councils about whether our Code of Conduct template will be updated. We have plans to streamline the Code of Conduct template, based on feedback from users. However, the Local Government Commission has been charged with developing a model Code of Conduct, and there may be further changes as a result of the LGA amendment bill due to be introduced in the middle of the year. So our template update is on hold until the picture is clearer.

Work is also underway on a Guide to help councils determine governance and decision-making structures. This Guide is intended to assist councils to look at the pros and cons of different governing arrangements, such as the pros and cons of establishing committees, whether committees should have delegated responsibilities, or simply be advisory, and whether they should be committees of the whole, or not.



**10 DEPUTY MAYOR'S REPORT****10.1 DEPUTY MAYOR'S REPORT**

**Author:** Karalyn Reid, Committee Secretary and PA to the Mayor

**Authoriser:** Michelle Jones, Executive Support Manager

**Attachments:** Nil



*OTOP Meeting & Farewell*



*Main School Speech Competition*



*LWDW Consultation Chat*



*St Patricks School Presentations*

**EXTERNAL MEETINGS & FUNCTIONS ATTENDED BY THE DEPUTY MAYOR**

To present for the information of Council a register of external meetings and functions attended by the Deputy Mayor outside of Waimate District Council meetings and general business from 7 June 2025 to 11 July 2025.

Date	Meetings and Functions
9 June 2025	Monday Morning Meeting with Mayor and Chief Executive – Council
9 June 2025	Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora Zone Committee Meeting / Farewell – Timaru
10 June 2025	Audit and Risk Committee Meeting (Acting Chair) – Council
10 June 2025	Canterbury Water Management Strategy Zone Committee Update from Canterbury Mayoral Forum – Microsoft Teams
11 June 2025	Judge Main School Speech Competition – Waimate

12 June 2025	Local Water Done Well Community Chat Session at kiosk outside New World – Waimate
13 June 2025	Civic Services Annual General Meeting as Council delegate – via Microsoft Teams
17 June 2025	Infometrics Session for Waimate Council with Brad Olsen – Council
23 June 2025	Monday Morning Meeting with Mayor and Chief Executive – Council
24 June 2025	Catch up with Local Government Minister – via Microsoft Teams
27 June 2025	Present Duffy Books and other awards at St Patricks School – Waimate
2 July 2025	Alpine Energy Limited AGM – via Microsoft Teams
4 July 2025	Audit and Risk Chair Interviews – Council
11 July 2025	Riskpool Webinar – online

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Deputy Mayor's Report is accepted.



**11 COUNCILLORS' REPORT****11.1 COUNCILLORS' REPORT**

**Author:** Karalyn Reid, Committee Secretary and PA to the Mayor

**Authoriser:** Michelle Jones, Executive Support Manager

**Attachments:** Nil

**PURPOSE**

To present for the information of Council a register of external meetings and functions attended by Councillors outside of Waimate District Council meetings and general business from 7 June 2025 to 11 July 2025.

<b>Cr John Begg</b>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Meetings and Functions</b>
10 June 2025	Audit and Risk Committee Meeting (as observer) – Council
10 June 2025	Waimate2gether Annual General Meeting – Waimate
27 June 2025	Infometrics Session for Waimate Council with Brad Olsen – Council

<b>Cr Peter Collins</b>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Meetings and Functions</b>
12 June 2025	Local Water Done Well Community Chat Session at kiosk outside New World – Waimate
17 June 2025	Infometrics Session for Waimate Council with Brad Olsen – Council
27 June 2025	Met with ratepayer post LTP Submission Hearings – Waimate

<b>Cr Sandy McAlwee</b>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Meetings and Functions</b>
10 June 2025	Audit and Risk Committee Meeting (as observer) – Council
17 June 2025	Infometrics Session for Waimate Council with Brad Olsen – Council

<b>Cr Tom O'Connor</b>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Meetings and Functions</b>
10 June 2025	Audit and Risk Committee Meeting – Council
17 June 2025	Infometrics Session for Waimate Council with Brad Olsen – Council
4 July 2025	Audit and Risk Chair Interviews – Council

<b>Cr Lisa Small</b>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Meetings and Functions</b>
10 June 2025	Audit and Risk Committee Meeting (as observer) – Council
12 June 2025	Local Water Done Well Community Chat Session at kiosk outside New World – Waimate
12 June 2025	AI Webinar hosted by NZ Initiative and LGNZ - remote
17 June 2025	Infometrics Session for Waimate Council with Brad Olsen – Council
23 June 2025	Biodiversity Champions Meeting – Microsoft Teams

<b>Cr Rick Stevens</b>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Meetings and Functions</b>
10 June 2025	Audit and Risk Committee Meeting – Council
10 June 2025	Waimate Historical Society Board Meeting – Waimate
15 June 2025	Waimate Historical Society AGM – Waimate
15 June 2025	Local Water Done Well Community Chat Session – Waimate
17 June 2025	Infometrics Session for Waimate Council with Brad Olsen – Council
18 June 2025	Waimate2gether Board Meeting – Waimate
19 June 2025	Meeting with the Chief Executive and Fonterra on Economic Development – Waimate
26 June 2025	Waimate Historical Society Special Board Meeting – Waimate
25 June 2025	Waimate2gether AGM – Waimate
4 July 2025	Audit and Risk Chair Interviews – Council
8 July 2025	Waimate Historical Society Board Meeting – Waimate

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Councillors' Report is accepted.

**12 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT****12.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ACTIVITY REPORT**

**Author:** Stuart Duncan, Chief Executive

**Authoriser:** Stuart Duncan, Chief Executive

**Attachments:** Nil

**PURPOSE**

1. To inform the Council of the Chief Executive's activities.

**MEETINGS AND FUNCTIONS ATTENDED**

2. Meetings and functions attended by the Chief Executive from 7 June to 11 July 2025:

Date	Meetings and Functions
9 June 2025	South Canterbury Chief Executive Local Water Done Well meeting – Microsoft Teams
16 June 2025	Alpine Energy Director interviews – Timaru
19 June 2025	Economic development meeting with Fonterra and Cr Rick Stevens – Council office
24 June 2025	Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting paper on rates capping – via Zoom
26 June 2025	South Canterbury Chief Executive Local Water Done Well meeting – Microsoft Teams
3 July 2025	South Canterbury Chief Executive Local Water Done Well meeting – Microsoft Teams
10 July 2025	South Canterbury Chief Executive Local Water Done Well meeting – Microsoft Teams

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Chief Executive's Activity Report is accepted

**13 COUNCIL ACTIONS REPORT****13.1 OUTSTANDING COUNCIL ACTIONS REPORT - PUBLIC**

**Author:** Karalyn Reid, Committee Secretary and PA to the Mayor

**Authoriser:** Michelle Jones, Executive Support Manager

**Attachments:** 1. Outstanding Council Actions Report - Public [↓](#) 

**PURPOSE**

For the Outstanding Council Actions Report – Public to be presented for the information of Council.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Outstanding Council Actions Report – Public is accepted.

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 23-Apr-24	Duncan, Stuart	General Reports	Licence to use Response Assets (Fire and Emergency New Zealand)
<b>RESOLUTION 2024/52</b>			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the License to Use Response Assets (Fire and Emergency New Zealand) report is accepted; and</li> <li>2. That Council recommends that the Chief Executive negotiate the transfer of debt and that the appliance remains in community if possible; and</li> <li>3. That Council delegates the Chief Executive to negotiate directly with Fire and Emergency New Zealand.</li> </ol>			
			<b>CARRIED</b>
<b>Note:</b>			
11 Jun 2025: Currently under negotiation by the Chief Executive.			

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 28-Jan-25	White, Stacey	General Reports	St Andrews Closed Landfill Assessment of Remedial Options
<b>RESOLUTION 2025/20</b>			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the St Andrews Closed Landfill Assessment of Remedial Options report, together with the St Andrews Assessment of Remedial Options Report (under separate cover) is accepted for finalisation by Environment Canterbury, as presented; and</li> <li>2. That Council seeks advice and information on the implications of the report and agrees that staff seek joint conversations with all stakeholders on possible remediation options.</li> </ol>			
			<b>CARRIED</b>
<b>Note:</b>			
11 Jul 2025: Remedial Action Plan and letter summarising risks from the St Andrews Beach landfill received from Environment Canterbury 1 July 2025. Asset Manager scheduled to meet with Environment Canterbury and the Ministry for the Environment 18 July 2025 to discuss situation after the last funded work, options available and pathways to utilise the Contaminated Sites and Vulnerable Landfill Fund, and where organisations are sitting with respect to progressing remediation.			

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 30-Jun-25	Stevenson, Tina	General Reports	Resolution to Set Rates for 2025/26
<b>RESOLUTION 2025/68</b>			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the Resolution to Set Rates for 2025/26 report be accepted; and</li> <li>2. Waimate District Council resolves to set and assess rates under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, on rating units in the district for the financial year commencing 1 July 2025 and ending 30 June 2026, as follows; and</li> </ol>			
<b>District Rates 2025/26</b>			
<b>Note:</b>			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a Values (such as Capital Value and units) use estimates for 2025/26 as close as possible to 30 June 2025.</li> <li>b All monetary values throughout the tables within this resolution are GST inclusive.</li> </ol>			

Council is setting rates for the 2025/26 rating year in accordance with the Long Term Plan 2025/26 and the Funding Impact Statement as follows:

	<b>Annual Plan 2025/26</b>
<b>General Rates</b>	
1. General Rates	\$3,344,042
	<b>\$3,344,042</b>
<b>Targeted Services</b>	
2. Civic Amenities Rate - Targeted differential	4,829,452
3. Roding and Footpaths	3,921,924
4. Civil Defence	251,136
5. Sewer	1,015,417
6. St Andrews Sewer	14,935
7. Waste Collection	1,419,128
8. Recycling Drop-off	145,745
9. Rural Water Schemes (excluding Downlands)	2,741,116
10. Urban Water	1,582,226
11. Downlands Rural Water Supply	633,631
	<b>\$16,554,708</b>
<b>Targeted Community Rates</b>	
12. Waimate Event Centre	220,020
13. Community Halls	67,762
	<b>\$287,782</b>
<b>Total Rates</b>	<b>\$20,186,532</b>

Total rates of \$20,186,532 will be payable in four equal instalments.

**General Rate**

A general rate is set as a rate in the dollar on the capital value of every Urban, Rural 1, Rural 2, Electricity generators and other transmission providers, and Forestry operators and forest blocks rating unit in accordance with the Rating Boundary Map for the Waimate District, assessed on a differential basis. The differential is based on land use for Electricity generators and other transmission providers, and Forestry operators and forest blocks or, for Urban, Rural 1, and Rural 2, where the land is situated and is classified as either Urban, Rural 1, or Rural 2. The Rating Boundary Map is available for inspection at the Council office, 125 Queen Street, Waimate.

**Differential**

The General Rates required from each differential sector is calculated on an activity-by-activity basis as described in the Funding Needs Analysis.

The object of including a differential in the General Rate is to achieve a fair and equitable distribution of the general rate between categories of land having regard to meeting the current and future needs of the community for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses by providing infrastructure, services, and performance that are: efficient, and effective, and appropriate to present and anticipated future circumstances.

A component of the general rate requirement is funded by investment returns. In the case of negative differential, the activities' funding requirement is less than the investment returns applicable to that type of land use.

<b>General Rate</b>	<b>Differential Factor</b>	<b>General Rate Per Dollar of Capital Value for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>	<b>Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>
Urban	1.00	\$0.0011590	\$ 1,110,994
Rural 1	0.43	\$0.0004989	\$ 1,894,065
Rural 2	0.39	\$0.0004529	\$ 307,029
Electricity generators and other transmission providers	0.07	\$0.0000785	\$ 31,954
<b>Total Revenue</b>			<b>\$ 3,344,042</b>

## Targeted Rates

### Civic Amenities Rate

The Civic Amenities Rate contributes towards the funding of the following activities:

- . Community Representation
- . Community Property (Public Toilets)
- . Library
- . Cemeteries
- . Parks and Public Spaces
- . Swimming
- . Waste Management (Resource Recovery Park Operation)

The Civic Amenities Rate is set and assessed, for Electricity generators and other transmission providers, and Forestry operators and forest blocks, on land use, for Business 1 and Business 2 rating units, as defined in the Waimate District Plan, or for Urban, Rural 1, and Rural 2 on each separately used or inhabited parts of a rating unit (as defined above).

### Differential

The Civic Amenities Rate is assessed on a differential basis. The differential is based on land use for Electricity generators and other transmission providers, Large Industrials, and Forestry operators and forest blocks, definition of Business 1 or Business 2 within the Waimate District Plan or, for Urban, Rural 1, and Rural 2, where the land is situated and is classified as either Urban, Rural 1, or Rural 2. The Civic Amenities Rates required from each differential sector is calculated on an activity-by-activity basis as described in the Funding Needs Analysis.

The object of including a differential in the Civic Amenities Rate is to achieve a fair and equitable distribution of the targeted rate between categories of land having regard to meeting the current and future needs of the community for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses by providing infrastructure, services, and performance that are: efficient, and effective, and appropriate to present and anticipated future circumstances.

	Differential Factor	Civic Amenities Rate for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)	Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)
<b>Civic Amenities Rate</b>			
Urban (On SUIP)	1.00	\$ 1,254.60	\$ 2,272,055
Rural 1 (On SUIP)	0.93	\$ 1,169.80	\$ 2,061,265
Rural 2 (On SUIP)	0.89	\$ 1,119.80	\$ 321,388
Business 1 and Business 2 (On per rating unit)	0.34	\$ 431.20	\$ 34,926
Electricity generators and other transmission providers (On capital value)	0.0000002	\$0.0002976	\$ 121,079
Large Industrials (On capital value)	0.0000001	\$0.0001314	\$ 15,856
Forestry operators and forest blocks (On capital value)	0.0000001	\$0.0001005	\$ 2,883
<b>Total Revenue</b>			<b>\$ 4,829,452</b>



**Roading and Footpaths Rate**

The Roothing and Footpaths targeted rate is set as a rate in the dollar on the capital value of every Urban, Rural 1, Rural 2, Electricity generators and other transmission providers, and Forestry operators and forest blocks rating unit in accordance with the Rating Boundary Map for the Waimate District, assessed on a differential basis. The differential is based on land use for Electricity generators and other transmission providers, and Forestry operators and forest blocks or, for Urban, Rural 1, and Rural 2, where the land is situated and is classified as either Urban, Rural 1, or Rural 2.

**Differential**

The Targeted Rates required from each differential sector is calculated on an activity-by-activity basis as described in the Funding Needs Analysis.

The object of including a differential in the Roothing and Footpaths Rate is to achieve a fair and equitable distribution of the targeted rate between categories of land having regard to meeting the current and future needs of the community for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses by providing infrastructure, services, and performance that are: efficient, and effective, and appropriate to present and anticipated future circumstances.

	Differential Factor	Targeted Rate for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)	Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)
<b>Roothing and Footpaths Targeted Rate</b>			
Urban	1.00	\$0.0004030	\$ 386,333
Rural 1	1.61	\$0.0006477	\$ 2,458,803
Rural 2	1.46	\$0.0005867	\$ 397,707
Electricity generators and other transmission providers	2.95	\$0.0011875	\$ 483,210
Forestry operators and forest blocks	16.94	\$0.0068279	\$ 195,871
<b>Total Revenue</b>			<b>\$ 3,921,924</b>

**Civil Defence Rate**

The Civil Defence targeted rate is set as a rate in the dollar on the capital value of every Urban, Rural 1, Rural 2, and Electricity generators and other transmission providers rating unit in accordance with the Rating Boundary Map for the Waimate District, assessed on a differential basis. The differential is based on land use for Electricity generators and other transmission providers or, for Urban, Rural 1, and Rural 2, where the land is situated and is classified as either Urban, Rural 1, or Rural 2.

**Differential**

The Targeted Rates required from each differential sector is calculated on an activity-by-activity basis as described in the Funding Needs Analysis.

The object of including a differential in the Civil Defence Rate is to achieve a fair and equitable distribution of the targeted rate between categories of land having regard to meeting the current and future needs of the community for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses by providing infrastructure, services, and performance that are: efficient, and effective, and appropriate to present and anticipated future circumstances.

	Differential Factor	Targeted Rate for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)	Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)
<b>Civil Defence Targeted Rate</b>			
Urban	1.00	\$0.0000272	\$ 26,118
Rural 1	1.61	\$0.0000440	\$ 167,005
Rural 2	1.47	\$0.0000399	\$ 27,072
Electricity generators and other transmission providers	2.79	\$0.0000760	\$ 30,940
<b>Total Revenue</b>			<b>\$ 251,136</b>

**Sewer Rate**

The Sewer targeted rate is set based on the provision or availability of service provided to the rating unit. The Sewer targeted rate is differentiated based on the connection or the number of water closets available and contributes towards the funding of the Sewerage and Sewage activity as follows:

- a) Serviced - The number of connections (within each rating unit) to the Council's sewer reticulation system
- b) Unserviced - Rating units not connected to the Waimate sewer scheme but where the service is available/provided
- c) Number of water closets within a Rating Unit (with more than 2 but less than 11 water closets) per water closet
- d) Number of water closets within a Rating Unit (11 or more water closets) per water closet

<b>Sewer Targeted Rate</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Differential Factor</b>	<b>Sewer Rate for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>	<b>Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>
Sewer Serviced	a) Serviced - The number of water closets and urinals (for a residential unit or with 2 or less within each rating unit) to the Council's sewer reticulation system	1.00	\$ 479.60	\$ 866,643
Sewer Unserviced	b) Unserviced - Rating units not connected to the Waimate sewer scheme but where the service is available/provided	0.50	\$ 239.80	\$ 31,654
Sewer Multi 1	c) Number of water closets and urinals within a Rating Unit (with more than 2 but less than 11 water closets and urinals) per water closet and urinal	0.80	\$ 383.70	\$ 65,610
Sewer Multi 2	d) Number of water closets and urinals within a Rating Unit (11 or more water closets and urinals) per water closet and urinal	0.60	\$ 287.80	\$ 51,509
<b>Total Revenue</b>				<b>\$ 1,015,417</b>

**St Andrews Sewer Rate**

The St Andrews Sewer targeted rate is set based on the service provided to the rating unit and charged per applicable rating unit. A list of applicable rating units is available for inspection at the Council office, 125 Queen Street, Waimate. The St Andrews Sewer targeted rate contributes towards the funding of the Sewerage and Sewage activity as follows:

<b>St Andrews Sewer Rate</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Sewer Rate for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>	<b>Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>
St Andrews Sewer	Extent of provision of service	\$ 266.70	\$ 14,935
<b>Total Revenue</b>			<b>\$ 14,935</b>

**Waste Collection Rate**

The Waste Collection targeted rate is set based on the provision of service provided to the rating unit and contributes towards the funding of the Waste Management activity as follows:

- a) Standard set of bins consisting of: 240 litre organics bin collected weekly, 240 litre recycling bin collected fortnightly, 140 litre rubbish bin collected fortnightly and 45 litre glass recycling crate collected weekly to those rating units receiving the service.
- b) Large set of bins consisting of: 240 litre organics bin collected weekly, 240 litre recycling bin collected fortnightly, 240 litre rubbish bin collected fortnightly and 45 litre glass recycling crate collected weekly to those rating units receiving the service.

A map of the mandatory waste collection areas is available for inspection at the Council office, 125 Queen Street, Waimate.

<b>Waste Collection Targeted Rate</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Differential Factor</b>	<b>Targeted Rate for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>	<b>Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>
Waste Collection - Standard	a) Serviced Rating Units	1.00	\$ 485.90	\$ 1,334,767
Waste Collection - Large	b) Serviced Rating Units	1.16	\$ 565.90	\$ 59,420
Additional Organic Bin (240 lt)	Upon request to serviced rating units	0.27	\$ 130.00	\$ 3,120
Additional Recycling Bin (240 lt)	Upon request to serviced rating units	0.12	\$ 60.00	\$ 3,000
Additional Rubbish Bin (140 lt)	Upon request to serviced rating units	0.31	\$ 152.00	\$ 1,824
Additional Glass Recycling Crate (45 lt)	Upon request to serviced rating units	0.06	\$ 27.00	\$ 81
Additional Rubbish Bin (240 lt)	Upon request to serviced rating units	0.48	\$ 232.00	\$ 15,776
Glass Recycling Bin (240 lt)	Upon request to serviced rating units	0.12	\$ 60.00	\$ 1,140
<b>Total Revenue</b>				<b>\$ 1,419,128</b>

**Recycling Drop-off Service Rate**

The Recycling targeted rate is set according to the provision or availability of service provided to the rating unit for any SUIPs not receiving a Waste Collection Service and contributes towards the funding of the Waste Management activity as follows:

SUIP not receiving a Waste Collection Service but provided with a recycling drop off point.

<b>Recycling Drop-off Service Rate</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Differential Factor</b>	<b>Targeted Rate for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>	<b>Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>
Recycling Drop-off Service	SUIP not receiving a Waste Collection Service but provided with a recycling drop off point.	1.00	\$ 120.60	\$ 145,745
<b>Total Revenue</b>				<b>\$ 145,745</b>

**Rural Water Rate**

The Rural Water supply targeted rates are set based on the water allocation provided to each rating unit. The rate is assessed on a per litre of water supplied per day and contributes towards the funding of the water supplied to the Cannington-Motukaika, Hook-Waituna, Lower Waihao, Otaio-Makikihi, Waihaorunga and Waikakahi rural water schemes included in the Rural Water activity as follows:

<b>Rural Water Scheme</b>	<b>Targeted Rate Per Litre for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>	<b>Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>
Cannington-Motukaika	\$ 0.4122	\$ 162,534
Lower Waihao normal supply	\$ 0.6015	\$ 575,885
Otaio-Makikihi	\$ 0.4477	\$ 460,691
Waihaorunga	\$ 0.8667	\$ 267,248
Waikakahi	\$ 0.6333	\$ 690,299
Hook-Waituna domestic supply	\$ 0.3630	\$ 574,601
Hook-Waituna irrigation supply (55%)	\$ 0.1997	\$ 9,857
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>\$ 2,741,116</b>

**Urban Water Rate**

The Urban Water targeted rate is set based on the provision or availability of service provided to the rating unit in the township of Waimate. The Urban Water targeted rate is differentiated based on the connection and contributes towards the funding of the Urban Water activity as follows:

- a) Serviced - The number of connections (within each rating unit) to the Council's urban water reticulation system
- b) Unserviced - Rating units not connected to the Waimate urban water scheme but where the urban water reticulation is available for connection

<b>Targeted Rate</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Differential Factor</b>	<b>Targeted Rate for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>	<b>Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>
Water Scheme Urban	a) Serviced - The number of connections (within each rating unit) to the Council's urban water reticulation system	1.00	\$ 752.00	\$ 1,546,881
Water Scheme Urban Vacant	b) Unserviced - Rating units not connected to the Waimate urban water scheme but where the urban water reticulation is available for connection	0.50	\$ 376.00	\$ 35,344
<b>Total Revenue</b>				<b>\$ 1,582,226</b>

**Downlands Rural Water Supply Rate**

The Downlands water scheme is a Joint Operation between Timaru, MacKenzie and Waimate District Councils. The scheme is managed by Timaru District Council who determine the charge per connection type. Each Council sets the rate for the connections within its district and collects the revenue on behalf of the Joint Operation. The connections are differentiated by location of the rating unit whether within the St Andrews township where a Domestic charge is rated, as opposed to outside the township where a Service charge on the number of connections and Unit/Point charge on the units of water is charged as follows:

	<b>Targeted Rate for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>	<b>Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>
<b>Targeted Rate</b>		
Domestic	\$ 1,270.00	\$ 87,630
Unit/Point	\$ 363.00	\$ 304,739
Service	\$ 907.00	\$ 241,262
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>\$ 633,631</b>

**Waimate Event Centre Rate**

The Waimate Event Centre targeted rate is set on a uniform basis and is assessed on the district wide number of separately used or inhabited parts of a rating unit (as defined above) and funds principal and interest repayments for the Waimate Event Centre loan as follows:

<b>Targeted Rate</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Rate for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>	<b>Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>
Waimate Event Centre	Charged per separately used or inhabited parts of a rating unit	\$ 57.00	\$ 220,020
<b>Total Revenue</b>			<b>\$ 220,020</b>

NOTE: Refer to Council's Rates Remission and Postponement Policy, Remission 11 as published in the Long Term Plan 2025-34 for remissions applicable to the Waimate Event Centre targeted rate.

**Community Halls Rate**

The Hall rates are set on an SUIP basis and are based on where the land is situated in relation to each hall. A map of SUIP's relative to each hall is available for inspection at the Council office, 125 Queen Street, Waimate.

<b>Community Hall</b>	<b>Targeted Rate for 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>	<b>Revenue 2025/26 (GST Inclusive)</b>
St Andrews Hall	\$ 40.00	\$ 6,440
Ikawai Memorial Hall	\$ 40.30	\$ 4,232
Arno Hall	\$ 28.80	\$ 3,168
Waihaorunga Hall	\$ 51.10	\$ 3,168
Glenavy Hall	\$ 46.00	\$ 10,856
Hunter Hall	\$ 50.00	\$ 4,000
Southburn Hall	\$ 70.00	\$ 5,600
Studholme Hall	\$ 28.80	\$ 1,901
Hook Hall	\$ 57.50	\$ 3,623
Kurow Memorial Hall	\$ 25.00	\$ 3,000
Willowbridge Hall	\$ 70.00	\$ 4,130
Waituna Creek Hall	\$ 35.00	\$ 4,690
Makikihi Hall	\$ 52.00	\$ 2,964
Lyalldale Hall	\$ 40.00	\$ 1,360
Bluecliffs Hall	\$ 46.00	\$ 2,346
Maungati Hall	\$ 45.00	\$ 2,835
Cattle Creek Hall	\$ 75.00	\$ 3,450
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>\$ 67,762</b>

**Rating Base**

Number of rating units at end of preceding year	4,401
Total capital value of rating units at end of preceding year	\$ 5,940,523,750
Total land value of rating units at end of preceding year	\$ 3,805,460,000

3. That Council set the following due dates for each instalment, of an equal amount:

	Instalment Period	Instalment Due Date
Instalment 1	1 July 2025 – 30 September 2025	29-Aug-2025
Instalment 2	1 October 2025 – 31 December 2025	28-Nov-2025
Instalment 3	1 January 2026 – 31 March 2026	27-Feb-2026
Instalment 4	1 April 2026 – 30 June 2026	29-May-2026

**Payment of Rates**

Rates shall be payable by cash, or eftpos at the Local Government Centre, 125 Queen Street, Waimate or electronically via the Council website online payment gateway or through the use of Direct Debit, internet or phone banking facilities.

**CARRIED**

**Note:**

16 July 2025: Currently being set and assessed.

**14 HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT****14.1 HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT**

**Author:** Rachel Holley-Dellow, Human Resources Manager

**Authoriser:** Stuart Duncan, Chief Executive

**Attachments:** Nil

**PURPOSE**

1. For the Human Resources Manager to update Council.

**RECRUITMENT**

2. Since the last report, we have recruited a Community and Strategy Group Manager, a Three Waters Technician, and a Road Asset Information Technician. The Waimate Lakes Camping Ground Supervisor, Human Resources Advisor and Accounting Assistant have also been made permanent.
3. We are currently recruiting for a Roading Engineer, and a Cleaning Team Supervisor (following a change proposal), and will soon recruit for a Health and Safety Advisor.
4. The following staff headcount is based on employed staff and does not include any vacancies we are or will be recruiting for (we currently have several vacant positions).

**Staff Headcount**

Date	Total Headcount	Parental Leave	Permanent Full Time*	Permanent Part Time**	Fixed Term	Casual
As at 18/6/2024	80	0	50	21	5	4
As at 18/3/2025	89	1	54	23	7	4
22/7/2025	82	0	51	22	4	5

\* 37.5 hours per week or more

\*\* Less than 37.5 hours per week

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Human Resources Manager's report is accepted.



**15     AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE REPORT**

Nil

**16 GENERAL REPORTS****16.1 APPOINTMENT OF CIVIL DEFENCE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT RECOVERY MANAGERS**

**Author:** Ann Hume, Emergency Management Officer and Health & Safety Advisor

**Authoriser:** Stuart Duncan, Chief Executive

**Attachments:** Nil

**PURPOSE**

1. To provide the relevant information to enable Council to consider the appointment of Nicole Timney and Dylan Murray as Recovery Managers.

**BACKGROUND**

2. The Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Act (2002) s64 (1) states a local authority must plan and provide for civil defence emergency management within its district, s64 (2) states a local authority must ensure that it is able to fully function, even though this may be at a reduced level, during and after an emergency.
3. A critical part of planning is the legislated role of a Local Recovery Manager. The Local Recovery Manager begins and integrates the recovery process during the initial response phase and ensures the recovery process is integrated into the response. The Recovery Manager has widespread powers during a notified transition period.
4. Waimate District Council currently has no Local Recovery Manager.

**Nicole Timney**

5. As a member of the Waimate District Council Leadership team, Nicole is responsible for delivering high quality policy and community planning advice, statutory planning for Council's Annual Plans, Long Term Plans, and Annual Reports and promoting the health and wellbeing of the community through the delivery of community-centric services such as the Library and Event Centre operations.
6. Nicole is CIMS Level 2 trained and has been involved in emergency response in previous roles on many occasions in high health and safety environments.
7. Nicole's core roles have involved leadership of highly trained professionals in the construction industry, collaborating and directing large scale horizontal and vertical builds of high dollar value. She naturally connects people to outcomes and has undertaken senior leadership roles for many years, where her skill sets have involved analysing situations, outlining a task or tasks for groups of people, detailing the actions required and then collating and working on outcomes. Nicole is familiar with and used to working on long term projects.

**Dylan Murray**

8. Dylan is employed by Council as Regulatory and Compliance Group Manager, and currently has the responsibility of Emergency Management.
9. Prior to joining Waimate District Council in November 2023, Dylan worked for New Zealand Police for 30 years, most of the time in South Canterbury. Whilst the Officer in Charge of Prevention for the Aoraki Policing Area, he represented Police on the Mid-South Canterbury Civil Defence Co-ordinating Committee.
10. Dylan has performed the Police Liaison role during emergency events that activated CDEM operations in Timaru and Waimate (predominantly flood events).

CDEM qualifications/background:  
Emergency Operations Centre – Level II & III (2009-2018)  
CIMS Level IV – SARNZ (2017)

Relevant New Zealand Police qualification:  
Strategic Leadership Programme 2021

## PROPOSAL

11. For Council to confirm the appointment of Nicole Timney and Dylan Murray as Local Recovery Managers.
12. Following Council's approval, the appointment of Nicole Timney and Dylan Murray will be confirmed by Canterbury's Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Joint Committee.

## Options

13. That Council approves the appointment of Nicole Timney and Dylan Murray as Civil Defence Emergency Management Local Recovery Managers or;
14. That Council declines the appointment of Nicole Timney and Dylan Murray as Civil Defence Emergency Management Local Recovery Managers.

## ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

15. This matter is not deemed significant under the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

## CONSIDERATIONS

### Legislation

16. The Civil Defence Emergency Management Act (2002) s64 (1, 2).

### FINANCIAL

17. There will be no change to existing financial obligations.

### Cost-effectiveness

18. Cost-effectiveness consideration has been applied in relation to the appointments (replacements). The new Local Recovery Managers will undertake training applicable to the role with a mix of training offered nationally and locally.

## RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Appointment of a Civil Defence Emergency Management Local Recovery Manager report be accepted, and
2. That Council approves the appointment of Nicole Timney and Dylan Murray as Civil Defence Emergency Management Local Recovery Managers.

**16.2 WAIMATE DISTRICT CLIMATE RESILIENCE STRATEGY**

**Author:** Andrew Oliver, Climate Change / Biodiversity Officer

**Authoriser:** Dylan Murray, Regulatory and Compliance Group Manager

**Attachments:** 1. Draft Waimate District Climate Change Strategy [↓](#) 

**PURPOSE**

1. For Council to review the draft Waimate District's Climate Resilience Strategy for adoption.

**BACKGROUND****Legal and Policy Context for the Waimate District Climate Resilience Strategy**

2. The Waimate District Climate Resilience Strategy (the Strategy) was developed in response to both global and national commitments to climate action, as well as local needs for resilience and sustainability – be it economic, socio-cultural or environmental. This strategy is shaped by international agreements, national legislation, and community engagement.

**International Framework: The Paris Agreement**

3. New Zealand is a signatory to the Paris Agreement, a landmark global accord adopted in 2015 under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The agreement aims to:
  - (a) Limit global temperature rise to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, while pursuing efforts to limit it to 1.5°C.
  - (b) Strengthen countries' ability to adapt to climate impacts.
  - (c) Align financial flows with low-emission, climate-resilient development.
4. New Zealand ratified the Paris Agreement in 2016, committing to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions by 50% below gross 2005 levels by 2030. This commitment, known as the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), directly informs national and local climate strategies, including the Waimate District.

**National Legal and Policy Framework**

5. The Strategy aligns with several key national laws and plans:
  - (a) Climate Change Response Act 2002 (including the Zero Carbon Amendment Act 2019): Establishes the legal basis for emissions reduction and adaptation planning, including the creation of national emissions budgets and adaptation plans.
  - (b) Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA): Requires local authorities to consider climate change in environmental planning and land use decisions.
  - (c) National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP): These central government strategies provide guidance for local governments to manage climate risks and reduce emissions in line with the Paris Agreement targets.

**Local Government Responsibilities**

6. Under the Local Government Act 2002, councils must promote the well-being of their communities. Climate change affects all aspects of well-being—social, economic, environmental, and cultural—making it a priority for local governance. Through our Climate Resilient Strategy, the Waimate District Council (WDC) can respond by:
  - (a) Assessing local climate risks such as drought, flooding, and biodiversity loss.
  - (b) Integrating climate resilience into infrastructure, land use, and economic planning.
  - (c) Supporting local industries to adapt and thrive in a changing climate.

**Community Engagement and Co-Design**

7. The Strategy was co-developed with the community through workshops, surveys, and stakeholder meetings. Starting in late 2023 through to December 2024, there were 488 individual engagements spread over 10 public engagement opportunities inclusive of the seven Action Plan workshops that culminated in the six Action Plans presented in the final document.
8. 16 expert presenters from the likes of Fonterra, Silver Fern Farms, ANZ, Mana Whenua and in-council Asset Managers shared their knowledge and expertise across a range of subjects in what was essentially *a shadow audit of opportunities* in the district from an *economic, environmental, social and cultural / wellbeing perspective*.
9. A reference group composed of four elected representatives plus an in-house council manager specialist edited each Action Plan for consistency, clarity and alignment. This participatory approach ensured the strategy reflects local values and priorities, including:
  - (a) Promoting climate-resilient industries (e.g., wool, wood, tourism, solar power generation).
  - (b) Building networks for collaboration and knowledge-sharing.
  - (c) Encouraging household-level adaptation and emissions reduction.

**Regional and Global Context**

10. Waimate's Strategy is part of a broader regional effort in Canterbury through the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan (CCPP) of which our council, through the Mayoral Forum, was a key contributor. The CCPP was adopted in late 2024 to address climate hazards at a regional level such as increased hot days, reduced frost days, and rising sea levels. These projections underscore local action in alignment with global goals.

**PROPOSAL**

11. That Council reviews and adopts the Waimate District Climate Resilience Strategy.

**Options**

12. Council either adopts, rejects or edits the current draft document:
  - (a) Adoption factors in the frameworks outlined above and is inclusive of community input.
  - (b) Rejection carries significant financial, legal and policy implications as outlined below.
  - (c) Given the community input into the strategy, editing it may elicit issues around trust and transparency with our ratepayers; and
13. Council considers the establishment of a Climate Resilience Strategy Action Group that allows for a robust and evidence-based approach to enacting the various action points under each Action Plan. This could be coordinated through the employment of an 'Economic Development Officer' tasked with leveraging off the economic opportunities the strategy presents.

**ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

14. This matter is deemed significant in accordance with the Waimate District Council Significant and Engagement Policy 301, specifically 3.6 (implications for Maori), 3.7 (diversity of interest groups within our community), 4.1 (social, cultural, environmental and economic wellbeing), 5.0 (strategic assets).

**CONSIDERATIONS**

15. Not adopting a district climate resilience strategy carries significant financial risks, including increased costs from climate-related disasters. Extreme weather has caused over \$6 billion in claims since 2010 [ICNZ-Annual-Report-Layout-2024-5.pdf](#). Without a proactive strategy, our district may face escalating expenses for disaster relief, infrastructure repair, and emergency services. These costs have the capacity to strain budgets and reduce funds available for other essential services. Additionally, our district may miss out on government funding and investment opportunities tied to climate resilience initiatives over the medium to long term.
16. From a legal standpoint, failing to act on climate risks could expose our district to liability – RMA Section 74 (2e). This could lead to legal challenges from affected residents or businesses, particularly if damage could have been mitigated through known adaptation measures. Moreover, over time and national election cycles, non-compliance with national climate policies or adaptation plans may result in penalties or reduced access to central government support.
17. Economically, the absence of a climate strategy can undermine long-term growth and stability. Climate change threatens productivity across sectors such as agriculture, tourism, and transport—key pillars of many regional economies (Aotearoa New Zealand's first national adaptation plan | Ministry for the Environment). Without adaptation, our district may over time experience reduced investor confidence, higher insurance premiums, and disrupted supply chains. In contrast, regions that embrace climate resilience are more likely to attract investment, foster innovation, and maintain economic competitiveness. Thus, inaction not only increases vulnerability but also limits future economic opportunities.

**Legislation**

18. Climate Change Response Act 2002.
19. Zero Carbon Amendment Act 2019.
20. Resource Management Act 1991.
21. Local Government Act 2002.

**Territorial or Regional Council Regulations, Plans or Bylaws**

22. Canterbury Climate Change Partnership Plan.
23. Climate Change integration into planning, risk management, data collection, and reporting is expected by Audit NZ. Climate change — Office of the Auditor-General New Zealand to which we are held to those standards in the production of our core planning document.
24. While non-binding, the Principles of Government Procurement are used as a general approach to procurement.

**References**

25. [A guide to climate change related obligations of local government authorities](#)
26. [Aotearoa New Zealand's first national adaptation plan | Ministry for the Environment](#)
27. [Climate change — Office of the Auditor-General New Zealand](#)
28. [ICNZ-Annual-Report-Layout-2024-5.pdf](#)
29. [LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2002 - SECT 10 Purpose of local government](#)
30. [Principles of Government Procurement](#)
31. [RELEASE: WRI Study Finds Climate Adaptation Investments Yield Massive Returns — Over \\$10 for Every \\$1 Spent | World Resources Institute](#)
32. [Resource Management Act • Environment Guide](#)

**Risk**

33. The risks of not adopting the Strategy include but are not limited to:

- (a) The Status Quo approach: Being reactive, rather than proactive. Higher long-term costs in response to climate instigated emergencies such as fire or flood events, missed opportunity of obtaining government grants and reduced community resilience.
- (b) Minimal Compliance Approach: Legal risk. Meeting only the bare minimum legal requirements may expose the Council to liability if climate risks are not adequately addressed. Limited integration: Climate considerations may not be embedded in land use, infrastructure, or economic planning. Insurance challenges: Without clear adaptation measures, properties may face rising premiums or become uninsurable.
- (c) Wait-and-See Approach: Increased exposure to climate hazards. Delaying action can leave the district vulnerable to floods, droughts, and other impacts including loss of public trust. Communities may perceive inaction as neglect, especially if climate impacts worsen. Economic stagnation: Businesses may be less willing to invest in areas perceived as unprepared for climate change.
- (d) Informal or Ad Hoc Measures: Lack of coordination. Without a formal strategy, efforts may be fragmented and inefficient, difficulty tracking progress, measuring emissions reductions or resilience improvements becomes challenging, and missed opportunities for collaboration. Regional and national partners may prefer working with districts that have clear plans.

**FINANCIAL**

34. Financial costs and benefits associated with adopting the Strategy are summarised in the table below. A more thorough analysis can be had post-adoption when Action Plan foci and terms of reference are ascertained.

Aspect	With a Climate Resilience Plan	Without a Climate Resilience Plan
<b>Initial Costs</b>	Moderate to high (planning, stakeholder engagement, implementation, monitoring)	Low to none (no upfront investment)
<b>Operational Costs</b>	Ongoing (staffing, updates, adaptation measures)	Potentially lower short-term costs
<b>Damage Costs</b>	Significantly reduced due to proactive adaptation (e.g. flood defences, heatwave planning)	High and increasing over time due to unmitigated climate impacts (e.g. infrastructure damage, health crises)
<b>Insurance Premiums</b>	Potentially lower due to reduced risk	Higher due to increased exposure to climate risks
<b>Economic Stability</b>	Improved resilience attracts investment and reduces business disruption	Economic losses from climate-related disasters and uncertainty
<b>Funding Opportunities</b>	Access to national/international climate funds and grants	Missed opportunities for external funding
<b>Public Health Costs</b>	Reduced due to better air quality, heat mitigation, and emergency preparedness	Increased due to heatwaves, pollution, and extreme weather events
<b>Legal and Regulatory Risks</b>	Lower risk of non-compliance with national/international climate mandates	Higher risk of legal liability and penalties
<b>Long-Term ROI</b>	High (benefit-cost ratios often exceed 1.5)	Negative (cost of inaction often outweighs savings)

**Budget**

35. No provision has been made in Council budgets for addressing the six Climate Resilience Strategy Action Plans.
36. In many respects, key action points would be incorporated into business as usual.

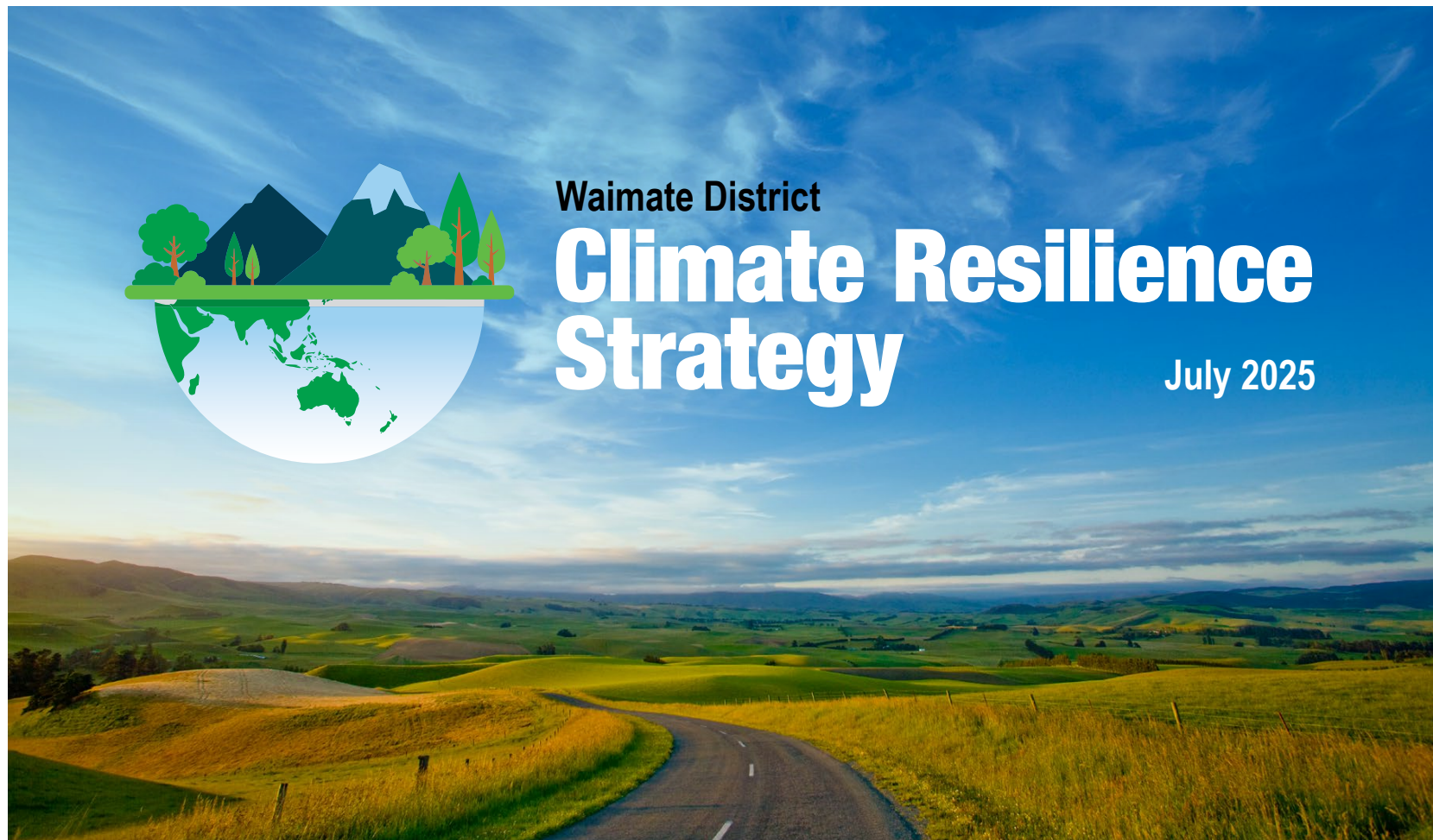
**Cost-effectiveness**

37. Cost effectiveness over time should be considered by Council as part of any decision making.

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the Waimate District Climate Resilience Strategy report is accepted; and
2. That the draft Waimate District Climate Resilience Strategy is adopted as presented, or with amendments; and
3. That Council considers establishing a Climate Resilience Action Group tasked with addressing the various action points within the six Action Plans of the strategy document.





[waimatedc.govt.nz/climate](https://waimatedc.govt.nz/climate)



# Waimate District Climate Resilience Strategy



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DRAFT

## Whakataukī

“He taura whiri  
kotahi mai anō te  
kopunga tai no i te  
pu au.”

*From the source  
to the mouth of the sea,  
all things are joined together  
as one.*

This proverb highlights the interconnectedness of all elements in the environment, a concept crucial to understanding the impacts of climate change across our economy, natural environment, community and personal wellbeing.

## Message from the Mayor



Craig Rowley, Mayor  
Waimate District Council

The world around us is evolving at a remarkable pace, presenting both challenges and opportunities. Our Climate Resilience Strategy represents a pivotal step towards securing a prosperous, sustainable future for the economy, environment, and overall wellbeing of our district's community. Accordingly, this strategy is focused on our district and what is happening at a local level. It gives us an opportunity to work locally to ensure that the Waimate District is in the best possible position moving forward into an ever-changing environment with both challenges and opportunities to be faced together for the security and safety of our district and residents

Climate change stands as one of the most critical issues of our time. Though there remains much to uncover, its effects are already visible in our weather patterns, public health, natural ecosystems, cherished taonga species, mahinga kai, food systems, biosecurity, infrastructure, and economy.

In 2024, through a comprehensive community engagement effort, we undertook a district-wide assessment that underscored a strong local commitment to climate action. By working together, we can shape a brighter future for the Waimate District, unlocking new possibilities as we transition to a low-emission, innovative, and sustainable region.

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The Waimate District Council Climate Resilience Strategy serves as both a roadmap for collective action and a platform for meaningful dialogue. It shifts the focus beyond debates about the existence of climate change to understanding its broader implications and addressing its impacts. By taking this inclusive approach, we aim to enable both mitigation and adaptation efforts across the Waimate District, collaborating closely with neighbouring councils and the Canterbury Region as a whole.

This strategy provides overarching guidance for decision-making and planning related to climate adaptation and mitigation. It envisions a shared responsibility between the Council and the community, working hand-in-hand towards achieving goals that safeguard the wellbeing of our people—today and for generations to come.

By embracing a forward-thinking mindset, we can not only enhance community wellbeing but also generate a ripple effect of positive outcomes. Together, we must acknowledge the challenges ahead and reimagine our district's future amidst a changing climate.

**Now is our opportunity –  
let's seize it together.**

**DRAFT**

Climate Resilience Strategy



Waimate

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## What is climate change?

Climate encompasses the weather patterns of a specific geographic area, the Waimate District is characterized by a generally 'dry' climate. Over the vast timeline of Earth's history, the climate has always been in a state of flux and will continue to change naturally.

The global concern with 'human-induced' climate change, however, arises from its disruptive impact on the relative climate stability that has persisted for the last 10,000 years, following the end of the last ice age. This stability has been a cornerstone for humanity, enabling agriculture to flourish and laying the foundation for civilization as we

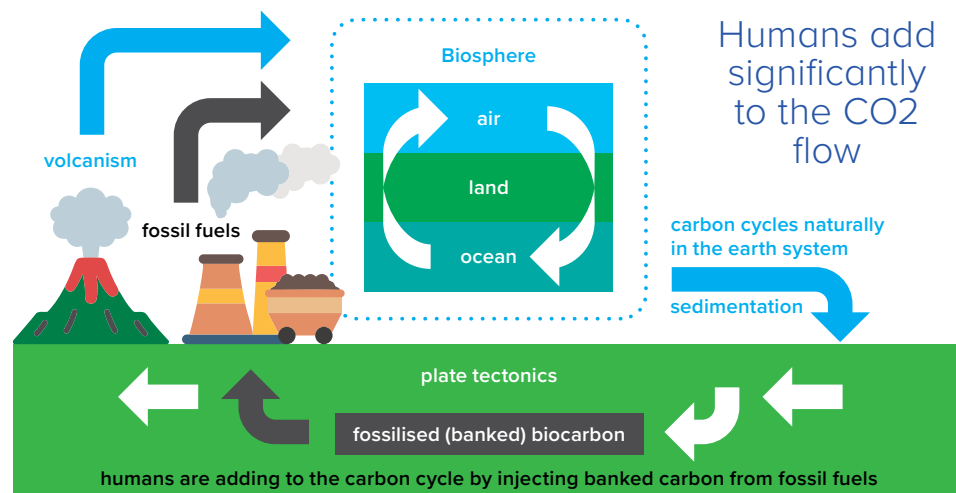
know it. It has provided millennia of economic, environmental, social, and personal security.

Since the mid-1800s, with the advent of the Industrial Revolution, humans have been extracting and burning 'banked' carbon stored in fossil fuels. This process releases greenhouse gases – specifically carbon dioxide gas (CO<sub>2</sub>), which trap more of the Sun's energy that would otherwise escape into space, resulting in a warming effect on both the atmosphere and oceans.

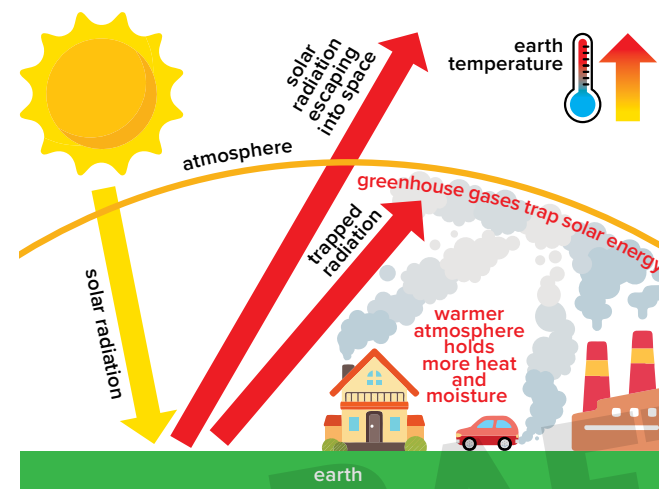
A warmer atmosphere holds increased moisture. As a result, areas that are typically wet can expect

heavier rainfall, while dry regions are likely to experience intensified heat and aridity. Human activities, particularly the burning of fossil fuels during this phase of Earth's history, are driving these climatic shifts, creating a 'new normal.' Addressing this new reality is at the heart of our strategy.

Extreme weather events have already proven costly for our district. A well-developed Climate Resilience Strategy allows us to adapt effectively to these changes, ensuring a sustainable and prosperous future. Additionally, this strategy aligns with broader Canterbury and national climate policies, as well as our international commitments.



Adapted from Thomas Everth



Ref: What Is Climate Change? | United Nations.

## Likely impacts of climate change for the Waimate District

Climatic changes to the Waimate District are generally reflective of Canterbury as a whole. Looking towards the years 2050 and 2100, these changes are likely to be more significant than what we are experiencing today. Reflecting on climate extremes over the past 30 years and projecting these 30 years into the future can provide context beyond the immediacy of what we see and experience on a day-by-day basis. Increases in temperature and drought potential are among the main impacts to our district. It is important to note that climate stability is a key input and consideration for the sustainability of our rural economy.



Ref: Canterbury Climate Change Risk Assessment.

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The sea level is projected to rise by about 0.8m above present day levels.



Wildfires will become more likely as hotter, drier summers occur. Rural areas will be more highly exposed.



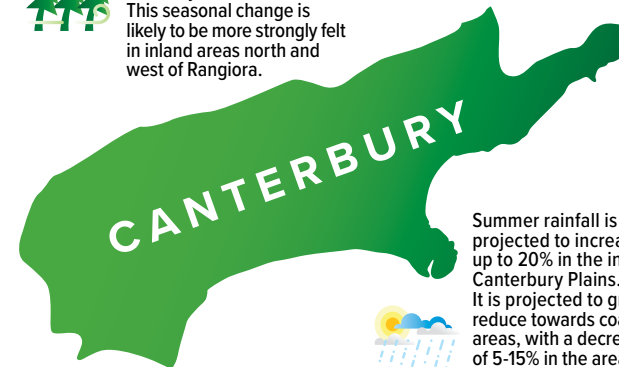
Drought potential is likely to increase across most of Canterbury.



Hot days are those over 25°C. It is projected that there will be between 20 and 60 more hot days annually by 2100.



Wind is likely to increase in speed, and winter and spring are likely to be windier. This seasonal change is likely to be more strongly felt in inland areas north and west of Rangiora.



Summer rainfall is projected to increase up to 20% in the inland Canterbury Plains. It is projected to gradually reduce towards coastal areas, with a decrease of 5-15% in the area around Christchurch.



An increase in winter rainfall of 15-40% is expected in the eastern, western, and southern parts of the region. Winter rainfall has the potential to be more strongly associated with storm events.



As temperatures rise, there will be less snow days across the region.



It is projected that there will be 20-50 fewer cold days per year, where the temperature is at or below 0°C.



Extreme weather events (e.g., severe storms) are likely to happen more often.



Our annual mean temperature is set to rise by 1.5 - 3.5°C. Overall, our maximum daytime temperatures will be up 2-5°C. Canterbury's alpine and subalpine areas could be 5-6° warmer.

Climate Resilience Strategy



Waimate

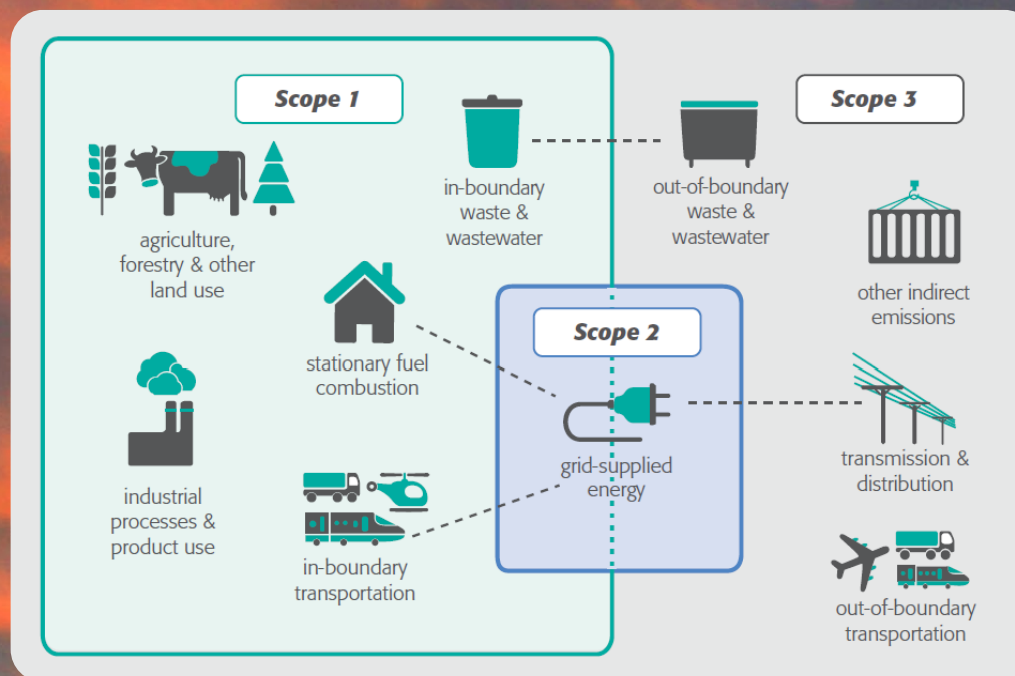


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# Understanding carbon emissions

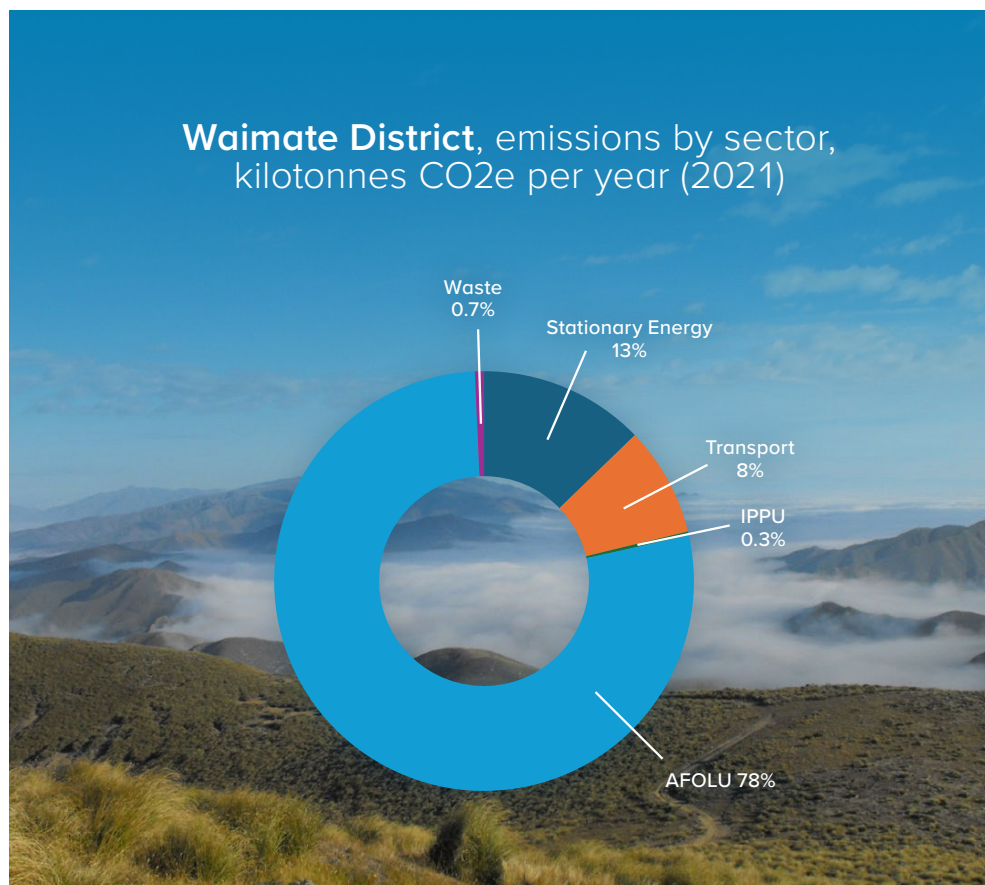
For reporting purposes, greenhouse gases (GHG) are expressed as CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents (CO<sub>2</sub>e). These express all GHG emissions in terms of the warming potential of carbon dioxide. This allows a comprehensive view of total emissions across all gases. GHG's are further grouped into scope 1, 2, and 3 and refer to where emissions occur in relation to a geographic area.

- **Scope 1 (Direct Emissions)**  
Emissions from sources directly controlled by an organization, such as fuel burned in vehicles or boilers on-site.
- **Scope 2 (Indirect Energy Emissions)**  
Emissions from the production of energy (like electricity or heat) that the organization purchases and uses.
- **Scope 3 (Value Chain Emissions)**  
Indirect emissions related to the organization's activities but occurring in its supply chain, such as emissions from suppliers, transportation, waste management, or employee commuting.



Ref: Emissions inventory a first for Canterbury | Environment Canterbury.

## Carbon emissions from the Waimate District



Ref: Emissions inventory a first for Canterbury | Environment Canterbury (2023).

A 2021 report, commissioned by the Canterbury Regional Council, showed a 2% drop in emissions since 2018. Four main greenhouse gases were measured—CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, and fluorinated gases (F)—expressed as kilotonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent per year (t CO<sub>2</sub>e). Rural areas like ours, with little urban or industrial activity, have higher emissions of CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O, while CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are more typical of urban areas. Across Canterbury, our district had the second highest per capita emissions at 119.9 tCO<sub>2</sub>e. Our gross emissions were 995 tCO<sub>2</sub>e. The overall gross GHG emissions in Canterbury were 13,176 kilotonnes (thousand tonnes) carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) per year in 2021 with a corresponding regional per capita emissions of 20.3 tonnes per person.

The Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use (AFOLU) sector is the largest source of emissions, mainly from livestock (710 tCO<sub>2</sub>e), fertilizers (55 tCO<sub>2</sub>e), and crops (9 tCO<sub>2</sub>e). The transport and stationary energy sectors follow, with smaller contributions from industrial processes and waste.

Stationary energy and transport produce most of the CO<sub>2</sub>, but little of the other gases. Industrial processes primarily emit fluorinated gases, but their overall impact in our district is minor. Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), mostly from agriculture, is the biggest single greenhouse gas emitted, with the AFOLU sector also producing large amounts of nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O). Waste contributes minimally, with methane from solid waste disposal being the main source (6 t CO<sub>2</sub>e).

Stationary energy emissions mainly come from heating and industrial energy production. In transport, on-road vehicles are the largest source (45 t CO<sub>2</sub>e), followed by off-road transport (38 tCO<sub>2</sub>e). Industrial processes mostly emit fluorinated gases from refrigeration systems. In agriculture, CH<sub>4</sub> emissions from livestock are the biggest contributor, while methane from waste mainly comes from solid waste disposal.



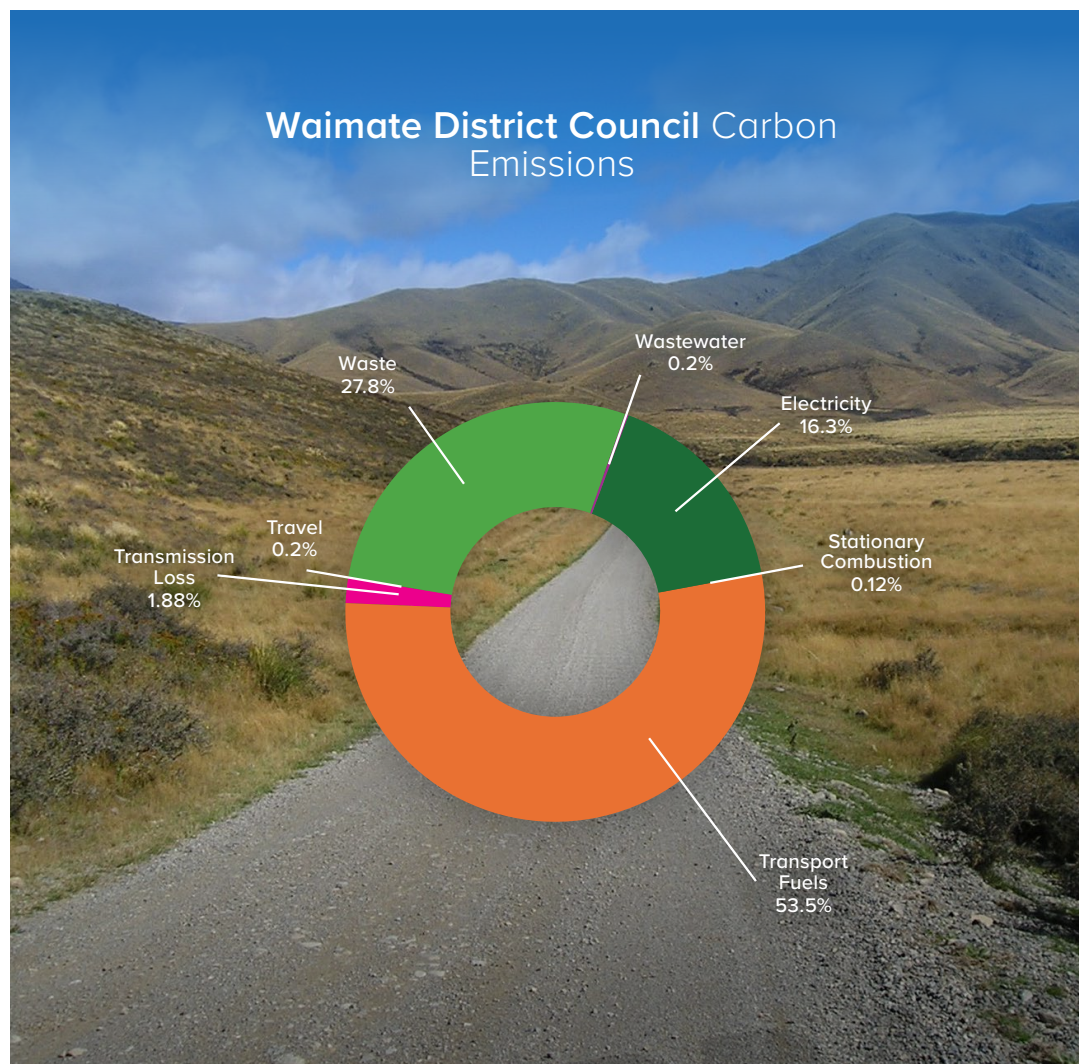
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The Council prepared its second Greenhouse Gas Emission report for the 2022/23 tax year (the first was for 2018/19). The Waimate District Council manages 142 hectares of forest, which acts as a 'net carbon sink,' absorbing more emissions than it produces. Forests removed -1,207 tonnes of greenhouse gases, while the Council's gross emissions were 959 tonnes. This results in net emissions of -248 tonnes, showing that the Council is overall contributing positively to combating climate change.

The Council's biggest emissions come from transport fuels, largely due to roading works that use many vehicles and equipment across the district.

For solid waste emissions, it's best to know the exact composition of the waste to use accurate emission factors. Since the type of waste in Waimate District isn't fully known, estimates have been made. Based on public facilities like campgrounds and pools, a ratio of 95% general waste to 5% office waste has been assumed. Office waste has a higher emissions factor because it likely contains paper. Landfills that don't capture methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) have much higher emissions than those with gas systems. Waimate's waste goes to Redruth Landfill in Timaru, which has methane capture and a gas flaring system.

For electricity, emissions depend on the energy source. The emission factor reflects the carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) from electricity generated on the national grid. It accounts for emissions from burning fuels at power stations and geothermal emissions, based on data from MBIE.



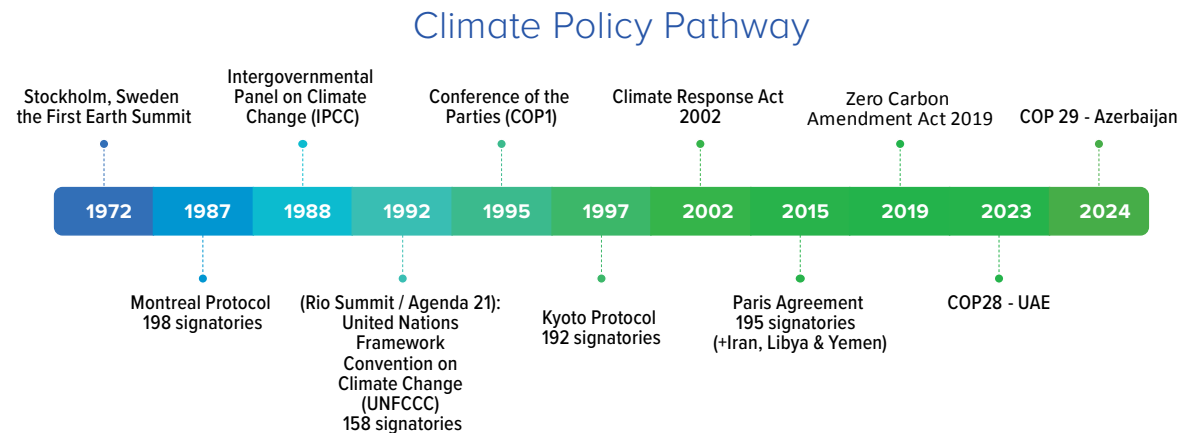
Ref: Waimate District Council Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2022/23 Tax Year



# The pathway to our climate resilience strategy

This strategy has been framed from both statutory obligations and community feedback.

New Zealand's key policy pathways for climate change have evolved over time, influenced by both international commitments and domestic priorities.



## International Agreements

New Zealand's climate policies are shaped by its commitments under international agreements, which aims to limit global warming to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels. As at 2023, approximately 180 nations had emission profiles similar to ours, i.e. less than 2% of total global emissions. These nations collectively contributed 30% of total emissions, nearly three times more than the US alone (ref: EDGAR - The Emissions Database for Global Atmospheric Research). Hence the requirements for nations to act collaboratively for the good of all. Historically New Zealand has shown strong leadership in international collaboration earning a justifiable respect amongst nations.

There are three main international policies that guide climate adaption and mitigation.

- I. **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (1992):** The UNFCCC entered into force on 21 March 1994. Today, it has universal membership with 198 countries having ratified the Convention. In 1994, when the UNFCCC took effect, there was less scientific evidence than there is now. The UNFCCC borrowed a very important line from one of the most successful multilateral environmental treaties in history (the Montreal Protocol, in 1987): it bound member states to act in the interests of human safety even in the face of scientific uncertainty. The UNFCCC is a "Rio Convention", one of two opened for signature at the "Rio Earth Summit" in 1992. Its sister Rio Conventions are the UN Convention on Biological Diversity and the Convention to Combat Desertification. The three are intrinsically linked.
- II. **The Kyoto Protocol (1997)** built on the UNFCCC and commits signatories to reducing greenhouse gases based on the scientific consensus that the atmosphere is warming due to humans injecting 'banked carbon' from burning fossil fuels. The Kyoto Protocol has been signed by 192 parties. The Protocol was adopted in 1997 and entered into force in 2005.
- III. **The Paris Agreement (2015)** is a legally binding international treaty on climate change. It was adopted by 196 Parties at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP21) in Paris, France, on 12 December 2015. It entered into force on 4 November 2016. Its overarching goal is to hold "the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels" and pursue efforts "to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels."

Ref: What is the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change? | UNFCCC

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## Government Frameworks

The New Zealand Government has developed comprehensive frameworks and strategies to address climate change. This includes the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019, which sets the legal framework for reducing emissions and adapting to climate change.

### As of July 2024 ...

New Zealand is working to reduce emissions and has committed to:

By 2030:

- Reduce net greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 (Target 9)
- Reduce net greenhouse gas emissions to 50 per cent below gross 2005 levels by 2030 (New Zealand's Nationally Determined Contribution under the Paris Agreement)
- Reduce biogenic methane to 10 per cent below 2017 levels by 2030

By 2050:

- Reach net zero for long-lived gases by 2050
- Reduce biogenic methane to 24 to 47 per cent below 2017 levels by 2050 (The 2050 methane target is currently subject to an independent expert review).

In April 2024, the Government announced nine targets to achieve better results in areas that matter to New Zealanders.

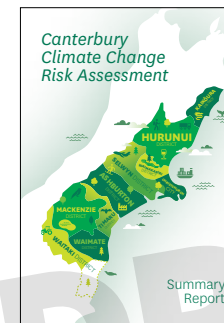
Target 9 is focused on reducing net greenhouse gas emissions to no more than **290 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>-e from 2022 to 2025 and 305 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>-e from 2026 to 2030**.

This keeps us on track to meet New Zealand's 2050 net zero target. The **Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA)** is a crucial piece of legislation in New Zealand. It mandates that local governments must account for the impacts of climate change on communities. The RMA requires that climate change considerations be integrated into existing frameworks, plans, projects, and standard decision-making processes. This Act serves as a key guiding document for the Council when addressing climate change.

**National Adaptation Plan and Emissions Reduction Plans:** Local governments are required to consider these plans when developing or changing regional policy statements, regional plans, and district plans. This ensures that RMA planning aligns with New Zealand's long-term climate strategies and goals.

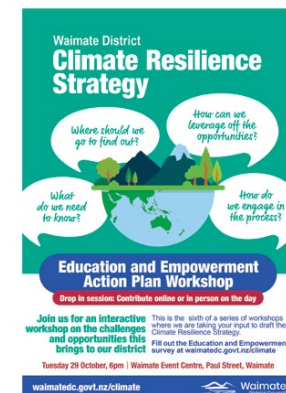
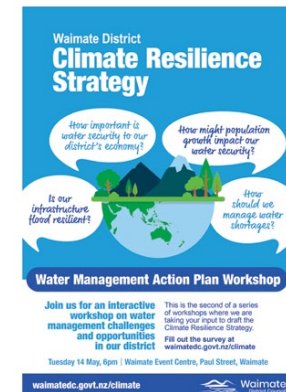
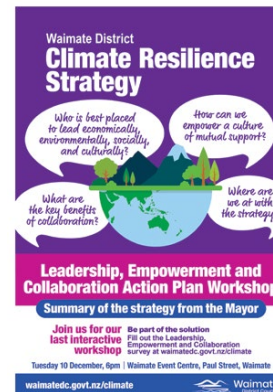
Two other key documents used in framing this strategy were the **National Climate Change and Canterbury Climate Change Risk Assessments**.

Ref: J001281-MfE-Climate-strategy-brochure-FF\_webV2.pdf



## How our community shaped this strategy

Starting in late 2023 The Waimate District Council enacted 10 public engagement sessions with the community, seven aimed specifically at what ended up by community consensus as the six Action Plans that form the basis of this strategy. Each Action Plan was further critiqued for clarity and consistency by a reference group made up of four elected representatives and the specialist in-council manager pertaining to that Action Plan. In total there were 488 community contributor engagements. 111 people responded to our first online survey in September 2023.



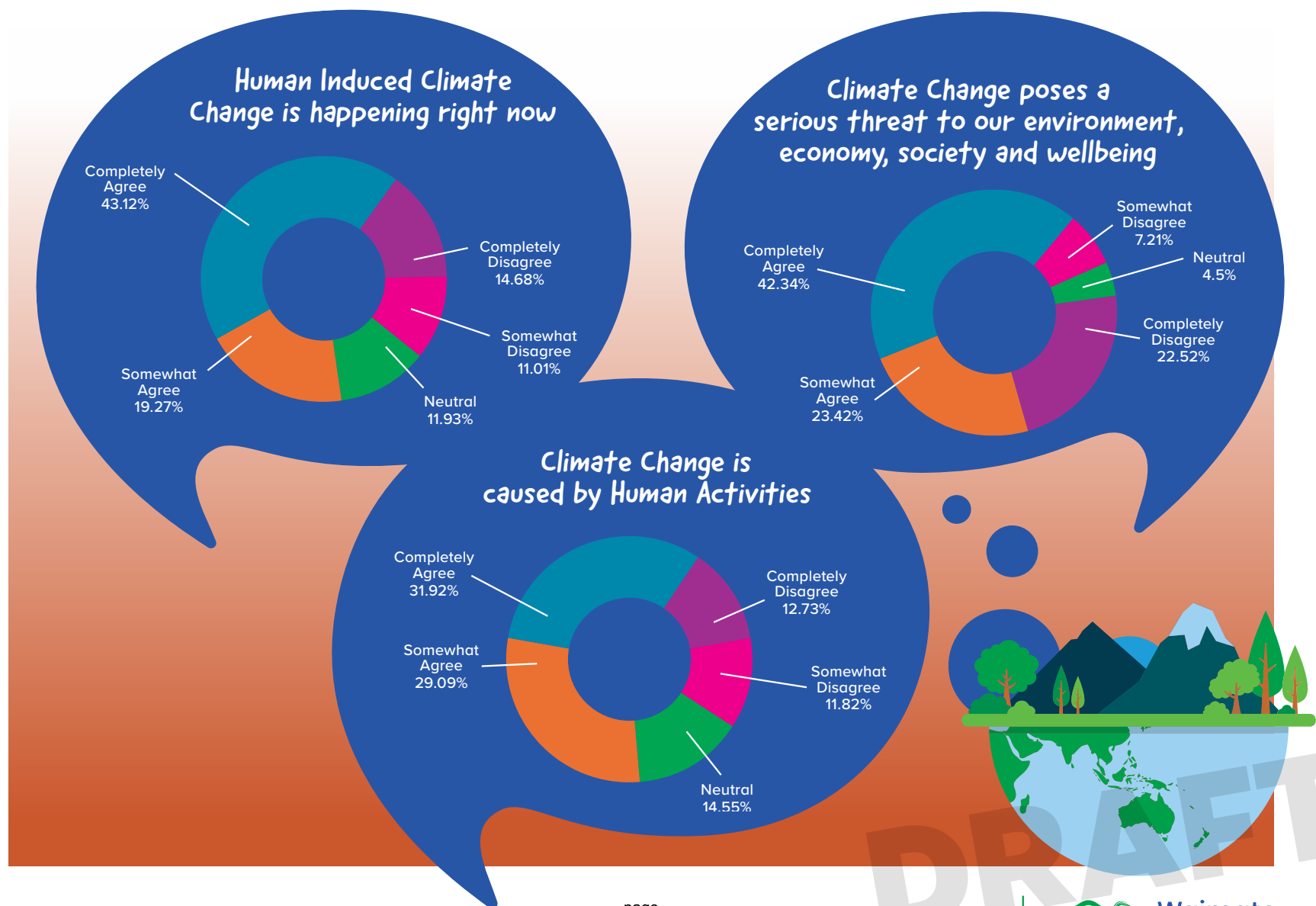
Additionally, our district's strategy seeks alignment with the wider Canterbury Region through the collaborative 'Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan' of which our council through the Mayoral Forum and its elected representatives were key contributors to.



## Here's what you said

1. Acknowledge that Climate Change is occurring, and we all must act responsibly going forward. We are all in this together, so we all have a collective responsibility to care for our environment.
2. Keep pushing the economic opportunities for businesses to be engaged with Climate Change (whether they believe in CC or not).
3. Have a more transparent Council, and elected members to show leadership.
4. Education around how being climate friendly does not necessarily need to affect the bottom line, and in some cases may help it
5. Bring together individual community groups doing great things with the environment. Ensure communication is flowing so that efficiencies and collective impact is greater.
6. We are now a diverse cultural community. Draw on these cultures to broaden our understanding in and of the world. No one should be isolated, encourage participation in various clubs. Wellbeing depends on positive interaction among people.
7. It is important that those who want to be involved are able to.
8. Consider long-term climate impacts when we design and invest in infrastructure, so the right infrastructure is in the right places
9. The Council is on the right track. It won't happen overnight.
10. There are no threats that can be directly attributed to climate change. There always have been floods, droughts windstorms and these will continue to occur.
11. Our country has its head in the clouds as our impact as a country globally will make no difference!
12. We want a vision to be the district that contributes the least to climate change emissions. This means innovation, being brave and trialling things and allowing planning rules and master plans to be enablers not hinderers.
13. It might be challenging in the long run to keep current land use compatible with a new climate. Strong governance in relation to irrigation and the protection of source water is of paramount importance.
14. The use of a te ao Māori (Māori world view) framework and mātauranga Māori is particularly helpful for understanding and addressing issues that affect several different parts of the environmental system.
15. There needs to be a long term vision and action plan.
16. Bring together individual community groups doing great things with the environment. Ensure communication is flowing so that efficiencies and collective impact is greater.
17. Projects that involve youth in meaningful ways. I think people love it when they can point to something and I say I was a part of this. Young people can be better at thinking "outside the box" for solutions. Also young people can feel helpful so being a part of solutions can help them to feel empowered.

  
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## Our climate resilience vision

Our vision is to create a sustainable future by reducing emissions, protecting our environment, and preparing for impacts and opportunities of a changing climate. We aim to work with our community, iwi, businesses, and other partners to promote renewable energy, greener transport, sustainable land use, and climate resilience. Together, we strive for a thriving, low-carbon district that safeguards its people and natural resources for generations to come.

## Strategy purpose

This climate resilience strategy aims to guide our district in reducing emissions, safeguarding the natural environment, and preparing for the effects of a changing climate. It seeks to align ongoing climate-related efforts across Waimate District Council activities while establishing a framework for collaboration. This includes working together with neighbouring councils, iwi partners, local and central government, private industry, NGOs, educational institutions, and the wider community.

## Waimate District Council's role

Our community looks to the Council and its elected representatives for leadership. We are committed to supporting local businesses and community initiatives while fostering collaboration across the district. Together, we can work toward our shared goals in a changing climate. However, this is not a challenge we can tackle alone—success will require a collective effort from everyone in our district.

## Strategy objectives

- Coordinate and integrate climate resilient initiatives across all areas of Council operations.
- Increase community awareness of the impacts and opportunities a changing climate presents.
- Demonstrate leadership in addressing the impacts of a changing climate.
- Facilitate meaningful conversations within the community about climate action.
- Establish a framework to prioritise and initiate climate-related actions.



## Our climate change principles

Council's Climate Resilience principles help integrate work already underway in the Climate Resilience space, and to guide future projects and decisions. Under each principle are specific statements about what they mean for our community. The statements are based around legislative responsibilities and feedback from our community. The district's Climate Resilience Strategy and Action Plans will be guided by these principles e.g. setting mitigation and adaptation targets.

1. **Be Proactive**  
We will model strong leadership to address climate challenges and opportunities for the district.
2. **Think Intergenerational**  
We will take an intergenerational perspective that is inclusive of short, medium and long term planning that spans political, and financial cycles to plan for a changing climate
3. **Seek opportunities and Maximise co-benefits**  
We will choose adaption actions that achieve complementary goals while avoiding maladaptation and support positive and innovative ideas that contribute to climate solutions for the district
4. **Promote equity and inclusiveness**  
We will prioritise helping people, places and infrastructure that are most vulnerable to climate impacts, while building adaptive capacity for the whole district.
5. **Be collaborative**  
We will work in partnership with the local Runanga, the agriculture sector, community groups, businesses, households, youth; local, regional and central government organisations to build on existing knowledge to develop and implement actions.
6. **Climate Change adaption, mitigation and transition**  
We will embed climate resilience as a core consideration in all decision making.
7. **Make well-informed decisions**  
We will base our climate change actions on a foundation of sound evidence including science, data, local knowledge and mātāuranga Māori.
8. **Kaitiakitanga and working with nature**  
We will uphold the principle and duty of kaitiakitanga (guardianship). Our policies, planning and regulation should protect, enhance and restore nature, and any impacts on nature should be mitigated as much as possible.
9. **Be Transparent**  
We will be open about what we are doing and how we are tracking to help people shape and understand our decisions.
10. **Promote wellbeing**  
Our climate actions will improve environmental, social, economic and cultural wellbeing.

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## Our climate change targets



In 2019, the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act (CCRA) set domestic targets into law. Our districts climate targets are reflective of these under the CCRA. Subsequently our Climate Resilience Strategy has three target aims:

1. Carbon Neutral by 2050 for the district.
2. Build climate resilience through a just and equitable intergenerational approach to planning and preparing for the impacts of a Changing Climate.
3. We factor in intergenerational sustainability of our natural environment, economy, society, and cultural wellbeing.

Our Climate Resilience Strategy sets targets for the Council as an organisation, the District as a whole, and collaborative efforts with the community and contractors. These targets are supported by our six Climate Change Action Plans, which detail specific steps to achieve short- and medium-term goals, while long-term goals provide aspirational milestones for both the Council and the community.

Within our district, there are already many examples of leadership aimed at achieving these targets, such as farm carbon reduction initiatives and regenerative farming practices, driving transformation in this sector. Although the Council has limited influence to directly speed up this progress, we fully support the leadership being demonstrated within our district and will continue to seek ways to advocate for and promote these changes for our collective advantage.

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Targets		Adaption	Mitigation
Short Term (2025-2026)	District	We will conduct an inventory and risk matrix to identify communities and infrastructure most vulnerable to climate-related hazards.	Progress towards long-term district target
	Council	We will make informed planning decisions that take into account the expected impacts of climate change.	Will reduce our carbon footprint by 5% below 2023 levels, excluding biogenic methane and nitrous oxide.
Medium Term (2027-2030)	District	We will create community-driven adaptation plans to address the needs of communities and infrastructure most vulnerable to climate hazards.	Progress towards long-term district target
	Council	We will ensure that infrastructure is designed to withstand the impacts of a changing climate.	Will reduce our carbon footprint by 10% below 2023 levels, excluding biogenic methane and nitrous oxide. Progress towards long-term district target
		We will realise our climate change vision by delivering on our climate change principles.	
Long Term (2028 – 2037)	District	Net carbon zero district by 2050, excluding biogenic methane and nitrous oxide	
	Council	Will be a net carbon zero council by 2050, excluding biogenic methane and nitrous oxide. We will actively prepare for a changing climate.	





# Climate change Action Plans

“If you fail to plan, you plan to fail”  
Benjamin Franklin

Our six Action Plans are based on the five 'risk' domains identified in the 'National Climate Change Risk Assessment': Natural Environment; Human; Economy; Built Environment and Governance.

They are the result of the online community consultation taken in late 2023 and subsequent Action Plan workshops conducted throughout 2024.

They seek to address the two key climate goals that have stemmed from the Paris Agreement through to the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act (CCRA) and intergenerational sustainability.

1. Carbon Neutral by 2050 for the district.
2. Build climate resilience through a just and equitable intergenerational approach to planning and preparing for the impacts of a Changing Climate.
3. We factor in intergenerational sustainability of our natural environment, economy, society, and cultural wellbeing.

The key Objectives for each Action Plan are outlined below with key Action Points highlighted in the Action Plans themselves.



## AP1: Leadership, Empowerment and collaboration

### Objectives

1. The Council shows leadership in addressing the issues and opportunities Climate Change presents by both working and facilitating collaborative partnerships with and between local iwi, key stakeholders, and the community.
2. The community are empowered to address the issues and opportunities Climate Change presents through an increased understanding of climate change issues and opportunities by taking an active role in climate change mitigation and adaptation.

### Goals

1. Integrate climate change principles into the Council's culture, key documents, and decision-making processes
2. Develop the Council's organisational knowledge about climate change, mitigation, and adaptation
3. Empower and collaborate with stakeholders, partners, and the community to create a unified approach to addressing climate issues and opportunities.
4. Develop community awareness about matters relating to climate change, including the Council's response.

## AP2: Transport

**Part 1 Outcome:** Reduce transport related carbon emissions.

### Objectives

1. Promote low carbon and travel efficiency..
  - 1.1. Enable reduced and more efficient council travel.
  - 1.2. Enable reduced and more efficient community travel.
  - 1.3. Enable and encourage active transport.
2. Embed nature-based solutions as part of our response to reducing transport emissions and improving climate adaptation and biodiversity outcomes
3. Develop Freight efficiencies to, from and within the district.
  - 3.1. Engage with industry to streamline supply chain and freight distribution.

**Part 2 Outcome:** Improve the resilience of transport infrastructure.

### Objectives

4. Reduce the vulnerability of transport infrastructure exposed to climate change
  - 4.1. Identify transport infrastructure that is at risk or vulnerable to climate change.
  - 4.2. Prioritise the risk management of assets so that services can continue if disruption occurs.
5. Ensure all new transport infrastructure is fit for a changing climate.
  - 5.1. Apply climate change assumptions to new transport projects.
  - 5.2. Collaborate with other transport providers, within the Canterbury Region, to build climate change resilience.
6. Use renewal programmes to improve adaptive capacity.
  - 6.1. Consider long-term climate impacts when making decisions to maintain, upgrade, repair or replace existing infrastructure.

## AP3: Water Management

**Part 1 Outcome:** Reduce and manage Water Management related greenhouse gas emissions.

### Objectives

1. Reduce and manage greenhouse gas emissions from water infrastructural services
  - 1.1. Consider and optimise greenhouse gas reduction measures in any new projects.
  - 1.2. Embrace new Technologies.

**Part 2 Outcome:** Improve the resilience of Water infrastructure.

### Objectives

2. Reduce the vulnerability of water infrastructure exposed to climate change
  - 2.1. Identify water infrastructure that is at risk or vulnerable to climate change.
  - 2.2. Prioritise the risk management of assets so that services can continue if disruption occurs.
  - 2.3. Develop adaptive design and planning pathways when making decisions to maintain, upgrade, repair or replace existing infrastructure.
3. Ensure all new water infrastructure is fit for a changing climate.
  - 3.1. Apply climate change assumptions to new water asset projects.
  - 3.2. Use renewal programmes to improve adaptive capacity.

**Part 3 Outcome:** Manage water responsibly and sustainably.

### Objectives

4. Increase Council and community understanding of water use.
5. Increase understanding of water supply assets
6. Develop demand management strategy.

## AP4: Land use and the built environment

**Part 1 Outcome:** Reduce Land Use and the Built Environment related GHG emissions.

### Objectives

1. Promote low emission and sustainable land use and building practises.

**Part 2 Outcome:** Ensure land use activities and buildings are resilient to climate change.

### Objectives

2. Ensure land use decisions improve resilience.
3. Acknowledge cultural and heritage values in land use decisions.

**Part 3 Outcome:** Improve the resilience of community infrastructure.

### Objectives

4. Identify and reduce climate change risk to existing community building and infrastructure e.g. community halls, public toilets, the Event Centre, museum, library and the LGC.

## AP5: Carbon Sequestration and Natural Restoration

### Objectives

1. Support native afforestation, land reversion and establishment of new production forests in the right location (right tree, right place, right purpose).
2. Prioritise nature-based solutions.
3. Embrace mātāuranga Māori approaches to native forest establishment.
4. Develop a District Biodiversity Strategy that promotes and enhances native biodiversity across the district.

## AP6: Waste and circular economies

**Part 1 Outcome:** Reduce Waste related carbon emissions.

### Objectives

1. Reduce the volume of waste generated by council.
2. Increase the amount of organic waste diverted from landfill.
3. Reduce waste transportation emissions.
4. Promote upstream waste hierarchy and circular economy principles.

**Part 2 Outcome:** Improve the resilience of waste infrastructure.

### Objectives

5. Reduce the vulnerability waste infrastructure exposed to climate change.
6. Ensure all new waste infrastructure is fit for a changing climate.



## Measuring the success of this strategy

The Council will receive quarterly updates outlining completed actions, along with annual progress reports tracking advancement toward the targets set in this strategy. We aim to measure our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions annually. An internal Climate Resilience Working Group will support coordination and implementation of climate-related initiatives across Council. Additionally, a summary of the climate change project will be included in the annual report at the end of each financial year.

# Action Plans

## Climate Resilience Action Plan 1 Leadership, Empowerment and Collaboration

This is one of six action plans, which support our Climate Change Strategy (LTP dates – 2027-2037).

To view further Action Plans and their supporting documents, visit [www.waimatedc.govt.nz/climate](http://www.waimatedc.govt.nz/climate)

Our Climate Resilience Strategy has three aims:

1. Carbon Neutral by 2050 for the district.
2. Build climate resilience through a just and equitable intergenerational approach to planning and preparing for the impacts of a Changing Climate.
3. We factor in intergenerational sustainability of our natural environment, economy, society, and cultural wellbeing.



### Why this Leadership, Empowerment and Collaboration Action Plan is important

Leadership, empowerment, and collaboration are interconnected pillars that support comprehensive and effective responses to climate change, benefiting local economies, environments, societies, and individuals alike.

By addressing climate change mitigation and adaptation, effective leadership can drive the adoption of sustainable practices and green technologies, creating new job opportunities and fostering economic growth. Empowered communities can innovate and support local businesses that prioritize sustainability, while collaboration between sectors can attract investments and resources for climate-resilient infrastructure. Strong leadership is crucial for implementing policies that protect natural resources and reduce carbon emissions. Empowering individuals and communities encourage active participation in conservation efforts and sustainable living. Collaborative efforts can lead to large-scale environmental projects, such as reforestation and renewable energy initiatives, which have a significant positive impact on the environment. Empowerment ensures that all voices are heard and that everyone has the opportunity to contribute to climate solutions through a sense of unity and shared purpose, strengthening social bonds and enhancing community resilience to climate impacts. Empowerment boosts self-efficacy and confidence, enabling people to take meaningful actions in their daily lives contributing to overall personal fulfilment and better mental health.

### What we want this plan to achieve

This Action Plan sets out the steps the Council will take to show leadership, empowerment and collaboration within the district to address the issues of Climate Change and the opportunities it has presented through the district wide community consultation process undertaken in 2024. This Action Plan provides the lens through which the additional five Action Plans should be viewed.

### Objectives

1. The Council shows leadership in addressing the issues and opportunities Climate Change presents by both working and facilitating collaborative partnerships with and between local iwi, key stakeholders, and the community.
2. The community are empowered to address the issues and opportunities Climate Change presents through an increased understanding of climate change issues and opportunities by taking an active role in climate change mitigation and adaptation.

### Goals

1. Integrate climate change principles into the Council's culture, key documents, and decision-making processes
2. Develop the Council's organisational knowledge about climate change, mitigation, and adaptation
3. Empower and collaborate with stakeholders, partners, and the community to create a unified approach to addressing climate issues and opportunities.
4. Develop community awareness about matters relating to climate change, including the Council's response. This Action Plan contributes to these (draft) highlighted

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## Leadership, Empowerment and Collaboration: Outcomes

WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	
		\$ = requires additional funding BAU = blend into BAU STAFF = additional staff time required GOV = governance foci				
<b>1: Integrate climate change principles into the Council's culture, key documents, and decision-making processes</b>						
1.1. Embed applicable CRS Action Plan outcomes in key documents (including those for procurement and contracts), organisational culture, goals and values, and operational decision making and activities.	Include CRS principles and targets in documents due for review in 20XX Include CRS KPI's in annual report. Develop Council wide awareness of CRS principles and targets within each department. Ensure procurement processes account for approved suppliers that adhere to environmental and social accountability (ref AP#5: 2.1/ AP#4:1.0).	BAU	Maintain organisational awareness of the CRS principles and targets. Review CRS	Maintain organisational awareness of the CRS principles and targets. Review CRS		Suppliers
<b>2: Develop the Council's organisational knowledge about climate change, mitigation, and adaptation.</b>						
2.1. Develop knowledge and understanding of risk to the Waimate District	Enact appropriate Action Points of each Action Plan that audit and identify the likely local effects of climate change on communities within the district.	STAFF	Continue to monitor and assess risk for the Waimate District within each Action Plan and ensure Adaptation Plans are kept up to date.	Update risk assessment and Adaptation Pathways within each CRS Action Plan		Rural Economy / Farmers NIWA ECAN Veterinary Groups Medical Staff
	Enact appropriate Action Points of each Action Plan that audit and identify levels of risk to Council infrastructure and processes arising from climate change.	STAFF				

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WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	
2.2. Maintain awareness of Climate related information and data. Factor in a variety of sources in decision-making, including science, local knowledge, and mātauranga Māori. (ref AP3:1.2 & 2.1)	Include induction and training program for new staff.	STAFF / BAU	Review and update Climate data / information sources, induction and training program.	Review and update Climate data / information sources, induction and training program.		
	Establish database of key evidenced based climate information sources and tools.	STAFF				
	Investigate carbon calculator opportunities to guide future decision making.	STAFF / \$				
3: Empower and collaborate with stakeholders, partners, and the community to create a unified approach to addressing climate issues and opportunities.						
3.1. Collaborate with stakeholders and partners, including key industry, Māori and youth. (ref AP#1: 2.1 & 4.1 / AP#2:3.1 / AP#4:3.1/ AP#5:2.1/).	Initiate a sector collaboration network for key industry and small business. Investigate options for working with the Primary Industry Sector and establish working relationships as appropriate to key Action Plans. Encourage diversification of crops. Investigate options for working with Iwi, Hapū and other groups. Establish working relationships as appropriate. Investigate options for working with youth and establish working relationships as appropriate. Elected representatives to lead in key sector areas.	STAFF / BAU / (\$)	Sector collaboration network is operational. Working relationships with the Primary Industry Sector are operational. Working relationships with Māori are operational. Working relationships with youth are operational.	Sector collaboration network is operational. Working relationships with the dairy and agricultural-sector are operational. Working relationships with Māori are operational. Working relationships with youth are operational.		Fed Farmers, Fonterra, Oceania and other key representatives of the Primary Industry Sector. Shop and café owners. Iwi Youth Council, Schools and youth Organisations. Key central government Agencies: MfE, MPI. W2G Transport
3.2. Work with, and advocate for regional climate change related processes	Build on existing synergy with SC TA's. Work to establish central, regional, and local government network.	BAU				

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WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	
3.3 Collaborate with the community	Investigate models for community collaboration on addressing issues and opportunities climate change bring (ref AP#5:4.0)	STAFF	Community collaboration network is operational.	Community collaboration network is operational.		
	Build in effective communication pathways and strategies inclusive of face-to-face communication and historical context that facilitates engagement and trust in council processes (ref AP#1:3.1).	STAFF / BAU				
	Develop a 'Waimate' Brand to market locally sourced and made CC resilient products and services – e.g wool, wood.	STAFF / BAU				
	Seek and source funding for CC opportunities through PPE or similar.	STAFF / BAU				
	Promote the "Waimate' Brand" in the context of CC mitigation & adaption opportunities through a WDC Development Officer or similar.	STAFF / BAU (\$)				
3.4. Seek funding streams that assist and grow business in climate adaption and resilience.	Consider employing a WDC Development Officer or developing a partnership to oversee progression of the CRS opportunities, mitigation and adaptation with the capacity to think outside the box.	\$ STAFF	WDC Development Officer or similar is functioning.	WDC Development Officer or similar is functioning.		

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WDC sub-actions	Timeframes				Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055
<b>4: Develop community awareness about matters relating to climate change, including the Council's response.</b>					
4.1. Facilitate and support climate change education initiatives	Develop a 'plain-language' summary of Climate Change Strategy and Action Plans inclusive of 'how to', 'where to' and 'who to' on various platforms in a range of formats (ref AP#2:1.2 / AP#4:1.0 & 3.1/ AP#5:1.2 Identify and facilitate events - inclusive of potential public speakers - to share climate change messages around mitigation, adaptation and opportunities	STAFF / (BAU?) / \$?.	Create tailored information on climate change mitigation and adaptation, specifically designed for local audiences. This should include relevant local context, risks, and impacts. Distribute new or existing climate change materials to the community across various platforms and formats. Identify and organize events to disseminate climate change messages, including arranging for potential public speakers.	Create tailored information on climate change mitigation and adaptation, specifically designed for local audiences. This should include relevant local context, risks, and impacts. Distribute new or existing climate change materials to the community across various platforms and formats. Identify and organize events to disseminate climate change messages, including arranging for potential public speakers.	Community, key focus groups Ministry of Education Schools across the district
4.2. Celebrate success and achievements related to climate change milestones and achievements milestones and achievements	Communicate key milestones and achievements – inclusive of all partnered stakeholders and TA's. Communicate key	BAU	Communicate key		

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## Climate Resilience Action Plan 2

### Transport

This is one of six action plans, which support our Climate Change Strategy (LTP dates – 2027-2037).

To view further Action Plans and their supporting documents, visit [www.waimatedc.govt.nz/climate](http://www.waimatedc.govt.nz/climate)

Our Climate Resilience Strategy has three aims:

1. Carbon Neutral by 2050 for the district.
2. Build climate resilience through a just and equitable intergenerational approach to planning and preparing for the impacts of a Changing Climate.
3. We factor in intergenerational sustainability of our natural environment, economy, society, and cultural wellbeing.

#### Why this Transport Action Plan is important

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change defines the transport sector to be inclusive of the transportation of goods and people for agriculture, tourism and household uses etc.

Transport is one of our largest sources of greenhouse gas emissions. It is responsible for approximately 17 per cent of gross domestic emissions and 40 per cent of total domestic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the energy sector.

Land transport is a major contributor to Canterbury's greenhouse gas emissions, accounting for 16 percent of our region's emissions in 2018. The majority of emissions result from

petrol and diesel consumed by road transport. Transportation made up 53.7% of the Council's greenhouse gas emissions for the financial year ending 2023.

#### What we want this plan to achieve

##### There are two parts to this Action Plan

Part one focuses on emissions reduction and reflects the objectives taken from the Emission Reduction Plan (ERP).

Part two is all about climate resilience and reflects the objectives taken from the National Adaptation Plan (NAP).

**Part 1 Outcome:** Reduce transport related carbon emissions.

#### Objectives

1. Promote low carbon and travel efficiency..
  - 1.1. Enable reduced and more efficient council travel.
  - 1.2. Enable reduced and more efficient community travel.
  - 1.3. Enable and encourage active transport.
2. Embed nature-based solutions as part of our response to reducing transport emissions and improving climate adaptation and biodiversity outcomes

3. Develop Freight efficiencies to, from and within the district.

- 3.1. Engage with industry to streamline supply chain and freight distribution.

**Part 2 Outcome:** Improve the resilience of transport infrastructure.

#### Objectives

4. Reduce the vulnerability of transport infrastructure exposed to climate change
  - 4.1. Identify transport infrastructure that is at risk or vulnerable to climate change.
  - 4.2. Prioritise the risk management of assets so that services can continue if disruption occurs.
5. Ensure all new transport infrastructure is fit for a changing climate.
  - 5.1. Apply climate change assumptions to new transport projects.
  - 5.2. Collaborate with other transport providers, within the Canterbury Region, to build climate change resilience.
6. Use renewal programmes to improve adaptive capacity.
  - 6.1. Consider long-term climate impacts when making decisions to maintain, upgrade, repair or replace existing infrastructure.

Mad World Ltd (2019): Waimate District Council Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2018/19 Tax Year (1 July 2018 – 30 June 2019)  
<https://www.ecan.govt.nz/your-region/living-here/transport/regional-transport-planning/transport-emissions/#e1182>

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Climate Resilience Strategy

 Waimate

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## Part 1. Outcome: Reduce transport related carbon emissions.

WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	
		\$ = requires additional funding BAU = blend into BAU STAFF = additional staff time required				
1: Promote low carbon and travel efficiency.						
1.1 Enable reduced and more efficient Council travel	Where appropriate, encourage staff to use alternative, low carbon and active transport options for travelling to work and for work journeys.	BAU	Review or develop relevant Council policies.	Review new technology and opportunities to reduce staff travel. Review or develop relevant Council policies.		WDC Waitaki DC Mackenzie DC
	Upgrade IT travel planning & car-pooling booking systems. Include virtual meeting prompt on 'vehicle booking' form – factor in neighbouring District Councils	\$ / STAFF				
	Use videoconferencing wherever feasible to reduce the need to undertake physical journeys.	BAU				
	Develop a transport portfolio that oversees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use trip reporting to identify hard working vehicles and those that are underutilised.</li> <li>• Ensure efficient driving habits are included in defence driving induction for new staff.</li> <li>• Ensure vehicles are regularly serviced and maintained to ensure they are running as efficiently as possible. Make sure vehicles are running on the right tyre pressure.</li> <li>• Conduct a review of vehicle type requirements i.e. right vehicle and power-source for the right job.</li> </ul>	\$ / BAU				

WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	
1.2 Enable reduced and more efficient community travel.	Investigate Community transport options between Timaru – Oamaru for workers / shoppers / health & wealth needs – Oceania / community vehicle / ECAN integration. Include improved access and travel choice for the transport disadvantaged.	STAFF	Investigate the potential for public transport, shared services, walking and cycling in rural, particularly for the transport disadvantaged. Work with ECAN / TDC / ORC to make public transport more affordable, with a particular focus on low-income users. Investigate technological options for travel efficiency – such as on demand public transport (e.g Myway App)	Continue to investigate opportunities to provide more Council services online and promote these to the community. Continue to promote reduced and more efficient travel		WDC Community ECAN Oceania Community Vehicle Trust Fonterra Silver Fern Farms Alliance Community Link Alpine Energy Meridian Energy
	Investigate opportunities to provide more Council services online and promote these to the community ensuring rural areas have robust wifi access.	STAFF / \$ / BAU				
	Develop educational material on efficient travel options (ref AP#1:4.1).	STAFF / \$ / BAU				
	Increase travel efficiency through the establishment of a ride-share / car-pooling app that factors in backloads and trailer use.	STAFF / BAU				
	Promote local events and staycations and sync these with neighbouring District Councils for maximum economic benefit. e.g. Big Easy / Waimate Trail (via a Development Officer – see AP#1 3.4)	STAFF / BAU				
	Promote 'buy local' including locally sourced produce by investigating the establishment of a business community association	STAFF / BAU				
	Continue to develop an EV-charging infrastructure work programme to coordinate policy, investment and engagement with stakeholders.	STAFF / BAU / \$?				
	Investigate local power generation to keep pace with EC charging points (ref AP#4:1.5).	STAFF				

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WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	
1.3 Enable and encourage active transport.	<p>Create, implement and promote a Waimate Commuting Strategy that is inclusive of Active Transport that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivers a district plan to significantly increase the safety and attractiveness of walking &amp; cycling on an integrated signposted network.</li> <li>• Provides facilities and infrastructure to encourage Council staff and the community to utilise active forms of travel e.g bike racks, cycle lanes, apps.</li> <li>• Improves walking and cycling infrastructure for the elderly.</li> <li>• Improves walking and cycling infrastructure to and along school routes, in schools, and in surrounding neighbourhoods.</li> <li>• Explores dedicated active transport funding and/or education programmes and promotion for schools and the wider community – including signage.</li> </ul>	STAFF	<p>Work with rural communities on a 'Small Towns Initiative' / Waimate Trail integration.</p> <p>Deliver on Active Waimate implementation plans, e.g. provide bike-racks, water fountains, walking and cycling paths, connections between rural communities.</p> <p>Continue to roll out Active Waimate initiatives.</p>	Review facilities as required.		<p>Waka Kotahi</p> <p>Community Boards</p> <p>Communities ECAN</p> <p>Waimate2gether</p> <p>Hall Committees</p> <p>Police</p> <p>Road Safety Coordinator</p> <p>Grey Power</p> <p>Parenting Hub</p>
<b>2: Embed nature-based solutions as part of our response to reducing transport emissions and improving climate adaptation and biodiversity outcomes</b>						
2.1 Ensure transport policy and investment settings encourage the use of nature based solutions	Consider the role of nature-based solutions in reducing transport emissions and contributing to other benefits- e.g. permeable road surfaces, flood detention zones (ref AP#3 3.1).	BAU				
	Protect and enhance existing carbon sinks and support for new long-term carbon sequestration opportunities where appropriate e.g through roadside biodiversity corridors (ref AP#5: 2.1).	BAU / \$				
<b>3: Develop Freight efficiencies to, from and within the district.</b>						
3.1 Engage with industry to streamline supply chain and freight distribution (ref AP6:3.0).	Investigate District Freight Hub that utilises rail (e.g Studholme) (ref AP#1:3.1). Support infrastructure development for green fuels and fast charging for heavy vehicles	STAFF	Include charging stations, access to food and facilities – including biofuel access.	Support infrastructure development for green fuels and fast charging for heavy vehicles.		<p>Fonterra</p> <p>Oceania</p>

## Part 2. Outcome: Improve the resilience of transport infrastructure.

WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	
4: Reduce the vulnerability of transport infrastructure exposed to climate change						
4.1 Identify transport infrastructure that is at risk or vulnerable to climate change.	Utilise National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) climate change projections and the Canterbury to understand specific infrastructure vulnerabilities (ref AP#3:2.1 / AP#4:2.1).	STAFF	Update identified risks with latest knowledge / assumptions	Update identified risks with latest knowledge / assumptions		ECAN Ministry for the Environment National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research Local Government New Zealand Gravel Extractors
	Identify the likely local effects and potential costs of climate change on transport infrastructure within the district.	STAFF				
4.2 Prioritise the risk management of assets so that services can continue if disruption occurs.	Identify the levels of risk to Council infrastructure arising from climate change using NCCRA consequence ratings.	STAFF	Continued use of dynamic adaptive pathways planning to manage climate change risks to transport infrastructure	Develop strategies for managing risk to different types of transport infrastructure		ECAN Central Government Catchment Groups
	Develop and determine the approach to be taken by Council, using dynamic adaptive pathways planning (DAPP).	STAFF				
5: Ensure all new transport infrastructure is fit for a changing climate.						
5.1 Apply climate change assumptions to new transport projects.	Utilise local analysis, NIWA's climate change projections, the 'Canterbury Regional Land Transport Plan' to inform project options (ref AP#2:4.1 / AP#3:2.1).	BAU	Update climate change assumptions with latest information	Update climate change assumptions with latest information		ECAN Ministry for the Environment National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research Local Government New Zealand Freight Transport Operators
	Consider long-term climate impacts when we design and invest in infrastructure i.e the right infrastructure is in the right place.	BAU				
	Consider economic incentives e.g rates reduction for a future freight hub while in its' development phase (ref AP#1:3.4).	BAU				
5.2 Collaborate with other transport providers, in particular within the Canterbury Region, to build climate change resilience	Strengthen the network of transport providers and ensure climate change is regularly included as an agenda item - Establish a transport committee to facilitate	STAFF / \$	Participate in discussions with the transport provider network	Participate in discussions with the transport provider network		Other transport providers Waka Kotahi ECAN

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WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	
6: Use renewal programmes to improve adaptive capacity.						
6.1 Consider long-term climate impacts when making decisions to maintain, upgrade, repair or replace existing infrastructure.	Understand future adaptation options and finance them as part of the investment in new infrastructure to build capacity to adapt.	BAU	Update climate change assumptions with latest information	Update climate change assumptions with latest information		WDC Civil Defence





## Climate Resilience Action Plan 3

### Water

This is one of six action plans, which support our Climate Change Strategy (LTP dates – 2027-2037).

To view further Action Plans and their supporting documents, visit [www.waimatedc.govt.nz/climate](http://www.waimatedc.govt.nz/climate)

#### Our Climate Resilience Strategy has three aims:

1. Carbon Neutral by 2050 for the district.
2. Build climate resilience through a just and equitable intergenerational approach to planning and preparing for the impacts of a Changing Climate.
3. We factor in intergenerational sustainability of our natural environment, economy, society, and cultural wellbeing.

#### Why this Water Action Plan is important

Water sustains life which is why we must all work to manage our water use responsibly and sustainably. Council provides three essential water services to our community: water treatment and supply; wastewater (also known as sewage) collection, treatment and disposal; and stormwater management.

Water and climate change are inextricably linked. Extreme weather events are making water more scarce, more unpredictable, more polluted or all three. These impacts throughout the water cycle threaten sustainable development, biodiversity, and people's access to water and sanitation.

With human induced climate change, extreme weather events are more likely. For every 1°C increase in temperature the atmosphere has the capacity to hold 7% more moisture. Across the district, this could bring between 15-40% more rain during a rainfall event depending on altitude, location and season. Conversely over a year, dry days could exceed 300 on average.

#### What we want this plan to achieve

There are three parts to this Action Plan

Part one focuses on emissions reduction and reflects the objectives taken from the Emission Reduction Plan (ERP).

Part two is all about climate resilience and reflects the objectives taken from the National Adaptation Plan (NAP).

Part three focuses on community education and awareness.

**Part 1 Outcome:** Reduce and manage Water Management related greenhouse gas emissions.

#### Objectives

1. Reduce and manage greenhouse gas emissions from water infrastructural services
  - 1.1. Consider and optimise greenhouse gas reduction measures in any new projects.
  - 1.2. Embrace new Technologies.

**Part 2 Outcome:** Improve the resilience of Water infrastructure.

#### Objectives

2. Reduce the vulnerability of water infrastructure exposed to climate change
  - 2.1. Identify water infrastructure that is at risk or vulnerable to climate change.
  - 2.2. Prioritise the risk management of assets so that services can continue if disruption occurs.
  - 2.3. Develop adaptive design and planning pathways when making decisions to maintain, upgrade, repair or replace existing infrastructure.
3. Ensure all new water infrastructure is fit for a changing climate.
  - 3.1. Apply climate change assumptions to new water asset projects.
  - 3.2. Use renewal programmes to improve adaptive capacity.

**Part 3 Outcome:** Manage water responsibly and sustainably.

#### Objectives

4. Increase Council and community understanding of water use.
5. Increase understanding of water supply assets
6. Develop demand management strategy.

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## Part 1. Outcome: Reduce and manage Water Management related GHG emissions.

WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	
	Development window July 2023 – December 2024 <b>Integration</b> Signal action plan development in CC disclosure, Assumptions Short term (AP 2026/27) Development window July 2025 – October 2025 <b>Integration</b> Likely none as Council won't impose cost without major consultation	\$ = requires additional funding BAU = blend into BAU STAFF = additional staff time required	Development window Jan 2025 – October 2026 <b>Integration</b> • Key Major Consultation • Multiple levels of integration dependant on consultation feedback • Council decision Integration into 10-year LTP window	Enaction of plan (conditional of approval) Every 3 years the plan is measured and revised based on reporting in gap years.		
1: Reduce and manage greenhouse gas emissions from water infrastructural services.						
1.1. Consider and optimise greenhouse gas reduction measures in any new projects	Identify means of collating data from all Water & Wastewater sites including the campgrounds to improve the reliability of this data.  For Water & Wastewater sites with septic tanks, provide the per capita usage to provide more accurate reporting e.g. record patronage of WDC campsites.	BAU	Apply carbon calculator options to new projects, procurement processes and methodologies.	Apply carbon calculator options to new projects. Consider greenhouse gas reduction opportunities alongside any wastewater upgrades.		WDC Business community
1.2. Embrace new technologies	Optimisation: Keep abreast of changing technology and its utilisation in population growth (ref AP1:2.2).	BAU	Roll out new technology as appropriate	Roll out new technology as appropriate		WDC Business community

## Part 2. Outcome: Improve the resilience of Water infrastructure.

WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	
2: Reduce the vulnerability of water infrastructure exposed to climate change						
2.1 Identify water infrastructure that is at risk or vulnerable to climate change.	Utilise Canterbury Climate Change Risk Assessment with NIWA's climate change projections and the Canterbury Regional Policy Statement to inform project options (ref AP1:2.2 / AP#3:4.1).	BAU	Update identified risks with latest knowledge / assumptions	Update identified risks with latest knowledge / assumptions		WDC Landowners MGI ECAN Catchment Groups HSC TRONT Hakataramea Rural Water Supply Gravel Extractor Contractors
	Identify the likely local effects of climate change on three waters infrastructure within the district.	STAFF				
	Identify the levels of risk to Council infrastructure – including population & economic growth models.	STAFF				
	Prioritise the risk management of assets so that services can continue if disruption occurs.	STAFF				
2.2 Develop adaptive design and planning pathways (DAPP) when making decisions to maintain, upgrade, repair or replace existing infrastructure.	Develop adaptive planning methodologies with adopted procedures.	BAU / STAFF	Provide training in the use of dynamic adaptive pathways planning (DAPP), as recommended by the Ministry for the Environment	Develop specific strategies for infrastructure type.		WDC Central Government

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WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	
3: Ensure all new water infrastructure is fit for a changing climate.						
3.1 Apply climate change assumptions to new water asset projects.	Incorporate nature-based solutions such as flood break out zones and holding ponds – that both store water and reduce flood magnitude. Enhance / re-establish wetlands in flood prone areas (ref AP#2:2.1 / AP#5:2.1)	STAFF / \$? / BAU	Review or develop relevant Council policies with latest knowledge / Assumptions.	Review or develop relevant Council policies with latest knowledge / Assumptions.		ECAN Landowners
	Include rainwater storage tanks as part of retrofits and new builds for outdoor and greywater use.	BAU				
3.2 Use renewal programmes to improve adaptive capacity.	Consider long-term climate impacts when making decisions to maintain, upgrade, repair or replace existing infrastructure.	BAU	Review or develop relevant Council policies with latest knowledge / Assumptions.	Review or develop relevant Council policies with latest knowledge / Assumptions.		

**Part 3 Outcome: Manage water responsibly and sustainably.**

WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	
4: Increase Council and community understanding of water use						
	Conduct a water loss assessment.	STAFF / \$	Review or develop relevant Council policies.  Continue to increase understanding and education around water use.	Update identified risks with latest knowledge / assumptions		ECAN Ministry for the Environment National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research
	Produce public education resources on sustainable water use and capacity (ref AP#1 4.1).	STAFF				
	Continue to install water meters.	\$ / BAU				
	Enable an Economic demand and its associated supply capability assessment i.e. do we have security of supply moving forward based on our current district's economic model and forecast (ref AP#3:2.1).	\$				

WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	

## 5: Increase understanding of water supply assets.

	Enhance asset management systems.	\$ / BAU	Development of hydraulic models. Continue to enhance asset management systems	Develop strategies for managing risk to different types of Water infrastructure		ECAN Central Government
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## 6: Develop demand management strategy.

	Development of demand management initiatives	STAFF	Implement demand management initiative.			
	Review water pricing structure on '5 waters': Fresh / storm / waste / irrigation / flood	STAFF	Investigate policy response and/or education to increase awareness and encourage reduced community demand for water and increased resilience (i.e. rainwater collection tanks, greywater systems)  Educate community regarding household sewerage services and the impact on the environment (ref AP#6:4.1)  Consider and where practical implement water reduction initiatives at Council facilities (such as harvesting rainwater, grey water systems, low-flowrate appliances)			

## This plan aligns with:

- AP#1: Leadership, Empowerment and Collaboration
- AP#2: Transport
- AP#5: Carbon Sequestration and Natural Restoration



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## Climate Resilience Action Plan 4

### Land use and the built environment

This is one of six action plans, which support our Climate Resilience Strategy (LTP dates – 2027-2037).

To view further Action Plans and their supporting documents, visit [www.waimatedc.govt.nz/climate](http://www.waimatedc.govt.nz/climate)

#### Our Climate Resilience Strategy has three aims:

1. Carbon Neutral by 2050 for the district.
2. Build climate resilience through a just and equitable intergenerational approach to planning and preparing for the impacts of a Changing Climate.
3. We factor in intergenerational sustainability of our natural environment, economy, society, and cultural wellbeing.

#### Why this Land Use and the Built Environment Action Plan is important.

Land use and the built environment are the foundation of our communities. They include the physical environment around us, the people in that environment and the interaction between the two. The built environment includes urban areas, the form, shape, and accessibility of homes, work, and play all have a direct influence on the quality of our lives. The form, design and characteristics of our homes, buildings and places play a key role in our health, wellbeing and quality of life by providing people with the systems and infrastructure they need for living, their mobility and their wellbeing. This includes critical infrastructure inclusive of clean drinking water and transport networks that are covered in separate Climate Resilience Action Plans. Climate change affects our homes, buildings and places, but where and how we build can help us adapt.

Communities within the Waimate District also rely on community buildings such as halls, public toilets, the Event Centre, museum, library and sites of significant cultural values to Māori including wahi tapu and cultural landscapes for their overall wellbeing. This action plan also considers the impact of climate change on these types of infrastructure.

#### What we want this plan to achieve.

There are three parts to this Action Plan

Part one focuses on emissions reduction and reflects the objectives taken from the Emission Reduction Plan (ERP).

Part two is all about climate resilience and reflects the objectives taken from the National Adaptation Plan (NAP).

Part three focuses on the resilience of community infrastructure.

**Part 1 Outcome:** Reduce Land Use and the Built Environment related GHG emissions.

#### Objectives

1. Promote low emission and sustainable land use and building practises.

**Part 2 Outcome:** Ensure land use activities and buildings are resilient to climate change.

#### Objectives

2. Ensure land use decisions improve resilience.
3. Acknowledge cultural and heritage values in land use decisions.

**Part 3 Outcome:** Improve the resilience of community infrastructure.

#### Objectives

4. Identify and reduce climate change risk to existing community building and infrastructure e.g. community halls, public toilets, the Event Centre, museum, library and the LGC.

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**Aligned with this Action Plan are:**

→ AP#1: Leadership, Empowerment and Collaboration

→ AP#2: Transport

→ AP#3: Water

→ AP#5: Carbon Sequestration and Natural Restoration

Are we allowing and planning for the right land use activities in the right place?

What considerations should apply to buildings and structures?

How do we manage our cultural, heritage and biodiversity areas?



**Part 1. Outcome: Reduce Land Use and the Built Environment related GHG emissions.**

WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	
		\$ = requires additional funding BAU = blend into BAU STAFF = additional staff time required				

**1: Promote low emission and sustainable land use and building practises.**

1.0 Promote the use of sustainable products and practises	Work with suppliers to select materials with the lowest embodied carbon (ref AP#1:1.1).	BAU	Investigate low emission and sustainable buildings practises for future development. Investigate options to sequester carbon through biodiversity enhancement on Council land to off-set carbon emissions	Consider an Infrastructure Development Code of low emission and sustainable land use, building practice and day to day operations. Be proactive by taking the lead in lobbying for change that leads to a sustainable future.		Suppliers and contractors Building professionals Industry e.g. Wool / wood WDC
	Retain procurement details so that accurate data from the actual material and brand used is available.	BAU				
	Host a Built Environment Expo that: • Facilitates sustainable building materials e.g wool insulation. • Highlights education materials for council staff and the community (ref AP#1:4.1).	STAFF				

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WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	
1.1 Improve building energy efficiency	Investigate a community fund and funding for energy efficiency in homes and buildings (ref AP#1:3.3). Factor in passive housing initiatives in all new builds.	BAU				ECAN Financial Institutions Lions / Rotary
1.2 Take travel, vehicle emissions and access to public transport into account when making land use decisions.	Consider low emissions travel options in land use planning (ref AP#2:1.0).	BAU	Consider public transport and freight hubs in any future development strategies (ref AP#1: 1.0).	Consider public transport and freight hubs in any future development strategies.		Suppliers and contractors Building professionals ECAN
	Promote and work with local suppliers.	BAU				
1.3 Include green space as carbon sinks.	Incorporate green space into future urban developments.	BAU				Land Owners
1.4 Increase urban density	Encourage urban development as a means of reducing transport emissions (ref AP#2:1.0).	BAU				
1.5 Include Solar Energy as part of future developments	Investigate a community fund and funding for energy efficiency in homes and buildings (ref AP#1:3.3).	BAU				ECAN Financial Institutions Lions / Rotary Alpine & Manawa Energy EECA
	Investigate development of solar farms and roof top arrays on both council and commercial property – including the waste-water treatment plant ponds e.g. through a PPE or similar (ref AP2:1.2).	Staff				
	Install floating solar panels on wastewater ponds.	Staff / \$				
1.6 Utilise marginal land for native and plantation forestry.	Refer AP#2:2.1 / AP#5:1.1/2.1	BAU				

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## Part 2. Outcome: Ensure land use activities and buildings are resilient to climate change.

WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	
2: Enhance resilience through land use decisions that reduce and manage the impacts of climate hazards on homes and buildings.						
2.1 Conduct a climate change impact audit of landscapes in the district.	Identify and categorise areas most at risk from climate related natural hazards.	STAFF	Monitor ongoing risks.	Monitor and review ongoing risks. Review District Plan		ECAN WDC Iwi Community Civil Defence
	Incorporate community engagement with key stakeholders (ref AP#1:3.1)	STAFF				
2.2 Ensure future development considers climatic risk factors.	Implement ECAN's Regional Policy Statement, NPS - FW, New Zealand Coastal Policy and Waimate District Plan.	BAU	Continue to implement applicable plans and legislation. Take into consideration carbon farming long term economic impacts on our district.	Continue to implement applicable plans and legislation. Take into consideration carbon farming long term economic impacts on our district.		ECAN WDC Iwi Community
	Give effect to other legislation i.e. Building Act, RMA	BAU				
	Give consideration to costs and benefits to the community of carbon farming.	BAU				
2.3 Enhance food security	Ensure sustainable use of Highly Productive Land (HPL). Develop a backyard / community garden cooperative.					
3: Acknowledge cultural heritage and values in land use decisions						
3.1 Factor in cultural and heritage values when considering the impact of climate change.	Incorporate community engagement with key stakeholders to identify and categorise key cultural and heritage values most at risk from climate related natural hazards (ref AP#1:3.1).	STAFF	Ongoing community engagement. Factor in 'systems thinking' around the idea of interconnectedness or "ki uta ki tai" (from the mountains to the sea)	Ongoing community engagement. Factor in 'systems thinking' around the idea of interconnectedness or "ki uta ki tai" (from the mountains to the sea)		ECAN WDC Iwi Community
	Factor in 'systems thinking' around the idea of interconnectedness or "ki uta ki tai" (from the mountains to the sea)	BAU				
	Work with mana whenua to protect wahi tapu / wahi taonga sites and mahinga kai access.	STAFF / \$ / BAU				
	Develop education and communication material – inclusive of Te Ao Maori (Maori world view) in a local context (ref Ap#1:4.1).	STAFF / \$				

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## Part 3 Outcome: Improve the resilience of community infrastructure.

WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	
4: Identify and reduce climate change risk to existing community building and infrastructure e.g. community halls, public toilets, the Event Centre, museum, library and the LGC.						
4.1 Conduct a climate change hazard impact audit of community infrastructure.	Identify the potential impacts of climate change on communal assets and infrastructure within the District.	STAFF	Monitor and review ongoing risks.	Monitor and review ongoing risks. Review District Plan		ECAN WDC Iwi Community
	Identify the levels of risk to Council infrastructure arising from climate change.	STAFF	Review District Plan			
	Prioritise community assets using DAPP under cultural value, usage and civil defence purposes.	STAFF				
4.2 Develop strategy to manage associated risks to those communal assets	Develop and determine the approach to be taken by Council, using dynamic adaptive pathways planning (DAPP).	STAFF	Instigate Community and stakeholder Action Groups.	Strategies for individual communal assets developed		ECAN WDC Iwi Community Central Government
	Prioritise self-sufficient energy (solar) and water (rain water ) systems for community halls (ref 1.5).	BAU / \$				

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## Climate Resilience Action Plan 5 Carbon Sequestration and Natural Restoration

This is one of six action plans, which support our Climate Change Strategy (LTP dates – 2027-2037).

To view further Action Plans and their supporting documents, visit [www.waimatedc.govt.nz/climate](http://www.waimatedc.govt.nz/climate)

### Our Climate Resilience Strategy has three aims:

1. Carbon Neutral by 2050 for the district.
2. Build climate resilience through a just and equitable intergenerational approach to planning and preparing for the impacts of a Changing Climate.
3. We factor in intergenerational sustainability of our natural environment, economy, society, and cultural wellbeing.

### Why this Carbon Removal and Natural Restoration Action Plan is important.

The climate and biodiversity predicaments are inextricably linked. Aligning work on climate change and biodiversity is an opportunity to take strong action in both areas. Taking this approach will ensure our response to human induced climate change also improves the resilience of our native ecosystems and does not further their destruction.

This Action Plan is an opportunity to use nature-based solutions to tackle human induced climate change and to design our response to the climate crisis in a way that protects, enhances, and restores nature where possible. By using a nature-based approach, we can remove carbon from the atmosphere, store it and build resilience to the impacts of climate change at the same time as supporting biodiversity and wider environmental outcomes. This approach can also create employment opportunities that support an equitable transition, especially in rural areas. Carbon dioxide removals (removals) are activities that draw CO<sub>2</sub> from the air. They store it in biological or geological reservoirs or in long-lived products. At a national level removals are essential to achieving our near-term emissions budgets and our 2050 emissions target. In the long term, beyond 2050, removals are the only way the world can achieve net-negative emissions and reverse the rise in global atmospheric greenhouse gas levels. Local government is uniquely placed to deliver nature-based solutions. Our council is a land and infrastructure owner and regulator responsible for implementing both climate and other environmental policy 'on the ground' as such we can prioritise nature-based solutions in the provision of infrastructure and influence the restoration and protection of indigenous vegetation and wetlands.

(Ref ERP)

(Ref MfE)

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Climate Resilience Strategy



Waimate

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### What we want this plan to achieve.

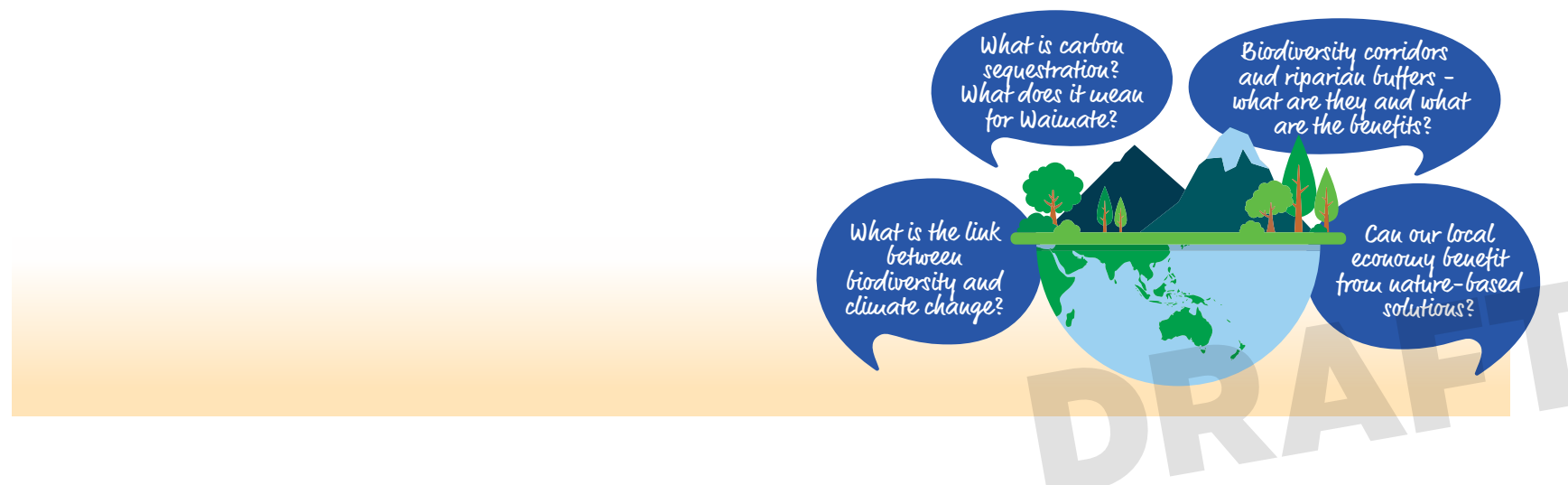
This Action Plan has a blended focus on both emissions reduction and climate resilience and reflects the objectives taken from both the Emission Reduction Plan (ERP) and the National Adaptation Plan (NAP).

### Objectives

1. Support native afforestation, land reversion and establishment of new production forests in the right location (right tree, right place, right purpose).
2. Prioritise nature-based solutions.
3. Embrace matauranga Māori approaches to native forest establishment.
4. Develop a District Biodiversity Strategy that promotes and enhances native biodiversity across the district.

### Aligned with this Action Plan are:

- AP# 2: Transport
- AP#1: Leadership, Empowerment and Collaboration
- AP#3: Water Management
- AP#4: Land Use and the Built Environment



## Outcomes

WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	
		\$ = requires additional funding BAU = blend into BAU STAFF = additional staff time required GOV = governance foci				
<b>1: Support native afforestation, land and wetland reversion and establishment of new production forests in the right location (right tree, right place, right purpose).</b>						
1.1 Support a better mix of forest type, retain important productive land uses, to avoid displacing gross emissions reductions and to better manage the potential long-term environmental effects of exotic forests.	Safeguard the right type and scale of forests, in the right place for the right purpose.	BAU / \$/ Staff	Be proactive by taking the lead in lobbying for change that leads to a sustainable future through the ETS that supports native vegetation.			ECAN Government Industry DOC Nurseries Landowners Catchment Groups FENZ
	Prioritise native afforestation and restoration over exotics in marginal and non-commercial land (ref AP#4:1.6).	BAU / \$/ Staff				
	Facilitate landowners and others to undertake afforestation where appropriate.	BAU / \$/ Staff				
	Restore and re-establish wetlands.	BAU / \$/ Staff				
	Build and share knowledge within the nursery sector to enable the increase in native afforestation.	BAU / \$/ Staff				

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WDC sub-actions	Timeframes				Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055
1.2 Invest in expanding the commercial supply of forest products and woody biomass.	<p>Establish community working group that undertakes research to (ref AP#1:3.1):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify current and possible sites for commercial forestry / woody biomass to replace coal process heat and/or as input to biofuels and biomaterials.</li> <li>Attract investment in the production of low-emissions wood products and biofuels, including how forests can provide a more consistent supply of wood fibre.</li> <li>Support cost effective recovery of harvest residues to supply biomass.</li> <li>Undertake operational research to support species selection and forest management of short rotation crops.</li> <li>Investigate woodchip supply and delivery.</li> <li>Investigate Hemp</li> </ul>	STAFF	Implement findings and recommendations.	Review or develop relevant Council policies.	Industry WDC Fonterra / Oceania Meridian / Alpine Energy
1.3 Develop forestry and wood processing industry transformation plan (ITP) (ref AP#1:1.3).	Advocate to attract investment in the production of low-emissions wood products and biofuels, including how forests can provide a more consistent supply of wood fibre.	GOV			
	Provide a transformation roadmap to lift value from the forestry and wood processing sector while delivering for communities and our climate change goals.	GOV			
	Identify specific actions to: increase wood processing and accelerate the bioeconomy; lift productivity and resilience across the forestry and wood processing supply chain; scale up internationally competitive wood-processing clusters; support increased use of wood in construction and improve export outcomes.	GOV			

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WDC sub-actions	Timeframes				Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055
<b>2: Prioritise nature-based solutions</b>					
2.1 Prioritise the use of nature-based solutions where possible, for both carbon removals and climate adaption (ref AP#3:3.1)	Develop an approach to measure, reduce, and offset our emissions (ref AP#1:2.2).	STAFF	Review or develop relevant Council policies.	Review or develop relevant Council policies.	Land owners. Catchment Groups WDC FENZ
	Ensure procurement processes account for approved suppliers that adhere to environmental and social accountability (ref AP#1:1.1).	STAFF			
	Establish an integrated work programme to deliver climate, biodiversity and wider environmental outcomes.	BAU			
	Increase carbon sequestration through planting and natural restoration of indigenous and fire-resistant vegetation.	BAU / \$			
	Build FENZ guidelines into our planning structure when landscaping or designing outdoor spaces and property infrastructure i.e. Landscaping and defensible space (ref AP#4: 2.1).	STAFF / BAU			
	Increase tree canopy cover in urban areas.	STAFF / BAU / \$			
	Plan for native plantings in road reserves / margins (ref AP#4:1.6 / AP#2:2.1)	STAFF / BAU / \$			
	Seek industry support and collaboration on alternatives to crop burn offs (ref AP#1:3.1).	STAFF / BAU / \$			
2.2 Support working with nature to build resilience	Provide advice, education and support to communities and landowners in understanding nature-based solutions as a choice for adaptation.	STAFF / BAU / \$			Friends of groups Land Owners
	Encourage greater levels of native afforestation over the long term by engaging stakeholders on a longer-term strategy and action plan.	BAU			
	Provide advice, education and support to communities and landowners about restoration and regeneration of indigenous forest (ref AP#1:4.1).	STAFF / BAU / \$			
	Naturalise waterways and (re) introduce wetlands across the district.	BAU			
	Leverage off natural areas for recreation and its associated health & economic benefits (ref AP#1:3.1).	BAU			
	Advocate that land isn't utilised for carbon farming in a way that is detrimental to long term community outcomes.	GOV			

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WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	
3: Embrace matauranga Māori approaches to native forest establishment.						
3 Work with hapū, iwi and Māori landowners to integrate native and exotic forestry into land-use decisions, to best understand and meet their aspirations.	Develop mātauranga Māori indicators of climate impacts on the natural environment, which will facilitate baseline datasets for monitoring climate impacts on the natural environment.	GOV	Take into consideration carbon farming's long term environmental and economic impacts on our district.			Mana Whenua Community WDC
	Support Māori rights to exercise kaitiakitanga and rangatiratanga as per the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act (1988).	GOV				
4: Develop a District Biodiversity Strategy that promotes and enhances native biodiversity across the district.						
4 Report on biodiversity outcomes as part of reporting on the emissions reduction plan (ref AP#1: 3.3).	Identify, protect and restore areas of significant indigenous biodiversity and areas with potential for biodiversity succession.	STAFF / \$	Review or develop relevant Council policies.	Review or develop relevant Council policies.		Friends of groups ECAN DOC Mana whenua Catchment Groups WDC Nurseries Community
	Increase the supply of locally sourced native seedlings to enable increased planting.	STAFF / \$				
	Facilitate a district wide biodiversity reference group that encapsulates all key stakeholders in the district: DOC, ECAN, WDC, manawhenua, F&G, 'friends of' groups	STAFF / \$				
	Develop / support community pest and predator programme.	STAFF / \$				
	Ensure indigenous ecosystems are restored and protected, sites that need buffers against climate risks are identified e.g. cemeteries / historic dumpsites.	STAFF / \$				
	Identify and connect biodiversity corridors / blue-green networks to improve ecosystem health and strength that ensures ecosystems and species have room to move, and human pressures lessened.	STAFF / \$				

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## AP6: Climate Resilience Action Plan: Waste and Circular Economy

This is one of six action plans, which support our Climate Change Strategy (LTP dates – 2027-2037).

To view further Action Plans and their supporting documents, visit [www.waimatedc.govt.nz/climate](http://www.waimatedc.govt.nz/climate)

### Our Climate Resilience Strategy has three aims:

1. Carbon Neutral by 2050 for the district.
2. Build climate resilience through a just and equitable intergenerational approach to planning and preparing for the impacts of human induced Climate Change.
3. We factor in intergenerational sustainability of our natural environment, economy, society, and cultural wellbeing.

### Why this Waste and Circular Economy Action Plan is important.

In 2019, 94 per cent of national waste emissions were biogenic methane – largely generated by the decomposition of organic waste (such as, food, garden, wood and paper waste). While waste contributes a small percentage of our total emissions, biogenic methane has a warming effect 28 times greater than carbon dioxide. Taking steps to reduce, recycle and recover greater volumes of organic waste – and improve services and infrastructure – will also create opportunities. These steps will support the shift to a circular economy, create new employment and business opportunities, improve the ability to dispose of waste responsibly, and generate cost savings for households and businesses. Ref ERP

In Aotearoa New Zealand in 2021, an average of 700 kilograms of waste per person was sent to landfill. That makes us one of the highest generators of waste per person in the OECD (who average 542kg pp). Taking natural resources, making them into something, using it and then disposing of it is referred to as a 'linear economy'. A 'circular economy' is a system where extracted materials are used and reused for as long as possible. The ideal scenario is that synthetic materials are reused forever and organic materials are eventually returned to the soil to enrich it. In a true circular economy, there is no waste: ref MfE <https://environment.govt.nz/assets/publications/Te-rautaki-para-Waste-strategy-A-snapshot.pdf>

Council has also considered the waste minimisation hierarchy of reduce, reuse, recycle, recover, treatment and disposal in the development of this WMMP (Figure 1). This plan should be read in association with the joint Waste Assessment (WA) for Waimate, Timaru and Mackenzie District Councils attached as Part C to this WMMP.

### What we want this plan to achieve.

There are two parts to this Action Plan

Part one focuses on emissions reduction and reflects the objectives taken from the Emission Reduction Plan (ERP).

Part two is all about climate resilience and reflects the objectives taken from the National Adaptation Plan (NAP).

**Part 1 Outcome:** Reduce Waste related carbon emissions.

### Objectives

1. Reduce the volume of waste generated by council.
2. Increase the amount of organic waste diverted from landfill.
3. Reduce waste transportation emissions.
4. Promote upstream waste hierarchy and circular economy principles.

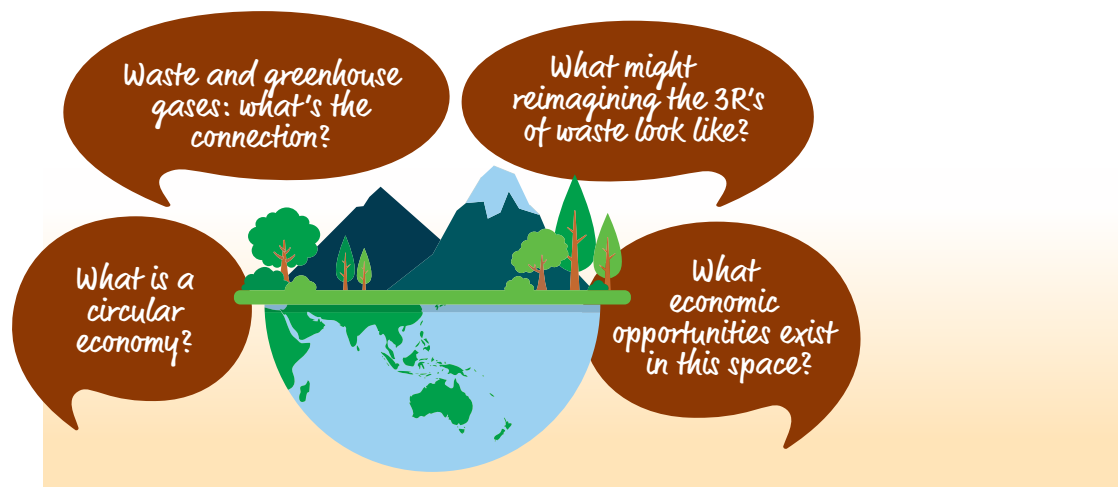
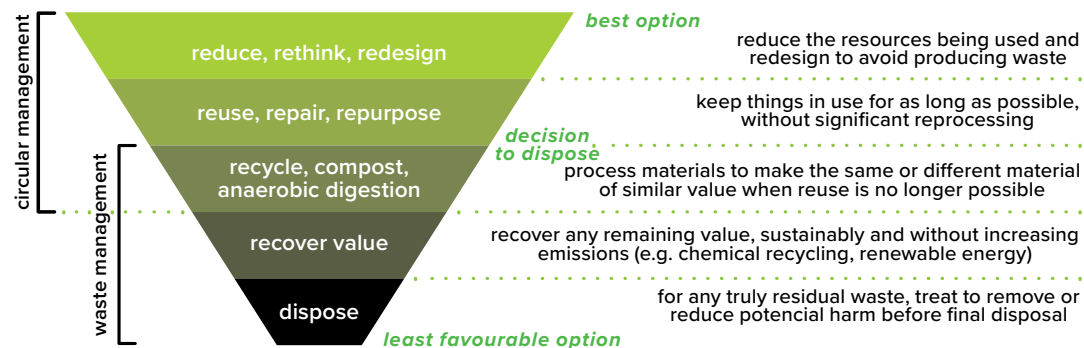
**Part 2 Outcome:** Improve the resilience of waste infrastructure.

### Objectives

5. Reduce the vulnerability waste infrastructure exposed to climate change.
6. Ensure all new waste infrastructure is fit for a changing climate.

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## Circular Management and waste management within the waste hierarchy



### Aligned with this Action Plan are:

- AP#2: Transport
- AP#4: Land Use and the Built Environment
- AP#5: Carbon Sequestration and Natural Restoration

**Part 1. Outcome: Reduce waste related carbon emissions.**

WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	
		\$ = requires additional funding BAU = blend into BAU STAFF = additional staff time required				
<b>1: Reduce the volume of waste generated by council.</b>						
1.1 Raise awareness within council	Promote in-council waste awareness.	BAU	Review promotional material and messaging.	Continue promotional material and messaging.		MfE WDC
1.2 Audit Council waste	Audit council waste streams across all departments annually – identify biogenic waste streams	BAU / STAFF	Review auditing process and outcomes.	Review auditing process and outcomes.		WDC Enviro Waste NZ
1.3 Work with suppliers to reduce waste coming into the organisation	Incorporate packaging and life-cycle considerations within procurement Policy	BAU / \$	Work with suppliers for low waste alternatives	Streamline waste streams for efficiency.		WDC Suppliers
<b>2: Increase the amount of organic waste diverted from landfill.</b>						
2.1. Improve household kerbside separation of organic waste.	Enable households and businesses to reduce organic waste e.g Introduce kitchen caddies for food scraps to improve uptake of organics service. Enable businesses to reduce food waste Donate 'use by' food to food banks	\$	Explore bans or limits to divert more organic waste from landfill.			
2.2. Invest in organic waste processing and resource recovery infrastructure.	Invest in a business plan to process and sell processed organic waste (i.e. compost) to our community – cost and options. Allow for free drop off of green waste and jib See also 4.0	STAFF \$				ecogas.co.nz/ christchurch Builders / Construction WDC Enviro Waste Gardening clubs

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WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	
3: Reduce waste transportation emissions.						
3.1. Investigate and where possible implement initiatives that reduce transportation of waste	Discuss opportunities with sector / waste contractors e.g. electric or low emissions trucks for solid waste operations (ref AP#2:3.1/AP#1: 3.1).	BAU	Maintain relationships with contractors to keep abreast of best practice, technology and trends.	Maintain relationships with contractors to keep abreast of best practice, technology and trends.		WDC TDC Enviro Waste NZ
4: Promote upstream waste hierarchy and circular economy principles						
4.1. Review and implement Council's Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP)  Support the development of local circular economy systems through the introduction of funding to encourage waste minimisation initiatives with local business. (ref AP#1:2.2/4.1/5.1).	Continue to collect data in accordance with the National Waste Data Framework to measure baselines and indicators.	BAU	Continue to provide education programmes to schools and businesses to help our community reduce waste and make better decisions about recycling and waste minimisation, including schools programmes.  Seek reduction of 1/3 of waste based on 2022 WMMP audit.  Bi- annual waste audit  Replace 'all in one' bins on main street with three bin system.			WDC / TDC Canterbury Joint Waste Committee Enviro Waste MfE
	Provide education programmes to raise awareness of circular economy principles and businesses, products, and services (available now and in the future) – inclusive of smart shopping practices / food storage and composting.	STAFF				
	Partner with and include schools in education programmes.	BAU				
	Support the implementation of national product stewardship schemes through the promotion and other use of our RRP as part of the collection network e.g. Crow's Nest outlet at the RRP	BAU / \$				
	Develop a 'tool' library (at the Menshed?)	STAFF				
	Set up a repair café (at the Menshed?)	STAFF				
	Replicate a 'Crows Nest' reuse / recycle / repair centre. Utilise community groups e.g. MENZshed	\$				

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WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	
4.2. Implement central government policy changes that support circular and bio economies within the District	Support and implement central government policies promoting circular economies – include specific actions in WMMP	BAU Staff / \$	Continue to support and implement central government policies promoting circular economies – include specific actions in WMMP	Continue to support and implement central government policies promoting circular economies – include specific actions in WMMP		WDC MfE
4.3. Support participation in improved kerbside collections.	Consider waste hubs within the district that best serve both rural and urban ratepayers.	BAU / STAFF	Continue to provide four-bin kerbside collection services (refuse, mixed recycling, glass, and organics) to residents in urban areas and review the extent of the kerbside collection services.  Review the extent of the kerbside collection services to better service rural residents			
4.4. Reduce and divert construction and demolition waste to beneficial uses.	Support the building and construction sector to minimise waste through research and improved capability (ref AP#1:3.1).	BAU / STAFF				WDC Industry Kiwi rail Transport companies
	Invest in sorting and processing infrastructure for construction and demolition waste.	STAFF / \$				
	Enable the separation of construction and demolition materials.	STAFF / \$				

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52**Part 2. Outcome: Improve the resilience of waste infrastructure.**

WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	
5: Reduce the vulnerability of waste infrastructure exposed to climate change						
5.1 Identify waste infrastructure that is at risk or vulnerable to climate change.	Utilise Canterbury Climate Change Risk Assessment with NIWA's climate change projections and the Canterbury Regional Policy Statement to inform project options (ref AP#1:2.2).	BAU	Update identified risks with latest knowledge / assumptions	Update identified risks with latest knowledge / assumptions		WDC ECAN TRONT NIWA
	Identify the likely local effects of climate change on waste infrastructure within the district.	STAFF				
	Identify the levels of risk to Council solid waste infrastructure – including population & economic growth models.	STAFF				
	Prioritise the risk management of assets so that services can continue if disruption occurs.	STAFF				
	Incorporate old landfills into Carbon Sinks via Natural Restoration (see AP#5:2.1)					
5.2. Develop adaptive design and planning pathways (DAPP) when making decisions to maintain, upgrade, repair or replace existing infrastructure.	Develop adaptive planning methodologies with adopted procedures.	BAU / STAFF	Provide training in the use of dynamic adaptive pathways planning (DAPP), as recommended by the Ministry for the Environment	Develop specific strategies for infrastructure type.		WDC Central Government (MfE)

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WDC sub-actions	Timeframes					Key stakeholders /partners
	Short-term KPI's (LTP 2025-34) /Short term (AP 2026/27)	Short-Term Resource Requirements	Mid-Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37)	Mid-Long Term KPI's (LTP 2027-37, LTP 2030-40, LTP 2033-43)	Intergenerational 2055	
6: Ensure all new waste infrastructure is fit for a changing climate.						
6.1. Apply climate change assumptions to new waste asset projects (ref AP#1:2.2).	Use Canterbury Climate Change Risk Assessment with NIWA's climate change projections and the Canterbury Regional Policy Statement to inform project options.	STAFF / \$? / BAU BAU	Review or develop relevant Council policies with latest knowledge / Assumptions.	Review or develop relevant Council policies with latest knowledge / Assumptions.		WDC ECAN
Use renewal programmes to improve adaptive capacity.	Consider long-term climate impacts when making decisions to maintain, upgrade, repair or replace existing infrastructure (ref AP#1:2.2). Adjust procurement processes accordingly.	BAU	Review or develop relevant Council policies with latest knowledge / Assumptions.	Review or develop relevant Council policies with latest knowledge / Assumptions.		WDC

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**16.3 DELEGATION TO CONSIDER AN OBJECTION UNDER SECTION 357A OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT**

**Author:** Alex Macdonald, Senior Planner

**Authoriser:** Dylan Murray, Regulatory and Compliance Group Manager

**Attachments:** Nil

**PURPOSE**

1. The purpose of the report is to seek delegation from Council to consider an objection to resource consent conditions that has been received under section 357A of the Resource Management Act.

**BACKGROUND**

2. On Monday 14 July Council received an objection to resource consent conditions for consent RM250034. The objection relates to design and certification requirements for the use of a private sewer lateral to service a subdivision.
3. The Delegations Policy 308 does not contain a delegation to enable staff to consider the objection, or to appoint a hearing commissioner to consider an objection<sup>1</sup>. Staff have been reviewing the RMA delegations, but this review is not yet complete.
4. Council has a statutory timeframe of twenty working days to consider the objection. As the objection was lodged on the 14 July, this Council meeting is the only opportunity to resolve the issue.
5. As Council will be aware, Council delegations under s34A of the Resource Management Act are direct to local authority officers, and therefore staff cannot rely on any existing or general powers of delegation to consider this matter.

**PROPOSAL**

6. That Council delegate to the Chief Executive, using the power of delegation in s34A of the Resource Management Act, the power to either:
  - a. Consider, and make a decision on, the objection to RM250034 (under sections 357A and 357D of the Resource Management Act), in the event a hearing is not required, or
  - b. Appoint a hearing commissioner for this matter including authorising that hearing commissioner to make the decision on the objection to RM250034 (under sections 357A and 357D of the Resource Management Act). This delegation includes any necessary powers consequential to the exercise of this power, including powers related to hearings.
7. Note that this delegation will otherwise be exercised in accordance with the requirements of the Delegations Policy and any relevant statutory requirements, including the requirement to ensure that any person who is appointed holds relevant accreditation.
8. Staff note a hearing will not be required in the event the objection can be resolved, i.e. by Council and the applicant reaching agreement on the matter in dispute.

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<sup>1</sup> The applicant has the ability, under s357C(2A), to elect whether they wish to have their objection considered by the consent authority or an independent commissioner. At time of writing this report, the applicant has not confirmed whether they wish their objection to be heard independently.

**Options**

9. Staff have not considered any other options, as there is no other option which enables Council to meet its statutory requirements. In particular:
  - a. Given the time the objection was received and deadline for papers to this Council meeting, staff have not had time to process the objection and consider the substance of the objection, or negotiate with the applicant to identify if there is a solution acceptable to both them and Council prior to writing this report.
  - b. In the event the applicant requests the objection be heard by a hearing commissioner, Council must (under s357AB) appoint a hearing commissioner who is not a member of the consent authority. Therefore, there is a statutory requirement for Council to delegate its powers in this situation.

**ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

10. This delegation is of low significance in accordance with Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

**CONSIDERATIONS**

11. The key considerations are outlined above. Staff note that the delegation powers sought after in this paper are commonly delegated by other councils.

**Risk**

12. In the event the decision on this objection goes against the applicants wishes, the applicant has the ability to appeal to the Environment Court.

**FINANCIAL**

13. There are no financial implications associated with this paper. If required, the costs of appointing a hearing commissioner will be met either by the applicant or from within existing budgeted expenditure.

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the Delegation to consider an objection under section 357A of the Resource Management Act report is accepted; and
2. That Council delegate to the Chief Executive, using the power of delegation in s34A of the Resource Management Act, the power to either:
  - a. Consider, and make a decision on, the objection to RM250034 (under sections 357A and 357D of the Resource Management Act), in the event a hearing is not required, or
  - b. Appoint a hearing commissioner for this matter, with Council authorising the hearing commissioner appointed to make the decision on the objection to RM250034 (under sections 357A and 357D of the Resource Management Act). This delegation includes:
    - i. Any necessary powers consequential to the exercise of this power, including powers related to hearings, and the specific powers under 357CA, and
    - ii. The power to waive or extend a timeframe in relation to this matter under 37 and 37A.

**16.4 SUBMISSION ON RMA NATIONAL DIRECTION CONSULTATIONS****Author:** Alex Macdonald, Senior Planner**Authoriser:** Dylan Murray, Regulatory and Compliance Group Manager

**Attachments:** 1. Submission - National Direction Package 1 for Council [!\[\]\(a03a7eb2f4046e1d3c76772003e549ea\_img.jpg\)](#) 

2. Submission - National Direction Package 2 for Council [!\[\]\(2af34e678d9364b2f32b7174f4964d2c\_img.jpg\)](#) 

**PURPOSE**

1. To seek Council's authorisation for a submission to the Government's proposed changes to the RMA National Direction<sup>2</sup> prior to consultation closing on 27 July 2025.

**BACKGROUND**

2. As Council has been advised, the Government has released three discussion documents proposing amendments to 12 existing national direction instruments and the introduction of four new instruments. The entire consultation package is centred around three sections: infrastructure and development, the primary sector, and freshwater.
3. Collectively, these changes will have a significant impact on Council's statutory responsibilities, and on the wider community.
4. Many of the proposed changes impact multiple council functions and work areas. For example, the proposed National Policy Statement (NPS) for Infrastructure has significant implications for both Council's regulatory and asset management functions.
5. Staff have updated the submission in response to your feedback, and now seek your authorisation prior to lodgement.

**Amendments to Draft Submission**

6. In response to Council's feedback at the Open Workshop on 8 July, staff have:
  - a. Amended the discussion about the size of the Council planning department and potential costs to more clearly focus on the limited benefit that immediate implementation has for a small district; and
  - b. Expressly supported the changes to heights and sizes for the proposed NES-Telecommunications; and
  - c. Referred to water service delivery and strengthened the language about Council being an infrastructure provider with regard to the proposed NPS for Infrastructure; and
  - d. Expressly sought that requirements for parking and access for 'granny flats' are applied in rural areas.
7. Council staff have not been able to address the following pieces of feedback:
  - a. For the proposed NPS Natural Hazards, and the discussion around whether some CDEM facilities should be expressly provided for. On balance, staff consider that given the long term risk reduction view of the NPS Natural Hazards, and the relatively higher degree of flexibility to select sites, the potential risks and costs for expressly providing for these facilities exceed the benefits of including them. This issue is better addressed by considering this matter in our response planning.

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<sup>2</sup> National direction is the term for Resource Management Act (RMA) regulations and policy that must be implemented by council.

- b. Staff have not included a discussion on the proposed NPS and amendments to the NES for Electricity Transmission. While staff took on board community concerns about some of the enabling provisions, given these instruments are addressed in the Taituarā submission and the highly technical nature of the proposal, there is a risk that Council does not properly address the subject matter.

**Council's submission is broadly consistent with the Taituarā submission**

8. Staff have viewed the Taituarā submission, and while there are some differences, their submission recognises many of the issues raised, and they have been able to provide more detail on some matters.

**PROPOSAL**

9. Council is to consider giving authorisation, with or without amendments. If Council wishes to make any further amendments, the Chief Executive could be delegated the ability to approve any changes consistent with Council's direction.

**ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

10. This delegation is of low significance in accordance with Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

**CONSIDERATIONS****Legislation**

11. There are no legislative requirements associated with this submission.

**Territorial or Regional Council Regulations, Plans or Bylaws**

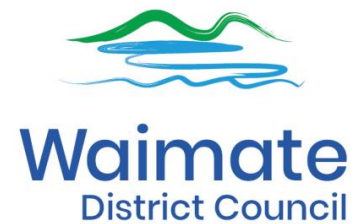
12. There are no specific regulations, plans or bylaws associated with this submission. Staff note that there is a high likelihood that, pending final decisions, the Waimate District Plan will have to be updated to give effect to the amendments proposed by Government in this consultation.

**FINANCIAL**

13. There are no financial implications associated with this submission.

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the Submission on RMA National Direction Consultations report is accepted; and
2. Council authorises the lodgement of the attached submission to the proposed National Direction Consultation, subject to any minor or editorial changes; and
3. That, if required, the Chief Executive be authorised to approve any minor or editorial changes in accordance with Recommendation 1 above.



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## **SUBMISSION – PACKAGE 1 – INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPEMNT.**

### Introduction

Waimate District Council welcomes the opportunity to submit on the Package 1 of the governments National Direction proposals. We are supportive of the intent of many of the changes, and recognise the necessity of a better developed and more comprehensive national direction package.

We address our key issues below, which focus on the general policy intent of the instruments proposed for change, while Appendix 1 contains specific feedback on some clauses, and specific actionable changes that could better deliver government objectives.

We endorse the content of the Taituarā submission, noting that while there are some areas of difference, there is a strong degree of consistency in our views.

### Key issue 1: Scale and pace of change creates a risk of unintended outcomes or significant implementation challenges.

As a small district we are conscious of the need to ensure that national direction is proportionate and does not result in inefficient processes, or unclear direction. The current package, as proposed, presents a significant implementation risk particularly during system transition.

For a small district, the immediate costs of implementing the new requirements, will exceed the potential benefits, are disproportionate for our district. We will not be the only district in this position.

We note Taituarā has requested that the implementation of this package be delayed until there is greater certainty on the planning framework, to avoid unnecessary implementation costs. We strongly support this recommendation.

Even if you do not delay implementation for all councils, we request that you delay implementation for small (non-Tier 3) councils. We request this change as the benefits of implementing greater policy direction on a case by case basis through consents will not outweigh the transitional and implementation costs, including uncertainty costs. We note that the case by case requirements to 'have regard to' NPS's have caused significant uncertainty<sup>1</sup> and expose councils to potential litigation risk.

Key Issue 2: There remain significant unresolved policy gaps and interactions across the package that need to be resolved

It is clear that large amounts of the proposal respond to specific government priorities. While we recognise the need for, and indeed support, greater government direction on a range of issues, we are concerned that insufficient regard has been had to balancing and prioritising issues.

Planning as a profession and in regulatory practice has a tendency to attempt to achieve 'everything, everywhere, all at once'. The current national direction system cuts through that, by giving decision makers clear things that they have to achieve (for example, the NPS-UD and strong requirements to enable development capacity where there is demand).

As proposed, this national direction package risks returning the profession to the 'everything, everywhere, all at once' mentality. For example, the proposed NPS's for Natural Hazards, and Infrastructure, alongside existing direction such as the NPS for Highly Productive Land create a situation where councils are expected to enable development, while also:

- Not enabling activities which may effect infrastructure development (e.g. by resulting in reverse sensitivity effects); and
- Ensuring we do not reduce the availability of Highly Productive Land; and
- Managing or preventing activities at significant risk from natural hazards; and
- Addressing a range of worthy technical matters, for example contaminated land.

Addressing each of these matters adds cost, complexity, and time to plan making, and ultimately restricts development.

The instruments (current and proposed) need to do more than simply 'talk to each other'. There needs to be a clear hierarchy of what *objectives* are more important than others and in what situations. Ideally, this results in clear prioritisation as to when one objective falls away and is not considered, and what costs are acceptable to impose through planning provisions.

If the instruments only 'talk to each other' and do not provide a hierarchy, there is an assumption that all the objectives can be 'balanced'. In a situation where relevant national direction instruments are to be 'balanced' we, as a regulator, will be in the position of introducing more and more provisions (and consequently, costs to our community and New Zealanders) to attempt to satisfy the requirements of each individual piece of national direction. We do not think that this situation would serve Waimate (and New Zealand).

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<sup>1</sup> Noting that, for example, the government has explicitly prevented councils from considering higher level policies in some decisions because of uncertainty costs and unintended outcomes by amending s104 to prevent consideration of Te Mana o Te Wai.

Finally, we note that there is significant uncertainty as to how these requirements interact with the governments indications that it is to introduce template zones (based on the Japanese model), and a lack of clarity around how these requirements will eventually interact with other reforms that affect local government, for example water service delivery requirements.

Conclusion

We welcome the opportunity to be further involved in policy development on any matters raised in our submission.

If you have any questions regarding the content of this submission please contact Council's lead author, senior planner Alex Macdonald, by email at [alex.macdonald@waimatedc.govt.nz](mailto:alex.macdonald@waimatedc.govt.nz).

We thank you for considering our submission.

Yours sincerely

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[CLICK TO ENTER SIGNATORY'S JOB TITLE]

## Appendix 1 – Specific comments on the proposal

Provision or proposal	WDC Position	Comment and suggested solution if applicable
Relevant to all proposed and amended national direction in this package.		
Definitions - Cross reference related definitions		<p>At various points proposed instruments use similar but not identical definitions, eg. 'local authority' 'decision maker' 'consenting authority' in the NPS Infrastructure, while 'decision makers' appears in the NPS-REG, and 'local authority' is used in the NPS-NH in a way that appears to mean decision maker.</p> <p>The NPS-NH refers to infrastructure, but is unclear if they are referring to the RMA definition of infrastructure or the NPS-I definition.</p> <p>Ultimately, there should be a single, consistent, group of definitions, and we recommend officials spend additional time to ensure these are appropriately cross referenced and aligned.</p>
Definitions – Planning decision	Support with amendments	<p>We support the use of this definition across the National Direction suite, and recognise that it is clearly intended to capture <i>substantive</i> decisions. While we understand that the definition is already in use, we note that the definition does not make it clear that only substantive decisions are captured. For example, a section 88 refusal is arguably a decision on a resource consent, and therefore under proposed provisions arguably the decision maker has to record how they have considered any relevant policies and objectives (if, for example, a resource consent application proposes infrastructure).</p>
Definitions - urban environment and related terms		<p>There is occasional confusion between 'urban environment', 'urban zone' and 'urban area' through the current National Direction corpus. There is a particular assumption that all urban areas are urban environments, which is not true as small councils such as us do not meet the population threshold and do not apply the NPS-UD.</p> <p>In the proposed documents these are used in an almost interchangeable way. For example, NPS-ET P9 uses 'urban environment' while the policy intent appears to anticipate effects in an 'urban area' or 'urban zone' – as there is no fundamental reason why a routine subdivision in Timaru's Residential Zone needs to consider space requirements for EDN assets, while an</p>



Provision or proposal	WDC Position	Comment and suggested solution if applicable
		<p>equivalent application in Waimate's Residential zone would not (as we do not meet the 10,000 person threshold for an urban environment despite having an urban area with urban zones).</p> <p>We recommend that all proposed uses of 'urban' are carefully cross checked (or alternatively the definition of 'urban environment' is amended, which is beyond the scope of the current proposal).</p>
Proposed National Policy Statement for Infrastructure		
General	Support	Waimate DC supports the introduction of national direction for infrastructure, and recognises the need for clear direction which enables infrastructure activities. We note that, alongside our RMA regulatory role, we are a major provider of infrastructure, including water and roads. We believe that it is important to ensure that this infrastructure is clearly enabled while ensuring its design is fit for purpose, particularly for infrastructure that will be transferred to council.
Application	Support	We support the national application of the NPS-I, subject to amendments to the implementation section below.
Definitions D1, D7 'Infrastructure' and 'Additional Infrastructure'	Support with amendments	<p>While we support the inclusion of the matters listed in 'additional infrastructure', we have concerns with the NPS effectively redefining 'infrastructure' as broader than the definition in the enabling act. This will create confusion, as it effectively creates two different definitions of the same word, that will apply in different contexts under the same enabling legislation.</p> <p>We recommend either 'infrastructure' is redefined in the primary act at the next set of RMA amendments, or a single term is used to encompass both the RMA definition of 'infrastructure' and 'additional infrastructure', for example 'physical and social infrastructure' which would include both 'infrastructure' and 'additional infrastructure'.</p>
Definition D1 Infrastructure	Consider	The draft NPS appears to be written on the assumption that infrastructure is of a particular scale or operator. However, as written, the definition includes almost all infrastructure of any scale (e.g. an onsite wastewater), and this interacts with some policies as drafted. See, for example, comments on P3, P7, P9 and P10.

Provision or proposal	WDC Position	Comment and suggested solution if applicable
		It may be more efficient to exclude small scale or onsite infrastructure from the definition of infrastructure, or provide for this type of infrastructure in a separate policy than redraft policies.
Definition D2 'Buffer'	Support with amendments	Definition appears to be a very complex way of saying 'a rule or performance standard which applies to a specific area around or nearby to an (existing) infrastructure activity.' Would suggest clarifying, as the current definition of buffer only refers to the spatial mapping of a control and may not include the control itself.
D18 Reverse Sensitivity	Support with amendments	Reverse sensitivity should be defined for the entire suite of national direction, to ensure consistency.
Definition – Missing Definition		<p>'Infrastructure provider' would benefit from being defined, and limited, as the NPS is drafted on an assumption that people seeking planning decisions for infrastructure will be the ultimate owner and operator of the infrastructure, and therefore have an incentive to ensure it is scoped, designed and managed appropriately.</p> <p>This is unfortunately not the case. An applicant for a subdivision or plan change will receive the benefit of policies which enable infrastructure, without having to take on any costs for poorly performing infrastructure. For example, P4(1)(c) is appropriate for infrastructure where the provider has a long term interest or requirement in ensuring adequate performance, but is open to misuse in a situation where the infrastructure developer can transfer the risk to an unknown future entity (as, for example, an applicant can propose a 'innovative solution' to stormwater, without having to take on the costs of potential non-performance).</p>
O1	Amend	<p>The objective is written in present tense, and therefore assumes that all existing infrastructure is consistent with this policy. Rewrite to future tense, so the objective is an intended state in line with policy intent.</p> <p>The objective would benefit from splitting out 'while managing adverse effects' into its own clause as follows, to ensure that the effects are managed to the appropriate standard, and better link to policies below and clarify the expectation set by 'resilient and well-functioning' e.g.:</p>

Provision or proposal	WDC Position	Comment and suggested solution if applicable
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(fa) adverse effects of infrastructure on the environment are managed in accordance with best practice for the type of infrastructure proposed, and the infrastructure solution proposed is appropriate for the actual or intended use.</li> </ul> <p>A clause such as the above is necessary to ensure that the NPS does not enable, indefinitely, infrastructure solutions which are clearly inappropriate, for example indefinite use of on-site waste water systems in areas which have (or are intended to have) public sewer service.</p> <p>It is also important to ensure that the objective refers to the intended use of infrastructure, to ensure that infrastructure is designed and scoped in an appropriate way, as there will be cases where the infrastructure provider/developer is not the ultimate owner or operator, and therefore has an incentive to pass costs to others. Refer to comments above on proposed definition for infrastructure provider.</p> <p>Ultimately, the NPS will need to either address situations where risk can be transferred between parties, or enable some level of objective assessment of the adequacy of the infrastructure and mitigation measures, and subsequent policies redrafted to address this.</p>
P1- Providing for the benefits of infrastructure	Support with amendments	<p>While WDC supports the stronger recognition of the benefits of infrastructure, this policy risks supporting the type of 'achieve everything everywhere' approach that concerns us with the package as a whole.</p> <p>Policy would be better framed by recognising the benefits that infrastructure provides; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requiring planning decisions to enable infrastructure where the benefits, including wider public and network benefits, exceed the costs; and</li> <li>Requiring that planning decisions assess whether any mitigation of adverse effects (and consequent additional costs on the infrastructure provider) is proportionate to any benefits from that mitigation, noting that any mitigation which results in greater costs than identifiable benefits is disproportionate; and</li> <li>Requiring decision makers not to consider any 'costs' or adverse impacts of infrastructure unless it relates to a matter listed in part 2 of the act or is expressly provided for by the NPS.</li> </ul>

Provision or proposal	WDC Position	Comment and suggested solution if applicable
P2 - Operational need or functional need of infrastructure to be in particular environments	N/A	Policy unlikely to be necessary if above approach is adopted. Otherwise, support.
P3 Consider Spatial Planning	Support	We recognise that spatial plans provide and master plans should be considered, however the broad definition of 'infrastructure' and encompassing wording of clause (b) risk planning decisions having to consider an extremely broad range of 'spatial' and 'master' plans of dubious quality, e.g. one prepared to support a discrete development. Refer to above commentary regarding providers.
P4 Enabling the efficient and timely operation and delivery of infrastructure activities		Broadly comfortable with the approach, in situations where the applicant / developer of infrastructure will be the ultimate owner or operator, and/or are regulated or respected entities. Needs to be reconsidered given the broad scope of the definition of infrastructure and potential for misuse given commentary above.
P5 Recognising and providing for Māori rights and interests		WDC supports the inclusion of a policy to this effect, recognising that ultimately Maori will need to be comfortable with how the NPS recognises any concerns they have.
P6 Assessing and managing the effects of proposed infrastructure activities on the environment		<p>We support the requirements for decision makers to have regard to particular matters, however we note that this policy does not have a clear outcome, and appears to conflict with itself – for example, in a case of an upgrade, does best practice prevail under clause (d), or does clause (c) set an baseline of expected effects.</p> <p>We recommend that the policy is drafted to clearly prioritise ensuring that infrastructure is constructed and maintained in accordance with best practice.</p>
P7 Operation, maintenance and minor upgrade of existing infrastructure	Support, with amendments	While we recognise the intent, this policy and associated definition of minor upgrade are too broadly scoped to be consistent with the purpose of the act, and the policy allows more significant adverse effects than anticipated (or enabled by P8). Removing para (d) of definition

Provision or proposal	WDC Position	Comment and suggested solution if applicable
		D10, and amending policy P7 to note that no significant adverse effect can occur as a result of the maintenance or minor upgrade would resolve most concerns.
P8 Managing the effects of new infrastructure and major upgrades on environmental values		This policy needs to be re-drafted in a way that clarifies what effects infrastructure can have, and where in the hierarchy it sits, otherwise this simply sits in tension with other national direction (as, for example, it is unclear if this policy is intended to supersede urban development and highly productive land considerations).
P9 Infrastructure compatibility	Amend	<p>This policy is unduly broad, given the broad definition of infrastructure and infrastructure provider, and potential for misuse by allowing infrastructure providers to impose unknown and unplanned costs on neighbouring land uses. Policy needs to be redrafted to ensure that any mitigation measures for reverse sensitivity, or planning restrictions to protect infrastructure, are proportionate to the costs on landowners or community, recognising that restrictions to protect infrastructure impose costs on others.</p> <p>While we understand that this policy is intended to ensure major infrastructure (e.g. ports, airports) is protected, this policy as written would arguably require us to engage with providers of small scale or on site infrastructure (i.e. every septic tank owner). Practically, this will therefore give a large range of people the status of 'infrastructure provider' and enable them to use infrastructure consents to oppose neighbouring development.</p>
P10 Assessing and managing the interface between infrastructure and other activities	Support with amendments	<p>While we support the intent of a policy that recognises that infrastructure effects are inevitable and to be expected, we request the following changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy clause (a) should explicitly provide for odour, e.g. from wastewater treatment plants</li> <li>• Clause (b) should be strengthened, to recognise that some infrastructure will have effects on amenity (or perceived amenity)</li> <li>• Clause (c) should be clarified to recognise the relative costs and benefits of the new activity – for example, a large and beneficial new activity (e.g. a subdivision or industrial site) should not have disproportionate mitigation on them to protect a small scale existing infrastructure activity.</li> </ul>

Provision or proposal	WDC Position	Comment and suggested solution if applicable
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add a new clause to recognise that effects are associated with the intended use, and that infrastructure providers do have to mitigate effects of increased use beyond the scope of the intended, otherwise this policy may allow (in combination with the upgrade policies) an infrastructure activity to progressively expand in scope and effects and require others to mitigate based on an unknowable future state.</li> </ul>
Implementation	Support with amendments	<p>While we support the proposal to delay requirements to give full effect to the NPS-I, we note that even the requirement to have regard to the NPS in consent decisions is potentially disproportionate for small local authorities such as ours.</p> <p>While we recognise the NPS as proposed requires us to do so, we request implementation for consent decisions for us (and other small councils) is delayed until the new system, unless special circumstances exist. The effect of this will be small (given we process less than 100 consents per year), while council will save the significant time and cost associated with implementing national direction on a case by case basis, and the NPS would still be considered for any significant new project.</p>
Proposed National Environmental Standards for Granny Flats (Minor Residential Units)		
General	Support with amendments	WDC supports housing supply goals. However, implementation needs clear integration with local infrastructure capacity to avoid overloading services in areas not designed for intensification. Also, robust procedures must be established to prevent critical issues from being missed.
Application - all other provisions in district and regional plans	Support with amendments	Retaining local control over matters like earthworks and natural hazards is appropriate. However, the NES should explicitly require applicants to demonstrate compliance with these provisions through a planning certification process. This ensures that critical risks are not missed and that development aligns with local constraints.
Permitted Activity Standards	Amend	The permitted activity standards should include a requirement for submission of plans to Council, before commencement, similar to the NES-CF. Applicants should not be permitted to 'self-certify' matters such as natural hazard risks or compliance with earthworks rules. In practice, applicants rarely identify these issues themselves and they are typically identified

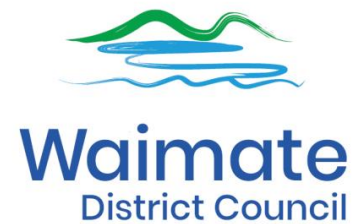
Provision or proposal	WDC Position	Comment and suggested solution if applicable
		during planning review of building consent applications. We recommend a mandatory planning certification step, even for permitted activities, to ensure these risks are properly addressed. Without full site and building plans, councils cannot adequately assess compliance with planning rules, particularly in relation to earthworks, setbacks, and hazard overlays. This creates a risk of non-compliant development proceeding unchecked. We recommend requiring submission of full plans with sufficient detail to enable planning review, even for permitted activities.
Permitted Activity Standards	Amend	<p>Monitoring permitted activities (e.g. plan checks, site inspections, compliance follow-up) has the potential to impose significant costs on councils. Without a cost recovery mechanism, these costs fall on ratepayers. We recommend enabling councils to charge appropriate monitoring fees, similar to existing compliance inspection fees.</p> <p>We note that if appropriate monitoring fees and front loading of assessment is not enabled, there is a significantly greater risk that applicants proceed to construction and council is forced to deal with non-compliance with abatement notices. This will ultimately be more costly for both council and applicants.</p>
Permitted Activity Standards	Amend	<p>Some councils, including WDC, still collect financial contributions, which are essential to fund infrastructure upgrades triggered by new development. The permitted activity standards should be amended to include a mechanism to collect these. Without a mechanism to collect these, councils risk losing revenue needed to maintain service levels. To ensure that infrastructure costs associated with MRUs are not unfairly borne by ratepayers, the NES should include a provision that explicitly enables territorial authorities to impose financial contributions for MRUs through a parallel certification mechanism, even where resource consent is not required.</p> <p>Without a clear mechanism, some councils will lose a critical funding stream for infrastructure upgrades, leading to under-servicing or increased rates. This undermines the governments goals for long-term sustainability of housing intensification and contradicts the principle of growth paying for growth.</p>

Provision or proposal	WDC Position	Comment and suggested solution if applicable
Permitted Activity Standards	Amend	We request that councils have the ability to enforce standards for parking, traffic, and access in rural zones. It is possible that minor household units are established in significantly different locations to the primary dwelling on a site, and these will need appropriate access, given significantly higher speeds and risk in rural areas.
Proposed National Policy Statement for Natural Hazards		
General	Support with amendments	WDC supports a proposed NPS for Natural Hazards, and recognises the importance of managing risk to our people and communities. We have concerns that the proposed NPS will make some planning processes more onerous than needed and will force WDC to be overly restrictive on activities affected by natural hazards that are low risk.
Application		To avoid confusion, potential interactions between the NPS and all other NPS's (including NZCPS) should be more clearly identified in the NPS and the NPS should include methods to resolve any interaction. Having one prevail over the other is a direction that will result in inconsistency and uncertainty without more direction. We support the NPS approach of not limiting consideration of hazards out of scope and allows Councils to consider/manage natural hazards beyond the application of the NPS.
Definitions D1		We request that the definition of 'significant risk' is amended to only capture a narrower subset of natural hazard risk e.g. applied to hazards with a consequence level of "Catastrophic" and "Major". "Significant risk" appears to be used too broadly. This risks diminishing what a "significant risk" is, an event that is "unlikely" to occur and will have "moderate" consequences is being grouped with events that are "likely" and have "major" consequences. "Significant" risk" should be reserved for activities that planning decisions are to prevent to ensure planning decisions are as close as possible to the plain language meaning of the term. Moreover, this will make planning decisions prohibitively restrictive. Also recommend adding a definition of "elevated risk" for natural hazards with consequence levels of "Moderate" and "minor". Amended definitions of significant risks and 'elevated risk' would then link to amended policies which specify different outcomes for different levels of risk. i.e. avoid activities that have a 'significant' risk after mitigation, while managing activities with a 'elevated risk'.



Provision or proposal	WDC Position	Comment and suggested solution if applicable
Objectives OB1		We support greater clarity, recognising that we already manage natural hazard risk. We are concerned that the objective is to process focussed and does not specify an outcome, e.g. avoid activities at significant risk from natural hazards, and manage activities at elevated risk.
Policies P1 - Risk Assessments		We support mandatory consideration of the matters in P1. P1 needs to more clearly link with the objective (as amended) and other policies, to ensure risk assessments are proportionate, and support appropriate risk management (i.e. risk assessment is used to 'avoid' significant risk' or 'manage risk'.
Policies P2 - Climate Change timeframes		We support the general expectation to consider impacts of climate change while recognising it is aspirational. The assessments required under this policy need to be clearly linked to P4, and proportionate to the activity or process proposed, recognising significant uncertainties and information gaps.
Policies P3 – Proportionate Management		In theory, this appears sound. We request that this policy is clearly linked to risks society accepts in non-RMA areas, to avoid disproportionate management of natural hazard risk (compared to other risks, e.g. Health and Safety, or road safety).
Policies P4 – Best available information		WDC recognises that there are massive challenges in gathering, modelling, and assessing natural hazard risk, and for a small community such as ours 'best available information' is aspirational. While we support having a strong basis for decisions under the NPS, we are concerned that this policy creates an undue expectation of quality information on natural hazards to support planning decisions when the costs of acquiring that information are grossly disproportionate to the benefits. Suggest that 'best available information' is caveated in a way that recognises that the level of detail required is proportionate to the risk of the hazard being managed. Agree that councils should be protected from legal challenges where decisions are made with the best information available.
Policies P5 – Significant risk from natural hazards not exacerbated on other sites.		The proposed definition of "significant risk" in this NPS has the potential to render future development problematic, as "unlikely" events with "moderate" consequences are deemed "significant risks." See proposed amendments to definition above.  WDC agrees that development should not result in significant risk in other areas. We note that the exclusion of infrastructure and primary production from the NPS is problematic for this policy as these activities can increase risk

Provision or proposal	WDC Position	Comment and suggested solution if applicable
Policies P6 - Continue with risk assessment processes where information is limited or unclear		Agree with councils not having to wait to make a decision should there be no, or incomplete information. However, given the breadth of the proposed definition of “significant risk” is there a chance councils will default to an unduly restrictive approach, and this policy should be more clearly linked with P4.
Proposed National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities		
General	Support	Generally support amendments to size and heights, noting that council has authorised a small number of exceedances to these heights previously. However, we recommend that width not increased (to avoid the unintended interaction with guy-ropes), and minimise any potential visual effects, noting that the width of a tower greatly contributes to the perceived bulk.



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## **SUBMISSION – PACKAGE 2 – PRIMARY SECTOR**

### Introduction

Waimate District Council welcomes the opportunity to submit on the Package 2 of the governments National Direction proposals. We are supportive of the intent of many of the changes, and recognise the necessity of a better developed and more comprehensive national direction system.

We have mixed views on the specific amendments, in particular:

- We do not support government changes which will remove the ability for local authority management of exotic continuous cover (carbon) forestry.
- We support various pragmatic amendments which align definitions and processes, and various relatively technical or minor changes.

We address our key issues below, which focus on the general policy intent of the instruments proposed for change, while Appendix 1 contains specific feedback on some clauses, and specific actionable changes that could better deliver government objectives.

We endorse the content of the Taituarā submission, noting that while there are some areas of difference, there is a strong degree of consistency in our views.

### Key issue 1: The Governments proposals will enable large scale, unmanaged forestry, to the long term detriment of our district

As stated above, we do not support the proposal to remove the ability of local council to control afforestation.

While the government is recognizing the potential impact of forestry on rural communities through amendments to the ETS, an element of local control, to manage local issues, is necessary for effective management of any environmental issue, including forestry.

We emphasise that it is extremely unusual for an entire industry to be carved out of local RMA decision making in this way. Even for key government priorities such as housing and development there is an expectation that local government manages and addresses community challenges, such as infrastructure or environmental values, within a framework that achieves a national target.

Specifically, we note that removing 6(4A) and limiting 6(1) will greatly reduce the ability to manage effects of forestry, and result in inconsistencies with other national direction. For example there will be a mismatch between the NES-CF and the proposed NPS-NH, which will prevent council from managing the fire risk of a new forest near an existing township. While we recognise that forestry not usually responsible for starting or exacerbating fires, the significant fire events in Lake Ohau and the Port Hills demonstrate the risk of these events and the need to (proportionality) manage factors which increase risks to people and property. Similar problems will result from an inconsistency with the NPS-I, where forestry will be permitted as of right within buffers we will be required to set from infrastructure, enabling forestry adjacent to nationally critical transmission infrastructure.

Key issue 2: Scale and pace of change creates a risk of unintended outcomes or significant implementation challenges.

As a small district we are conscious of the need to ensure that national direction is proportionate and does not result in inefficient processes, or unclear direction. The current package, as proposed, presents a significant implementation risk particularly during system transition.

For a small district, the immediate costs of implementing the new requirements will exceed the potential benefits and are disproportionate for our district. We will not be the only district in this position.

We note Taituarā has requested that the implementation of this package be delayed until there is greater certainty on the planning framework, to avoid unnecessary implementation costs. We strongly support this recommendation

If Taituarā's amendment is not adopted we request that, as far as possible, requirements to consider or have regard to additional policy direction (in planning decisions) is deferred until the new system is in place for small, low risk councils such as us.

Key Issue 3: There remain significant unresolved policy gaps and interactions across the package that need to be resolved

It is clear that large amounts of the proposal respond to specific government priorities. While we recognise the need for, and indeed support, greater government direction on a range of issues, we're concerned that insufficient regard has been had to balancing and prioritising issues.

Planning as a profession and in regulatory practice has a tendency to attempt to achieve 'everything, everywhere, all at once'. The current national direction system cuts through that, by giving decision makers clear things that they have to achieve (for example, the NPS-UD and strong requirements to enable development capacity where there is demand).

As proposed, this national direction package risks returning the profession to the ‘everything, everywhere, all at once’ mentality. The example in issue 1 above is a clear demonstration of the increased inconsistency that is occurring across the proposed national direction package.

The instruments (current and proposed) need to do more than simply ‘talk to each other’. There needs to be a clear hierarchy of what *objectives* are more important than others and in what situations. Ideally, this results in clear prioritisation as to when one objective falls away and is not considered, and what costs are acceptable to impose through planning provisions.

In a situation where relevant national direction instruments have unclear, or potentially unintended interactions, we, as a regulator, will be in the position of introducing provisions (and consequently, costs to our community and New Zealanders) to attempt to satisfy the requirements of each individual piece of national direction. We do not think that this situation would serve Waimate (and New Zealand).

Finally, we note that there is significant uncertainty as to how these requirements interact with the governments indications that it is to introduce template zones (based on the Japanese model).

#### Conclusion

We welcome the opportunity to be further involved in policy development on any matters raised in our submission.

If you have any questions regarding the content of this submission please contact Council's lead author, senior planner Alex Macdonald, by email at [alex.macdonald@waimatedc.govt.nz](mailto:alex.macdonald@waimatedc.govt.nz).

We thank you for considering our submission.

Yours sincerely

[Click to enter signatory's name]  
[CLICK TO ENTER SIGNATORY'S JOB TITLE]

## Appendix 1 – Specific comments on the proposal

Provision or proposal	WDC Position	Comment and suggested solution if applicable
Relevant to all proposed and amended national direction in this package.		
Definitions - Cross reference related definitions		<p>At various points proposed instruments use similar but not identical definitions, eg. 'local authority', 'decision maker', 'consenting authority' in the NPS Infrastructure, while 'decision makers' appears in the NPS-REG, and 'local authority' is used in the NPS-NH in a way that appears to mean decision maker.</p> <p>The NPS-NH refers to infrastructure but is unclear if they are referring to the RMA definition of infrastructure or the NPS-I definition. A similar problem occurs with the use of infrastructure in the NES-CF amendments.</p> <p>Ultimately, there should be a single, consistent, group of definitions, and we recommend staff spend additional time to ensure these are appropriately cross referenced and aligned.</p>
Amendments to the National Environmental Standards for Commercial Forestry		
6(1)	Oppose	<p>This regulation is unduly restrictive, and means that council will be unable to give effect to other national direction.</p> <p>We note the requirement to prove forestry 'will have significant adverse effects' prior to introduction of a new rule (or to retain an existing rule) may be unlawful under s43B(2), as in some cases it requires an assessment of the effects of an activity to determine if the rule applies, while 43B(2)(a) only enables consideration of the activity status. As written, the stringency clause appears to require councils to determine effects, to determine if a rule applies, and therefore prior to determining activity status.</p>
6(4A)	Oppose	See discussion under Key Issue 1 above.
10A	Oppose	Removing this requirement removes the primary piece of documentation that explains the type of forestry being planted, and therefore documents the scope of any future existing use rights of a forest. Without this, the scope of any existing use right for forestry in the future will be less

Provision or proposal	WDC Position	Comment and suggested solution if applicable
		certain. While we recognise this is a cost, we consider that future certainty benefits likely outweigh the minimal cost of preparing a plan.
11	Support	While WDC has had notices providing sufficient wilding assessments, improved clarity will assist in cases where there is disagreement or uncertainty.
69	Neither support or oppose	See discussion on proposed slash risk assessment template.
71A(b)	Support	Clear typographical error
77A	Oppose	See discussion above for 10A.
79	Support	
Sch2		<p>We recognise that the slash risk assessment is an attempt to reduce the scope of the slash removal standard while still providing sufficient certainty for a permitted activity rule. In general, we support an approach which intends to achieve this.</p> <p>We are concerned that some matters in the template are beyond the capability or expertise of 'front line' forestry staff preparing these assessments. For example, assessing direct connection to a river (matter 5), and proximity to infrastructure (matter 6, 7) will have an element of discretion, and require the person undertaking the assessment to review multiple data sources accurately. Our experience is that harvest plans regularly miss obvious features that are directly included on council GIS, such as zone boundaries, and that plans over rely on GIS when there is clear evidence it is not appropriate (e.g. river centrelines that are misplaced relative to the elevation). Given the existing issues with notices and our view is this assessment will result in significant onus on council staff to review plans, to ensure compliance with the NES, and therefore to meet council requirements under s44A(7) of the RMA. Any adoption of this risk assessment as proposed will need to enable council to cost recover desktop reviews of the plans, or there will be a significant cost shift to communities.</p> <p>Additionally, we note some matters are uncertain. For example, off site and downstream infrastructure is not always clearly visible. The NPS-I definition of infrastructure includes a</p>

Provision or proposal	WDC Position	Comment and suggested solution if applicable
		<p>large range of underground, private, or on site infrastructure, for which there is no central database (e.g. irrigation infrastructure). It is unclear how these are to be captured.</p> <p>There is also a lack of clarity on what mitigation measures are intended to be required at each assessment step of the process.</p> <p>We recommend this proposal is further developed. There is potential in this risk management approach, but it is unlikely to be possible to implement well in the time available for this round of national direction changes.</p>
National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land		
LUC 3	Support	We support the removal of LUC3, as it unduly restricts economically productive activities and development
3.5	Partial Support	<p>We support a delay of the mapping process to the replacement resource management system</p> <p>We are unclear what the proposal is in the paragraph 'subject to the outcomes of consultation'. These appear to read as if there will be future consultation on these matters, and they are not proposed at this stage. We recommend that this is clarified, and re-consulted on if necessary.</p>
General		<p>We note that the removal of LUC3 will not enable urban development in our district, as our primary town, Waimate, is surrounded by either LUC1 and 2, or constrained for other reasons (e.g. natural hazards).</p> <p>We recommend that the urban rezoning test is reviewed to make the requirements easier to satisfy, and an explicit pathway for urban development to occur via resource consent added if the proposed area is contiguous with an existing urban area, even if it is on HPL. This is necessary to ensure that the costs the NPS-HPL imposes on small councils such as ours are proportionate to the benefits of protecting HPL.</p>



**17      CONSIDERATION OF MAJOR (URGENT) OR MINOR ITEMS NOT ON THE  
AGENDA**

Nil

## PUBLIC EXCLUDED

## 18 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC REPORT

## RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject matter of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

<b>General subject of each matter to be considered</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>	<b>Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution</b>
<b>18.1 - Public Excluded Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 17 June 2025</b>	s6(a) - the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial	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 6 or section 7
<b>18.2 - Outstanding Council Actions Report - Public Excluded</b>	s7(2)(a) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons  s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities  s7(2)(i) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	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 6 or section 7
<b>18.3 - Waimate District Civic Awards Committee Member Refresh</b>	s7(2)(a) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons  s7(2)(f)(i) - free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of any local authority	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 6 or section 7
<b>18.4 - Request to Construct and Maintain an Aircraft Hangar at the Waimate Aerodrome</b>	s7(2)(b)(ii) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely	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

	unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information	reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7
<b>18.5 - Alpine Energy Limited Statement of Corporate Intent 2026-2028, Annual Report, Letter to Shareholders and slides from their Annual General Meeting.</b>	<p>s7(2)(b)(ii) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information</p> <p>s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities</p>	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 6 or section 7

**19 RE-ADMITTANCE OF THE PUBLIC REPORT  
MEETING CLOSURE**