



“Making Our District Thrive”

Rangitikei District Council

Summary Annual Report 2016/17

Introduction

The Annual Report explains the Council’s performance in 2016/17 against the second year of the Long Term Plan for 2015-25, and against the various legislative and accounting requirements under which the Council is required to operate. The year’s major achievements are:

- Reaccreditation as a building consent authority
- Progress with proposed new Bulls community centre - completion of concept design and successful application for lotteries grant of \$500,000.
- Substantial progress with Ratana water supply upgrade.
- Development of a heritage concept plan for Broadway, Marton and purchase of three historic buildings there for Council's Marton's Administration Centre and public library
- Acceptance (by the New Zealand Transport Agency) of an indicative business case for a new bridge near to the century old Mangaweka Bridge (and which would replace it for road traffic purposes)
- Progress with the pre-feasibility study for a Tutaenui rural water supply (co-funded by the Ministry for Primary Industries)
- Successful bid for funding from Mid-sized Tourism infrastructure fund for new public toilets in Mangaweka, Papakai Park (Taihape) and Bruce Park (Hunterville)
- Council has no long term debt on its balance sheet

For those interested in the full Annual Report, copies are available at:

- the Council Offices, 46 High Street, Marton
- the District Libraries or
- our website www.rangitikei.govt.nz

The Council’s auditor has provided her report on this Summary Annual Report, which Council adopted at its meeting on 5 October 2017.

Andy Watson
Mayor

Ross McNeil
Chief Executive

1 November 2017

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Council’s Role

The Rangitikei District Council undertakes services for the residents and ratepayers of the Rangitikei.

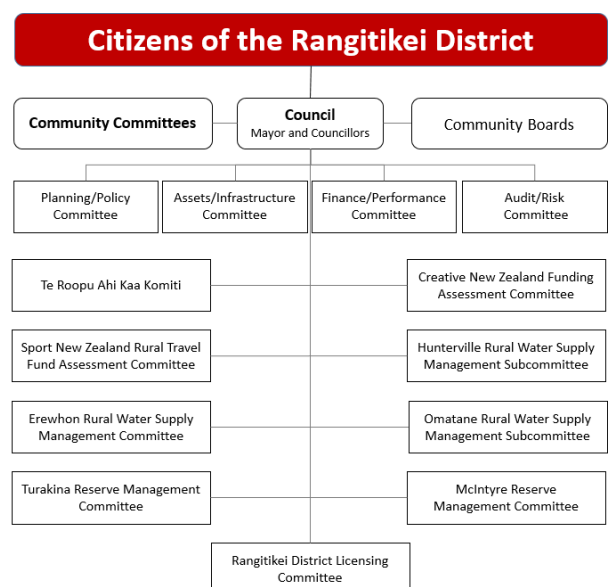
The Local Government Act 2002 defines the purpose of Local Government as to:

“... enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of communities, and

...meet the current and future needs of communities for good quality infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses.”

Council Operations

The Council appoints a Chief Executive to be in charge of the Council operations and delegates certain powers of Management to him as required under Section 42 of the Local Government Act 2002. The Chief Executive appoints staff to carry out all of the Council’s significant activities. The chart below shows the Council’s governance structure.





Highlights for 2016/17

Achievements and issues

Community Leadership

- An induction programme was provided for the new elected Council, to complement the sessions offered by Local Government New Zealand, and included tours to Council facilities and a hui with Te Roopu Ahi Kaa at the Whangaehu marae.
- Elections were also called for membership of the Council's four community committees and the two reserve management committees.
- The Annual Plan developed for 2017/18 used the altered statutory requirements for consultation – i.e. the publication of a Consultation Document – as (like 2016/17) there were several significant proposals for the community to consider. Again, this was associated with a programme of public meetings in various parts of the District, led by the Mayor.
- Input into a number of important proposed legislative changes including the Fire and Emergency New Zealand Bill and the Health (Fluoridation of Drinking Water) Amendment Bill and submissions on various discussion documents.

Roading and Footpaths

- 57 kilometres of the roading network were resealed. The major pavement rehabilitation work was on Griffins Road, Parewanui Road and a section of the Taihape-Napier Road.
- The extreme rainfall on 20-21 June 2015 caused substantial damage to Council's roading network. About half of this work (and associated funding) was carried forward into 2016/17. It is now virtually complete. There was about \$0.5 million damage from Cyclone Debbie in April 2017.
- The substantial realignment at Majuba Bluff (Turakina Valley Road) has been completed.
- An indicative business case was prepared (in conjunction with the Manawatu District Council) to build a new Mangaweka bridge near to the existing structure. Approval has now been given to prepare a detailed business case.
- 267 LED lights were purchased and installed in an area in Marton to alleviate circuit over loading issues. This is stage 1. The New Zealand Transport Agency has approved a financial assistance rate of 85% for accelerated rollout, which Council has agreed to. Target completion date is June 2018.

Water Supply

- The renewal of the watermain for trickle feed to Dixon Way, Otaihape Valley Road and Mangaone Valley Road (Taihape) was completed.
- The Ratana water supply upgrade was completed. However, commissioning has been delayed because of sand infiltration in the bores caused by the Kaikoura earthquake.
- Progress was made with the installation of the lamella plant at Taihape – about 50% complete by the end of June 2017.
- Analysis of options for a replacement reservoir in Bulls.

Sewerage and the Treatment and Disposal of Sewage

- Following extensive discussion and consultation, a new consent application for the Bulls wastewater plant was filed with Horizons in April 2015. The situation as reported last year has not changed – i.e. it is not yet known when a decision will be made on this. Currently all the discharge is to the Rangitikei River; under the new consent it is likely that there will be a requirement for discharge to land when conditions for that are suitable.
- The Heads of Agreement entered into last year with Midwest Disposals over acceptance of leachate from the Bonny Glen landfill into the Marton wastewater treatment plant has proved effective. However, it seems unlikely that Midwest will have an on-site treatment facility by the time the Agreement expires, on 31 December 2017.
- Improvements at the Taihape wastewater plant include the installation of a lamella clarifier.
- During the year, Council has worked with Horizons on a compliance pathway for the Hunterville and Taihape wastewater plants.
- Following the successful trial along Goldings Line, Marton, slip-lining technology is being used where feasible for reticulation renewals, at considerable cost savings.

Stormwater Drainage

- Completion of stormwater renewal on Hammond Street/Hair Street (Marton).
- Review of the submissions made regarding the ownership and responsibility for open drains in urban areas, particularly Marton.
- Design in progress for stormwater renewal in Paradise Terrace, Taihape.



Community and Leisure Assets

- Completion of concept design and successful application to the Lotteries Community Facilities Fund for the new Bulls Community Centre, with \$750,000 being granted subject to certain conditions being met by November 2017 ;
- Development of a heritage precinct plan for the CBD area of Marton alongside a high-level consideration of options for the Council-owned buildings (Cobbler/Davenport/Abraham & Williams) on Broadway and High Street;
- Adoption of a project brief and timeline to be prepared to guide the identification and assessment of viable options for amenities/grandstand/recreational facilities on Taihape Memorial Park, with engagement of user groups and the wider community;
- Adoption of an urban tree plan following consultation with community committees and community boards;
- Successful application to the Mid-sized Tourism Infrastructure Fund for new public toilets in Mangaweka Village, Papakai Park (Taihape) and Bruce Park (near Hunterville – a Department of Conservation reserve);
- Implementation of a permanent in-ground irrigation system for Taihape Memorial Park (in collaboration with users of the park);
- Development of a management plan for Marton B & C Dams, including replanting with native species once logging complete, improving controls over contributory streams and examining the feasibility of public access;
- Community engagement on a management plan for Marton Park;
- Development of scenarios for the future management of Council's community housing;
- Successful wasp eradication programme in Taihape;
- Implementation of controls to limit sand dune movement into Koitiata;
- Renovation of rural halls – Whangaehu, Koitiata, Tutaenui, Mangaweka, Ohutu, Mataroa – funded by J B S Dudding Trust;
- Upgrade to filtration and heating plant at Taihape Pool (to be completed before 2017/18 swimming season starts).

Rubbish and Recycling

- Increase in waste diversion, particularly through greenwaste – despite an increase in the overall tonnage going to landfill.
- The EnviroSchools programme has continued at five schools in the Rangitikei and there were nine requests for information on zero waste education. Higher level of recycling at Ratana.

Environmental and Regulatory

- Continued collaboration with neighbouring councils (both at a regional level and within a central New Zealand cluster associated with the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment) over common approaches in managing Building Control Authority functions. Online processing of building consents is scheduled to be introduced during 2017/18.
- The Council has been reaccredited as a building consent authority until February 2019. This followed a visit by the IANZ team in February 2017 and completion of the required corrective actions, which were procedural and process matters
- The new swimming pool regime came into effect from 1 January 2017, and a strategy has been implemented to inspect every known pool at least once every three years; in this year the focus has been on education and information to pool owners and 2017/18 will kick off the start of the inspection cycle.
- The requirements of the Building (Earthquake-prone Buildings) Amendment Act came into effect on 1 July 2017. The delay in issuing guidance under these new provisions has had a consequential delay in Council's provision of information to building owners.
- Implementation of the new Food Act and grading of food handling premises under the Food Premises Bylaw has continued to be a major focus. This function is delivered through a shared service with Whanganui District Council.
- The shared service agreement for animal control with Manawatu District Council has been renewed for a further year. A successful funding application to Department of Internal Affairs saw the animal control team undertaking two very successful de-sexing programmes in both Districts for menacing breed of dogs and the Department has approved the further use of unspent funding for the 2017/18 year to continue both programmes.

Community Well-being

- The implementation of a new model for delivering youth services in the Rangitikei, with two-half-time positions created in Taihape and Marton, each supported by a multi-agency advisory committee;
- Undertaking (with co-funding from the Ministry for Primary Industries' Irrigation Acceleration Fund) of a pre-feasibility study of a rural water supply scheme in the Tutaenui area
- Delivery of a Swim for All programme with 768 primary school students throughout the District being offered subsidised swimming lessons and all children having free pool entry for swimming lessons. Funding for this was provided by the Council in partnership with Sport Whanganui, the Lottery Community Committee and Whanganui Community Foundation;



- Continuation of place-making initiatives to support the implementation of the Town Centre Plans in Marton, Bulls, and Turakina;
- Successful engagement with the Samoan community in southern Rangitikei leading to the second celebration of Samoan Independence Day on 5 June 2017 with cultural performances;
- Successful delivery of all grants programmes;
- The production of a quarterly 'Rangitikei Environment' Newsletter through the Treasured Natural Environment Theme Group. The newsletter is specific to the Rangitikei and provides environmental 'think pieces', updates on community and agency environmental activities and other useful environmental information;
- Continued administrative support for Rangitikei Heritage;
- Successful delivery of the programmes of work undertaken by Bulls and District Community Trust, Project Marton, and Taihape Community Development Trust; and
- Collaboration with Rangitikei Tourism as it wound up, to ensure a smooth transition for continuing the Rangitikei.com website;
- Confirming arrangements for transfer of rural fire assets to Fire and Emergency New Zealand and negotiating a new contract with Horizons (with Manawatu and Horowhenua) for delivery of civil defence services - on a full-time equivalent basis from 1 July 2017.
- Progress with the Community Resilience Fund project developing a multi-agency collaborative approach for residents in the flood-prone Whangaehu Valley (with applicability to other flood-prone communities elsewhere in New Zealand).

Finance

Financial Statements

Explanation of major variations against budget

Explanations for major variances from the Council's budget figures for 2016/17 in the 2015-25 Long Term Plan are as follows:

Statement of comprehensive revenue and expense

Operating expenditure was under budget by \$1.3 million while revenue was lower than budget by \$3.6 million, resulting in an operating surplus of \$4.1 million against a budget of \$6.5 million. The variances in revenue and expenditure are mainly due to subsidy and grant revenue being lower than forecasted and less expenditure on subsidised roading than anticipated.

More detailed analysis of variances may be found in note 31 of the financial statements and in the commentary on the various groups of activities in the full Annual Report.

Statement of financial position

Council had net assets of \$492 million, largely represented by property, plant and equipment of \$485 million.

Because of a significant underspend in capital work of \$18.4 million there has been no need to borrow further during the year. This puts the Council in a sound financial position to move into the new financial year and undertake the 2017/18 annual plan budget for capital work amounting to \$32 million. The main causes of the underspend are delays in resource consenting for wastewater upgrades and the longer than projected time needed to complete design of the proposed new Bulls Community Centre and to secure sufficient external funding for this project.



Summary Financial Results

Summary Financial Statements			
	2016	2017	2017
	Actual	Budget	Actual
	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)
Summary Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense for year ending 30 June 2017			
Total operating revenue	34,011	38,154	34,495
Less finance costs	0	379	0
Less other operating expenditure	32,459	31,271	30,303
Net surplus (deficit) before tax	1,552	6,504	7,821
Income tax expense	0	0	0
Net surplus (deficit) before revaluation losses	1,552	6,504	7,821
Loss on revaluation of property, plant and equipment	0	0	0
Derecognition of roading infrastructure	0	0	0
	1,552	6,504	7,821
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income and expense	83	0	5
Gain on revaluation of property, plant and equipment	0	14,679	13,644
Comprehensive revenue and expense for the year	1,635	21,183	21,470
Summary Statement of Changes in Net Assets/Equity for year ending 30 June 2017			
Balance as at 1 July	469,129	480,399	470,765
Total comprehensive revenue and expense for the year	1,636	713	21,470
Balance as at 30 June	470,765	481,112	492,235
Summary Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2016			
Current assets	10,253	6,690	12,009
Non-current assets	467,535	511,208	486,124
Total assets	477,788	517,898	498,133
Current liabilities	6,528	6,603	5,440
Non-current liabilities	495	14,907	458
Total liabilities	7,023	21,510	5,898
Net assets	470,765	496,388	492,235
Represented by equity:			
Accumulated funds	434,024	444,961	442,164
Special reserves	5,147	5,219	4,850
Other reserves	31,594	46,208	45,221
Total equity	470,765	496,388	492,235
Summary Statement of Cash Flows for year ending 30 June 2017			
Net cash inflows(outflows) from operating activities	13,137	16,696	13,641
Net cash inflows(outflows) from investing activities	(10,502)	(31,457)	(13,274)
Net cash inflows(outflows) from financing activities	0	11,368	(16)
Net cash inflows(outflows) for the year	2,635	(3,393)	352
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	3,969	5,705	6,605
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	6,604	2,312	6,957

	2016	2017	2017
	Actual	Budget	Actual
	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)
Summary Capital Expenditure			
Community Leadership	0	0	0
Roading and Footpaths	5,724	11,729	9,945
Stormwater Drainage	331	1,151	160
Sewerage and Treatment and Disposal of Sewage	1,867	6,557	899
Water	2,675	6,611	1,628
Community and Leisure Assets	555	5,701	749
Rubbish and Recycling	7	2	0
Environmental and Regulatory	0	0	0
Community Well-being	82	70	0
Support Services	275	381	220
Total Capital Expenditure	11,516	32,202	13,601

Contingent Liabilities		
	2016	2017
	(\$000)	(\$000)
Capital commitments	4,800	4,749
Operating leases as lessee	470	228
Operating leases as lessor	245	221
Contingent liabilities	0	0

Post balance date events

The Council has no post balance date events.

Additional information

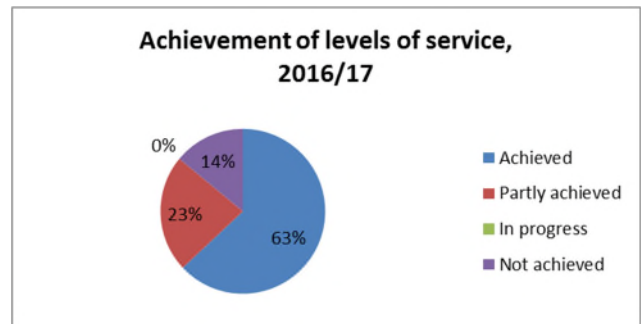
- 1 The reporting entity is the Rangitikei District Council which is a territorial local authority governed by the Local Government Act 2002 and is domiciled in New Zealand.
- 2 The specific disclosures in the summary financial report have been extracted from the full financial report which was adopted and authorised for issue by Council on 5 October 2017.
- 3 The Financial Statements are for the year ended 30 June 2017 and all figures are in New Zealand dollars and rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.
- 4 The Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014 specifies a benchmark disclosure statement in the Council's annual report covering the current year and the four preceding years. These cover rates affordability, debt affordability, balanced budget, essential services, debt servicing, debt control and operations control. Council met all but one of the benchmarks in 2016/17.
- 5 The summary financial report cannot be expected to provide as complete an understanding as the full financial report. The full financial report, which received an unmodified Audit Opinion on 5 October 2017, is available from the Council Office, Libraries and Information Centres, and on our website www.rangitikei.govt.nz.
- 6 This Summary Annual Report has been examined by the Auditor for consistency with the full Annual Report. An unmodified audit report is included with this Summary.
- 7 The Council has designated itself a Public Benefit Entity (PBE) for financial reporting purposes.
- 8 The full financial statements were prepared in accordance with New Zealand Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (NZ GAAP), and with Tier 1 Public Benefit Entity (PBE) accounting standards. The full financial statements include a statement of compliance to this effect.
- 9 These Summary Financial Results are in compliance with the PBE FRS 43 *Summary Financial Statements*.

Levels of Service

The full report documents results for 40 intended levels of service across the 9 activity groups.

An overall assessment of the actual levels of service compared with what was intended has a less certain basis than measuring financial performance. This is because qualitative as well as quantitative information is used. Results include the 11 mandatory measures prescribed by the Secretary for Internal Affairs.

The chart shows that 63% of the intended levels of service were fully achieved, 23% were partly achieved or in progress, while 14% of the intended levels of service were not achieved. This is a similar result compared with last year.



Commentary on each group of activities

Activity	What we did	Elaboration
Community Leadership	<p>120 of the 165 (i.e. 80%) of actions planned for 2016/17 were substantially undertaken or completed. (Last year's result was 70%.) A further 13 actions were mostly complete and a further 10 had not been started. Completion rates varied – from over 90% in Roading, Rubbish and recycling, Environmental and regulatory and Community well-being to less than 50% for Water and Wastewater.</p> <p>49% of the planned capital expenditure was expended. (Last year's result was 59%.)</p>	<p>The year's target for completing actions was 85%, with all groups of activities to achieve at least 77% of their planned actions.</p> <p>The year's target for capital expenditure was 80%, with all network utilities achieving at least 65%. The major reason for delayed than budgeted capital expenditure was delays in consenting and other external factors, such as ensuring adequate community engagement. Other contributing factors were reprioritisation, internal capacity or delays, contractor availability and reduced costs or alternative funding.</p> <p>Specific reasons for variances in capital expenditure from budget are commented on in the relevant group activity statement in the full report. .</p>
Roading	<p>57.16 km of resealing was done, together with pavement rehabilitation on 3.376 km. 8,832m³ metal was placed on the District's unsealed roads.</p> <p>There were 466 footpath and road callout requests received during the year. This is 38 fewer than last year.</p> <p>70% of all callouts were resolved within a month of receipt. This is less timely than last year, when 77% were resolved within that time. Of 38 requests for service regarding potholes, 82% were responded to in the specified time (91% last year).</p> <p>In the twelve months to 31 March 2017, there were no fatal crashes and ten serious injury crashes. For the previous twelve months there was one fatal crash. However, the number of serious injury accidents increased by two in the twelve months to 31 March 2017 compared with the previous year.</p> <p>Footpaths exceeded the required level of service – with 96.2% being assessed as grade 3 ('fair') or higher.</p> <p>A community survey was conducted with residents where programmed renewal had been done, as well as with members of the relevant Community Boards/Committees and Council's community and business sector databases.</p>	<p>The target was 55 km resealing and 8.8 km of road rehabilitation. The remetalling target was 12,000m³, but the actual metal laid was greater than reported because of metalling done under the emergency works programme.</p> <p>The objective is for 95% after-hours callouts to be responded to within 12 hours, for all callouts during working hours to be responded to within six hours, and for 85% of all callouts to be resolved (i.e. completed) within one month of the request.</p> <p>Slow reporting by the contractor of actions taken is the main reason for the reported low responsiveness. Council's roading team will monitor this more closely in 2017/18.</p> <p>July-June reporting was not available for road crashes at the time of compiling the annual report.</p> <p>In the footpath condition analysis, no distinction was made between CBD and non-CBD areas.</p> <p>Overall, Council's provision and maintenance of roading networks, footpaths and street-lighting was rated more highly than last year (22% thought it better compared with 13% last year; 10% thought it worse compared with 13.5% last year).</p>

<p>Water supply</p>	<p>While no E.coli was detected in any of the urban reticulated supplies, the Drinking Water Assessor found them non-compliant because the samples taken were insufficient and/or exceeded the prescribed days between samples.</p> <p>There was one incident of non-compliance with resource consents for taking water</p> <p>The percentage of real water loss from Council’s networked urban reticulation systems was less than 40% in all but one instance, specifically:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Bulls.....</td> <td>4.9%</td> <td>(8.5% last year)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Huntermville Urban.....</td> <td>32.3%</td> <td>(12.4% last year)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mangaweka.....</td> <td>37.0%</td> <td>(14.3% last year)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Marton.....</td> <td>24.6%</td> <td>(21.4% last year)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rātana.....</td> <td>15.8%</td> <td>(15.3% last year)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Taihape.....</td> <td>46.2%</td> <td>(37.9% last year)</td> </tr> </table> <p>It was not possible to provide a similar calculation for rural supplies because they are trickle-feed supplies which feed tanks and use unmetered flow restrictors</p> <p>The average consumption of drinking water was 542 litres per resident in the District – coincidentally the same as last year. However, this includes all agricultural and commercial users connected to the Council’s urban schemes: deducting these gives 397 litres per person per day. The target was to be less than 600 litres.</p> <p>The median time to respond to urgent callouts was 10 minutes, and the median time to resolve the matter was 77 minutes. The target is to attend within 30 minutes and to resolve within 24 hours.</p> <p>There were 13 complaints per 1,000 connections.</p>	Bulls.....	4.9%	(8.5% last year)	Huntermville Urban.....	32.3%	(12.4% last year)	Mangaweka.....	37.0%	(14.3% last year)	Marton.....	24.6%	(21.4% last year)	Rātana.....	15.8%	(15.3% last year)	Taihape.....	46.2%	(37.9% last year)	<p>Similarly, the urban reticulated schemes were found to have not achieved the protozoa compliance criteria because of insufficient monitoring information through Water Outlook.</p> <p>Backwash and aluminium sludge discharge to settling ponds exceeded consent limits at Marton.</p> <p>Variances between schemes could be expected because each scheme is different. The reticulation within each town is of varying ages, and of varying pipe materials. Most of these towns were managed by separate local authorities in the past, and so there are legacy issues around such things as installation methods and materials.</p> <p>In addition to this, ground conditions can vary. In the case of asbestos cement pipes in particular, soil pH is a strong determinant of expected useful life. Varying water quality can also be an issue, as aggressive water can cause certain pipe materials to fail sooner. Land form is also an issue, most prominently in Taihape, where slips can generate partial failures which contribute to leakage.</p> <p>The breakdown of consumption by supply is as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Supply</th> <th>Population</th> <th>Billed Unmetered* Consumption (Litres per person per day)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Bulls</td> <td>1,419</td> <td>309.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Huntermville Urban</td> <td>480</td> <td>213.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mangaweka</td> <td>150</td> <td>600.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Marton</td> <td>4,764</td> <td>373.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rātana</td> <td>337</td> <td>257.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Taihape</td> <td>1,584</td> <td>609.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ALL URBAN</td> <td>8,734</td> <td>396.8</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>*except Huntermville</p> <p>Urgent callouts are when supply is interrupted. There were 71 urgent calls during the year, and 270 non-urgent calls.</p> <p>Last year there were 17 complaints per 1,000 connections</p>	Supply	Population	Billed Unmetered* Consumption (Litres per person per day)	Bulls	1,419	309.8	Huntermville Urban	480	213.7	Mangaweka	150	600.6	Marton	4,764	373.9	Rātana	337	257.5	Taihape	1,584	609.6	ALL URBAN	8,734	396.8
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<p>Sewerage and the Treatment and Disposal of Sewage</p>	<p>There were no abatement or infringement notices, no enforcement orders and no convictions for Council’s wastewater discharges. However, all treatment plants were considered by Horizons to be non-compliant, with Taihape, Huntermville and Ratana having significant non-compliance.</p> <p>The median time to respond to callouts for sewerage overflows resulting from a blockage or other fault in the Council’s sewerage system was 22 minutes, and the median time to resolve the matter was 2 hours 34 minutes.</p> <p>There were fewer complaints about the wastewater system than last year.</p>	<p>Excess discharge in Taihape and Huntermville is caused by inflow and infiltration from stormwater, and this has been a focus of discussion with Horizons. At Bulls and Ratana the daily discharge limit was exceeded.</p> <p>The target is to attend urgent callouts is within 30 minutes and to resolve within 24 hours, for non-urgent it is 24 and 96 hours respectively.</p> <p>There were 4.49 complaints per 1,000 connections compared with 6.6 last year.</p>																																										

<p>Stormwater Drainage</p>	<p>There were 4.12 callouts per 1,000 connections, fewer than last year.</p>	<p>The mandatory measures of system adequacy, discharge compliance and response times did not apply to the Council this year because there was no flooding from Council's stormwater system into a habitable floor.</p>
<p>Community and Leisure Assets</p>	<p>Overall, from the 699 responses received in the survey conducted in 2017, that most of Council's community facilities are perceived as performing better than last year.</p> <p>Council carried out this survey itself using the most recent electoral roll.</p> <p>Community housing weren't included in this year's survey because the number of residents with any knowledge or opinion about community housing meant that the sample size was too small to be meaningful. More feedback has been sought from the tenants themselves to provide information on satisfaction with services.</p> <p>There were 28,271 separate uses of the Marton Pool (including schools, swim school and lane hire) and 11,177 separate uses at the Taihape Pool</p>	<p>Public libraries: 11% believed it was better than last year, 70% about the same, 2% worse than last year (14% didn't know how to rate this).</p> <p>Public swimming pools: 16% believed it was better than last year, 54% about the same, 6% worse than last year (23% didn't know how to rate this).</p> <p>Sports fields and parks: 18% believed it was better than last year, 63% about the same, 2% worse than last year (16% didn't know how to rate this).</p> <p>Public toilets: 7% believed it was better than last year, 66% about the same, 11% worse than last year (17% didn't know how to rate this).</p> <p>Community buildings: 4% believed it was better than last year, 74% about the same, 6% worse than last year (16% didn't know how to rate this).</p> <p>This was an increase at Marton on last year's Figure (20,123) and a similar result for Taihape (11,323). The pools are managed by different contractors and have differing opening times and length of season.</p>
<p>Rubbish and recycling</p>	<p>Refuse tonnage to the Bonny Glen landfill was 5,123 tonnes compared with 4,242 tonnes last year.</p> <p>1,070 tonnes (or 17.2%) were diverted from being disposed in landfill. 29% of this was glass and 38% was green waste. Last year 598 tonnes (14.3%) were diverted.</p>	<p>Council's targets were that no more than 4,250 tonnes would go to landfill and that at least 12% of waste would be diverted from being disposed of there. The full annual report notes contributory factors for the increase in tonnage to landfill but the precise cause has yet to be determined.</p>
<p>Environmental and Regulatory</p>	<p>98.8% of building consents and 100% resource consent applications were issued within the 20-day statutory period.</p> <p>Council received 1,843 (1,680 last year) requests for service for animal control and environmental services during the reporting period. Of these, 1,489 (81%) were responded to in time and 1,379 (75%) were completed in time. The comparable figures for last year were 86% and 89%. There were 318 more requests than last year.</p> <p>Council gained reaccreditation as a building consent authority for two years from February 2017.</p>	<p>There were fewer consents issued this year than last year: 300 building consents (324 last year); 38 resource consents (43 last year).</p> <p>For animal control, priority 1 (urgent) callouts (dog attack, threatening dog or stock on road) require response within 30 minutes and resolution within 24 hours; for others, 24 hours and 96 hours respectively.</p> <p>IANZ made its scheduled assessment visit in February 2017.</p>
<p>Community Well-being</p>	<p>During May 2017, Council undertook a survey of stakeholder groups to find out how useful they thought Council's support and initiatives had been.</p> <p>The District's GDP grew at a similar rate in 2016 compared with the rest of New Zealand, and population is tracking ahead of the high estimates produced from Census data. However, school enrolments are slightly down – the closure of Turakina Maori Girls' College meant the loss of 63 students.</p>	<p>Of the 70 responses to the survey, 23% (19% last year) thought Council's support services was getting better, 53% (57% last year) thought it was about the same and 2% (1.5% last year) thought it was worse, while 23% (22% last year) did not know how to rate this.</p> <p>These are the three key indicators of success in the Council's adopted Rangitikei Growth Strategy.</p>



Independent Auditor's Report

To the readers of Rangitikei District Council's summary of the annual report for the year ended 30 June 2017

The summary of the annual report was derived from the annual report of the Rangitikei District Council (the District Council) for the year ended 30 June 2017.

The summary of the annual report comprises the following summary statements on pages 1 to 8:

- the summary statement of financial position as at 30 June 2017;
- the summaries of the statement of comprehensive revenue and expense, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2017;
- the notes to the summary financial statements that include accounting policies and other explanatory information; and
- the summary statement of service provision.

Opinion

In our opinion:

- the summary of the annual report represents, fairly and consistently, the information regarding the major matters dealt with in the annual report; and
- the summary statements comply with PBE FRS-43: Summary Financial Statements.

Summary of the annual report

The summary of the annual report does not contain all the disclosures required by generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand. Reading the summary of the annual report and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the full annual report and the auditor's report thereon.

The summary of the annual report does not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our auditor's report on the full annual report.

The full annual report and our audit report thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the information we audited in the full annual report for the year ended 30 June 2017 in our auditor's report dated 5 October 2017.

Council's responsibility for the summary of the annual report

The Council is responsible for preparing the summary of the annual report which includes preparing summary statements, in accordance with PBE FRS-43: Summary Financial Statements.



Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary of the annual report represents, fairly and consistently, the information regarding the major matters dealt with in the full annual report and whether the summary statements comply with PBE FRS 43: Summary Financial Statements.

Our opinion on the summary of the annual report is based on our procedures, which were carried out in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Professional and Ethical Standards and the International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

Other than in our capacity as auditor, we have no relationship with, or interests in the District Council.

Debbie Perera,
Audit New Zealand
On behalf of the Auditor-General
Palmerston North, New Zealand
3 November 2017