# Pūrongo ā-Tau Annual Report Summary 2021/22



making this place home

## Mihi

E ngā mana, e ngā reo, e ngā rau rangatira mā o te rohe o Rangitīkei, tēnā koutou katoa.

Mihi mahana tēnei o te Kaunihera o Rangitīkei kia tātou katoa e noho ana ki roto i te rohe nei, nau mai, whakatau mai ra. The Rangitīkei District Council acknowledges all those who live within our District.

We send a warm welcome to you all.

Whakataka te hau ki te uru, Whakataka te hau ki te tonga, Kia mākinakina ki uta, Kia mātaratara ki tai, E hī ake ana te atakura, He tio, he huka, he hau hū, Tīhei Mauriora! Cease the winds from the west Cease the winds from the south Let the breeze blow over the land Let the breeze blow over the ocean Let the red-tipped dawn come with a sharpened air

A touch of frost, a promise of a glorious day!

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# Introduction

The Annual Report Summary summaries the Council's performance in 2021/22 against year one of the Long Term Plan for 2021-31, and against the various legislative and accounting requirements under which the Council is required to operate.

#### The year's major achievements are:

- Introduction of Māori Wards In April 2021 Council resolved to establish Māori Wards.
- Mangaweka Bridge This new bridge was completed.
- **Marton Water Strategy** All planned work progressed well with the completion of potential ground water investigations and analysis.
- **Bredins Line storm water outfall** Detailed design completed. Consent application submitted and consent obtained. Construction of the outfall to happen in the next financial year.
- **Rangitīkei District Council Solid Waste Roadmap** Council commissioned and completed a district wide solid waste roadmap to create a 30-year strategic direction for all our communities.
- **Building Accreditation** The Council Building Control Authority (BCA) remains accredited.
- **Ngā Awa Block** Construction for Taihape Memorial Park amenities building commenced in March 2022.
- **Te Matapihi: Bulls Community Centre** Creation of the bus lane and the town square adjacent to Te Matapihi commenced in October 2021, and were completed in March and April 2022.
- **Community-led Projects** There have been a range of on-going projects occurring throughout the District which have been led by the local community including, development of the Hautapu River Parks in Taihape, Tutaenui Reservoir Dams Restoration project, and renovations at the Koitiata Hall.
- **Marton Rail Hub** Environment Court process has been underway for over a year to resolve District Plan Change. To minimise programme delay, design in support of Resource Consent submissions (assuming a positive Court outcome) is progressing in parallel.
- **Welcoming Communities** Rangitīkei District Council was successful in applying to join the Welcoming Communities programme in July 2021.

#### 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

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Andy Watson Mayor 28 April 2023

Peter Beggs Chief Executive 28 April 2023



# **Council's Role**

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

### 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;

... promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future.

# **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.

# Highlights for 2021/22



#### Highlights for 2021/22

- Introduction of Māori Wards In April 2021 Council resolved to establish Māori Wards. The relevant public consultation took place and on 4 April 2022 the Local Government Commission issued their determination which upheld Council's proposal to establish two Māori Wards. The final make up of the Council now comprises the mayor and 11 councillors elected as follows:
  - (i) 1 councillor elected by the electors of Tiikeitia ki Uta (Inland) Māori Ward
  - (ii) 1 councillor elected by the electors of Tiikeitia ki Tai (Coastal) Māori Ward
  - (iii) 2 councillors elected by the electors of Northern General Ward
  - (iv) 5 councillors elected by the electors of Central General Ward
  - (v) 2 councillors elected by the electors of Southern General Ward

The determination takes effect for the 8 October 2022 elections.

- **2022/23 Annual Plan** Following a special consultation process Council adopted its 2022/23 Annual Plan on 30 June 2022. At that meeting the rates resolution for 2022/23 was also adopted.
- **Regional collaboration** Council has been a member of the Regional Working Group on Climate Change and will continue its involvement through 2022/23; our Mayor also attends the Regional Transport Committee; and is part of the Accessing Central NZ meetings.
- **Spatial Plan** During 2021/22 background research and community engagement was completed as part of the development of Pae Tawhiti Rangitīkei Beyond, the Rangitīkei Spatial Plan. The Spatial Plan will blueprint for future land use and growth over the next 30 years. It will examine how much and where additional land should be provided for residential, industrial or commercial land to meet future growth. And it will also identify key transformational projects related to future land use across our activities, linking in with other strategies we are developing, such as for parks.
- **Preparation of Order Papers** Order Papers for Council, Committees, Boards, Community Committees and other meetings have continued to be delivered to ensure that decision-making was compliant and useful. During the year staff made initial improvements in the way that they could work with the Community Committees, this includes the Community Services team taking ownership of these committees and regularly attending the meetings. Key staff will also be a conduit for the Chairs of the Community Committees so they can provide timely responses to questions.



- **Road Surfacing** 45km of road was resealed. Hereford St between Wellington Road and Tutaenui Stream Bridge was hot mixed, length 275m.
- Bridge and structural renewals This is a new work category for 2021-24, providing for the renewal of bridges and structures on a 'like for like' basis, as opposed to provision of new or upgrading of existing assets. Work was completed on seven bridges. Network bridge corrosion assessments, and special inspections were also carried out to inform the Forward Works Program.
- **Road to Zero** This work category provides for the construction / implementation of high priority low-cost, lowrisk improvements to the transport system. Investigations and designs were completed for the implementation of electronic signage at four schools. Work also commenced on the 'Speed Management Plan' to ensure strategic alignment with the Government Policy Statement (GPS) on Land Transport, and Rangitikei District Council's strategic direction. This will require an area wide approach to speed limits, rather than a 'corridor-by-corridor' approach. This is essential to ensure that the whole regional network is considered.

- Low cost, low risk roading improvements: This work category provides for the construction / implementation of low-cost, low-risk improvements to the transport system. Work was completed on three new guard rail projects, widening the seal on Parewanui Road, and sealing the approaches to a bridge on Gleesons Road Ben Nevis. Designs were also prepared for a number of projects that were deferred to 2022-23.
- **Resilience improvements** This work category provides for non-routine work to protect the asset from damage. Seven sites were completed. Designs were also prepared for a number of projects that were deferred to 2022-23.
- **Footpaths:** New footpaths and kerb and channel were constructed at Toia Street and Hair Street.
- **Mangaweka Bridge** This new bridge was completed. Planting, guardrail, and ancillary work are programmed to be completed by October 2022.
- **Emergency Work** Storm events occurred in December 2021, February, May and June 2022. The total cost to restore the storm damage is estimated to be \$5million.



#### Highlights for 2021/22

- **Marton Water Strategy** All planned work progressed well with the completion of potential ground water investigations and analysis. The new bore site identified, and the bore construction contract tendered to the open market. A preferred contractor was engaged, and construction of the new bore will commence early in the new financial year.
- **Taihape Raw Water supply** Detailed engineering investigations completed to identify solutions for the reduction of raw water take from the Hautapo river. The preferred solution has been identified and parts and materials purchased for installation during the dryer summer months in the new financial year.
- **Bulls Drinking water rising main** A new rising main for Bulls has been constructed as one of the projects funded by the Three Waters stimulus funding. This form part of the new Bulls reservoir project with the construction of the new water supply pump station to follow in the new financial year.
- **Taihape falling main replacement** A new route for the last portion of the Taihape falling main has been identified after detailed investigations. The detailed design started and the new section of the falling main will be constructed in the new financial year.

## Sewerage and the Treatment and Disposal of Sewage

- **Marton to Bulls pipeline** The construction of the Marton to Bulls pipeline was funded by the Three Waters stimulus funding and completed in June 2022. The new pipeline connects the Marton and Bulls wastewater treatment plants and forms part of the first phase of the long-term Marton to Bulls centralisation project. Lowe Environmental Impact has been engaged as project manager across all project activities through to conclusion of the multi-year project.
- Lake Waipu Wastewater upgrade (Rātana) RDC identified and purchased land suitable for land disposal of treated wastewater from Rātana. All associated consent work and investigations started to supply the required information for a consent application in the next financial year. All treatment plant upgrade investigations and ground water testing were also completed.
- **Papakai Pump Station Taihape** Detailed design completed and with contractors for pricing. Construction of the new pump station is planned for the new financial year.



Turakina Beach

# Stormwater Drainage

#### Highlights for 2021/22

- **Bredins Line storm water outfall** Detailed design completed. Consent application submitted and consent obtained. Construction of the outfall to happen in the next financial year.
- Maintenance of existing open drain networks Storm water open drains maintained and cleared as needed across the district. The networks performed well during the 2021/22 wet winter season, with only a small number of storm water request for service received.



## Community and Leisure Assets

- **Te Matapihi: Bulls Community Centre** Creation of the bus lane and the town square adjacent to Te Matapihi commenced in October 2021, and were completed in March and April 2022. Ngāti Parewahawaha is working on finalising artwork for these spaces.
- **Community-led Projects** There have been a range of on-going projects occurring throughout the District which have been led by the local community including, development of the Hautapu River Parks in Taihape, Tutaenui Reservoir Dams Restoration project, and renovations at the Koitiata Hall.
- **Ngā Awa Block** Construction for Taihape Memorial Park amenities building commenced in March 2022. Due to material supply challenges completion is now expected in early 2023. Detailed design for the endorsed strengthening of the Taihape Grandstand is presently underway.
- **Libraries** The 2021/22 year saw the continuation of impacts of COVID-19 restrictions on our libraries which caused closures, and impacts on levels of service. While physical book issues were down, eResource issues went up markedly. The Taihape Library and Service Centre was closed suddenly in December 2021 due to the building's earthquake status being assessed as a high risk to life, but was re-opened in a reduced capacity in a leased premises the same month. This year saw the completion of RFID implementation with new self-service checkouts available in all three libraries. The NZLPP resourced staff members contracts ended at June 2021. At the same time Council was successful in applying for \$40,000 from the wind up of the NZLPP scheme. This funding will go towards enhancing community engagement and programme delivery.

- **Public toilets** New dry-vault toilets are programmed for Turakina township, and Tutaenui Reservoir Dams. Due to supply challenges installation is expected in the final quarter of 2022.
- **Marton Memorial Hall upgrade** Council's application to the Provincial Growth Fund was successful. On 9 October 2020, the Minister of Regional Development announced 97 grants to town halls and war memorials halls, including \$500,000 for renovation works at the Marton Memorial Hall including the removal of asbestos, creating an additional emergency exit, electrical and heating works, installing a fire alarm, painting and enabling the ablution blocks to be wheel chair accessible. The majority of work was completed by June 2022, with heating and accessible bathrooms still to be completed in 2022/23.
- **Swim Centres** In Marton the shower facilities were renovated, and additional lighting was installed along with iron roofing replacement over the main pool, and in the portion of building occupied by the Gym.
- **Community Housing** Re-roofing programmed commenced at a block of flats in Marton, and the four Rātana flats were refurbished with new flooring, kitchen, and bathroom units.



#### Highlights for 2021/22

- **Rangitikei District Council Solid Waste Roadmap** Council commissioned and completed a district wide solid waste roadmap to create a 30-year strategic direction for all our communities. This work was followed by a Section 17A review of our current service contract, with recommendations for future contract to be able to deliver the outcomes identified in the Road Map.
- **Solid Waste Management** Solid Waste management will be supplied by making use of in-house resources rather than being outsourced to an external service provider. RDC employed a dedicated solid waste officer and will align all actions with the district wide Road Map document.

## Environmental and Regulatory Services

- **Building Accreditation** The Council Building Control Authority (BCA) remains accredited and the next audit is due February 2023. Planning for online electronic building consent applications Online applications went live in December 2021 and the process is well embedded and is working well.
- **Rural to Industrial Plan Change** The District Plan Change to rezone land south-east of Marton from Rural to Industrial for the Marton Rail Hub project remains subject to appeal. The Environment Court hearing is scheduled to occur and decision expected to be released in late 2022.
- Implementation of the Building (earthquake-prone buildings) Amendment Act Officers have completed all
  assessments of potential earthquake prone buildings 218 in total, of which 105 had been identified as potentially
  earthquake prone, 9 of these have been either remediated or the engineering report has indicated they above the
  34% NBS. Officers are now continuing final decision on the remaining 90 buildings. A total of six buildings have
  been issued with final earthquake prone notices.
- **Animal Control** Council continued to provide animal control services for both Rangitīkei and Manawatū districts under a shared services arrangement.
- Food Act and Health Act Council continuous to provide this service under contract from Manawatū District Council, as Whanganui Council could no longer provide this service.



## Community Well-being

- **Pandemic response** Council developed and regularly reviewed it's Pandemic Response Plan and Covid-19 Resurgence Plan. Following the first lockdown debrief, Council implemented an improvement action plan which included increasing the capability and capacity of it's internal Emergency Operations Centre Team (Pandemic Response Team), and enhancing local welfare response arrangements within the District.
- **Marton Rail Hub** Environment Court process has been underway for over a year to resolve District Plan Change. The timeline for the Court decision is unknown but expected within October 2022. To minimise programme delay, design in support of Resource Consent submissions (assuming a positive Court outcome) is progressing in parallel. A new Project Director has been appointed to lead the project.
- **Community Organisations** Council has continued to work with local organisations for community development.
- Youth Development The Youth Council has continued to function, meeting monthly Officers have continued with youth engagement including some very successful programmes and partnerships such as Forge Boxing in Marton, and vocational road trips.
- **Mahi Tahi** In 2021–2022, the Rangitīkei District Council again successfully secured \$500,000 for the Mayor's Task Force for Jobs (MTJF) Community Recovery Programme, supported by the Ministry of Social Development (MSD), and tasked with getting a minimum of 50 people into employment in the fiscal year. The Mahi Tahi programme filled a total of 120 jobs.
- Welcoming Communities Rangitīkei District Council was successful in applying to join the Welcoming Communities programme in July 2021. This programme is co-ordinated by Immigration New Zealand and is based on the recognition that communities that make new- comers welcome are likely to enjoy better social outcomes, and stronger economic growth. Council achieved Stage 1 accreditation in May 2022.
- Town Signage Further work has been undertaken to finalise new signage with icons to reflect towns' identity throughout the District.
- **www.rangitikei.com** Council has continued to manage www.rangitikei.com which is now a secondary domain to www.visitrangitikei.nz; it now has a closer alignment in design with the Council site and a heavier focus on exploring and discovering the district for increased public awareness and value addition to visitor focused business, district promotion and community wellbeing.
- **Economic development** As part of adding detail to the Council's strategic vision an economic development strategy was developed. A key component of the past 12 months was facilitating conversations around the provision of housing.
- **Emergency management** Council achieved enhanced internal capability within it's emergency operations centre (EOC) team with approximately 50% of employees being trained members of the EOC team and 98% of employees completing foundational emergency response training. Three scenario-based exercises were undertaken throughout the year and Council has re-established it's district-based Emergency Response and Local Welfare Committees. Council's emergency management function has been brought in-house from 2021/22.

# Financial Statements

## Explanation of major variations against budget

Explanations for major variances from the Council's budget figures for 2021/22 in the 2021-31 Long Term Plan are noted below: More detailed analysis of variances may be found in note 27 of the financial statements and in the commentary of the various groups of activities in the full Annual Report.

## Statement of comprehensive revenue and expense

The statement of comprehensive revenue and expense shows operating expenditure was \$0.84 million more than budget and operating revenue was below budget by \$0.11 million, resulting in an operating profit before gains and losses on PPE and investments of \$5.4 million against a budget of \$6.14 million.

More detailed analysis of variances is presented in note 27 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 \$754 million, largely represented by property, plant and equipment.

Council has a strong cash position of \$13.17 million as at 30 June 2022. This is mainly as a result of a significant underspend in capital works this year.



# **Summary Financial Results**

## Summary Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense

For the year ending 30 June 2022

	2022 Actual (\$000)	2022 Budget (\$000)	2021 Actual (\$000)
Total operating revenue	46,971	46,840	41,898
Less finance Costs	293	496	87
Less other operating expenditure	41,251	40,206	37,787
Net surplus (deficit) before revaluation lossses	5,427	6,138	4,024
Loss on revaluation of property, plant and equipment	-	-	-
Net surplus (deficit)	5,427	6,138	4,024
Income tax expense	-	-	-
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense	-	-	-
Gain on revaluation of infrastructure assets	128,670	31,589	
Gain on revaluation of property, plant and equipment	-	-	-
Comprehensive revenue and expense	134,097	37,727	4,024

## Summary Statement of Changes in Net Assets/Equity

For the year ending 30 June 2022

	2022 Actual (\$000)	2022 Budget (\$000)	2021 Actual (\$000)
Balance as at 1 July	610,708	611,422	606,684
Total comprehensive revenue and expense for the year	134,097	37,727	4,024
Balance as at 30 June	744,805	649,149	610,708

## Summary Statement of Financial Position

For the year ending 30 June 2022

	2022 Actual (\$000)	2022 Budget (\$000)	2021 Actual (\$000)
Current assets	16,928	12,656	10,292
Non-current assets	755,582	677,953	611,825
Total assets	772,510	690,609	622,117
Current liabilities	8,308	6,259	7,736
Non-current liabilities	19,397	35,201	3,673
Total assets	27,705	41,460	11,409
Net assets	744,805	649,149	610,708
Represented by equity			
Accumulated funds	472,181	473,593	466,754
Special and restricted reserves	4,504	4,517	4,504
Other reserves	268,120	171,039	139,450
Total equity	744,805	649,149	610,708

## Summary Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ending 30 June 2022

	2022 Actual (\$000)	2022 Budget (\$000)	2021 Actual (\$000)
Net cash inflows (outflows) from operating activities Net cash inflows (outflows) from investing activities Net cash inflows (outflows) from financing activities	13,278 (23,083) 15,984	20,078 (43,271) 26,308	16,391 (17,791) (16)
Net cash inflows (outflows) for the year	6,179	3,114	(1,416)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	6,991	4,767	8,407
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	13,171	7,881	6,991

## Summary Capital Expenditure

For the year ending 30 June 2022

	2022 Actual (\$000)	2022 LTP Y1 (\$000)	2021 Actual (\$000)
Community Leadership	-	-	-
Roading and Footpaths	7,009	11,567	12,552
Water Supply	880	3,186	3,059
Sewage and the Treatment and Disposal of Sewage	7,414	10,690	1,781
Stormwater Drainange	196	800	1,149
Community and Leisure Assets	4,601	8,466	4,772
Rubbish and Recycling	-	-	-
Environmental and Regulatory Services	-	-	-
Community Well-being	-	-	-
Total Capital Expenditure	20,100	34,709	23,313

### Post balance date events

The Water Services Entities Act 2022 received royal assent on 14 December 2022. The Act establishes four publicly owned water services entities to take over responsibilities for three waters service delivery and infrastructure from local authorities from 1 July 2024, or earlier by Order in Council. In December 2022, the Government introduced two additional water services Bills, one of which will enable the transfer of three waters related assets and liabilities to the water services entities. Until the Bills receive royal assent, the financial impact of the transfer on the District Council remains uncertain.

Section 98 of the Local Government Act 2002 requires the Council to prepare and adopt an Annual Report within four months after the end of each financial year. However, as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, parliament passed legislation to extend the statutory reporting timeframes by up to two months in order to ensure that there is no reduction in the quality of the financial reporting and the audit of the annual report. The 2021/22 annual report was adopted by resolution of the Council on 30 March 2023.

## Additional information

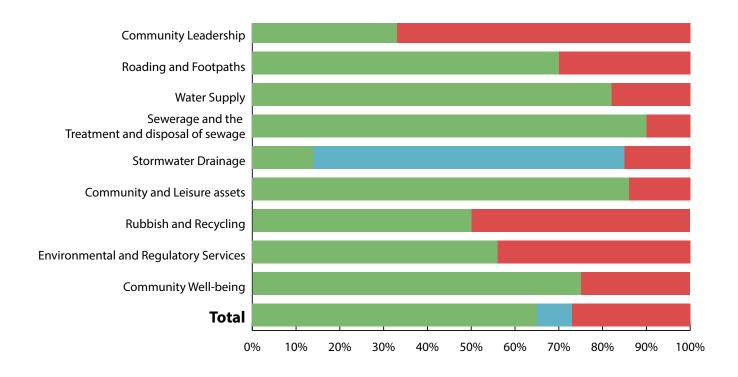
- 1 The reporting entity is the Rangitīkei District Council which is a territorial local authority governed by the Local Government Act 2002 and is domiciled in New Zealand.
- 2 The specific disclosures in the summary financial report have been extracted from the full financial report which was adopted and authorised for issue by Council on 30 March 2023.
- 3 The Financial Statements are for the year ended 30 June 2022 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 10 of the 11 benchmarks in 2021/22.
- 5 The summary financial report cannot be expected to provide as complete an understanding as the full financial report. The full financial report on 30 March 2023 received an unmodified Audit Opinion (excluding the Significant Activities Statement which in the prior year was qualified because of uncertainty on the verification of numbers of complaints about some services). This report is available from the Council Office, Libraries and Information Centres, and on our website www.rangitikei.govt.nz.
- 6 The Council has designated itself a Public Benefit Entity (PBE) for financial reporting purposes.
- 7 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.
- 8 These Summary Financial Results are in compliance with the PBE FRS 43 Summary Financial Statements.

# **Levels of Service**

# The full report documents results for 67 intended levels of services across the nine 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 because qualitative as well as quantitative information is used. The detailed analysis is provided under each group of activities.

The following chart shows the overall achievement for the year. 66% of the measures were achieved (42% last year).



Achieved	Required actions have been completed Or where a long-term level of service is targeted, the results for the year are in keeping with the required trend to achieve the intended level of service
Not measured	A measure which Council is required to report upon, but did not undertake relevant activities, so cannot report results
Not achieved	None of the required actions have been undertaken Or the result for the year is less than half of the intended level of service Or where a long-term level of service is targeted, the results for the year are contrary to the required trend to achieve the intended level of service

## Summary Commentary on each group of activities

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Activity		What we did
	Activity	what we dru
	Community Leadership	67.9% of annual plan actions were completed by 30 June 2022, with 49.08% of the planned capital programme completed.
		Satisfaction ratings from Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa (TRAK) about the effectiveness of the Māori responsiveness framework showed improvement overall.
		Council began to collect customer ratings at Council offices and libraries through the HappyOrNot rating system.
	Roading	There were footpath and roading requests, with 79% of these requests completed on time.
		Council applied 9186m <sup>3</sup> of gravel to unsealed roads, 76% of the target of 12,000m <sup>3</sup> .
		95.3% of CBD footpaths and 93% of non-CBD footpaths were category 3 (Fair) or better.
	Water supply	Council received 75.73 complaints per thousand connections.
		No E.coli was detected in Council's water supplies, however five plants had incidents of non-compliance with protozoa criteria during the year.
		This can be caused by brief interruptions to UV disinfection or electricity spikes.
		The loss of water from urban reticulation was 37%, while consumption of drinking water was an average of 559 litres per resident per day.
		Council received requests for service for urban supplies, and rural water schemes, which were all responded to and resolved within the target timeframes.
	Stormwater Drainage	There were no flooding events that met the threshold for reporting requirements (stormwater overflows that enter a habitable floor). There were 10.99 requests for service per thousand connected properties.
P	Sewerage and the Treatment and	Council received 11.86 complaints/requests for service per thousand connections.
	Disposal of Sewage	Council met all targets relating to fault response time and resolution.
		Council was compliant with all resource consent requirements for wastewater treatment and disposal.

	Activity	What we did
	Community and	Council maintained the Poolsafe accreditation.
	Leisure Assets	No public toilets were constructed this financial year, but those planned for construction met the relevant standards and guidelines.
		Council maintained playgrounds to NZ Standards, inspecting twice a week and undertaking audits every two months.
		Council held 5+ activities/events at each library, as well as online storytime sessions, and customer ratings at library facilities were 95.2% positive.
		Council received 3 complaints about the maintenance of parks and sports fields.
		Council inspected community housing units for compliance with the rental warrant of fitness programme. Of the 72 units, 3 units didn't comply due to hot water temperatures exceeding 60 degrees.
6	Rubbish and recycling	Waste to landfill continue to increase on the previous years' figure, contributed to by higher economic activity and population growth.
		Council continues to have transfer stations in Bulls, Marton, Taihape, Hunterville, and Rātana.
ß	Environmental and Regulatory	91.52% of building consents, 100% of building consents, and 95.4% of subdivision consents were processed within statutory timeframes, an improvement on the previous year.
		Council responded to and completed 98% Priority 1 Animal Control callouts and 87% of Priority 2 callouts.
		98% of Food Premises and Noise Control callouts were responded to and completed within target timeframes.
	Community Well-being	Council held an internal debrief after the August 2021 Covid-19 lockdown, and two EOC training exercises on a flood response.
		The District's GDP growth was above the national level for 2020/21.
		Council completed 75% of the Housing Strategy actions and 34.9% of the Economic Development Strategy actions.

AUDIT NEW ZEALAND Mana Arotake Aotearoa

# **Independent Auditor's Opinion**

# To the readers of Rangitīkei District Council's summary of the Annual Report for the year endeed 30 June 2022

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 2022. The summary of the Annual Report comprises the following summary statements on pages 12 to 17:

- the summary statement of financial position as at 30 June 2022;
- 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 2022;
- the notes to the summary financial statements that include accounting policies and other explanatory information; and
- the summary levels of service.

#### 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 a qualified opinion on the performance reporting and an unmodified opinion on the other audited information in the full Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2022 in our auditor's report dated 30 March 2023. The basis for our qualified opinion on the performance reporting is explained below.

#### Our work was limited in the prior year with respect to the verification of the number of complaints for some services.

The District Council is required to report against the performance measures set out in the Non-Financial Performance Measure Rules 2013 (the Rules) made by the Secretary for Local Government. These mandatory performance measures include the number of complaints (per 1,000 properties connected) received about the following:

- drinking water clarity, taste, odour, pressure or flow, continuity of supply, and the District Council's response to any of these issues;
- sewage odour, sewerage system faults and blockages, and the District Council's response to issues with the sewerage system; and
- the performance of the stormwater system.

These measures are important because the number of complaints is indicative of the quality of services received by ratepayers.

The Department of Internal Affairs has issued guidance to assist local authorities in applying the Rules, including on how to count complaints. Our audit testing in the prior year found that the District Council had not been counting complaints in accordance with this guidance and that the District Council's method of counting was likely to have understated the actual number of complaints received in the comparative year to 30 June 2021.

Complete records for all complaints made to the District Council were not available in the prior year and we were unable to determine whether the District Council's reported results for these performance measures were materially correct. As a result, our work was limited and there were no practicable audit procedures we could apply to obtain assurance over the number of complaints reported against these performance measures in the prior year. Our audit opinion on the performance reporting for the year ended 30 June 2021 was modified accordingly.

This issue has been resolved for the 30 June 2022 year. As the limitation on our work cannot be resolved for the 30 June 2021 year, the District Council's reported performance for these performance measures for the 30 June 2022 year may not be directly comparable to the 30 June 2021 performance information.

Our auditor's report on the full Annual Report also includes an emphasis of matter paragraph drawing attention to the Government's three waters reform programme. The Water Services Entities Act 2022 received royal assent on 14 December 2022. The Act establishes four publicly owned water services entities to take over responsibilities for three waters service delivery and infrastructure from local authorities from 1 July 2024, or earlier by Order in Council. In December 2022, the Government introduced two additional water services Bills, one of which will enable the transfer of three waters related assets and liabilities to the water services entities. Until the Bills receive royal assent, the financial impact of the transfer on the District Council and Group remains uncertain. This matter is disclosed on page 13 of the summary financial statements.

# 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. In addition to reporting on the summary and full Annual Reports, we have carried out a limited assurance engagement related to the District Council's Debenture Trust Deed. This engagement is compatible with those independence requirements.

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

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Audit New Zealand On behalf of the Auditor-General Palmerston North, New Zealand

28 April 2023

Chris Webby,



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