



RANGITIKEI
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Making this place home.

ORDER PAPER

BULLS COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Wednesday, 10 July 2024
Time: 6.00pm
Venue: Te Matapihi Hall, Te Matapihi
Bulls Community Centre
4 Criterion Street
Bulls

Chair: Mr Greg Smith
Deputy Chair: Cr Brian Carter
Membership: Mr Nigel Bowen
Mr Bruce Dear
Mr David Yates
Mr Patrick McKenna
Cr Coral Raukawa
HWTM Andy Watson

Purpose of the Committee

- To provide a local link and point of contact for Council liaison with the community.
- To provide for the exchange of information, communication, and to assist with the Council's consultative processes.
- To exercise delegated authority for the annual allocation of \$1.00 per rateable property for "defined small local works" in line with the guidelines provided¹.
- Particularly, to help ensure that any minor remedial or renewal works are brought to Council's attention through the Request for Service procedure, by promoting its use and advising community members on how to use it.
- To be the first point of contact (prior to Council) for community groups. Where this is not possible, the Committee will be informed of the approach by the community group to the Council.
- To engage with wider/small communities of the ward represented.

For any enquiries regarding this agenda, please contact:

Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor, 0800 422 522 (ext. 917), or via email

kezia.spence@rangitikei.govt.nz

¹ Appended to the Delegations Register

Notice is hereby given that a Bulls Community Committee Meeting of the Rangitīkei District Council will be held in the Te Matapihi Hall, Te Matapihi, Bulls Community Centre, 4 Criterion Street, Bulls on Wednesday, 10 July 2024 at 6.00pm.

Order Of Business

1	Welcome.....	4
2	Apologies	4
3	Public Forum	4
4	Conflict of Interest Declarations.....	4
5	Confirmation of Order of Business	4
6	Confirmation of Minutes	5
	6.1 Confirmation of Minutes	5
7	Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings	14
	7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Bulls Community Committee Meetings	14
8	Chairman’s Report.....	16
	8.1 Chairman's Report - July 2024.....	16
9	Reports for Decision	17
	9.1 Mayor's Report - 30 May 2024.....	17
	9.2 Mayor's Report - 27 June 2024	32
10	Reports for Information.....	62
	10.1 Small Projects Fund Update - July 2024	62
	10.2 Funding Schemes Update - July 2024.....	65
11	Meeting Closed.	67

AGENDA

1 Welcome

2 Apologies

3 Public Forum

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of items on this agenda.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

That, taking into account the explanation provided why the item is not on the meeting agenda and why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting, [enter item number](#) be dealt as a late item at this meeting.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Confirmation of Minutes

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 The minutes from **Bulls Community Committee Meeting held on 8 May 2024** are attached.

Attachments

1. **Bulls Community Committee Meeting - 8 May 2024**

Recommendation

That the minutes of Bulls Community Committee Meeting held on 8 May 2024 [**as amended/without amendment**] be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the electronic signature of the Chair of this Committee be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

MINUTES

ITEM 6.1

ATTACHMENT 1



RANGITIKEI
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Making this place home.

UNCONFIRMED BULLS COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Wednesday, 8 May 2024
Time: 6.00pm
Venue: Te Matapihi Hall, Te Matapihi
Bulls Community Centre
4 Criterion Street
Bulls

Present Chairman Greg Smith
Mr Nigel Bowen
Mr Bruce Dear
HWTM Andy Watson
Cr Coral Raukawa
Mr David Yates

In attendance Cr Paul Sharland
Ms Jo Manuel, Manager- Community Wellbeing
Ms Deb Haworth, Minute taker
Ms Carolyn Bates

Order of Business

1 Welcome..... 3

2 Apologies 3

3 Public Forum 3

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations..... 3

5 Confirmation of Order of Business 3

6 Confirmation of Minutes 3

7 Follow- up Actions..... 3

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Bulls Community Committee Meetings 3

8 Chair’s Report 4

8.1 Chair's Report - May 2024 4

9 Reports for Decision 4

9.1 Mayor's Report - March 2024 4

9.2 Mayor's Report - April 2024 5

10 Reports for Information..... 5

10.1 Community Development Manager Report - May 2024 5

10.2 Small Projects Fund Update - May 2024 5

10.3 Funding Schemes Update - May 2024..... 6

8 Discussion Items..... 6

11.1 Bulls Service Map Board 6

11.2 Emergency events from RDC..... 6

11.3 Bulls Community Committee Workshops 6

11.4 Draft Bulls Community Response Plan 7

11.5 Ratana Community Board By-Election 7

11.6 ANZAC Parade Celebrations 7

11.7 Memorial Seat – Haylock Family 7

11.8 Damaged Planter Boxes 7

ITEM 6.1 ATTACHMENT 1

1 Welcome

Chairman Smith opened the meeting describing the role of the Bulls Community Committee, noting it is a conduit to Council with a small budget to improve Bulls and also pointed out the how and when process for RFS.

2 Apologies

Apologies received from Cr Brian Carter, Mr Colin Fanning and Mr Patrick McKenna

3 Public Forum

There was no public forum.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

There was no change to the order of business.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Amendment: Mr Dear provided his apologies and should be removed from the present list.

Resolved minute number 24/BCC/033

That the minutes of Bulls Community Committee Meeting held on 13 March 2024 **with amendment** be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the electronic signature of the of this Committee be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

Mr N Bowen/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

7 Follow- up Actions

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Bulls Community Committee Meetings

Item 1 - Planting area Criterion St and SH1/3 beautification

Cr Carter is away so this is here and is in progress.

Item 2 – Community Response Plan

The Chairman spoke to Carol Gordon who in turn will speak to Paul Chaffe

Item 3 – Sport Whanganui Report

This has been delegated to Heidi Macaulay

Item 4 – Rubbish Bins in the picnic area at the Bulls River

In progress

Item 5 – Traffic calming options on Criterion Street and Taumaihi Street

The Committee is waiting on a response from Arno Benadie

The Chairman will request the results from the Johnson Steet traffic count

Resolved minute number 24/BCC/034

That the report 'Follow-up Action Items from Bulls Community Committee Meetings' be received.

Mr G Smith/Mr B Dear. Carried

8 Chairman's Report

8.1 Chairman's Report - May 2024

The report was taken as read

Resolved minute number 24/BCC/035

That the Chairman's Report – May 2024 be received.

Mr G Smith/Mr B Dear. Carried

9 Reports for Decision

9.1 Mayor's Report - March 2024

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 24/BCC/036

That the Mayor's Report – 28 March 2024 be received.

Cr C Raukawa/Mr Y Yates. Carried

9.2 Mayor's Report - April 2024

Mayor Andy spoke to the LTP submissions, there were only few who spoke at the meeting. Mayor Andy also spoke about the ability of some to pay Rates, the Government positions, defaults on Rates and 3 Waters.

There were questions and discussion amongst the Committee regarding the land purchase for waste disposal

Resolved minute number 24/BCC/037

That the Mayor's Report – 24 April 2024 be received.

Cr C Raukawa/Mr Y Yates. Carried

10 Reports for Information

10.1 Community Development Manager Report - May 2024

The report was taken as tabled.

Resolved minute number 24/BCC/038

That the Community Development Manager Report – May 2024 be received.

Mr B Dear/Mr N Bowen. Carried

10.2 Small Projects Fund Update - May 2024

Ms J Manuel was queried as to the correct figure stated in "The 2023/24 allocation to the Committee's Small Projects Fund is \$3,555." This is to be confirmed by staff.

The Committee discussed the option to carry forward the remaining balance of the Small Projects Fund. If the process does not allow this, the committee will have a special committee meeting before the end of the financial year it need be.

The Chairman will speak to Heidi regarding the Bulls River Walk and how the Bulls Community Development Trust intends to partner with the Bulls Community Committee.

ANZAC Parade Celebrations – see Discussion Item 11.6

Memorial Seat – Haylock Family – see Discussion Item 11.7

Damaged Planters boxes – see Discussion Item 11.8

Resolved minute number 24/BCC/039

That the report 'Small Projects Fund Update –May 2024 be received.

Mr B Dear/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/BCC/040

That the remaining balance of **\$1,865.70** the Bulls Community Committee's Small Projects Fund for 2023/24 be carried forward to 2024/25.

Mr G Smith/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

10.3 Funding Schemes Update - May 2024

The report was taken as read

Resolved minute number 24/BCC/041

That the Funding Schemes Update –May 2024 be received.

Mr D Yates/Mr G Smith. Carried

8 Discussion Items**11.1 Bulls Service Map Board**

The Chairman tabled a quote and there are other quotes on the way.

The Committee discussed the location, how many, where, pamphlets, handouts, walks, locations, whether there would be sponsorship, how they would be updated if they needed to be and other issues about the Service Map Board(s).

Resolved minute number 24/BCC/042

That there be a workshop before the next meeting to discuss the options if response returns that any part of allocation of funding would be lost if not carried forward.

That the Bulls Community Committee agree in principle to the project funding of \$2,000 suggested be the maximum cost allocated.

Mr G Smith/Mr D Yates. Carried

11.2 Emergency events from RDC

This is allocated to the follow up action items.

11.3 Bulls Community Committee Workshops

The Committee may meet before the next meeting to discuss the Bulls Service Map Board dependent on small project funds carry over.

11.4 Draft Bulls Community Response Plan

The Chairman will follow up with Paul Chaffe.

11.5 Ratana Community Board By-Election

The Ratana Community Board By-Election was recognised by the Committee

11.6 ANZAC Parade Celebrations

There was a lot of road noise the speak and microphone issues at the ANZAC Parade celebrations.

The committee discussed what options there might be for road control and PA systems.

11.7 Memorial Seat – Haylock Family

Resolved minute number 24/BCC/043

The Committee discussed the Haylock Family seat where the plaque had been removed for cleaning and it requires staining as well. The family are very appreciative, and receipts were presented for payment.

Mr B Dear/Mr G Smith. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/BCC/044

That an article from Mr Dear be published in the Bull-It-In for any worked carried out

Mr B Dear/Mr G Smith. Carried

11.8 Damaged Planter Boxes

There are some historical plaques on the original donated containers. The Committee discussed whether the plaques (Stickers) would be replaced in perpetuity onto new containers purchased by the BCC to replace/repair old containers. While in principle there was acceptance that donated

items have a finite lifespan, in this instance some insisted a one-off replacement would seem reasonable

Resolved minute number 24/BCC/045

It was agreed to replace the damaged stickers to the value of \$100.

Mr B Dear/Mr D Yates. Carried

The meeting closed at 8.00pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Bulls Community Committee held on 10 July 2024.

.....
Chairman

UNCONFIRMED

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Bulls Community Committee Meetings

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 On the list attached are items raised at previous Bulls Community Committee meetings. Items indicate who is responsible for follow up, and a brief status comment.

2. Decision Making Process

- 2.1 Staff have assessed the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 in relation to this item and have concluded that, as this report is for information only, the decision-making provisions do not apply.

Attachments:

1. **Follow-up Actions Register** [↓](#)

Recommendation

That the report 'Follow-up Action Items from Bulls Community Committee Meetings' be received.

Current Follow-up Actions

Item	From Meeting Date	Details	Person Assigned	Status Comments	Status
1	2-May-24	Cr Carter to report on findings re: Planting area Criterion St and SH1/3 beautification	Brian Carter	Cr Carter is currently away, this item has been added here to stop it falling off	In progress
2	2-May-24	Requested by the Chair: 1.1Request updates on emergency events from RDC - 2004 flood, Feb 2023, and May 2023 emergency responses (if and whether declared) to be formally reported on to assist in preparation of Community Response Plan approval by Bulls Community Committee	Paul C	Declared states of Emergency can be found here https://www.civildefence.govt.nz/resources/previous-emergencies/declared-states-of-emergency Since 2004 RDC has declared a state of emergency for flooding in 2015 and then again in 2017, Otherwise RDC was included in the declared states of emergency for the Christchurch earthquake 2011 and again for the initial arrival of the Covid 19 Pandemic in 2020. There have been numerous other localised minor events all across the District (no declaration required) since 2004 however we don't keep records of these. RDC was not affected to any great extent by Cyclone Gabrielle in Feb 2023, nor was there any significant impact from flooding in May 2023. This isn't to say that individuals may have been affected by these events, its just that Civil Defence only becomes involved when traditional emergency services are stretched beyond capacity. Threats to Bulls are outlined in the District plan map layers (Flooding, liquification etc). Here is a list of some of the minor scale events across RDC since 2004: Fires in the 'Sand country' 2005,2015,2020 Flooding Whangaehu and Turakina 2006 Flooding Koitiata 2013 Land subsidence Hunterville 2016 Snow fall Taihape 2013, 2017 Flooding Marton 2020	Completed.
3	24-Jan-24	Sport Whanganui report to come to the committee when completed	Heidi	This has not been passed on.	In progress
4	28-Oct-21	Also under Council: With regards to the recommendation from the Bulls Community Committee for rubbish bin/s at the picnic area at the Bulls river: A recommendation by Council to approve this request was lost, and Cr Gordon instead requested that staff contact Horizons Regional Council and request that they investigate this further as this area of land lies under their responsibility.	Arno Benadie / Murray Phillips	A revised Memorandum Of Understanding has been submitted by Horizons for review. RDC is considering the suitability of the proposed MOU before agreeing to a new term for this activity. No further updates available at this time.	In progress
5	11-Aug-21	RDC please look at traffic calming options on Criterion St and Taumaihi St. 31 Jan 22: The committee believes the traffic count was done but no tubing was laid? They are waiting on data from the traffic count.	Arno Benadie	Traffic counting tubes to be put on Criterion and Taumaihi St for a week. The date collected will determine traffic counts, speeds and times to see if traffic calming is required. May 2023 update - Traffic counters are to be installed on Tuimaihi Street to obtain updated data on traffic movements. Expected date for results is the end of June 2023. Previous recorded traffic counts on Criterion Street recorded 1270 average daily traffic and 860 average daily traffic with 12% being heavy commercial vehicles. Both counts are within the range for a road of this width in this location on the network.	In progress

8 Chairman's Report

8.1 Chairman's Report - July 2024

Author: Greg Smith, Chairman

I have received and accepted Mr Colin Fanning's resignation from the BCC. He has moved from the district.

We thank him for his time both in committee meetings and events we have attended, and especially his good humour he has brought to the team during his short tenure.

Attended MCC June meeting. Provided technical commentary from a professional viewpoint regarding Solar Farms, after request.

Provided comments to RDC consultations on Smoke/Vape Bylaw

Removed a full ute load of rubbish from the North side of river recreational area. Pulled out ute from the mud. Advised of 2 further 4wd vehicles stuck in gravels loosened by the recent rise in river levels. Potential for warning signs at entrance?

RFS 2402953 raised reiterating glass removal adjacent Cenotaph - Now removed. NB: Response does not include copy of the report, and so should be modified to do so.

Replied to Murry Phillips, Manager Parks and Reserves, congratulating his team on the fine work presenting the Cenotaph area for ANZAC Day.

Provided response to LINZ regarding Provision of Location Based Products and Services (in personal capacity but using Bulls as example).

BDCT is open to BCC assisting in any way possible with the River Walk Project.

Meeting with J Calkin - Re: Bulls Signs - Placemaking and Wayfaring Committee. This project has been picked up by this group in RDC and will be removed from BCC initiatives.

Also noted at meeting, Bulls Rubbish Bin refurbishment - Now a project with BDCT and will be removed from BCC Initiatives.

May Bull-It-Inn included report on the refurbishment of Haylock Park seat with photos supplied by Chairman and report written by Mr Dear.

Recommendation

That the Chairman's Report – July 2024 be received.

9 Reports for Decision

9.1 Mayor's Report - 30 May 2024

Author: Andy Watson, His Worship the Mayor

1. Reason for Report

On 8 May local volunteers from Forest & Bird together with the National Office opened a new access bridge at Mangahoe, Sutherlands Bush Reserve. The bridge was financed and constructed by Forest & Bird nationally but a huge number of hours have been spent by volunteers rebuilding the tracks. I have walked the reserve and it certainly is a special place.

Our district is well known for its events and the Cowper's Suzuki Extreme 4x4 challenge held last month in Turakina was exceptional – it was a stunning day that drew huge crowds of thousands and is filmed for TV which highlights our district nationally - what could be better.

Winter netball has kicked off and on 5 May I went north for the Open Day at Taihape and the first use of the Nga Awa building. Teams from Hunterville, Taihape and Ohakune areas meant the place was packed. My congratulations to the organisation committees that run these days.

Speaking of sport, on the weekend I attended the "Women in Sport Aotearoa" fundraising function in Palmerston North hosted by John and Angela Turkington. Around 400 people attended to listen to panels of high profile people talking about things such as encouragement to women to be involved in sport and coaching. A highlight for me was to listen to a Q&A session with Barbara Kendall our Olympic icon of New Zealand and IOC board member. I believe, with the auction, the night raised in excess of \$60,000 for women in sport. Angela and John support so much in our district and deserve our congratulations.

Roading

On 23 April I attended a Road Controlling Authority meeting in Wellington. This gave an indication of the new Government's thinking around roading. The meeting was significant so I am reporting on it with my thoughts.

The meeting started with a panel discussion including Nick Leggett (CE of Infrastructure New Zealand), David Gordon (Chief Planning Officer Assets KiwiRail and Liam Hodgetts (Chief Infrastructural Moderator Wellington Council). The standout points were –

1. David Gordon

- Under the new GPS (Government's Policy Statement) rail will not be subsidised by the Government.
- He noted that rail throughout the world is generally subsidised by Governments.
- There is no profitability in rail lines north of Napier or the West Coast of the South Island.
- Rail has been told by Government to reduce its costs.
- He made comment that rail has not gone deliberately with Tier 1 contractors to maintain the rail network. (Note: Tier 1 contractors are companies like Fletchers, Downers, Higgins), but rail use local contractors to help drive down costs and

increase competition. The point is that roading authorities/NZTA should do the same.

2. All the panel agreed that the standard of New Zealand infrastructure, especially roading was deteriorating.
3. All agreed that the Government is looking to long term planning, i.e. beyond three year terms of Government, which is a massive step forward.
4. **Minister Simeon Brown** – Minister of Energy, Transport, Infrastructure & Local Government
 - Under this Government the GPS roading/transport is of the highest priority.
 - Spending of the Government will be focussed on economic growth.
 - Safety – we will look for value for money. The focus here is on reducing the safety costs/traffic management in roading.
 - Transport is an economic enabler which also facilitates housing.
 - Maintenance of roads increases the safety of roads.
 - Road User Charges will increase based on the size of the vehicle and distance travelled including cars and EV vehicles.
 - The Minister made the point that “over the last few years there have been huge increases in the spend of cycling but the percentage of people cycling has not changed” and he questioned if this is value for money. He noted that “75% of New Zealanders get into a vehicle to go to work and only 2% get on a bike to do that and funding should reflect that percentage”.
 - The Minister reflected that as a country we dream up 67 ways (note, there are 67 Councils in New Zealand) of doing things. There is a need to standardise within reason, drainage, bridge building and roading solutions.
5. **Nicole Rosie** – Chief Executive of NZTA
 - The Government has very clearly laid out their expectations (noting that this is a welcoming position and hasn’t always been the case).
 - Nicole points out the need for consistency of governance within NZTA. In four years she and the organisation have had multiple ministers and chairs.
 - The increase on focus of maintenance of roads is welcome but notes that we do not have the capacity in New Zealand to carry out work for a dramatically increased spend. The work programmes needed will need to be ramped up over time.
 - We also have variable performance from personnel/contractors in New Zealand. Ideally the roading issue on SH25A should be replicated in New Zealand (this is where a new bridge was designed and built in record time to enable the road to be reopened).
 - We, NZTA, believe in private/public partnerships.
 - NZTA, like all Government Departments, have to reduce costs by 7.5%. Nicole also accepted that there were, and still are, inefficiencies in public service.
 - We, as an agency, are becoming more efficient, call waiting times on phones has moved from an average of 20 minutes to 2 minutes.
 - Closing some roads to do maintenance work would reduce traffic management costs (Nicole is aware that traffic management adds in the order of 35% to roading costs).
 - Agrees that Tier 2/3 contractor use should increase and that NZTA needs to increase the capability of Councils to use their 2/3 contractors.

- Road User Charges (RUCs) based on distance travelled will be an issue of equity. What she is saying here is that wealthy people tend to live closer to work/cities and therefore will pay less.
6. **Minister Shane Jones** (via Zoom) – Minister for Oceans & Fisheries, Regional Development, Resources and Associate Minister of Finance and Energy
- “NZ First is here to make things happen and do it quicker”.
 - We are hindered as a country by ecologies – “one frog can add \$6m to the cost of infrastructure”. I think this is a reference directly to roadworks on Mt Messenger and the need for fast-track legislation.
 - Wildlife Acts will be replaced by business cases, i.e. cost benefit analysis.
 - “We, NZ First, campaign on statutory reforms and this is reflected in the fast-track legislation now in the Select Committee”.
7. **Andrew Clark** – National Manager of Maintenance Operations NZTA
- Cost increases on delivering road resurfacing have increased by 21% since 2021.
 - All other costs associated with roading are increasing as well.
 - Traffic management thoughts –
 - 20% of traffic management costs are not needed;
 - 69.8 of sites have traffic management in place while work is not proceeding.
 - Our roading network continues, and will continue, to decline in standard.
 - The need to move to rollout a new risk based approach to traffic management.
 - We need to consider –
 - Closing roads and using detours;
 - Dealing with multiple roading issues at the same time (e.g. mowing/maintenance/rubbish/Powerco issues etc).
 - There needs to be a shift in thinking to a ‘whole of life’. Building stronger in the first instance = a longer service life and therefore less maintenance.

On 2 May I received from NZTA the Government’s position on funding of emergency roading works. Emergency work is done where our roading networks are hit with climatic events such as cyclones resulting in unprogrammed repairs beyond maintenance. These events have become more common as everyone is aware. NZTA proposed changes include –

1. Changing the qualifying trigger for emergency event funding from a 1 in 10 year event to a 1 in 20 year event.
2. A reduction in the FAR assistance above our existing FAR (Financial Assistance Rate) from +20% to a +10%.
3. Restricting further bespoke assistance rates where a much larger assistance could be given.

These changes would, if adopted, take place in July 2025.

We must submit to this consultation process!

The history of events in our district would indicate that this would probably add millions of dollars of costs to our ratepayers over a period of the LTP and/or result in roads either not being serviced or poorly maintained. Attached is the Memorandum from Nicole Rosie, CE of NZTA.

ITEM 9.1

Council deliberated last week on our Long Term Plan. We firstly acknowledge a record number of submitters and thank people for their interest in Local Government and their concerns around rating positions and affordability which was reflected often in the submissions. I and Council would also like to acknowledge the huge amount of work that was done by staff in preparing an amazing document of submissions and the suggestions made in responses to submitters. Certainly one of the drivers of Council during the day was to reduce the rate burden. We are still yet to calculate the final rates position however the indications are that rates may come down slightly on the forecast within the consultation document. In part, this has been achieved because of the lack of need to depreciate fund some of our earthquake prone Council buildings. This decision makes commonsense. Probably one of the most contentious decisions was the decision not to open the swimming pool in Marton over the winter months. To open the pool over those months would have come at considerable expense and Council has also been informed by staff that considerable money may have to be spent on the maintenance of the pool and building. The decision process is not yet complete, Councillors asked for more information on a few issues, including the ability to change the UAGC (Uniform Annual General Charge). These issues will go back to Council at their meeting at the end of May. To test who is still reading this lengthy report, there is a chocolatey prize for the first Elected Member/Staff Member who sees this.

Accelerate25 is the regional body promoting economic growth within the Horizons area that was set up several years ago as a regional voice for Government. This body consists of some of the regional Mayors and has external independent membership representing iwi and industry. Accelerate25 resulted in our region being given Government assistance through the PGF (Provincial Growth Fund) Government funding initiative, administered largely by Minister Shane Jones. Recently Accelerate25 and the Mayors met in Wellington followed by a Meet & Greet with Minister Jones. Minister Jones took that opportunity to pledge to come to our district to talk about our industrial initiatives and also have a discussion around Ratana. We were the only Council highlighted in this way, so I look forward to that discussion. He has promised to bring other Government people that he considers relevant and that may include Minister Bishop who sits alongside him on funding decisions.

The delivery of three waters services and roading contracts is performed by a shared service provided by Manawatu District Council in a relationship that has existed for many years. There has been a decision made by both councils to bring that relationship to an end. As of 1 July, Rangitikei will be responsible for three waters and roading and the operators of our wastewater and water plants will transfer to being our staff. We absolutely welcome them as part of our team and their wonderful service will continue. Rangitikei will inevitably need some assistance at senior levels or by way of outside assistance to transition this process. We believe that we need to be responsible for our own destiny and efficiencies which may come at a cost neutral or cost saving.

The three waters discussion with Government is still complex. New Zealand authorities will retain ownership of our water assets but are being encouraged and possibly legislated by Government to form regional groupings. These groupings will probably be in the form of CCOs (Council Controlled Organisations) at a regional level. The Government has also said that no council will be left alone and may well legislate to make sure that each Council has "a home".

These discussions are slow in our region but are progressing. Chief Executives and staff are analysing the costs for compliance and growth that each council will face now and in the future. These discussions will include Iwi and all Mayors as it progresses. It should be noted that we still waiting on Government's position especially in regard to price setting or standardisation. Inevitably the discussions will come down to which councils will work together. At present we are taking an Horizons regional approach but there will be consideration by councils to look at splits within the Horizons region or to look outside our boundaries.

I know that three waters has become an everlasting story but work is progressing and we need to discuss our decisions with our community as they develop so where I have said that we will be responsible for our own destiny in the stopping of shared services, this may well be an intermediate step to the final direction the Government is pointing us in.

Last weekend was the Rangitikei Heritage Weekend for all the museums in our district. I am a volunteer at Marton so Saturday and Sunday mornings I, like many other Marton volunteers, were needed. However in the afternoons I visited all but one of the museums in our district. My apologies to Mangaweka – I intended to be there but ran out of time with all the travelling. I will try and remedy that in the future. All of our museums are different - Marton focusses on the cottage, stables and prison jail that we have and the archival section being incredibly strong, Bulls is the museum that is open more than any other museum in our district, always available during the day for the travelling public, and has continued to grow. They now effectively have 3 sites – the main museum, the stables behind it and are working in conjunction with the old Bulls Library. Taihape is a real favourite of mine, partly because so many of the old vehicles, tractors and implements parked out the back of the museum I seem to have personally used at some stage or another in my life. Do pop in and have a look at some stage, it's fascinating. For those who are not aware the Hunterville Museum quietly sits in beside and behind the café and I spent some time talking on the Sunday before they closed with a couple of volunteers there. I guess the key message is these are the real gems of our district and I thank the museums for being open and the number of people who went out of their way to see more than one museum over the weekend.

The Coalition Government, led in this case by ACT, have questioned the process around the appointment of Maori Wards within local authorities. As a sector, LGNZ have real concerns about the referendum process that we are going to be forced into undertaking. As such, it believes the Government's decision to remove decision-making from councils by mandating that polls be run on Maori wards and constituencies is an overreach on local decision-making when current legislation already requires councils to seek community views. LGNZ's position is that Maori wards should be treated like all other wards and that decisions should be made at the council level, and urges Government to reconsider its position and let local councils made decisions about appropriate representation arrangements in partnership with iwi and their communities. After circulation and discussion with Elected Members, we have signed the letter in support of LGNZ's position and refer to the attached document.

My congratulations to Paul Sharland being appointed to Council. As part of that process Paul has asked if he can be on the Assets/Infrastructure and Finance Committees so I am directly appointing him to those committees.

Rural & Provincial

ITEM 9.1

On 11 April the Rural & Provincial Councils met in Wellington. Normally I would see that as a priority engagement but this time it clashed with our own important Assets & Infrastructure and Policy & Planning Meetings. I compromised by travelling down late and missing some of the first day's sessions. My thanks to Mayor Helen Worboys for providing some of her notes to assist my explanations. These notes are as follows –

1. There was discussion around the increasing levels of aggression by people on social media and in person against staff and councillors. This is concerning and we need to support each other.
2. It is noted that the average New Zealand household pays \$2,900 in rates and \$37,000 in tax. Internationally this is an unusual balance. Councils are being asked to provide more and more services without increased budgets highlighting the need for financial funding reform. These reforms could include a return of GST on rates and a portion of the GST on district generated GDP. Other measures could include congestion funding and accommodation levies etc.
3. Councils collectively at the meeting were asked to rate their concerns and the help that they would need from Local Government. That rate is as follows for the first 3 areas –
 - a) To look at funding levels and financial sustainability
 - b) The need for a 4 year term for Councils and Government
 - c) City and regional deals as a way for engaging with Government
4. There was a discussion regarding Akona, the training arm of LGNZ, which was a chargeable function back to each Council that used it. It is now "free" to all members but the costs of LGNZ membership have been increased by 15% to cover it. At present there are several Councils who are now not members of LGNZ which is concerning.
5. There was a presentation by Matt Dooney, Minister of Tourism, who highlighted –
 - a) We need to prioritise the tourism spend and cut our cloth to match the available funds.
 - b) Tourism is our No.2 ranked export earner.
 - c) We need to look at how Government can support Councils to grow/promote tourism. New Zealand is 0.03% of global tourism.

Fast Track Consenting Bill – What it Means

- i) The driver for this is that large projects take too long to consent/permit. There are multiple avenues for litigation and duplication between regulatory authorities.
- ii) The Bill will –
 - a) Be a free-standing statute that does not rely on other Acts;
 - b) Have its own over-riding purpose (which seems to be economic gain);

- c) Be a single process to obtain multiple environmental approvals, permissions, permits.
- d) Does not over-ride the Building Act.
- iii) Lists of projects will be in the Bill.
- iv) Limited rights of objection through appeal.
- v) Local Government will get opportunities to comment on the Bill.
- vi) Next steps for the Bill –
 - a) Has passed first reading 7 March
 - b) Submissions have now closed
 - c) Advisory panels to be appointed in the future and applications for Schedule 2A completed
 - d) Advisory panels will finalise the list of projects.

Concerns re the Bill –

1. Timeframes are tight.
2. Role of Council is threatened?
3. Environment takes a back seat?
4. The role of Iwi?
5. Timing and links to regional district plans will be challenging.
6. Who sits on the panel?

Drivers of increased costs for Local Govt and therefore rate increases - presented by Economist Brad Olsen

- Average Local Government rate increase last year were 9% reflected by significant increases in civil construction, the transport sector and especially bridge construction where rates had risen by 30%.
- A huge amount of spending in the sector is needed, the planned Local Government capital expenditure 2021-2031 is \$77.42b.
- Councils faced with higher interest rates and labour costs for authorities and wages has gone up 13% in the last three years.

ITEM 9.1

Mayors Engagement

May 2024

1	Attended monthly ELT meeting for Governor's Q&A Attended Radio Interview re solar farms Attended Horizons Regional Council Oral Submission to Long Term Plan
2	Attended Manawatu-Rangitikei Federated Farmers 2024 AGM
3	Attended catchup with Chief Executive Attended fortnightly Economic Development meeting with staff Attended Zoom Call with MSD
5	Attended Taihape Netball Opening Day Attended Jets v Saints game in Palmerston North courtesy of Mayor Grant Smith
6	Attended catchup with Chief Executive Attended Zoom meeting Mayoral Taskforce for Jobs/MSD Attended weekly LTP meeting with staff Attended meeting with LGNZ President Sam Broughton & CE Susan Freeman-Greene
7	Attended Accelerate25 Meeting in Wellington including meeting with Minister Jones
8	Attended Opening of Mangahoe Reserve Bridge Opening Attended Bulls Community Committee Meeting
9	Attended Assets & Infrastructure Meeting
10	Attended catchup with Chief Executive Attended meeting with Minister Andrew Hoggard Attended annual interview meeting with Audit NZ Attended TUIA Wananga Powhiri with Nyssa Nepe at Rotorua
11	Attended working bee at Marton Museum Attended Turkington Women in Sport Aotearoa
13	Attended catchup with Chief Executive Attended weekly LTP meeting with staff
14	Attended Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa Workshop Attended meetings with ratepayers in Taihape Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
15	Attended meeting with Chief Executive Attended meeting with RDC and TIGL and Staff
16	Attended meeting with Chief Executive Attended meeting with Councillor Sharland Attended Council Meeting – LTP Deliberations
17	Attended relationship meeting with DIA

	<p>Attended Fortnightly Economic Development Meeting with staff</p> <p>Attended monthly RDC/Police catchup meeting</p> <p>Attended meeting with CE and Bryan Rendle re Otara Bridge</p> <p>Attended meeting with ratepayer in Hunterville</p>
19	Attended Museum Open Day in Marton, Bulls, Hunterville and Taihape
20	<p>Attended breakfast meeting with Mayor Helen Worboys</p> <p>Attended online MTFJ Governance Group meeting</p> <p>Attended Regional Relationship Meeting with NZTA</p> <p>Attended weekly LTP meeting with staff</p> <p>Attended Council Agenda meeting with staff</p>
21	<p>Attended NZ Tiny House Association online meeting</p> <p>Attended SLUI Advisory Group Meeting</p> <p>Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor</p>
22	<p>Attended catchup with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended onsite meeting at Putorino Landfill with staff and Horizons</p>
23	<p>Attended Council Workshop</p> <p>Attended LGNZ Transport Forum online meeting</p> <p>Attended BA5 – SAJE Web Marton</p>
24	<p>Attended catchup with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended Western Architecture Awards (Nga Awa Nomination) at Massey University</p>
26	Attended Pink Ribbon High Tea Fundraiser in Marton
27	<p>Attended catchup with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended weekly LTP meeting with staff</p>
28	<p>Attended meeting with Taihape ratepayers</p> <p>Attended Taihape Playground Group Meeting</p>
29	<p>Attended Creative Communities Meeting</p> <p>Attended Hunterville Community Meeting to discuss Civil Defence Community Response Plan</p>
30	<p>Attended Finance/Performance Meeting</p> <p>Attended Council Meeting</p>
31	<p>To attend catchup with Chief Executive</p> <p>To attend fortnightly economic development meeting with staff</p> <p>Attend Talking Table at Taihape</p>

Attachments:

1. **NZTA Letter re consultation on Emergency Works FAR** [↓](#)
2. **Letter from LGNZ Mayors and Chairs on Maori wards and constituencies - May 2024** [↓](#)

3. Elected Member Attendance [↓](#)

ITEM 9.1

Recommendation

That the Mayor's Report – 30 May 2024 be received

www.nzta.govt.nz

44 Bowen Street
Private Bag 6995
Wellington 6141
New Zealand
T 64 4 894 5400
F 64 4 894 6100
www.nzta.govt.nz

2 May 2024

Kia ora,

Emergency works investment policies consultation – seeking organisational feedback by 19 June 2024

One of the key challenges for NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) and approved organisations (AOs) in managing New Zealand's land transport network is the impact of sudden events that damage transport infrastructure and require emergency works response and recovery activities.

NZTA needs to manage the National Land Transport Fund (NLTF) so that it can sustainably fund these emergency works in 2024-27.

In recent years, more frequent and intense weather-related events have put pressure on available funding for emergency works response and recovery.

Substantial Crown funding has been required for severe nationally significant weather events, such as Cyclone Gabrielle in the upper North Island in February 2023.

We've carried out a review of NZTA's emergency works investment policies and funding assistance rates (FARs) with a goal of reducing the financial burden on the NLTF and providing greater funding certainty for AOs.

Proposed changes to emergency works investment policies, including work category 141 and the uneconomic transport infrastructure policy, are set out in our consultation document for Emergency works policies - review and consultation feedback from the sector. This can be read in full at: www.nzta.govt.nz/planning-and-investment/emergency-works-policies-review-and-consultation.

Key proposed changes to FARs and associated thresholds, include:

- changing the qualifying trigger for an emergency event attracting an enhanced FAR to a minimum frequency 1 in 20-year event, from the current 1 in 10-year event.
- reducing the enhanced FAR from normal FAR +20% to normal FAR +10%.
- restricting provision of a bespoke FAR (i.e., greater than an enhanced FAR) to only those extreme events for which Crown funding is made available.

The proposed FAR changes would take effect on 1 July 2025 to allow AOs time to adapt to these changes.

Other changes to make the policies clearer and easier to interpret, and better aligned with legislative requirements are proposed to take effect on 1 July 2024.

Your organisation's feedback is sought on the proposed changes. This feedback will help us finalise proposals for NZTA Board and managerial endorsement.

Please send feedback to EmergencyWorksReview@NZTA.govt.nz by **19 June 2024**.

If you have any questions, please contact your NZTA Investment Advisor or Director of Regional Relationships or email EmergencyWorksReview@NZTA.govt.nz

Ngā mihi



Nicole Rosie
Chief Executive - NZTA



20 May 2024

Rt Hon Christopher Luxon

Hon Simeon Brown

Hon Tama Potaka, Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti

Rt Hon Winston Peters, Leader, New Zealand First

Hon David Seymour, Leader, ACT

Kia ora Prime Minister, Ministers, and party leaders

Changes to Māori ward and constituency poll provisions

Local Government New Zealand and the Mayors and Chairs that have signed this letter are opposed to the changes the Coalition Government is proposing to Māori ward and constituency poll provisions.

The Government's decision to remove decision-making from councils by mandating that polls be run on Māori wards and constituencies is an overreach on local decision-making when current legislation already requires councils to seek community views. We are disappointed this is in contrast with the commitments the Government made during the election campaign to empower local government to make decisions about its own communities.

Our position – a position that has been held by Local Government New Zealand since 2018 – is that Māori wards and constituencies should be treated like all other wards and that decisions should be made at the council level. Polls aren't required on any other wards or constituencies, and requiring them will add increased costs to councils.

We are concerned that the Government's decision is a distraction from the hard work that councils are doing to deliver infrastructure and keep costs down for their communities. It also undermines the important contributions that Māori are making to local government.

We urge the Government to reconsider its position and leave it to local councils to make decisions about appropriate representation arrangements in partnership with iwi and their communities.

Ngā mihi nui

Local Government New Zealand
Level 3, 3 Eva Street Te Aro Wellington
6011 // PO Box 1214 Wellington 6140 //
Aotearoa New Zealand // lgnz.co.nz

ITEM 9.1
ATTACHMENT 2



Mayor Sam Broughton
President
Local Government New Zealand

Mayor xx
xx Council

Chair xx
xx Council

Local Government New Zealand
Level 3, 3 Eva Street Te Aro Wellington
6011 // PO Box 1214 Wellington 6140 //
Aotearoa New Zealand // lgnz.co.nz

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
2	Date	Meeting	HWTM	Wilson	Calkin	Carter	Dalgety	Duncan	Hiroa	Lambert	Loudon	Maughan	Sharland	Raukawa	Wong	Notes
156	28-Mar-24	Council Meeting	PR	PR		PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP		PR	PR	
157	4-Apr-24	Turakina CC	PR			PR										
158	8-Apr-24	HRWS	PR				PR			PR		AT				
159	9-Apr-24	TRAK Meeting	PR					AP								
160	9-Apr-24	Ratana CB	CB						PR							
161	10-Apr-24	Taihape CB	PR					AP							PR	
162	10-Apr-24	Marton CC	CB	PR								PR				
163	11-Apr-24	PPL Meeting	CB	PR			AT	PR	PR	PR		PR			AT	
164	15-Apr-24	Hunterville CC	CB				PR			AP						
165	18-Apr-24	LTP Hearings	PR	PR		AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR		PR	PR	
166	24-Apr-24	Sport NZ RTF	PR	PR								PR				
167	24-Apr-24	Finance/Performance	PR	PR		AP	PR	AT			PR	PR			PR	
168	24-Apr-24	Council Meeting	PR	PR		AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	
169	8-May-24	Bulls CC	PR			AP								PR		
170	9-May-24	AIN Meeting	PR	AP		AP	PR	PR		PR	PR	PR			PR	
171	14-May-24	TRAK Workshop	PR						PR					PR		
172	16-May-24	Council Meeting	PR	PR		AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	
173																
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183																

Present (and is a member of the committee)	PR
Apology	AP
Absent - no apology received	AB
Not a member of the committee	
Not a member of the committee (but still attended)	AT
Not present as on Council business	CB
Attended via Zoom [this indicator is no longer used]	ZM

9.2 Mayor's Report - 27 June 2024

Author: Andy Watson, His Worship the Mayor

Councillors, I draw your attention to the recent passing of past Councillor Jim Howard QSM. It is appropriate that we recognise his involvement with Council over two terms spread between 1998 and 2004 as well as his wider community involvement. Jim was also a recipient of a QSM for services to conservation and the community.

This Council meeting will see the adoption of the Council Long Term Plan (LTP) for 2024-2034. I expect that the average effective rate increase will be in the region of 10.5% across the district, but I stress that this will be an average as there will be substantial variations. The reason I say that I "expect" is because there could be last minute changes as staff are working long hours to build into the budget changes by Government decisions. One of those Government changes is, for example, a drop in roading allocations. The NZTA funding decision sees a drop of \$5m over 3 years, \$4m of which is for capital works and \$1m is for operational funding. This drop comes at a time when the cost of doing work has increased dramatically, largely due to the "road cone safety standards" put in place. Government has talked about extra money being put into fixing potholes and road maintenance, but the reality is that funding has dropped and our roads will continue to deteriorate.

In my last report I briefly made reference to the changes in Emergency Works Funding for our roads. NZTA provides emergency money to fix roads after significant storms/flooding etc by increasing the FAR rate (Financial Assistance Rate) by 20%. This has been reduced to 10% and the threshold for an emergency event has been raised from a one in 10 year event to a one in 20 year event. I know that this is technical and hard to understand but the effect is likely to be a cost to ratepayers in the millions over the next 3 years, which will be unbudgeted for.

This Government is certainly moving at pace and the chance to submit on legislation at Parliament is limited to often only about one week. This makes it challenging for Councils to meet, consider and respond to legislative change. Another example of this is in the Three Waters Bill. This Bill is "Water Services Preliminary Arrangements" Bill which has several key provisions -

1. All Councils must submit a Water Services Plan within 12 months.
2. The Plan should contain joint arrangements between Councils
3. The Plan must contain detailed budgets and delivery options to achieve compliance by 30 June 2028.
4. The Bill provides for "Crown facilitators" if Councils struggle to submit plans or they are not acceptable.
5. Importantly, the Bill also says that Council does not have to consult to make these plans.

This legislation effectively says that you must form clusters with other Councils, to provide for water and wastewater without consultation, within a year, to have a plan to bring all plants to compliance and if you don't Government will step in. The principles of Te Mana o Te Wai are gone, which had stated who has priority over water use in New Zealand and that there may not be a discussion with iwi or our communities in formulating the plan. The Bill does not give direction in terms of enforcement or pricing however there is a third Bill to come which "establishes enduring settings and transition" and this will undoubtedly be the mechanism or power that will underpin the intent.

I applaud the work that the Horizons region's chief executives are doing in understanding and evaluating options for Councils to consider. In my opinion we must consult - an opinion I will voice in submissions to Parliament.

Deputy Mayor Dave Wilson and I travelled to Wellington last week to attend the Infrastructure Symposium on effectively how we fund and deal with roading, three waters infrastructure and other build costs around the country. The meeting was attended by many Councils and industry, chaired by Sanchia Jacobs of BECA who is a past Chief Executive of Central Otago District Council. Standout presentations and speaker take-home comments from my perspective are:

Peter Nunns – Economics NZ

- The size of the problem. Various estimates of the money to bring infrastructure up to what is needed range up to \$1 trillion to repair the under investment.
- That money cannot be funded by rates and we must consider user charges such as tolls, long term crown debt, public/private partnerships.
- That Councils are tending to fund for capital works and not funding the costs of depreciation, For example, if we as a Council fund heavily the cost of new water plants etc that should be matched by funding to replace the ageing distribution network. This is a very valid point and Peter in his presentation highlights that most Councils are in this position.
- To illustrate the need for depreciation funding he highlighted that 90% of New Zealand's infrastructure has been built since 1950 and half of that spend is over the last 30 years.
- Future population trends internationally and nationally will trend downwards but we will plan our infrastructure on increased need.

Nicole Rosie – NZTA Chief Executive - Fireside Chat

- Replying to the question of “do we understand the state of our roading infrastructure?”, her answer is no, but we are reforming how we get that data and it is improving.
- This new Government is different - they are explicit around what they want which is –
 - an increased maintenance budget,
 - the cost of safety decreasing by way of different safety management standards,
 - tolling and congestion charges will be in place.
- NZTA encourages Councils to these forums saying essentially you need to be the squeaky wheel for us to listen to you.

Hon Kieran McAnulty – The Opposition View

- We support many of the Government's programmes but we will make suggestions to improve, for example we support the need for a 30 year view on such things as roading and we would broadly support the need for tolls.
- Priority projects to grow our GDP we would support.
- We want to see a genuine relationship between Local and Central Government.
- “When Government is on the right track we will respond not necessarily oppose”.
- The proposal to drop FAR rates fails to recognise that Cyclone Gabrielle is not a one-off.
- Resilience and response is a very different animal.
- A very good session and extremely well received by Councils.

Panel Discussion on how we fund infrastructure

Interesting panel - Andrew McGavin/GM Corporate Crown Finance, Sarah Lindsay NZTA and Leigh Kissick, Partner Chapman Tripp.

- Interesting discussion from Andrew re the funding models (IMF and LGFA) and how the IMF funding allows strengthening of balance sheets for Councils. This parallels a later discussion from Paul Davidson from Tauranga Council around how they used off balance sheet financing via private/public partnerships.

Denise Beazley Wellington City Council

- Interesting presentation on how they use technology to better record what infrastructure/pipes are under the ground.
- Quite a technical presentation also designed to give better confidence and use of reporting through cellphones for contractors when they find unknown infrastructure.

Fulton Hogan on Building Back Infrastructure post Cyclone Gabrielle

- Largely a promotional presentation for Fulton Hogan.
- Stressing their ability to have stockpiles of equipment, people and stone etc ahead of an event.

Sir Bill English

- Fantastic last presentation based on practical suggestions for authorities on engaging with Government -
 - A) Risk – the cost of pre-preparation for every eventuality is too high. Be prepared to accept risk. *N.B. this is against Fulton Hogan's position.*
 - B) Safety – take some Council risks – get Councils to re-write (for example) the Road Cone Standards and take it to Government for adoption.
 - C) Pay for skill!! Skill is inexpensive – the expense is in getting it wrong.
 - D) Have a positive proposition /solution when engaging with Government. The trick is finding the ultimate decision-maker who on many occasions may be hidden but is often a very senior Government Minister.
 - E) Particularly relevant to us, is the advice to be transparent with your community about risks – identify them and own them with your community. Transparency is by far the biggest way to mitigate risk.

Councillor Wong has asked if he could be part of the Policy / Planning Committee. He has shown interest within this area and as such I have used my powers to appoint him as a member of the Policy / Planning Committee as of the date of the last Policy / Planning Meeting.

Mayors Engagement

June 2024

4	<p>Attended Emergency Management Joint Standing Committee Meeting</p> <p>Attended Regional Transport Committee Meeting</p> <p>Attended Oral Submission to Maori Wards Bill</p> <p>Attended Weekly Meeting with Deputy Mayor</p> <p>Attended Marton Historical Meeting</p>
5	<p>Attended meeting with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended monthly Governance Q&A meeting with ELT</p> <p>Attended Taihape REAP meeting</p>
6	<p>Attended LGNZ Zoom – Measuring Councils’ Collective Scale & Impact</p> <p>Attended meeting with Scotts Ferry Community</p> <p>Attended Turakina Community Committee</p>
7	Attended Mayors Taskforce for Jobs Core Group meeting in Wellington
9	Attended Ratana Church Service
10	<p>Attended meeting with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended Climate Actin Joint Committee Meeting</p> <p>Attended Mayoral Forum Meeting</p> <p>Attended Marton Arts & Crafts AGM</p>
11	<p>Attended Regional Leadership Group Online Hui</p> <p>Attended Te Roopu Ahi Kaa Komiti Meeting</p> <p>Attended Meet & Greet with new Sport Whanganui Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended Erewhon Rural Water Scheme Meeting</p>
12	<p>Attended Civil Defence Exercise Ru Whenua</p> <p>Attended AWA FM Interview on Rangitikei name change to include macron</p> <p>Attended fortnightly Economic Development Meeting with staff</p> <p>Attended Marton Community Committee Meeting</p>
13	<p>Attended Zone 3 Catchup Zoom Meeting</p> <p>Attended Assets/Infrastructure Workshop</p> <p>Attended Policy/Planning Committee Meeting</p> <p>Attended LGNZ Infrastructure Symposium in Wellington</p>
14	<p>Attended LGNZ Infrastructure Symposium in Wellington</p> <p>Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor</p>
16	<p>Attended Hunterville Community Market Day</p> <p>Attended New Residents Tour</p>
17	Attended breakfast meeting with Mayor Helen Worboys

ITEM 9.2

	Attended meeting with Chief Executive Attended RDC/Police monthly meeting Attended weekly LTP meeting with staff
18	Attended NZ Tiny House Association Zoom meeting Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
19	Attended meeting with local constituent Attended Santoft Domain Management Committee Meeting
20	Attended Risk & Assurance Committee Meeting Attended Risk & Assurance Workshop
21	Attend meeting with Chief Executive Attended Matariki Stars & Councils Awards Evening
22	Attended Taihape Volunteer Fire Brigade Gold Star Honours Evening
23	Attended Centrepont 50 Years Celebration BBQ in Feilding
24	To attend meeting with Chief Executive To attend Local Government Water Services Preliminary Arrangements Bill submission via Zoom
25	To attend Citizenship Ceremony To attend Defence Hub Meeting (Rangitikei Hosting) at Te Matapihi
27	To attend Finance/Performance Committee Meeting To attend Council Meeting

Attachments:

1. **LGNZ Four Monthly Report June 2024** [↓](#)
2. **Elected Member Attendance** [↓](#)

Recommendation

That the Mayor's Report – 27 June 2024 be accepted.

// SUBMISSION



LGNZ four-monthly report for member councils

// March-June 2024



ITEM 9.2
ATTACHMENT 1



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.

Many councils have found it useful to put this report on the agenda for their next council meeting so that all councillors have the opportunity to review it and provide feedback. Sam and Susan are also happy to join council meetings online to discuss the report or any aspect of it, on request.

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.

Contents

- Introduction 4
- Champion 5
 - Advocacy work programme 5
 - Rates rise conversation 5
 - City and regional deals 6
 - Local government funding and financing 7
 - Māori wards 7
 - Budget 24 7
 - Government relations 8
 - Media 9
 - Water services reform 10
 - Resource management reform 10
 - Transport 11
 - Climate change 11
 - Support for Cyclone-affected councils 12
 - Localism 12
 - Electoral Reform Working Group 13
 - Measuring councils’ collective scale and impact 13
 - Freedom camping 13
 - Rates rebates 13
 - Remits 14
- Connect 16

LGNZ four-monthly report for member councils: March-June 2024 // 2



Member visits	16
Combined Sector meeting	16
Te Uru Kahika and Regional Sector	17
Infrastructure Symposium	17
Conference and Awards update	17
Women in local government	17
Te Maruata update	18
Hutia te Rito: LGNZ Māori Strategy	18
Young Elected Members	18
Community Boards Executive Committee	19
Support	20
Ākona	20
Guidance and advisory for members	21
Elected member safety and security	21
Te Korowai	21
Mayors’ Taskforce for Jobs	22
Road Efficiency Group (REG)	23
Moata Carbon Portal	23
Ratepayer Assistance Scheme (RAS)	23
Libraries partnership	24



Introduction

National Council reset LGNZ's strategy at our 1 March 2024 meeting. LGNZ's purpose is now to serve members by championing, connecting and supporting local government.

Champion means we advocate for local government on critical issues, build relationships with ministers and officials, and use media to amplify member voices and stories.

Connect means we bring members together at zone, sector and conference events or via networks like Te Maruata, Young Elected Members and our community boards network, and that we create strong feedback loops between members and LGNZ's work.

Support means we provide professional development uniquely tailored to local government, support councils and elected members when they are stuck, and support elected members to deal with pressure and harassment.

Everything LGNZ does comes under these pillars – and that's why they form the structure of this report. I hope reading this report stresses the breadth and depth of LGNZ's work. Our small team is dedicated to delivering for members and this period has been both intense and rewarding.

This four-monthly period has also included LGNZ's annual membership invoicing. We never take members for granted, and during this time there's been really constructive conversations with councils considering their membership. Grey and Westland have chosen not to stay members, and we're sorry to see them go.

As always, we welcome your feedback. The purpose of sharing this detailed report is to give you an opportunity to share your views, and we look forward to hearing them, whether that's in person, via email or a phone conversation. We're always keen to hear from you.

Ngā mihi
Sam and Susan



Champion

Advocacy work programme

In March we shared [a document outlining our next steps on our Future by Local Government work](#) with members. It sets out the things we'll advocate for now, the work that local government can collectively start doing to shift towards a new future, and the things that will be longer-term advocacy priorities. This has been the foundation for National Council's work to confirm LGNZ's broad and targeted advocated priorities.

At the Combined Sector meeting in April, we asked members to rank our five broad advocacy areas in terms of priority. These were the resulting rankings:

1. Funding and financing
2. Water (including freshwater)
3. Resource Management Reform
4. Transport
5. Climate change

We also asked members to rank targeted advocacy priorities, with the results as follows:

1. Toolbox approach to funding and financing
2. Four-year term for local government
3. Development of a framework around city/regional deals
4. Changes to Regulatory Impact Statements to consider the impact of decisions on local government
5. Opposing changes to Māori ward/constituency referendum requirements.

Off the back of this ranking exercise, we have finalised our advocacy work programme. This has been shared with members and added as a third page to our 2024 [LGNZ A3](#).

We are now in the process of developing more detailed work plans for each of the five broad advocacy areas, setting out what we're trying to achieve under each area and the work we'll do. We plan to share these work plans with members soon.

Rates rise conversation

LGNZ has generated hundreds of stories and op-eds via all major media outlets this year on rates rises, the cost pressures facing councils and what's driving them. We generated 52 media items alone on the Infometrics report we launched in mid-March, which analysed increases in local government infrastructure costs that are driving rates rises.

Our March rates rise toolkit included:

- [Key messages](#)
- [Powerpoint](#)

LGNZ four-monthly report for member councils: March-June 2024 // 5



- [Infometrics report](#)

We had overwhelmingly positive feedback on this toolkit and how useful members found it. Councils have been using the data we've provided on increasing cost pressures in their own engagement with media and in their LTP consultation documents. Regional journalists have made good use of the research LGNZ commissioned in their pieces, giving a national perspective on local rates rises.

We launched our second rates rise toolkit at the Combined Sector meeting on 11 April. This covered tax vs rates, how rates compare to other bills, and how we fund infrastructure:

- [Key messages](#)
- [Powerpoint](#)
- [Social assets](#)

Again we have had a very positive response to this work and it was well used by members. For example, our social media posts and assets are being repurposed in councils' own accounts, and attracting some positive engagement from the public, and the information we've shared has been used in some councils' LTP consultation documents.

Our third toolkit will launch in late June and feature research we've commissioned by NZIER on the costs of central government reforms on local government. It looks at a basket of primary and secondary legislation (introduced by different governments) to quantify the cost impact of unfunded mandates on councils and communities. The specific areas (National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management, National Policy Statement on Urban Development and Medium Density Residential Standards, Local Alcohol Policies, improving recycling and food scrap collections) have been chosen to be representative of reforms with a range of impacts on councils.

Our social media rates rise series highlighting the difference between central government income and local government income has had strong engagement. This campaign aims to explain why rates rises occur, especially in the face of rising living costs, and to highlight that this is a widespread systemic issue. Through this series, we've explored how councils are financed, the services they offer, and the benefits residents receive from their investment in rates. The series overall has received over 60,000 impressions across platforms.

City and regional deals

The Government has strongly signalled interest in long-term city and regional deals as a way to partner with local government to create pipelines of regional projects.

We have released a proposal that sets out the key things councils need to see reflected in city and regional deals, and how these will support better alignment between central and local government. This proposal has supported our ongoing engagement with DIA and Ministers on the development of the Government's city and regional deals framework, which we expect to be released around August.



We shared [the proposal](#), as well as a [factsheet](#) and [range of international examples](#), with members in late May.

Our Policy Team is meeting with DIA officials to discuss our proposals in more detail, and we have been approached by the New Zealand Initiative to speak about our work on their podcast. The Initiative's view is that our proposals are worth promoting as a way forward.

Local government funding and financing

We are in the process of developing a local government funding and financing policy and advocacy work plan to be shared with members. This will be a high-level plan setting out key policy, media and government relations actions and objectives. We have also begun work on a 'long list' of funding and financing tools that could form part of a funding and financing toolbox, which will include policy analysis of options. We plan to engage members on that as our work progresses.

Mayor Campbell Barry and Policy Manager Simon Randall recently met with the Local Government Business Forum (which contains representatives from organisations like Federated Farmers, the New Zealand Initiative, Hospitality New Zealand and Business New Zealand) to talk about local government's funding and financing challenges. We are pleased to be having ongoing engagement with the Forum.

Māori wards

In May we released a toolkit to support media engagement on this topic – based on our position that councils should make these decisions as they do on other wards and constituencies.

On 24 May, the Government introduced legislation to the House on reforms to Māori wards and constituencies. Submissions on this legislation were due by 29 May. Our submission was developed with input from Te Maruata Rōpū Whakahaere and was consistent with LGNZ's position that decisions on whether a community has Māori wards or constituencies should be made in the same way as other ward/constituency decisions – by councils with community and iwi consultation.

Thanks to a suggestion from Mayor Grant Smith, we developed a letter that Mayors and Chairs could choose to sign, opposing the Government's changes for the reason set out above. The letter reflected LGNZ's consistent position on this issue since 2018. Fifty-three Mayors/Chairs have now signed the letter, plus our Te Maruata Co-Chairs, and many spoke up in the media.

Budget 24

We were inside the Budget lockup on 30 May and produced [analysis for members](#) that was shared that evening, as well as media engagement that highlighted the Budget's impact on local government.



Government relations

We are continuing our work to develop a strong partnership with the Government and other politicians building on our regular formal meetings with the Prime Minister, Ministers and key officials with additional informal meetings. We have made changes to our approach to political engagement which has seen us:

- Be part of political events such as Waitangi Commemorations, where it's possible to speak to a broader range of Ministers in formal and informal settings;
- Host a localism briefing with National Party MPs and provide follow up support to showcase examples of localism in action in their rohe; and
- Host a pizza and drinks night for Members of Parliament who were previously local government elected members or staff.

These types of engagements help build a broader cohort of central government politicians who understand and can advocate for local government from within.

On 3 April we had one of our regular quarterly meetings with Local Government Minister Simeon Brown. We discussed our desire to see changes to the rates rebate scheme, our work to support councils with the rates rises conversation, and the need for a broader range of funding and financing tools.

Mayor Neil Holdom (in his capacity as Chair of the LGNZ Transport Forum) and Mayor Campbell Barry were invited to meet with Transport Minister Simeon Brown in late March and provided feedback on the draft GPS, including signalling ways in which they thought it could be adjusted to provide councils with greater flexibility.

We have also secured quarterly meetings with Infrastructure Minister Chris Bishop. We had our first regular meeting with Minister Bishop on 16 April, and covered a wide range of topics including infrastructure, housing, local government funding and financing, resource management reform and how the Minister engages with local government.

The Minister agreed with our request for local government representation on his expert ministerial advisory group that is being set up to support phase 3 of the resource management reform programme, and we have put forward names for consideration.

Toby Adams, Mike Theelen and Nigel Corry (supported by Grace) have also recently met with Minister Bishop to discuss how he might engage with the Local Government Steering Group (LGSG) and/or a variation of this going forward. There are positive indications that the Minister is prepared to engage with a smaller, nimble group, so the larger LGSG has been put on hold and a smaller local government reference group formed for this purpose. Thanks to everyone who's contributed energy and expertise to this group over the past three years.

During May we met with Minister Shane Jones to discuss regional economic development and city/regional deals; Max Baxter, MTFJ Chair and the MTFJ team has met with Social Development Minister Louise Upston; and Susan attended a pre-Budget lunch event with the Prime Minister in Auckland.

LGNZ four-monthly report for member councils: March-June 2024 // 8



In late May, we were invited to present to the Governance and Administration Select Committee on LGNZ's work, with Sam and Susan spending a productive hour explaining what LGNZ does on behalf of members and fielding questions.

In June we have regular meetings with Infrastructure and RMA Reform Minister Chris Bishop (our focus will be on housing and the discussion will involve Mayor Sandra Hazlehurst and Nigel Bickle, CE Hastings District Council), Local Government Minister Simeon Brown, and Regional Development Minister Shane Jones.

Media

Our most visible media work during this period has been the rates rise conversation discussed above, and we have overall had a significant lift in engagement and profile.

To support the toolkit work discussed above, in early May, Infometrics crunched the numbers on GST from rates being returned to councils and we arranged a joint press conference. Sam and Infometrics CE Brad Olsen spoke to media on Parliament's steps, and Mayors across the motu have used the figures in their own discussions. This was covered extensively, and Sam also spoke about the research and rates rises on [Nine to Noon](#). NBR also ran a feature piece on key issues facing local government, including funding and financing and the expected city/regional deals.

Another major piece of advocacy through media is four-year-terms for local government. Sam has used every opportunity to talk about the efficiencies we'd gain by implementing longer electoral terms. This has led to stories in local papers as well as in-depth coverage by RNZ's political reporter, Russell Palmer. We have kept this conversation alive, having publicly launched the LGNZ Electoral Reform Group on 4 June and supported Chair Nick Smith with media engagement, including [1News](#) and breakfast media.

Leveraging the discussions at the Combined Sector meeting in April, we put the spotlight on city/regional deals, featuring in [pieces by Newsroom](#) and [The Spinoff](#). We had coverage by NBR on the link between tourism and local government in Minister Doocey's session. This media furthers our advocacy priority for new funding and financing tools.

We've been working in with some local papers on stories – including in Ashburton Guardian about how [constant Government reforms cause headaches for councils](#), and in ODT on the power of localism – featuring some of our members highlighting why localism matters.

Earlier this year, LGNZ ran a session for Mayors Taskforce for Jobs supporting individual council programmes to better tell their story of localism and council delivery. Since March, this has spurred an uptick in local media coverage positively highlighting the programme. A highlight was a [Seven Sharp](#) piece brokered by LGNZ on the only Windmill in the Southern Hemisphere, which aired in March.

Our city/regional deals proposal was [reviewed by Newsroom](#), with Sam also appearing on the AM Show and [Mike Hosking's Breakfast](#).

LGNZ four-monthly report for member councils: March-June 2024 // 9



The Māori wards/constituencies letter received strong coverage on [OneNews](#) and in [Stuff](#). The day before the Budget, we had an [op ed by Sam](#) published in Stuff's The Post and The Press, and our Budget comments gained good traction.

Water services reform

The repeal of the previous government's water services legislation gave councils an additional three months to adopt their LTPs, an ability to forgo the audit of the consultation document, and to reduce consultation requirements on subsequent amendments. Alternatively, councils have been able to defer development of their LTP for 12 months if they produce an enhanced Annual Plan. We advocated for this relief and were pleased to see the Government make it available.

The replacement approach for water services will be rolled out in two parts. A first bill, the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Bill, was introduced to the House in late May and LGNZ will be submitting on it to highlight councils' commonly held concerns with the bill and suggestions for improvement. This bill will be passed by the middle of the year and will require the development of service delivery plans (which will be the vehicle to self-determine future service delivery arrangements). This bill also puts in place transitional economic regulation and provides a streamlined process for establishing joint water services CCOs.

A second bill will be introduced at the end of the year and will set out provisions relating to long-term requirements for financial sustainability, provide for a complete economic regulation regime, and introduce a new range of structural and financing tools, including a new type of financially independent council-controlled organisation.

A technical advisory group has been formed to support the development of the legislation and related policy. We recommended two names for this technical group – one of them was selected (Mark Reese, Chapman Tripp).

LGNZ has been advocating for updates to the mandatory performance measures for water so that councils don't have to report against both the Taumata Arowai Drinking Water Standards and the now-replaced Ministry of Health Drinking Water Standards. We've been successful in securing this change, which has gone to councils for your feedback. Final changes should be in place by mid-June.

Taumata Arowai is starting to develop regulations for storm water and wastewater, and attended recent sector meetings. We are also engaging with Taumata Arowai on new wastewater and stormwater standards.

Resource management reform

The Government repealed the Natural and Built Environments and Spatial Planning Acts prior to Christmas. It then worked at pace to develop a new fast-track consenting regime. We made a joint submission on the new legislation with Taituarā and on 4 June we will appear before the

LGNZ four-monthly report for member councils: March-June 2024 // 10



Environment Committee with Taituarā in support of our submission. Our submission acknowledged the need for a fast-track process but identified a number of improvements that our members want to see including better alignment with councils' planning documents and processes, more time for engagement with councils and more of a focus on sustainable development. Our submission was informed by workshops that we held at each of our April sector meetings.

The new Government is working quickly to make a number of changes to national direction, including the NPS-Freshwater Management. We're monitoring these changes closely along with Taituarā and Te Uru Kahika.

Grace and Susan meet regularly with the MfE leadership team. These meetings are constructive and positive.

As noted above, we've worked closely with Mayor Toby Adams, in his role as Co-Chair of the Resource Management Reform Local Government Steering Group, to support him to engage with Minister Bishop on options for engaging with local government on changes to the resource management system. And we've recommended local government representatives to sit on an expert ministerial working group that Minister Bishop is planning to establish to support his reform programme.

Transport

The LGNZ Transport Forum, chaired by Mayor Neil Holdom, worked closely with our policy team to pull together our submission on the draft Land Transport GPS. We had good engagement with our draft submission, with 18 councils providing constructive feedback.

The Transport Forum had its second meeting of the year on 23 May, which covered off a range of key issues including the NZTA emergency works review, the Road Efficiency Group's (REG) ongoing efforts to improve the collection and presentation of transport data, and progress on the Government Policy Statement on Transport and National Land Transport Programme.

Our Transport Forum is continuing to progress its work programme and engage with members. Immediate priorities for LGNZ in the transport space include considering the impacts of the upcoming Budget, completing our submission on the emergency works review, and reviewing the finalised GPS when it is completed (the draft of which we submitted on earlier this year).

Climate change

We welcomed the Government's announcement that the Finance and Expenditure Committee will be continuing the inquiry into climate change adaptation that was started by the previous government. We're pleased that the Government's announcement has received cross-party support and in our press release emphasised the importance of engagement with local government given its role in adaptation, the urgent need to address adaptation funding arrangements and the need for thought to be given to the framework for managed retreat.



The submission that we made to the earlier inquiry will be considered by the Finance and Expenditure Committee and we're planning to provide the Committee with some additional comments.

We were pleased to be able to suggest Aileen Lawrie, CE of Thames-Coromandel District Council, as local government representative on the expert reference group that the Ministry for the Environment has established to support its climate adaptation work.

Support for Cyclone-affected councils

The Policy Team has met with the secretariat of the Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Taskforce to support development of their insights framework, which seeks to capture the lessons learned from their work. We have also started engagement with the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet on their next steps on their critical infrastructure framework and minimum standards.

The report on the Government Inquiry into the Response to the North Island Severe Weather Events was released in April. We understand that consideration of the Emergency Management Bill (which we submitted on in October 2023) is on hold until the release of this report, so the Select Committee can consider it and any changes needed to the Bill. This may involve further submissions or engagement.

We worked with Mayor Rehette Stoltz, CE Nedine Thatcher-Swann and the team at Gisborne District Council to write a letter to Ministers and officials raising concerns with the process that was adopted for the Ministerial Inquiry into Land Use that Gisborne District Council was subject to last year. The purpose of the letter was to highlight that we don't want similar process issues repeated in any future inquiries that local government may be subject to.

Localism

We are developing our Choose Localism toolkit, which will be released at our SuperLocal Conference. The toolkit sets out a wide range of tools and approaches councils can use to make a localist future a reality and apply a localism lens across their day-to-day work. The toolkit has four broad headings: collaboration and input; place-based empowerment and devolution; planning, budgeting and resource allocation; and growing and developing local economic and social success.

We have also worked with Curia to poll members of the public on local government issues. The data will look at perceptions around the effectiveness of councils, how councils could improve their effectiveness and who is best placed to make certain decisions/deliver certain services out of central and local government or a combination of both. We are planning to release the findings and supporting work and recommendations at SuperLocal.



Electoral Reform Working Group

As part of our broader work on Choose Localism, we are looking at ways to tackle the issue of mandate for local government. There have been several reviews and numerous calls for local government electoral reform over the years, with no progress being made. Only four out of ten eligible voters have their say in local elections, compared with eight out of ten for central government.

Mayor Hon Dr Nick Smith, who has been part of a number of Justice Select Committees looking into this, will be leading an LGNZ working group to get some traction on the issue. The working group will have a very clear purpose: to drive LGNZ's advocacy work to strengthen the democratic mandate for local government to advocate for and meet the needs of communities, with a particular focus on increasing participation.

As well as Mayor Nick, other members of the group are Mayors Rehette Stoltz, Susan O'Regan and Campbell Barry, and Toni Boynton (Te Maruata Co-Chair). The group is meeting shortly to finalise its Terms of Reference and confirm its work programme. We'll keep members informed as this work progresses.

Measuring councils' collective scale and impact

We are holding a zoom on 6 June to support this data-gathering project, initiated by National Council member Mayor Neil Holdom, which aims to consolidate key local government expenditure into a collective national database. The purpose of this is to enable easy comparison between councils and to have data to support key conversations with central government on infrastructure and investment.

Freedom camping

The Policy Team have released updated guidance and a model bylaw that reflect recent amendments to legislation and case law, to support councils to develop, review, and administer bylaws relating to the Freedom Camping Act 2011 (FCA). Amendments to the FCA came into force on 7 June 2023, but there is a transitional period before the new certification for self-contained motor vehicles and related provisions come into force.

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment and the New Zealand Motor Caravan Association part funded this work, and we worked with them and Taituarā to develop it.

Rates rebates

The Minister for Local Government announced an increase to the rates rebate scheme, shortly after we met Ministers Brown and Costello in early April and talked about the need for these changes to



support low-income households. We’ve advocated strongly on this issue for several years off the back of remits put forward by Whanganui District Council (2020 AGM) and Horowhenua District Council (2023 AGM). However, the increases are only in line with inflation, not the Local Government Cost Index, which is the core ask of the remit put forward by Horowhenua District Council in 2020. We’ll continue to advocate for increases to be in line with the LGCI.

Remits

We’re continuing to make progress on remits where we can – though as is always the case following a General Election, progress slowed while the new government bedded in and we developed an understanding of how our remits relate to its priorities.

Remit	Progress update
Allocation of risk and liability in the building sector	We’re yet to start substantive work to progress this remit. However, we did raise the issues that this remit addresses through our involvement in a working group that was reviewing the building consent system in 2023.
Rates rebates	As noted above, the Minister for Local Government announced an increase to the rates rebate scheme, shortly after we met Ministers Brown and Costello in early April and talked about the need for these changes to support low-income households.
Roading/transport maintenance funding	Our Transport Forum is leading work on this remit. Our submission to the draft Government Policy Statement advocated for increased investment in road maintenance.
Local election accessibility	We’re yet to start substantive work to progress this remit.
Ability for co-chairs at formal meetings	Guidance on how to introduce co-chairs, which has been informed by legal advice, has been incorporated into our revised Guide to the LGNZ Standing Orders Template, which was published in early February 2024.
Parking infringement penalties	We’re yet to start substantive work to progress this remit.
Rural and regional public transport	This remit is being progressed through the work that our Transport Forum is leading. Our submission to the draft GPS Land Transport advocated for increased investment in rural and regional public transport.
Establishing resolution service	We have built work on developing a resolution service into the refreshed LGNZ strategy.
Earthquake prone buildings	As championed by Manawatū District Council (the mover of this remit), a review of the current earthquake strengthening requirements has been announced. Our Policy Team has been working with Manawatū District Council and officials at MBIE to ensure the review meets the needs of local government, and that



	there is strong local government input into it. There has been good media coverage of this review, and the role Manawatū District Council has played in pushing for it.
KiwiSaver contributions for elected members	We have engaged with Minister Brown on this issue, and he expressed some interest in it. We have engaged Simpson Grierson to provide detailed advice on options for providing KiwiSaver contributions for elected members – including drafting of relevant legislative clauses, so that we’re able to present a package of options for reform to the Government.
Scope of audits and audit fees	Part of the approach to reduce fees is to ensure that the legislative requirements and scope (and resulting repetition and complexity) of Long-term Plans and Annual Plans and reports are reduced to be better aligned with needs and cost less to audit. A workshop with Audit NZ, Taituarā and the Office of the Auditor General has been organised for July to review the current requirements of long-term planning and associated reporting.

Remit applications for the 2024 AGM close on Tuesday 18 June. Currently no remits have been received, although we know of at least three in development. The remit committee (President, Vice-President, CEO, and Director Policy & Advocacy) will consider these on 1 July, with the approved remits being circulated to members on 3 July.



Connect

Member visits

Rates rises are top of mind for all councils so our work on this issue has been front and centre in our discussions with councils over the past four months.

As well as Sam, Campbell and representatives from LGNZ's leadership team being at zones 2, 1, 3 and 5-6, Sam and Susan visited councils in Otago and Southland, the wider Wellington region and Northland in March/April. We then visited the West Coast councils on 17-18 April and attended a WCRC meeting on 9 April after conversations about the value they derived from regional sector meetings. Since the start of May, we've visited councils in Manawatū, Whanganui, Upper Hutt, Horowhenua and Canterbury (including Christchurch). All these visits are incredibly valuable in terms of connecting councils with our work and receiving feedback. We are now planning visits over the next few months and post-conference towards the goal of visiting or scheduling visits with all members in Sam's first year as President.

Combined Sector meeting

Our Combined Sector meeting on Thursday 11 April featured a strong range of speakers, with a focus on rates rises, the cost of infrastructure and the fast-track consenting legislation. Speakers included Mayor of Greater Manchester Andy Burnham, Brad Olsen (Infometrics), Dr Eric Crampton (NZ Initiative), Philippa Fourie (Fonterra), Jade Wikaira (Wikaira Consulting Ltd), Richard Capie (Forest & Bird), Geoff Cooper (New Zealand Infrastructure Commission, Te Waihanga) and the team from Simpson Grierson who talked about fast-track consenting.

We've had very positive feedback on the day, with an average rating overall by survey respondents of 4.5/5, with the programme getting 4.6/5 and the overall organisation 4.8/5. Comments included:

- *Really happy with the new direction of LGNZ and the consultative approach - enjoy the interactive sessions (using SLIDO)*
- *Very worthwhile day. Stakeholder event was excellent*
- *In my opinion, this was one of the best LGNZ events I have ever attended. Topics were spot on, plenty of time to network (which is a huge benefit that comes from these events), great speakers, kicking off with the Manchester Mayor really set the scene. Well done to the organisers!*

Sector meetings the following day also ran well.



Te Uru Kahika and Regional Sector

The Regional Sector and Te Uru Kahika's priorities – climate resilience, resource management system, Te Ao Māori, the Government's reform agenda in freshwater, water services regulation, and transport – align closely with LGNZ's advocacy priorities, providing a wide range of opportunities for collaboration. This includes our recent participation in Te Uru Kahika's Climate Workshop.

Our team is meeting regularly with Te Uru Kahika to ensure we are joined up in our support for the Regional Sector. We continue to work together closely on submissions and engagement on central government reforms.

Infrastructure Symposium

We're looking forward to this Combined Sector event on 13/14 June and have secured another strong line-up of speakers, with the [finalised programme available here](#). Infrastructure Minister Chris Bishop will speak at the networking event on the Thursday night, and Sir Bill English is one of our keynote speakers on 14 June. Other speakers include Opposition Local Government spokesperson Hon Kieran McAnulty, Peter Nunns (Director Economics, Te Waihanga Infrastructure Commission), Simon Dyne (COO, Fulton Hogan), Councillor Linda Scott (via zoom, President, Australian Local Government Association), Malcolm Smith (Australasian Cities Leader, Arup) plus expert panels and more. Registrations are tracking well.

Conference and Awards update

Planning is well advanced for both SuperLocal 2024 and the Community Boards conference, along with additional events for Te Maruata and Young Elected Members, LGNZ's Annual General Meeting, the Mayors for Taskforce breakfast and numerous networking events across the three days.

In early April we launched SuperLocal24 to members and opened registrations. This followed the earlier launch of the SuperLocal 24 Awards.

We will exceed our sponsorship target for SuperLocal, which is a real achievement in the current climate.

We have finalised the programme, which has a dynamic line up of speakers, and registrations are on track.

Women in local government

Following on from our 13 February zoom for women in local government, we are planning a lunch immediately before the SuperLocal conference, which will feature Finance Minister Nicola Willis as the opening speaker.



Te Maruata update

Te Maruata held its first whānui hui online on 14 March to reset priorities for the remainder of the triennium. The hui included a kōrero with MP Marama Davidson, the election of new members for the Roopu Whakahaere as well as opportunity to meet with Mereana Taungapeau, LGNZ's recently appointed Kaitohutohu Matua Māori. Aubrey Ria was elected as the Rural & Provincial representative, and Keri Brown was elected as the at-large representative.

Te Maruata held its monthly online wānanga on 24 April. Te Whatu Ora provided updates on the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Amendment Act – specifically around the incorporation of Tikanga Māori into licensing hearings. There was also broad discussion about Māori wards and the Fast-Track Amendment Bill.

A key issue for Te Maruata is strong advocacy on retaining current arrangements for the establishment of Māori wards and constituencies.

At the Te Maruata Rōpū Whakahaere hui on 9-10 May, kaupapa included Māori wards, Te Maruata membership, the programme for the Te Maruata Hui at conference and the Hutia te Rito strategy – the LGNZ Te Ao Māori approach. The in-person hui included the member now representing Community Boards, Jock Martin (who represents the Lawrence/Tuapeka ward for Clutha District Council).

The Rōpū Whakahaere have been conscious of ensuring Te Maruata members are supported during the debates around Māori wards, which has been a difficult time for many. Regular comms, information sharing and opportunities for kōrerō have been activated so that Te Maruata members feel supported and connected. Equally it's important that the voices of Māori ward councillors and Māori elected members are uplifted. Te Maruata Rōpū Whakahaere made a submission on the Bill in support of LGNZ's submission that also spoke to personal experiences and the critical role Māori councillors play at decision-making tables across Aotearoa.

Hutia te Rito: LGNZ Māori Strategy

Our Kaitohutohu Matua Māori Mereana Taungapeau led the organisation of a staff wānanga at Raukawa Marae in Ōtaki on 1-2 May. Its purpose was to introduce staff to Hutia te Rito and the Te Ao Māori work programme for LGNZ which is currently in development.

Young Elected Members

The YEM Committee are keen to continue holding annual YEM Hui, and are well underway with planning for this year's event. The Committee has confirmed dates for this year's Hui (16-18 October) and will be holding it in Christchurch. In response to member feedback, we've brought the Hui forward and shared the dates early so people can get it in their diaries.

The YEM Committee met online in March and in person at the end of May. As well as discussing the next Hui and their pre-SuperLocal gathering, the Committee has refined the YEM Strategy and Kaupapa based on feedback received from the network at the end of last year.



Petone Community Board member Kaz Yung has been elected to the YEM Committee as the community boards representative, and the Committee has also welcomed new member Councillor Deon Swiggs (Environment Canterbury), who has replaced Deputy Mayor of Westland Ash Cassin, following Westland's decision to withdraw from LGNZ membership.

Community Boards Executive Committee

Over the last few months CBEC has been actively involved in a number of initiatives:

- **Satisfaction survey of community boards and mayors:** CBEC commissioned FrankAdvice to undertake a survey of community boards and mayors to better understand the mood of community boards, and relationships between councils and community boards, as well as identify areas for improvement, with particular emphasis on roles, remuneration and relationships with councils. The final report, with recommendations, was released in late February. The findings will be used for ongoing advocacy by CBEC and to inform updates to the Governance Guide for Community Boards.
- **Community Boards Conference:** CBEC is well underway with planning for the 2024 Community Boards Conference, which is being held as part of SuperLocal. CBEC members have been working hard with the LGNZ team to pull together a programme, and seek speakers and sponsorship.
- **Declarations:** the Committee has discovered that some councils do not require appointed board members to make a community board declaration – creating a potential risk to councils should a board decision be challenged on the basis that some members were ineligible to vote. CBEC sought legal advice, which confirmed that all appointed members should make a community board declaration as well as their council declaration. That advice has been sent to all councils with community boards.
- **Remuneration:** CBEC is working with the Remuneration Authority to improve the basis on which community board remuneration is set. The Authority has not been able to resolve how to remunerate boards with additional responsibilities (member pay is based on population without any consideration of the level of responsibility). The Committee has been engaging regularly with the Remuneration Authority on options. It's meeting in June to develop a work programme to deliver on recommendations resulting from its survey of community board members and Mayors.

Kaz Yung (who was elected to the Young Elected Members Committee) has joined our Community Boards Executive Committee. Jock Martin has also been elected to CBEC and Te Maruata, as noted above.

CBEC held a zoom for all community board members in late March, where they discussed the results of the survey of community board members and mayors, and options for remunerating community board members. The zoom was attended by around 40 members.



Support

Ākona

On 3 April, we gave all elected members access to Ākona, following National Council's decision that subscription should be rolled into the member fee.

The number of logins continues to grow, with 50-60 learners being added each week. Engagement with Ako hours already exceeds expectations, and registrations for next month's Climate Change Adaptation Ako hour are climbing quickly.

Sector engagement with Ākona has also significantly increased. Last week's bi-monthly hui with Council L&D staff (which would previously attract 10 or less participants) had almost 30 participants. There were also multiple requests for the hui to be recorded and sent to those who could not attend. Hui participants expressed their support of the system, including the new skills analysis tool. There was also keen interest in working with LGNZ to build elected member engagement through coaching sessions, to develop learning programmes, and to develop learning policy based on Ākona content.

The Induction 2025 Project has commenced with the development of a triennial calendar of learning linked to key sector milestones. This calendar will be tested by a group of sector representatives over the next few weeks, with a view to complete induction design by the end of October. The purpose and approach to Induction hui is being refined based on member input and feedback from the 2022 events.

Discussions have begun with Taituarā to develop an induction pack that will include pre-elected learning resources, (as per the framework). A pre-candidacy package of learning will also soon be developed to support the promotion of local governance participation in our communities.

There are new courses recently released or nearing release include:

- Climate Change
- Te Reo
- Decision Making
- The CE Relationship
- Leading diverse communities

In addition, the tīma worked with PD Training to contextualise a Critical Thinking workshop which was delivered at Napier District Council in late February. A targeted workshop focused on Chairing Meetings/Standing Orders has also been developed. Both options will become a permanent part of Ākona offerings.



Guidance and advisory for members

We've updated our [Guide to the LGNZ Standing Orders Templates](#). The updates provide councils with guidance on how to amend their standing orders to incorporate changes to the definition of a quorum (for those joining by audio visual means). They also provide guidance on the Ombudsman's recent report on public access to workshops.

We're working with the Taituarā Democracy and Participation Working Group to fine tune our Standing Orders Template, with a focus on readability. The updated version will be available to councils in early 2025, giving plenty of time to be prepared ahead of the 2025 local body elections. The new template will also reflect legislative changes made since mid-2022 when the current template was drafted.

Elected member safety and security

We held a zoom on safety and security on 18 April, with 60 people attending. Panel members Mayor Dan Gordon, Deputy Mayor Angela O'Leary and Mayor Len Salt spoke eloquently about the difficult and disturbing experiences they had had, followed by representatives from NZ Police and Netsafe. This was the start of a conversation and there's clearly more LGNZ can do to support members experiencing this harassment, which is also a threat to local democracy.

At the Combined Sector meeting, we asked attendees about their experiences and the results were:

- 74% had face aggressive, abusive or offensive behaviour as an EM in public meetings
- 65% had faced it online
- 39% had faced it at community events
- 33% had faced in doing every day activities like shopping or collecting children from school

In terms of the levels of behaviour:

- 53% thought it was worse than a year ago
- 41% thought it was similar
- 9% thought it was better.

Our second zoom in this series will be in mid-June, to focus on "sovereign citizens" and vexatious requests, and we've secured a range of panellists/speakers. This topic was suggested in the first zoom, and the third zoom will focus on physical security for EMs. All these zooms are recorded and available to elected members in Ākona, along with related resources. [You can log into Ākona here.](#)

Te Korowai

Our continuous improvement programme, previously known as CouncilMARK, has undergone significant evolution over the past year in response to feedback from the sector. These changes aim to increase programme participation and deliver greater value to participating councils.



Renamed 'Te Korowai', the programme has extended its focus beyond independent assessments to support councils throughout their continuous improvement journey, both before and after assessment.

Te Korowai emphasises a wraparound support for councils, the establishment of development benchmarks and aligning council performance with priorities. The introduction of additional development pathways facilitates the translation of assessment findings into actionable plans, enabling councils to optimise their performance.

We have collaborated closely with Waikato Regional Council, which served as the pilot for the new programme. Following their successful on-site assessment, they have transitioned into the development phase. Initial feedback from Waikato Regional Council has been overwhelmingly positive, highlighting how the programme provided valuable insights and confidence to progress along their development journey.

We are currently engaged with several other councils, including as Central Hawkes Bay District Council, Ōtorohanga District Council, and Otago Regional Council, as they prepare to join the revamped programme. Additionally, efforts are underway to align the programme's performance assessment framework with Ākona, fostering continuous improvement through a culture of learning and development.

Mayors' Taskforce for Jobs

Mayors' Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ) core group has signed off a refreshed five-year strategic plan. The plan reconfirms the focus of the MTFJ kaupapa firmly on rangatahi, particularly those youth who are NEET (Not in Employment, Education or Training).

LGNZ supported Mayor Max Baxter, MTFJ Chair, to secure a meeting with the Social Development Minister Louise Upston, which the MTFJ team of Maree and Tammie attended, along with Scott.

Max also met with Minister Upston while attending a joint visit to Waimate to hear firsthand how the programme has delivered better employment outcomes there. The Minister is joining MTFJ for their annual breakfast meeting at SuperLocal.

The MTFJ Governance Group, which oversees MTFJ's strategy and delivery, met in April and May and the Core Group is meeting on 7 June.

Huge credit to the MTFJ council teams who nationally have exceeded their MSD-contracted CEP outcomes, achieving 1,111 employment outcomes for year one well ahead of the due date. This positions the MTFJ MSD employment contract for continued success as it rolls over into year 2, although with reduced contracted funding from (\$10 million to \$8 million).

LGNZ ran an impactful session for MTFJ in February supporting individual council programmes to better tell their story of localism and council delivery, as discussed in the media section above, and reflected in the uptick of media around MTFJ in recent weeks.

LGNZ four-monthly report for member councils: March-June 2024 // 22



Road Efficiency Group (REG)

LGNZ has been a long-standing partner and supporter of REG and we are pleased to see REG feature in the draft Transport GPS. This includes direction from the Minister that REG, as part of a wider expectation for improved sector performance and efficiency, is to focus on ensuring that all investment in maintaining and improving resilience on the state highway, local and rural road networks is spent in the most efficient manner.

Key focus areas for REG include:

- Finding efficiency in road maintenance spend to deliver more for road users and taxpayers' investment;
- Standardising maintenance protocols and processes to find efficiency where efficiencies can be found;
- Reducing expenditure on temporary traffic management (TTM), which is adding significant cost to road maintenance and reducing efficiency of spend;
- Reviewing Network Outcomes Contracts (NOC) with a focus on achieving long-term maintenance outcomes of 2 percent rehabilitation and 9 percent resurfacing per year, ensuring a proactive approach to road maintenance.

REG is currently reviewing its term of reference and governance arrangements, which will see two independent appointments by the Minister to the REG governance group.

Moata Carbon Portal

Recently we've provided a demo of the portal and had conversations on carbon accounting with Central Otago District Council. We have also supported Mott MacDonald to attend zone meetings to provide an overview of the carbon portal as well as some findings from the carbon baseline completed on Queenstown Lakes LTP in 2023.

The findings from this baseline were that water projects accounted for 55% of QLDC's total capital carbon, with transport accounting for 24% and built environment 21%. Over the course of their LTP, their highest carbon peaks were predicted for 2023 and 2030, with recommendations provided on integrating carbon assessments into their approval and delivery processes.

Ratepayer Assistance Scheme (RAS)

With Auckland and Tauranga confirming support to establish the RAS, we have secured \$1.2 million of the estimated \$3 million required to complete the development work to establish the RAS. On establishment, we would need circa \$23 million establishment capital.

As a reminder, the RAS is a special purpose tool that would provide support to ratepayers to finance any local authority charge. With balance sheet separation, and proximity to both local and central



government, it would have a very high credit rating and therefore be able to provide the cheapest possible financing terms to ratepayers.

The Ratepayer Financing Scheme's flexibility would enable it to support:

- Development contributions to enable housing development.
- Home improvement policy to meet healthy homes, earthquake strengthening, home insulation and solar panel installation, water separation and storage etc.
- Rates postponement to provide relief to ratepayer experiencing affordability pressures.

A detailed business case supporting the RAS's viability has been completed with the support of Auckland, Hamilton, Tauranga, Wellington, Christchurch councils alongside the LGFA and LGNZ. We have had recent positive engagement the new governments policy advisors. The RAS could provide financing for future water charges which would assist with affordability.

The Steering Group have engaged with the Government's water Technical Advisory Group to discuss funding and financing more broadly, including the possible role the RAS could play supporting ratepayers and funding infrastructure.

Scott and selected members of the Steering Group met Simon Court (Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Minister for Infrastructure and the Minister Responsible for RMA Reform) on 3 April and Minister Simeon Brown has expressed interest in learning more about it.

Libraries partnership

Our Libraries Advisor is continuing to deliver the work programme that has been agreed to with DIA and the New Zealand Libraries Partnership Programme, and will be with LGNZ until the end of June 2024, when the project funding comes to an end. This was a Covid-19 recovery initiative so there isn't ongoing funding for this role.

At the end of the project, we'll receive a report that will outline all the key trends identified and findings made across the three years of the project.

Despite local government funding challenges, a large number of councils have supported the removal of fines to improve access to their library resources. Over 60% of councils are fully fines free and 92% are fines free for children and young people.

	A	B	C	D	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
2	Date	Meeting	HWTM	Wilson	Carter	Dalgaty	Duncan	Hiroa	Lambert	Loudon	Maughan	Sharland	Raukawa	Wong	Notes
168	24-Apr-24	Council Meeting	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	
169	8-May-24	Bulls CC	PR		AP							PR	PR		
170	9-May-24	AIN Meeting	PR	AP	AP	PR	PR		PR	PR	PR			PR	
171	14-May-24	TRAK Workshop	PR					PR					PR		
172	16-May-24	Council Meeting	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	
173	23-May-24	Council Workshop	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	
174	29-May-24	Creative NZ Committee	PR				PR								
175	30-May-24	Finance/Performance	PR	PR	AP	PR				PR	PR	AP		PR	
176	30-May-24	Council Meeting	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	
177	6-Jun-24	Turakina CC	PR		AP							AT			
178	10-Jun-24	HRWS	PR			PR			PR						
179	10-Jun-24	Hunterville CC	CB			PR			PR						
180	11-Jun-24	TRAK Meeting	PR				PR	PR					PR		
181	11-Jun-24	ERWS	PR											PR	
182	11-Jun-24	Ratana CB	PR					PR							
183	12-Jun-24	Marton CC	CB	PR											
184	12-Jun-24	Taihape CB	PR				PR							PR	
185	13-Jun-24	PPL Meeting	PR	PR			PR	PR	PR		AP			PR	
186	19-Jun-24	Santoft DMC													Minutes not yet received
187	20-Jun-24	RA Meeting	PR	PR		PR		PR		PR					
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Present (and is a member of the committee) PR

Apology AP

Absent - no apology received AB

Not a member of the committee

Not a member of the committee (but still attended) AT

Not present as on Council business CB

Attended via Zoom [this indicator is no longer used] ZM

10 Reports for Information

10.1 Small Projects Fund Update - July 2024

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Allocation

1.1 The 2024/25 allocation to the Committee's Small Projects Fund is \$1,300, however due to earmarked funds from the 2023/24 the allocation is \$973.60.

2. Earmarked Payments from 2022/23

2.1 Approval for Mr Bruce Dear to get minor repairs done on the chairs around Bulls up to the amount of \$200 for the budget 2022/23.

2.2 This amount is earmarked for payment once invoice is received.

2.3 Staff would highly recommend a resolution either redirecting funds or noting that this work has been completed.

3. Breakdown 2023/24

3.1 The total allocation including previous carry over fund for the committee totalled \$3,555 for 2023/24.

3.2 The committee purchased street pots and potting mix totalling \$1,689.30, this includes reimbursement to Mr Dear. This has been paid.

3.3 The committee paid for the removal and cleaning of plaque to Mr Dear totalling \$100. This has been paid.

3.4 The committee paid for the replacement of damaged stickers for \$92. This has been paid.

3.5 The committee earmarked \$2,000 towards a Bulls Service Map.

3.6 The total amount for 2023/24 paid is \$1881.30 and the total earmarked for 2023/24 is \$2,000.

3.7 The committee has overspent for the 2023/24 allocation by \$326.30, and this has impacted on the total allocation for 2024/25. The current total allocation for 2024/25 is \$973.60.

4. Earmarked Payments 2023/24

4.1 The total earmarked payments for 2023/24 is \$2,000 for the Bulls Service Map.

4.2 If the committee wanted to redirect funding for this project a resolution is needed.

5. Small Projects Fund Application

5.1 The Chairman has provided a draft application form for the Bulls Community Committee small projects fund.

Attachments:

1. **Bulls Community Committee Small Projects Form Application** [↓](#)

Recommendation

That the report 'Small Projects Fund Update –July 2024 be received.

Recommendation

That the Bulls Community Committee endorse **as amended/ without amendment** the Bulls Community Committee Small Projects Form and request that this be added to the Council website.

Application to Bulls Community Committee Small Projects Fund

Request deadlines:
5 pm First Tuesday of Feb / Apr / Jun / Aug / Oct / Dec for following month's Committee Meeting.

Applicant Position in Organisation		
Organisation (if Applicable)		Formal Registered Company name or Organisation registered name
Physical Address (PO Box not accepted)		
		Postcode:
Phone		
Email Address		
Amount Requested		\$
Project Title		
Details of Request (Add as attachment if required)		
Beneficiaries (add as attachment if required)	Who could benefit from this support?	Relationship to Org
Supporting Documentation (Quotes, estimates costs as attached document if required)		
Alternative Funding Sources (Other sources approached, their replies, if not full amount received – what will be your next actions)		
Bank Details (Provide some form of bank-provided information – no transactions need to be included)	Name: Bank Account Nr: Particulars: Code: Reference:	

The purpose of the fund is to assist entities with the purchase of small items or additional services which are not included in Council's operating budgets and which will benefit the local community. Examples could be signage, park furniture, plants, paint, a leaflet or other publication or an event, including implementing community-led initiatives.

Applications are normally expected to be for the benefit of the whole Community (not for individuals or small groups e.g., only club members). More than one application can be submitted in any financial year.

Applications cannot be for:

- Provision of training or conference attendance.
- Additional payment(s) for goods or services subject to a contract with Rangitikei Council.
- Amounts which exceed the Committee's annual allocation or remaining balance.

If you have any queries regarding your application please contact a committee member (or call 022 022 6475) Send request to: Bulls Community Committee: BullsCCSecretary@gmail.com or call for delivery address.

10.2 Funding Schemes Update - July 2024

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Overview

- 1.1 Council currently administers four funding schemes for the Rangitikei District, these are:
 - a. Community Initiatives Fund
 - b. Events Sponsorship Scheme
 - c. Creative Communities Scheme
 - d. Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund

2. Community Initiatives Fund

- 2.1 This is a Council fund intended to support community-based projects in the Rangitikei District that develop community cohesion and community resilience.
- 2.2 Round one for 2024/25 opened on the 01 July 2024 and closes on the 31 August 24. The decision on the distribution of funding will be made on the 26 September 24.

3. Events Support Scheme

- 3.1 This is a Council fund intended to support events in the district that help to develop community cohesion and reinforce economic growth.
- 3.2 Council has allocated \$25,000 to this fund annually, to be distributed across two separate funding rounds.
- 3.3 Round one for 2024/25 opened on the 01 July 24 and closes on the 31 August 24. The decision on the distribution of funding will be on the 26 September 24.

4. Creative Communities Scheme

- 4.1 This fund is supplied by Creative NZ and administered by Council. Applications are encouraged from community groups and individuals whose projects:
 - Demonstrate growth over time
 - Develop and support local artistic communities
 - Encourage a transfer of artistic skills
 - Support diversity and inclusion
 - Projects with a youth focus are also encouraged
- 4.2 Creative NZ typically allocates \$24,090 (+ GST) to the Rangitikei District Council on an annual basis, and this is distributed across two separate funding rounds.
- 4.3 Round two for 2023/24 opened on 03 November 2023 and closed 01 May 2024.
- 4.4 The decision on the distribution of funds was made on the 29 May 24 totalling \$21,562.50.
- 4.5 Successful applicants were Ruapehu REAP, Square Edge Community Arts, Bulls and District Community Trust, Community Music Aotearoa, Everybody is a Treasure Charitable Trust, Opaea Marae.

5. Creative Communities Scheme – CCS Festivals Fund

- 5.1 Council has received an additional \$7,861.70 to go towards established festivals, this funding round will align with round two of the 2023/24 financial year.
 - 5.1.1 The CCS Festival Fund can *only* support **established** festivals that celebrate the life experiences, stories, cultures, and regional identities of New Zealanders.
 - 5.1.2 Applicants must have delivered a festival at least once in the previous five years (this may include digital presentation). Applicants should include evidence of previous delivery in their application.
- 5.2 The round for 2023/24 opened on 03 November 2023 and closed 01 May 2024.
- 5.3 The decision on the distribution of funds was made on the 29 May 24 and the full amount was distributed.
- 5.4 Successful applicants were the 2025 Marton Country Music Festival, Turakina Caledonian Society, and the Hunterville Huntaway Festival.

6. Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund

- 6.1 This fund is supplied by Sport NZ and administered by Council. The fund is targeted at young people aged between 5 and 19 years, and is open to rural sport club teams and rural school club teams with eligible members who require subsidies to assist with transport expenses to local sporting competitions.
- 6.2 Sport NZ typically allocates \$9,500 (+ GST) to the Rangitikei District Council on an annual basis. There is one funding round per year.
- 6.3 The funding round for 2024/25 opens soon.

7. Further Information

- 7.1 More details about these funding opportunities can be found on the Council website (link below) and this is also where applications can be submitted:
<https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/district/community/grants-funding>

Recommendation

That the Funding Schemes Update –July 2024 be received.

11 Meeting Closed.