



RANGITIKEI
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Making this place home.

ORDER PAPER

TAIHAPE COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

Date: Wednesday, 11 October 2023

Time: 5.30pm

Venue: Kokako Street Pavilion
2 Kokako Street
Taihape

Chair: Mr Peter Kipling-Arthur

Deputy Chair: Ms Emma Abernethy

Membership: Ms Gail Larsen
Mr Les Clarke
Cr Gill Duncan
Cr Jeff Wong
HWTM Andy Watson

For any enquiries regarding this agenda, please contact:

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Locations:	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <u>Marton</u> Head Office 46 High Street Marton </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <u>Bulls</u> Bulls Information Centre Te Matapihi 4 Criterion Street Bulls </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top;"> <u>Taihape</u> Taihape Information Centre 102 Hautapu Street (SH1) Taihape </td> </tr> </table>	<u>Marton</u> Head Office 46 High Street Marton	<u>Bulls</u> Bulls Information Centre Te Matapihi 4 Criterion Street Bulls	<u>Taihape</u> Taihape Information Centre 102 Hautapu Street (SH1) Taihape	
<u>Marton</u> Head Office 46 High Street Marton	<u>Bulls</u> Bulls Information Centre Te Matapihi 4 Criterion Street Bulls				
<u>Taihape</u> Taihape Information Centre 102 Hautapu Street (SH1) Taihape					
Postal Address:	Private Bag 1102, Marton 4741				
Fax:	(06) 327 6970				

Notice is hereby given that a Taihape Community Board Meeting of the Rangitikei District Council will be held in the Kokako Street Pavilion, 2 Kokako Street, Taihape on Wednesday, 11 October 2023 at 5.30pm.

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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 **Taihape Community Board Meeting held on 9 August 2023** are attached.

Attachments

1. **Taihape Community Board Meeting - 9 August 2023**

Recommendation

That the minutes of Taihape Community Board Meeting held on 9 August 2023 [**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: TAIHAPE COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

Date: Wednesday, 9 August 2023

Time: 5.30pm

**Venue: Kokako Street Pavilion
2 Kokako Street
Taihape**

Present Ms Gail Larsen
Mr Peter Kipling-Arthur
HWTM Andy Watson
Cr Jeff Wong
Cr Gill Duncan

In attendance Ms S Srhoj Community Property Manager
Ms D Hesketh Administration

Order of Business

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The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting 3

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3 Public Forum 3

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations..... 3

5 Confirmation of Order of Business 3

6 Confirmation of Minutes 3

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 7.1 Chair's Report- Taihape Community Board August 3

The Chair took his report as read. 3

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 9.2 Funding Schemes Update - July 2023..... 5

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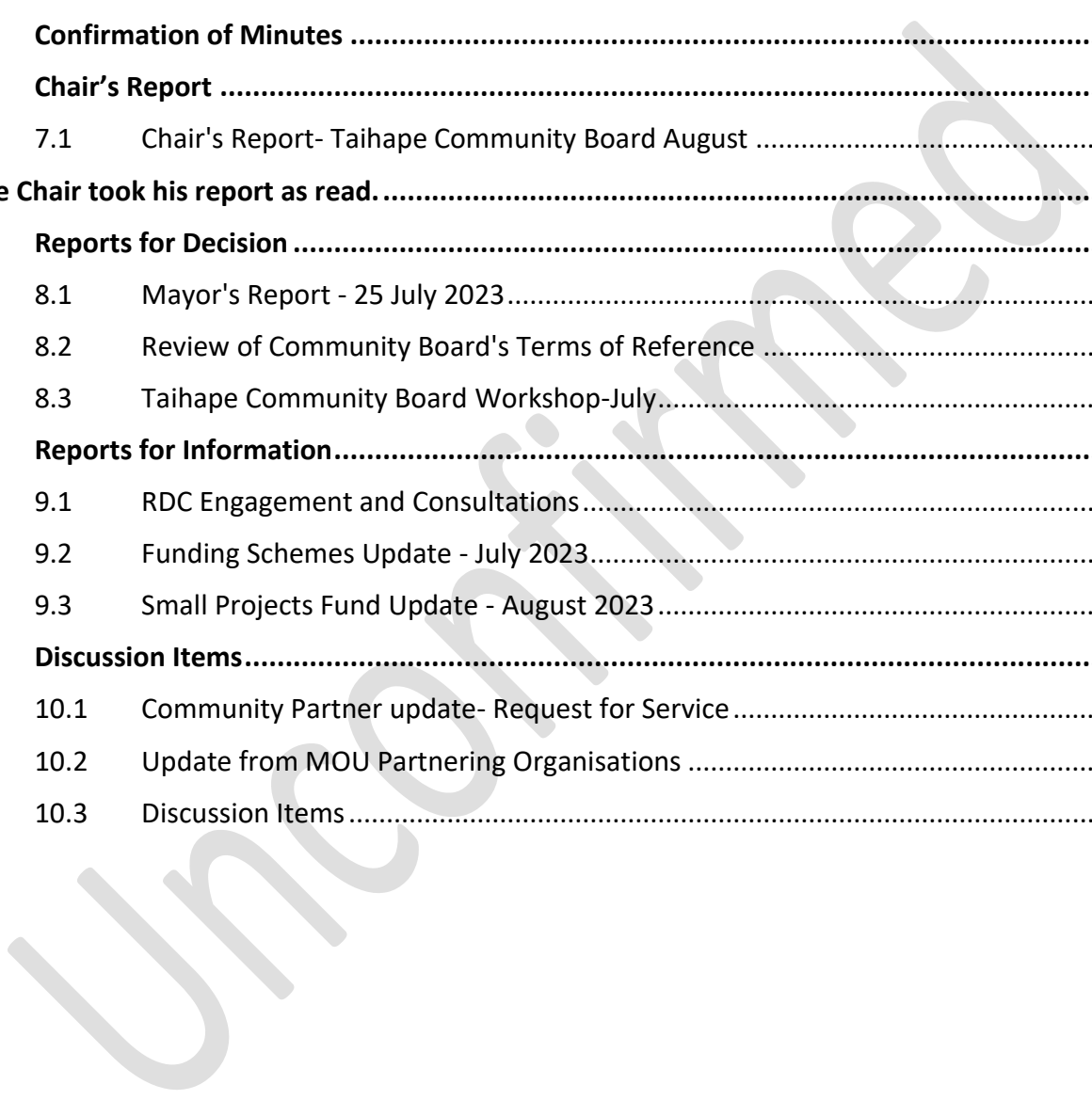
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 10.1 Community Partner update- Request for Service 6

 10.2 Update from MOU Partnering Organisations 6

 10.3 Discussion Items 6

ITEM 6.1 ATTACHMENT 1



1 Welcome / Prayer

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number 23/TCB/039

That the apologies from Ms E Abernethy and Mr L Clarke be accepted.

Ms G Larsen/Cr G Duncan. Carried

3 Public Forum

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number 23/TCB/040

That the minutes of Taihape Community Board Meeting held on 14 June 2023 **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.

Mr P Kipling-Arthur/Cr J F Wong. Carried

7 Chair's Report

7.1 Chair's Report- Taihape Community Board August

The Chair took his report as read.

Resolved minute number 23/TCB/041

That the Chair's report be received.

Cr G Duncan/Ms G Larsen. Carried

8 Reports for Decision

8.1 Mayor's Report - 25 July 2023

His Worship the Mayor advised that he had contacted Waka Kotahi regarding the slump in the road on State Highway 1 south of Utiku.

Resolved minute number 23/TCB/042

That the Mayor's Report – 25 July 2023 be received.

Ms G Larsen/Cr G Duncan. Carried

8.2 Review of Community Board's Terms of Reference

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 23/TCB/043

That the Taihape Community Board consider their Terms of Reference and provide any suggested changes to staff.

Mr P Kipling-Arthur/Cr J F Wong. Carried

8.3 Taihape Community Board Workshop-July

Mr P Kipling-Arthur will investigate parking signs to direct motor homes to Kokako Street and Taihape Outback.

His Worship the Mayor advised that Waka Kotahi are in the process of reviewing speed limits and will liaise with council.

Resolved minute number 23/TCB/044

That the summary and recommendations of the July Workshop be received.

Mr P Kipling-Arthur/Cr J F Wong. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/TCB/045

That the Taihape Community Board strongly recommend that Council engage with Waka Kotahi over the issues and possible solutions raised in Items One, Six Seven and Eight of the Traffic, Safety and Management summary as discussed at their July workshop.

Cr G Duncan/Cr J F Wong. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/TCB/046

That Council staff consult with the Taihape Community Board over the feasibility of actions requested in Items Two, Three, Four, Five and Eight of the Traffic, Safety and management summary as discussed at their July workshop.

Ms G Larsen/Cr J F Wong. Carried

ITEM 6.1
ATTACHMENT 1

9 Reports for Information

9.1 RDC Engagement and Consultations

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 23/TCB/047

That the report 'RDC Engagement and Consultations' be received.

Mr P Kipling-Arthur/Cr J F Wong. Carried

9.2 Funding Schemes Update - July 2023

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 23/TCB/048

That the Funding Schemes Update – August 2023 be received.

Cr G Duncan/HWTM A Watson. Carried

9.3 Small Projects Fund Update - August 2023

The Board noted that the earmarked payment of \$2,311.50 to Concrete Craft is no longer required as the completed work of installing the concrete pads under the picnic tables has been funded from the Parks and Reserves Renewals

Resolved minute number 23/TCB/049

That the report 'Small Projects Fund Update – August 2023' be received.

Cr G Duncan/HWTM A Watson. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/TCB/050

That the Taihape Community Board approve a grant of \$250 to the Taihape Neighbourhood Support Group for the purchase of a painting to be displayed in the new Taihape Town Hall/Civic Centre building and that this be funded from the Small Projects fund.

Mr P Kipling-Arthur/Ms G Larsen. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/TCB/051

That the Taihape Community Board accept the letter from Mr Bill Nelson advising that he wished to withdraw his quote for painting the Band Rotunda at Gumboot Park.

Ms G Larsen/HWTM A Watson. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/TCB/052

That the Taihape Community Board request more information from the Taihape Museum and Historical Society regarding their request for a fundraising thermometer.

Ms G Larsen/HWTM A Watson. Carried

10 Discussion Items

10.1 Community Partner update- Request for Service

This item was for the Boards information only. A copy of Councils Complaints and Issue Resolution Policy was tabled.

10.2 Update from MOU Partnering Organisations

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 23/TCB/053

That the tabled report from the Taihape Community Development Trust be received.

Cr G Duncan/HWTM A Watson. Carried

10.3 Discussion Items

- Cr Wong spoke to Horizons Regional Councils Regional Services Review. He was keen for the Board to promote the Connect the Dots survey.
- The Chair noted that he would forward board members photos of the public notice boards in Feilding. He was keen to discuss this initiative at their next workshop.

The meeting closed at 6.55pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Taihape Community Board held on 11 October 2023.

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Chairperson

7 Chair's Report

7.1 Chair's Report - October 2023

Author: Peter Kipling-Arthur, Chair

ITEM 7.1

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 A verbal report will be provided during the meeting.

Recommendation

That the Chair's Report – October 2023 be received.

8 Reports for Decision

8.1 Mayor's Report - September 2023

Author: Andy Watson, His Worship the Mayor

It seems like Local Government is in a holding pattern ahead of the general elections. With Government having made many legislative changes in the last few weeks such as enacting the 10 Water Entities and the RMA (Resource Management Act) we as a Local Government sector are struggling to understand the effects that these changes bring and in the “blue corner” National has promised a repeal of most of those new laws. I feel for staff trying to understand and resource what is a very undecided future.

The way that Local Government operates also needs reform and for the last couple of years there has been a huge effort from working parties to look at the future of Local Government, how it is funded and what its role is in New Zealand. This work needed to be done. Local Government is being asked to do more and more over time. No longer is our work just about core services such as roading, rates and rubbish. We are responsible for the guardianship of our environment, coping with climate change and are involved with all sorts of social issues such as housing, health, economic development, and all of the “wellbeings” of our residents.

On 17 September myself and Councillor Fi Dalgety, along with most Mayors and many Councillors attended a meeting in Wellington to discuss the 17 recommendations on the Future For Local Government. Details of those recommendations can be found here – <https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/council/publications/the-future-for-local-government-report>

I have also attached an analysis that explains the FFLG Panel’s recommendations, summarises their pros and cons and poses some questions for consideration. This looks at how likely Local Government and Central Government support is for each recommendation and is based on member feedback over the past two years together with analysis of councils’ submissions.

Many of these recommendations have merit but the difficulty is for Local Government to adopt them, they have to be funded. One of the recommendations suggest that funding could be delivered by a percentage of the GST gathered, to be returned to the district. My concern is that both Government and the opposition have been aware of and involved in the discussions around these recommendations for some time and neither party has been willing to support them as part of their election manifesto. So it is quite possible that there may be no change at all.

Along with Alan Buckendahl, President of Marton RSA, I attended a memorial service in Australia recently for Danniell Lyon or “Diesel” as he was known. Danniell died piloting a helicopter in Australia flying for the Australian Defence Force in July. The local connection is that for some time he was posted to Ohakea on secondment flying for No.3 Squadron here. Danniell joined our RSA, became involved in our district, attended our events and fully involved himself within our patch. New Zealand Defence offered Alan and I the chance to fly to Australia along with members of the No.3 Squadron to represent New Zealand at the memorial service via a C130 (Hercules) flight. I would like to thank both the Australian and New Zealand Defence Forces for making that happen.

Unfortunately, while I was involved with the Australian memorial service on the 13th and 14th of September I was unable to attend a series of events back home. I am yet to catch up on the RRCC (Rangitikei River Catchment Collective) AGM that was held while I was away. It is a pity I wasn’t

ITEM 8.1

there, but I was represented by Councillor Dalgety and I will ask her to comment as part of my Mayor's Report. The RRCC does some amazing work that they fund themselves on improvements to our waterways and they deserve recognition. I also missed the Opening of the Military Working Dogs Facility at Ohakea which I understand is quite a significant step forward in the range of facilities offered by Ohakea. The last thing I missed was being part of Council's workshop on the Roding Procurement Contract options for Rangitikei District Council. I have spoken about this before but this is essentially a process where we decide who will maintain our district's roads over the next up to 9 years. At the time of writing this I am looking forward to a briefing by the Chair of Assets Dave Wilson and Senior Staff ahead of today's Council meeting. This is an issue that will be further discussed in Public Excluded as part of this Council meeting.

I did however get back in time on the 14th to attend an inaugural meeting of the Business Rangitikei Official Launch in Marton in the Opal Lounge at Cooks Bar. For some time the businesses in the Rangitikei have felt as though they haven't had a combined representation to Council. The turnout of local businesses to this event was phenomenal and I am looking forward to Council having the opportunity to work with that group. In some ways with the demise of Project Marton there has been no local voice in Marton and this is a significant step forward.

On the weekend I attended a cleanup in Bulls as part of the national weekend sponsored by Smart Environmental. I thank the members of the community who turned up to support this in Bulls. It gave me the opportunity, along with others, to pick up a huge amount of rubbish for example around the Bulls Bridge and correct what has been an eyesore for people visiting our community for some time. I have attached a photograph of the rubbish I collected on my own trailer.

Recently we had a resignation from Kelly Widdowson who led the formation and operation of the Youth Council for the Rangitikei. I appreciate the work that Kelly has done with youth from right across our district and the work that she has done with Forge Boxing in Marton and wish her well.

Recently Nga Wairiki Ngati Apa received a very large delegation from the followers of the Ratana faith that served as an introduction to the new Tumuaki of Ratana, Sonny Tumou. This took place at the Marton Memorial Hall and was a very significant occasion for both Ratana and our Iwi and I was pleased to be able to represent Council and sit alongside Iwi and support them.

During September I also attended the opening of the new interactive 3D squash court in Taihape. Tyson Burrows and Darryl O'Hara have been instrumental in securing funding for what is one of only three interactive squash courts in New Zealand. The court will provide squash and racquet-ball training for A-Graders as well as a virtual arcade for interactive junior level fun. I have included a photograph of the cutting of the ribbon by Chris Renshaw our local representative on the Four Regions Trust who provided funding towards the court.

Mayors Engagement

September 2023

1	Attended Tour of Marton/Bulls with Interim Chief Executive
3	Attended Church Service at Ratana
4	Attended weekly LTP meeting with staff Attended weekly meeting with Interim Chief Executive Attended Climate Action Joint Committee Meeting Attended Mayoral Forum
5	Attended Emergency Management Joint Standing Committee Meeting Attended Regional Transport Committee Meeting Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor Attended Marton Development Group AGM
6	Attended monthly ELT meeting for Governors Q&A Attended Funeral for Erina True Attended Bulls Museum progress update meeting
7	Attended Working Group Meeting – Review of Revenue & Financing Policy Attended LTP workshop
8	Attended Mangaweka School Environ Awards Attended Bio Forestry meeting in Wellington
10	Attended Taihape Squash Club Grand Opening of Interactive Court
11	Attended CE Recruitment meeting with Jackson Stone Attended weekly LTP meeting
12	Attended weekly meeting with Interim Chief Executive Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
13	Attended Memorial service for Capt Danniell ‘Diesel’ Lyon in Nowra Australia
14	Attended Business Rangitikei Official Launch
15	Attended Accelerate25 Lead Team meeting
17	Attended Te Matoro o te Tumuaki Tuawaru o te Haahi Ratana Attended Choose Localism – a Future by Local Government LGNZ Hui
18	Attended Choose Localism – a Future by Local Government LGNZ Hui
19	Attended Regional Transport Matters Fortnightly Zoom Attended weekly meeting with Interim Chief Executive Attended Three Waters Reform Provisions - Rural Water Schemes Meeting with DIA Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
20	Attended breakfast meeting with Mayor Helen Worboys Attended weekly LTP meeting

ITEM 8.1

	Attended meeting with Ministry of Education and Taihape Area School
21	Attended Risk/Assurance Committee Meeting Attended Assets & Infrastructure Workshop
22	Attended fortnightly discussion on Economic Development with staff Attended Chief of Air Force Change of Command Ceremony at Ohakea Attended Ceremonial Start of Daybreaker Rally in Feilding
23	Attended Spring Fling in Taihape
25	Attended Marton Christian Welfare Council AGM Attended weekly meeting with Interim Deputy Chief Executive
26	Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
28	Attended Finance/Performance Committee Meeting Attended Council Meeting Attended Manawatu-Whanganui Disaster Relief Fund Trust AGM
22	Attended fortnightly discussion on Economic Development with staff

Attachments:

1. **Interactive 3D Squash Court - Taihape** [↓](#)
2. **Bulls Clean Up Day - Rubbish Collected** [↓](#)
3. **Elected Member Attendance** [↓](#)
4. **FFLG Recommendations** [↓](#)

Recommendation

That the Mayor's Report – September 2023 be received.



ITEM 8.1 ATTACHMENT 1

ITEM 8.1 ATTACHMENT 2



Elected Members

Date	Meeting	HWTM	Wilson	Calkin	Carter	Daigety	Duncan	Hiroa	Lambert	Loudon	Maughan	Raukawa	Wong	Notes
25-Oct-22	Council (Inaugural)	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	
03-Nov-22	Council	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	
14-Nov-22	Creative NZ Committee	PR					PR							
16-Nov-22	Audit and Risk	PR	PR	AT		PR		PR		AT	AT			
21-Nov-22	HRWS	PR							PR		AT			
23-Nov-22	Finance/Performance	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP		PR	PR		PR	There was confusion re membership of the committee
23-Nov-22	Council	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	HWTM was late due to Council business
29-Nov-22	ERWS	AP									PR		AT	Meeting not held due to lack of quorum
29-Nov-22	Bulls													
30-Nov-22	Santoft DMC	PR		PR	PR									
01-Dec-22	Turakina CC	PR			PR									
12-Dec-22	Hunterville CC	PR				PR			PR					
13-Dec-22	TRAK	PR					PR							
14-Dec-22	Taihape CB	PR					PR						PR	Meeting not held due to lack of quorum
14-Dec-22	Marton CC													
15-Dec-22	Finance/Performance	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AT			PR	PR		PR	
15-Dec-22	Council	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	
20-Dec-22	Ratana CB	PR	AT		AT									
26-Jan-23	Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	
01-Feb-23	Santoft DMC	PR		AT	PR									
08-Feb-23	Taihape CB	PR					PR	AT					PR	
08-Feb-23	Marton CC	CB	AB								AB			
09-Feb-23	Workshop	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	
09-Feb-23	Turakina CC	PR			PR									
13-Feb-23	Hunterville CC	CB				PR			PR					
14-Feb-23	Ratana CB	PR						PR						
16-Feb-23	Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	
22-Feb-23	Finance/Performance	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR				PR	PR		PR	
22-Feb-23	Council	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	
1 Mar 23	Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	
07 Mar 23	ERWS	PR									PR		PR	
09 Mar 23	A&I Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	
09 Mar 23	P&P	PR	PR				PR	PR	PR		AP			
13 Mar 23	HRWS	CB				PR			PR					
14 Mar 23	BCC	PR		PR	PR									
15 Mar 23	R&A	PR	PR	AT		PR		AP		PR				
15 Mar 23	Council	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	
20 Mar 23	Youth	PR					PR						PR	
30-Mar-23	Finance/Performance	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR				AP	PR		PR	
30-Mar-23	Council	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	

ITEM 8.1 ATTACHMENT 3

4-Apr-23	Ratana CB	CB						PR					
6-Apr-23	Turakina CC	PR				PR							
11-Apr-23	TRAK	PR						PR	PR				
11-Apr-23	Maori Rates Remission	PR					PR		PR				PR
11-Apr-23	Omatane RWS							PR					
12-Apr-23	Taihape CB	PR						PR					PR
12-Apr-23	Marton CC	CB	PR				AT					PR	
13-Apr-23	Assets/Infrastructure	PR	PR			PR	PR			PR	PR		PR
17-Apr-23	Youth							PR					PR
17-Apr-23	Huntermville CC	CB	AT					AP			PR		
20-Apr-23	Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR
26-Apr-23	Council	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
27-Apr-23	Sport NZ RTF	CB	AT	PR	AT							PR	
27-Apr-23	Finance/Performance	CB	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP				PR	PR	PR
10-May-23	Bulls CC	AP				PR							
11-May-23	Annual Plan Hearings	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR
11-May-23	Annual Plan Hearings	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR
15-May-23	HRWS	PR					PR			PR			
15-May-23	Youth	PR					PR	AP					PR
18-May-02	Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	AP	PR	PR	AP	PR
24-May-23	Finance/Performance	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR					PR	PR	PR
24-May-23	Council	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
1-Jun-23	Council	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	AP	PR	PR	AP	PR
6-Jun-23	ERWS	PR										PR	PR
6-Jun-23	ORWS	PR						PR					
7-Jun-23	Creative NZ Committee	CB						PR					
8-Jun-23	Turakina CC	PR				PR							
12-Jun-23	Huntermville CC	PR								PR			
13-Jun-23	Ratana CB	PR							AP				
14-Jun-23	Taihape CB	CB						PR	AT				AP
14-Jun-23	Marton CC	PR	PR								PR		
15-Jun-23	Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AB	PR
15-Jun-23	Policy / Planning	PR	PR				AT	PR	PR	PR		PR	
19-Jun-23	Youth Council	PR						PR					PR
20-Jun-23	TRAK	PR						PR	PR				
22-Jun-23	R&A	PR	PR	AT		PR			PR		PR		
22-Jun-23	Council	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
29-Jun-23	Finance/Performance	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR					PR	PR	PR
29-Jun-23	Council	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
11-Jul-23	McIntyre Reserve	PR											PR
12-Jul-23	AIN Meeting	PR	PR			AP	PR	PR		PR	PR	AP	PR
12-Jul-23	Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR
12-Jul-23	Bulls CC	PR				PR							AT
13-Jul-23	Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
17-Jul-23	HRWS	PR					PR			PR			
19-Jul-23	SDMC												
25-Jul-23	Council	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR

Minutes not received

3-Aug-23	Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AB	PR
7-Aug-23	HCC	PR				PR			PR					
8-Aug-23	TRAK	PR					PR							
8-Aug-23	Ratana CB	PR						PR						
9-Aug-23	Taihape CB	PR						PR						PR
9-Aug-23	Marlon CC	CB	PR									PR		
10-Aug-23	AIN Workshop													
10-Aug-23	P&P	PR	PR				AT	PR	PR	PR	AT	PR		
10-Aug-23	Turakina CC	PR			PR									
21-Aug-23	Youth Council	PR						PR						PR
24-Aug-23	Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR(PM only)	AP	PR
31-Aug-23	Finance/Performance	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR				PR	PR			PR
31-Aug-23	Council	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
7-Sep-23	Workshop	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR-AM only	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR
13-Sep-23	Bulls CC													
14-Sep-23	Workshop	CB	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR
21-Sep-23	RA Meeting	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR		AB		PR	PR	AT		
21-Sep-23	AIN Workshop	PR	PR		PR	PR	PR		AP	PR	PR			PR

Attendance not taken

Minutes not received

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



HOW DO THE FFLG REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS STACK UP?

In June 2023, the Future for Local Government Panel released its final report.

LGNZ's 2023 AGM agreed that local government should develop a consensus position or positions on the Panel's recommendations to put in front of the incoming government. Together we're aiming to produce a powerful advocacy position that local government can unite behind, covering all aspects of the report but not necessarily agreeing with every recommendation. For example, there may be aspects of the report that collectively we think need to change, and there may be things not addressed in the report that we think we need to be part of a package of change. While we understand the ambition of this task given the range of views in local government, there will be value in challenging ourselves – and being clear about where we think differently from each other, and why.

To help generate that consensus position, we've analysed the Panel's recommendations from a local government point of view. This document sets out the pros and cons of each recommendation, as well as posing some questions for you to consider. The table below also looks at the probable level of support each recommendation has from both local and central government. These are based on all the engagement we've done on FFLG over the past two years including multiple workshops, submissions and analysis of councils' submissions. We've suggested some potential broad-brush categorisations:

- ✓ = Likely to be broad/strong levels of support
- ✗ = Unlikely to be broad/strong levels of support
- ? = Uncertain – and may depend on the makeup of the incoming government

Recommendation	What does this recommendation mean?	Pros and cons	Potential LG support	Potential CG support	Questions to ponder
#1 Entrench the purpose of local government, as set out in the Local Government Act 2002, to embed intergenerational wellbeing and local democracy at the heart of local government.	<p>The Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) sets out the purpose of local government: “to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities and to promote the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of communities.”</p> <p>However, it's possible for Parliament to change the purpose of local government with a simple majority. In 2013, a National-led Government changed the purpose of local government: “to meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses.”</p> <p>Many councils continued to focus on promoting the social, economic, cultural and environmental wellbeing of their communities by relying on local government having the power of general competence, which says that councils can choose what activities to undertake and how to undertake them.</p> <p>Then in 2019, a Labour-led Government changed the purpose back to enabling democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities and to promote the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of communities. The focus on promoting wellbeing sits alongside and guides councils' obligations to provide infrastructure to their communities.</p> <p>Entrenching the purpose of the LGA means that any change to the purpose would need the support of a 75% super majority of Parliament.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ We've heard support from councils for local government's 'wellbeing purpose'. ↑ Entrenching local government's purpose would give local government constitutional recognition and formalise local government's role and purpose. It would help to recognise local government as an autonomous arm of government. ↑ It would also give local government a stronger mandate. ↑ It would avoid potential for repeated changes to local government's purpose, at the whim of politics. Repeated changes make it difficult for councils to operate to their full effect. ↑ The current purpose is enabling and supports close connection with communities – changes to the purpose might narrow the scope of local government to focus more on central government priorities. ↓ Society, circumstances, and priorities can change. Entrenchment would make it more difficult for the purpose of local government to evolve to meet changing circumstances and priorities. 	✓	✗	<p>Is the current purpose of local government sufficiently broad that it would still be relevant even if there was a change in circumstances and/or priorities?</p> <p>Are there any other provisions in the LGA that you think should be entrenched?</p> <p>Should the LGA itself be entrenched – so that any decision to substantially amend or repeal and replace the LGA requires the support of a super majority?</p>



<p>#2 Introduce statutory provisions to reinforce and give effect to the purpose of local government in the Local Government Act 2002, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ councils setting wellbeing goals and priorities each term, in conjunction with community and hapū/iwi and Māori 	<p>It also means implementing this recommendation would require 75% of Parliament to support.</p> <p>At the moment, there's no explicit requirement for councils to set wellbeing goals and priorities each term with their community and iwi/hapū/Māori. This means councils' approaches vary.</p> <p>But we know that a large number of councils are actively engaging with their communities and iwi/hapū/Māori to set wellbeing goals and priorities, including through long-term plans. Long-term plans set out the outcomes that the council wants to achieve for its community. These outcomes help to inform the decisions that councils make about investing in infrastructure.</p> <p>The Panel's view is that requiring councils to work with their communities and iwi/hapū/Māori to develop wellbeing goals and priorities would help to ensure that councils fulfil their purpose. It would also help councils to ensure that the services they provide are designed to meet the wellbeing needs and priorities of their communities.</p>	<p>↑ Would help guide and prioritise decision-making by councils about the services that they're providing to their communities. ✓</p> <p>↑ Is a way of more actively engaging communities and iwi/hapū/Māori in local government decision-making. ?</p> <p>↓ Setting wellbeing goals and priorities with communities and iwi/hapū/Māori is potentially a costly and time-consuming process.</p> <p>↓ Wellbeing goals and priorities have the potential to change regularly depending on external circumstances, including political preferences.</p>	<p>Is a specific statutory requirement to set wellbeing goals and priorities a good idea, or is more flexibility preferable?</p> <p>How would these wellbeing goals and priorities relate to or be different from the community outcomes included in councils' LTPs?</p>
<p>#2 Introduce statutory provisions to reinforce and give effect to the purpose of local government in the Local Government Act 2002, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ central and local government committing to align wellbeing priorities and agree place-based investment plans. 	<p>Investing in meeting communities' wellbeing needs and priorities is important to local government – we heard that from you in our engagement on the FFLG. But we've also heard that councils often find that central government's investments are not geared towards the needs and priorities that communities have.</p> <p>This recommendation presents an opportunity to think more broadly about the future of the public service in New Zealand and how central and local government can best work together to deliver good outcomes for communities.</p> <p>There's currently no consistent or mandated approach for how central and local government should work together to align wellbeing priorities and agree place-based investment plans that meet those priorities. This means that there's often a lack of alignment between central and local government's priorities and investments.</p> <p>Some councils are working closely with central government agencies to align priorities and invest in communities, for example there are Urban Growth Partnerships between central government agencies, councils and mana whenua in Greater Christchurch, the Waikato, Bay of Plenty and Queenstown.</p> <p>The Resource Management Reforms will introduce mandatory regional spatial planning, and require the councils in a region, along with mana</p>	<p>↑ Would ensure that investment by central government actually meets the needs and priorities of local communities – and avoid duplication. ✓</p> <p>↑ Central government can draw on local government's knowledge: given their proximity to communities, councils are best-placed to work with communities to identify their priorities and needs. ?</p> <p>↑ Would potentially strengthen the relationship between central and local government.</p> <p>↑ Provides local government with a way to be involved in central government planning and decision-making – rather than just being a delivery arm.</p> <p>↓ May make planning decisions more time consuming and difficult.</p> <p>↓ Likely to be challenges getting alignment between central government agencies – local government would need central government to come to the table with a 'joined up' view of things.</p> <p>↓ Potential for regional approaches to overlook unique local circumstances and needs.</p>	<p>Would you see setting of wellbeing priorities and development of place-based investment plans happening at a regional scale, or with individual councils? Could the recommendation align with regional spatial planning?</p> <p>What should happen if councils' community wellbeing priorities differ from central government's?</p> <p>Would you prefer an approach where central government is required to agree to support and fund the wellbeing priorities worked out by councils with their communities and iwi/hapū/Māori?</p>



	<p>whenua and central government representatives, to set out how regions will grow, adapt and change over time and how land, infrastructure and other resources will be used to promote the wellbeing of people, the environment and economy. Spatial planning will be supported with implementation plans and agreements to support the delivery of agreed actions.</p> <p>Although regional spatial planning will look at things from a regional, rather than local, perspective, there could be opportunities to think about how the Panel’s recommendation for place-based priorities and investment plans could align with the shift to regional spatial planning. Alternatively, central government could agree to supporting and funding local government to deliver the wellbeing priorities it has agreed with its communities and iwi/hapū/Māori.</p>	
<p>#3 Introduce new provisions in the Local Government Act 2002 that explicitly recognise local government as a partner to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and te ao Māori values to strengthen authentic relationships in the local exercise of kāwanatanga and rangatiratanga.</p>	<p>The LGA does not explicitly recognise local government as a partner to Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Instead, section 4 talks about the need for local government to fulfil certain requirements around Māori participation in decision-making in order to recognise and respect the Crown’s responsibility to take appropriate account of the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.</p> <p>This recommendation talks about explicitly identifying local government as a Te Tiriti partner. It relates to recommendation 4, which talks about partnership frameworks and giving effect to the principles of Te Tiriti (an obligation that sits with the Crown as a Treaty partner). However, while this recommendation suggests that local government should be named as a Treaty partner, most the Panel’s report talks about Te Tiriti-based partnership and growing partnerships between local government and iwi/hapū/Māori. Arguably those are two different things so there is a need for some clarity.</p> <p>This recommendation also talks about te ao Māori values being woven into the system of local government.</p>	<p>↑ Recognises and builds on the fact that many councils already see themselves as a Te Tiriti partner and are working in partnership with iwi/hapū/Māori. ? ?</p> <p>↑ Also recognises and builds on the work councils are doing to build te ao Māori values into their ways of working.</p> <p>↑ Would support iwi and hapū to exercise kāwanatanga and rangatiratanga.</p> <p>↑ Would help to achieve consistency with other legislation that relates to local government, such as the Water Services Entities Act and Natural and Built Environments Act.</p> <p>↑ Creates an opportunity for councils to do things in new ways.</p> <p>↓ Lack of clarity as to what being a Te Tiriti partner means in practice for councils.</p> <p>↓ May significantly raise expectations that councils don’t currently have the capacity or capability to meet.</p> <p>↓ Lack of clarity as to the difference between partnership and relationship.</p>
<p>#4 Introduce a statutory requirement for councils to develop partnership frameworks with hapū/iwi and Māori to give effect to</p>	<p>The LGA requires councils to maintain and improve opportunities for Māori to contribute to decision-making processes. It also requires councils to consider ways they may foster the development of Māori capacity to contribute to decision-making processes (Section 4, referring</p>	<p>↑ Councils given more certainty and clarity around the need for partnership with iwi/hapū/Māori. ? ?</p> <p>↑ Reflects work local government is already doing to</p> <p>What does “partnership” mean, and how is it different from “relationship”?</p>



<p>new Te Tiriti provisions in the Local Government Act 2002 that create new governance arrangements and complement existing ones.</p>	<p>to provisions in Parts 2 and 6 of the LGA). Section 4 describes these requirements as existing in order to recognise and respect the Crown’s responsibility to take account of the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.</p> <p>Currently there is no explicit requirement for councils to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti; or • Develop partnership frameworks with iwi/hapū/Māori. <p>Many councils already partner with or have relationships with iwi/hapū/Māori. However, approaches across the country are ad hoc and variable. Some approaches are formal, others more informal. This is partly because they need to reflect the unique circumstances of councils and iwi/hapū/Māori.</p> <p>The Panel says partnership should mean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared decision-making between hapū/iwi and councils in areas of shared priority that relate to Māori rights and interests. • Growing hapū/iwi capacity. • Creating the right conditions and spaces for councils and iwi and hapū to collaborate, tell stories of the places they are connected to and passionate about, and build a shared understanding of local whakapapa. • Māori citizens expressing their culturally specific preferences for services, representation, and participation. • Creating a greater level of transparency and accountability for both partners. <p>The Panel says partnership frameworks and the process for developing them could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlining the working relationship between councils and hapū/iwi and Māori. • Providing a mechanism to voice individual priorities and agree on joint priorities. This could include opportunities for iwi, hapū, or Māori organisations to deliver services relating to their values or priorities. • Confirming ways of working together to streamline council engagement practices, complement and strengthen existing and evolving arrangements (such as Treaty settlements), and collectively deliver greater outcomes to and for the community. • Confirming appropriate governance arrangements, including but not limited to hapū and iwi representation on the council. <p>Water services and resource management reforms create new opportunities for partnership between local government and iwi/hapū/Māori. Mana whenua representatives sit on the regional</p>	<p>partner with iwi/hapū/Māori. Putting in partnership frameworks might not be new for many councils but would enhance existing work and relationships.</p> <p>↑ Provides an opportunity for better alignment with water services and resource management reform.</p> <p>↑ Provides an opportunity to increase diversity of people involved in local government decision-making – to better reflect the diversity of communities.</p> <p>↑ Introducing a requirement for councils to give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti would be consistent with water services and resource management legislation.</p> <p>↓ Need the requirement to develop partnership frameworks with iwi/hapū/Māori to reflect the need for a range of approaches to partnership – one size fits all won’t work.</p> <p>↓ Lack of clarity around what partnership with iwi/hapū/Māori looks like and how partnership differs to a relationship – needs further work.</p> <p>↓ Lack of clarity around what local government giving effect to the principles of Te Tiriti means – needs further work.</p> <p>↓ Councils need additional resourcing to support them to develop capability and capacity to partner with iwi/hapū/Māori.</p> <p>↑ Capacity challenges for iwi/hapū/Māori may make it difficult for them to partner with local government – additional resourcing likely to be needed.</p>	<p>What are the things that concern you about partnering with iwi/hapū/Māori?</p> <p>What resourcing or support would your council need to grow its capacity and capability to partner with iwi/hapū/Māori?</p> <p>What elements do you think a partnership framework should capture?</p>
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	<p>representation groups established for the water services entities (50/50 local government and mana whenua representation). There will be a requirement for a minimum of two mana whenua representatives to sit on each of the regional planning committees. There's an opportunity to think about how these partnership arrangements are consistent with (and enable or undermine) existing partnership arrangements that councils have with iwi/hapū/Māori.</p> <p>The Water Services Entities Act and the Natural and Built Environments Act place a requirement on all persons performing duties, functions or powers under those Acts to give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. This recommendation presents an opportunity to align the LGA with those requirements.</p>
<p>#5 Central government leads a comprehensive review of requirements for engaging with Māori across legislation that impacts local government, considering opportunities to streamline or align those requirements.</p>	<p>Local government is a creature of statute, with legislation setting out councils' obligations. Different pieces of legislation set out different obligations for engaging with iwi, hapū and Māori.</p> <p>This recommendation identifies an opportunity to align all obligations on councils and achieve more consistency. It presents an opportunity to make sure engagement works for both local government and for iwi/hapū/Māori, who are overburdened by multiple requests from central and local government agencies.</p> <p>The Panel sees reviewing existing engagement requirements as an opportunity for Māori to contribute to decision-making in ways that are more consistent with the notion of partnership.</p> <p>↑ Opportunity to minimise duplication of engagement efforts and streamline processes – particularly across different legislation (for example, the LGA, NBA/SPA, the Reserves Act etc). ? ? How could central and local government better align their engagement with iwi/hapū/Māori?</p> <p>↑ Opportunity to address the burden of engagement and advisory requests on iwi/hapū/Māori from central and local government agencies, including opportunities for central and local government to better coordinate and align engagement activity. Would your council benefit from taking a more coordinated approach to engagement with iwi/hapū/Māori?</p> <p>↓ May lead to even greater demands being placed on iwi/hapū/Māori, particularly if stronger engagement requirements are put in place.</p> <p>↓ Looking only at legislation affecting local government may not adequately address the problem.</p> <p>↑ Any arrangements put in place must be sufficiently flexible to recognise the unique circumstances of iwi/hapū/Māori and councils across the motu.</p>
<p>#6 Amend the Local Government Act 2002 to require councils (elected members and chief executives) to prioritise and invest in developing and strengthening their capability and capacity in the areas of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, te ao Māori values, mātauranga Māori, tikanga, and the whakapapa of local government in order to make local government a better Te Tiriti partner.</p>	<p>This recommendation recognises that if local government is to be a Te Tiriti partner and have additional obligations to partner with iwi/hapū/Māori, then local government's capability and capacity in Te Tiriti o Waitangi, te ao Māori values, mātauranga Māori, tikanga and the whakapapa of local government must be developed.</p> <p>Many councils are already working hard to build their capability and capacity in these areas but are at different stages and have varying abilities to resource this effort. That means there must be sufficient flex in any legislative requirements.</p> <p>↑ Most councils already provide Te Tiriti training opportunities to both staff and elected members. This recommendation would strengthen existing work. ? ? Do there need to be ways to ensure elected members access appropriate training and development?</p> <p>↑ Introducing this requirement would help to ensure all councils have access to training and development opportunities in this area. What additional resourcing might be needed to support councils to fulfil these requirements? Could there be a role for LGNZ and Taituarā to assist with providing training and development?</p> <p>↑ If other related recommendations are adopted, investing in capability and capacity would help ensure that councils are able to fulfil the obligations they propose.</p>



<p>#7 Initiate a reorganisation of local government to strengthen, support, and resource councils to plan for and respond to increasing challenges and opportunities, and to set local government up for a more complex future.</p>	<p>The Panel recommends giving councils and chief executives specific responsibility to develop and maintain the capability of both council staff and elected members.</p>	<p>↑ May present opportunities for councils to work with local iwi/hapū/Māori providers of training and development.</p> <p>↑ Opportunity for council staff and elected members to develop new skills, experience and confidence.</p> <p>↓ May be expensive for small councils to deliver.</p> <p>↓ Challenges in accessing training providers with relevant experience.</p> <p>↓ Challenges for elected members to find time to invest in training and development on top of other council work and commitments outside of council. Similar challenges for council staff to find time to invest in training and development.</p> <p>↓ Relies on elected members choosing to participate/engage with training.</p>	<p>Are there any other actions that should be taken to support the capability and capacity of local government to be a better Te Tiriti Partner?</p>
	<p>Right now there are 78 local authorities in Aotearoa: 11 regional authorities, 61 territorial authorities and six unitary authorities. There are 110 community boards across the country – though not every council has community boards. Auckland Council has 21 local boards, which are different from community boards.</p> <p>The Panel recommends looking at local government’s future form and structure. This includes types of structure, roles and functions, and governance arrangements.</p> <p>The Panel suggests that local government needs to be reorganised so it can fulfil its purpose of ensuring local democracy, promoting intergenerational wellbeing and building Te Tiriti partnerships.</p> <p>The Panel recommends any reorganisation be guided by five principles, to manage the tension between centralism and localism. These five principles are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local: There is local, place-based decision-making and leadership. That includes local influence on decisions made about the area at a regional and national level. • Subsidiarity: Roles and functions should be delivered as close to the relevant community as possible, and the structure should enable this. • Resourced: Local government entities have the right people, skillsets and resources – or the ability to generate the funding needed. • Partnership: Local government entities have flexibility to partner with each other and with other parties to effectively and efficiently 	<p>↑ Panel is clear that councils need to reach decisions with their communities about appropriate structures – a one-size-fits-all approach won’t work. x ✓</p> <p>↑ An opportunity to revisit and enhance the role of community and local boards for providing local voice, input and decision-making.</p> <p>↑ Reorganisation may address funding pressures currently facing councils.</p> <p>↑ Would create scale – which has benefits for investment, service delivery, access to and retention of staff.</p> <p>↑ Central government would potentially invest more in local government if there were fewer entities to invest in.</p> <p>↑ Alignment between central government agencies and local government would be easier to achieve central government agencies had to align with fewer entities.</p> <p>↑ Would help to achieve greater alignment with water services entities and regional planning committees.</p> <p>↑ Provides an opportunity to consider whether existing structures enhance local democracy, promote intergenerational wellbeing and enable Te Tiriti-</p>	<p>Do you agree existing structures need to change?</p> <p>Do you agree with the five principles for reorganisation the Panel has identified? Are there any principles missing?</p> <p>What do you think the advantages and disadvantages of each of the two models that the Panel has proposed are?</p> <p>How could the two models the Panel proposes be improved?</p> <p>The Panel only suggests two options. Should any other options be on the table?</p> <p>Would you consider reorganisation if it made increasing local government’s funding more palatable for central government?</p> <p>What happens if communities think the status quo (including funding) is working?</p>

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	<p>share decision-making and delivery of services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economies of scope: Local government entities use economies of scope and combine resources and expertise where appropriate so that services and functions are delivered to a high standard. <p>The Panel also says that any new system of local government needs to be Te Tiriti-consistent.</p> <p>The Panel is clear that councils must lead any structural change. It will not work if centralised decisions are made about which structure should be implemented in a particular area. The Panel suggests councils in each region should start by working together, alongside hapū/iwi and communities, to determine which structure and operating model best meets local needs. While regional discussions are a starting point, the Panel suggests some new councils may end up forming sub-regional clusters.</p> <p>The Panel also identifies an opportunity to think about how new local government structures could align with other structural reforms, including the introduction of 15 regional planning committees and potentially 10 water services entities.</p> <p>The Panel suggests two models for the structure of new councils. These are a unitary model and a combined network model.</p> <p>Unitary model</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One council has responsibility for all local government roles and functions in an agreed region or sub-region, including those currently carried out by regional councils and territorial authorities. • One-stop-shop approach allows for joined-up back-office processes and systems, and for activities that are not locally specific to be delivered at scale. • New unitary councils operate in a way that supports locally specific decision-making, place-shaping, service delivery, and resource allocation. This includes locating staff and resources in local communities rather than concentrating them in one centre. • Unitary councils can devolve roles and functions to local or community entities as appropriate, including to hapū and iwi. • Unitary councils should make use of local or community boards and ward committees – but existing forms of local or community boards are reassessed. • Community members elect ward councillors and a mayor to the new unitary council. There may also be members appointed by hapū or iwi in the rohe if agreed as part of Te Tiriti-based appointments. • Decisions about the number of councillors, the number of general and Māori wards, and the number of members there are in each 	<p>based partnership.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Potential to erode local voice. ↓ Large, complex organisations and multiple layers of bureaucracy could become difficult for communities to engage with. ↓ Larger organisations may not align well with rohe boundaries. ↓ Reorganisation processes are likely to be contentious. ↓ Councils in a region may have conflicting views on appropriate reorganisation arrangements. 	<p>What should happen if councils and communities can't reach agreement on any structural change?</p> <p>Do you agree with the Panel that reorganisation of local government should happen in tranches/a staged way?</p> <p>Are you on board with exploring reorganisation if ultimately all you're committing to is having a conversation with your community about what their views are?</p>
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ward are made locally.

The Panel's view is that this is a simple structure but will take more work to ensure that councils deliver well at place for their communities.

Combined network model

- Local councils retain focus on place-based delivery and decision-making, and work with other partners to address opportunities and challenges in their areas. A combined council carries out functions that affect the whole region or require specialist capability, and gives access to economies of scale. It also provides backbone support for its local councils by providing shared services where agreed (for example, IT).
- Local councils are responsible for activities that have a place-shaping component and raise the wellbeing of their communities. They provide leadership on local issues, deliver local services and local infrastructure, and set local rates. They also facilitate collaboration in their locality and the region.
- Combined councils are responsible for current regional council functions, particularly those which have a strong environmental management focus but also other issues that cross local borders. They also carry out other roles or functions on behalf of the whole region, where appropriate and agreed by local councils. They work with central government and hapū/iwi to determine regional priorities and make co-investment decisions with local councils.
- A local council may also carry out particular roles or functions on behalf of all councils in the network.
- Members of the community would elect ward councillors and a mayor of their local council. There may also be members appointed by hapū or iwi in the rohe if agreed as part of Te Tiriti-based appointments.
- Each local council would appoint elected members (usually including the mayor) to the combined council. There may also be members appointed by hapū or iwi in the rohe if agreed as part of Te Tiriti-based appointments. One member of the combined council would be appointed as chairperson.

Because the combined network model retains local councils, it's easier to see how it would support place-based approaches. But strong relationships would be needed between all councils in a network to realise the broader benefits of this model.

If the combined network model was adopted there's a live question about whether all existing councils should be kept as they are.



<p>#8 Establish a dedicated Crown department to facilitate a more effective working relationship between local and central government that focuses on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ a relational-based operating model to align priorities, roles, and funding ▶ brokering place-based approaches and agreements to address complex challenges and opportunities ▶ research, development, and innovation capability that equips local government to maximise intergenerational wellbeing for its communities. 	<p>The way forward</p> <p>The Panel has only put two structure models on the table. There could be other, better models. The models put forward by the Panel could also be tweaked.</p> <p>The Panel is clear that councils, working collaboratively at the regional level and with their communities, should decide which model will work best for them.</p> <p>The Panel’s view is that all councils need to choose one of the two models or the alternative – including existing unitary councils. It has recommended that reorganisation of councils happens in tranches.</p> <p>Before running local processes to determine the best structures, central and local government officials need to work through the specific process and mechanics for undertaking a reorganisation. This would include securing central government funding and making required legislative changes.</p>		
	<p>At the moment, many central government agencies work closely with local government to deliver outcomes at the local level. The Department of Internal Affairs has lead responsibility for the Government’s relationship with local government. It oversees local government legislation and policy, rates, local elections and the Local Government Commission. DIA works closely with other agencies that affect or influence local government, such as the Ministry for the Environment, the Ministry of Transport, Waka Kotahi, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, and Kainga Ora.</p> <p>To support its recommendations around central and local government collaborating at place to address and invest in communities’ wellbeing needs, the Panel recommends establishing a dedicated Crown department.</p> <p>The Panel’s view is that a new Crown department would help to break down existing structural barriers to working together. It would help aggregate the many government departments involved in delivering local outcomes.</p> <p>The Panel suggests the Crown department should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support agencies to join up on regional priorities and issues, providing a single and consistent central government presence when working at place with councils. • Build leadership capability that supports collaboration across central and local government. • Expedite the use of approaches like place-based agreements. • Provide a forum for ongoing discussion and resolution between central government and councils about allocating roles and 	<p>↑ Dedicated focus on the relationship between central and local government, including working together at place. ?</p> <p>↑ May help to achieve better alignment across the range of central government agencies that work with local government. ?</p> <p>↓ A new department could duplicate the work of existing central government agencies – or lead to further siloes.</p> <p>↓ Potential confusion as to where responsibilities sit across central government agencies.</p> <p>↓ Could undermine existing working relationships.</p> <p>↓ Costs of setting up a new department could be seen by as an investment in bureaucracy.</p> <p>↑ Doesn’t necessarily lead to improvements in the relationship between central and local government politicians – if the focus is on agency relationships.</p>	<p>How much do you think a new department with a dedicated focus on central and local government’s relationship would improve that relationship?</p> <p>Are there other ways of improving the relationship between local government and central government agencies?</p> <p>How should this new department interact with existing agencies like DIA and the new Spatial Planning Office?</p>



<p>#9 Establish a new local government stewardship institution to strengthen the health and fitness of the system. This entity should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ provide care for and oversight of the local government system, including the health of local democracy and local government’s future-fit capability and capacity ▶ foster common purpose and relationships ▶ support and enable the health of 	<p>functions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support consistent and more deliberate data collection and analysis, at a place-based level. • Develop research and innovation capability that maximises local government’s contribution to the intergenerational wellbeing of its communities. • Assess and inform policies that affect local government or where local government can make a greater contribution to national priorities. <p>The Panel says that to carry out these functions effectively, the new department must have the status and authority to convene multiple central government agencies. That’s because it would need to resolve strategic policy or cross-cutting issues in the relationship between central and local government.</p> <p>The Panel’s report doesn’t address whether this Crown department should be separate from DIA. Some of DIA’s functions are in the list of functions the Panel thinks the Crown department should perform, others have been identified as ones the proposed stewardship institution could perform. DIA has some remaining local government functions whose future home remains unclear (eg for local government legislation).</p> <p>There’s also an opportunity to think about how this proposed department could align with the Spatial Planning Office that is being established to support the interdepartmental Spatial Planning Board. This is a board of central government agency chief executives that will have an interest in the process and outcomes of the new regional spatial planning approach – which is in part intended to deliver more joined up investment in regional growth by central and local government (in partnership with mana whenua).</p>			
	<p>The Panel has recommended creating a new independent local government stewardship institution to strengthen the health and fitness of the local government system.</p> <p>Currently there are a number of different players that have local government stewardship roles including DIA, the Local Government Commission, LGNZ and Taituarā. Each organisation plays different roles and brings a different lens. The range of organisations involved in stewardship means that there’s no clear high-level picture of what is good and needed for the local government system as a whole. Instead, there’s a complex, overlapping and often disjointed web of roles and responsibilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ Would fill a gap in local government’s legislative architecture, as there is no quality control or agency able to take a “whole of government” view. ↑ An independent institution could provide an unfettered assessment of the health and fitness of the system and view of local government’s needs. ↑ Opportunity to be innovative and create a new institution that is not bound by current or institutional forms. ↑ Stewardship agency could provide more focus and resource dedicated to growing local government 	<p>?</p> <p>?</p>	<p>Do you think local government needs a stewardship institution? What should a stewardship institution focus on?</p> <p>Are there any alternatives to creating a new, standalone institution? Could LGNZ, Taituarā and the Local Government Commission be resourced to provide some of the stewardship functions?</p>



<p>the Māori–local government relationship ▶ incorporate the current roles and responsibilities of the Local Government Commission.</p>	<p>The Panel has suggested that the new institution would build on existing work by central and local government agencies, and that its stewardship priorities should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversight and care for the health and fitness of the local government system. • Building capability and capacity of the local government system. • Fostering relationships and driving towards a common purpose. • Supporting and enabling the health of the iwi/hapū/Māori relationship. • Incorporating the functions of the Local Government Commission. <p>The Panel also recommends that the stewardship institution should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have responsibility for guiding and supporting the Panel’s proposed structural reform process. • Provide governance support to councils, including support for code of conduct matters, and advice to ministers. • Play a role in future representation reviews. • Assess the cumulative impact of central government decisions on the local government system. • Design a governance framework to support the local government system. <p>The Panel says existing sector organisations don’t have the resources or mandates to fulfil these functions and roles.</p> <p>The Panel proposes that the stewardship institution work alongside a new Crown department focused on facilitating the relationship between central and local government.</p> <p>The Panel recommends that the independent stewardship institution have a reputation and standing akin to a parliamentary officer (without this necessarily being vested in an individual), leaving open the possibility of a new, innovative form.</p>	<p>capacity and capability in certain areas – including those needed to support system change.</p> <p>↓ Has the potential to duplicate functions performed by existing central government agencies, such as the Office of the Auditor-General.</p> <p>↓ Considerable cost involved in setting up any institution.</p> <p>↓ Level of investment required means it may not actually be independent.</p> <p>↓ Need for more certainty around how any stewardship institution would interact with the proposed Crown agency (see recommendation 8).</p> <p>↓ Independence may result in actual or perceived failure by the institution to meet local government’s needs.</p> <p>↓ Any investment by local government in setting up the new institution may impact the level to which local government can invest in its own membership organisations.</p>	<p>How do we ensure that any stewardship agency is independent?</p>
<p>#10 Local government and councils develop and invest in democratic innovations, including participatory and deliberative democracy processes.</p>	<p>LGNZ’s vision is for New Zealand to be the most active and inclusive local democracy in the world. Through our engagement on the Future for Local Government, we’ve heard that councils want their communities to be more actively engaged with local government.</p> <p>Councils’ engagement and consultation with communities is currently guided by the provisions in Part 6 of the LGA. These provisions can reduce those processes to compliance exercises, rather than deep and meaningful engagements and collaborations.</p> <p>Greater use of participatory and deliberative democracy processes could more actively involve a range of communities in decision-making in innovative ways and ramp up engagement. Participatory democracy</p>	<p>↑ Likely to increase engagement with and participation in local government – which in turn is likely to increase voter turnout. ✓</p> <p>↑ Participatory and deliberative democracy processes can be tailored to meet communities’ unique needs and circumstances.</p> <p>↑ They would help increase engagement with diverse groups that can be under-represented (eg Māori, Pasifika, youth, lower socio-economic groups).</p> <p>↑ May help to strengthen trust in local democracy.</p> <p>?</p>	<p>What stops councils using participatory and deliberative democracy processes?</p> <p>What would help or support your council to make greater use of participatory and deliberative democracy processes?</p> <p>How else could councils get more citizens engaged and</p>



<p>#11 Enhance local democracy in order to increase access and representation by:</p> <p>▶ adopting ranked voting (also known as single transferrable vote or STV) as nationwide method for local elections</p>	<p>processes enable any citizen to voice their opinion on a particular topic. Deliberative democracy processes involve a representative sample of the population responding to a particular question.</p> <p>Many councils are already using these processes. For example, the Bay of Plenty Regional Council has used participatory budgeting, and Horowhenua District Council has set up citizens' panels.</p> <p>While there's nothing in the LGA stopping councils from using participatory or deliberative democracy processes, changes to the LGA would support and encourage greater use of them, as well as making engagement less of a compliance exercise.</p>	<p>↓ Participatory and deliberative democracy processes can be costly and time consuming.</p> <p>↓ Some councils don't have the capacity or capability right now to engage in new and different ways with their communities.</p> <p>↓ There's not currently a good level of understanding of the processes that could be used – more sharing of best practice is needed.</p>		<p>interested in local government/local decision-making?</p>
<p>#11 Enhance local democracy in order to increase access and representation by:</p> <p>▶ lowering the voting age for local elections to 16.</p>	<p>Right now councils can decide which voting system they use in local body elections – either Single Transferable Vote (STV) or First Past the Post (FPP).</p> <p>FPP involves voters using a tick to indicate their chosen candidate/s. The candidate/s with the most votes are elected. Under STV, voters use numbers to rank candidates in order of preference. Fifteen councils used the STV voting method in 2022, up from 11 in 2019.</p> <p>The Panel says STV better represents voters' choices because a vote is transferred if a preferred candidate does not succeed. This transfer of votes avoids wasted ballots. Early research demonstrates that STV leads to improvements in the representation of women. However, the representative benefits of STV work best when there is a large pool of candidates and wards, with more than one seat being contested.</p> <p>The Panel recognises STV is not well understood by voters. It recommends changing its name to something like 'ranked choice voting'.</p>	<p>↑ Consistent local body voting systems across the country would help build understanding and reduce confusion.</p> <p>↑ Likely to result in greater diversity around council tables. This would likely increase community engagement and participation – particularly by traditionally under-represented communities.</p> <p>↑ Having more wards might mean more candidates stand, and prompt councils to take new approaches to their representation arrangements.</p> <p>↓ Removes the flexibility for councils to make a choice about which voting system they want to use.</p> <p>↓ There is public confusion and lack of understanding about STV. FPP is a more straightforward system for voters.</p> <p>↑ Introducing new voting systems may be costly for councils.</p>	<p>?</p> <p>?</p>	<p>What would make it easier for your council to introduce STV?</p> <p>Is there value in taking a national approach to local government's voting system?</p> <p>Are there other changes that would increase diversity around the council table and voter turnout?</p>
	<p>The current minimum voting age for both local and general elections is 18. There have been calls to lower the voting age to 16, including through the Make it 16 campaign.</p> <p>The Government recently introduced the Electoral (Lowering Voting Age for Local Elections and Polls) Legislation Bill. If passed, the Bill would enable 16- and 17-year olds to vote and stand in local elections and vote in local polls. 16- and 17-year olds would remain ineligible to vote or be candidates in licencing trust elections, national referenda and general elections.</p> <p>Any progress on this Bill will depend on the incoming government.</p>	<p>↑ More diverse people engage with and participate in local government.</p> <p>↑ Presents an opportunity to think about introducing and investing in civics education.</p> <p>↑ Opportunity to test whether lowering the voting age increases participation in elections.</p> <p>↑ Provides an opportunity to grow understanding of what local government is and does.</p>	<p>?</p> <p>?</p>	<p>Should the voting age be the same for local and central government elections?</p> <p>Would you support lowering the voting age if that was accompanied by civics education?</p> <p>How else could we increase young people's engagement with and participation in local government?</p>



<p>#11 Enhance local democracy in order to increase access and representation by: ► providing for a four-year local electoral term</p>	<p>The voting age for local elections is currently 16 in Wales, Scotland and Austria.</p> <p>The Panel has recommended lowering the voting age to 16 as one way to ensure that youth are represented in local democracy.</p> <p>Many councils already facilitate young people’s input into local government decision-making, including through youth councils and youth panels.</p> <p>There is no formal requirement in New Zealand for younger people to receive civics education.</p>	<p>↓ Local government being treated as a ‘guinea pig’ and potential for inconsistent approaches between general and local elections.</p> <p>↓ Lowering the voting age might not increase participation in local body elections if not coupled with civics education.</p> <p>↑ Some people think 16- and 17-year olds lack the skills, experience and knowledge to vote and stand for election or are strongly influenced by parents/peers.</p>			
	<p>Councils are currently elected to represent their communities for a three-year term. Governments are also elected for a three-year term.</p> <p>There’s growing debate here and overseas about whether three-year terms give councils and governments enough time to deliver for their communities.</p> <p>Four years is the most common length of term for councils in comparable overseas jurisdictions: Scotland, England, most of Canada and a number of Australian states. In some parts of the world, it’s five years.</p> <p>We’ve heard from some of you that if local government terms shifted to three years so should central government, to ensure alignment between central and local government planning and decision-making cycles.</p> <p>Significant constitutional changes such as this usually require a broad political consensus and significant community engagement. While likely to be supported by both major parties, a four-year term for central and local government is likely to attract criticism and so central government are likely to be cautious in implementing this recommendation.</p>	<p>↑ Would give councils more time to get things done and deliver good outcomes for their communities. ✓</p> <p>↑ Would probably encourage decision-making focused on the longer-term.</p> <p>↑ May encourage greater turnout in local body elections.</p> <p>↓ May be seen as limiting turnover (and therefore diversity of views) of elected members.</p> <p>↓ There are challenges if central and local government planning and decision-making cycles don’t align.</p> <p>↓ May lead to less interest in (and engagement with) local government.</p> <p>↓ May lead to more by-elections, with associated costs and other impacts.</p> <p>↓ Dysfunctional councils would have a greater impact and erode public trust to a greater degree.</p>	<p>?</p>	<p>Is a four-year term the right length?</p> <p>Do you think local and central government terms should be the same length?</p> <p>If the local government term was increased, should there be any changes to the current powers of the minister to assist or intervene when there are problems with management or governance?</p>	
<p>#11 Enhance local democracy in order to increase access and representation by: ► enabling Te Tiriti-based appointments to councils</p>	<p>The Panel says Te Tiriti-based partnership will be significantly enhanced if iwi and hapū are represented at the council table. It recommends legislative change to allow for Te Tiriti-based appointments to councils as well as the development of policy and processes to support this change.</p> <p>The Panel says it made this recommendation because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representative mechanisms based solely on the Western ideal of proportional democracy cannot always provide a level of influence consistent with a Te-Tiriti based partnership. • The collective, political authority aspect of rangatiratanga is predominantly held and exercised by hapū/iwi, and Māori wards were not designed to ensure representation of mana whenua or 	<p>↑ A meaningful way to give effect to Te Tiriti-based partnership. ?</p> <p>↑ Would increase the diversity of views around the council table.</p> <p>↑ Flexibility for hapū and iwi to participate in this way if they wish, rather than it being mandatory reflects that circumstances and preferences will vary between hapū and iwi.</p>	<p>?</p>	<p>How could concerns about the democratic implications of these appointments be addressed?</p> <p>What else could give effect to a Te Tiriti-based partnership between local government and hapū, iwi and Māori?</p>	



	<p>kaupapa-based groups.</p> <p>Te Tiriti-based appointments essentially mean that mana whenua representatives could be appointed to councils – as opposed to being democratically elected.</p> <p>Te Tiriti-based appointments are not unprecedented. Under the Canterbury Regional Council (Ngāi Tahu Representation) Act 2022, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu can appoint up to two members of the Environment Canterbury Council. These members have full decision-making powers.</p> <p>The Panel has suggested that if members are appointed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They should receive the same remuneration as other members. • Hapū and iwi should determine who is appointed (although the numbers of members may be set through a different process). • Hapū and iwi participation should not be mandatory but the invitation should be extended. 	<p>↑ Enhances steps councils are already taking to work in partnership with hapū, iwi and Māori.</p> <p>↓ Could be seen as eroding local democracy.</p> <p>↓ May create implementation challenges if there are multiple hapū and iwi in the area.</p> <p>↓ Would generate additional costs for councils.</p> <p>↓ Accountability mechanisms are unclear.</p> <p>↑ Hapū and iwi may find it difficult to take on additional responsibilities given existing resourcing and capacity challenges.</p>			
<p>#11 Enhance local democracy in order to increase access and representation by:</p> <p>▸ lowering the threshold for the establishment of Māori wards</p>	<p>Māori wards (for territorial authorities) and constituencies (for regional councils) provide an opportunity for Māori to have culturally specific, proportionate representation in their area. All councils must consider whether Māori wards should be established in their areas, although it is not mandatory to have them.</p> <p>At the 2022 local body elections, 35 councils had Māori wards or constituencies.</p> <p>This recommendation is about retaining Māori wards and constituencies, and making it easier for councils to establish them. The Local Electoral Act 2001 sets out a formula for establishing Māori wards, which takes account of numbers on the Māori roll, the normally resident Māori population and the existing number of councillors.</p> <p>The Panel doesn't make any specific recommendations as to the threshold for establishing Māori wards. One option is to come up with a formula that gives less weight to the size of the governing body.</p> <p>As well as recommending lowering the threshold for establishing Māori wards, the Panel recommended Te Tiriti-based appointments to councils (Recommendation 11). The Panel's rationale is that while Māori wards support proportional representation, they are not sufficient for Te Tiriti-based partnership at the council table. This is because Māori wards and constituencies were not designed to provide for representation of hapū and iwi or significant kaupapa-based groups.</p>	<p>↑ Consistent with growing levels of support across the motu for Māori wards and constituencies.</p> <p>↑ Would increase diversity around council tables and encourage more diversity of communities engaging with and participating in local government.</p> <p>↓ Māori wards and constituencies don't provide for representation of hapū or iwi.</p> <p>↓ Some hapū and iwi prefer Te Tiriti based appointments to wards/constituencies.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>?</p>	<p>Are Māori wards and constituencies the most effective mechanism for involving Māori in decision-making?</p> <p>Should we place greater emphasis on this recommendation, or the recommendation to introduce Te Tiriti-based appointments?</p>
<p>#12 Local and central government coinvest to build adaptive leadership capability focusing on:</p>	<p>The Panel says that to deliver change, leadership capability needs to be strengthened across both local and central government.</p> <p>The Panel identifies four areas where co-investment by central and local</p>	<p>↑ Recognises that both central and local government will need support to transition to new ways of working.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>How could this recommendation align with the Panel's suggestion that a local</p>



<p>▶ leading change and system renewal ▶ valuing civic leadership and public service ▶ partnership and collaboration ▶ innovation and experimentation.</p>	<p>government would drive the changes it recommends. These include investing in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growing, supporting and developing leaders in local government (particularly CEs and also council staff) who are open to learning, taking calculated risks and trying new things. • Maintaining, valuing and recognising the importance of civic leadership and public service. This is about embedding the ethos of public service in the culture and values of councils. • Supporting people in local government to develop skills around building relationships, partnerships and collaboration. The Panel saw this as an opportunity for central and local government to think about how they can better share people and collaborate on development, through things like secondments, partnerships and shared training. • Building a culture and risk appetite for embracing new technology and innovative ways of doing things. <p>The report doesn't go into detail on what the investment to support these four areas could look like, or how investment could be shared between central and local government.</p> <p>Many councils are already working to build skills, capability and capacity in these four areas. LGNZ and Taituarā also support councils' capability building. Supporting councils to develop in these areas is a key focus of LGNZ's Choose Localism mahi.</p>	<p>↑ Recognises central government needs to change the ways it's doing things for local government to make progress.</p> <p>↑ Enhances and supports the work councils, LGNZ and Taituarā are already doing in these areas – while recognising there's room to do more.</p> <p>↓ Lack of clarity around where the investment is most needed and what investment is required.</p> <p>↓ Building leadership capability and skills takes time – which has implications for councils' already significant workloads.</p> <p>↓ Some members of the public may see this as unnecessary investment in central and local government bureaucracy.</p> <p>↓ Local government's existing, significant funding pressures will make it difficult for it to invest more in these areas.</p>		<p>government stewardship agency should be created?</p> <p>Could central government invest in enabling LGNZ and Taituarā to enhance the work they're already doing to support councils develop (which would be a cheaper option)?</p> <p>Are there any other areas where we need to invest to build leadership capability?</p>
<p>#13 In order to prioritise and deliver on wellbeing, central government makes a greater investment in local government through: ▶ significant funding to support local priorities, place-based agreements, and devolution of roles.</p>	<p>This is another idea for how the funding pressures facing councils could be alleviated.</p> <p>This recommendation is less about a direct transfer of funding to councils, and more about how central government investments align with councils' investments in local needs and priorities, and how it invests in councils' capacity and capability to deliver.</p> <p>This recommendation presents an opportunity to think about how central government could invest in councils by enabling them to deliver certain services on behalf of central government at the local level.</p> <p>This option alone is unlikely to fully address funding pressures.</p>	<p>↑ Recognises that local government's proximity to its communities means it's best placed to make decisions about what investments are needed.</p> <p>↑ Creates better alignment between central and local government investment.</p> <p>↑ Helps to minimise duplication of investment.</p> <p>↑ Presents an opportunity to think about devolving roles to local government.</p> <p>↓ Potential for funding commitments by central government to relate to their priorities rather than genuinely reflect local priorities/needs.</p> <p>↓ Likely to introduce greater need for compliance with central government reporting/accountability obligations, which may have impacts on local government workload.</p>	<p>✓ ?</p>	<p>What might make it difficult to align investment priorities with central government?</p> <p>Are there any particular areas where you think aligned investment would be helpful (eg transport, infrastructure, community services)?</p>
<p>#13 In order to prioritise and deliver on wellbeing, central government</p>	<p>Local government faces a significant funding challenge – it simply does not have enough funding to meet growing expectations from</p>	<p>↑ Provides councils with additional funding to deliver services to meet the needs of current and future</p>	<p>✓ ✗</p>	<p>Do you think that an annual transfer of \$1 billion is</p>



<p>makes a greater investment in local government through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ an annual transfer of revenue equivalent to GST charged on rates 	<p>communities and central government, nor deal with pressures like climate change, growth and tourism.</p> <p>Councils receive most of their funding through rates. As cost-of-living pressures increase, councils face growing pressure from their communities to keep rates down, but councils' costs are increasing.</p> <p>Successive reviews have recommended many changes to local government funding –but have had limited uptake of those recommendations by successive governments.</p> <p>The Panel recommends that central government provide councils with an annual transfer of funds to councils. The Panel suggests that, as a starting point, central government establish a \$1 billion per annum funding transfer, with this amount to be reviewed annually.</p> <p>The Panel suggests \$1 billion a year for two main reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It's large enough to make an impact. It's approximately equivalent to the Provincial Growth Fund, which distributed about \$3 billion over three years. • It's also roughly equivalent to the amount that property owners paid in GST on their rates during 2021/22. <p>The Panel suggests that councils use this funding to pay for locally defined priorities and projects that support intergenerational wellbeing and local democracy but might not otherwise be funded. The Panel is clear that funding should be distributed equitably, and that councils should be accountable for how they spend the money.</p> <p>While additional funding would make a difference to local government, more money doesn't directly address the unfunded mandate issue. There's a risk that along with increasing funding central government would lump more responsibility to deliver services and meet statutory obligations on councils. Any increase in funding should also come with clear requirements for central government to consider the funding and resourcing implications of any decisions that affect councils (see also recommendation #16).</p> <p>This option alone is unlikely to fully address councils' funding pressures.</p>	<p>generations – and helps alleviate existing funding pressures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ Requires central government to invest in local government. ↓ A risk that funding is distributed on a competitive basis – which creates additional work and resourcing burdens for councils. ↓ Unlikely to be sufficient to address the significant funding pressures that councils are facing. ↓ Doesn't address the unfunded mandate issue, in terms of whether councils actually have adequate resources to meet additional obligations imposed on them. ↓ Could result in greater restrictions on how councils conduct their business, and increased reporting and accountability requirements. 	<p>sufficient? How would you determine an appropriate amount?</p> <p>Should this funding be 'earmarked' for certain council activities, or should councils be able to spend it as they please?</p> <p>How should this funding be allocated? For example, should it be on a competitive basis or an equitable basis (like a formula), or a subsidy for specific activities (like the Transport Financial Assistance Rate)?</p> <p>What are other options for increasing the funding available to local government?</p>
<p>#14 Central government pays rates on Crown property</p>	<p>This recommendation is another option the Panel identifies for increasing local government's funding.</p> <p>Currently, central government agencies pay limited or no rates and charges on their properties. Successive local government funding reviews have recommended this change but it has never been implemented. In some areas, some central government agencies pay targeted rates for sewerage (wastewater), water, and rubbish collection if they are separately charged by the local council.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ This would be a good faith step by central government and show commitment to a more equitable funding model. ↑ Would address perceived funding power imbalances between central and local government. ↑ Would help to alleviate some of the funding pressures on councils by providing a new source of revenue. 	<p>✓ ?</p> <p>What about councils that don't have large amounts of Crown-owned land and capital improvements?</p>



<p>#15 Central government develops an intergenerational fund for climate change, with the application of the fund requiring appropriate regional and local decision-making.</p>	<p>The Panel recommends that central government pays rates and charges on its land and capital improvements. Legislative change would be needed to make this happen.</p> <p>This option alone is unlikely to fully address funding pressures.</p>	<p>↓ Potentially only benefits those districts/cities/regions with large amounts of Crown-owned land and capital improvements – so funding inequity issues remain.</p>			
	<p>This is another recommendation designed to address the funding pressures facing councils.</p> <p>Funding climate change action is a challenge for councils now and will become even bigger challenge in the future, as extreme weather events become more frequent and severe. Climate change is a challenge that councils and communities won't be able to fund on their own.</p> <p>For many years, there have been calls by local government (and others) for more funding to support climate change action at the local level.</p> <p>The Panel recommends that this fund be used for climate change adaptation action. They have left open the question of whether the fund should also apply to climate change mitigation.</p> <p>The Panel hasn't gone into great detail about how the fund should work, or what the level of funding contributed by central government should be. These issues are currently being considered through the Environment Committee inquiry into community-led retreat.</p>	<p>↑ Provides councils with additional funding to meet current and future climate change adaptation challenges.</p> <p>↑ A good example of a way in which central government could invest in action at the local level that supports it to realise national level objectives.</p> <p>↑ Local priorities informing investment decisions.</p> <p>↑ Has the potential to incentivise investment in proactive risk reduction.</p> <p>↓ Potential for inadequate funding of New Zealand's adaptation challenges.</p> <p>↓ Complexity in determining best use of the fund – including timing and level of investment in different projects.</p> <p>↓ Competitive funding processes create additional burdens for councils.</p> <p>↓ Could create false sense of security and disincentivise good land use planning decisions.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>?</p>	<p>What should be in scope for this kind of fund? Should it cover adaptation action only, or also capture mitigation?</p> <p>How should a fund like this be administered? What should criteria for accessing the funding be?</p>
<p>#16 Cabinet is required to consider the funding impact on local government of proposed policy decisions.</p>	<p>When making decisions that affect councils, there's currently no requirement for Cabinet to consider how the decision will impact local government's funding/resourcing. This means that decisions often impose new and additional requirements on councils that they cannot afford or don't have the resources to fulfil. This is known as an unfunded mandate and creates pressures on councils' existing budgets and resourcing.</p> <p>Introducing a requirement on Cabinet to consider the impacts of its decisions on local government's funding wouldn't necessarily translate to more funding for local government – Cabinet would need to agree to make more funding available. But it would result in greater scrutiny of the changes and requirements imposed on local government, and the support they need to fulfil them.</p> <p>As noted above, making additional funding available to councils should be coupled with this recommendation to ensure councils can meet any requirements imposed on them.</p>	<p>↑ Greater scrutiny of the requirements and responsibilities being placed on local government – and potential for increased funding to support councils to fulfil them.</p> <p>↑ Might help limit the number of additional responsibilities (without extra funding) being imposed on local government.</p> <p>↓ Requirement to consider funding impacts of decisions doesn't automatically result in additional funding being provided.</p> <p>↓ May require more reporting from local government to enable central government agencies to provide assessments to Cabinet – which could add to existing workloads.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>x</p>	<p>Are there any impacts (other than financial ones) you think Cabinet should be specifically required to consider when making decisions that affect councils?</p>



<p>#17 Central government commits to enabling the future transition with funding to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ resource a transition unit to support the change and system renewal of local government ▶ supplement local government capacity funding to enable hapū/iwi and Māori to partner with councils ▶ support councils to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ build Te Tiriti and te ao Māori capability and grow hapū/iwi and Māori relationships ▶ lift their immediate capacity and capability to innovatively deliver wellbeing priorities for their communities ▶ trial and grow participatory and deliberative democracy practices. 	<p>This recommendation suggests ways in which central government should provide funding and resourcing to support local government to transition to a new future, including resourcing the establishment of a transition unit and providing local government with additional funding to support hapū/iwi and Māori to build their capacity to partner with councils.</p> <p>It also suggests that central government needs to provide councils with additional resourcing to support them to build capability around Te Tiriti and te ao Māori, innovatively deliver wellbeing priorities, and trial and grow the use of participative and deliberative democracy processes.</p> <p>The Panel suggests that a transition unit should be established as a formal entity to start the reform programme, including leading work to establish the stewardship agency and Crown department that the Panel recommends, and setting the mechanics and legislative settings that would be needed to support reorganisation and realignment of local government. It also suggests that the transition unit looks at broader policy and budget changes that would be needed to support new ways of partnering between local government, central government, and hapū/iwi.</p> <p>The Panel recommends that before the transition unit is established, a steering group should be set up and resourced to scope the reform programme and establish the transition unit. It recommends that the steering group be chaired by a local government leader, play a key role in advising the incoming Government and reflect a genuine partnership between central and local government – including being supported by a joint team from across central and local government.</p> <p>LGNZ and Taituarā are already leading work with local government to think about what the reform programme could look like. LGNZ’s work to build a consensus position on the Panel’s report is a key part of this.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ Recognises that change to local government will require strong partnership between central and local government. ✓ ↑ Recognises the significant level of work and investment that will be needed to deliver the change that the Panel recommends. ↑ Resourcing councils to get on with work they can do ahead of legislative/system change (eg trialling use of participative and deliberative democracy and building Te Tiriti and te ao Māori capability). ↓ Some may view establishment of steering group and transition unit as unnecessary layers of bureaucracy/significant additional cost. ↓ May result in more ‘top down’ control of what local government’s future looks like – rather than giving local government the ability to shape its own future. ↓ Risks that steering group and transition unit processes will create additional work for councils. ↓ Perceptions that steering group and transition unit processes and bureaucracy can slow down progress. 	<p>?</p> <p>Do you think it would be useful to establish a steering group and transition unit along the lines the Panel has proposed?</p> <p>What could an alternative approach be? For example, could LGNZ and Taituarā be resourced to lead some of this work with local government instead?</p>
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9 Reports for Information

9.1 Update on the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan

Author: Carol Gordon, Group Manager - Democracy & Planning

Authoriser: Carol Gordon, Group Manager - Democracy & Planning

1. Reason for Report

1.1 To provide the Board with an update on progress with the 2024-34 Long Term Plan.

2. LTP Workshops

2.1 Since July 2023 Council has held six workshops with elected members.

2.2 Outcomes from these workshops include:

- Endorsed the officer suggestion to continue with a combined Finance / Infrastructure strategy.
- Council gave staff direction to not to have a formal pre-engagement process but to start socialising the LTP brand and messaging as soon as its developed.
- Population assumption - endorsed the Infometrics High scenario.
- Population distribution assumption - endorsed the distribution that aligns with the Community Spatial Plan.
- Commenced the review of the current strategic framework.
- Following a survey of elected members, the top two priorities identified were Roding and Town Centres.
- Agreed to form a Working Group to process the Marton Civic Centre process.
- Discussed future financial pressures and uncertainty.
- Set up a Working Group to review the Revenue & Financing Policy.
- Agreed on assumptions for the Future for Local Government (FFLG) review; 3 Waters and Resource Management Act (RMA) reforms.
- Gave input into the Environmental Scan document.
- Agreed on the LTP branding.
- Advised preference was to retain Developer Agreements and Council's current policy not to have a development contributions policy [noting this will be part of the simultaneous consultation in March].
- Noted there would be two externally facilitated workshops on 10 October for the review of the Significance & Engagement Policy.

3. Roadmap

- 3.1 Staff have developed an LTP roadmap, which is essentially a living document which gets updated regularly as priorities and tasks are completed or timing is altered. Refer to Attachment 1 for the latest copy of this roadmap.

4. Next Steps

- 4.1 During October staff will review all the capital and operational budgets. A first draft of these budgets will be presented to elected members in November.
- 4.2 In December elected members will review the first draft of the Consultation Document, with feedback due mid-late January.
- 4.3 The Audit team will start their review of the Consultation Document and all the supporting information at the end of January 2024.
- 4.4 It is envisaged that the formal submission period will be from 4 March to 31 March 2024.

5. Decision Making Process

- 5.1 There are no decisions to make in regard to this item, it is provided as an update to the Long Term Plan process currently underway.

Attachments:

1. **Roadmap to 2024 2034 LTP** [↓](#)

Recommendation

That the Update on the 2024-34 Long Term Plan report be received.

Roadmap - 2024-34 Long Term Plan

June	July	August	September	October	November	December
<p>Workshop – 15 June</p> <p>Topics: LTP 101 Population assumption</p> <p>Outcomes Reached:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreed to keep the combined approach for the infrastructure and financial strategies. Low-key pre-engagement with early socialising of an LTP brand Infometrics high population assumption. <p>Milestones for the month:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Agreement on population assumption 	<p>Workshop – 12 July</p> <p>Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic Direction Setting Passenger Transport over the next 10 years (Cr Wong) Discussion on High Street buildings <p>Outcomes Reached:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population distribution Initial review of strategic framework 3 actions for Marton Civic Centre <p>Milestones for the month:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Environmental Scan underway ✓ Direction for Marton CC 	<p>Workshop - 3 August</p> <p>Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finance 101 (Explanation of balanced budget; depreciation; debt; alt funding options) <p>Outcomes Reached:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial scene setting <p>Workshop - 24 August</p> <p>Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Scan Assumptions update (3 waters; FFLG) R&F Policy Introduction LTP timeframes Engagement Strategy Continuation of Strategic Direction Setting <p>Outcomes sought:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreement on engagement strategy <p>Outcomes Reached:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working Group to review Rev & Fin Policy (HWTM, Crs Dalgety, Wong, Wilson, Loudon, Calkin) Further input on Strategic Framework, including wellbeings, community outcomes Assumptions on 3 Waters, FFLG, RMA <p>Milestones for the month:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Environmental Scan completed ✓ Review of Rev & Fin Policy commenced 	<p>Workshop – 7 September</p> <p>Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roading 101 Groups of Activities (incl Levels of Service and performance measures TBC) Capex projects? Review of Rates Remission policy Working Group for Marton Civic Centre Review of Contributions Policy and Development Agreement <p>Workshop – 14 September</p> <p>Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to Group of Activities Topics for consultation Comms / engagement update Solid waste Forestry differential (to be part of Rev & Fin Review) <p>Milestones for the month:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmation of Council’s capex position Identification of any new roles (ELT) Agreed to continue with Development Agreements <p>Decisions required by Council:</p>	<p>Policy / Planning Committee – 12 October</p> <p>LTP Agenda Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of Significance & Engagement Policy, including review of Māori contribution to decision making Continuation of review of strategic direction <p>Outcomes sought:</p> <p>LTP Workshop - 19 October</p> <p>Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First review of Financial and Infrastructure Strategy Review of relevant Policies AMPs for council facilities, parks, solid waste, roading (overview) GoA discussion (incl maintenance of Taihape Reserves) Heritage discussion (Cr Loudon’s email) Swim centre extension of hours Discussion on all council halls (improvements?) Financial strategy – rates limits, including differentials and new targeted rates Key topics to consult on in CD (targeted rates?) <p>Milestones for the month:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ELT to review first draft of the Opex and Capex budget (11 Oct) <p>Decisions required by Council:</p>	<p>LTP Workshop - 9 November</p> <p>Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on QV Valuations AMPs for council facilities, parks, solid waste, roading (overview) [if not in Oct] <p>LTP Workshop – 23 November</p> <p>Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft LTP Financials Second Review of Financial and Infrastructure Strategy <p>Decisions required by Council: Approval of Roading AMP</p>	<p>LTP Workshop - 6 December – 1pm or 7 December – 9.30am</p> <p>Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft LTP Financials Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges <p>Milestones for the month:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft CD to Elected Members by the end of the month (Xmas reading) <p>Decisions required by Council:</p>

Roadmap - 2021-31 Long Term Plan

January	February	March	April	May	June	July
<p>LTP Workshop - 25 January</p> <p>Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final review of Consultation document <p>Audit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audit of CD and supporting information (wk of 29 Jan) 	<p>Council Meeting – 29 February</p> <p>Agenda Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt Consultation Document and Supporting Information <p>Audit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audit of CD and supporting information (wks of 5 and 12 Feb) 	<p>Formal consultation period (4 – 31 March)</p>	<p>Council meeting – mid April</p> <p>Agenda Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verbal hearings on submissions 	<p>Council meeting – 9 May</p> <p>Agenda Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliberations on submissions <p>Council meeting – 30 May</p> <p>Agenda Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adoption of Fees & Charges 	<p>6 June - Final audit before adoption</p> <p>Council meeting - 20 June</p> <p>Agenda Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adoption of LTP; rates resolution; etc 	<p>Publish LTP by 20 July</p>

Notes:

Items in *italics* are ones that have been completed.

Full agendas and notes are stored on bigtincan (for EMs).

Detailed key topics and workshop information - <http://intranet/RDCDoc/Strategic-Planning/Long-Term-Plans/LTP20242034/Proposed%20Workshop%20Dates%20and%20Content%20LTP.docx>

Anything highlighted in yellow is a change from the previous published version

9.2 Funding Schemes Update - September 2023

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Overview

- 1.1 Council currently administers four funding schemes for the Rangitikei District:
 - 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 Council allocated \$30,000 to this fund annually, to be distributed across two separate funding rounds.
- 2.3 Council allocated \$13,730 in round one at the Finance and Performance meeting on the 31 August 2023.
- 2.4 Round two for 2023/24 will open on 02 October 2023 and will close 01 March 2024.

3. Events Sponsorship 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 Council allocated \$18,470 in round one at the Finance and Performance meeting on the 31 August 2023.

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.

5. Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund

- 5.1 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.

- 5.2 Sport NZ typically allocates \$9,500 (+ GST) to the Rangitikei District Council on an annual basis. There is one funding round per year. This year the fund increased to \$12,825.
- 5.3 The funding round is open for applications 19 May 2023 and will close 04 April 2024.

6. Further Information

- 6.1 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 – September 2023 be received.

9.3 RDC Engagement and Consultations**Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor****1. Reason for Report**

- 1.1 Attached is the most recently updated schedule for RDC Engagement and Consultations. This schedule is updated on a monthly basis, prior to going to full Council for receipt.

2. RDC Website

- 2.1 Council's website lists all open and recently closed consultations (see the below weblink). This is also where individuals can make submissions.

<https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/council/consultation/current-consultations>

Attachments:

1. **RDC Engagement and Consultations Schedule - Updated August 2023** [↓](#)

Recommendation

That the report 'RDC Engagement and Consultations' be received.

Engagement / Consultations - 2023/24

RANGITĪKEI DISTRICT COUNCIL

TOPIC	Staff (Lead)	Elected Member (Lead)	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	
Three Waters	Arno						NEXT STEPS TO BE CONFIRMED									
Speed Management Plan (Urban and Rural)	Arno					Public Consultation										
Long Term Plan	Carol											Public Consultation				
Public Places Bylaw	Katrina					Public Consultation										
Control of Advertising Bylaw	Katrina					Public Consultation										
Trading in Public Places Bylaw	Katrina					Public Consultation										
Flying Drones in Council Parks	Katrina					Public Consultation										

Key

- Stakeholder Engagement (by other orgs)
- Stakeholder Engagement (RDC)
- Public Consultation
- Public Engagement
- Public Consultation (by Central Government)
- Local and national campaign

9.4 Small Projects Fund Update - October 2023**Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor****1. Allocation**

1.1 The yearly allocation of the 2023/24 Small Projects Fund for the Taihape Community Board is \$13,948.15

2. Breakdown

2.1 Payments made in the 2023/24 financial year.

2.1.1 The Taihape Neighbourhood Support Group was allocated \$250 and this has been paid.

2.1.2 The remainder of the fund allocation is \$13, 698.15.

3. Earmarked Payments from 2021/22 yet to be paid

3.1 The below payments were earmarked in 2021/22 but have not yet been paid. Payment for these will come from last year's budget and will not affect the allocation or balance for 2022/23.

3.2 Hobby Hutt: \$600 was allocated for six planter boxes.

3.3 Concretecraft: \$2,311.50 was allocated for 3x 1500x1500 cm concrete pads, plus an adjustment to cover additional concrete to increase the size of the pads as required.

Recommendation

That the report 'Small Projects Fund Update – October 2023' be received.

Recommendation

The Taihape Community Board approve/ do not approve (delete one) for Bill Nelson to repaint the Out Back Photo Board up to \$500 in materials and labour.

Recommendation

That _____ be appointed to follow up re concrete pad installation at dog park.

9.5 Update on Recommendation from the Taihape Community Board**Author:** Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor**Authoriser:** Carol Gordon, Group Manager - Democracy & Planning**1. Reason for Report**

1.1 There was a request from the previous Taihape Community Board meeting held on the 09 August 2023, which was:

1.1.1 That the Taihape Community Board strongly recommend that Council engage with Waka Kotahi over the issues and possible solutions raised in Items One, Six Seven and Eight of the Traffic, Safety and Management summary as discussed at their July workshop.

1.1.2 That Council staff consult with the Taihape Community Board over the feasibility of actions requested in Items Two, Three, Four, Five and Eight of the Traffic, Safety and management summary as discussed at their July workshop.

2. Officer Comment

2.1 Staff will assess all the requests, then provide feedback and a response to the Taihape Community Board when resources allow.

Recommendation 1

That report 'Update on Recommendation from Taihape Community Board be received' be received.

9.6 Taihape Community Board Responsibilities and Delegations**Author: Peter Kipling-Arthur, Chair****1. Reason for Report**

1.1 This item was requested by the Chair.

Attachments:

- 1. Report: Taihape Community Board Responsibilities and Delegations- Mr Peter Kipling-Arthur** [↓](#)

Recommendation

That the 'Taihape Community Board Responsibilities and Delegations' be received.

Recommendation

That this be sent to the appropriate staff and councillors and that a combined discussion group/sub-committee be set up to resolve these issues

DISCUSSION PAPER ON THE TAIHAPE COMMUNITY BOARD RESPONISBILITIES AND DELEGATIONS.

Responsibilities

The role of community boards is set out in section 52 of the Local Government Act 2002. This includes:

represent, and act as an advocate for, the interests of its community; and consider and report on all matters referred to it by the territorial authority, or any matter of interest or concern to the community board; and

If there exists no clear definition of what all matters should be referred to the board then it can make the TCB tasks more difficult. What should be referred to the Board

maintain an overview of services provided by the territorial authority within the community; and

Again, if the board has no regular update [three or six monthly?] of the planned services from divisions, how can it respond to both RDC and the community. It would be good to be provided with a regular update of the overall plans.

prepare an annual submission to the territorial authority for expenditure within the community; and communicate with community organisations and special interest groups within the community; and

undertake any other responsibilities that are delegated to it by the territorial authority.

- 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.
- Placemaking initiatives that are taking place on Council land, will be considered and commented on by the Committee before the application is considered by the Chief Executive. Definition and examples please??
- To engage with wider/smaller communities of the ward represented. This would be easier with travel and communication assistance. Facebook emails for local groups or IT assistance etc. Membership: Four members elected from the Taihape Community as part of the Local Authority

Elections. For the latest membership list see this page on the Council's website: Community Boards: Rangitikei District Council

Meeting Frequency: Bi-monthly, as determined by the Committee.

- To authorise the allocation of funds from the Taihape Municipal Band Grants Account to the Taihape College in accordance with the Taihape Municipal Band Incorporated Dissolution Agreement.

Is this still available. When did it cease and should be removed

- To determine and set names for roads in their area of responsibility.
Should we review the odd road names and look to improve??
- Seeking community views on projects or initiatives requiring or allocated Council funding or other support within the area covered by the Board (including consultation on significant projects during their implementation phase). **Should the TCB be used as a focal point for the planning and community input into the large projects?? [See below]**
- Managing specified community facilities and services within the area covered by the Board. **What facilities and services have we managed in the past or should we manage in the future?**
- Convening as a subcommittee any user group(s) at Taihape Memorial Park. **This should be extended to the Taihape Town Hall [see points above]**
- Local governance of the Taihape Main Street upgrade project through convening a steering committee. **Has this been completed and should it be removed**
- Authority to make decisions on major tree removals in public spaces, taking into account community consultation processes. **Definition of major !! see the comments re aborists at the Memorial Park**
- Delegated authority to consider the annual work programmes, and make recommendations to Council from the Taihape MoU community partner(s).
Which organisations have MOU and under which council body ??
- Delegated authority for the \$5,000 annual allocation for “defined small local works” in line with the guidelines provided below.

When was this set? How is the \$5000 arrived at as a suitable number? Has it been increased with inflation and rates increases or is it a static number ?

Guidelines for delegation to the Taihape Community Board for the \$5,000 annual allocation for 'defined small local works'

1. The objective of the delegation is to allow Community Boards to fund purchases of small items or additional services which are not included in Council's operating budgets and which will benefit the local community. Examples would be signage, park furniture, plants, paint, a leaflet or other publication or an event, including implementing community-led place-making initiatives identified as priorities through the **Town Centre Plan** process (or some similar community consultation). **What about the smaller rural areas??**

2. Proposed expenditure must be approved: • by resolution at a publicly notified meeting (and at a time when the public is not excluded from proceedings), or (for urgent matters) by documented communication to all Board members and appropriate staff for discussion and tabled and endorsed at the next available meeting so that a clear audit trail is evident.

3. Where the proposed expenditure will be paid to a community organisation, Council's reporting requirements for its Community Initiatives Fund must be met. **Any examples to assist us please?**

4. The delegation does not extend to proposed expenditure which: • provides training or conference attendance for one or more members, or • is contrary to the recommendation contained in an officer's report to the Board or • constitutes an additional payment to an individual or organisation for goods or services subject to a contract with the Council, or • exceeds the annual allocation. Any such a proposal must be referred to Council for decision.

Resolved that this be sent to the appropriate staff and councillors and that a combined discussion group/sub-committee be set up to resolve these issues

10 Discussion Items

10.1 Discussion Item: Status of the public toilet refurbishment

Author: Peter Kipling-Arthur, Chair

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 The Chair requested status of the public toilet refurbishment.

Recommendation

If needed:

10.2 Discussion Item: Slow Speed signs to be installed at Loader Drive

Author: Peter Kipling-Arthur, Chair

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 The Chair requested this discussion item be included.

Recommendation

If needed:

ITEM 10.2

10.3 Taihape Domain Master Plan

Author: Peter Kipling-Arthur, Chair

1. Reason for Report

1.1 Discussion Item: Taihape Domain Master Plan

Attachments:

1. Taihape Domain Master Plan [↓](#)

Recommendation

If needed:



TAIHAPE DOMAIN MASTER PLAN




Revision History

Project Number: 4671350

Revision	Prepared By	Description	Date
A	Darroch Day & Rebecca Cray	Taihape Parks Master Plan - DRAFT	09/06/2023
B	Rebecca Cray	Minor revisions, issued as final	10/07/2023

Document Acceptance

Action	Name	Signed	Date
Prepared by	Criag pocock		09/06/2023
Reviewed by	Annette Jones		09/06/2023
Approved by	George Woolford		09/06/2023

on behalf of Beca Ltd.

Acknowledgements:

A special thanks to the community members that came along and gave us their time, shared their stories, passion and aspiration for their community and specifically Taihape Domain. We would also like to thank Councillors and Council officers for their time and input into the process. We would also like to acknowledge tangata whenua, thank them for their initial conversations, and acknowledge there will be more conversations to come for the Taihape Domain.

This document should be printed double sided at A3.

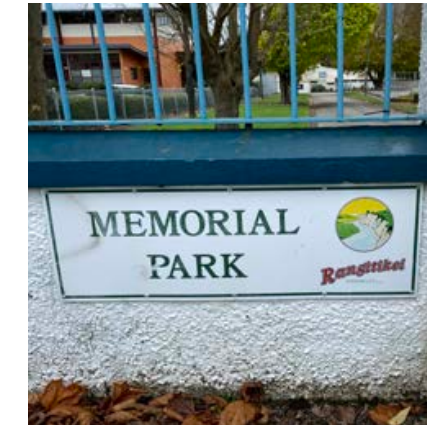
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CONTEXT

The Taihape Domain is situated 200m east of main street (State Highway 1) and is directly connected to the town centre through Weka, Kuku and Tui Streets. The Domain is the town's largest recreational space, and includes a large predominantly flat open space, encircled by 18 buildings, and redwood groves and remnant native kahikatea forest east along the Hautapu River edge. More natural amenity areas and event overflow space are situated to the east, including various assets and infrastructure to support horse and shearing activities. It is set within a stunning natural environment, with views to Mount Ruapehu and the surrounding hill land.

Taihape is a town of approximately 2,000 people, and the Taihape Domain has formed a central part of community life, social interaction and physical activity for decades. It plays an important role in introducing kids to sport as well as keeping youth and adults engaged in physical activity, providing social connection and associated mental health benefits. Importantly, it services a much broader rural community that includes more isolated farms, Ohakune and Raetihi residents.

Importantly, the Domain also holds several events from regional rugby games, North Island horse events, and the celebrated Gumboot Day, attracting over 3,000 people. These events are the lifeblood of rural community living and provide economic uplift and other opportunities for the township of Taihape.

The community spirit, volunteer-hours, passion and love for Taihape Domain and all the activities it supports are the strength and central beating heart to life in Taihape. There is much to celebrate and be grateful for in this local treasure!

Urban Context

With its character-buildings, great cafes, second hand stores and convenience stops Taihape's Main Street is a popular stopover location for those heading north along the Desert Road, or south towards Palmerston North or Wellington.

The Local Community Board have investigated the economic contribution of the State Highway 1 to Taihape, with results finding that each carpark along the main street contributes \$800 of revenue per day. This is forecast to increase to \$900 per day (if in this case) a bike track was created within the Domain to extend the activity offering and overall visitor stopover time. Similarly it is likely that tour and bus services would undertake their stopovers at the Domain. Creating new connections, interest and the number of overlapping activities and attractions supports greater use, vibrancy and word-of-mouth "advertising" for stopping-over in Taihape.

The proximity of the Domain to main street provides huge potential to enhance recreational outcomes for visitors while improving the economic uplift of Taihape. Making these linkages obvious and appealing by celebrating existing Domain features and new assets is a key way in which investment can be leveraged for the benefit of the wider community.



4 | BECA | TAIHAPE DOMAIN MASTERPLAN



PROJECT OVERVIEW

The intent of this project is to form an integrated masterplan for the development, use and upgrade of Taihape Domain in a way that is resilient, adaptable and able to best support the community.

PURPOSE

As with any community, its sport and recreational needs change over time, and investment in the relevant infrastructure can cost a lot of time and money to achieve.

The purpose of this process and resulting masterplan document is to understand:

- The number of user groups currently utilising the Domain, their membership base and trends.
- The functional needs of each user group within the Domain; what is working well, and where there are conflicts or issues.
- What their aspirations are for future use, development, or expansion.
- What (if any) funding or grants and projects they already have underway.

These findings were then used to form the draft masterplan for the integrated development of Taihape Domain with the engagement informing user group needs, joint investment, and allocation of space in a way that supports the recreational needs of the Taihape community over the next decade.

THE PROCESS

Rangitikei District Council engaged landscape architects from Beca to investigate the current function, use, conflicts, and opportunities for integrated development at the Taihape Domain. Through this process, Council wanted to achieve an integrated masterplan that shows how user group function and investment can be aligned to support the ongoing recreational needs of the community.

The formation of this document involved the following process:

Information gathering

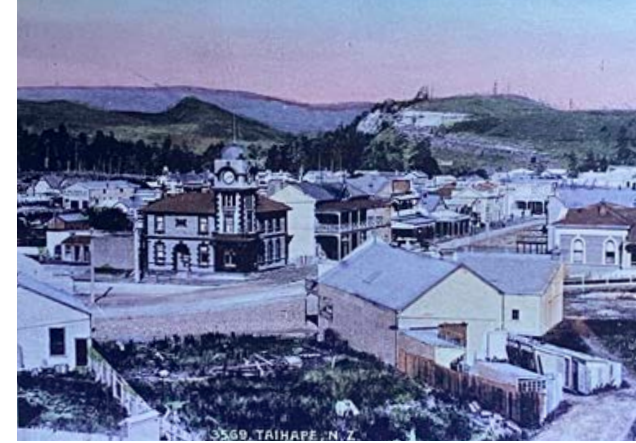
- The project began in July 2022 with an initial Council officer meeting, site walkover and meeting with Local Councillors.
- A community engagement strategy was then drafted. The project then went on hold for some time due to Council officer severe illness.
- In April 2023, Beca facilitated two days of community workshops on a per user group basis to understand the functional requirements and aspirations of each user group. A hand marked-up aerial plan was used to capture each groups thoughts and supplemented with note-taking.

Masterplan development

- Maps and notes from the engagement were taken back and processed into 10 user group maps demonstrating the current use and function within Taihape Domain.
- The key themes, ideas and conflict points were consolidated.
- A draft masterplan was then produced identifying potential opportunities for consolidated development.
- These graphic summaries were then combined into a full Taihape Domain engagement summary and masterplan document and concluded with a summary of recommendations.

Next steps:

- Council officers will then be presenting the proposed masterplan to elected members for inclusion in the current Annual Plan process.





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TAIHAPE DOMAIN MASTER PLAN

USER GROUP ENGAGEMENT

RUGBY & TOUCH

General:

Current organisation numbers:

- Utiku Old Boys: 1 x rugby team.
- Taihape Rugby: 2 x rugby teams.
- Women's rugby team recently formed in Taihape.
- Junior Rugby: 80 – 100 kids every Saturday.
- Taihape Touch run over summer.

What Buildings and grounds do you currently use?

- Fields 1, 2 and 3 and grandstand changing rooms.
- Utiku Old Boys Club share with netball and host midgits and occasional travelling Junior teams after matches.
- Taihape Rugby Club (off-site).
- Internal laneway used for vehicle access to Utiku Old

Boys carpark space and northern side of grandstand.

- Junior rugby uses all three fields for six games/12 teams to play at once.

When? What times? Frequency or season per year?

- Rugby season is March until the end of July/August. Fields are used Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays for training, and Saturdays for games. Women's rugby play on Friday nights.
- Touch train over the summer and can use Utiku Clubrooms but often head home straight after games.
- Field 2 for weeknight training (lights are much better) and deliberately preserving field 1 for Saturday games, with field 3 used for warm/up pre-game.
- During rugby season there are 3 – 4 times a year where there will be three games on a Saturday,

attracting around 300 people. Occasionally there are also college games at 11am.

- Local derby Taihape versus Utiku competition twice each year 200 – 400 for big match, first game of the season for trophy.
- Utiku Clubrooms rented out on average once per month, including providing wakes for club affiliates.

What conflicts and issues are there with the current function?

- Changing room and shower quality and shortage; need 6 changing rooms when three teams are playing on a Saturday (occurs 3 – 4 times per season).
- Grandstand toilets, showers and changing rooms (x8) and power supply are poorly functioning.
- Turf quality conflicts post horse-use at times and

issues with grass not re-growing, uneven ground, improper (or no) reinstatement.

- Carparking is at a premium during games and sees cars all down Kokako and Kuku Streets.
- Gate-taking for games causes conflicts with swimming pool access.

Future vision, aspirations, or opportunities?

Renewals/Upgrades:

- Utiku would like to add showers into the adjoining derelict storage building (council-owned), using the same footprint and acquire funding to install showers.
- Upgrade/replace Kokako street toilets, particularly as midgits need them.
- Provide additional carparking.
- Upgrade grandstand toilets, showers and power.

Note that field lights are turned on from within the grandstand.

Management:

- Retention of Kokako Street fencing as it helps control people and direct towards gate-taking.
- Create a better system for when emergency access is required for ambulance access to the fields.
- Agreed standards with horse-event organisers for proper field reinstatement post-event. It was noted however, that Council's turf management has substantially improved over the last 4-5 years.
- Management/coordination of games across the region could reduce facility demand by only scheduling 1-2 games per Saturday.

Maintenance:

- A few tweaks to lights on number 1 field are needed.

Capital:

- Additional lights for field 1 to match the lighting on field 2 for training.
- Northern Whanganui RFU looking to purchase and provide a permanent digital scoreboard at the southern end between fields 1 and 2, somewhere near new Nga Awa block.

Any current strategy documents, grant funding, pending design or applications?

- Utiku just received a \$10,000 grant from the Rugby Union to upgrade their clubrooms.
- Gate-takings (approx. \$1,000 – \$1,500) per Saturday game(s) fund maintenance within the park or clubrooms from time-to-time.

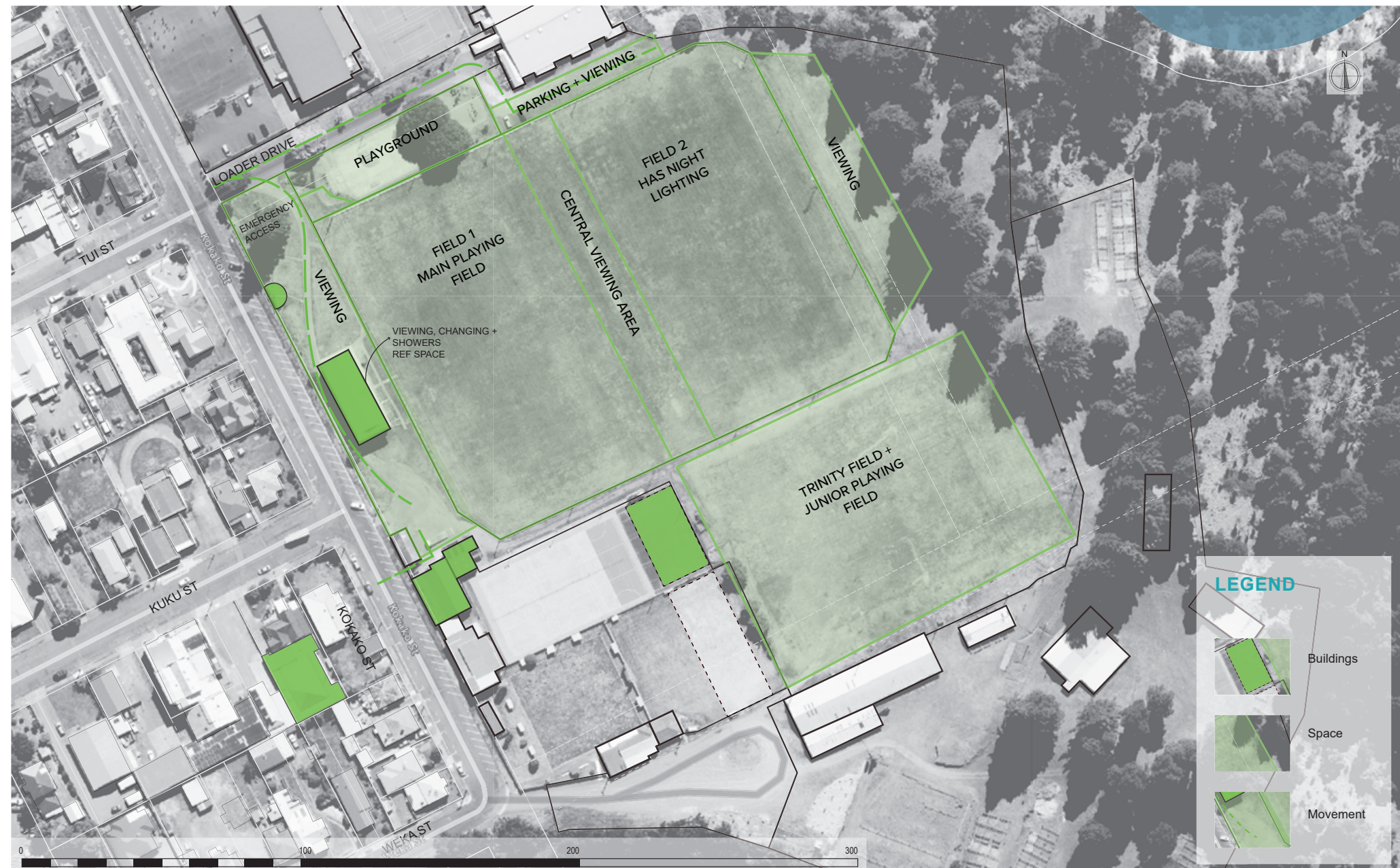


Figure 1 - Field 1.

GUMBOOT DAY

General:

Gumboot Day has been combined with the A&P Show over the last few years, however the A&P Show is unlikely to continue.

is closed and the event is signed from the State Highway.

- Two entrances are formed which the Maori wardens and Rotary collect a donation/koha for entry.

What buildings and grounds do you currently use?

- The event is held on fields 1 and 2, with overflow parking on the southern field. Generators are brought in to power the rides and various event components.
- A stage is positioned between fields 1 and 2, adjacent to a 50 metre gumboot throwing lane.
- Rides are situated close to the power generators that are brought in from Marton, as the power from the grandstand is too unreliable.
- Stallholders park along the eastern edge of field 3.
- Visitors park along side streets, sometimes Tui Street

When? What times? Frequency or season per year?

Once a year event with approximately 3,000 people.

What conflicts and issues are there with the current function?

- Need more power along the eastern side of fields 1 and 3, and southern (3).

Future vision, aspirations, or opportunities?

Renewals/Upgrades:

- Upgrade the pavilion building with new plumbing and exterior paint. Recontour its surrounds and maintain track access.
- Paint all ancillary building exteriors within the forest area.
- Install additional power points onto existing poles around number 1, 2 and reserve fields.
- Improve the everyday amenity of the yard-forest area through additional seating/picnic tables and removal of tagging/vandalism.

Management:

- Plan of where water goes to/from and how to turn it off.
- Would like Council to take over the running and management of the irrigation system over summer, which is run twice per week from December.
- Recommend lease of yard area be reviewed and re-done, particularly as A&P Show discontinues.
- Hoping to utilise the new Nga Awa building for the next event but may still need additional toilets and showers brought in.

Maintenance:

- Removal of tagging on yard-area buildings and occasional vandalism.

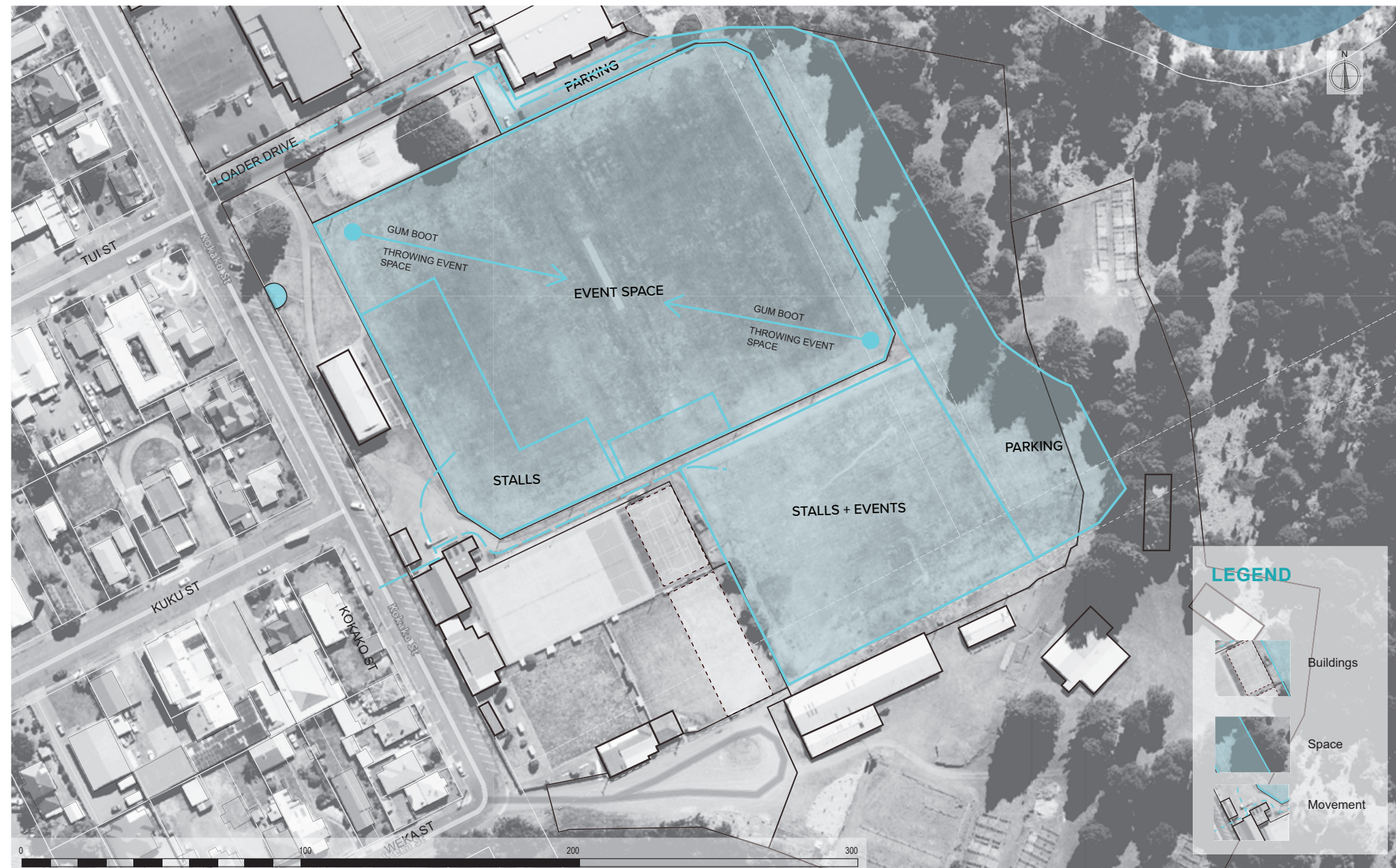


Figure 2 - Entrance point alongside Utiku Old Boys.



Figure 3 - Stall and event space on field 3, field 2 at rear of image.



Figure 4 - Main event space looking east.

SHOW JUMPING

General:

Dressage and show jumping lease the eastern yard-forest area off Council and pay to maintain the buildings and structures within it. They utilise most of the same infrastructure and grounds for their events, however in different configurations.

What buildings and grounds do you currently use?

- Shearing pavilion
- Forest toilet blocks x 2
- Admin 'Tui' building (has a mural) within the redwoods
- Fields 1,2, and 3 as reserve/training field.
- Northern vehicle access along Loader Drive
- Southern vehicle access track into yard area.
- Additional portable showers and toilets are bought in for the events.

Show jumping event setup:

- Runs the event out of the 'Tui' building within the yard-forest area.
- Use a generator to run the PA system.
- Horse truck campers provide additional accommodation across the southern fields and redwoods area for visiting competitors and their supporters.

When? What times? Frequency or season per year?

Showjumping is a 3-day event each year including 300 horses, at least 600 people.

What conflicts and issues are there with the current function?

- Power demand for horse truck overnights and PA system.
- Running and management of irrigation system.
- Conflicts with other event users not repairing or reinstating the unsealed steep vehicle track into the yard area. The National Showjumping Championships were cancelled due to the condition of the access.
- Water access and reliability of supply near pavilion.
- Power access and connection point availability.
- Grandstand facilities are not suitable for visitors and have not had hot showers in years.

Future vision, aspirations, or opportunities?

Renewals/Upgrades:

- Upgrade the pavilion building with new plumbing, guttering and paint.
- Fixing all the tracks and parking.
- Recontour pavilion surrounds and tidy up exterior to maintain track access.
- Paint all ancillary building exteriors within the forest area.
- Install additional power points onto existing poles around number 1, 2 and reserve fields. Additional power needed for horse truck overnights (would pay for power use).
- Improve the everyday amenity of the yard-forest area through additional seating and picnic tables.
- Kokako Street toilets need to stay in that location and

be upgraded.

- Upgrade the grandstand facilities to provide toilet facilities and hot showers.

Management:

- Plan of where water goes to/from and how to turn it off.
- Would like Council to take over the running and management of the irrigation system over summer, which is run twice per week from December.
- Recommend lease of yard area be reviewed and redone, particularly is A&P Show discontinues.
- Hoping to utilise the new Nga Awa building for the next events but may still need additional toilets and showers brought in.

Maintenance:

- Removal of tagging on yard-area buildings and occasional vandalism.

Capital:

- Sealing of northern access along Loader Drive with formed carparking would provide better control of parking and access for events, particularly given weight and size of horse vehicles.



Figure 5 - Show jumping pens.

DRESSAGE

General:

Dressage and showjumping jointly lease the eastern yard-forest area off Council and pay to maintain the buildings and structures within it. They utilise most of the same infrastructure and grounds for their events, however in different configurations.

What buildings and grounds do you currently use?

- Shearing pavilion.
- Forest toilet blocks x 2.
- 1,2, and reserve/training fields.
- Northern vehicle access along Loader Drive.
- Southern vehicle access track into yard area.
- Additional portable showers and toilets are bought in for the events.

Dressage-specific event setup:

- Rents the Utiku Clubrooms to run the event and cater for judges/aprox 30 people.
- 6 dressage arenas setup on northern fields, warmup on southern field with gypsy parking around south.
- Use battery powered speaker systems to run announcements (lack of power).
- Showjumping-specific event setup.
- Runs the event out of the 'Tui' building within the yard-forest area.
- Use a generator to run the PA system (lack of power).

When? What times? Frequency or season per year?

Events attract approximately 150 horses over two days of competition in December each year.

What conflicts and issues are there with the current function?

- Need more powered sites for horse truck overnights (would pay to use) and PA system.
- Running and management of irrigation system.
- Conflicts with other event users not repairing or reinstating the unsealed steep vehicle track into the yard area.
- Water access and reliability of supply.
- Power access and connection point availability.

Future vision, aspirations, or opportunities?

Renewals/Upgrades:

- Install a second washpad within the yard area.
- Improve drainage and stability of the steep vehicle

track into the yard area.

- Replace/upgrade the water line around the northern side of the shearing building.

Management:

- Would like Council to take over the running and management of the irrigation system over summer, which is run twice per week from December.
- Recommend lease of yard area be reviewed and re-done, particularly if the A&P Show discontinues.
- Hoping to utilise the new Ngā Awa building for the next events, but may still need the Kokako Hall to run the event due to catering requirements for 30+ people.

Maintenance:

- Removal of tagging on yard-area buildings and occasional vandalism.

Capital:

- Would like a Darby course out around trees down bank and back onto the field. Have looked at a cross country track previously.



Figure 6 - Important access point for dressage, from the Kokako/Weka street corner.



Figure 7 - Main viewing area to the east.

TAIHAPE AREA SCHOOL

General:

The school has a number of sport and activity relationships with the Domain as the school grounds themselves are heavily constrained for space.

When? What times? Frequency or season per year?

The playground, skatepark, and fields are used for lunchtime breaks all year round.

The Domain is also used for athletics training during summer months, and cross-country during winter.

The school hockey courts are utilised by the tennis club (and associated asphalt area used for overflow parking) on Thursdays between March-October.

What conflicts and issues are there with the current function?

Older students tend to dominate the play and skate facilities during lunchbreaks, deterring smaller children from wanting to engage in play. Providing tailored and separated older youth versus smaller children play facilities would enable equality in accessibility of play to all. Managing student safety with the Loader Drive access to the Swim Centre is an ongoing issue.

Future vision, aspirations, or opportunities?

Management:

Changes to the Loader Drive access to increase pedestrian safety and slow car speeds.

Capital:

The school is very constrained in terms of outdoor space and is set to be demolished and rebuilt by the Ministry of Education.

Redesign should more carefully consider the connection, orientation and safety of students crossing/connecting to the Domain over Loader Drive, and how the school could better integrate this "borrowed" outdoor space for the benefit of students and increased community safety.

Any current strategy documents, grant funding, pending design or applications?

The proposed school rebuild plans have not been sighted or shared as part of the Taihape Domain masterplan.



Figure 8 - Loader Drive vehicle access between school and play.



Figure 9 - Fields used for sports day.



Figure 10 - Shared public and school playground.

NETBALL

General:

Last year netball had 250 members, with a team coming from Hunterville and a few from Raetihi. There is no secondary school netball as they go to Palmerston or Whanganui.

What buildings and grounds do you currently use?

- The clubroom space is accessed between the Squash Club and the Utiku Old Boys Rugby Club.
- All the courts in front of the squash/netball building.
- Runs from 4pm – 8.30pm starting with the young kids and proceeding to adults.

When? What times? Frequency or season per year?

- They use three courts for six months of the year.
- Netball play and train on weekday nights as Saturday's are not favourable.
- Squash provide meals on Thursdays and netball often use/share clubrooms when the Squash Club are open.

What conflicts and issues are there with the current function?

- Conflicts between Tennis and netball court use, and design requirements requirements, especially resolving the specification for lighting upgrade and additional lamp posts.
- Courts get heavy dew and ice in winter.
- No issues currently with clubrooms as they will utilise the new Ngā Awa building toilet and changing rooms.

- Tennis run their courts the opposite way and are seeking an additional two courts. Netball do not feel there is a need for additional courts as management and splitting training days can address availability as/ if needed.
- Courts are getting resurfaced with plexisurface.

Future vision, aspirations, or opportunities?

Renewals/Upgrades:

- Lighting (netball offering \$7.5k to partially co-fund with tennis).
- Plexisurface upgrade was meant to occur in April (already commissioned) but will now be undertaken when better weather arrives in Spring.
- Hoping to put in an indoor hoop and utilise the extra width area down Kokako Street end.

Management:

- Netball are assuming they will have some space in the new Nga Awa building for storage.

Capital:

- Need the new Ngā Awa building opened and running to test functionality. Its completion has been significantly behind the promised schedule.



Figure 11 - Netball access, toilet and storage.



Figure 12 - Courts and new sports hub building.



Figure 13 - Level change between courts and bowls area.

PLAY

General:

The Taihape Playground Group was established in 2019. Their core interest is in developing, extending and increasing the play offerings at the Taihape Domain to suit a wide range of ages, abilities and activity.

This group undertook a survey across the Taihape community four years ago to get their ideas and feedback on play opportunities at Taihape Domain. The results indicated the community wanted split play opportunities for younger versus older children.

The survey results went into the Long Term Plan and Council have allocated \$50,000 towards the playground.

The Group want to make the playground an asset for the whole community – like Margaret Mahy playground in Christchurch, and include fitness equipment for adults.

What buildings and grounds do you currently use?

- Existing playground and skatepark
- Kokako Street toilets and Aquatic Centre toilets
- Have been collaborating with the Taihape Heritage Group that maintains the Grandstand.

What conflicts and issues are there with the current function?

- The existing playground and skatepark do not have enough space, or diversity in play offerings to cater for different play age groups and abilities. There is a need to separate older versus younger kids play as current arrangement is intimidating for youngsters.
- The school utilises the Domain, its playground and skatepark for older kids breakout space during lunch breaks as it doesn't have onsite facilities.

- The condition and function of the Kokako Street toilets are not suitable or safe. Still need toilets in this general location however.
- Interface with current playground and Loaders Drive is a concern for parents, particularly those of little kids whom run onto the road. Smaller kids space needs to be fenced in.
- Existing skatepark is well utilised but small and has not been upgraded since its establishment in 1994.

Future vision, aspirations, or opportunities?

Current status:

- Ready to design the younger kids play space.
- Need money to pay for the playground design.
- Need land location confirmed so they can apply for additional funding and engage a designer.

Renewals/Upgrades:

- Upgrade skate park and existing playground.
- Improve interface/co-use with Loader Drive to make it safer for pedestrians.
- Refurbish the existing car play equipment as it is a much-loved feature of the existing playground.

Management:

- The Group need the play location approved to be able to apply for further funding.

Capital:

- Creation of a two new play spaces; one for younger kids and one for youth/young adults. \$50,000 allocated by Council within the Long-Term Plan.

- Signage and increased view corridors along the Kokako Street/Loader Drive axis would assist visibility, wayfinding and locating the play areas from outside of the park e.g. from Taihape Main Street.
- A number of local playground companies and business are interested in donating money or in-kind equipment.
- Have proposed a new smaller kids skate/bike area between the grandstand and Kokako Street toilets.
- A shared space between the school and the domain would assist in creating a pedestrian-friendly environment and more connected overlapping use of facilities.
- New toilets to replace Kokako Street toilets, either in/ around existing Kokako Street toilets, or integrated with the Grandstand upgrade and ideally accessed from the northern face of the building.



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Figure 14 - Playground being used during sport event.

TAIHAPE SWIM CENTRE

General:

The pool facility is leased off Council by a facility management company.

What buildings and grounds do you currently use?

The pool, outdoor carparking and Loader Drive access for customer and staff carparking. Outdoor space between pool and the school courts.

When? What times? Frequency or season per year?

Currently open 7 months of the year and closed during winter months.

The Swim Centre caters for:

- Approximately 200 kids enrolled in swimming lessons each season.
- 30-40 people in aqua aerobics
- Just general/casual swimming.

What conflicts and issues are there with the current function?

- The main gates and vehicle access being shut on Saturday's during rugby games is an issue for the Swim Centre.
- Carparking on the wet grass gets wet, muddy and annoying.
- Not enough carparks during peak times.
- Conflicts with tennis training times (using the school courts) whom park all down the sides of the lane,

making it very narrow and also unlikely to cater for emergency vehicles. The school asphalt area is used for overflow carparking during these times too.

- The historical memorial gates are in the way of a visual connection to the pools along Tui Street.
- Current BBQ area only really able to cater for one group at a time.
- Current Kokako Stret toilets are not signposted so people walk down and use the pool facilities.
- Flooding of Loader Drive and pools entrance area during heavy rain, sometimes running all the way down the side of the pools to the back door.

Future vision, aspirations, or opportunities?

Renewals/Upgrades:

- The pool needs a new roof.
- To be open year-round the building would need upgrading to be suitable for winter use.
- Change exterior appearance to make it more vibrant an inviting, including getting a local artist to paint a mural.
- Upgrade vehicle access, add additional carparks along/around southern side of the pool building.
- There used to be mountain bike tracks down and along the river edge that would be good to see how they could be revitalised and reconnected to the pool area.

Management:

- Ideally have the pool open year-round, noting that people from Raetihi and Waiouru travel to use this facility and are likely to travel over winter too.
- Being open year-round would change the perception of the Swim Centre.
- Talk to school about using their outdoor spaces outside of school hours more.

Maintenance:

- Council maintenance to Loader Drive drains to avoid flooding pools.

Capital:

- Need signage out front of the pools and park gate to encourage people to stop there. Ideally a sign (or digital sign with multi-uses for other activities) on the Main Street of Taihape to direct people towards the pool and park, rugby games that are on etc.
- Would like to upgrade and create a mezzanine floor towards the western end of the building for a gym to attract people for daily fitness and leisure.
- Create 2 x controlled outdoor picnic/bbq spaces – 1 at the northwest corner (facing school) and the other out the east end, overlooking the valley and park. Including shade sails, picnic tables to host birthday parties, family bbq's, have an outdoor breakout space etc. Two locations to maximise use based on based on prevailing wind/weather direction.



Figure 15 - Possible outdoor area for events and BBQ's.

TENNIS

General:

Approximately 120+ members; made up of 90 senior and 30 junior members.

What buildings and grounds do you currently use?

- Courts
- Area school courts
- Share squash facilities when open
- Parking along Kokako Street

When? What times? Frequency or season per year?

On Thursdays from October to March each year.

What conflicts and issues are there with the current function?

- Having a clubhouse or space for tennis club members; hopefully new Ngā Awa building will help with this.
- Parking availability on tennis training/gaming days.
- Lighting; currently tennis use existing lights which are not fit for purpose, and/or the spill light when rugby lights are on.
- Not enough courts; currently using privately owned courts within Taihape in addition to Domain and school courts.
- Lease a small administration and storage room within the Squash Club, which is not large enough or suitable.
- One tennis court has been decommissioned to provide

the space for the new Ngā Awa amenity building.

- In the 2020/2021 some members had t be turned away due to the lack of appropriate tennis court facilities.

Future vision, aspirations, or opportunities?

Renewals/Upgrades:

- Courts to be resealed later this year. Already commissioned but delayed until suitable weather arrives.

Capital:

- New lighting that is appropriate for playing tennis has been costed at over \$100k, seeking funding and joint solution with netball.

- Would like to upgrade and repurpose the Kokako Street Hall to serve as the tennis clubrooms, in addition to other community functions, and add two new tennis courts in front of the hall, to give seven courts in total.

Any current strategy documents, grant funding, pending design or applications?

Refer to the Taihape Tennis Club - Submission to Rangitikei District Council LTP 2021 and the Taihape Tennis Strategy for further information and site plan demonstrating the upgrades and additional courts described.



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Figure 16 - Loader Drive vehicle access between the school and skatepark.



Figure 17 - Tennis uses courts within Taihape Area School.



Figure 18 - Tennis shares court space with netball.

SQUASH

General:

Approximately 180 members with a strong and growing club at present. People travel from smaller towns in the district to use the facilities and get coaching.

What buildings and grounds do you currently use?

- Squash club
- Kokako Street carparking

What conflicts and issues are there with the current function?

- Kokako Street carparking (72 spaces) is currently an issue on squash days.

Future visions/aspirations?

Management:

- Additional carparking is needed, however the Ngā Awa carpark may help resolve this if a pedestrian connection through the bowling area is created.

Capital:

- The Squash Club are at Building Consent stage for the extension and upgrade of their clubhouse facilities towards the south of their current footprint.
- The upgrade will include a new kitchen, bar, dining, and outlook area upstairs that will be available for functions and other codes e.g. netball and tennis that train on the same days as squash. Downstairs will include two

new courts and a digital squash court training facility, upgraded bathrooms and a lift for second floor access. Exterior stairs on the eastern (park) facing side will provide external cover and viewing areas even when the clubrooms themselves are closed.

- In addition, Squash are keen to support the development and provision of a small picnic area and tree/gardens to the southern corner of the building extension for the community to use and enjoy.



Figure 19 - Club entrance located off Kokako Street.



Figure 20 - Proposed squash building expansion into bowling area.



Figure 21 - Provides facilities for other clubs.



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TAIHAPE DOMAIN MASTER PLAN

MASTER PLAN SPACE ANALYSIS

To analyse the collective use of the Taihape Domain, the user group analysis maps have been overlaid to create a build-up or "heat map" effect. Essentially what this process and resulting map show are the highest-use areas are the central fields and their peripheral access areas. Conversely, the bowling club greens, to the southern corner of the Domain are now defunct and this is reflected by a lack of use (no orange).

Key observations:

- Fields 1 and 2 are important sports and event areas used for a multitude of activities throughout the year.
- The Loaders Drive access and southern vehicle access off the corner of Kokako and Weka Streets are very important movement corridors in supporting these events and activities.



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Figure 22 - Fields 1 and 2 are well utilised throughout the year.



Figure 23 - The Loader Drive access is a key corridor in supporting the Domain's activities.



Figure 24 - The eastern slope adjoining field 2 provides great amenity for spectators and visitors.

MASTER PLAN MOVEMENT ANALYSIS

To understand the key access points and routes through the Domain, the movement analysis from each user group was overlaid to show the key corridors utilised by multiple groups.

Key observations:

- Loader Drive is a key corridor, providing access to the school, Swim Centre, playground, fields and the eastern balance of the park. It also provides informal accesses south along the grandstand and eastern edge of field 2.
- South of fields 1 and 2 (from the end of Kuku Street) and the southern access aligned with Kokako/Weka Street corner are also key access points for other groups, with the southern access being critical for providing access for large shearing and horse events in particular.



Figure 25 - Gate access, eastern end of Loader Drive, adjacent to Swim Centre.



Figure 26 - Unsealed access at the southern end of the park.



Figure 27 - Key accessway and gate for horse and shearing events, as well as Gumbboot Day.

MASTER PLAN

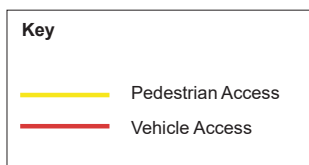


22 | BECA | TAIHAPE DOMAIN MASTERPLAN

CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATIONS

MASTER PLAN KEY

- 1 More prominent Taihape Domain signage from the State Highway directs travellers down Kuku Street to the domain activities. It could be integrated into the existing town hall historical façade to create a unique and highly visible landmark sign with the aim of holding travellers within Taihape, the main street area and domain for longer with the associated financial benefits for the town. Refer to figure 36.
- 2 Loader Drive, the Swim Centre accessway could be narrowed down to slow the traffic movement beside the existing playground. This might include two raised platforms across the road that are painted in colourful patterns. This allows the platforms to be play items while vehicles are not using the space. Refer to figure 35.
- 3 The additional space created by narrowing the driveway could be used for rain gardens with integrated play and educational items. This approach helps to manage stormwater that is currently impacting the swimming pool and creates an educational/play opportunity. Refer to figure 35.
- 4 The existing preschool playground could be relocated and integrated into the newly proposed playground closer to the grandstand. This area remains a playground but is redeveloped and focused on providing more challenging play for older school-aged children. Could be the main central playground space for Taihape and a visitor drawcard. The new playground design could integrate the existing trees and stake park and would support the area school's student amenity. Refer to figure 29.
- 5 A newly proposed preschool playground could be developed in this location which integrates the matures trees and existing grandstand access path as play items. This would require the removal of the existing public toilet and a new public toilet created nearby, possibility integrated into the interior of the grandstand with exterior access.
- 6 A proposed raised grass mound area that wraps around the corner of field one and integrates into the stake park platform. This would create an excellent sports and event viewing platform for field one and a green play mound for the stake park area. This design approach would be an improvement on the existing concrete slope and could be created from the new playground or driveway excavations. Refer to figure 31.
- 7 A hardstand area that doubles as a half basketball court/play space also provides an important all-weather surface link to the pool car parking and viewing area south of the pool building. Refer to figure 29.
- 8 All-weather event access to car parking and the viewing area West of field two and wider rural event space beyond.
- 9 Proposed reinforced grass paving car parking area that provides all-weather car parking without increasing impervious surfaces.
- 10 Swim Centre landscape event and gathering space for BBQs and picnics which could connect to the river walkway.
- 11 Small landscape event space for pool users and school students.
- 12 The existing path is retained for emergency and sports vehicle access and pedestrian use. Could be part of a domain walkway system for visitors.
- 13 The grandstand remains the centre focus point of the domain and an important viewing platform for sports and events. An upgrade might include showers, changing rooms and a toilet that can be accessed externally as a replacement for the one removed by the domain entrance. A new toilet in this space would support families using the new playground and visitors using the domain amenities and walkways.
- 14 New public art could strengthen the visual connections from Hautapu Street to the Domain. This may be a chance to acknowledge pre-European history and environment and could be part of a wider arts approach to the domain that includes murals and art pieces along the street and domain walkways.
- 15 New bold signage on the Hautapu/Kuku corner should be focused on capturing southbound travellers and directing them to the domain amenities and pool.
- 16 A new landscape space that replaces the existing gravel field, creating a new entrance into the domain that visually aligns with Kuku Street entrance off the State Highway. The park might include shade, picnic tables, domain interpretation, maps and activity directions. It could be the start of the domain walkway. Refer to figure 30 and 36.
- 17 New entrance to event space, rugby club and field 3/event space. Refer to figure 30.
- 18 Existing vehicle improved with all-weather access to the south to access the field 3/event space.
- 19 Netball and tennis court surfaces upgraded.
- 20 Existing Squash Club building extension.
- 21 Fencing around the bowling greens could be removed and a new community green space created. It may include a picnic space, community orchard and open green space for passive games/running around. Steps from this space to the netball court could be created as viewing seats and access to the netball courts. This green space allows the community to access the Domain from the Weka/Kokako Street corner. Refer to figure 33.
- 22 Future development space if needed, this area could be redeveloped without impacting the current domain open space use values. This would require the upgrade or removal of the existing building which would only occur if they were no longer fit for purpose in their current state. Refer to figure 33.
- 23 Formalise existing gravel access and create new car parking bays with an all-weather surface. This area creates access to the rural event space and field 3/event and camping space.
- 24 Extend kōwhai planting into the centre car parking island to tie in with the existing kōwhai planting.
- 25 All weather access to field 3/event space which might include a control arm if it is to be used in the future for public camping.
- 26 All weather access for rural event space. Refer to figure 32.
- 27 Field 3/event space remains but with new investment in water and power facilities around the edges to support events and camping. The power and water in addition to the new Ngā Awa building might support visitor camping during certain times of the year which might help fund future domain investment.
- 28 The existing rural event space should remain as is but with future building, water and power infrastructure upgrades to support future events. A visitor walking track should connect through this rural event area giving the public access to this landscape during non-event periods. The existing landscape and treescape has a high amenity value.
- 29 The existing native forest is in good condition and would benefit from further management and planting. This area could be part of not only the domain visitor trail system but a wider Taihape river walkway connection that connects back to the Taihape main streets. These native forest tracks and domain walkway could form part of the school's cross-country route and have educational interpretation signage identifying forest history and flora and fauna.
- 30 The existing mature trees with an open understory for events creates an excellent arboretum area. The existing significant trees, picnic and event viewing area creates an interesting area for visitors and the local to use. This area would benefit from more tree planting of rare and interesting trees, picnic tables, pathway connections and signage identifying significant trees. This area would benefit from a planting and management strategy that would ensure it's value as an arboretum and native bush lot is retained. It was noted that the trees in this area show up in historical photos of the area and are probably older than the grandstand.
- 31 This important raised area overlooking Field 2 should remain a clear viewing area for sports and events. Keep the lower slope beside the fence clear for car parking but the upper slopes would benefit from additional picnic tables under the shade of the trees.
- 32 The proposed bridge connections across the river and pathway should connect into the proposed domain path system. This would be an excellent visitor experience that would bring people to the domain and surrounding Taihape areas. It would give access to a range of landscape experiences from river landscape, fishing, arboretum, native bush, playgrounds, skatepark and event spaces. The domain and these connections are important investments into the future health of the local community and tourism economy.
- 33 Existing rugby club future development space if needed. This space would be used for club parking until there is a need for future expansion. Refer to figure 30.
- 34 Possible location for additional netball and tennis court if needed in the future. Easy access to car park. Refer to figure 33.



MASTER PLAN SPATIAL CONCEPTS



Figure 28 - Location 3 and 6 on the masterplan illustrating the potential shared space between the Swim centre and playground at the end of Loader Drive.



Figure 29 - New central gateway area with potential artwork to celebrate local culture and visually connect the Kuku Street corridor with the State Highway.



Figure 30 - Location 5 on masterplan.



Figure 31 - Seal and formalise access for large vehicles during events and training.



Figure 32 - New community green space and tennis court in front of the Kokako Hall.

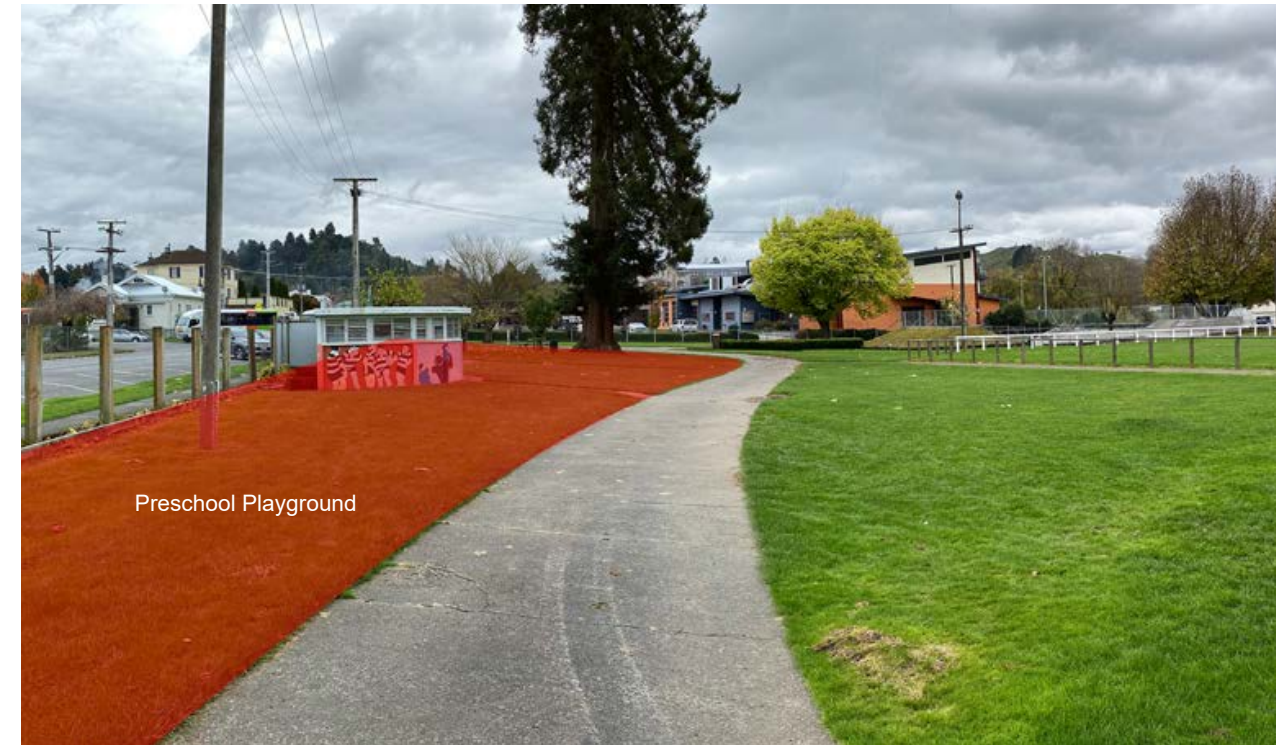


Figure 33 - New playground location, parallel to Kokako Street between Loader Drive and the playground.

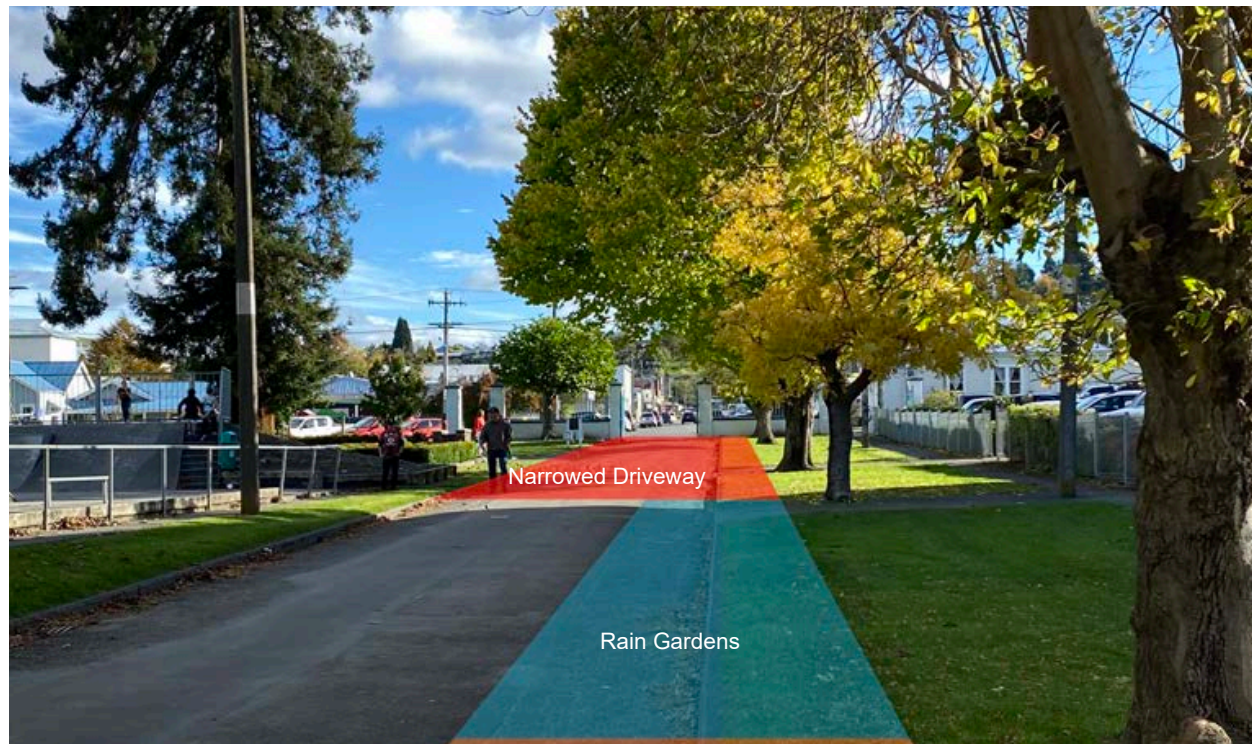


Figure 34 - Creation of a new shared space between the domain and Taihape Area School, supported by raingardens to manage stormwater and narrow the vehicle passage (to slow vehicles).



Figure 35 - The Town Hall building provides a great anchor and could help connect with a gateway feature at the end of Kuku Street to attract visitors off the State Highway to the Taihape Domain.

11 Meeting Closed.