



WAIRARAPA COVID-19 RECOVERY JOINT COMMITTEE

Agenda

NOTICE OF MEETING

An extraordinary meeting will be held in the Supper Room, Waiinga Centre, Texas Street, Martinborough on Monday 30 November 2020 at 2:30pm. The meeting will be held in public (except for any items specifically noted in the agenda as being for public exclusion).

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

Mayor Alex Beijen (SWDC) Chairperson, Mayor Greg Lang (CDC) Deputy Chairperson, Mayor Lyn Patterson (MDC), Cr Brent Gare (MDC), Cr Rebecca Vergunst (CDC), Cr Rebecca Fox (SWDC) and up to four iwi representatives (one representative from each of the iwi entities with mana whenua in Wairarapa: Rangitāne Tū Mai Rā Trust / Rangitāne o Wairarapa / Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa / Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki Nui-a-Rua Settlement Trust).

QUORUM

Six members, with at least one from each iwi and one from each of the territorial authorities.

Open Section

- A1. Apologies
- A2. Conflicts of interest
- A3. Public participation
- A4. Actions from public participation
- A5. Confirmation of Minutes Pages 1-2

Proposed Resolution: *That the minutes of the Wairarapa COVID-19 Recovery Joint Committee meeting held on 31 August 2020 are a true and correct record.*

- A6. Extraordinary business

B. Reports

- B1. Wairarapa Recovery for November Pages 3-16
- B2. Wairarapa Recovery Survey Report Pages 17-33
- B3. Verbal update from Mayor Lyn Patterson social leaders forum



WAIRARAPA COVID-19 RECOVERY JOINT COMMITTEE Minutes from 31 August 2020

Present:	Mayor Alex Beijen (SWDC) Chairperson, Greg Lang (CDC) Deputy Chairperson, Mayor Lyn Patterson (MDC), Cr Brent Gare (MDC), Cr Rebecca Vergunst (CDC), Robin Potangaroa (Ngāti Kahungunu). Hera Edwards (Ngāti Kahungunu) via audio-visual conference.
Officers In Attendance:	Dave Gittings (Wairarapa Recovery Manager), Harry Wilson (SWDC Chief Executive), Kim Rudman (Alternate Wairarapa Recovery Manager SWDC), Suzanne Clark (Committee Advisor). Kathryn Ross (MDC Chief Executive) and Shanna Vatselias (Communications and Marketing Manager MDC) via audio-visual conference.
Conduct of Business:	The meeting was held in the Supper Room, Waihinga Centre, Texas Street, Martinborough and was conducted in public between 2:30pm and 3:06pm.

Open Section

Mr Potangaroa opened with a karakia.

A1. Apologies

WAIRARAPA COVID-19 RECOVERY JOINT COMMITTEE RESOLVED (WRJC2020/06) to accept apologies from Cr Fox.

(Moved Cr Gare/Seconded Mr Potangaroa)

Carried

A2. Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

A3. Public Participation

There was no public participation.

A4. Actions from Public Participation

There were no actions from public participation.

DISCLAIMER

Until confirmed as a true and correct record, at a subsequent meeting, the minutes of this meeting should not be relied on as to their correctness

A5. Minutes for Confirmation

WAIRARAPA COVID-19 RECOVERY JOINT COMMITTEE RESOLVED (WRJC2020/07)
that the minutes of the Wairarapa COVID-19 Recovery Joint Committee meeting held on 27 July 2020 are a true and correct record subject.

(Moved Mr Potangaroa/Seconded Mayor Patterson) Carried

A6. Extraordinary Business

There was no extraordinary business.

B Decision Reports

B1. Recovery Plan Report

Mr Gittings advised that the social sector is where the Wairarapa councils could have the most local influence, but invited direction on including an environmental focus.

Members received updates on open action items, discussed integration of the Wairarapa COVID recovery and community wellbeings into the three councils’ long term plans, availability of unemployment and economic data, various aspects of the planned survey and traction of the Wairarapa Recovery website.

Social coordination was progressing via the Connecting Communities network.

WAIRARAPA COVID-19 RECOVERY JOINT COMMITTEE RESOLVED (WRJC2020/08):

1. To receive the Recovery Plan Report.
(Moved Mayor Lang/Seconded Cr Gare) Carried
2. To endorse the coordination of Wairarapa Community Networks to support the Leaders Group Forum.
(Moved Mayor Patterson/Seconded Cr Vergunst) Carried
3. To endorse the implementation of an on-line survey.
(Moved Mayor Beijen/Seconded Mr Potangaroa) Carried
4. To agree to move the committee meetings to be held quarterly.
(Moved Mayor Beijen/Seconded Mayor Patterson) Carried
5. Action 1: Review what the Auditor General’s advice is on integrating wellbeing and COVID-19 recovery into council’s long term plans, and advise the Wairarapa Recovery Committee how to coordinate its response alongside the Wairarapa councils’ long term plans; D Gittings

Mr Potangaroa closed with a karakia.

Confirmed as a true and correct record

.....(Chair)

.....(Date)

DISCLAIMER

Until confirmed as a true and correct record, at a subsequent meeting, the minutes of this meeting should not be relied on as to their correctness



Wairarapa Recovery Report

November 2020

Agenda Item B1

1. PURPOSE

To update the Wairarapa Recovery Committee on joint recovery co-ordination in the Wairarapa District.

2. SIGNIFICANCE

The matters for decision in this report are not considered to be of significance under the Significance and Engagement Policy.

3. CURRENT SITUATION

The Wairarapa fared comparatively well in the September quarter, however Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern has noted that the global outlook is worsening, and that New Zealand will not be immune to the ongoing impact COVID-19 is having around the world.

With this in mind, the new Labour Government will have two overarching priorities: to drive our economic recovery from Covid-19, and to continue our health response to keep New Zealanders safe from the virus.

As at 22 November 2020, there were 50 active cases of COVID-19, all in managed isolation and the most recent confirmed case of community transmission was reported on 14 November 2020.

To date there have been a total of 1672 confirmed cases and 356 probable cases in New Zealand. A total of 2028 cases.

4. ECONOMIC OUTLOOK FOR THE WAIRARAPA

New Zealand's economy rebounded strongly in the September quarter, with regional economies such as the Wairarapa faring better than metropolitan economies that rely on international tourism. This is due in part to the resilience of primary industries, and its strong export market.

Uncertainty in relation to the mid to long term economic outlook still remains.

5. WAIRARAPA JOB SEEKER ALLOWANCE NUMBERS

The MSD Benefit quarterly report for September 2020 covers a period in which New Zealand was at various COVID-19 Alert Levels, which impacted the economy, labour market, and the health and wellbeing of the people of New Zealand.

For the period from March 2020 to September 2020 Carterton, Masterton, and South Wairarapa all had an increase in Job Seeker Allowance numbers as follows:

- Carterton: 30.3% increase (59 people)
- Masterton: 20.9% increase (181 people)
- South Wairarapa: 35.1% increase (79 people)

6. WELLINGTON REGIONAL RECOVERY

Recovery initiatives

16 'Regional' Recovery Projects are currently under development or actively being delivered to meet four recovery goals identified by the Wellington Group Recovery Office. These goals are:

- Goal 1: Enhance the capability of NGOs and community groups to be more self-reliant.
- Goal 2: Create economic opportunities for visitors to spend time and money within the region.
- Goal 3: Lay the foundation for future infrastructure investment from Government.
- Goal 4: Strengthen regional governance and collaboration for long-term benefits.

See Attachment A: Progress report to September 2020.

Wellington region COVID-19 Recovery Dashboard

The dashboard provides a snapshot of the potential impacts of COVID-19 and recovery efforts. The measures use pre-existing datasets to create a high-level picture of what is happening at a national, regional and local level.

See Attachment B: Wellington Region COVID-19 Recovery Dashboard – October 2020

Regional Leaders group

The Regional Leaders Group have identified employment, accommodation, food security and mental health as the key priorities of focus for the Wellington Region and have noted a general increase in the demand for community services.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Wairarapa Recovery Committee:


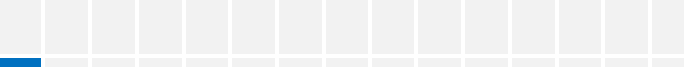
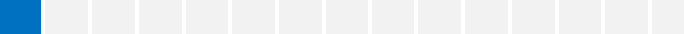
1. **Receives** the report.

Dave Gittings
Wairarapa Recovery Manager

Kate Conroy
Recovery Manager - Masterton District Council

Wellington Region Group Recovery Office

Progress Report for September 2020

September status	Projects underway: 15	
On track	Projects not begun: 0	
	Projects completed: 1	

Executive Summary

Following the first outbreak of COVID 19 in New Zealand and more specifically the Wellington region over February to April 2020, the Wellington region’s councils embarked on a recovery programme that involved coordinating their efforts to identify priority actions that would help minimize the impacts of the pandemic and also strengthen the region’s resilience to any further outbreaks.

This document provides a monthly status update on progress with regard to 16 ‘Regional’ Recovery Projects currently under development or actively being delivered to meet four recovery goals identified by the Wellington Group Recovery Office. These goals are:

- Goal 1 – Enhance the capability of NGOs and community groups to be more self-reliant
- Goal 2 – Create economic opportunities for visitors to spend time and money within the region
- Goal 3 – Lay the foundation for future infrastructure investment from Government
- Goal 4 – Strengthen regional governance and collaboration for long-term benefits

The challenges and opportunities for the COVID 19 Regional Recovery Programme will continue to evolve. Further recovery goals and projects are likely to be identified and initiated as the true nature and impact of this pandemic become better understood. Any additional regional recovery projects will be included within this reporting process.

This progress report does not provide an update on more localised council recovery initiatives.

Individual Project Updates

Table’s One & Two (overpage) provide progress updates and planned delivery timelines for specific recovery projects currently underway to address each of the four COVID 19 recovery goals.

Four colour grades are used to indicate overall project status:





-  *Task completed and being closed out or folded into other work outside this project.*
-  *On track, with no risks known or expected.*
-  *Mostly on track, some risks or delays.*
-  *Major delays or resourcing issues - requires intervention soon.*

Table 1: Project names and descriptions, and status updates for September 2020.

Project Name	Task Description	Latest Update -progress planned or made	Barriers - challenges/issues, support req'd.
GOAL 1: ENHANCE THE CAPABILITY OF NGOs AND COMMUNITY GROUPS TO BE MORE SELF RELIANT			
Resilient NGOs Project Lead: KCDC/UHCC	Improve NGO capabilities to be more economically self-reliant by developing a regional resource	Pre-resurgence meeting was held with DIA, and further scoping work has been done on the two initiatives to ensure they complement and build on existing work. It is suggested that the task descriptions be amended as follows:	The main barrier to the work has been staff being diverted onto resurgence planning. Staff have now got capacity to turn back to progressing this work.
Improve access to Govt Funding Project Lead: KCDC/UHCC	Promote existing funding portals and Government initiatives to assist community groups and NGOs to access available money – ideally as a collective/group	<p>Aim of the work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop NGO's / Community Organisations organisational capability and financial resilience post Covid 19 • To provide easily accessible information on existing and emerging funding (government and philanthropic). • To develop a consistent approach to the provision of information to NGOs / Community Organisations across the Wellington region. • To develop a coordinated cross government approach to supporting NGOs / Community Organisations across the Wellington region (funding, governance, volunteers, recovery planning, organisational resilience etc) <p>This work is expected to also have the benefits of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlight existing work in this area • Identify gaps in provision • Identify opportunities for new approaches and partnerships 	

		<p>Proposed Next Steps</p> <p>Initially to send this proposal back up to the regional recovery team to agree on the following and above;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrange a workshop with key government funders / TA's to discuss current and emerging funding to support NGO's / Community Organisations and identify priority area's in each TA area. • Reconvene the Wellington Region funders network. • Provide information on available funding that can be shared via TA's and government organisations websites. • Provide information of support available to NGO's / Community Organisations across the Wellington region (DIA, MSD, TA's and other working together to provide this support). • Hold joint TA, DIA, MSD workshops across the Wellington Region in October / November to promote this work and identify gaps in provision. • Consider establishment of shared info / network hubs in areas highlighted as areas of need during the Covid response (Otaki etc) 	
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GOAL 2: CREATE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR VISITORS TO SPEND TIME AND MONEY WITHIN THE REGION

<p>Safe & Secure Wellington</p>	<p>Investigate ways for the region to accept foreign visitors and investors safely and securely. This would target 'digital nomad start-ups', sports teams and tertiary students on the</p>	<p>WellingtonNZ is involved in continuing discussions both with sector groups in the region and with sister organisations in Auckland and Christchurch. The conversation around safely bringing those who have</p>	
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<p>Project Lead: WellingtonNZ</p>	<p>basis that duration and value of visit exceeds cost and inconvenience of quarantine.</p>	<p>the capability to spur economic resurgence in New Zealand is very active. Since Lockdown around 12,000 non-New Zealanders have crossed the border most of these under special permission because of a talent they have to support the New Zealand economy and infrastructure management requirements.</p> <p>WellingtonNZ is in mid-October convening a group of critical business stakeholders with an interest in working more closely alongside the other metropolitan areas to advance this conversation with the new government.</p>	
<p>Boost the region’s performance as a visitor destination – <i>Events</i></p> <p>Project Lead: WellingtonNZ</p>	<p>Increase funding for the short term to retain spend in the Wellington region and attract domestic visitors by investing in a compelling calendar of events across the region. Leverage government support packages for events to deliver an increased number of events and/or a greater number of people attending events.</p>	<p>WellingtonNZ has worked closely with government (MBIE) on the decision making that has established two separate event focused Covid-19 recovery funds.</p> <p>One of these funds has now been distributed and supported the event organisations in the region that because of not having events in 2020 might have failed. This investment will ensure those organisations still exist to deliver events in the region in the future.</p> <p>The second fund will provide around \$3.5m to Wellington to supplement the existing investment in events over the next four years. The expectation is that the criteria for use of this funding will need to be significant positive impact of attracting visitors from other regions of New Zealand.</p>	
<p>Boost the region’s performance as a</p>	<p>Increase leisure visitation to the Wellington region by other NZers and using MBIE’s</p>	<p>WellingtonNZ has worked closely with government (MBIE) on the policy decision making that has</p>	

<p>visitor destination – <i>Leisure</i></p> <p>Project Lead: WellingtonNZ</p>	<p>additional funding to develop a long-term region-wide destination management plan, provide the tourism sector with support during this period, and leverage the domestic tourism market.</p>	<p>established the investment in Regional Tourism Organisations (like WellingtonNZ and Destination Wairarapa) as Strategic Tourism Assets. The funding coming from the Strategic Tourism Assets Programme has provided Destination Wairarapa with \$400,000 and WellingtonNZ with \$1m. The investment for both will be split across boosted destination marketing activity to counteract the collapsed international visitor market, business capability building for tourism businesses and the development of a Regional Destination Management Plan in line with guidelines recommended by the government tourism strategy and destination management guidelines.</p> <p>Marketing activity is well underway and will continue through the financial year, business capability building workshops commence in October, and the arrangements for the work on the Destination Management Plan are underway.</p>	
<p>Regional Business Partner Programme</p> <p>Project Lead: WellingtonNZ</p>	<p>Businesses will require multi-level support for the foreseeable future. The region can increase the volume of support provided to address the needs of a larger number of businesses whilst leveraging resources provided through the NZTE programme.</p>	<p>In late July government announced additional support measures delivered through EDA's such as WellingtonNZ for SME's providing any business with up to 100 employees with free specialist advice in the areas they needed it. This replicated the scheme delivered by WellingtonNZ in lockdown but with much more significant resources. A team was quickly assembled and has operated by finding businesses across the region and across all sectors that have been impacted by Covid-19 and finding them the right help to assist with their particular challenges.</p>	

		<p>The engagement with Councils has in some parts of the region been particularly helpful to access business groupings that have not typically engaged with this type of opportunity</p> <p>This particular programme of activity is scheduled to complete at the end of November</p>	
<p>Regional Skills & Training Assessment and Delivery</p> <p>Project Lead: WellingtonNZ</p>	<p>Determine the skills and training required to improve prosperity and wellbeing across the Wellington region. Provide community information to the participants of the Regional Skills Leadership Group & Government agencies to identify requirements and put both vocational and other training packages in place.</p>	<p>The interim Regional Skills Leadership Group has now been established by Ministry of Education and MBIE and is made up of representatives of central and local government agencies, employers, employees, Māori and Pacifica. The group has been carefully constructed to ensure that its membership also represents the various geographical parts of our region.</p> <p>At the current time the group is working upon a report that will identify the immediate challenges and workforce needs of the region in this immediate post-Covid 19 period.</p> <p>A workforce development group is established in the Wairarapa districts and one is being established in Porirua.</p>	
<p>Expansion of the Education-to-Employment Brokerage Service</p> <p>WellingtonNZ</p>	<p>Partner with MSD to expand the service from Wellington City and Hutt City to other city/districts across the region.</p>	<p>This work links in with the establishment of the interim Regional Skills Leadership Group. The current service being delivered in Hutt and Wellington is resourced by MSD. Potential partners have been identified in other parts of the region; WellingtonNZ intends to engage with these parties to identify</p>	

		interest before assessing what resources might be required and where these might come from	
GOAL 3: LAY THE FOUNDATION FOR FUTURE INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT FROM GOVERNMENT			
2 ND Round Government Investments Project Lead: WCC/Ashley Fry	Develop a list of medium-term projects that the region can provide to Government if another round of funding becomes available specifically targeting government priorities (e.g. water, housing, transport & roading).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work on framework has slowed/largely paused in September due to competing priorities. • Still aiming to get a draft to the Recovery Managers Group this month, just likely to be later in September. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resurgence and the usual BAU balancing act meaning less capacity/focus on Recovery work.
Regional Network Connectivity Project Lead: Wairarapa/Kate	Improve regional network connectivity to enable people to work from home more easily and promote the region as a lifestyle choice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Done some stakeholder engagement Wairarapa and this group is keen for support from other parts of the region. • Engagement to focus on stakeholder needs so better positioned to advocate • Have started speaking with contacts from other councils to identify opportunities (UH) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Consideration needs to be given to 5G versus Fibre.</i> • <i>Limited influence</i>
GOAL 4: STRENGTHEN REGIONAL GOVERNANCE AND COLLABORATION FOR LONG-TERM BENEFITS			
One Wellington Voice Project Lead: GWRC	Councils collaborate to put forward one shared position on Government policies as they are released	Pending further information, appetite testing and resource scoping	Requires more information and details around which part/focus areas of Government would be worthy and impactful of a shared response statement
Monitor Regional Impacts Project Lead: WREMO/GWRC	Monitor the impacts of COVID 19 across the four Well-beings via shared data and insights to build a shared regional narrative and inform future interventions. Monitoring and evaluation are important to assess changes in the environment and inform adjustments to planning and delivery of recovery related programmes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27 Indicators identified and data being collected on a monthly basis. Completed the August Dashboard on time and released in early September. Currently putting together the September Dashboard. • Regular monthly meetings now being held with other Wellbeing indicator suppliers (Stats NZ, Treasury, WCC) to look at opportunities to further collaborate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delays in getting data from some data suppliers an ongoing issue

Regional Recovery Projects – September 2020 Status Report

<p>Procure for Impact Project Lead: HCC</p>	<p>Coordinate council procurement to improve efficiencies. Collaborate on market procurements and syndicated contracts (not shared services).</p>		<p>Creative HQ started doing something similar. Our approach was a low resource, which is different approach with 3 FTEs. Needs to be worked through to determine scale and scope of this project.</p>
<p>Shared Planning Assumptions Project Lead: Steve Perdia PCC /Luke Troy GWRC</p>	<p>Collaborate on the shared post-COVID planning assumptions for LTPs specifically considering population, economic and financial affordability.</p>	<p>Regional assumptions develop and shared with all Councils for cohesive planning purposes.</p> <p>Additional Resources BERL reports – Economic Forecasts available here: https://www.gw.govt.nz/research-and-reports/</p> <p>(COVID Scenario response framework report – available and to be uploaded soon – authored by BERL)</p> <p>COVID and the LTP – Impacts and Implications: More information available via SOLGM here.</p> <p>The password to access the videos is LSLTP123.</p>	<p>Nil – Now completed</p>
<p>Strengthen Regional Governance Project Lead: GWRC</p>	<p>Formalize a regional governance structure to address ongoing opportunities and challenges, including recovery from COVID 19 and strengthen partnerships with iwi and Government.</p>	<p><i>Progress towards the Joint Committee for Regional Leadership is underway.</i></p> <p><i>This Committee would provide a formal forum for the development and implementation of regional scale planning and opportunity capture relating to three areas: The Wellington Regional Growth Framework; Regional Sustainable Economic Development; and Regional Response and Recovery from the COVID era.</i></p> <p>Key:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Note that the Joint Committee supplants the Wellington Regional Strategy Office – Wellington Council CEs briefed and informed of progress (Sept 15, 2020) 	<p>Acceptance of Joint Committee by all Wellington Territorial Authorities.</p> <p>Mitigated by planned council workshops (Sept-November) to share story of why the Joint Committee for Regional Leadership will be an effective platform and catalyst for Wellington Region to thrive.</p>

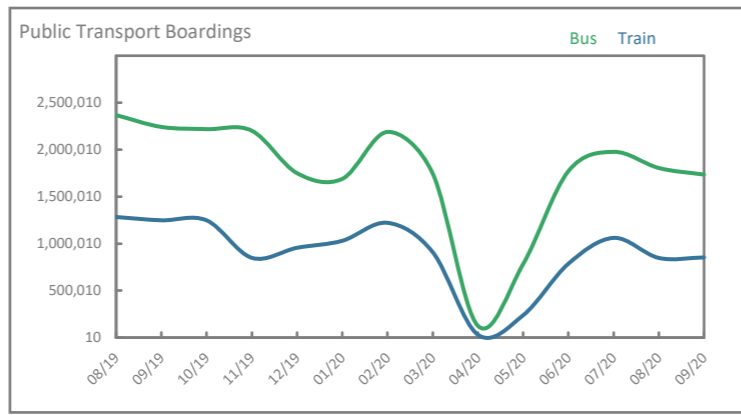
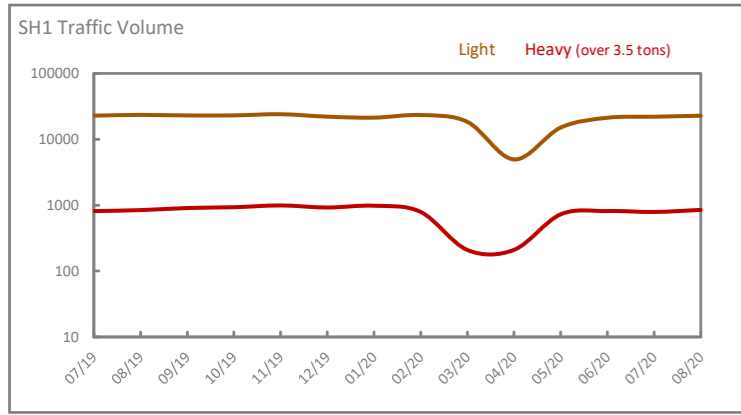
<p>Utilise Creative HQ</p> <p>Project Lead: WellingtonNZ</p>	<p>Incest resources into Creative HQ for specific regional recovery initiatives to help accelerate progress.</p>	<p>The Creative HQ board have committed to identifying projects for incubation, acceleration and development in the Wellington Region as an ongoing priority.</p> <p>A number of projects are underway with a Wellington Region Recovery focus. These include examination of opportunity to make Wellington a Carbon Neutral Visitor Destination, to improve the visitor experience to Wellington for families, a series of ‘re-write your business plan’ workshops for businesses virtually and spread across the region.</p> <p>The Lightening Lab Govtech programme has just started and has a number of projects being pursued by Councils from our region. One of these projects ‘Procurement for Impact’ has a team made up of people from different Councils and WellingtonNZ.</p>	
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Table 2: Monthly status and progression towards expected delivery timeframe. Please enter key milestones and expected delivery time.

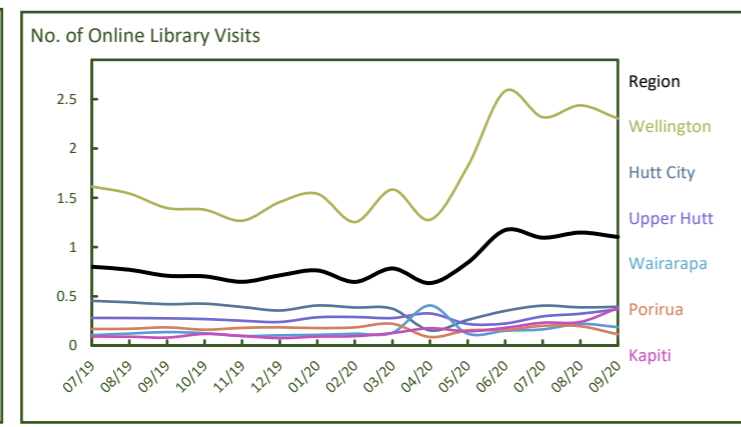
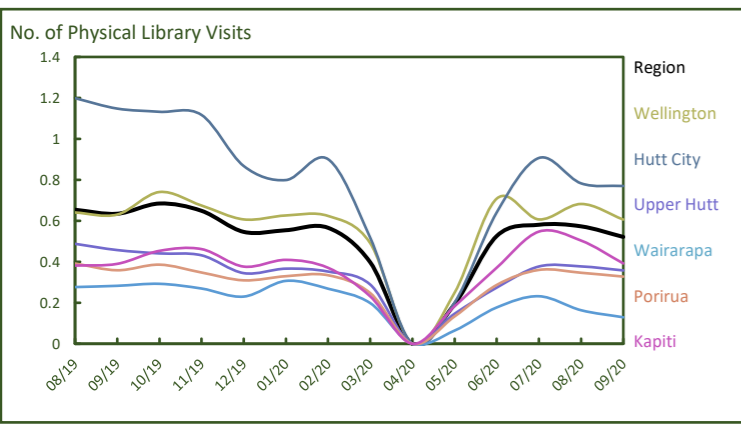
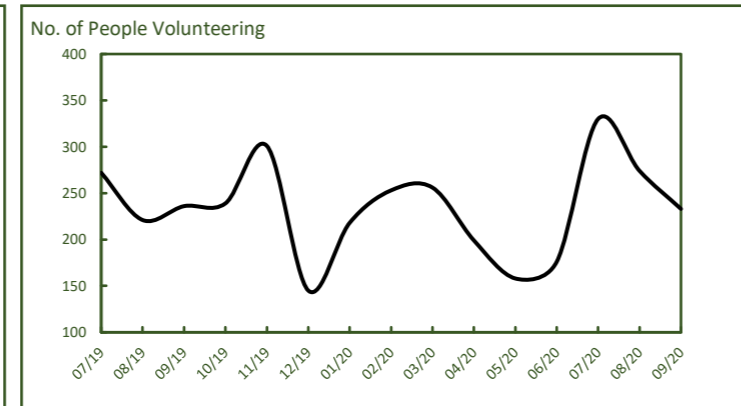
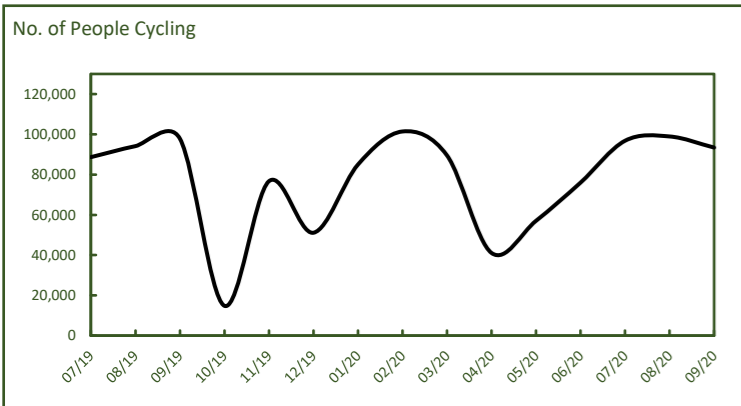
Task	July	August	September	October	November	December	January
Resilient NGOs		Consulting with NGO's		Delivery			
Improve access to Govt Funding							
Safe & Secure Wellington					Delivery		
Boost the region's performance as a visitor destination - Events							
Boost the region's performance as a visitor destination - Leisure							

Regional Recovery Projects – September 2020 Status Report

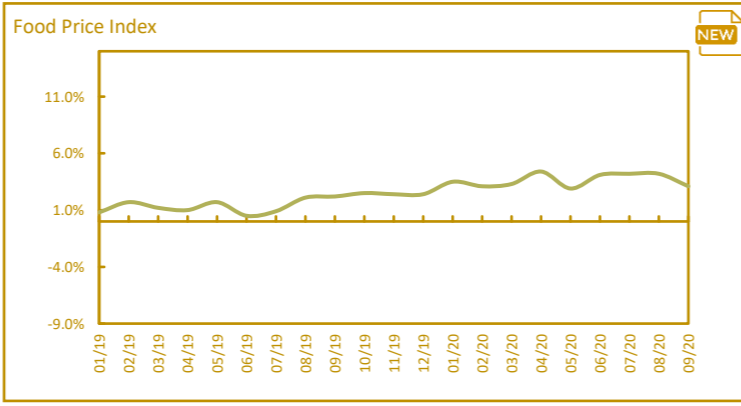
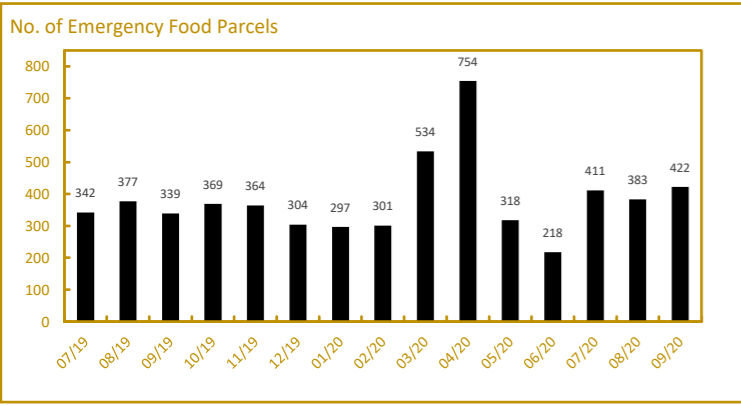
Regional Business Partner Programme		Consulting with Stakeholders	Consulting with Stakeholders				Delivery TBC
Regional Skills & Training Assessment and Delivery		Consulting with Stakeholders	Consulting with Stakeholders			Delivery TBC	
Expansion of the Education-to-Employment Brokerage Service				Delivery			
2 ND Round Government Investments				Delivery TBC			
Regional Network Connectivity				Delivery TBC			
One Wellington Voice					Delivery TBC		
Monitor Regional Impacts	Presenting first draft to CEG	Delivery (ongoing for next 12 months)	September Dashboard completedP				
Procure for Impact			Exploring				
Shared Planning Assumptions			Completed				
Strengthen Regional Governance							<i>Delivery early 2021</i>
Utilise Creative HQ				Exploring Options			



COMMUNITY ACTIVITY



FOOD SECURITY



WELLINGTON REGION COVID 19 RECOVERY DASHBOARD – October 2020

Recovery Indicators

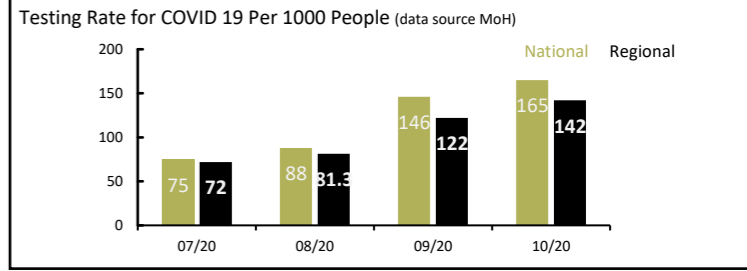
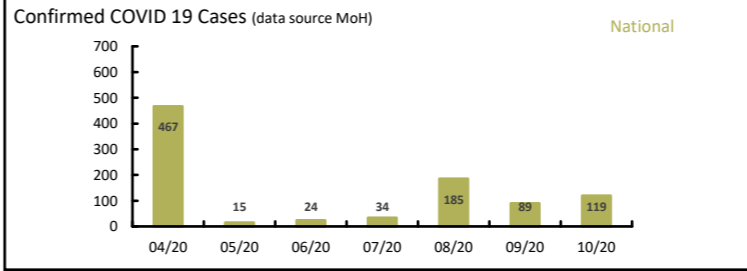
This Dashboard provides a snapshot of the potential impacts of COVID-19 and recovery efforts. The Community Wellbeings (social, cultural and economic) from the Local Government Act have shaped the themes of this Dashboard. These measures use pre-existing datasets that are readily available to create a high-level picture of what is happening at a national, regional and local level. Broad inferences can be made on the changes for each measure, but a deeper analysis would be required to confirm any trends and associations with COVID 19. These measures are not tied to a specific set of strategic regional recovery outcomes. A pre-COVID baseline of one year has been used where possible to measure any potential changes that may have resulted from COVID 19. The dashboard is expected to continue through to the end of 2021 and will evolve as required by events and new information.

Developing trends: Increasing house and rent prices are resulting in a rise in people unable to afford independent accommodation. Housing indicators show a steady increase in the number of people requiring emergency accommodation grants or accommodation support supplements. Individuals and families are also staying longer in emergency accommodation or on the Social Housing Waitlist. The cost of food has been steadily creeping higher since late last year (see food price Index) and there are early signs that emergency food parcel deliveries are rising again. There is an approximate 40% rise in jobseeker support in comparison to pre-COVID 19 levels and the working age groups most impacted by COVID are young people aged between 15 -24 years.

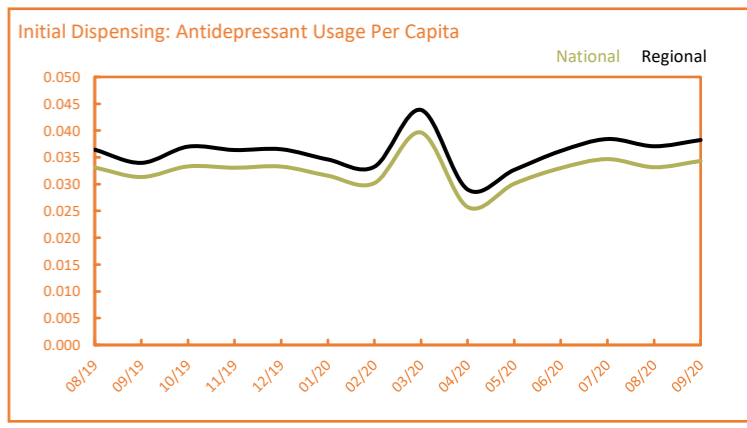
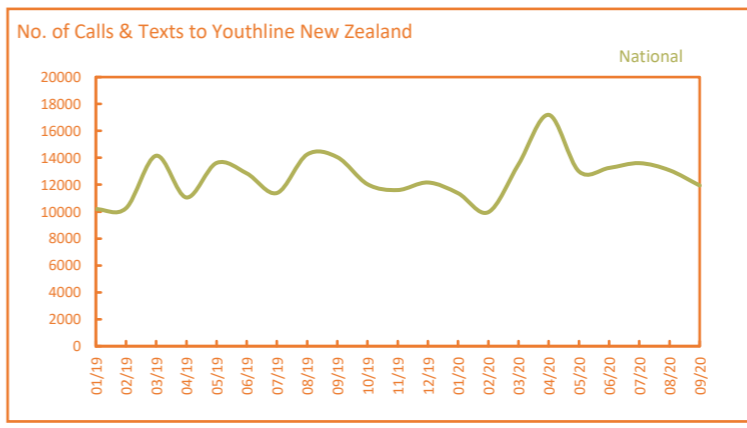
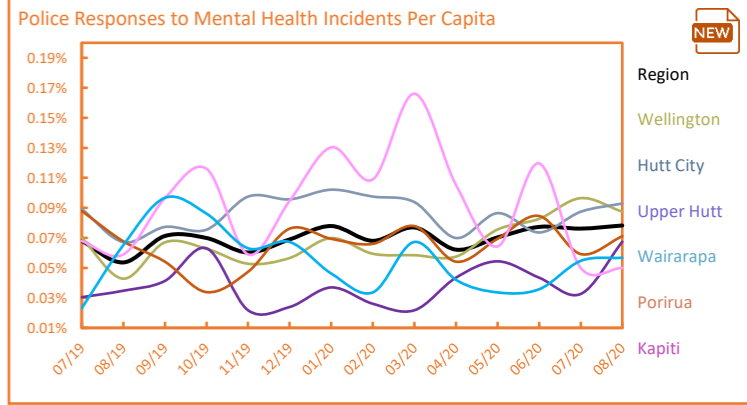
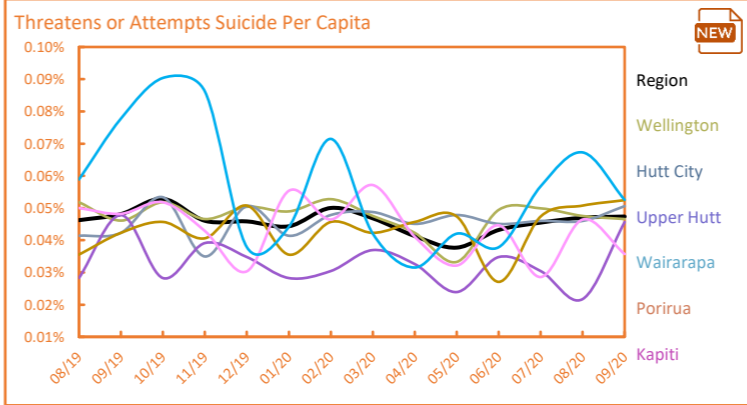
Dashboard Administration

For inquiries about the Dashboard please contact Dan Neely (dan.neely@wremo.nz) or Scott Dray (scott.dray@wremo.nz) from the Recovery function of the Wellington Region Emergency Management Office.

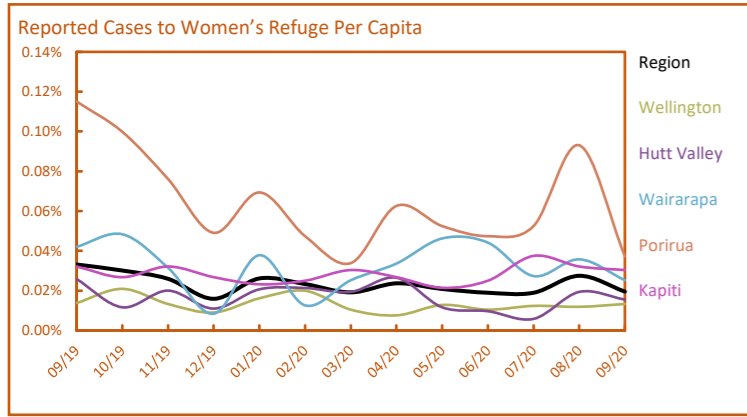
COVID 19



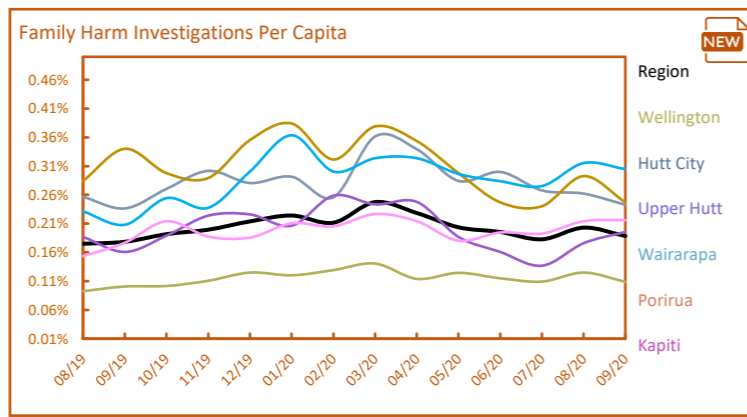
MENTAL HEALTH



HOUSEHOLD STRESS

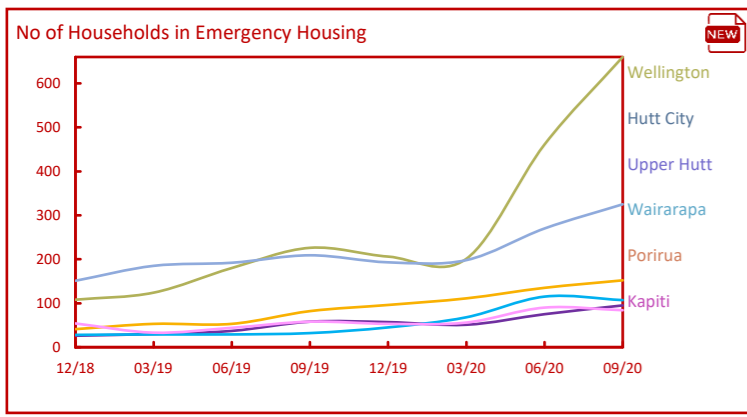


Data Source: Women's Refuge (1 month data lag)

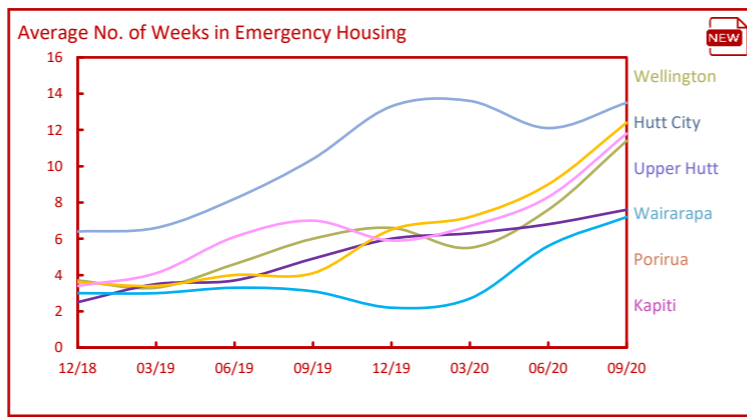


Data Source: NZ Police (1 month data lag)

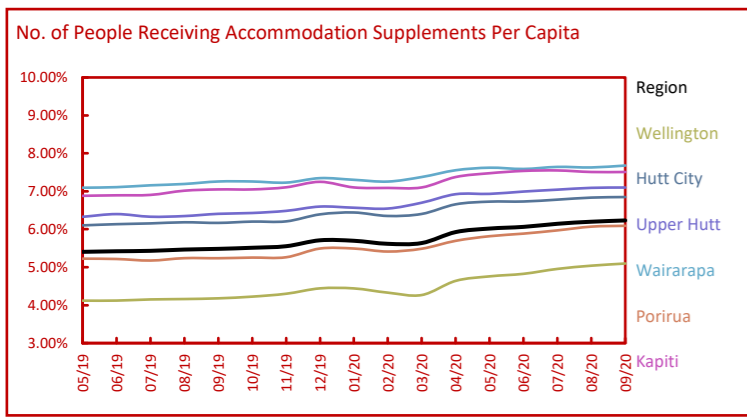
HOUSING & ACCOMMODATION



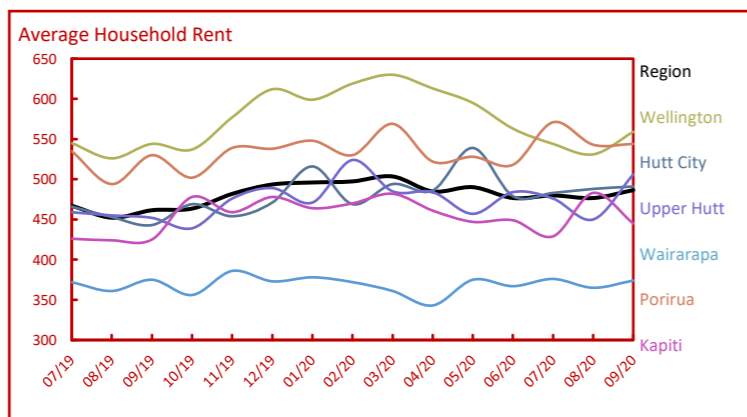
Data Source: Ministry of Social Development (data supplied quarterly) over two years



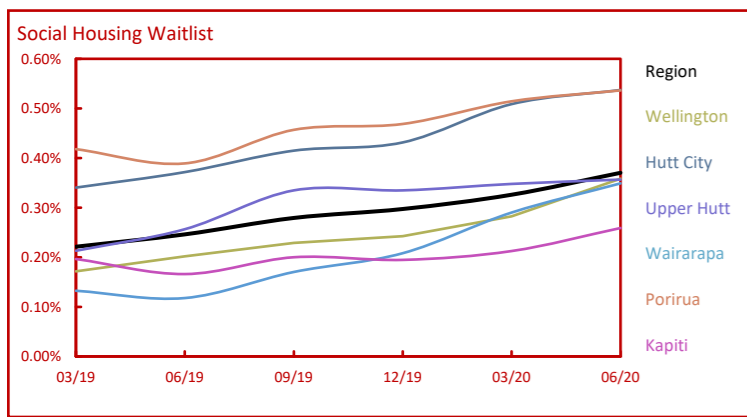
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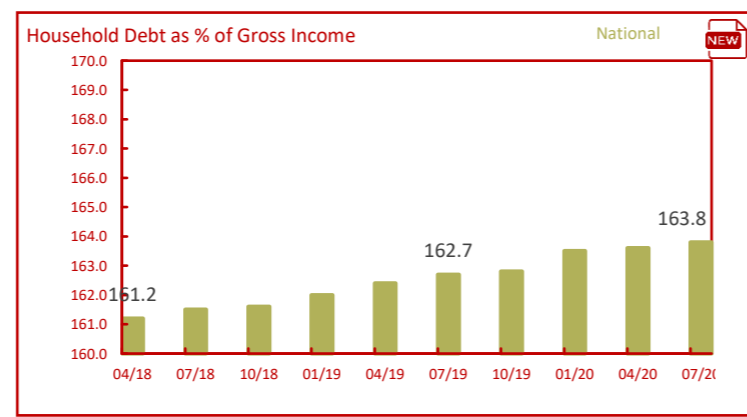
Data Source: Ministry of Social Development



Data Source: Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment

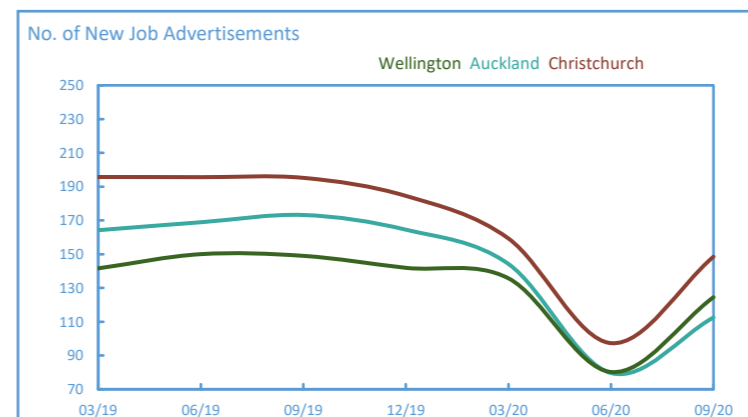


Data Source: Ministry of Social Development (Data supplied quarterly)

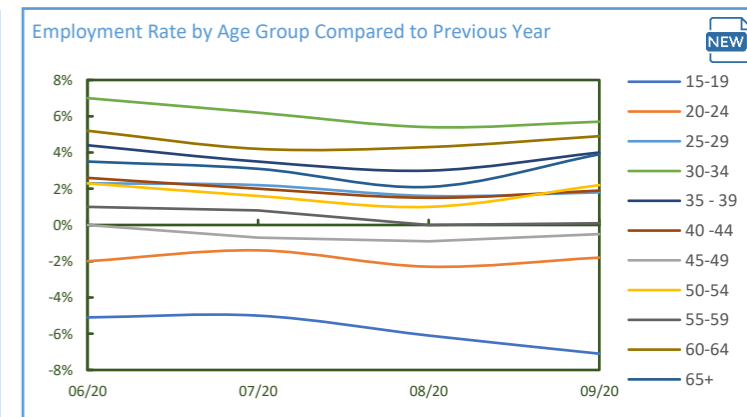


Data Source: Trading Economics Website (data supplied quarterly)

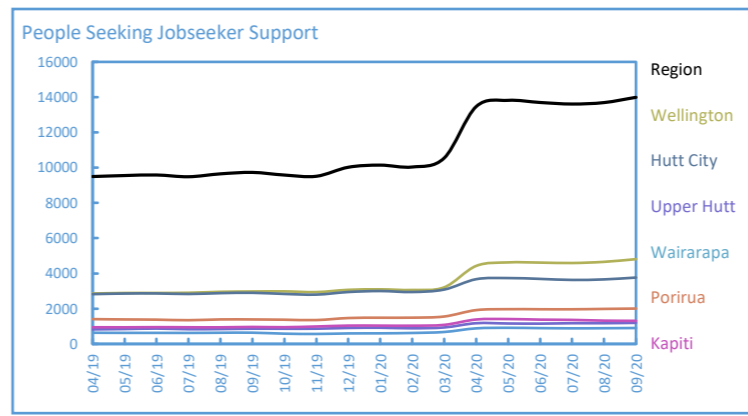
EMPLOYMENT



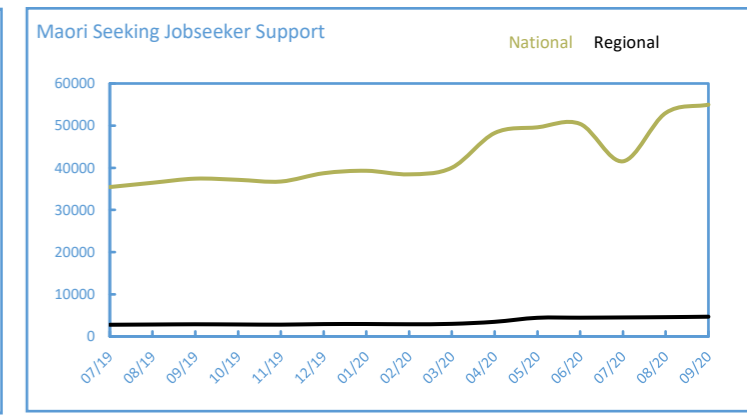
Data Source: Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment (data supplied quarterly)



Data Source: StatsNZ

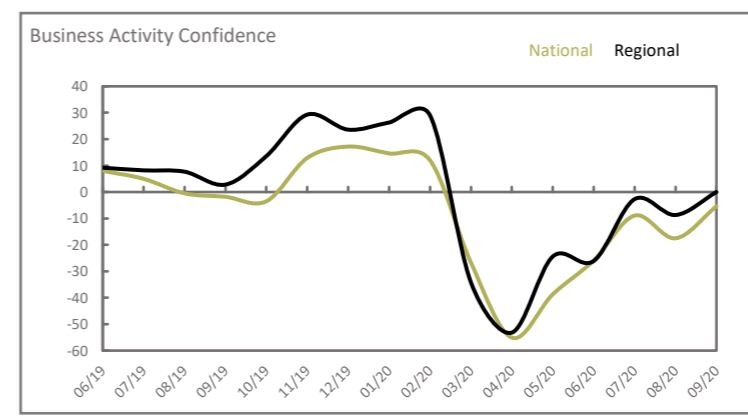


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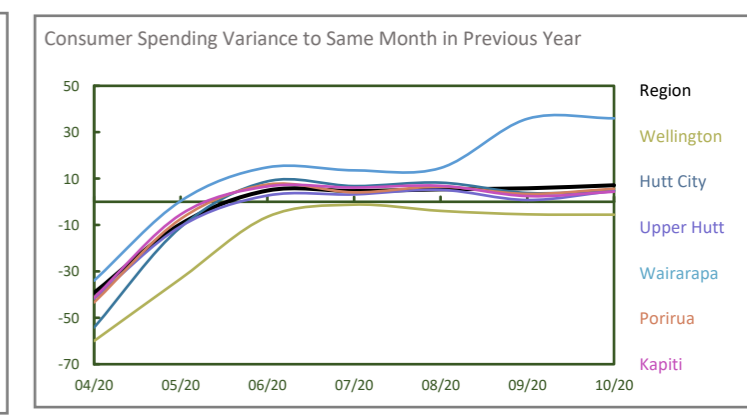


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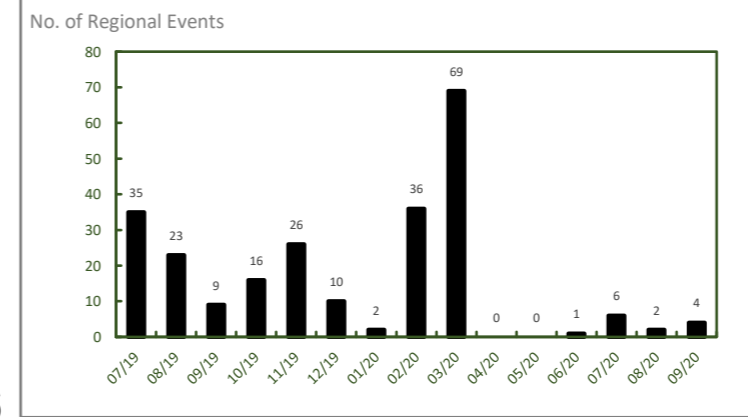
BUSINESS ACTIVITY



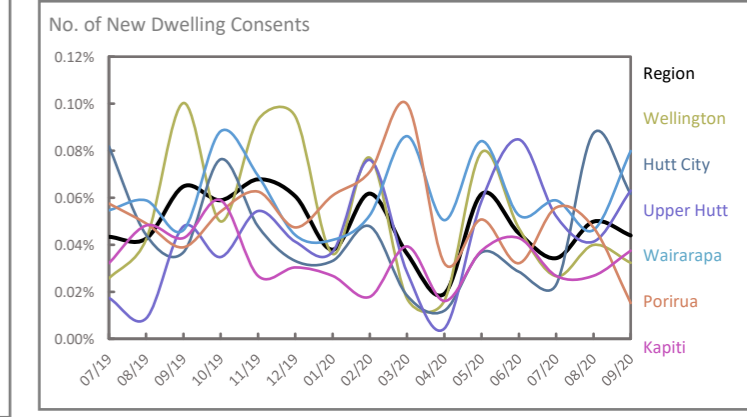
Data Source: Monthly ANZ Business Survey



Data Source: MBIE (data supplied quarterly)



Data Source: WellingtonNZ



Data Source: StatsNZ (2 month data lag)



Wairarapa Recovery Survey

November 2020

Agenda Item B2

1. PURPOSE

To update the Wairarapa Recovery Committee on outcomes of the Wairarapa Recovery Survey.

2. SIGNIFICANCE

The matters for decision in this report are not considered to be of significance under the Significance and Engagement Policy.

3. BACKGROUND

The Wairarapa Recovery Survey was conducted to gather information from Wairarapa residents to be used to shape our recovery plan and to report back to the Recovery Committee the views, ideas and suggestions made from our residents. Utilising NGOs and other community groups as well as residents means we will have a wide range of information across different demographics. The data gathered will be a base line for showing the current state and over time we can use this data to track recovery in the Wairarapa. A follow-up date of March 2021 is proposed.

4. METHODOLOGY

The survey was conducted online from 12/10/2020 to 2/11/2020, with access being advertised through links on each council's website, posters with QR code links on display in libraries, cafes & various shops throughout the three districts, and a link emailed by the regional Positive Ageing Strategy Co-ordinator to a database of organisations related to older persons.

Participants were asked what COVID-19 impacts they were most concerned about, what positive and negative effects that COVID-19 had had on their household, to rank the importance of initiatives under the four components of recovery, economic, social, environmental and cultural, and asked to comment on what else Wairarapa Recovery could consider. A visual summary of the survey and all responses to each question can be found [here](#).

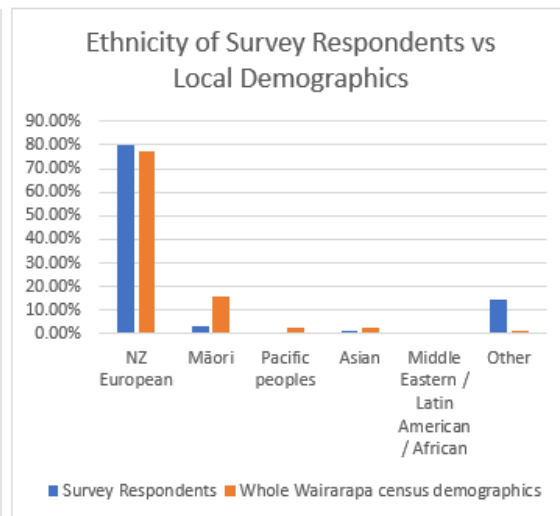
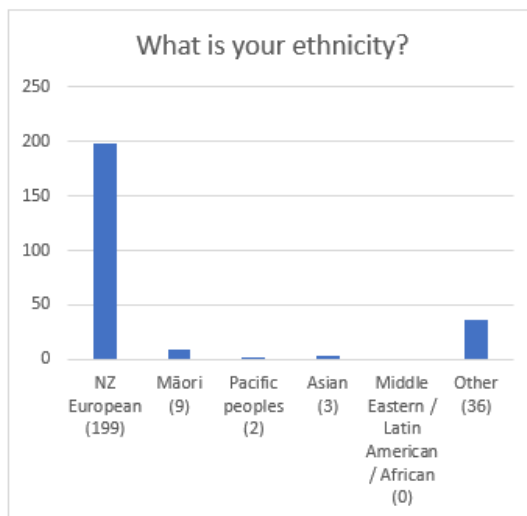
5. DEMOGRAPHICS

The age group with the most responses was 45-64. People under 25 represented only 3% of responses. Most of the respondents were Pakeha/ European. 42% of respondents live in South Wairarapa district, 34% in Carterton district and 24% in Masterton district.

What is your age bracket?

[More Details](#)

0-14	1
15-24	4
25-44	64
45-64	102
65+	78



6. POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE IMPACTS

The main positive impact that people responded with was the opportunity to spend time with family (52% of respondents), with additional comments from 6% of respondents saying they enjoyed connecting with their neighbours and community over lockdown. Some respondents indicated that the main positive impacts were only felt during lockdown itself. The “other” positive impacts reported included increased home & garden maintenance, saving money, learning new skills & technologies, and personal self-development. 8% of people said they hadn’t experienced any positive impacts.

Has COVID-19 had any positive impacts on your household? Relationships with friends/neighbours?

[More Details](#)

Spending time with family	129
Working from home	101
Exercise	88
Increased wellbeing	61
Other	68

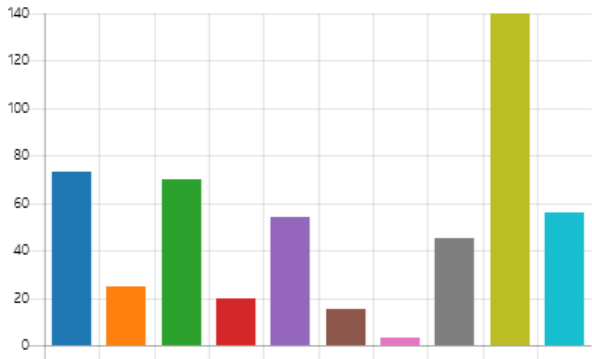


The main negative impacts experienced resulted from restricted travel, finances and health & wellbeing. Isolation was also a common experience with further comments in the “other” field relating to concern for family in other places, and the inability to be with them. 15% of respondents said they had had no negative impacts.

Has COVID-19 affected your household negatively (tick those that apply)

[More Details](#)

● Finances	73
● Relationships	25
● Health and Wellbeing	70
● Education/ training	20
● Employment/ work arrangeme...	54
● Food Security	15
● Housing	3
● Isolation	45
● Travel restrictions	140
● Other	56



7. CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY

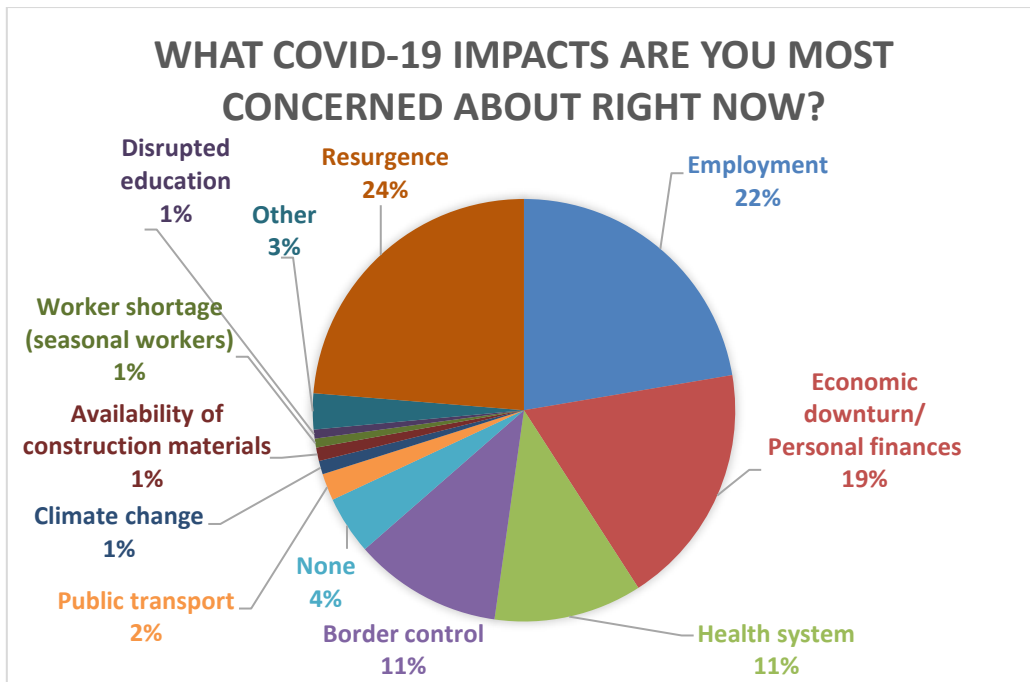
The prevalent concern reported was COVID19 resurgence. Responses detailed concerns around return of community transmission, having to go back into lockdown, other people not adhering to the restrictions & recommendations, events being cancelled (arts, entertainment, sports), and fear of getting the virus.

Employment was the second most prevalent concern, with respondents saying they were concerned about COVID19 related job losses, job security, job opportunities, increases in crime due to increased unemployment.

Economic downturn/ Personal finances encompasses people’s concerns over the effects on small/local businesses, needing to shop local, people’s financial health & ability to pay bills, economic downturn & recovery, national debt and the strain on the Wairarapa’s housing & land development from people moving to the region.

Concerns around the health system related to the resiliency of the health system, access to the treatment providers, people’s mental health, the health of family & community members, and the long-term health effects after a person has Covid19.

Border control concerns related to travel restrictions, the health of the tourism industry, and being isolated from family who live in other places.



8. ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL INITIATIVES

Respondents were asked to rank specific initiatives by importance for each of the four components of recovery.

Wairarapa Recovery's proposed **economic** focus is to link and promote initiatives so our economy can build back better.

1. Support local (Wairarapa and New Zealand)
2. Employment opportunities in the region
3. Growth and innovation
4. Attract people to the Wairarapa

Wairarapa Recovery's proposed **social** focus is to help our communities and local peoples thrive collectively.

1. Targeted support for those most in need
2. Support mental health and wellbeing in the community
3. Strengthen and enhance coordinated community response to future crises i.e: COVID-19, natural disaster etc.

Wairarapa Recovery's proposed **environmental** focus is to connect and protect the environment.

1. Promote sustainability including walking, cycling and public transport options
2. Provide support for projects that enhance local environment
3. Promote Wairarapa's unique natural assets for recreation opportunities

Wairarapa Recovery's proposed **cultural** focus is to promote our collective community spirit and embrace our local identity.

1. Promote placemaking in our towns, encourage the revitalisation of town centres and advocate for regional Wairarapa events
2. Support Iwi, Hapu and Maori communities through to ensure the long-term sustainability and wellbeing of local marae.
3. Identify ways in which we can celebrate all languages and cultures across the Wairarapa.

9. WHAT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED FOR WAIRARAPA RECOVERY

Attachment A provides themed groupings of responses to the open field question "Is there anything else we could consider for Wairarapa Recovery?". Some responses have been summarised. Themes are recovery, employment, grow Wairarapa, community opportunities, planning, engagement, council spend, collaboration of councils, CBD attractiveness, infrastructure/ amenities, tourism, transport, environment, health, education, pest control, other agencies, and other.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Wairarapa Recovery Committee:

1. **Receives** the report.

Nigel Carter
South Wairarapa Recovery

ATTACHMENT A

Themed groupings of responses to the question:

Is there anything else we could consider for Wairarapa Recovery?

Recovery

Be part of NZ recovery; what can we do for, and be for, other parts of NZ especially near north and Wellington.

Practical ideas and projects with actual funding from councils not waffle and websites and no action

Celebrate innovation and response by community organisations

Local recovery celebration

Have the three Wairarapa Councils budgeted in their respective Long Term Plans for funding recovery?

Keep up the good work.

Employment

Trade education for youth

Support "knowledge economy" rather than primary production & manufacturing

Attract industry

Focus on things that improve employment

Encourage local businesses to be more flexible with work hours/ locations

Increase employment

Local mentoring and support for unskilled jobseekers.

Long term plan. Think about work opportunities for our youth with living wage and above.

Make sure we encourage more businesses to come to our small towns, ie. Carterton.

Making sure we have the labour force to keep our orchards, winegrowers etc going.

Shovel ready seems to me to focus on male dominated trades. Let's support recovery efforts that focus on women dominated, and focus training in new fields for women. Women have lost more jobs than men. Either bring them into the trades or support women into innovative jobs related to recovery

Try to attract companies that sell knowledge and technology so the region depends less on Primary Industries and traditional low paying jobs like factory work.

Support and provide subsidies for small businesses who have lost their jobs and wanting to start a small business. Create more jobs.

Support for small business

Where are the local 'jobs for nature' that central government announced funding for?

Look for employment opportunities

Employment for locals who lost their jobs

Jobs, jobs, jobs

Anything that will get people into jobs

No more lockdowns as this will mean more job loses, economy needs fixing

Attract small to medium businesses to this region. Look at what businesses requires (better transport links or faster broadband etc.) And build that resource. Also add incentives to come. But not until we have the housing to support it. In the mean time we should try and get commuters travelling both ways. Why shouldn't people in the Hutt valley travel to Featherston to work!

Job opportunities and/or retraining for older people who have lost their employment. It's so difficult to convince employers to give someone over 50 a job and all the training focuses on under 24s.

Give local people jobs in cleaning [public toilets] rather than regional contractors.

Grow Wairarapa

Model and promote remote working. This will attract more people to move here. More ratepayers, more money to provide facilities, more spending to support growing and new businesses, more jobs, more people moving here, an upward cycle of prosperity.

More publicity on Wairarapa as a region.

Offer more marketing support for local businesses and services. There are some amazing ones in the Wairarapa but some with poor visibility or lack of in-house marketing.

Promoting the entirety of what makes the Wairarapa awesome: explore the region (Cape Palliser, Mt Bruce, Stonehenge, Gladstone Inn etc), stay a while at great accommodation, go fly fishing, eat, drink and shop up a storm at great independent shops. It needs to be the whole package.

Promote local business.

A buy local campaign for Christmas

Improve and enhance retail

Focus on the strengths of the Wairarapa as an attractive local destination to visit.

A more fair promotion of the entire Wairarapa not so pro-Greytown.

Promotions for locals to support restaurants and bars, like the entertainment book

Throughout summer arrange different businesses to sale their products at outdoor entertainment put on by council for a Gold coin domain to enter. Could be weekly or fortnightly. Encourage all businesses not just the same ones

Market resilience in the Wairarapa - to not only attract domestic tourists, but to attract new people to live in the region.

Protect the unique town centres we have. Don't let big corporate chain stores in main street/towns as a way to create jobs. Stay individual

Increasing the number and range of businesses in Masterton is vital given the projected population increase that our district will experience over the next 20 years.

Community opportunities

Community events to bring the community together

Keep in contact with residents (communication)

Promote rules of alert levels to increase compliance

Look at the niche activities in Wairarapa eg night sky and promote activities and events around these niche activities

Martinborough day to help with wellbeing

More free community events promoting local attractions and businesses

Revitalise Neighbourhood Support - some of our elderly residents received support in the way of food packages, but I believe that some were not identified.

Support food bank and social organisations

The specific needs of an aging population

Support for creative endeavours and community projects

Supporting community groups who can contribute to leading the COVID recovery. Also helping community groups to prepare resources in case we get into lockdown again

Things for young people to do. A skate park in Greytown. Continued support for free pools

Timeless skills camps support - regular retreats where people teach each other how to be self-sufficient, skills helping to survive even without electricity or supermarkets, neighbourhood support

groups importance... I have a team of locals working on such, any support would be welcomed for the resilience of Wairarapa community through knowing how to do things better and more independently. Let us know if you are interested in knowing more at [email redacted]. Thanks

Support community initiatives that connect people across generations as well as ethnicity and religion to build a connected resilient community.

We need lots and lots of positive stories about our region, all the positive initiatives that are happening. What activities and local events are out there, promote the creativity in the region. Initiate some have a go days, tree planting etc. I think people are, more than ever, keen to support local activities.

Reasonably priced activities/initiatives for families and especially our teens

Options for kids other than skate park and playground

Community spaces, indoors & outdoors, that encourage groups to meet and give clubs a free/koha-based space to meet in.

Mental health is awful for so many at the moment, including children. More fun days for kids, get them outdoors when possible.

Support towards local Marae food production. I.e: planting veggie plots and fruit trees.

Planning

I am concerned at the thought of attracting more people to the Wairarapa. We have sufficient. Ongoing development seems largely unplanned and is putting stress on limited resources.

Increase housing supply by changing district plan and zoning

Require new builds to have solar & water collection (increase infrastructure resilience)

New build must have water tank

Long term plan. Think about releasing land for kiwi build, first home buyers and young families

Review the town boundaries - free up land for housing. There is significant demand and distinct undersupply particularly in the South Wairarapa.

Councils need to look at making sure we have capacity to grow and can accommodate the extra tourists we want to attract

Review aspects of the district plan that do not support green building, net gains in biodiversity, compact urban form integrated with (greener) transport and infrastructure requirements

There is a housing shortage so until that is fixed we could at least have temporary visitors (tourists) to help provide additional income for local business. And then focus on the housing and the

provision of affordable homes. Then we can look at growing our regional population in a sustainable way so as not to ruin the character of the region.

Resolve housing challenges. Employers are desperate for staff but there are no affordable accommodation options so it is impossible to attract much needed talent to our hospitality and tourism businesses. No good promoting the region if there are no workers to provide the goods and services needed for visitors when they get here. Already Martinborough is at breaking point and nothing is being done except to encourage even more visitors.

Build social housing

Engagement

Encourage young people to participate

Increased engagement with rural residents

Increase public consultation & engagement with asset planning

Include rural/coastal in consultations, not just main centres

Greater use of social media for CDEM communication with community

Make this dialogue as visible through as many channels as possible and keep making it accessible to all.

Reach elderly with communications, they don't use social media

Simplify communications, jargon used

Creating/utilising community groups to get community input for planning, decision-making and various aspects of implementation of rebuild and recovery - what about a citizens panel, jury or advisory group

Council spend

Hold rates increase, improve council services, reduce council consent fees

Funding for recovery in long term plans

Financial support/ grants for groups working to improve outcomes for Wairarapa locals

Lower rates and more parking

Assist building owners in small towns to bring buildings to earthquake standards

Prioritise funding so that rate payers aren't burdened

Redistribution of regional/national public finance to facilitate Wairarapa communities own local governance.

Spending that benefits the larger proportion of the community

Rating, grants, and other financial support to be progressive - supporting the most vulnerable - advocate for the same at national taxation level

Consider more user pays approaches to council services eg rates, 3 waters etc.

Collaboration of councils

Economic resilience through coordination across 3 councils of key regional strengths

More collaboration between three councils

More cooperation between councils, ie shared services and infrastructure, cutting duplication of services and public amenities.

Strengthen relationships with various organisations for recovery & re-emergence, govt, NGO, iwi, DHB, public health

More inclusion with community/volunteer organisations - ensuring working together with the councils to avoid double ups of similar mahi

Not duplicating effort

Amalgamation of the councils

String links to all national agencies such MSD DHB MOE

CBD attractiveness

We need more business be able to have premises in the main St, town looks so empty and isn't attracting people into town

Tidy up the CBD, especially takeaways that should be clean outside and in - I.e. Annual health precaution certificate compliance

Revitalise Featherston township

Featherston town centre needs more money to smarten up and also use some of the beautiful old buildings that could be an asset but are currently just an eyesore.

Smarten up our CBD

Tidy up the CBD

Infrastructure/ amenities

A substantial upgrade in infrastructure development which may also boost employment in the region

Infrastructure improvement, roads

Infrastructure improvement, roads, water, recycling, for increasing population

Here is an opportunity to attract business from Wellington to the region. I believe with the right infrastructure the Wairarapa could have an IT datacentre set up that would be considerably cheaper than housing it in Wellington or Auckland with less risk in an earthquake also. We currently have hundreds of Skilled people from the Wairarapa who commute to Wellington every day who i am sure would jump at the opportunity to work from their home area.

Infrastructure improvement to encourage more permanent residents.

Improve swimming pools and playgrounds

Significantly improve resiliency/redundancy of the electricity supply, planning for the growth expected over the next 20 years

Build infrastructure (water storage)

Water storage, waste water.

Water storage.

Invest in water storage

Water shortages already! It's not even summer yet.

More people should be encouraged to collect their grey water for a second use like washing their cars. Encourage water tanks collecting rain off ones roof.

Improve our drinking water resources - especially to ensure sufficient availability during Summer and early autumn. This is vital for attracting and retaining employment to the Masterton district

Seriously support (\$\$\$) infrastructure projects to make other initiatives possible - particularly cycling and other recreation opportunities.

Drinking fountains in the street

Increased beatification – floral plantings

Streetscaping in Featherston.

Car parking on high street

Wairarapa resource re-use and recovery centre

Disability/ wheelchair suitable footpaths

More street seating for aged citizens

Protect the assets we have from vandals

Here's a thought for Carterton . . . Let's make High Street from Andersons Line to Dalefield Road one way south and have north bound traffic go left into Dalefield Road, right into Lincoln Road (now one way north) and rejoin SH2 at Anderson Line.

Revisit the option of mountain bike trails in Lansdowne area would be an awesome option for all ages in Masterton promoting physical fitness and fun and would be so accessible for everyone

Support the development of our towns recreational facilities. Access to council owned and subsidised will be especially important for who have financial concerns. Physical activity and recreation are scientifically proven to support mental well-being. They support community connection and cohesiveness.

Invest in / advocate for digital infrastructure

More public toilets, particularly accessible ones.

Longer library opening hours, especially on weekends

We need the infrastructure here to be given some serious attention as we can't handle any more people, without causing horrific affects on the local environment.

Too many times waste water including raw sewage from our towns are being released into the river here. It's disgusting. Consented or not. Warning signs for this human pollution into our main river need to be put up when this happens. As people swim and catch fish in the river.

Bins are overflowing and rubbish blowing everywhere. Road sides are getting filthy.

Tourism

Coordination of events across region (national tourists have multiple events on each trip)

Continue supporting tourism from around NZ. You are doing a good job at the moment, thank you-keep it up please.

Continue to promote our outstanding region to NZ, come and enjoy what we have on our doorsteps, work or play

Encouragement to visit the region from all over NZ, attracting locals to stay in the region for work that may have been lost

Support national tourism, promote wetlands & birdlife

Support national tourism, cycling, walking

Improve cycling & walking opportunities

Invest in outdoor activities, walking paths, cycle paths

Promote the Wairarapa as the Capital Country Escape. With added events, activities and attractions. Or even just help the current providers of these businesses attract more business (people)

Transport

Improved transport to Wairarapa.

Increased transport options and improved reliability of train services

More trains on weekends to promote national tourism. Train or shuttle to upper hut to make use of more frequent Hutt Valley trains. Ability to take bikes, can't take them on bus replacements

Lockable storage for bikes at train stations

The train services.

Improve rail links to Wellington and upgrade the line urgently.

Improve transport links to wellington, upgrade Remutaka hill road

Tunnel through the Remutaka Hill

Hey - what about a tunnel :)

Upgrade rail transport and road tunnel to wellington

We need the new gorge road so visitors have easy access

Invest in public transport at a suitable scale for the Wairarapa (e.g. Smaller, regular, electric shuttle vans vs empty buses)

Air transport link Wairarapa to wellington & other regions.

Masterton airport- link to wellington

Speed camera in Featherston

SH2 needs traffic calming when going into Featherston from the Hill. Strongly feel that speed limit should be lower from further South on SH2.

Seriously concerned about road safety in the Wairarapa with the increase of population and the standards of driving dropping.

Public transport needs to be championed by our representative. It's crazy that I can't get the bus from Masterton to Martinborough for work as the times don't suit commuters at all.

Get the logging & other large trucks out of our town centres. Masterton has a 'heavy vehicle' bypass but trucks constantly thunder through the town centre, or up Lincoln Road to the bypass if they've

come from Castlepoint direction. All of the Wairarapa towns should be truck-free as they destroy the roads, speed through at night, and spoil the atmosphere for locals and tourists.

Environment

Consider climate change in every action

Consider environmental impacts of single use wipes and masks etc. Can we combat this in any way?

Focus on sustainability & wellbeing instead of financial

Social & environmental focus above all else

Regenerative agriculture

There should be more to mitigate climate change. The changing conditions are going to be more devastating and impact more people than Covid-19 has worldwide. If this pandemic has taught us anything it is that we are collectively capable of change and doing without if it will save us from a worse possible scenario.

We must learn from this and become better at preparing for natural disasters etc. Our focus should be on sustainable innovation and development - meaning putting the our future ahead of short term gains. The last thing we need is to climb out of Covid into a far worse environmental disaster of our own making.

I think the most important thing is to NOT return to "normal" and use this time to improve the environment.

Alignment with (net) zero carbon target, low-carbon developments

Supporting investment in natural infrastructure e.g. Reforestation and wetland restoration

Ensure that infrastructure investments are climate resilient and do not increase exposure and vulnerability

Retrofitting buildings to make them more efficient and resilient

Take a co-ordinated cross-Wairarapa action to build "pipelines" of sustainable projects that can be implemented quickly, while avoiding favouring established emissions-intensive activities

Health

Increased funding for delayed urgent operations / health care & mental health .

Mental health

Increases support for LGBT+

Medical facilities and care needs upgrading

Address health inequalities and increase access to all forms of mental and physical health care

Attract more doctors to region

Education

The impact on the primary/int/sec school ages children has been huge and not recognised

Pest control

The possums are creeping back into the area. As TB cases are now scare here I know less trapping is being done. More traps to be made available so those like me can set them to help in our fight against pests. Many people have broken yellow traps so it would be great if these were collected, fixed and used once more. Like covid, one TB case into the region would travel like wildfire. Farming can only take so many blows.

Other agencies

Lobbying the Reserve Bank of New Zealand to raise interest rates.

More support for group housing initiatives

Other

There really needs to be an initiative put forward to the Wairarapa community.

During covid-19 I found that a majority within the community (even with being confined to our own homes) had a good sense appreciation and closeness. I saw people with ideas and people that are ready for change. Now we are at a stage where all seems to be going back to normal I feel that is a shame for that positivity and general appreciation has been lost. We have learnt to operate and that the old normal is no longer the new.

I feel there does need to be an initiative to harness and to motivate the community to come forward with new ideas. Whether it involve talent, business, working environments, community activities and more.

I find the Masterton district council sits in an old hat state and unfortunately because of this, Masterton loses its potential, its community driven assets and gets left behind. While other places thrive and continue to improve its creativity and community closeness. Rally in people's ideas, involve them in creating a new normal and help them to improve Masterton and use the community as an abundance of opportunity. Give people a chance. Give people an opportunity. And see

Masterton change as a collective for the better. Masterton should stand for community. Masterton should stand for opportunity. Masterton should stand for creativity and talent. It's time to change.