



**SOUTH WAIRARAPA  
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

*Kia Reretahi Tātau*

# **AGENDA**

## **Strategy Working Committee Meeting Wednesday, 2 October 2024**

**I hereby give notice that a Strategy Working Committee Meeting will be held on:**

**Date: Wednesday, 2 October 2024**

**Time: 12:30 pm**

**Location: Supper Room, Waihinga Centre, Texas Street  
Martinborough**

**Janice Smith  
Chief Executive Officer**



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**1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA – OPENING**

Kia hora te marino  
Kia whakapapa pounamu te moana  
Hei huarahi mā tātou i te rangi nei  
Aroha atu, aroha mai  
Tātou i ā tātou katoa  
Hui ē! Tāiki ē!

May peace be widespread  
May the seas be like greenstone  
A pathway for us all this day  
Let us show respect for each other  
For one another  
Bind us all together!

**2 APOLOGIES****3 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST****4 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND TRIBUTES****5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION****6 URGENT BUSINESS**

**7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**7.1 MINUTES OF THE STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 4 SEPTEMBER 2024**

**Author:** Amy Andersen, Lead Advisor, Democracy and Committees

**Authoriser:** Paul Gardner, Group Manager, Corporate Services

**File Number:** N/A

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That the minutes of the Strategy Working Committee meeting held on 4 September 2024 are confirmed as a true and correct record.

**APPENDICES**

**Appendix 1 Minutes of the Strategy Working Committee Meeting held on 4 September 2024**

**MINUTES OF SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL  
STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT THE SUPPER ROOM, WAIHINGA CENTRE, TEXAS STREET, MARTINBOROUGH  
ON WEDNESDAY, 4 SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 10:00 AM**

**PRESENT:** Deputy Mayor Melissa Sadler-Futter (Chair), Mayor Martin Connelly, Cr Aidan Ellims, Cr Martin Bosley, Cr Colin Olds, Cr Pip Maynard, Cr Rebecca Gray, Cr Kaye McAulay and Ms Violet Edwards (Māori Standing Committee representative).

**APOLOGIES:** Cr Alistair Plimmer and Cr Aaron Woodcock.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Māori Standing Committee - Andrea Rutene (Chair), Mark Fenwick, Dorothy Whittaker and Whitu Karauna.

Martinborough Community Board - Storm Robertson, Angela Brown and Karen Krogh.

Janice Smith (Chief Executive), Russell O'Leary (Group Manager, Planning and Regulatory), Paul Gardner (Group Manager, Corporate Services), James O'Connor (Manager, Community Operations), Sara Edney (Manager, Building Services), Matt Vins (Manager, Customer Support), Rob Thomas (Manager, Stakeholder Relationships), Alex Pigou (Team Lead, Communications), Nicki Ansell (Senior Policy Advisor), Kendyll Harper (Manager, Planning), Narida Hooper (Pou Māori), Robyn Wells (Principal Advisor – 3 Waters), Tim Langley (Principal Advisor - Roading), Andrew Finch (Principal Advisor – Water Services) and Amy Andersen (Lead Advisor, Democracy and Committees).

Laurence Edwards, Adam Mattsen (Wellington Water).

**PUBLIC FORUM:** John Broeren; Jamiee Burns; Roger Fraser; Louise Lyster; Martinborough Community Board - Storm Robertson, Angela Brown; Andy Hocquard; Sonia Wansbrough; John Errington; Herewini Ammunson; Māori Standing Committee - Andrea Rutene, Whitu Karauna and Dorothy Whittaker; Matthew Sherry; Garrick Emms and Marguerite Tait-Jamieson.

**CONDUCT OF BUSINESS:** This meeting was held in the Supper Room, WaiHINGA Centre, Texas Street, Martinborough and via audio-visual conference. This meeting was live-streamed is available to view on our YouTube channel. The meeting was held in public under the above provisions from 10:01am to 2:35pm except where expressly noted.

## **OPEN SECTION**

### **1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA – OPENING**

Ms Hooper opened the meeting with a karakia.

## 2 APOLOGIES

### 2.1 APOLOGIES FROM MEMBERS

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2024/90****Moved: Cr R Gray****Seconded: Cr P Maynard**

To accept apologies from Cr Plimmer and Cr Woodcock

**CARRIED**

## 3 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No interests were disclosed relating to items on the agenda or interests not already recorded on a relevant register.

## 4 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND TRIBUTES

Cr Ellims acknowledged the MCB and Angela Brown LGNZ conference award, resilience project.

Ms Edwards acknowledged the passing of the Māori King, Kīngi Tūheitia Pootatau Te Wherowhero VII.

Cr Gray acknowledged the urgent issues and risks relating to global climate change.

## 5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- John Broeren - Remission of Rates Policy

Mr Broeren shared his concerns in relation to the communications about the consultation on the Policy and the identification of properties he owns under SUIP (Separately Used or Inhabited Parts).

- Jamie Burns (JR's Orchards) - Remission of Rates Policy

Ms Burns sought support from the Committee to include horticulture, alongside dairy and farm in remissions for primary production. Ms Burns shared her concerns in relation to housing overseas workers and the perceptions about profits made from accommodation, and the affordability of rates.

- Roger Fraser - Rates

Mr Fraser spoke about the rates increases and the impact on ratepayers (social and economic), as well as communications by council on the recent changes.

- Louise Lyster - Remission of Rates Policy

Ms Lyster asked the Committee to consider approving the proposed remissions policy, but with the recommendation of first principles strategic review as part of the Long Term Plan next year.



Ms Lyster noted Council and council officers have made improvements in how they are operating and that there had been dramatic increase in communication over the past year.

- Martinborough Community Board – Rates / Remission of Rates Policy

Mr Robertson and Ms Brown spoke on behalf of the Martinborough Community Board and presented on the views shared by the community at their meeting on the [29 August](#), including: rates and affordability, the impact on the community and what services Council should be focusing on in particular and communications from council in relation to the rates increase, as well as their concerns for the wellbeing of the community.

- Andy Hocquard – Various

Mr Hocquard thanked Council for their work on the lighting project in the Martinborough square and addressing health and safety concerns; however, he also shared his concerns about food truck parking and costs relating to the project. Mr Hocquard also conveyed his concerns about no new water connections in Martinborough and Greytown, funding from central government and employment in the district. Mr Hocquard also sought assurance about Pain Farm funds and expenses.

- Sonia Wansbrough - Remission of Rates Policy

Ms Wansbrough shared her concerns with the Committee regarding effect of the implementation of SUIP on her own property, consultation and communication by council on the Policy. Ms Wansbrough noted she was “for” rates increases, but had concerns about the rating methodology and underlining data used for SUIPS, as well as the application of the Policy to similar properties.

- John Errington - Māori Ward

Mr Errington shared with the Committee his belief that the decision for a Māori Ward be rescinded. Consultation and lack of independent research. MSC role and whether this is being fulfilled. Councillors must be sure that a referendum will vote for a Maori Ward.

- Herewini Ammunson, Papawai Marae / Ngāti Moe - Māori Ward

Mr Ammunson spoke in support of the Maori Ward, and noted he also had the support of Tia Tuuta, Pou Whakahaere, Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Iwi Development Trust, who was unable to participate in the meeting today. Mr Ammunson urged the Committee to recommend that the Council uphold the decision made with regard to establishing a Māori Ward on 23 November 2023.

- Māori Standing Committee - Māori Ward

Ms Rutene, supported by Ms Whittaker and Mr Karauna, spoke in support of the Māori Ward and noted that they also spoke on behalf of many people in the community who keen to see this ward retained for the 2025 local election. Ms Rutene urged the Committee to recommend that

the Council uphold the decision made with regard to establishing a Māori Ward on 23 November 2023.

- Matthew Sherry, Wairarapa Racing Club

Mr Sherry spoke in relation to a rates remission application for the Wairarapa Racing Club at Tauherenikau and why it should be approved, highlighting major events which have been and will be held at this venue.

- Garrick Emms and Marguerite Tait-Jamieson, Longwood

Ms Tait-Jamieson and Mr Emms spoke to matters relating to the rates remission policy and asked the Committee to consider reversing the 2024/25 rates decision, engaging in lessons learned and in depth consultation.

The meeting was adjourned 11:14am.

The meeting was resumed at 11:20am.

## 6 URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

## 7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

### 7.1 MINUTES OF THE STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 31 JULY 2024

#### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2024/91

**Moved:** Cr R Gray

**Seconded:** Mayor M Connolly

**Abstained:** Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter

That the minutes of the Strategy Working Committee held on 31 July 2024 are confirmed as a true and correct record.

**CARRIED**

#### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2024/92

**Moved:** Cr C Olds

**Seconded:** Cr R Gray

**Abstained:** Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter

That the public excluded minutes of the Strategy Working Committee meeting held on 31 July 2024 are confirmed as a true and correct record.

**CARRIED**

## 8 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There were no matters arising.

## 9 DECISION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF

### 9.1 MĀORI WARD AMENDMENT ACT

Ms Ansell spoke to matters included in the Report.

Members queried matters in relation to option B as presented in the paper, including costs and additional work required, if the decision of November 2023 was rescinded.

Members made comments on the changes made within central government and the impact this has had on local government and ratepayers. Members acknowledged the public participants who presented at the meeting today on this item.

#### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2024/93

**Moved:** Mayor M Connelly

**Seconded:** Cr R Gray

To receive the *Māori Ward Amendment Act* report.

**CARRIED**

#### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2024/94

**Moved:** Mayor M Connelly

**Seconded:** Cr R Gray

*Recommend to Council to:*

1. Resolve to retain the decision of 22 November 2023 to establish a Māori Ward for the 2025 election; and
2. Note, as per Option A, the need to carry out a binding poll on Māori Wards as part of the 2025 election process.

**CARRIED**

### 9.2 REMISSION OF RATES POLICY CONSULTATION

Ms Ansell, supported by Mr Thomas spoke to matters included in the report.

Members discussion included: the work required to reconsider the current rating methodology; whether the decisions could be deferred to rectify the issues raised in public participation (unable to do so at this time due to special consultative procedure); clear communications and the definitions included in the Policy; drilling down on the details of the possible impacts and consequences; concerns regarding equity and fairness across the district.

Ms Smith noted there will be a first principles review of rates as part of the LTP consultation. This work is already in progress with planned workshops scheduled over the next few months.

<p><b>COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2024/95</b></p> <p><b>Moved: Mayor M Connelly</b> <b>Seconded: Ms E Edwards</b></p> <p>To continue the meeting past 12:08pm in order to complete discussion on Item 9.2.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED</b></p>
<p>Members queried the services to rural properties. Ms Smith noted that rural properties are not usually connected for water, but they are charged the UAGC and other services; furthermore, Ms Smith reiterated that rates are a tax, not payment for services.</p>
<p><b>COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2024/96</b></p> <p><b>Moved: Cr R Gray</b> <b>Seconded: Cr K McAulay</b></p> <p>To receive the <i>Remission of Rates Policy Consultation</i> Report.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED</b></p>
<p><b>COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2024/97</b></p> <p><b>Moved: Cr K McAulay</b> <b>Seconded: Cr R Gray</b></p> <p>To agree to the Policy Definitions and Criteria, as outlined in the report, for each remission policy.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED</b></p>
<p><b>COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2024/98</b></p> <p><b>Moved: Cr A Ellims</b> <b>Seconded: Ms E Edwards</b></p> <p>To adopt the Remission of Uniform Annual General Charge and Uniform Targeted Rates on Residential Properties in Certain Circumstances Policy.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED</b></p>
<p><b>COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2024/99</b></p> <p><b>Moved: Cr A Ellims</b> <b>Seconded: Cr C Olds</b></p> <p>To adopt the Remission of Uniform Annual General Charge and Uniform Targeted Rates on Pastoral and Dairying Properties in Certain Circumstances Policy.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED</b></p>
<p><b>COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2024/100</b></p> <p><b>Moved: Cr R Gray</b> <b>Seconded: Ms E Edwards</b></p>

To adopt the Remission of Uniform Annual General Charge and Uniform Targeted Rates on Retail Properties in Certain Circumstances Policy.	
<b>In Favour:</b>	Cr A Ellims, Cr M Bosley, Cr C Olds, Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter, Cr P Maynard, Cr R Gray, Cr K McAulay and Ms E Edwards
<b>Against:</b>	Mayor M Connelly
<b>CARRIED 8/1</b>	
<b>COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2024/101</b>	
<b>AMENDMENT</b>	
<b>Moved:</b>	<b>Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter</b>
<b>Seconded:</b>	<b>Cr P Maynard</b>
To instruct the CEO to instigate a data integrity check on the relevant urban property data this is used to define the application of a SUIP.	
<b>CARRIED</b>	
<i>The amendment became the substantive resolution.</i>	
The meeting was adjourned at 12:25pm	
The meeting was resumed at 1:02pm	
Noted that Cr Bosely left the meeting during the break to return at a later point in the meeting.	

### 9.3 SWDC OFFICE ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS

Ms Smith referenced the recent comments made at the LGNZ conference about “vanity projects” and that the item for discussion could not be delayed due to the office building’s ongoing deterioration and safety of staff. Ms Smith thanked Mr Vins for his development of the report.

Mr Vins, supported by Mr Gardner spoke to matters included in the report.

Members queried funding (possibilities of amalgamation and future proofing), timeframes, plans for short term accommodation and immediate options, using land already owned by Council and building design.

Cr Bosley returned to the meeting at 1:23pm.

Members discussed the health and safety issues for staff, communications with the community relating to costs, building standards and value for money (leasing vs building office space).

Members acknowledged the work that went into the report, and noted that resolving health and safety issues was a priority. Furthermore, it was noted that any new building needed to be environmentally friendly and sustainable, as well as an asset for the district and a potential hub for civil defence.

Members requested assurance that the office space is safe for staff to work in currently. Mr Vins and Mr Gardner provided further detail on how the issues are being managed and provided assurance that ongoing work to keep staff safe is happening.

When asked by members, Ms Smith explained her preferred options (2 & 4).

Members further discussed the options to clarify their position, considering costs to the ratepayer and the health and safety of staff.

The majority of members gave a steer for the CEO to investigate options 2 and 4. Noted that Cr Maynard was against taking this direction.

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2024/102**

**Moved:** Cr A Ellims

**Seconded:** Cr C Olds

To note the current issues, and ongoing deterioration, of the 19 Kitchener Street office building.

**CARRIED**

### **9.4 GREYTOWN DRINKING WATER SERVICES: CONSULTATION**

Mr Thomas spoke to matters included in the report.

Members discussed the consultation being completed across the district rather than just with the Greytown community.

Members acknowledged that the report concerns raised previously by Council.

Members requested that all reports going forward discuss the impact of climate change on projects.

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2024/103**

**Moved:** Cr C Olds

**Seconded:** Cr M Bosley

1. Receive the *Greytown Drinking Water Services: Consultation Report*.
2. Adopt the Statement of Proposal and Consultation Document in *Appendix 1*.
3. Note the Strategy Working Committee will hear submissions received, if any, on the consultation.

**CARRIED**

### **9.5 ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT WAIRARAPA LOCAL ALCOHOL POLICY AND STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL**

Ms Ansell and Mr Thomas spoke to matters included in the report.

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2024/104**

**Moved:** Cr R Gray

**Seconded:** Cr M Bosley

1. Receive the *Adoption of the Draft Wairarapa Local Alcohol Policy and Statement of Proposal*.
2. Notes that a joint review of the Wairarapa Local Alcohol Policy (the Policy) is underway;

3. Endorses the recommendations for the Wairarapa Policy Working Group to make amendments to the Policy.
4. Adopt the draft Policy (Attachment 1) and the Statement of Proposal (Attachment 2) for consultation with the community (option 1).
5. Note that the proposed consultation, using the special consultative procedure, will run between 20 September – 20 October 2024.
6. Delegates authority to the Chief Executive to approve minor edits that do not alter the intent of the consultation, prior to publication of the draft Policy and Statement of Proposal for consultation.
7. Notes that the Wairarapa Policy Working Group will hear submissions on 23 October 2024 and undertake deliberations on 6 November 2024.
8. Notes that following hearings and deliberations the Wairarapa Policy Working Group will make final recommendations to Council in December 2024.

**CARRIED**

## **10 INFORMATION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF**

### **10.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S UPDATE**

Ms Smith responded to queries regarding the timeframes to repair the Tauherenikau pipeline (work commencing in March 2025). Member requested SWDC's Pou Māori work with Wellington Water and iwi to provide reports back to the Committee.

### **10.2 ACTION ITEMS**

Action 407 – completed and closed. Cr Gray noted that different silos of work are happening across the region/district with regard to climate change. Cr Gray will continue to be a voice for Council on these issues through her portfolio appointment.

## **11 APPOINTMENT REPORTS**

### **11.1 COUNCILLOR FEEDBACK FROM COMMUNITY BOARDS**

Cr Ellims reported that Martinborough Community Board are engaging with the community in discussions on rates increases and SUIPs, communicating with residents on the representation review, and attendance at a storm water workshop and another on granny flats legislation.

Cr Gray noted that Featherston Community Board had a number of grants applications, acknowledged John Dennison for engaging with Cr Bosley on a proposed berm planting policy.

Cr Bosley noted that Greytown Community Board had allocated grants funding and communicating with residents on the representation review.

Next month, this section of the agenda will include updates from Māori Standing Committee.

**11.2 PLANNING AND REGULATORY PORTFOLIO UPDATE**

Cr Olds spoke to matters in his report to the Committee, and highlighted the work undertaken in relation to the dog pound.  
Members acknowledged the presentation of the data included in the report and were pleased to see this provided to the Committee.

**11.3 INFRASTRUCTURE PORTFOLIO UPDATE**

Cr Ellims spoke to matters included in his report, highlighting key areas for roading developments and Ecoreef consents (extending).  
Cr Ellims thanked the Infrastructure and Community Operations team, particularly for the improvements made recently to the public toilet doors in the Martinborough Square.  
Cr Ellims sought further information on new water connections in Martinborough.  
Mr Finch gave an update from the Community Liaison Group meeting on desludging - tenders haven't gone out yet and are being actively followed up.

**12 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA – CLOSING**

Ms Hooper closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 2:35pm.

**Confirmed as a true and correct record.**

..... (Mayor/Chair)

..... (Date)

..... (Chief Executive)

..... (Date)



**7.2 MINUTES OF THE STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 19 SEPTEMBER 2024**

**Author:** Amy Andersen, Lead Advisor, Democracy and Committees

**Authoriser:** Paul Gardner, Group Manager, Corporate Services

**File Number:**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That the minutes of the Strategy Working Committee meeting held on 19 September 2024 are confirmed as a true and correct record.

**APPENDICES**

**Appendix 1 Minutes of the Strategy Working Committee Meeting held on 19 September 2024**

**MINUTES OF SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL  
STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE  
HELD AT THE SUPPER ROOM, WAIHINGA CENTRE, TEXAS STREET, MARTINBOROUGH  
ON THURSDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 10:30 AM**

**HEARINGS ON THE REPRESENTATION REVIEW: INITIAL PROPOSAL**

- PRESENT:** Deputy Mayor Melissa Sadler-Futter (Chair), Mayor Martin Connelly, Cr Martin Bosley, Cr Colin Olds, Cr Aaron Woodcock (from 10:54am), Cr Rebecca Gray, Cr McAulay (online until 11:30am) and Ms Violet Edwards (Māori Standing Committee representative).
- APOLOGIES:** Cr Aidan Ellims, Cr Pip Maynard and Cr Alistair Plimmer.
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Janice Smith (Chief Executive Officer), Russell O’Leary (Group Manager, Planning and Regulatory), Rob Thomas (Stakeholder Relationships), Nicki Ansell (Lead Advisor, Policy and Projects) and Amy Andersen (Lead Advisor, Democracy and Committees).
- SUBMITTERS:** Claire Bleakley, Louise Lyster, Shane Atkinson, Jill Pettis, Roger Fraser, Martinborough Community Board, Storm Robertson, Jim Hedley, Alistair & Jenny Boyne, Greytown Community Board, Dean Di Bona and Dan Riddiford.
- CONDUCT OF BUSINESS:** This meeting was held in the Supper Room, WaiHINGA Centre, Texas Street, Martinborough and via audio-visual conference. This meeting was live-streamed is available to view on our YouTube channel. The meeting was held in public under the above provisions from 10:33am to 1:33pm except where expressly noted.

**OPEN SECTION**

**1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA – OPENING**

Cr Gray opened the meeting.

**2 APOLOGIES**

**2.1 APOLOGIES FROM MEMBERS**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2024/105**

**Moved: Cr R Gray**

**Seconded: Ms E Edwards**

To accept apologies for Cr Ellims, Cr Maynard and Cr Plimmer for absence, Cr Woodcock for late arrival and Cr McAulay for early departure.

**CARRIED**

### **3 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

No interests were disclosed relating to items on the agenda or interests not already recorded on a relevant register.

### **4 URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business.

### **5 HEARINGS ON THE REPRESENTATION REVIEW: INITIAL PROPOSAL**

The following submissions were heard by members of the Committee. Each submitter was allocated 10 minutes to speak to the Committee on their submission on the Representation Review: Initial Proposal.

- Claire Bleakley
- Louise Lyster
- Shane Atkinson
- Jill Pettis

Cr Woodcock arrived at 10:54am.

- Roger Fraser
- Jim Hedley

Cr McAulay left the meeting at 11:31am.

Meeting adjourned at 11:36am.

Meeting resumed at 12:31pm.

- Martinborough Community Board
- Storm Robertson

Meeting adjourned at 12:49pm

Meeting resumed at 12:55pm

- Alistair & Jenny Boyne
- Greytown Community Board
- Dean Di Bona
- Dan Riddiford.

Members thanked all submitters for their participation and engagement in the hearings, and acknowledged the quality of their submission on the Representation Review.

**6 DECISION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF**

**6.1 HEARINGS REPORT FOR THE REPRESENTATION REVIEW: INITIAL PROPOSAL**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2024/106**

**Moved: Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter**

**Seconded: Mayor M Connelly**

- 1. Receive the full set of submissions on the Representation Review: Initial Proposal
- 2. Note that 129 submissions were received.
- 3. Note that of the received submissions, 12 are confirmed to be heard.
- 4. Note that deliberations are scheduled for 2 October 2024.

**CARRIED**

**7 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA – CLOSING**

Cr Gray closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 1:33pm.

**Confirmed as a true and correct record.**

..... (Chair)

..... (Date)

..... (Chief Executive)

..... (Date)

**8        MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

## 9 REPORT BACKS AND REQUESTS FROM MĀORI STANDING COMMITTEE AND COMMUNITY BOARDS

### 9.1 REPORT BACK AND UPDATES FROM THE MĀORI STANDING COMMITTEE AND COMMUNITY BOARDS

**Author:** Amy Andersen, Lead Advisor, Democracy and Committees

**File Number:** N/A

#### PURPOSE

To inform members of any key reports and updates from the Māori Standing Committee and the Community Boards.

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Members of the Māori Standing Committee and the Community Boards are invited to attend and present their report backs and updates to the Strategy Working Committee. This is a standing item on the Strategy Working Committee agenda.

#### BACKGROUND

The purpose of the [Māori Standing Committee](#) is to advocate on behalf of and in the best interests of tāngata whenua in the District (including the descendants of hapū of Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Wairarapa) and to ensure that the Council is fulfilling its obligations to them.

The Māori Standing Committee is comprised of two representatives from each of the three South Wairarapa Marae, two representatives from Pae Tū Mokai o Taurira, one representative from each of the two Wairarapa Iwi, two Councillors, and the Mayor.

**Community Boards** represent, and act as an advocate for, the interests of their community. Specifically, the Board's role is to:

- consider and report on all matters referred to it by the Council, or any matter of interest or concern to the Community Board
- maintain an overview of services provided by the Council within the community
- prepare an annual submission to the territorial authority for expenditure within the community
- communicate with community organisations and special interest groups within the community
- undertake any other responsibilities that are delegated to it by the Council.

The Community Boards are made up of four elected community representatives plus two councillors who advocate for and represent the interests of their community. They play a key role in engaging with community groups. For more information, please visit the links below:

[Greytown Community Board](#)

[Featherston Community Board](#)

[Martinborough Community Board](#)

**APPENDICES**

**Nil**

## 10 DECISION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF

### 10.1 CUSTOMER SERVICES RESPONSE IMPROVEMENTS

**Author:** Matt Vins, Manager, Corporate Support

**Authoriser:** Paul Gardner, Group Manager, Corporate Services

**File Number:** N/A

#### PURPOSE

To provide *councillors/members* an overview of the existing approach to customer services, and an intended change plan to improve customer service response, reduce inefficiency and manual process, and improve visibility of performance.

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- This report provides an overview of the existing approach to customer services at the Council, and sets out the intention to deliver a more customer-centric approach, both through customer services and across other Council services.
- It highlights current issues with managing enquiries, communicating with customers, processing and resolving issues and allowing overview.
- It then sets out an intended high-level change plan to improve responses and enquiry management.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

That *the Strategy Working Committee*:

1. Approve the proposed scope and timeline to implement an improved customer service response approach at South Wairarapa District Council.
2. Note the approach covers four key areas, namely:
  - a. Customer-centric approach to customer services and business processes
  - b. Knowledge base of key enquiries
  - c. Systems upgrade to enable greater automation and communication with customers
  - d. Self-service digitisation of internal and external processes where possible
3. Note the systems upgrade work requires greater scoping to determine what is possible with existing tools and what may require development work. Should the existing budget not be sufficient for systems configuration, a further paper will be submitted to SWC for consideration.



## BACKGROUND

To date, there has not been a Council-wide approach to customer services. As a result, managing customer enquiries has evolved naturally, with limited 'joining up' between point of enquiry (usually customer services) and other areas of the business (such as rates, roading etc.). This impacts the customer journey, as there is not a seamless approach across the Council to managing enquiries. There is a lack of clear responsibility and accountability, and there is not adequate oversight of enquiries.

Processes are largely manual, with very limited use of systems and automation to improve the speed and efficiency of tracking and resolving enquiries. This also contributes to enquiries being difficult to monitor as there's no overarching system or database able to hold this data and track its progress.

The Council's systems are also not set up for self-serve – which has the potential to ease demand on customer services and other areas of the business. Many of our processes require forms to be printed, manually completed and brought back into the Council for scanning. Not only is this inefficient and costly, but it means very limited business intelligence can be gathered in terms of demands for certain services at times of year – which could support business planning and resource allocation.

Furthermore, there is a lack of clear and consistent communication to customers as the Council manages their enquiry. This understandably causes further questions asking whether the Council has received the enquiry, and what it intends to do about it – including a rough timetable for resolution.

## DISCUSSION

As stated above, there is a lot of work that can be done to improve the Council's approach to customer services and therefore enhance the experience for customers, both internal and external. It is recommended that a programme of work be undertaken designed to improve the Council's approach to its customers. This is best broken down into four workstreams, each with their own deliverables and timeline to embed an improved approach to customer services:

1. Customer-centric approach to Customer-centric approach to customer services and business processes
2. Knowledge base of key enquiries
3. Systems upgrade to enable greater automation and communication with customers
4. Self-service digitisation of internal and external processes where possible

### **Customer-centric approach:**

The Council's Annual Survey shows the need for improvement in the Council's approach to its customers. Historically, the Council has not put the customer at the heart of its approach to service delivery and processes. This means the customer can be forgotten, or processes are put in place that make it difficult for the customer to use or interact with the Council's services. This workstream is overarching, in the sense that it's important to embed a customer-centric approach to all that we do.

Cultural change is best led from the top of organisations, and therefore the Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) will champion this approach and drive that thinking into their respective teams. Key deliverables include:

- SLT to agree to champion a customer-centric approach – Oct 2024

- SLT to communicate to all staff around embedding a customer-centric approach – Oct 2024
- Revised staff behaviours to include customer-centric approach – Nov 2024
- Revised capability/competency framework that includes customer-centric approach – Nov 2024

**Knowledge base of key enquiries:**

Developing a knowledge base of key information is expected to improve the speed and consistency by which common enquiries can be dealt with. Currently, a significant number of repeat enquiries (such as those about rates) are passed on by the customer services team to a specific team or employee. This can lead to bottlenecks or unmanageable workloads during peak times – the rates officer received over 500 calls in one week.

As such, a knowledge base will be developed and hosted on the Council Intranet which will provide short FAQs for Customer Services to refer to when receiving enquiries. These FAQs will be developed and updated by key service areas – with customer service staff provided training and support to understand and use the information. The outcome of this should be a reduction in enquiries being sent to other business areas – and instead dealt with and resolved at point of contact. The key deliverables include:

- Engagement with key service areas to advise about Knowledge Base – Oct 2024
- Development of Knowledge Base articles for initial intranet launch – Oct 2024
- Customer Services training and support – Oct 2024 (and ongoing)
- Go-live of Knowledge Base FAQ pages – Nov 2024

**Systems upgrade:**

To date, the Council has an ad-hoc approach to managing and logging customer enquiries with limited use of a system. This is partly cultural as set above, but also due to the lack of an overarching system that customer services can use for all enquiries. Large organisations often use a Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system to manage customer enquiries from point of contact to resolution – and use the data gathered to help inform future business decisions around resourcing and frequent issues.

Currently, within SWDC, there is no ‘one system’ which manages all customer enquiries. Instead there are a number of tools and systems, including Magiq, AssetFinda and Outlook amongst others, which each have a role to play in the existing management of enquiries. These systems can lack workflow, or automation, and have not been fully configured to South Wairarapa District Council’s needs, nor do they ‘talk’ to one another – resulting in a lot of manual process and potential for customer issues to be ‘lost’ between systems. Furthermore, there is very limited business intelligence that can be gathered from existing processes – and therefore it’s difficult to have an overview of unresolved and resolved issues.

It’s also important to note that many of the Council’s services are delivered by contractors, such as Fulton Hogan and Wellington Water, which use Magiq and AssetFinda respectively. This has historically impacted the Council’s ability to use one system to manage all customer enquiries. Any approach the Council takes, will need to be embedded in our partner organisations to ensure a seamless and consistent approach for customers, regardless of their issue.

Whilst a full CRM system may be too costly, and may not sync with other systems required by other areas of the Council (such as Magiq for Finance), it is anticipated that more automation can be harnessed from the existing suite of tools within SWDC. It is also important to ensure compatibility

with our partner councils on shared services. As such, this workstream seeks to determine options to improve the systems process of managing customer enquiries, either through existing tools or through another application. The key deliverables include:

- Liaising with other Councils who are 'super users' of Magiq and AssetFinda for customer services to understand their respective approaches – Oct 2024
- Develop specification requirement for customer service logging and workflow – Oct 2024
  - This includes working with contractors and drafting messaging to enable automated updates for customers
- Provide specification to existing suppliers (Magiq, AssetFinda etc.) to determine feasibility and cost – Oct 2024
- Review feedback from suppliers on feasibility and cost to inform decision – Nov 2024
- Return to SWC if prospective cost exceeds any remaining budget for system configuration – Dec 2024
- Build and deliver enhanced system with automated features and configurations set up for SWDC – TBC
- Provide training to customer services teams to use new system - TBC

To note, there is limited budget for 'system configuration' work over and above what is available to manage currently identified issues. Depending on this piece of work, and the Councils aspirations to deliver automation and alignment across systems, this may either be insufficient, or existing systems may be unable to deliver those requirements. Once an assessment of this has been done, a further paper may be submitted to SWC for consideration should further budget be required.

#### **Self-service:**

The Council provides limited opportunity for self-service. This is caused both by systems lacking the ability to complete customer requests, and historic culture of wanting control over certain processes. The impact of this is long-winded processes which required ongoing management and intervention by staff, which delays the outcome for the customer. There is significant wasted time and effort as part of this – with costs inherent throughout in both staff time, and the physical production of items like PDF forms.

Alongside the cultural and systems pieces, there is opportunity to review options self-serve through the adoption of technology – for both internal and external customers. A wide range of forms and processes should move away from PDF/Word to SharePoint Forms which allow for workflow to be embedded and therefore enable greater automation. Furthermore, submissions to these online forms allow for business intelligence to be gathered and reviewed to inform future decisions. As part of this, the Council's website will need further enhancement to improve the customer journey and navigation to these frequently used areas. The key deliverables include:

- Review of internal PDF forms and opportunities to digitise – from Oct 2024 and ongoing
  - New starter forms and associated requirements (ICT etc.) – TBC
  - H&S incident reporting – Dec 2024
- Review of external PDF/website forms and opportunities to digitise – from Oct 2024 and ongoing
  - Digitisation of Dog Registration – Dec 2024

- Digitisation of Venue Booking – Jan 2025
- Review of the Council’s external website and navigation – Dec 2024

## COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE

Full consideration has been given to the provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 S77 in relation to decision making, in particular:

1. A Local authority must, in the course of the decision-making process,
  - a) Seek to identify all reasonably practicable options for the achievement of the objective of a decision; and
  - b) Assess the options in terms of their advantages and disadvantages; and
  - c) If any of the options identified under paragraph (a) involves a significant decision in relation to land or a body of water, take into account the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral land, water sites, waahi tapu, valued flora and fauna and other taonga.
2. This section is subject to Section 79 - Compliance with procedures in relation to decisions.

Compliance requirement	Staff assessment
State the level of significance (high or low) of the issue or proposal as determined by the <a href="#">Council’s Significance and Engagement Policy</a>	This is a matter of low significance.
State the relevant Council policies (external or internal), legislation, and/or community outcomes (as stated in the Long Term Plan) that relate to this decision.	This report complies with n/a.
State the possible implications for Māori and how Māori have been provided with an opportunity to contribute to decision making if this decision is significant and relates to land and/or any body of water.	There are no specific implications for Māori.
Chief Financial Officer review	The Chief Financial Officer has not reviewed this report. There are no financial implications arising from this report. Should existing budgets to support system configuration not be sufficient, a further paper will be submitted to SWC to determine Councillors’ views on further investment. <a href="#">Type here</a>
State the possible implications for health and safety	There are no health and safety implications arising from this report.

## APPENDICES

Nil

**10.2 DOG CONTROL POLICY AND PRACTICES 2023/2024 AND 2022/2023****Author:** Mia Wilton, Manager, Environmental Services**Authoriser:** Russell O'Leary, Group Manager, Planning and Regulatory**File Number:** N/A**PURPOSE**

To enable the Committee to adopt the report on Dog Control Policy and Practices in order to meet the requirements of Section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Dog Control Act 1996 requires all territorial authorities to report annually on the outcomes associated with key areas identified by Section 10A of the Act.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

That *the Strategy Working Committee*:

1. Receive the *Dog Control Policy and Practices 2023/2024 and 2022/2023* Report.
2. Adopt the *Dog Control Policy and Practices 2023/2024* Report.
3. Adopt the attached report (Appendix 1) on *Dog Control Policy and Practices for 2022/2023*.
4. Authorise the Chief Executive to make the reports publicly available and by public notice.

**BACKGROUND**

- Section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996 requires Council to publicly report, at the end of each financial year, on the implementation of our Dog Control Policy, our dog control practices and relevant statistics on dog control related matters for the district.
- The report must be available to the public and notified by public notice.
- The Council is also required to provide a copy of the report to the Secretary for Local Government, Department of Internal Affairs, within one month of adopting the report.
- With regard to *Dog Control Policy and Practices for 2022/2023* report (attached as Ap, an oversight occurred and the report was not provided to Council, nor published in an external public notice. The report was made publicly available as required under the Act on the South Wairarapa District Council website. The Council is also required to provide a copy of the report to the Secretary for Local Government, Department of Internal Affairs, within one month of adopting the report.

**DISCUSSION****DOG CONTROL POLICY AND PRACTICES 2023/2024*****INFORMATION AND STATISTICS ON COUNCILS DOG CONTROL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR 1 JULY 2023 TO 30 JUNE 2024*****Dog Control in the South Wairarapa**

The district is situated in the southern part of Wairarapa and the southeastern most part of the North Island. It covers an area of 2,484 square kilometers. It is mainly a rural area, although it contains three small towns, Featherston, Martinborough and Greytown.

The Council employs two full-time Regulatory Officers who are responsible for carrying out day-to-day dog and animal control activities as well as bylaws compliance monitoring and enforcement.

Council works with local veterinarians, the SPCA and the Police, when carrying out its functions.

**Dog Registration and Other Fees**

The registration fees for dogs were approved on 22 May 2024 and publicly notified.

An adjustment of 5% was made to all fees excluding impoundments, which remained the same as in previous years.

Council has maintained different registration categories and fees for urban and rural dogs as well as desexed or entire dogs. These categories generally reflect that rural dogs require less work for Council officers and desexed dogs are less likely to roam and display aggressive behaviours.

**Control of Dogs Policy and Bylaw**

In 2023 a wider bylaw review for the non-consolidated bylaws took place in conjunction with reviewing the Control of Dogs Policy. This was adopted on the 27 September 2023 with one amendment.

The Control of Dogs Policy is next due for review 27 September 2028.

**General**

Dog collars are available for purchase for all dog owners at Council's. Martinborough office, Featherston and Greytown service centers.

Bylaws Officers and management are now placing greater emphasis on impounding dogs. The fees associated with impoundment include a tiered impounding fee which escalates for subsequent impoundment.

**GENERAL COMMENTS ON ANIMAL MANAGEMENT****New Pound**

The new off grid Dog Pound has been operational since 29 May 2023.

During the reporting period the Dog Pound operated once at capacity for a period of 6 nights. The facility during this time continued to operate effectively to a high standard.

### Community education

The council has a key performance indicator in our dog control area that requires three community education sessions to be undertaken each year.

Officers are looking to do wider offerings of these education courses to businesses who may be involved with accessing private property (e.g. rental managers, tradespeople, meter readers)

### Dogs Prohibited, Leash Only and Dog Exercises Areas

Council's Bylaw sets out the areas which are "Dog Prohibited", "Leash Only" and "Dog Exercise Areas". Discrepancies in the by-law and the policy were rectified and reported on in the end of year report for 2023.

### Complaints Commentary

Number of complaints received.

Complaints	Numbers		
	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024
Barking / Whining	35	30	41
Aggressive behaviour / Rushing	14	8	3
Wandering/fouling/uncontrolled	121	73	83
Attack on Person	7	6	22
Attack on stock	1	4	4
Attack on Pet	12	5	3
Welfare concerns	4	4	0
Lost dogs	13	5	5
Found dogs (of which were lost)	2	4	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>166</b>

## DOG REGISTRATION, ENFORCEMENT AND SERVICE REQUEST STATISTICS FOR SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL

Dog Registration, Enforcement and Service Request Statistics	Numbers		
	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024
Number of dog owners	2086	2110	2117
Number of probationary owners	0	0	0
Number of disqualified owners	0	0	0
Number of registered dogs	3493	3388	3410
Number of rural dogs	2180	2184	2091
Number of urban dogs	1313	1333	1319
Number of dogs classified as dangerous under Section 31	2	2	1
Clause 1(a) due to owner conviction	1	1	1
Clause 1(b) due to sworn evidence	0	0	0
Clause 1(c) due to owner admittance	0	0	0
Number of dogs classified as menacing	29	26	25
Dogs classified as menacing under Section 33A <i>(Section 33A 1(b) - the territorial authority considers the dog may pose a threat to any person, stock, poultry, domestic animal, or protected wildlife).</i>	16	18	19
Dogs classified as menacing under Section 33C <i>(Section 33C (1) - the territorial authority has reasonable grounds to believe that the dog belongs wholly or predominantly to one or more breeds or types listed in Schedule 4 of the amendment Act 2004).</i>	10	7	6
Infringement notices issued	129	132	145
Failing to register	121	123	101
Failure to keep dog controlled or confined	0	0	0
Failure to keep dog under control	6	7	10
Failure to implant microchip transponder	0	0	34
Failure to comply with the effect of dangerous classification	0	0	0
Failure to comply with the effect of menacing classification	1	1	0
Failure to carry a leash	0	0	0



Dog Registration, Enforcement and Service Request Statistics	Numbers		
	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024
Failure to comply with Bylaw	1	0	0
Failure to undertake owner education programme or dog obedience course (or both)	0	0	0
Impounded dogs	26	28	37

## COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE

Full consideration has been given to the provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 S77 in relation to decision making, in particular:

1. A Local authority must, in the course of the decision-making process,
  - a) Seek to identify all reasonably practicable options for the achievement of the objective of a decision; and
  - b) Assess the options in terms of their advantages and disadvantages; and
  - c) If any of the options identified under paragraph (a) involves a significant decision in relation to land or a body of water, take into account the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral land, water sites, waahi tapu, valued flora and fauna and other taonga.
2. This section is subject to Section 79 - Compliance with procedures in relation to decisions.

Compliance requirement	Staff assessment
State the level of significance (high or low) of the issue or proposal as determined by the <a href="#">Council's Significance and Engagement Policy</a>	This is a matter of low significance.
State the relevant Council policies (external or internal), legislation, and/or community outcomes (as stated in the Long Term Plan) that relate to this decision.	This report complies with Section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996.
State the possible implications for Māori and how Māori have been provided with an opportunity to contribute to decision making if this decision is significant and relates to land and/or any body of water.	There are no implications for Māori.
Chief Financial Officer review	The Chief Financial Officer has not reviewed this report. The report does not include any financial analysis or implications.

State the possible implications for health and safety	There are no health and safety considerations.
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**APPENDICES**

**Appendix 1      Dog Control Policy and Practices Report 2022/2023**

**INFORMATION AND STATISTICS ON COUNCILS DOG CONTROL  
ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR 1 JULY 2022 TO 30 JUNE 2023****1. Dog Control in the South Wairarapa**

The district is situated in the southern part of Wairarapa and the southeastern most part of the North Island. It covers an area of 2,484 square kilometers. It is mainly a rural area, although it contains three small towns, Featherston, Martinborough and Greytown.

The Council employs two full-time Regulatory Officers who are responsible for carrying out day-to-day dog and animal control activities as well as bylaws compliance monitoring and enforcement.

Council works with local veterinarians, the SPCA and the Police, when carrying out its functions.

**2. Dog Registration and Other Fees**

The registration fees for dogs were approved on 15 June 2022 and publicly notified.

No adjustments to our fees were made.

Council has maintained different registration categories and fees for urban and rural dogs as well as desexed or entire dogs. These categories generally reflect that rural dogs require less work for Council officers and desexed dogs are less likely to roam and display aggressive behaviours.

**2.1 Control of Dogs Policy and Bylaw**

The Policy and Bylaw were adopted by Council on 19 September 2013. These were overdue for review. A review of the Wairarapa Combined Bylaw was undertaken as a priority with Carterton and Masterton District Councils. A wider bylaw review for the non-consolidated bylaws has taken place in conjunction with reviewing the Dog Control Policy and was adopted on the 27 September 2023 with one amendment.

**2.2 General**

Dog collars are available for purchase for all dog owners at Council's, Martinborough office, Featherston and Greytown service centers.

Bylaws Officers and management are now placing greater emphasis on impounding dogs. The fees associated with impoundment include a tiered impounding fee which escalates for subsequent impoundment. This approach has started now that Councils new dog pound facility is operating.

**3. General comments on animal management****3.1 New Pound**

The new off the grid Dog Pound was completed in April 2023 and became operational on 29 May 2023. On 28 July 2023 Council received a national super idea award for the new Pound concept and facility.

### 3.2 Community education

The council has a key performance indicator in our dog control area that requires three community education sessions to be undertaken each year.

Officers are looking to do wider offerings of these education courses to businesses who may be involved with accessing private property (e.g. rental managers, tradespeople, meter readers)

## 4. Dogs Prohibited, Leash Only and Dog Exercises Areas

Council's Bylaw sets out the areas which are "Dog Prohibited", "Leash Only" and "Dog Exercise Areas".

Officers discovered there were on/off leash discrepancies between Council's Control of Dogs Bylaw 2013 and the Control of Dogs Policy 2013. These were reviewed and aligned on the 27 September 2023.

## 5. Complaints Commentary

Number of complaints received.

Complaints	Numbers		
	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023
Barking / Whining	47	35	30
Aggressive behaviour / Rushing	16	14	8
Wandering/fouling/uncontrolled	134	121	73
Attack on Person	7	7	6
Attack on stock	0	1	4
Attack on Pet	16	12	5
Welfare concerns	4	4	4
Lost dogs	31	13	5
Found dogs (of which were lost)	30	2	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>139</b>

## 6. Dog Registration, Enforcement and Service Request Statistics for South Wairarapa District Council

Dog Registration, Enforcement and Service Request Statistics	Numbers		
	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023
Number of dog owners	2022	2086	2110
Number of probationary owners	0	0	0
Number of disqualified owners	0	0	0
Number of registered dogs	3383	3493	3388
Number of rural dogs	2090	2180	2184
Number of urban dogs	1298	1313	1333
Number of dogs classified as dangerous under Section 31	1	2	2
Clause 1(a) due to owner conviction	1	1	1
Clause 1(b) due to sworn evidence	0	0	0
Clause 1(c) due to owner admittance	0	0	0
Number of dogs classified as menacing	33	29	26
Dogs classified as menacing under Section 33A <i>(Section 33A 1(b) - the territorial authority considers the dog may pose a threat to any person, stock, poultry, domestic animal, or protected wildlife).</i>	16	16	18
Dogs classified as menacing under Section 33C <i>(Section 33C (1) - the territorial authority has reasonable grounds to believe that the dog belongs wholly or predominantly to one or more breeds or types listed in Schedule 4 of the amendment Act 2004).</i>	17	10	7
Infringement notices issued	104	129	132
Failing to register	97	121	123
Failure to keep dog controlled or confined	1	0	0
Failure to keep dog under control	3	6	7
Failure to implant microchip transponder	0	0	0
Failure to comply with the effect of dangerous classification	0	0	0
Failure to comply with the effect of menacing classification	0	1	1
Failure to carry a leash	0	0	0
Failure to comply with Bylaw	3	1	0
Failure to undertake owner education programme or dog obedience course (or both)	0	0	0
Impounded dogs	70	26	28

### 10.3 ADOPTION OF THE 2025 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

**Author:** Amy Andersen, Lead Advisor, Democracy and Committees

**Authoriser:** Paul Gardner, Group Manager, Corporate Services

**File Number:** N/A

#### PURPOSE

To adopt the schedule of ordinary Council and committee meetings for 2025.

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Each year Council must consider the proposed structure and schedule for its Council, and committee meetings for the following calendar year.
- The schedule has been completed in line with the latest Council and Committees Terms of Reference, as well as feedback from elected members and council officers.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

That *the Strategy Working Committee* adopt the 2025 Schedule of Ordinary Meetings for Council and Committees.

#### BACKGROUND

Council and committee meetings are currently scheduled on Wednesdays where possible, and the regularity according to the requirements of their TOR. Ideally committee meetings are spaced in the weeks before Council meetings to ensure that decisions or recommendations referred to Council can be managed in a timely manner.

This report proposes the adoption a schedule of meetings for the 2025 calendar year for Council and committees, based the current committee structure.

The Local Government Act 2002, schedule 7, cl 19, Council must hold meetings:

#### **19 General provisions for meetings**

*(1) A local authority must hold the meetings that are necessary for the good government of its region or district.*

The Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, Part 7 also specifies the process for calling meetings of the Local Authority.

The Local Government Act 2002 requires the Council to hold meetings necessary for the good government of its district. The meetings must be called and conducted in accordance with the requirements set out in the Local Government Act 2002, and the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, as well as the Standing Orders of South Wairarapa District Council.

Council must adopt a schedule of meetings that can cover any future period the Council considers appropriate. This schedule may be amended at any time.

Additional ordinary, extraordinary, or emergency meetings may be scheduled from time to time in consultation with the Mayor and Chief Executive as described in Section 8 of Standing Orders.

## DISCUSSION

### Highlights and insights from 2024

- a. Council meetings are currently scheduled four-weekly on Wednesdays and committees are scheduled on Wednesdays where possible, and the regularity according to the requirements of their Terms of Reference.
- b. Ideally, committee meetings are spaced in the two weeks before Council meetings to ensure that decisions or recommendations referred to Council can be managed in a timely manner.
- c. Meetings need to be scheduled to meet key legislative requirements for the approval of key Council documents including the Long-Term Plan or Annual Plan (budget) and Annual Report (audit).
- d. The flow of information from the Māori Standing Committee (MSC) to community boards, followed by committees, then Council, supports efficient decision making. Ideally, each of the bodies would continue to schedule meetings that enable this flow. Unaligned meeting schedules mean that extraordinary meetings are required to meet deadlines or ensure that perspectives of each body is heard as part of democratic decision making.
- e. Formal meetings of council, committees, sub-committees, and community boards must use standing orders. Their purpose is to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities. Considerable democracy service support is required for formal meetings. Formal meetings are the only place decisions can be made, through a resolution (or motion) being made, seconded, voted on, and carried.
- f. Portfolios for Infrastructure, Planning and Regulatory, and Community, Climate and Environmental Wellbeing have been implemented this year to support the flow of information through quarterly reporting to the Strategy Working Community. A review of the portfolios and how this is working will be reviewed in early 2025. The reporting schedule for portfolios will be confirmed with Portfolio Leads and the relevant council officers once this schedule of meetings is adopted.
- g. Workshops, briefings, and community forums, do not use standing orders and therefore are much less formal than meetings. They are good for exploring an issue or when requiring in-depth advice on identified priorities. There is less democracy service preparation e.g. agenda, reports, minutes, etc, but they can still require democracy team support. Placeholders for workshops have been added to the schedule of meetings
- h. At the time of writing this report, it is anticipated that this year we will have delivered at least 67 elected member sessions, including extraordinary meetings, and workshops, on a schedule of 51 planned meetings – *this does not account for planned by-law hearings, formal consultation process, and informal sessions officers have attended to support elected members processes this year.*

This highlights a decrease in sessions for elected members – it is noted in 2023, we delivered at least 97 elected member sessions, including extraordinary meetings, and workshops, on a schedule of 41 planned meetings.

- i. CEO Employment Committee meetings are scheduled bi-annually in February and September.
- j. Previous requests were noted to consider a calendar schedule where Council meetings do not fall during school holidays, however, this is not always possible due to the frequency of meetings as prescribed by the current Council and Committees Terms of Reference.
- k. Workshop requirements, combined council forums, and some external events have been accounted for in the proposed schedules to ensure those items are observed accordingly .

### **Financial and resourcing considerations**

Costs to hold meetings have been factored into existing Council budgets, with the inclusion of any claim for the childcare allowance.

Democracy reporting takes a significant amount of officer's time. This includes drafting and reviewing the reports, meeting preparation, meeting attendance by officers, and follow-up on resolutions and actions. The time commitment impacts council officers' capacity to undertake "business as usual".

### **Engagement and communications**

Elected and appointed members, and the Strategic Leadership Team were consulted in the process of developing the 2025 meeting schedule.

All options allow the Chief Executive to properly notify the public of the times and dates of meetings in accordance with Part 7 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Once a 2025 schedule is adopted, all scheduled meetings will be notified on the SWDC website: <https://swdc.govt.nz/meetings/>

### **COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE**

Full consideration has been given to the provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 S77 in relation to decision making, in particular:

1. A Local authority must, in the course of the decision-making process,
  - a) Seek to identify all reasonably practicable options for the achievement of the objective of a decision; and
  - b) Assess the options in terms of their advantages and disadvantages; and
  - c) If any of the options identified under paragraph (a) involves a significant decision in relation to land or a body of water, take into account the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral land, water sites, waahi tapu, valued flora and fauna and other taonga.
2. This section is subject to Section 79 - Compliance with procedures in relation to decisions.

Compliance requirement	Staff assessment
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State the level of significance (high or low) of the issue or proposal as determined by the <a href="#">Council's Significance and Engagement Policy</a>	This is a matter of low significance.
State the relevant Council policies (external or internal), legislation, and/or community outcomes (as stated in the Long Term Plan) that relate to this decision.	This report complies with the Local Government Act 2002, schedule 7, clause 19; and Council Standing Orders.
State the possible implications for Māori and how Māori have been provided with an opportunity to contribute to decision making if this decision is significant and relates to land and/or any body of water.	There are no implications for Māori, however, it is noted that the Māori Standing Committee provided feedback to the Community Governance Advisor in relation to their scheduled meetings.
Chief Financial Officer review	The Chief Financial Officer has not reviewed this report.
State the possible implications for health and safety	There are health and safety considerations relating to breaks and time between meetings to ensure the risk of burnout is reduced.

## APPENDICES

### Appendix 1      Draft 2025 Schedule of Meetings

2025	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	2025
MON													MON
TUE				1			1						TUE
WED	1 New Years Day			2 GCB			2 SWC		3 SWC	1 SWC			WED
THU	2 Day after New Years Day			3	1		3		4	2		4	THU
FRI	3			4	2		4	1	5	3	1	5	FRI
SAT	4	1	3	5	3		5	2	6	4	1	6	SAT
SUN	5	2	2	6	4	1	6	3	7	5	2	7	SUN
MON	6	3	3	7	5	2 King's Birthday	7	4	8	6	3	8	MON
TUE	7	4	4	8	6	3	8	5	9	7	4	9	TUE
WED	8	5 Workshop hold / GCB	5 CEO	9 SWC / FCB	7 SWC / LTP Workshop hold	4 SWC / FCB	9 Council	6 SWC / FCB	10 CEO / COUNCIL	8 Council	5 CCF (CDC)	10	WED
THU	9	6 Waitangi Day	6	10	8	5	10	7	11	9	6	11	THU
FRI	10	7	7	11	9	6	11	8	12	10	7	12	FRI
SAT	11	8	8	12	10	7	12	9	13	11	8	13	SAT
SUN	12	9	9	13	11	8	13	10	14	12	9	14	SUN
MON	13	10	10	14	12	9	14	11	15	13	10	15	MON
TUE	14	11	11	15	13	10	15	12	16	14	11	16	TUE
WED	15	12 SWC / FCB	12 SWC	16 Council / MCB	14 LTP Hearing	11 Council / Workshop hold	16 Workshop hold	13 ARF	17 Workshop hold	15 Workshop hold	12 GCB (pending )	17	WED
THU	16	13	13	17	15 LTP Hearing	12 MCB	17	14 MCB	18	16	13	18	THU
FRI	17	14	14	18 Good Friday	16 LTP Hearing	13	18	15	19	17	14	19	FRI
SAT	18	15	15	19	17	14	19	16	20	18	15	20	SAT
SUN	19	16	16	20	18	15	20	17	21	19	16	21	SUN
MON	20 Wgtn Anniversary	17	17	21 Easter Monday	19	16	21	18	22	20	17	22	MON
TUE	21	18	18	22 Easter Tuesday	20	17	22	19	23	21	18	23	TUE
WED	22	19 ARF / Council	19 CCF (MDC) / Council	23 Workshop hold	21 CCF (GWRC) / ARF	18 Workshop hold	23 Workshop hold	20 LGNZ conference (TBC)	24 Workshop hold	22	19 FCB (pending )	24	WED
THU	23	20 MCB	20	24	22	19	24	21 LGNZ conference (TBC)	25	23	20	25 Christmas Day	THU
FRI	24	21	21	25 ANZAC Day	23	20	25	22 LGNZ conference (TBC)	26	24	21	26 Boxing Day	FRI
SAT	25	22	22	26	24	21	26	23	27	25	22	27	SAT
SUN	26	23	23	27	25	22	27	24	28	26	23	28	SUN
MON	27	24	24	28	26	23	28	25	29	27	24	29	MON
TUE	28 MSC Meeting	25	25	29 MSC Meeting	27	24	29 MSC meeting	26	30	28 MSC meeting	25	30	TUE
WED	29 Workshop hold	26 SWC meeting - Adoption of LTP consultation document	26	30 Workshop hold	28 SWC - LTP deliberations/GCB	25 Council - Adoption of the LTP	30 SWC / GCB	27 CCF (SWDC host)		29 Council -first meeting of the Triennium (pending )	26	31	WED
THU	30	27	27		29	26	31	28		30	27 MCB (pending )		THU
FRI	31	28	28		30	27		29		31	28		FRI
SAT			29		31	28		30			29		SAT
SUN			30			29		31			30		SUN
MON			31			30							MON
TUE													TUE

<b>COUNCIL / SWC</b>	District Council or Strategy Working Committee meeting
<b>MCB</b>	Martborough Community Board
<b>FCB</b>	Featherston Community Board
<b>GCB</b>	Greytown Community Board
<b>MSC</b>	Māori Standing Committee
<b>CEO</b>	CEO Employment Committee
<b>ARF</b>	Assurance, Risk and Finance Committee
<b>Public &amp; School Holidays</b>	Public & School Holidays
<b>CCF</b>	Combined Council Forum
<b>Workshops for Council and Committees - holding space</b>	Workshops for Council and Committees - holding space

## **11 INFORMATION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF**

### **11.1 ACTION ITEMS**

**Author:** Amy Andersen, Lead Advisor, Democracy and Committees

**Authoriser:** Paul Gardner, Group Manager, Corporate Services

**File Number:** Not applicable

#### **PURPOSE**

To present the Committee with updates on actions and resolutions.

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Action items from recent meetings are presented to the Committee for information.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Chair may ask the Chief Executive for comment and all members may ask the Chief Executive for clarification and information through the Chair.

If the action has been completed between meetings it will be shown as 'actioned' for one meeting and then will remain in a master register but no longer reported on. Procedural resolutions are not reported on.

#### **DISCUSSION**

Please refer to the report appendix.

#### **APPENDICES**

**Appendix 1 Action Items to 2 October 2024**

Number	Raised Date	Responsible Manager	Action or Task details	Open	Notes
407	8 Nov 23	P Gardner	For the Committee to look at options for a District Joint Committee on Climate Change (CCE)	Actioned	Noted Cr Gray will follow up initially. 14/02/24: Cr Gray provided update. No response to date from other elected members. Mayor/Deputy to support in promoting message. Action remains open. 03/07/24: This will be raised as part of the next Combined Council Forum in August 2024. 31/07/24: This item has been submitted to Combined Council Forum agenda. Action closed at SWC meeting 2 October 2024.
409	8 Nov 23	S Corbett	Request further information from Council Officers relating to the development of a No-Mow Policy, including implications, for the South Wairarapa District Council by the next meeting of the Committee.	Open	30/01/24: no new developments (low priority). 14/02/24: Cr Gray queried creative ways to progress the no-mow policy (e.g. community working group). Noted – bylaw restrictions and need a review if changes are proposed. Officers suggested a trial on one street. Officers suggested would be included in LTP work. Further information required. 10/04/24: Cr Bosley to discuss next steps with Mr Corbett. 31/07/24: Cr Bosley’s action for follow up, to remain open. 17/09/24: No new updates.
461	22 Nov 23	R Thomas	COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/177) to: 1.Receive the Greytown Sport and Leisure Funding report. (Moved Cr Woodcock/Seconded Cr Plimmer) Carried 2. Agrees to approve up to a maximum of \$60,000 of funding for 12 months for Greytown Sports and Leisure from 1 July 2024, and request Council Officers to prepare a report outlining long term options for expanding Greytown Sports and Leisure across the region. (Moved Cr Plimmer/Seconded Cr Bosley ) Carried	Open	7/02/24: Handover of work due to changes in the Democracy and Engagement Team. Early planning for exploring options underway. 29/02/24: Additional funding of \$60k will be allocated to an appropriate budget line (yet to be determined) in the AP. 11/06/24: Transferred from Council to SWC at request of CE. 21/06/24: Point 2 remains open for long term options report.
126	27 Mar 24	J Smith	COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2024/22) to: 1.Receive the Pain Farm History, Legality and Consultation for Treated Effluent Disposal Site Report. (Moved Cr Ellims/Seconded Cr Maynard) Carried 2.Continue to seek legal advice on the nature of the Trust and Council’s role as Trustees of the land at Pain Farm, to be reported back to a future meeting of the Strategy Working Committee. (Moved Cr Plimmer/Seconded Cr Olds) Carried	Open	05/04/24: Date for next report to Strategy Working Committee yet to be confirmed. Awaiting advice from CE. 11/06/24: Transferred from Council to SWC at request of CE. 03/07/24: Action remains open. 17/09/24: No new updates.

Number	Raised Date	Responsible Manager	Action or Task details	Open	Notes
			Abstained: Cr McAulay, Cr Woodcock		
135	10 Apr 24	S Corbett	Request clarification of the levels of service with Wellington Water and other relevant contractors in relation to drainage/clearing of water ways across the district.	Open	29/04/24: Officers are currently mapping the assets and confirming responsibilities. 17/09/24: No new updates.
357	31 Jul 24		Councillor Plimmer to email Councillors regarding the issues and challenges of work done by Councillors relating to water.	Open	17/09/24: No new updates.
SWC2024/101	4 Sept 2024	J Smith	COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2024/101 AMENDMENT Moved: Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter Seconded: Cr P Maynard To instruct the CEO to instigate a data integrity check on the relevant urban property data this is used to define the application of a SUIP. CARRIED The amendment became the substantive resolution.	Open	24/09/2024: Project initiated. Expected to commence w/c 16/9 with training. Communications (electronic and flyers) went out to all SW properties across urban areas. Review exercise started 20/9. Exercise may take 3 weeks with additional time for analysis and actioning

## 12 APPOINTMENT REPORTS

### 12.1 COMMUNITY, CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO UPDATE

**Author:** Rebecca Gray, Councillor

**Authoriser:** Janice Smith, Chief Executive Officer

**File Number:** N/A

#### PURPOSE

To inform members of matters from the Community, Climate Change and Environment portfolio.

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Portfolio Holders report quarterly to the Strategy Working Committee on portfolio matters, regarding the current matters underway in their portfolio area and outstanding issues we believe need to be brought to Council's attention.
- This report has been developed through engagement and information sharing with Council Officers.

#### BACKGROUND

Please see updates and attached report from Council Officers below.

#### DISCUSSION

##### 1. Wellington Regional Joint Committee Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP)

Work is continuing in the implementation space for the WMMP. The WMMP is a 6-year plan that set outs the vision, objectives, targets and action plans. These have been set at a regional level and are supported by local implementation plans.

New Zealand is one of the highest generators of waste per person in the developed world- on average we send approximately 750kgs of waste per person to landfill each year. Our Wellington regional waste to landfill volume in 2018 was approx. 553kgs per person. Of this, approximately 57% had the potential to be diverted – 26% organics, 20% cleanfill and nearly 7% paper. As we pay per tonne of waste to landfill, this is (excuse the pun) a wasted opportunity to reduce costs across the region.

Organic waste that ends up in landfill breaks down anaerobically, producing large amounts of methane. Methane is a greenhouse gas that is, depending on how you measure it, 26 to 80 times more effective at trapping heat than carbon. Whilst there are few mechanisms currently for our council to reduce regional greenhouse gas emissions, by educating, encouraging and supporting our communities to reduce disposing of organics to landfill could have a large and positive impact.

To that end, our Environmental Sustainability officer Mandy De Ritter has advised that the Ministry for the Environment has officially approved our joint Wairarapa Council funding request to conduct a business case and feasibility study for the proposed organic kerbside collection. MFE has agreed to fund 70% of the total cost, which amounts to \$66,000. The remaining 30% will be evenly split between the three councils. Additionally, once this study is completed, we will be eligible to apply for further funding to assess processing options, particularly if no processing facility is available

within 150 km. There is also potential funding available for bin procurement when the project progresses.

### **Information from the WMMP**

#### **The nine regional objectives:**

Objective 1: Waste and resource recovery systems support a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from landfills and waste collections.

Objective 2: There is collective responsibility within the Wellington region for reducing our resource use and protecting our natural environment.

Objective 3: The conditions are in place to support everyone to use fewer resources and minimise waste.

Objective 4: Material circularity is increased through reuse, resource recovery, waste infrastructure and services.

Objective 5: It is accessible and convenient to reduce waste, reuse materials and minimise disposal to landfill in line with the waste hierarchy.

Objective 6: Waste and resource recovery data systems are in place to track and monitor waste streams.

Objective 7: Resource recovery facilities and waste systems are resilient and able to cope with emergency events.

Objective 8: Recovery of materials is maximised so that landfills are used as a last resort.

Objective 9: Waste that cannot be prevented or diverted from landfill is managed safely and effectively in accordance with best practice.

#### **These are supported by measurable targets:**

1. Reduce the total amount of material that needs final disposal to landfill by:

- 10% by 2027.
- 30% by 2030.

We will work towards this by achieving the following sub-targets:

a. Ensuring construction and demolition waste processing and recovery is available in the Wellington region by 2026.

b. Ensuring organic processing systems are available to the Wellington region by 2029.

c. Ensuring five new resource recovery locations are added to the existing network within the Wellington region by 2030.

2. Reduce emissions from biogenic methane by reducing the total amount of organic waste disposed to landfill by 50% by 2030.

3. Reduce emissions from the collection and transport of kerbside waste by 30% by 2030.

4. Ensure all urban households have access to kerbside recycling collections by 2027.

5. Ensure food scraps collection services are available to urban households by 2030.
6. For each council to engage with and support 30% of the business community to minimise waste and implement waste minimisation activities by 2029.

**Regional Action Plan and Local Actions Plans** have been developed to identify how these objectives and targets will be met. These actions broadly cover:

- Providing and supporting education initiatives within the Wellington region that focus on waste minimisation and responsible consumption.
- Supporting new and existing regional and local waste minimisation initiatives.
- Improving the way we connect and collaborate across the region on waste management and minimisation initiatives.
- Ensuring appropriate kerbside services are in place for recycling and organic waste.
- Ensuring appropriate regional infrastructure is in place to meet our targets and objectives.
- Investigating ways to effectively manage and monitor cross boundary and inter-regional waste flows.
- Investigating options for future disposal of residual waste and what this may look like in the long term.

## 2. Waste Forum

On August 16<sup>th</sup>, Kapiti District Council hosted the Kapiti Regional Waste Forum. This forum focussed on construction and demolition waste (C&D) and included a range of speakers and a site tour. We heard from:

- Mathew Luxon, Chief Executive of Localised (<https://localised.nz/>), the commercial arm of Zero Waste Network. Localised works with community partners in a social enterprise model. They define a social enterprise as one who derives half of their income from trade, and then return half of their profit to the community. Localised have been involved with developing, setting up and running the Otaihanga Zero Waste C&D hub in Ōtaki alongside the Sustainability Trust, and are very keen to find other councils or organisations to work with
- Dr Emina Kristina Petrović, Senior Lecturer in Sustainability in Design (<https://people.wgtn.ac.nz/emina.petrovic>), Wellington School of Architecture, Te Herenga Waka – Victoria University of Wellington who discussed her professional practice of materiality, sustainable design, and international perspectives. Dr. Emina outlined how many industrialised chemicals and substances are now being produced, with very limited to nil information about their long-term environmental or health impacts.
- Kyle Tonks, Director of Tonks Residential (<https://www.tonksresidential.co.nz/>) and President of the regional Registered Master Builders Association, who spoke about his company's journey towards reducing the amount of waste that goes to landfill from residential builds, and working with Otaihanga Zero Waste.
- Ben Wakefield, Otaihanga Zero Waste (<https://sustaintrust.org.nz/otaihangazerowaste>) general manager who took us through the new facility and demonstrated how it operates. Ben is passionate, knowledgeable, and keen to talk to people about his mahi. I suggest a



fieldtrip for officers and councillors at some stage in the future to see this facility in action, and to hear about how useful this resource could be if it was replicated in the Wairarapa.

The presentations were excellent – they highlighted the current challenges with managing waste and resource recovery, the environmental catastrophe we are continuing to create by generating increasingly toxic waste, as well as the excellent work that is happening in this space with passionate, motivated, well connected and very clever people driving it forward.

### 3. Wellbeing Fund

The first round of funding has been granted from the Community Wellbeing fund. We have had an amazing response to this fund, and that is due in no small part to the work of our Grants and Funding Co-ordinator Lina McManus. Feedback from applicants to me personally have been that Lina has made applying much less daunting, and they have felt a lot more confident when putting their proposals together. We've had applications from a wide variety of community initiatives and have been able to make significant contributions to the folks who work hard to make South Wairarapa the amazing place that it is.

Grants approved in the first round:

- Cobblestones Museum Trust, the amount of \$45,000
- Greytown Little Theatre Trust, the amount of \$36,000
- Kohunui Marae, the amount of \$49,000
- Courage Dear Heart Event, the amount of \$10,000
- Ngahua Wild Bird Rescue Trust, the amount of \$20,000

The initial plan was to have three rounds of funding applications or to continue until the fund was exhausted. We have had such a good level of engagement from the community, however, that the applications have quickly maxed out the fund capacity. The decision was made to extend the application date for the second round, and then cancel the third round. This was to give the folks who were waiting for the third round a chance to get their applications in, and to make sure that we didn't miss any worthy groups. So our second and final round will now be a full day event at the Tauwharenikau Racecourse on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October. I invite all elected members to attend to hear from our incredible community, and to be inspired by their hard work and dedication.

### 4. Climate Change

As of time of writing, CO2 levels measured at NIWA's Baring Head clean air monitoring station near Wellington are **421.2ppm**.

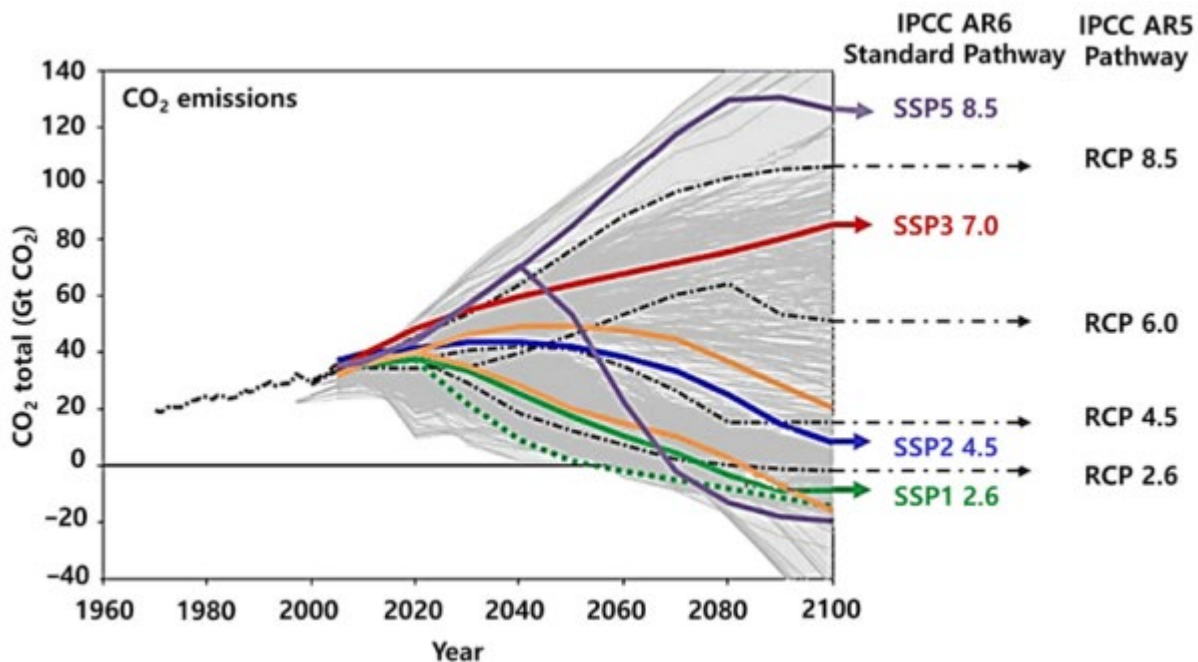
Using ice core data, we have evidence that CO2 had been under 300ppm for 800,000 years. We breached 300ppm in the 1950's.

The last time CO2 was consistently over 400ppm was around 4 million years ago, in the Pliocene era.

Climate change data in NZ is usually presented using Shared Socioeconomic Pathways (SSPs). The SSP scenarios start in 2015, and are abbreviated as SSP1-1.9, SSP1-2.6, SSP2-4.5, SSP3-7.0 and SSP5-8.5, in the order of increasing greenhouse gas emissions. The SSPs represent the outcomes of a

range of twenty-first century climate policies. The following definition of each SSP is adapted from IPCC (2021):

- SSP1-1.9 and SSP1-2.6 are scenarios with very low and low greenhouse gas emissions, with CO<sub>2</sub> emissions declining to net zero around or after 2050, followed by varying levels of net negative CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.
- SSP2-4.5 is an intermediate greenhouse gas emissions scenario, with CO<sub>2</sub> emissions remaining around current levels until the middle of the century.
- SSP3-7.0 and SSP5-8.5 are high and very high greenhouse gas emissions scenarios, with CO<sub>2</sub> emissions that roughly double from current levels by 2100 and 2050, respectively.

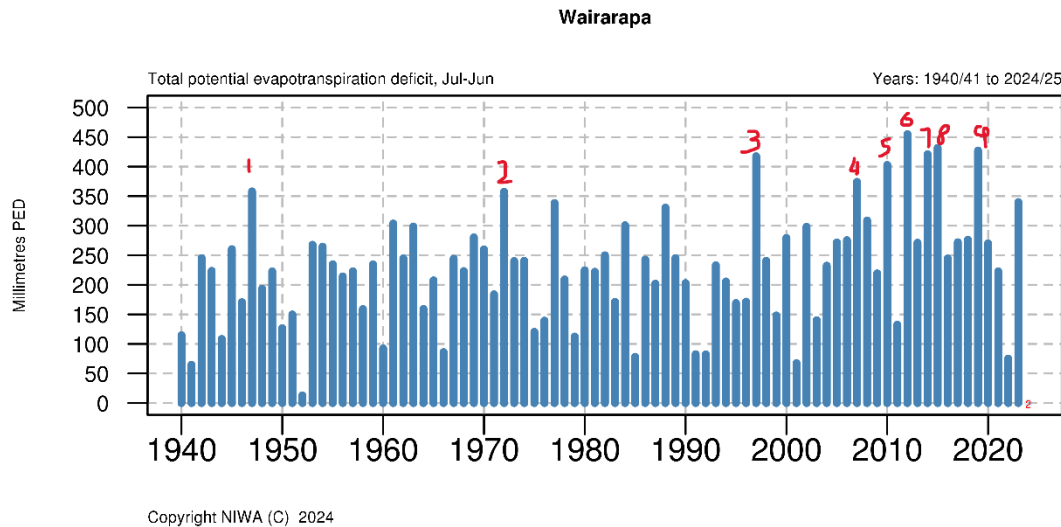


(Global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the 21st century scenarios, sourced from <https://niwa.co.nz/climate-and-weather/climate-change-scenarios-new-zealand>)

NIWA have recently made their updated data projections available to the public. There is an online interactive map that you can use to see the projections over a range of timeframes and scenarios, down to every 5km squared across Aotearoa.

Using SSP3 -7.0, this is a snapshot of some of our very local predictions of what will be happening here by the end of the century:

- Rainy days ( $\geq 1\text{mm}$ ) decrease by 8 days per year
- Very rainy days ( $>25\text{mm}$ ) stay about the same
- Heavy rainfall (99<sup>th</sup> centile) increases by 9.2%
- Drought exposure (deficit between rainfall volume and evapotranspiration) increases by 109mm/year
- This can broadly be read as less rainfall days, but more rainfall amount. Drought, then flood.



This chart shows the difference (expressed as Potential Evapotranspiration Deficit, or PED) between how much rain falls each year, and how much is lost through evaporation. This is why most farmers need to irrigate. I have highlighted the years where the deficit is above 350mls, just to show the increasing frequency of larger deficits. Add to this, the above describe projection of an increase of 109mls/year by the end of the century.

This has direct and extreme impacts on our communities – it throws into question the ongoing viability of farming as we know it in our region, it threatens the design capacity and resilience of our infrastructure, and it has the potential to threaten lives and homes if we aren’t prepared.

**5. Barr-Brown Reserve**

Report written by Anneliese Schroeder, Featherston Community Board, regarding Barr-Brown Reserve, Featherston:

**Where we were:**

Barr-Brown Reserve, under council control since 1977, is a much-loved remnant of ancient native bush on the edge of Featherston. It is a hidden treasure and deserves particular care and protection. However, it is plagued by weeds and pests and its entrances are not accessible for all. Pīwakawaka, prevalent a decade ago, are now rarely seen and only the occasional tūi is heard. It is rare to hear birds other than exotic finches and rosellas.

After many years of council providing only essential maintenance, in March 2024 former owner Brent Slater undertook some work (seating, stepping stones and tree labelling), which members of the local community felt was not sympathetic to the ambience of the reserve and had not involved their input.

**Where we are now:**

In April, the “Barr-Brown Reserve Users Group” Facebook group was formed to share news and information, and now has 58 members.

In May, local community folk joined Mr Slater, members of the extended Barr-Brown family and council staff at the reserve to begin discussions about its future. We agreed that Brent’s work would

be paused, and that future care of the reserve would involve the community with support from the council.

In July, the Barr-Brown family sent to the council CE a formal request that the reserve's classification be changed from recreation reserve to scenic reserve to better reflect Alan Barr-Brown's original intentions when the land was declared a sanctuary in 1946.

Having filmed rat and possum activity in the reserve, volunteers from Predator Free Featherston laid 14 traps in August and have so far caught five rats and a mouse.

A team from Corrections thoroughly swept and tidied the paths in September.

***Where we want to be:***

As soon as possible, we would like a group comprising local enthusiasts and experts to be formed and given appropriate powers and responsibilities to look after the reserve with council support. Specific projects will include continuing pest control, starting weed control and new native planting, and improving accessibility.

When the LTP comes up for consultation at the end of 2025, if not earlier, we want the council to reclassify Barr-Brown Reserve as a scenic reserve so that it has the legislative protections it deserves.

In the long term, we want Barr-Brown Reserve to remain a hidden treasure while becoming a flourishing home for native flora and fauna.

We would appreciate Councillors' support for these efforts, and we encourage you to visit the reserve on Underhill Road, Featherston, opposite number 80.

**APPENDICES**

**Appendix 1      Community, Climate Change and Environment Quarterly Report, July to September 2024**

**COMMUNITY, CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT QUARTERLY REPORT****2 October 2024****Author: Rob Thomas, Manager Stakeholder Relationships****Authoriser: Paul Gardner, Group Manager, Corporate Services****PURPOSE**

To provide councillors a quarterly update on the deliverables of the Community, Climate and Environmental portfolio for the period July to September 2024.

**BACKGROUND**

The report provides an update on key deliverables from council work programmes and key strategies:

- Rangatahi Youth Strategy & Plan
- Welcoming Communities Stock Take Report & Plan
- Ruamāhanga (Climate Change) Strategy
- Positively Ageing Strategy

This includes activities being delivered by South Wairarapa District Council and joint shared services with Masterton District Council (MDC) and Carterton District Council (CDC).

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPEMNT (COUNCIL SERVICE)****South Wairarapa Fund Finder**

South Wairarapa Fund Finder was launched to our community, businesses and Council 16 August [South Wairarapa Fund Finder - SWDC](#).

The Fund Finder is a free powerful online grants search engine. It encompasses all government and private sector grants available and includes our council's grants and funds that are available to apply for.

The Fund Finder can grow our community's and council's ability to secure external grant funding to our district. Growing user numbers through promotion, pop up events and supporting community groups and groups to register and identify funding needs and opportunities.

Approximately 50 community members have signed up.

Prior to this we also delivered the South Wairarapa Funders Forum featuring 11 funders available for the community to meet with and seek advice and support for their projects.

**Supporting key groups in the community**

We are developing a work plan that is reflective and responsive to community needs and existing solutions, while maximizing and leveraging on Council's and regional strengths, capabilities and partnering opportunities. Initial scoping has identified community need and

opportunities in funding, access to services and/or transport solutions, capability training and local food resilience.

Examples this quarter include:

- Working with Greytown Sports and Leisure and Nuku Ora to understand the future of supporting sports clubs in the South Wairarapa and enable the development of an approach that delivers on the wider need of the district.
- Working with Te Rua Mahara o Wairarapa, Kohunui Marae and SWDC staff to explore pathways for the development of waka ama in the South Wairarapa.

### **RANGATAHI YOUTH STRATEGY & PLAN (COUNCIL SERVICE)**

The purpose of the strategy is to support the development of young people (12-24 years old) to grow into vibrant, optimistic and connected adults through positive participation, meaningful engagement, and the provision of positive environments and opportunities.

The primary focus of our Youth Development Coordinator has been on continuing the development and implementation of youth-focused programs across South Wairarapa.

During the quarter our coordinator has established new youth groups and engaged with over 60 young people through the following groups:

- Wānanga Kids (20-28 kids)
- Youth Council (11 kids)
- Youth Kaimahi (25 kids)

#### **Hauora Oranga Wānanga**

Weekly wānanga at Kuranui College have been held with 20-28 rangatahi, offering sessions centered around *Hauora Oranga* (health, wellbeing, and lifestyle). This has allowed our coordinator to facilitate connections between rangatahi and local Wairarapa youth agencies such as Youthline, St John, and Tu Ora. The goal is to ensure our rangatahi are aware of the support available and feel empowered to access it.

#### **Creating a Rangatahi Council/Youth Advisory Group**

Our Coordinator has been actively working to enhance youth engagement and development across South Wairarapa. A significant focus has been the establishment of a *Rangatahi Council/Youth Advisory Group*, which will provide a platform for young people to voice their ideas and concerns directly to the South Wairarapa District Council.

This initiative is still in the planning stages, but its aim is to create a space where rangatahi from various schools and communities can collaborate, share their perspectives, and influence decisions that impact them. The group will meet biweekly, with the first meeting anticipated in the coming months, and will play an instrumental role in shaping council policies and youth-related projects.

**Youth Expo**

Our coordinator has been working with CDC and other key stakeholders to organise a youth expo, planned for later in the year/early 2025 which will showcase all services available to rangatahi across the district.

**Festival of the Future**

Our coordinator supported local rangatahi to attend the event in Wellington. This provided a valuable opportunity for our youth to engage with national and global leaders, explore future-focused ideas, and learn about leadership, innovation, and sustainability.

On the strategic side, our coordinator has been focusing on the groundwork for future initiatives. This includes meetings with agencies such as the Masterton Police to strengthen our partnership on community safety and crime prevention with rangatahi, as well as ongoing discussions with ChangeAbility and the Hauora Collective group to align our efforts for key upcoming events like Suicide Prevention Day and Mental Health Awareness Week.

**Meeting with Masterton Police**

The Youth Development Coordinator and Relationships Manager met with the Police on Tuesday 20 July 2024 to discuss young people at risk in South Wairarapa.

The Police reported that between the age of 11-13 years old youth offending has increased. The Police are actively managing 10 youth cases relating to assault after school but are also aware of offending occurring at schools.

The Police are actively engaged in family group conferences to develop Alternative Action Plans (AA Plans) involving agency meetings. The key outcome the Police are trying to achieve are to reduce harm by the age of 14 years old so that it reduces young people going into the youth justice system.

The Police have requested support from our Youth Development Coordinator and other agencies to assist with engagement with our rangatahi.

**Youth Network**

We are collaborating with CDC and MDC to shape a youth network, aiming to meet monthly and share updates to ensure youth voices are heard and integrated into local governance. This work builds on the vision to create sustained, meaningful engagement with our rangatahi and support their development in the community. SWDC is the lead in this initiative.

**Share Rangatahi Voice**

We are working with CDC and MDC on a regional activity to turn valuable raw data collected during the Rangatahi engagement into a community resource for youth and organisations who work for and with youth. We expect the results and interpretation of the data to be available next quarter.

**Code of ethics training**

Mana Taiohi and Code of Ethics Training was delivered at the Waihinga Centre 11-12 April to the Wairarapa community of youth workers and youth development volunteers.

34 participants attended Mana Taiohi training, and 27 participants attended the Code of Ethics YD training. Participants came from all over the Wairarapa, representing more than 31 different youth service agencies/ iwi / community groups / educators. - Led by SWDC, this was one of the five Year 1 regional activities implemented under Te Rautaki Rangatahi o Wairarapa, supported by the Masterton and Carterton District Councils.

Example of participants feedback when asked what they'd say to someone else considering the training:

*"Completing the Mana Taiohi and Youth Development Code of Ethics training was really enjoyable and informative. It was so cool to be in a room filled with people from all walks of life who had a passion for working with and supporting people, and I know that these connections and network will continue on long after the training. The two days went surprisingly fast, a lot of laughs were had and I got an incredible framework for effectively engaging with, and supporting, youth."*

*"If you find yourself working with youth in our community I highly recommend this course to upskill you and grow your awareness around potential situations you could find yourself in and how to handle them constructively and according to best practice."*



*Photo: Wairarapa community of youth workers and youth development volunteers*

**WELCOMING COMMUNITIES (COUNCIL SERVICE)**



Following the stock take report, SWDC has launched a Welcoming Plan.

The Plan provides a framework for how Council will provide information and support to welcome new people to our district.

The current advisor went on maternity leave this quarter, the role was advertised, and a new Welcoming Communities Advisor was about to start while this report was being compiled.

The new advisor will start with developing the Welcoming Guide, and work together with the receiving community to enable, support and delivery activities that promote community connection and inclusion.

**WALKING & CYCLING (SHARED SERVICES)**

**Wairarapa Walking Festival**

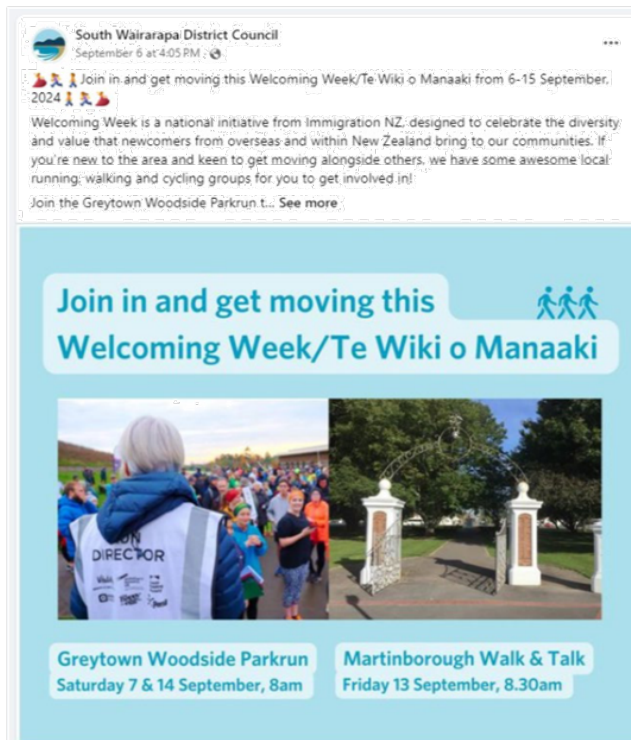
Planning is underway for the Wairarapa Walking Festival which is taking place 8-17 November. Our Coordinator has been attending monthly committee meetings to help plan and support the event. This has included collating a list of walking / cycling summer events to promote across the district.



**StoryWalk®**

Our Walking and Cycling Coordinator has been working to get the Martinborough StoryWalk® activity listed on the SWDC website [Walking and Cycling - SWDC](#) for further promotion.

This was the post on the Wairarapa Library Service facebook page promoting the new spring storey.



**Welcoming Week 6-15 September**

There has been a greater focus this year on providing an event for new residents, as part of Welcoming Communities, to encourage them to join existing active groups.

The events promoted included

- Greytown Woodside Parkrun
- Martinborough Walk and Talk

**Cycle Safety Survey**

Our Walking and Cycling Coordinator has been collated the responses from the cycling survey into a 9 page summary of the barriers to cycling to present back to Council.

**Supporting Cycling and Walking Groups**

This quarter our coordinator met with the following groups:

- The Martinborough Community Board to discuss ideas for walking and cycling.
- Attended Aorangi Restoration Trust community meeting to hear about the work they are proposing with trails.
- Working with SWDC to borrow the Storywalk® concept, that is enjoyed by many in Martinborough, and develop it for Carterton.

**RUAMĀHANGA (CLIMATE CHANGE) STRATEGY (SHARED SERVICE)**

**Submission on the Emissions Reduction Plan**

Our Climate Change Advisor supported the South Wairarapa District Council write a submission to the Ministry for the Environment in response to New Zealand’s second emissions reduction plan (2026-2030).

As a matter of public interest, the submission is attached to this report.

**Climate mitigation workshop with Greater Wellington**

Our Climate Change Advisor coordinated a workshop between Greater Wellington and SWDC staff to provide feedback into mitigating the effects of climate change into regional planning.

**Reviewing the Ruamāhanga Strategy**

The Ruamāhanga Strategy was developed to reduce the carbon footprint of Carterton District Council and South Wairarapa District Council. This strategy was adopted in February 2020 for CDC and March 2020 for SWDC. There are ambitions in the strategy to deliver a reduction of gross greenhouse gas emissions, increase carbon reservoirs (i.e. sequestration) and an overall reduce in methane 10% below 2017 levels

The 2020 Strategy was first reviewed in 2021, then included a 3-review period with the next review due in 2024. In anticipation of a review, our Climate Change Advisor undertook a stock take of the action plan this quarter to identified what had been delivered to date:

Completed

- Energy audit completed
- Healthy Homes Kits available in all libraries
- Included climate change into the procurement policy

Underway

- Update the Climate Change strategy (scoping)
- Recycling available in council offices
- Reduce water leaks
- Use LED lighting in street lighting
- Consider non-ICE (internal combustion engines) vehicle options
- Work collaboratively with GRWC and other TAs
- Support the Enviroschools Programme
- Support Conservation Week

Not started

- Compost options in council offices
- Implement findings of energy audits
- Organise CC biennial
- Support establishment of a seed bank

To date, there has been limited integration of the Strategy and Action Plan into everyday council operations and the ambitions of the strategy have yet to be realised.

Our Climate Change Advisor pulled together a proposal this quarter and presented it to the council's leadership team to review the Ruamāhanga Strategy. This was presented in-part at the Council's Long Term Plan Workshop to seek general feedback, guidance and possible funding to implement capital projects in the future.

At this stage the review would take place in the first financial quarter of 2025 once the LTP consultation is completed.

**POSITIVELY AGEING STRATEGY**

With the confirmation of Masterton District Council's funding of the implementation of the Positive Ageing Strategy, the three Councils have been meeting with the Positive Ageing Strategy Co-ordinator to plan the year ahead

**Grab and Go Bags**

The Positive Ageing Strategy Co-ordinator in conjunction with St Johns, Neighbourhood Support Carterton and Masterton, Featherston Community Centre and WREMO are progressing work on the Older Persons and Emergency project. The plan is trial the giveaway of 50 "Grab and Go" Bags to older persons that might experience barriers in being able to assemble the equipment needed. St Johns' local committee has recently donated 50 first aid kits. WREMO has also accessed 50 second Grab and Go bags (bags only) that can be used also.

**Ageing Concern Expo**

Our coordinator has been supporting the Ageing with Attitude Expo being held on 1 October which is United Nations Day of Older Persons. The Co-ordinator will be hosting a "Meet the Mayor" table where attendees can chat to their elected representative. Cr Olds will be representing SWDC. SWDC is supporting the event financially.

**Newsletter**

The Co-ordinator writes a quarterly article in the Age Concern Wairarapa newsletter highlighting Council business and the implementation of the Strategy. The most recent article focussed the activities available to older people through the Wairarapa Library Service) and the importance of being connected to your community. Connection is critical when looking at ways to prevent loneliness. Research shows that "Here in Aotearoa New Zealand, approximately 10% of people over the age of 65 are lonely all or most of the time, and this rises to 50% amongst those over 80. And this loneliness is hazardous: almost a quarter of those people who are lonely may be at risk of premature death. Previous research has equated the reduction in life span as a result of severe loneliness to smoking 15 cigarettes a day."

**Digital Seniors**

The Positive Ageing Co-ordinator convened two meetings of the Digital Collab (organisations providing digital support for older persons – a group that she brought together.) The agenda focussed on Digital Seniors' co-ordination of the [DORA \(Digital On-Road Access\)](#) bus across the three Councils' rohe in November. The focus is on health services online. The Co-ordinator is supporting Digital Seniors to do this mahi.

**Public Transport Advisory Group**

The Positive Ageing Strategy Co-ordinator is a member of the Greater Wellington Regional Council's Public Transport Advisory Group and passed on information from this quarterly's meeting. The Co-ordinator is also facilitating a response from a query from an older persons

regarding the trains. The Co-ordinator was able to give feedback on the Wairarapa experience. Catching a Train Replacement Bus in the Wairarapa has been less than optimal for people with disabilities. Note that 59% of older people reported to having a disability. (2013 Disability Survey). Numerous issues have been seen and reported to GWRC that are not appropriate and do not enhance the mana of Wairarapa older persons with disabilities. I have brought this to the attention of GWRC previously but this was an opportunity to reinforce that this is inappropriate and needs to be factored into any new contract with local bus companies.

#### **Language for older people**

The Co-ordinator has developed a guide for the Communications Team that outlines the appropriate language to use when writing about older persons. Engagement for the development of the Strategy showed that older people were keen to see a more positive narrative about ageing and improved communication with older persons. The role of the Council Communications Teams has a key role in achieving this.

Quick tip from the guide – when talking about older people:

Use:

- older people.

Avoid:

- senior people
- old people
- the elderly

#### **Needs for Greytown**

Supporting a discussion between Featherston Community Centre, Age Concern Wairarapa and South Wairarapa Rotary regarding potential needs assessment for Greytown. Included supporting Age Concern to understand SWDC's Wellbeing Fund.

#### **Partnership meetings**

- Partnership meetings with St Johns (two-monthly), Age Concern (monthly) Digital Seniors (quarterly).
- Also met with new staff at the Hospice Wairarapa and explored ways to work together
- Attended the quarterly network of Age Friendly Cities network in Aotearoa (local councils that do mahi in this space hosted by Office For Seniors)
- Attended the SWDC's Social Housing morning tea at Heartlands, Follow-up meeting with the manager of Heartlands to look at ways that we can work together.

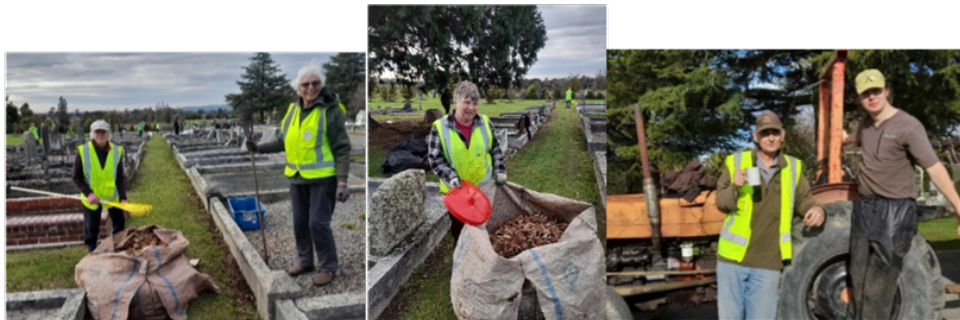
#### **Across the district**

Our Positive Ageing Strategy Co-ordinator worked across the district on the following:

- The Co-ordinator is working with Kia Hākinakina to support their new initiative – Go For Gold which hopefully will become a monthly initiative. It is an opportunity for Masterton’s 60 plus to engage in a range of activities in their own pace. The next one is based at the YMCA on the 19<sup>th</sup> of September.



- The Co-ordinator volunteers when she can with the Keep Carterton Beautiful Group over the 9-week period that they clear the leaves at the Clareville Cemetery. This year, she involved the Lions as volunteers and also the Council’s Community Development and Events team who came along on the last day to finish off. The Parks and Gardens team put on morning tea to celebrate the end of a big job!



- The Co-ordinator volunteers when she can with the Keep Carterton Beautiful Group over the 9-week period that they clear the leaves at the Clareville Cemetery. This year, she involved the Lions as volunteers and also the Council’s Community Development and Events team who came along on the last day to finish off. The Parks and Gardens team put on morning tea to celebrate the end of a big job!
- As part of the World Elder Abuse Awareness Day events at Carterton District Council (Clothes swap and purple lunch), the Positive Ageing Strategy Co-ordinator asked staff to donate goodies for Age Concern Wairarapa coffee morning raffles. Age Concern hold a monthly coffee morning in Carterton – this is an opportunity for

participants to meet new people and share some time together with morning tea



and speakers.

- A new craft group has started in Carterton meeting the second and fourth Thursday. The Positive Ageing Strategy Co-ordinator has supported the group with a donation of morning tea supplies and printing. The Co-ordinator and the Neighbourhood Support Co-ordinator visited the group to drop off information and to introduce



themselves.

a

**The latest research**

The number of older people participating in the labour force is projected to double from 194,700 in 2021 to 392,400 in 2071 and their proportion of the national workforce is projected to increase from 6.7% to 10.6% over the same time. The value of all taxes paid by older people could rise from \$10.1 billion in 2021 to \$54.6 billion by 2071 (2021\$). The amount and value of unpaid work undertaken by older people is projected to increase significantly between 2021 and 2071 . The report can be found here [7000OFS Business-of-Aging-update-2023 3.pdf \(officeforseniors.govt.nz\)](#)

With the declines in home ownership and an ageing population, Te Ara Ahunga Ora Retirement Commission modelling predicts there will be around 600,000 New Zealanders aged 65 and over needing to rent a home by 2048 – a 100% increase on 2022 levels. This is the latest news item [Landlords aren't ready for ageing tenants - so, what do we do now? \(1news.co.nz\)](#)

#### **APPENDICES**

**Appendix 1      ERP SWDC Submission 2024**



## **Submission to the New Zealand's second emissions reduction plan**

### **South Wairarapa District Council**

#### *Introduction*

South Wairarapa District Council is writing this submission in response to New Zealand's second emissions reduction plan (2026-2030) published by the Ministry for the Environment.

The South Wairarapa District is a small, rural-based district with three major township. We have strong primary production industries within our district and a large roading network, meaning that our district emissions primarily occur through the agriculture and transport sectors. However, we also have good forestry industries that also opens opportunities for emissions removals.

In our role as a District Council, we seek to ensure that the industries, businesses, and community within our district continue to thrive while we transition to a zero emissions future and a changing climate.

#### **General Comments on the Approach of the Second Emissions Reduction Plan**

##### *Meeting Our 2050 Emissions Targets*

It is encouraging that current actions under the first emissions reduction plan are still sufficient to meet national targets despite the cancellation of 40 actions within the plan. However, modelling within the discussion document show that we are unlikely to meet our net-zero 2050 targets for long-lived gases under our current approaches. Likewise, emissions reductions outlined in the first and second emissions reduction plans are insufficient to meet our Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement. This presents multiple risks, including:

- Risk to New Zealand's reputation and export economy as international consumers become more focussed on carbon-neutral goods (i.e., food and fibre exports) and services (i.e., tourism).
- Risk of greater costs in future emissions budgets through needing to invest in more expensive, drastic or exploratory emissions mitigation measures to reach national and international targets.
- Risk of not achieving net-zero emission reduction targets within sufficient time frames and therefore allowing increased burden upon local councils, businesses, and households to deal with costs of adaptation in an increasingly unstable climate.

##### *The Net-Based Approach*

The approach through the second emissions reduction plan to achieve significant emissions mitigation is focussed on the net-based approach. This approach is heavily reliant on forestry for emissions removals and currently non-commercially available agricultural emissions reduction technologies as the primary means of achieving emissions reductions (alongside carbon capture and utilisation). As a district with a strong primary production economy, such

heavy focus on the forestry and agricultural industries could create tensions around land availability and use as well as community cohesion within in our district. Likewise, should afforestation not occur at the rate projected, extreme weather events or growth impacts from climate change affect forest growth and cover, or agricultural emissions reductions technologies not become commercially viable within reasonable time scales, there is a high likelihood that New Zealand will not meet its national and international targets.

Therefore, instead of relying on forest removals and speculative technological advancements, the South Wairarapa District implore the Government to seek stronger emissions reduction actions within the energy and transport industries that can easily achieve signification emissions reductions with technology already available today.

#### *Just transitions and protecting our community*

We are disappointed to see that cancelled actions under Appendix 3 include several actions around achieving a just transition in New Zealand's climate response. The financial impacts of policies from second emissions reduction plan appear to fall primarily on Māori, people aged over 65, and households that earn less than \$35,600. So while this second emissions reduction plan may be a least cost approach for industry and government, it suggests that the policies outlined in this document do so at the cost of the most vulnerable within our communities. As a district that has a large older population (23.2% aged over 65) which is projected to increase, this is a concern for the wellbeing of people within our districts and does not represent a just transition.

### **Comments on Sector Plans**

#### *Energy*

New Zealand's electricity profile consists of 80-85% renewables from our hydro and geothermal resources, making our nation a world leader in clean electricity generation. We support the commitment under the second emissions reduction plan to double renewable energy resources by 2050, although this needs to go beyond merely reducing 'red-tape' and fast-tracking external investment. Ensuring sufficient supply of renewable energy as well as the necessary upgrades to transmission and distribution infrastructure cannot be left to profit-driven companies to manage alone. Therefore, we would seek increased central government investment to ensure sufficient renewable energy targets are completed within timeframes needed to meet our national emissions reductions targets, enable significant electrification of fleet and businesses, and ensure energy pricing does not impact on our most vulnerable.

#### *Transport*

Only with sufficient investment in all facets of New Zealand's electricity network (i.e., generation, transmission, and distribution) can we ensure that electrification of the transport network is truly renewable and a climate positive action. We support the plan to accelerate charging capacity across the country to enable greater ability to travel longer distances with electric vehicles and reducing range anxiety. This can also encourage greater sustainable

tourism to smaller towns such as Martinborough, Greytown, and Featherston. However, again, we believe that action must go beyond merely providing a charging network.

It is disappointing to see under the latest GPS Land Transport released earlier this year and this second emissions reduction plan that there are limited policies that might enable transport related emissions reductions, such as investment in freight rail infrastructure, improvement of public transport reliability and frequency, and supporting active travel mode shift. This affects South Wairarapa District through:

- Limiting options for our industries to reduce emissions and utilise existing rail networks to move products to Wellington or further north.
- Increased dissatisfaction from patrons using the Wairarapa commuter service to reach Wellington for employment.
- Increased reliance on private vehicle ownership due to limited bus transport options.
- Decreased feelings of safety around using active modes of transport within our townships, and between other Wairarapa towns.

Likewise, the discontinued actions under the first emissions reduction plan – i.e., removal of clean car discount and cancelling of VKT reduction work programmes – furthermore incentivise the need for private car ownership in our district. While emissions reduction through electric car ownership may be an option for some, it is likely not a financial viability for many in our district.

#### *Agriculture*

As agricultural districts, we fully endorse measures to support farmers within our region to pivot to less emissions intensive methods of farming and remaining competitive in a global economy increasingly concerned with life-cycle emissions of products. We support policies of government contributions to research and development programmes that seek to alleviate agricultural emissions, and standardisation of a method for on-farm emissions accounting.

We remain sceptical that agricultural emission mitigating technologies will be viable and commercially available in time to see the significant emissions reductions projected for the third emissions reduction plan (5.5 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>-e). Likewise, while we support agricultural emissions pricing being introduced, we question whether having a fully independent pricing system rather than inclusion into the NZ ETS is adding unnecessary complexity and resourcing, and therefore undermining the credibility of the overall NZ ETS system.

#### *Forestry & Non-Forestry Removals*

South Wairarapa District Council supports measures outlined to alleviate excessive whole-farm conversion to forestry indicated in the second emissions reduction plan and protection of highly productive land, as well as the transition away from farming on less suitable, erosion-prone land. Likewise, while not likely to produce notable sequestration, we support the investigation of nature-based non-forestry removals to be enumerated and incorporated in the NZ ETS where appropriate. On-farm vegetation and peatland/wetland restoration have many co-benefits such as improving soil quality, reducing nutrient run-off (and subsequent water quality improvements), and improving overall biodiversity that positively benefit the wider environment in New Zealand.

### *Waste*

The South Wairarapa District supports the proposals under the waste sector plan. In particular, we support the targeted funding from the Waste Minimisation Levy to divert organic waste from landfills and support smaller councils such as South Wairarapa to establish appropriate facilities. We also support the targeted investment around product stewardship, and suggest that specific funding be made available around product stewardship of electric batteries to operate alongside general electrification.

### **Conclusion**

The South Wairarapa District Council thanks the Ministry of the Environment for the opportunity to submit towards the draft second emissions reduction plan. As mirrored in our Ruamāhanga (Climate Change) Strategy, we are committed to reducing emissions within our district and ensuring our community will thrive as we transition to a zero-carbon future.

## 12.2 MEMBERS FEEDBACK FROM THE MĀORI STANDING COMMITTEE AND COMMUNITY BOARDS

**Author:** Amy Andersen, Lead Advisor, Democracy and Committees

**File Number:** N/A

### PURPOSE

An opportunity for members to provide updates and feedback from the Māori Standing Committee and the Community Boards.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Committee members who are appointed to Community Boards and the Māori Standing Committee are allocated five minutes per individual to provide a verbal report.
- This is a standing item on the Strategy Working Committee agenda.

### BACKGROUND

The purpose of the **Māori Standing Committee** is to advocate on behalf of and in the best interests of tāngata whenua in the District (including the descendants of hapū of Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Wairarapa) and to ensure that the Council is fulfilling its obligations to them.

The Māori Standing Committee is comprised of two representatives from each of the three South Wairarapa Marae, two representatives from Pae Tū Mokai o Taurira, one representative from each of the two Wairarapa Iwi, two Councillors, and the Mayor.

**Community Boards** represent, and act as an advocate for, the interests of their community. Specifically, the Board's role is to:

- consider and report on all matters referred to it by the Council, or any matter of interest or concern to the Community Board
- maintain an overview of services provided by the Council within the community
- prepare an annual submission to the territorial authority for expenditure within the community
- communicate with community organisations and special interest groups within the community
- undertake any other responsibilities that are delegated to it by the Council.

The Community Boards are made up of four elected community representatives plus two councillors who advocate for and represent the interests of their community. They play a key role in engaging with community groups.

### DISCUSSION

The following members will be offered the opportunity to provide feedback:

[Māori Standing Committee](#) (Violet Edwards)

[Greytown Community Board](#) (Councillors Martin Bosely and Aaron Woodcock)

[Featherston Community Board](#) (Councillor Rebecca Gray and Deputy Mayor Melissa Sadler-Futter)

[Martinborough Community Board](#) (Councillors Aidan Ellims and Pip Maynard).

#### **APPENDICES**

**Nil**

**13 PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject matter of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

<b>General subject of each matter to be considered</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>	<b>Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution</b>	<b>Plain English reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>
<b>13.1 - SWDC Office Accommodation Update</b>	s7(2)(b)(ii) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information	s48(1)(a)(i) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7	To protect external consultants and contractors fee proposals.

**14 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA – CLOSING**

Kua mutu ā mātou mahi  
Mō tēnei wā  
Manaakitia mai mā katoa  
O mātou hoa  
O mātou whānau  
Aio ki te Aorangi

Our work is finished  
For the moment  
Blessing upon us all  
Our friends  
Our families  
Peace to the Universe