



NOTICE OF AN ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

**Ōpōtiki District Council Chambers, 108 St John Street, Ōpōtiki
Tuesday, 27 October 2026
Commencing at 10.00am**

This meeting will be livestreamed – the link will be available on Council’s website and Facebook page on the morning of the meeting.

ORDER PAPER

OPENING KARAKIA / PRAYER / INSPIRATIONAL READING – MAYOR DAVID MOORE

APOLOGIES

DECLARATION OF ANY INTERESTS IN RELATION TO OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC FORUM

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PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS

ITEM 17	CONFIRMATION OF IN-COMMITTEE MINUTES – ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 15 SEPTEMBER 2026	
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ITEM 19	NOTES FROM COUNCIL WORKSHOPS	
ITEM 20	RESOLUTION TO RESTATE RESOLUTIONS AND READMIT THE PUBLIC	

Chair: His Worship the Mayor – David Moore

Members: Cr Maude Maxwell (Deputy Mayor)

Cr Shona Browne

Cr Barry Howe

Cr Curley Keno

Cr Steve Nelson

Cr Dean Petersen

Cr Pāpā Wharewera

Committee Secretary: Gae Finlay

Quorum: 4

LOCAL AUTHORITIES (MEMBERS' INTERESTS) ACT 1968

Councillors are reminded that if you have a pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda, then you must declare this interest and refrain from discussing or voting on this item, and are advised to withdraw from the Council chamber.

Stace Lewer

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



**MINUTES OF AN EXTRA ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING DATED, TUESDAY, 15 SEPTEMBER 2026
IN THE ŌPŌTIKI DISTRICT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 108 ST JOHN STREET, ŌPŌTIKI AT 9.00AM**

PRESENT:

Cr Curley Keno (Chairperson)
His worship the Mayor David Moore
Deputy Mayor Maude Maxwell (Deputy Chairperson), via Teams
Councillors:
Shona Browne
Barry Howe
Dean Petersen
Pāpā Wharewera

IN ATTENDANCE:

Stace Lewer (Chief Executive Officer)
Nathan Hughes (Group Manager Service Delivery)
Antoinette Campbell (Group Manager Strategy and Development)
Michael Fryer (Strategy and Policy Manager)
Jessica Hunter (Regulatory Manager)
Scott James (Strategic Policy Analyst)
Ranjini Manoharan (Executive Support Officer)
Maheesha Silva (Governance Support Officer)
Gae Finlay (Executive Assistant and Governance Lead)

PUBLIC:

Lyn Hickling
Āwhina Kurei
Jarrod True, via Teams
Renee Bolkowy
Louise Carr-Neil, via Teams
Several members of the public

His worship the Mayor Moore handed the Chair to Councillor Keno.

The Chairperson opened the meeting with a karakia and acknowledged a local person who passed away after going missing, and his whānau.

APOLOGY

Councillor Nelson

RESOLVED

(1) That the apology be sustained.

HWTM/Howe

Carried

DECLARATION OF ANY INTERESTS IN RELATION TO MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

Nil.

1. SCHEDULE OF SUBMITTERS TO SPEAK TO:

p3

DRAFT DOG CONTROL POLICY

Submission 007 – Forest and Bird Association (Lyn Hickling)

Lyn Hickling spoke to the submission on behalf of Linda Conning.

Key points:

- Ōhiwa Harbour and Ōhiwa Spit were omitted from the proposed prohibited dog areas and sought clarification on whether this was intentional.
- The importance of protecting birdlife and wildlife habitats.
- The draft policy is unclear due to spelling errors and location references.

Staff advised:

- Ōhiwa Harbour and Ōhiwa Spit were not captured during the policy review process and that feedback had been noted for Council's consideration during deliberations.
- As to whether a second draft of the policy would be prepared, this is a decision for Council.
- The spelling and naming issues identified by the submitter have already been corrected in the draft policy.

The Chair allowed Āwhina Kurei to present to Council regarding the Dog Control Policy.

Āwhina Kurei – Verbal Presentation

Key points:

- Concerned about uncontrolled and aggressive dogs and the impact on community safety.
- Have been a recent victim of a dog attack and described the effect on her sense of safety.
- Considered similar issues occur in urban, rural and coastal communities.
- Emphasised the importance of enforcement, owner accountability and adequate resourcing.
- Highlighted the need for stronger community engagement and civic education.
- Considered recurring concerns relating to roaming dogs, attacks and enforcement should be reflected in the final policy.

The Chair acknowledged the recent dog attack experienced by Āwhina Kurei and noted that her comments reflected concerns held by others in the community. Issues raised regarding resourcing, enforcement, education and communication will be considered further at the Ordinary Council meeting which follows this meeting.

Councillors thanked Āwhina Kurei for the presentation and agreed with the sentiments she expressed relating to dangerous dogs, community involvement, reporting incidents and owner responsibility and education.

Deputy Mayor Maxwell joined the meeting at 9.11am, via Teams.

GAMBLING AND TAB VENUES POLICY

Submission 003 – Gaming Machine Association of New Zealand (Jarrod True)

Jarrod True spoke to the submission and made additional points as follows:

- Replace the sinking lid policy with a cap on venues and gaming machines.
- Support greater flexibility for venue relocations.
- Consider venues should be able to relocate to more suitable locations without requiring exceptional circumstances.
- Have concerns about the growth of online gambling and its potential impacts.
- Noted the differences between venue-based gaming machines and online gambling environments.

In response to a Councillor query, Jarrod True advised that problem gambling rates had remained low. He further advised that grant allocation information is publicly available and that local organisations, including Council, schools, marae and community groups had received funding.

Submission 004 – Health New Zealand (Renee Bolkow and Louise Carr-Neil)

Renee Bolkow spoke to the submission with Louise Carr-Neil.

Key points:

- Supported retaining the sinking lid policy.
- Noted the policy relies on a 2014 Social Impact Assessment.
- Advised gambling losses in Ōpōtiki were approximately \$2.4 million in 2025.
- Stated Māori and Pacific peoples are disproportionately affected by gambling harm.
- Opposed relocation of gambling venues.
- Noted all Class 4 venues are in high deprivation areas.
- Raised concerns about debt, food insecurity, stress and anxiety associated with gambling harm.
- Noted only a small proportion of gambling proceeds are returned locally.
- Highlighted alternative funding sources and community-led harm prevention.
- Supported ongoing restrictions to reduce gambling harm.

It was noted that online gambling is a Central Government responsibility.

Councillors acknowledged the prevalence of online gambling. Comment was made that the sinking lid policy appears to be working effectively and reducing gambling harm.

2. SUBMISSIONS TO THE DOG CONTROL POLICY AND GAMBLING AND TAB VENUE POLICY FOLLOWING SPECIAL CONSULTATIVE PROCEDURES P4

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled "Submissions to the Dog Control Policy and Gambling and TAB Venue Policy Following Special Consultative Procedures" be received.**
- (2) That Council receives the eight (8) submissions received with respect to the Dog Control Policy.**
- (3) That Council receives the four (4) submissions received with respect to the Gambling Policy.**
- (4) That Council accepts the late submission received from Kō Kollektive.**

HWTM/Browne

Carried

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 10.02AM.

**THE FOREGOING MINUTES ARE CERTIFIED AS BEING A
TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD AT A SUBSEQUENT
MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 27 OCTOBER 2026.**

**D G T MOORE
MAYOR**



**MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING DATED, TUESDAY, 15 SEPTEMBER 2026 IN THE
ŌPŌTIKI DISTRICT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 108 ST JOHN STREET, ŌPŌTIKI AT 10.05AM**

PRESENT:

Mayor David Moore (Chairperson)
Deputy Mayor Maude Maxwell (Deputy Chairperson), via Teams
Councillors:
Shona Browne
Barry Howe
Curley Keno
Dean Petersen
Pāpā Wharewera

IN ATTENDANCE:

Stace Lewer (Chief Executive Officer)
Nathan Hughes (Group Manager Service Delivery)
Antoinette Campbell (Group Manager Strategy and Development)
Jessica Hunter (Regulatory Manager)
Michael Fryer (Strategy and Policy Manager)
Tina Gedson (Operations and Office Manager)
Scott James (Strategic Policy Analyst)
Maheesha Silva (Governance Support Officer)
Ranjini Manoharan (Executive Support Officer)
Gae Finlay (Executive Assistant and Governance Lead)

GUESTS:

Ian Morton (M Consulting)
Nick Davis (MartinJenkins), via Teams

The meeting commenced at 10.05am. His Worship the Mayor advised there would be an adjournment for 10 minutes. He extended thanks to Councillor Keno for Chairing the Extra Ordinary Council meeting held earlier this morning and for acknowledging the missing person and their whānau.

The meeting reconvened at 10.15am.

Councillor Wharewera opened the meeting with a karakia.

APOLOGY

Councillor Nelson

RESOLVED

- (1) That the apology be sustained.**

HWTM/Howe

Carried

DECLARATION OF ANY INTERESTS IN RELATION TO OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

Nil.

PUBLIC FORUM

Nil.

- 1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 4 AUGUST 2026 p4**

RESOLVED

- (1) That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 4 August 2026 be confirmed as a true and correct record.**

HWTM/Browne

Carried

- 2. MINUTES – CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 27 MAY 2026 p13**

RESOLVED

- (1) That the minutes of the Chief Executive's Performance Committee Meeting held on 27 May 2026, and any recommendations therein, be received.**

HWTM/Wharewera

Carried

- 3. MINUTES – PERFORMANCE AND DELIVERY COMMITTEE MEETING 6 JULY 2026 p17**

RESOLVED

- (1) That the minutes of the Risk and Assurance Committee meeting held on 6 July 2026, and any recommendations therein, be received.**

Petersen/Browne

Carried

4. MINUTES – ŌPŌTIKI HARBOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 30 JUNE 2026 p23

RESOLVED

- (1) That the minutes of the Ōpōtiki Harbour Management Committee meeting held on 30 June 2026, and any recommendations therein, be received.**

Howe/Browne

Carried

5. DRAFT MINUTES – COAST COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING 11 AUGUST 2026 p28

RESOLVED

- (1) That the draft minutes of the Coast Community Board meeting held on 11 August 2026, and any recommendations therein, be received.**

Wharewera/HWTM

Carried

6. DRAFT MINUTES – CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 12 AUGUST 2026 p32

- (1) That the draft minutes of the Chief Executive’s Performance Committee meeting held on 12 August 2026, and any recommendations therein, be received.**

HWTM/Browne

Carried

7. MINUTES – REGIONAL TRANSPORT COMMITTEE MEETING 26 JUNE 2026 p35

RESOLVED

- (1) That the minutes of the Regional Transport Committee meeting held on 26 June 2026 be received.**

HWTM/Browne

Carried

Ian Morton entered the meeting at 10.23am.

8. MINUTES – BAY OF PLENTY CIVIL DEFENCE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING 3 JULY 2026 p46

His Worship the Mayor and Councillor Browne acknowledged the service and contribution made by volcanologist Brad Scott. over his long career.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the minutes of the Bay of Plenty Civil Defence Emergency Management Joint Committee meeting held on Regional Transport Committee meeting held on 26 July 2026 be received.**

HWTM/Browne

Carried

9. MAYORAL REPORT 25 JULY 2026-4 SEPTEMBER 2026

p59

His Worship the Mayor extended thanks to Deputy Mayor Maxwell for attending the reopening of Te Whare Ora o Kōpūārau on 28 August.

- (1) That the report titled “Mayoral Report 25 July 2026-4 September 2026” be received.**

HWTM/Wharewera

Carried

The Regulatory Manager entered the meeting at 10.27am.

10. ADOPTION OF UPDATED TERMS OF REFERENCE OPOTIKI HARBOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE **p63**

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled “Adoption of Updated Terms of Reference Opotiki Harbour Management Committee” be received.**
- (2) That Council approves the updated Terms of Reference for the Opotiki Harbour Management Committee.**

HWTM/Howe

Carried

11. NOMINATION OF JESSICA HUNTER FOR ENDORSEMENT AS ALTERNATE RECOVERY MANAGER **p70**

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled “Nomination of Jessica Hunter for Endorsement as Alternate Recovery Manager” be received.**
- (2) That Council nominates Jessica Hunter as an Alternate Recovery Manager under the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002.**
- (3) That the Bay of Plenty Civil Defence Emergency Group (CEG) be advised that Jessica Hunter has been nominated by Ōpōtiki District Council as an Alternate Recovery Manager.**

HWTM/Browne

Carried

The Strategy and Policy Manager entered the meeting at 10.42am.

Nick Davis joined the meeting, via Teams, at 10.43am.

12. MULTI COUNCIL WATER SERVICE COUNCIL CONTROLLED ORGANISATION CONSULTATION DECISION

p74

Ian Morton (M Consulting) and Nick Davis (MartinJenkins) provided Council with an overview of the report, the options, the advantages and disadvantages associated with each option and cost. They, along with the Group Manager Service Delivery and the Chief Executive Officer, responded to queries from Council.

From a discussion Councillors agreed that decision-making community consultation on a multi-council Water Service Council Controlled Organisation be deferred until a decision on the Headstart proposal is received.

Councillors considered that the Headstart decision would provide more clarity and undertaking community consultation on water services and the Headstart proposal at the same time would be preferred. It was also noted that Ōpōtiki District Council is the first of the four Councils to consider the options in relation to water services.

It was agreed that option b. of clause 4 of the recommendations was preferred.

His Worship the Mayor, as mover, recommended that clause 5 be amended to note that consultation would occur at a future date after the Headstart decision is received. Councillor Petersen, as seconder, agreed with the amendment.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled "Multi Council Water Service Council Controlled Organisation Consultation Decision" be received.**
- (2) That Council notes the report assesses the multi-council WSCCO against the in-house (status quo) option.**
- (3) That Council notes that the Water Working Group endorsed the final reports and noted that the report preferred option is to establish a joint Water Service Council Controlled Organisation as the alternative water service delivery model.**

- (4) That the Council determines the preferred option for community consultation on a joint WSCCO for Opotiki District Council as:

Defer decision-making on community consultation on a multi-council WSCCO until a decision on Headstart is provided by Government (expected late September 2026).

- (5) That Council notes consultation would occur at a future date after the Headstart decision is received.
- (6) That Council notes that the other councils (Rotorua Lakes Council/ Kawerau District Council/Whakatāne District Council still have to determine their preferred approach for consultation on a joint WSCCO and those decisions may impact the consultation approach.
- (7) That Council notes that if timelines are deferred then Council's Internal Business Unit continues operating according to its approved Water Service Delivery Plan.

HWTM/Petersen

Carried

The Strategy and Policy Manager left the meeting at 11.35am and returned at 11.37am.

Councillor Howe left the meeting at 11.36am and returned at 11.37am.

Councillor Keno left the meeting at 11.42am and returned at 11.44am.

The Group Manager Service Delivery, Ian Morton and Nick Davis left the meeting at 11.45am.

13. ROAD NAMING CORRECTION REQUEST – HAU O TE RANGI LANE

p86

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled "Road Naming Correction Request – Hau o Te Rangi Lane" be received.
- (2) That Council approves the correction of the previously approved road name to Hau o Te Rangi Lane, following a request from the applicant to rectify a spelling error.

HWTM/Browne

Carried

14. GAMBLING AND TAB VENUES POLICY

p89

In response to the point raised in the submission from Ko Kollektive regarding Council investigating practical measures to reduce access to gambling through Council-funded digital infrastructure, including public Wif-Fi and community facilities, the Chief Executive Officer will initiate the action below.

Action: The Chief Executive Officer will explore with the IT team if there are opportunities to restrict access to certain sites if people are connection to Wi-Fi from a Council perspective, noting this is outside of the Policy.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled “Gambling and TAB Venues Policy” be received.**
- (2) That Council notes the submissions received through the Special Consultative Procedure undertaken as part of this policy review were received for consideration at the Extra Ordinary Council meeting on 15 September 2026.**
- (3) That Council, having considered all submissions received through the Special Consultative Procedure and the deliberations of Council, adopt the draft Gambling and TAB Venues Policy with the recommended amendments (attached as Appendix 1 to the report).**

HWTM/Browne

Carried

The Group Manager Service Delivery rejoined the meeting at 12.00pm.

15. DOG CONTROL POLICY

p108

Councillors questioned if the policy could be strengthened to take a harder line around enforcement when a dog has bitten either stock or a person.

Staff advised that the Dog Control Act allows Council to impound a dog on the first strike. If a dog is classified as menacing or dangerous, there are requirements around fencing and other measures such as being muzzled when out in public. The same rules apply for rural and urban areas.

It was noted that there are constraints on what Council can do due to the Dog Control Act. The Government has signalled it will be looking at reviewing the legislation.

Councillors acknowledged that Council is under-resourced in the Animal Control area.

With reference to the submission from Forest and Bird asking that dogs not be permitted in the Ōhiwa Harbour and Ōhiwa Spit area, it was noted that the Policy refers to the Department of Conservation land east of Ōhiwa Harbour.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled “Dog Control Policy” be received.**
- (2) That Council notes the submissions received through the Special Consultative Procedure undertaken as part of this policy review, were received for consideration at the Ordinary Council meeting on 15 September 2026.**
- (3) That Council adopts the Dog Control Policy attached as Appendix 1 to the report.**

Petersen/Wharewera

Carried

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12.28pm and reconvened at 1.00pm. The Governance Support Officer did not rejoin the meeting at this time.

16. POLICY REVIEW

p126

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled "Policy Review" be received.**
- (2) That Council adopts the Fraud and Corruption Policy.**
- (3) That Council adopts the Appointment and Remuneration of Directors of Council Controlled Organisations Policy.**
- (4) That Council adopts the Sensitive Expenditure Policy.**
- (5) That Council adopts the Compliance and Enforcement Policy**

Wharewera/Petersen

Carried

The Governance Support Officer entered the meeting at 1.05pm.

17. DOG CONTROL POLICIES AND PRACTICES REPORT 2025/26

p190

From a discussion it was agreed that a workshop be arranged to look at the issues around Animal Control and to explore potential solutions.

Councillor Browne acknowledged the Animal Control team for the work they do, even though clearly under-staffed.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled "Dog Control Policies and practices Report 2025/26" be received.**
- (2) That the Dog Control Policies and Practices Report 2025/26, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, be adopted by Council and its availability is published on Council's website, in accordance with Section 10A(3) of the Dog Control Act.**

HWTM/Wharewera

The Operations and Office Manager entered the meeting at 1.16pm.

The Regulatory Manager left the meeting at 1.22pm.

The Strategy and Policy Manager and the Strategic Policy Analyst left the meeting at 1.23pm.

18. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S UPDATE

p201

The Chief Executive Officer highlighted:

- Meeting with Andrew Corkill (Director, Regional Relationships – Waikato/Bay of Plenty, NZTA); these are semi-regular meetings which now take place in Andrew's car, driving around looking at the roading network in the district.
- Rural Provincial Sector meeting in early August; the sector is under quite a lot of stress with a lot of pressure being applied to it.

RESOLVED

(1) That the report titled "Chief Executive Officer's Update" be received>

HWTM/Browne

Carried

19. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

p206

SECTION 48 LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION & MEETINGS ACT 1987

1. THAT the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

- 20. Confirmation of In-Committee Minutes – Ordinary Council Meeting 4 August 2026.**
- 21. In-Committee Minutes – Chief Executive's Performance Committee Meeting 27 May 2026.**
- 22. Draft In-Committee Minutes – Chief Executive's Performance Committee Meeting 12 August 2026.**
- 23. Investment Property Lease – 1A/103 Church Street.**
- 24. Notes From Council Workshops.**
- 25. Chief Executive's 2025/2026 Performance Review and 2026/2027 KPIs.**

2. THAT the following person be permitted to remain at this meeting after the public has been excluded because of their knowledge of the subject item in relation to the following. This knowledge will be of assistance and is relevant to the matters to be discussed:

Name: Larissa Reid

Item: 23 (Investment Property Lease – 1A/103 Church Street)

Business: To provide Council with detailed information and updates in relation to Item 22 relevant to the leasing of 1A/103 Church Street

Reason: To assist with the accurate presentation of sensitive information to the Council and to provide responses to queries

The general subject 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(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

Item No	General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
20.	Confirmation of In-Committee Minutes – Ordinary Council Meeting 4 August 2026	That 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 exists.	Section 48(1)(a)
21.	In-committee Minutes – Chief Executive’s Performance Committee Meeting 27 May 2026	That 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 exists.	Section 48(1)(a)
22.	Draft In-Committee Minutes – Chief Executive’s Performance Committee Meeting 12 August 2026	That 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 exists.	Section 48(1)(a)
23.	Investment Property Lease – 1A/103 Church Street	That 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 exists.	Section 48(1)(a)
24.	Notes From Council Workshops	That 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 exists.	Section 48(1)(a)
25.	Chief Executive’s 2025/2026 Performance Review and 2026/2027 KPIs	That 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.	Section 48(1)(a)

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act or section 6 or section 7 or section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

20.	Protect the privacy of natural persons Protect information Protection from improper pressure or harassment Prevent disclosure or use of official information Carry out negotiations Maintain legal professional privilege Carry out commercial activities	Section 7(2)(a) Section 7(2)(b)(i) & (ii); (d) & (e) and Section 7(2)(c)(i) & (ii) Section 7(2)(f)(ii) Section 7(2)(j) Section 7(2)(i) Section 7(2)(g) Section 7(2)(h)
21.	Protect the privacy of natural persons Prevent disclosure or use of official information	Section 7(2)(a) Section 7(2)(j)
22.	Protect the privacy of natural persons Prevent disclosure or use of official information	Section 7(2)(a) Section 7(2)(j)
23.	Carry out negotiations	Section 7(2)(i)
24.	Protection from improper pressure or harassment Prevent disclosure or use of official information	Section (2)(f)(ii) Section 7(2)(j)
25.	Protect the privacy of natural persons.	Section 7(2)(a)

HWTM/Petersen

Carried

RESOLVED

- (1) That the resolutions made while the public was excluded, except for Clause 2 of Item 23 (Investment Property Lease – 1A/103 Church Street) and Clauses 5 and 6 of Item 25 (Chief Executive’s 2025/2026 Performance Review and 2026/2027 KPIs) be confirmed in open meeting.**
- (2) That the public be readmitted to the meeting.**

HWTM/Browne

Carried

RESOLVED

- (1) That the in-committee minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 4 August 2026, and any recommendations therein, be confirmed as a true and correct record.**

Petersen/HWTM

Carried

RESOLVED

- (1) That the in-committee minutes of the Chief Executive’s Performance Committee meeting held on 27 May 2026, and any recommendations therein, be received.**

HWTM/Browne

Carried

RESOLVED

- (1) That the draft in-committee minutes of the Chief Executive's Performance Committee meeting held on 12 August 2026, and any recommendations therein, be received.**

HWTM/Browne

Carried

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled "Investment Property Lease – 1A/103 Church Street" be received.**
- (3) That Council notes this approach allows staff to progress negotiations with an alternative applicant should negotiations with the preferred party not proceed to completion.**

HWTM/Petersen

Carried

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled "Notes From Council Workshops" be received.**
- (2) That the Council agrees to publicly release the notes related to the 4 August 2026 workshop and 10 August 2026 workshop, except the notes relating to Development Contributions.**

HWTM/Browne

Carried

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 2.36PM.

**THE FOREGOING MINUTES ARE CERTIFIED AS BEING A
TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD AT A SUBSEQUENT
MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 27 OCTOBER 2026**

D G T MOORE

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR



**MINUTES OF AN ŌPŌTIKI DISTRICT COUNCIL RISK AND ASSURANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD
ON MONDAY, 29 JUNE 2026, IN THE ŌPŌTIKI DISTRICT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 108 ST JOHN
STREET, ŌPŌTIKI AT 10.00AM**

PRESENT:

Philip Jones (Chairperson)
Mayor David Moore
Councillor Barry Howe
Councillor Steve Nelson
Councillor Dean Petersen

IN ATTENDANCE:

Deputy Mayor Maude Maxwell, via Teams
Councillor Pāpā Wharewera

Rachael Burgess (Group Manager Business Support)
Antoinette Campbell (Group Manager Strategy and Development)
Nathan Hughes (Group Manager Service Delivery)
Carol Mio (Manager People and Culture)
Billy Kingi (Finance Manager)
Ian McLeod (Programme Lead)
Michael Fryer (Strategy and Policy Manager)
Scott James (Strategic Policy Analyst)
Maheesha Silva (Governance Support Officer)
Ranjini Manoharan (Executive Support Officer)
Gae Finlay (Executive Assistant and Governance Lead)

GUESTS:

Leon Pieterse (Audit New Zealand)

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

APOLOGIES

Nil.

DECLARATION OF ANY INTERESTS IN RELATION TO OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

Nil.

1. MINUTES – RISK AND ASSURANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 9 MARCH 2026

p6

RESOLVED

- (1) That the minutes of the Risk and Assurance Committee meeting held on 9 March 2026 be received.**

Petersen/Howe

Carried

2. RISK AND ASSURANCE ACTION SHEET

p15

The Group Manager Business Support made the following points:

- Some good progress has been made due to the inclusion of the draft Procurement Policy (an agenda item for this meeting).
- Capitalisation Policy update – Expecting to bring a final copy of the Policy to the September meeting.

In response to a query from the Chairperson regarding actions from the previous meeting being included as a reminder, the Group Manager Business Support advised a consolidated Action Sheet is maintained alongside the Action Sheet provided in the agenda.

The Chairperson welcomed Leon Pieterse, Audit New Zealand, to the meeting.

Leon Pieterse advised that good progress is being made around items which can be closed out in the Management Report.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Risk and Assurance Action Sheet be received.**

Jones/Nelson

Carried

3. RISK AND ASSURANCE COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2026

p16

The Group Manager Business Support advised the following will be brought to the Quarter 3 meeting of the Committee:

- Insurance renewal
- Financial Health report which will include a rates arrears update
- Judgements information

The Chairperson asked that a high level workplan be attached so the Committee can see what is coming.

The Chairperson noted that the Head Start reform process is the number one risk for all Councils, apart from Auckland and the Chatham Islands and will have an impact on workloads. It is not known what the legislation will require. This Committee should just be looking at the risks associated with Government policy and included in the workplan.

RESOLVED

(1) That the Risk and Assurance Committee Work Programme 2026 be received.

Nelson/Howe

Carried

The Programme Lead left the meeting at 10.13am.

Deputy Mayor Maxwell left the meeting at 9.15am.

4. ŌPŌTIKI DISTRICT COUNCIL 2027-2037 LONG TERM PLAN RISK REGISTER p17

The Strategic Policy Analyst advised this work is being done with the assumption of amalgamation.

The Chairperson made the following points:

- This LTP is going to be the most difficult and challenging of any LTP since 2003 or 2004, depending on when you first did your LTP.
- My advice is to make this your best possible LTP.
- If you do not have a robust LTP some projects can be lost for the community; Auckland being an example of this.
- There is huge uncertainty; the Auditor-General has not released his final methodology for the LTP.
- The first 3-5 years are absolutely critical and it is hoped the Auditor-General has more scrutiny over years 3-5 and less on the following years.

RESOLVED

(1) That the report titled "Ōpōtiki District Council Long Term Plan 2027-2037 Risk Register" be received.

Jones/Nelson

Carried

5. RISK REGISTER REVIEW AND UPDATES P28

The Group Manager Business Support advised:

- The report contains a new section relating to the Head Start pathway.

- The risk matrix assessment in relation to the Head Start pathway and reorganisation options has been carried out.

Comments from the Chairperson:

- There is no legislative framework for the Government insisting on Council doing anything.
- Need to be careful not to go too far down the track.
- No other political parties have come out opposing the process, but they could put their own spin on it; a potential risk for Council
- Some Mayors will see this as empire-building.
- In 1989 in Auckland, transitional committees made big decisions; LTPs of the Auckland Council at the time had to be approved by the Auckland Transition Authority.
- We do not know what will happen if we do not participate in the Head Start process.
- The Government has made it clear they do not expect everyone to come on board.
- Do not think the Government has the resources to create a number of Local Authorities until the elections in 2028.
- Council needs to think about what the backstop looks like.

The Chief Executive Officer made the following points:

- There have been discussions between Bay of Plenty Chief Executives around timeline and risks.
- BAU work, RMA reform, water reform and the current reform is easier for those with more resource.
- A transitional Chief Executive could be brought in.
- There is risk of losing knowledge, particularly at a community level.
- Losing good staff out of the sector and people moving from New Zealand to Australia are seen as high risk.
- Council is a major employer in the district and offers a lot of high-qualified, skilled positions.
- Communities on the outskirts could have less representation and outcomes.
- Reassuring staff that these processes take time and then there is implementation.
- Biggest impact will be on myself and Tier 2 initially; for the majority of staff, we are probably looking at between two and five years.
- The majority of our work still needs to happen; IT is a big challenge and cost, and is complex.
- These processes are not necessarily going to save money.

Referring to the reorganisation of Auckland Councils in 2010, the Chairperson stated there will be no cost savings for at least five years, and even if there are efficiencies, they take a long time to flow through.

The Chief Executive Officer was mindful of the huge workload on top of BAU for Council's small workforce. We need to ensure that people do not leave due to workload and burnout. The Chief Executive Officer and the leadership team will have oversight of this and keep the Committee updated.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled "Risk Register Review and Updates" be received.**
- (2) That the Committee agrees to include the 'Risk Matrix' developed for the Simplifying Local Government proposal to the Risk Register so that it can be monitored while the reform proposal is being considered by Central Government.**

Nelson/Howe

Carried

The Governance Support Officer and the Executive Support Officer left the meeting at 10.36am.

His Worship the Mayor left the meeting at 10.41am and returned at 10.44am.

The Executive Support Officer rejoined the meeting at 10.47am.

The Executive Support Officer left the meeting at 10.51am.

6. FINANCIAL HEALTH REPORT TO 31 MARCH 2026

p48

Debt Level

The Chairperson suggested that the next report includes commentary on when debts are maturing.

The Finance Manager advised that some longer-term debt can be locked in now that Council is a guarantor of LGFA.

Capital Expenditure

The Group Manager Service Delivery advised:

- Improvement actions which have been implemented have resulted in much more visibility
- An update will go to the Performance and Delivery Committee next week
- Carry overs
 - Next year's programme is looking very big; we are ready to deliver next year
 - Transitioning bringing programme delivery back in-house

Water Rates

The Chairperson noted significant arrears.

The Finance Manager confirmed that water rates will be set as part of the rates resolution.

The Chairperson noted that outstanding water rates stay with the property, unless it is six years old. He suggested that adding a penalty on outstanding water rates be part of the LTP discussion.

The Finance Manager stated that staff will be reviewing what other strategies should be looked at regarding water billing in light of the challenges, including our own processes.

RESOLVED

(1) That the report titled "Financial Health Report to 31 March 2026" be received.

Petersen/Howe

Carried

Councillor Howe left the meeting at 10.57am and returned at 11.00am.

7. UPDATE ON ANNUAL REPORT AUDIT 26J

Verbal Item

Leon Pieterse, Audit New Zealand, made the following points:

- Audit is endeavouring to be more efficient and has brought some things forward, expenditure and revenue testing.
- Valuation of fair value assessments of infrastructure assets – will have a look at that early, before the final audit.
- A lot of Councils are going to adopt in October.
- Have been in touch with Council's LTP team.
- Ensuring continuity of Audit staff.
- Looking at budget on a regular basis; currently within budget.
- Office of the Auditor-General
 - Office of the Auditor-General and Audit New Zealand are now one entity – The Audit Office.
 - Audit Directors can make decisions without going back through Wellington.

The Chief Executive Officer noted the Audit/Council relationship is now positive and more efficient with open communication lines.

The Programme Lead entered the meeting at 11.10am.

8. POLICY REVIEW OVERSIGHT

p57

Fraud and Corruption Policy

The Chairperson made the following points:

- Page 67 of the agenda, clause 4.6
 - Some Council include that they will advise the independent chair.

- Be good to include as it enables the independent transparency.
- Clause 4.7 – Add a footnote that the report is to go to the independent chair.
- Part 7 – Also needs to link back to clause 4.2; something to think about if the second tier and Mayor are in cohorts.

Sensitive Expenditure Policy

Points made by the Chairperson:

- It should be referenced in the Policy that dedicated people undertake air bookings.
- Mini bars
 - Where mini bars will not be reimbursed
 - Possibly some discretion about unusual use of mini bars, e.g. if you need a snack when everything is closed.
- Employees receiving gifts
 - Staff attending conferences where there is a prize draw.
 - Needs to be articulated that it is not a gift.

Procurement Policy

The Chairperson queried the process for an unbudgeted item.

The Chief Executive Officer advised if it is above the threshold it needs to go to Council.

Exemptions

The Chairperson asked if the one up process is used, even if the item is within the staff member's delegation.

The Chief Executive Officer responded that much of that comes to the Tenders and Procurement Sub-Committee, i.e. where there are small exemptions which need to go to the Committee.

The Chairperson asked that a report be brought to the next meeting to show how small exemptions are dealt with.

There were no changes to the Enforcement Policy presented in the report.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled "Policy Review Oversight" be received.**
- (2) That the Committee endorses the policies included in the report, being:**

- **Fraud and Corruption;**
- **Sensitive Expenditure; and**
- **Draft Procurement Policy**

subject to minor changes

- **Enforcement Policy.**

- (3) **That the Committee recommends to Council the adoption of Fraud and Corruption Policy (subject to any feedback/recommendations of the document).**
- (4) **That the Committee recommends to Council the adoption of the Sensitive Expenditure Policy (subject to any feedback/recommendations of the document).**
- (5) **That the Committee recommends to Council the adoption of the Enforcement Policy.**
- (6) **That the Committee recommends to Council the adoption of the reviewed Procurement Policy (subject to any feedback/recommendations of the document, including internal reviews by project team members).**

Jones/Nelson

Carried

The Strategy and Policy Manager and the Strategic Policy Analyst left the meeting at 11.31am.

9. CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME UPDATE

Verbal Item

Staff made the following points:

- Looking at about \$23m for the three-year programme which represents four and a half times more than what was anticipated at the LTP stage
- Projects have been categorised into a high-level confidence rating
- Challenge workshops have been introduced
- The programme for next year is around \$15m; have never had that type of visibility on the programme in the past
- There has never been so many projects handed over to the delivery team, scoped by the Asset team
- There is still significant risk associated with the programme
- The programme is well resourced financially, including contingency, however there is no contingency with time
- Need to continue to ensure that we have resources to keep things moving, e.g. recruitment

In response to a query from the Chairperson, the Group Manager Service Delivery advised that there has been a 10% assumption of non-delivery which has been removed from the financials. The Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade project is a large piece of work and there is a chance that some of it will not be delivered.

The Chief Executive Officer noted that with the allocation of funding in the renewals category, we have been particular regarding investing the renewals funding in the right place. Any projects at risk of not being delivered will be brought to the Performance and Delivery Committee, and then a discussion with Council.

Responding to a query from the Chairperson as to whether consideration had been given to any potential external factors which might impact delivery, the Chief Executive Officer advised:

- Council has been more deliberate about building in contingency whether time or funding.
- Deliberate in how we frame and package up a project in the planning phase.
- This will be important when developing the LTP to ensure we do not have projects in the LTP which we cannot deliver.

The Group Manager Service Delivery stated that some practical things are being explored:

- Early procurement of materials where there is a long lead-in time
- Working closely with Whakatāne District Council around procurement; investigating sharing resources, leaning into their knowledge and processes.

In relation to assessment of a completed project, the Chairperson asked if a high-level executive summary could be provided to the Committee showing what the risks were, the risks missed and how that will be mitigated going forward.

The Group Manager Strategy and Planning left the meeting at 11.45am.

10. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

p130

SECTION 48 LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION & MEETINGS ACT 1987

- 1. THAT the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:**

11. Confirmation of In-Committee Minutes – Risk and Assurance Committee meeting 9 March 2026.

12. Health, Safety, Wellbeing and Human Resources Report.

- 2. THAT the following persons be permitted to remain at this meeting after the public has been excluded:**

Name: Audit New Zealand representatives

Items: 11-13 inclusive

Reason: To allow the Audit New Zealand representatives to be present for the entire meeting

The general subject 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(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

Item No	General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
11.	Confirmation of In-Committee Minutes – Risk and Assurance Committee meeting 9 March 2026	That 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 exists.	Section 48(1)(a)
12	Health, Safety, Wellbeing and Human Resources Report	That 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 exists.	Section 48(1)(a)

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act or section 6 or section 7 or section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

12.	Protect the privacy of natural persons Protect information (commercial sensitivity) Protection from improper pressure or harassment Prevent disclosure or use of official information Carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	Section 7(2)(a) Section 7(2)(b)(ii) Section 7(2)(f)(ii) Section 7(2)(j) Section 7(2)(h)
13.	Protect the privacy of natural persons Protection from improper pressure or harassment	Section 7(2)(a) Section 7(2)(f)

Petersen/Howe

Carried

RESOLVED

(1) That the resolutions made while the public was excluded be confirmed in open meeting.

(2) That the public be readmitted to the meeting.

HWTM/Howe

Carried

RESOLVED

- (1) That the in-committee minutes of the Risk and Assurance Committee meeting held on 9 March 22026 be received.**

Petersen/Nelson

Carried

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled "Health, Safety, Wellbeing and Human Resources" be received.**

Howe/Nelson

Carried

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 12.04PM.

**THE FOREGOING MINUTES ARE CERTIFIED AS BEING A
TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD AT A SUBSEQUENT
MEETING OF THE RISK AND ASSURANCE COMMITTEE
HELD ON 24 SEPTEMBER 2026**

PHILIP JONES

CHAIRPERSON



**MINUTES OF AN ŌPŌTIKI DISTRICT COUNCIL PERFORMANCE AND DELIVERY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 18 AUGUST 2026, IN THE ŌPŌTIKI DISTRICT COUNCIL
CHAMBERS, 108 ST JOHN STREET, ŌPŌTIKI AT 10.00AM.**

PRESENT:

Councillor Dean Petersen (Chairperson)
Deputy Mayor Maude Maxwell, via Teams
Councillor Steve Nelson

IN ATTENDANCE:

Stace Lewer (Chief Executive Officer)
Rachael Burgess (Group Manager Business Support)
Nathan Hughes (Group Manager Service Delivery)
Ian McLeod (Programme Lead)
Michael Fryer (Strategy and Policy Manager)
Maia Calcott (Community Engagement Advisor)
Maheesha Silva (Governance Support Officer)

Media

Diane McCarthy (Local Democracy Reporter, The Beacon)

APOLOGIES

Mayor David Moore

RESOLVED

(1) That the apologies be sustained.

Petersen/Nelson

Carried

DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS

Nil.

**1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – PERFORMANCE AND DELIVERY COMMITTEE
MEETING 6 JULY 2026**

p5

RESOLVED

- (1) That the minutes of the Performance and Delivery Committee Meeting held on 6 July 2026 are confirmed as a true and correct record.**

Nelson/Petersen

Carried

2. PERFORMANCE AND DELIVERY – DELIVERY PROGRAMME UPDATE

p11

The Programme Lead presented the report highlighting:

- Council is now in a significant delivery year with a large capital works programme underway. Recruitment for an additional internal project lead was unsuccessful, and focus has shifted to engaging external project managers and contract management support. Project managers have now been allocated across projects, including wastewater programme work.
- Land transport remains a key focus area, representing approximately \$7 million of planned expenditure. Staff are prioritising project leadership, fast-tracking scoping, and investigating backup projects to maximise NZTA funding opportunities.
- The Wharf Jetty Extension project is progressing well, with piles installed and decking nearing completion. Additional design work is being undertaken to address safety concerns associated with the reno mattress area. Staff advised that contingency funding may be required to complete the project safely within the approved budget envelope.
- The Public Toilets Upgrade and Refurbishment project remains on track, with the Surf Club and Hukuwai toilet upgrades progressing. Staff continue to seek assurance from the contractor regarding programme delivery and site management before work commences.
- The Wastewater Treatment Upgrade Programme continues to progress, with external project management support being engaged and a dedicated report to be presented at the next meeting.
- Four projects have moved into active scoping for possible delivery this financial year: Waihou Bay Toilet Upgrade, Waiotape Drifts Playground, Caravan Wastewater Dump Station, and Waihou Bay Resource Recovery Centre Upgrades. The Caravan Wastewater Dump Station and Waihou Bay Resource Recovery Centre projects are currently the most advanced.
- Approximately 50 suppliers and contractors attended the recent contractor briefing, demonstrating strong market interest in Council's delivery programme.

Cr Nelson queried about the cost effectiveness of external project managers. Staff advised costs are generally comparable, with external specialists providing flexibility and experience

Members discussed the proposed safety improvements for the jetty reno mattress area, including steps, concrete slab coverings, ladders, potential debris build-up, and long-term maintenance requirements.

Staff advised the discussed jetty safety solution is expected to be delivered within the existing approved budget, including the approved contingency allowance.

The Chief Executive Officer noted the need to consider textured concrete surfaces to reduce slipping hazards.

The Deputy Mayor Maxwell supported the safety-focused approach and requested written information on risk mitigation measures.

Members discussed wastewater servicing options for the Harbour Entrance toilet project. Staff advised a temporary tank and pump-out solution is being investigated until future wastewater upgrades are completed.

The Chair asked about contractor participation and project delivery risks. Staff advised strong contractor interest had been demonstrated through the recent supplier briefing.

Staff acknowledged the scale of the delivery programme and advised that health and safety and project governance standards will not be compromised as delivery activity increases.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled “Performance and Delivery – Delivery Programme Update” be received.**

Petersen/Nelson

Carried

3. PERFORMANCE AND DELIVERY – BETTER OFF FUNDING UPDATE

p32

The Programme Lead presented the report highlighting:

- More than half of the Better Off Funding has been spent or committed, with remaining funds required to be spent by January 2027
- The Duke Street West Stopbank project remains a key focus to ensure expenditure and construction can be completed during the current construction season.
- Active Better Off Funding projects continue to progress within programme timelines.

The Chair asked if active projects would be completed in time to utilise the funding. The Programme Lead confirmed staff are confident all remaining funds will be spent within the required timeframe.

The Chair asked if the Ōpōtiki College Pool project was still tracking. The Chief Executive Officer advised the project involves replacing end-of-life pool plant, with other improvements to be completed as funding allows.

Cr Nelson asked about progress on the Netball Courts Upgrade. The programme Lead advised the project remains on track but noted fencing is a risk. Current funding covers repairs, however, replacement fencing may be desirable to prevent damage from horses, bikes and other users.

The Group Manager Service Delivery referred to the Committee's earlier request for information on the cost of upgrading all six courts to a premium surface. The Programme Lead advised staff are assessing costs for premium surfacing and fencing and will report back with refined options. Early indications suggest all six courts may be able to be completed within budget.

The Chair supported considering a modest funding increase if required to complete the project to a high standard, and Steve noted fencing should be included. The Programme Lead advised quotes have been requested for both fencing repairs and full replacement to inform future decisions.

RESOLVED

(1) That the report titled "Performance and Delivery – Better Off Funding Update" be received.

Nelson/Maxwell

Carried

The Strategy and Policy Manager left the meeting at 10.59 am.

4. PERFORMANCE AND DELIVERY – OPERATIONAL AND NON-FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

p39

The Group Manager Service Delivery presented the report highlighting:

- Overall performance is tracking well against KPIs.
- One KPI is currently below target: response times for aggressive or threatening dog complaints.

Chair appreciate the report.

The Chair noted that overall performance is tracking well across the reported KPIs, with only one measure currently below target relating to dog control response times. He thanked staff for the report.

RESOLVED

(1) That the report titled "Operational and Non-Financial Performance Report" be received.

Petersen/Nelson

Carried

Mia Calcott left the meeting at 11.08am.

**5. PERFORMANCE AND DELIVERY – TENDER AND PROCUREMENT
SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATE**

p45

The Programme Lead presented the report highlighting:

- Collaboration with Whakatāne District Council is being explored to develop a preferred supplier process for project and contract management services. Priority remains on delivering projects while developing the process.

Cr Nelson asked how many projects may require external project management support. The Programme Lead advised approximately eight projects which in themselves may have sub-components.

In response to a query raised by the Chair regarding whether external project managers would be engaged on a fixed-cost or hourly-rate basis, The Programme Lead responded that pricing is generally based on estimated time for key project stages and deliverables. He noted that projects still being scoped, such as the Wastewater Treatment Programme, may require time and rates arrangements until project requirements are more clearly defined. The Programme Lead further advised that Council is working towards fit-for-purpose contractual arrangements that balance certainty of costs with flexibility during project development.

RESOLVED

(1) That the report titled “Performance and Delivery – Tender and Procurement Sub-Committee Update” be received.

Nelson/Maxwell

Carried

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 11.09AM.

**THE FOREGOING MINUTES ARE CERTIFIED AS BEING
A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD AT A SUBSEQUENT
MEETING OF THE PERFORMANCE AND DELIVERY
COMMITTEE HELD ON 28 SEPTEMBER 2026.**

**COUNCILLOR DEAN PETERSEN
CHAIRPERSON**

**MINUTES OF A COAST COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING DATED, TUESDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER 2026 IN
THE ŌPŌTIKI DISTRICT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 108 ST JOHN STREET, ŌPŌTIKI AT 10.00AM**

PRESENT:

Papa Wharewera (Chairperson)
Gaylene Dudek (Deputy Chairperson)
Te Ataarangi Parata
Tullulah Ross
Allen Waenga

IN ATTENDANCE:

His Worship the Mayor David Moore

Rachael Burgess (Group Manager Business Support)
Michael Fryer (Strategy and Policy Manager)
Nikki Maurirere-Embersson (Project Lead)
Joel Hingston (Principal Policy Analyst)
James Scott (Strategic Policy Analyst)
Gae Finlay (Executive Assistance and Governance Lead)
Maheesha Silva (Governance Support Officer)
Maia Calcott (Community Engagement Advisor)

Councillor Wharewera handed the Chair to the Deputy Chairperson Dudek.
The Chairperson opened the meeting with a Karakia.

APOLOGIES

Nil.

DECLARATION OF ANY INTERESTS IN RELATION TO MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

Board Member Ross declared an interest in item 07 Coast Initiatives Fund Application – Te Kura o Te Whānau ā Apanui.

Board Member Ross declared an interest in item 08 Coast Initiatives Fund Application – Te Kura o Te Whānau ā Apanui – Delamere Cup Competition.

Board Member Ross declared an interest in item 09 Coast Initiatives Fund Application – Te Rūnanga o Te Whānau Trust – Apanui E Tū Festival 2027.

Board Member Waenga joined the meeting at 10.04am.

PUBLIC FORUM

Nil

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – COAST COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING 11 August 2026 **p3**

RESOLVED

- (1) That the minutes of the Coast Community Board meeting held on 11 August 2026 are confirmed as a true and correct record.**

Wharewera/Dudek

Carried

2. GROUP MANAGERS' REPORT **p7**

The Group Manager Business Support made the following points:

- Council has deferred any further consultation on the multi-council water services proposal until further information is received regarding the Head Start process. Whakatāne District Council will continue with consultation, while decisions from other partner councils are still pending.
- Applications for Creative Communities NZ Round One close on 9 October 2026. Board members were encouraged to promote the funding opportunity through their networks.
- The Coast Connection Hub has commenced operating from the Te Kaha Resource Recovery Centre on Mondays from 10.00am to 1.00pm. The hub aims to improve access to Council services and strengthen community connections.

Councillor Wharewera highlighted concerns about the increase in waste disposal costs and noted reports of illegal dumping, rubbish burning, and reduced use of waste facilities across the coast. He expressed concern about the environmental impact and affordability challenges faced by coastal communities.

The Group Manager Business Support acknowledged the concerns and advised that further information could be provided at a future meeting. She noted Council had also received reports of increased fly-tipping and would review waste disposal fees and comparisons with other districts.

The Chair added that some residents were burning recyclables due to a lack of awareness that recycling is free and suggested additional community education was needed.

Board member Ross requested clearer communication and transparency around waste disposal charges to avoid confusion regarding what recycling services are provided free of charge.

Board members also discussed the recently adopted Dog Control Policy. Councillor Wharewera highlighted ongoing concerns regarding roaming dogs in coastal communities and the impact on public safety and wellbeing. He acknowledged the work of Animal Control staff and encouraged responsible dog ownership.

The Chair added that roaming dogs were also affecting livelihoods by attacking livestock and poultry and supported stronger dog management measures in coastal communities.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled "Group Managers' Report" be received.**

Ross/Wharewera

Carried

3. COASTAL RECREATION PROJECT UPDATE

p13

Initial concept designs were tabled to show the difference between the two funding options.

Board member Ross sought clarification on what could be achieved with the proposed additional funding.

Councillor Wharewera asked about alternative funding opportunities and future project costs.

The Principal Policy Analyst advised that the designs and costs presented were indicative only and would be refined during the detailed design stage.

Board members discussed facilities for different age groups, maintenance considerations, and the long-term benefits of the project.

The Strategy and Policy Manager highlighted that the proposal responded to community feedback and would provide a lasting community asset.

Board member Ross and Councillor Wharewera expressed support for the additional funding and the opportunity to invest in long-term recreational infrastructure.

The Chair noted that the tabled initial designs helped the Board better understand the proposal and supported moving the project forward.

Board Member Waenga noted that potential Horizon funding for electric barbecues could further enhance the proposed playground and recreation area.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled "Coastal Recreation Project Update" be received.**
- (2) That the Coast Community Board supports the utilisation of \$55,000 from Coast Initiative Fund Reserve Fund to ensure the delivery of a meaningful and enduring recreational outcome for the Te Kaha and the wider Coastal Community.**

Wharewera/Parata

Carried

The Strategy and Policy Manager left the meeting at 10.38am.

4. HONO MAI – CONNECT WITH COUNCIL – POST EVENT REPORT

p22

The Project Lead made the following points:

- The event provided an opportunity for Council staff and community members to engage directly and discuss Council services and projects.
- Future engagement could be strengthened by aligning with existing community events and increasing Coast Community Board involvement.

In response to a query raised by Wharewera regarding attendance, the Project Lead noted that future engagement could be strengthened by attending existing community events and considering alternative event times.

The Board supported a collaborative approach, highlighting the benefits of Council attending established community events to improve visibility, participation, and community connections.

In response to discussion regarding future engagement opportunities, the Group Manager Business Support suggested adding community engagement as a standing item on future Coast Community Board agendas to improve coordination and planning.

Board members acknowledged the value of Council's continued presence in coastal communities and thanked staff for their commitment to community engagement.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled "Hono Mai – Connect with Council – Post Event Report" be received.**

Wharewera/Ross

Carried

The Strategy and Policy Manager rejoined the meeting at 10.40am.

The Project Lead- Service and Delivery left the meeting at 10.54am,

5. COAST INITIATIVES FUND REPORT

p29

In response to the query raised by the Chair regarding an increase to the Coast Initiatives Fund allocation, The Group Manager Business Support advised that the matter could be considered through the development of the Long-Term Plan.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled "Coast Initiatives Fund" be received.**

Parata/Waenga

Carried

The Principal Policy Analyst left the meeting at 10.57am.

6. COAST INITIATIVES FUND COMPLETION REPORT

p36

KAUAETANGOHIA HAPU TRUST – BUILDING HAPU CAPABILITY PROGRAMM

The Chair highlighted the quality of the completion report and noted it could be used as a model for future funding recipients.

Councillor Wharewera shared positive feedback from participants and requested an update on further funding opportunities to support future programmes.

The Chair noted the project was completed under budget and attracted strong interest from the community.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled "Coast Initiatives Completion Report – Kauaetangohia Hapu Trust – Building Hapu Capability Programme" be received.**

Wharewera/ Parata

Carried

Mayor Moore left the meeting at 10.58am.

The Strategic Policy Analyst left the meeting at 10.59am.

**7. COAST INITIATIVES FUND APPLICATION -
TE KURA O TE WHĀNAU Ā APANUI –
URI EDUCATIONAL HAERENGA KI WELLINGTON**

p82

Board Member Ross declared an interest as a school board member and abstained from voting.

Board members generally supported the application, noting:

- The educational opportunities the project would provide.
- Concerns about the limited information provided, including participant numbers and other funding sources.
- The high cost of the project and the lack of detail supporting the funding request.
- That a reduced funding contribution would be appropriate.
- The importance of including details of other funding commitments in future applications.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled “Coast Initiatives Fund Application – Te Kura o Te Whānau ā Apanui – Uri Educational Haerenga Ki Wellington” be received.**
- (2) That the Board approves a grant of \$5000.00 from the Coast Initiatives Fund towards the Uri Educational Haerenga Ki Wellington.**

Dudek/Parata

Carried

Against: Wharewera

Abstained: Ross

**8. COAST INITIATIVES FUND APPLICATION -
TE KURA O TE WHĀNAU Ā APANUI – DELAMERE CUP COMPETITION**

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Board members generally supported the application, noting:

- The significant scale of the event and its benefits to the wider community and local economy.
- The long-standing value and success of the event.
- That the organisers had sought funding from a range of sources and demonstrated efforts to secure additional support.
- It would have been beneficial for an applicant representative to attend the meeting and speak to the application.
- Support for providing the full amount of funding requested.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled “Coast Initiatives Fund Application – Te Kura o Te Whānau Ā Apanui – Delamere Cup Competition” be received.**

- (2) That the Board approves a grant of \$10,000.00 from the Coast Initiatives Fund towards the Delamere Cup Competition.**

Wharewera/Parata

Carried

Abstained: Ross

**9. COAST INITIATIVES FUND APPLICATION -
TE RŪNANGA O TE WHĀNAU TRUST – APANUI E TŪ FESTIVAL 2027**

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In considering the application, Board members noted:

- Concerns about the limited information provided, including details about the organisers and committee members.
- The need for additional information to support consideration of the funding request.
- Support for encouraging applicants seeking significant grants to attend Board meetings and present their applications directly.
- The value of reviewing the Coast Initiatives Fund criteria, particularly for larger funding requests.
- Recognition of the community value of the festival.

In response to a query from Board members regarding progress with the Coast Initiatives Fund criteria review, the Executive Assistant and Governance Lead suggested the criteria review be workshopped. It was agreed that, following the workshop, staff would bring the reviewed criteria back to the November Coast Community Board meeting for adoption.

The Chair acknowledged the value of the festival but noted that the application did not provide enough information to support a funding decision.

It was agreed that the application be declined.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled "Coast Initiatives Fund Application - Te Rūnanga o Te Whānau Trust – Apanui e Tū Festival 2027" be received.**
- (2) That the Board declines the funding application from Te Rūnanga o Te Whānau Trust for the Apanui E Tū Festival 2027.**

Waenga/ Parata

Carried

Abstained: Ross

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 11.36AM WITH A KARAKIA.

**THE FOREGOING MINUTES ARE CERTIFIED AS BEING
A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD AT A SUBSEQUENT
MEETING OF THE COAST COMMUNITY BOARD HELD
ON TUESDAY, 3 NOVEMBER 2026.**

**PĀPĀ WHAREWERA
CHAIRPERSON
COAST COMMUNITY BOARD**

DRAFT

Minutes Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee – 9 October 2026

Details of Meeting:	EASTERN BAY OF PLENTY JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL, TŌTARA ROOM, ON FRIDAY 9 OCTOBER 2026, COMMENCING AT 10:07 AM.
	<u>Whakatāne District Council</u> : Mayor Nándor Tánczos (Chairperson), Deputy Mayor Julie Jukes <u>Ōpōtiki District Council</u> Mayor David Moore <u>Kawerau District Council</u> Mayor Faylene Tunui (Deputy Chairperson) <u>Bay of Plenty Regional Council</u> Councillor Sarah McCorkindale and Councillor Mawera Karetai
In Attendance:	<u>Whakatāne District Council</u> L Woolsey (Acting Chief Executive), N Burgess (Manager Tourism & Economic Development), M Warren (Economic Development Senior Advisor), N Woodley (Manager Policy Planning and Consents), and S Duffy (Senior Governance Advisor) <i>Via Teams</i> : E Hatch (GM People & Capability) <u>Ōpōtiki District Council</u> S Lewer (Chief Executive), R Burgess (Group Manager - Business Support) <u>Kawerau District Council</u> M Godrey (Chief Executive), T Humberstone (Manager, Communications and Engagement / Residential Developments) <u>Bay of Plenty Regional Council</u> N Poutasi – (General Manager Strategy and Science)
Visitors:	<i>Via Teams</i> : Mr Warren Ulusele (MCERT), and Mr Simon Appleton (Managing Director, Eastern Bridge (Consulting))
Apologies:	

KARAKIA

Chairperson Tánczos formally opened the meeting of the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee, at 10:07 am with a Karakia. Members from across the Eastern Bay of Plenty, staff and attendees online were welcomed.

MEETING NOTICES

The Chairperson apologised for the late start and shared meeting notices on live streaming and health and safety.

An apology was extended to the BOPRC Councillors for the representation error within the agenda. Appointed Elected Members being Councillor McCorkindale and Councillor Kumar, with alternate as Councillor Karetai.

1 APOLOGIES

An apology was noted for Whakatane District Council Chief Executive (S Perdia).

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS / TRIBUTES

Councillor Karetai had recently attended the Board of Geographers conference. She conveyed that, when a key speaker was challenged to name a Council doing great work in the Climate Change space, they quoted that the Whakatāne District Council was leading the country with work in this space.

3 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil.

4 PUBLIC FORUM

Mr Warren Ulusele from the Ministry for Cities, Environments, Regions and Transport (MCERT) gave an update of MCERT since its formation on 1 July 2026. The proposed final structure would be released mid-October, and it was expected that longer term greater alignments would be achieved and external focus would remain important for MCERT and continue to engage with Councils at the Chief Executive level.

MCERT had a current focus of the Planning Act and in particular the spatial plan component. Mr Ulusele acknowledged that there were significant decisions for councils to make in the next 21 months; at which the plan was required to be notified. He offered the Councils assistance and advised the MCERT had developed guideline material regarding the National Policy development.

Attendance:

WDC Manager Tourism & Economic Development) and WDC Economic Development Senior Advisor entered the meeting at 10:17.

Regarding Headstart, Mr Ulusele said there was a clear intention of the Minister to recommence the Headstart programme if they returned to govern.

Attendance:

Mayor Tunui left the meeting via Teams and entered the meeting physically at 10:26 am.
Mr Ulusele left the meeting at 10:27am.

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Refer to pages 9-13 of the agenda and pages 9-11 of the public excluded agenda.

Mayor Tánčzos advised of the following corrections:

- i) The 19 December minutes being confirmed were from 2025.
- ii) Correction to the spelling of Mayor Tunui within Section 8.3 of the minutes dated 2 June 2026.

Moved Deputy Mayor Jukes / Seconded Member Tunui

RESOLVED:

THAT the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee **confirm** the following minutes are a true and correct record of the meetings held:

- EBOPJC meeting held on 19 December 2025 – public excluded minutes
- EBOPJC meeting held on 2 June 2026

CARRIED

6 REPORTS, PRESENTATIONS AND VERBAL UPDATES

6.1 Update on Head Start Proposals

Refer to pages 14-22 of the agenda.

Ms Burgess (ODC), Ms Humberstone (KDC), and Mr Hatch (WDC) spoke to the PowerPoint within the agenda. It was highlighted that there was strong appetite for change, but no single agreed region-wide solution. Although Central Government had paused the Head Start process the Eastern Bay proposal remained relevant. The working groups were now waiting further clarification for direction.

Attendance: Mr Appleton joined the meeting online at 10:37 am.

During discussions the following points were noted:

- The pause could give a further opportunity to engage with communities.
- It was acknowledged the process was imposed on Councils and that, with the deferral, clarification of direction was important. It was also noted that inconsistent terminology, and absence of clarity of the backstop process had been a cause of frustration.
- The Working Group and involved staff were thanked for their valuable contribution and work throughout the process.
- The importance of all Councils working together, the mutual understanding what work regional and territorial authorities carry out, inclusive conversations, and to continue moving forward for the best outcome for our communities.

Moved Councillor McCorkindale / Seconded Mayor Moore

RESOLVED:

THAT the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee **receive** the report 'Update on Head Start Proposal presentation.

CARRIED

Attendance: Mr Lewer, Ms Burgess and Ms Humberstone left at the meeting at 11:07 am.

6.2 Bay of Plenty - Jiangxi Relationship Update – October 2026

Refer to pages 23 - 26 of the agenda.

WDC Manager Tourism & Economic Development introduced the paper.

Mr Appleton spoke of the current active programmes: Jiangxi Volunteer programme, High School Exchange to Jiangxi, Scholarship opportunities, Employment pathways In Jiangxi, and Eastern Bay Business Engagement. Mr Appleton referenced the most recent delegation from Xinyu to the Eastern Bay in October 2025 and believed a reciprocal delegation, with a focus on business matching, would help strengthen relationships and enable more opportunities for the Eastern Bay.

Attendance: Mr Lewer re-entered the meeting at 11:14 am.

The Economic Development Senior Advisor talked about the local activities which included working with the Chamber of Commerce on business delegation work and planning import/export workshops with the intention of building capacity of Eastern Bay businesses.

Attendance: Mr Godfrey left the meeting at 11:19 am and re-entered at 11:23 am.

WDC Acting Chief Executive encouraged all Councils to be mindful of local business who may like to participate and that may benefit.

RESOLVED:

THAT the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee **receive** the Bay of Plenty – Jiangxi Relationship Update, October 2026 report.

CARRIED

Attendance: WDC Manager Tourism & Economic Development, WDC Economic Development Senior Advisor, WDC GM People & Capability, and Mr Appleton left the meeting at 11:35 am.

6.3 Regional Spatial Plan Update – October 2026

Refer to pages 27 – 32 of the agenda.

Ms Poutasi and Mr Woodley spoke to the paper.

Attendance: Mayor Tánczos left the meeting at 11:36 am.

Mayor Tunui then chaired the meeting.

A discussion ensued regarding membership, and the meeting was advised that the feedback received had been mixed and that legislation enacted regarding removal of voting rights for non-elected members would not apply to the Planning and Natural Environment legislation. A concern was raised that the differing voting arrangements between committees could cause confusion and potentially impact relationships.

Attendance: Mayor Tánczos re-entered the meeting at 11:40 am and resumed as Chairperson.

Moved Councillor Karetai / Seconded Deputy Mayor Jukes

RESOLVED:

1. THAT the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee **receive** the Regional Spatial Plan update report – October 2026; and
2. THAT the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee **notes** the ongoing implementation of the Eastern Bay Spatial Plan; and
3. THAT the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee **notes** the programme of work to be undertaken prior to its next meeting, including the development of a draft Process Agreement, and consolidation of the regional data stocktake.

CARRIED

Attendance: Manager Policy Planning and Consents left the meeting at 11:46 am.

6.4 Member Reporting

Refer to page 33 of the agenda.

Representatives from each Council spoke and the following points were noted:

- A reflection made was the limited knowledge Central Government has across our BOP region.
- The Rangitaiki River Document was currently open for submissions.
- Acknowledgment that it was a busy period for all Councils.

Attendance: Councillors Karetai and McCorkindale left the meeting at 11:54 am.

- Acknowledgement of the new regional Councillor Victor Luca and that his swearing in was occurring on Monday, 9 October 2026.
- Difficult aspect in that Central Government had made a number of policy announcements by press release, however Mayor Tánczos said it was an enormous honour and privilege be in our roles at this time; being at the table and we are able to help shape the outcomes.

7 CHAIRPERSON CLOSING COMMENTS AND CLOSING KARAKIA

The meeting was advised that the Bay of Plenty Regional Council would be administering the Committee for the 2027 year.

In closing Mayor Tánczos said it had been an honour to chair the Joint Committee for 2026 and that it was a valuable forum to share information of the four Councils.

The meeting closed at 12 noon with a Karakia lead by Mayor Tánczos.

Confirmed at the meeting dated:
CHAIRPERSON

You Tube – [Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee meeting – 9 October 2026](#)

Bay of Plenty Mayoral Forum

Open Minutes

Commencing:	Thursday 10 September 2026, 9:30am
Venue:	Council Chambers, Regional House, 1 Elizabeth Street, Tauranga and online via Zoom (Audio Visual Meeting)
Chairperson:	Rotorua Lakes Council - Mayor Tania Tapsell (online)
Deputy Chairperson:	Deputy Chairperson Nándor Tánczos
Members:	Bay of Plenty Regional Council - Chair Matemoana McDonald Kawerau District Council - Mayor Faylene Tunui Ōpōtiki District Council - Mayor David Moore Taupō District Council - Mayor John Funnell (online) Tauranga City Council - Mayor Mahé Drysdale Western Bay of Plenty District Council - Mayor James Denyer
Alternate Members:	Bay of Plenty Regional Council – Deputy Chair Glenn Dougal Rotorua Lakes Council – Deputy Mayor Sandra Kai Fong Tauranga City Council - Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular (online)
In Attendance:	<u>Councillors Western Bay of Plenty District Council</u> Councillor Grant Dally (online) <u>Chief Executives</u> Bay of Plenty Regional Council Chief Executive - Fiona McTavish Tauranga City Council Chief Executive – Marty Grenfell Western Bay of Plenty District Council Chief Executive – Matt Potton <u>Bay of Plenty Regional Council Staff</u> Namouta Poutasi – General Manager Strategy & Science Adele Hadfield - Strategy and Planning Manager Manini Abernethy - Spatial Planning Team Leader Steve Groom Governance Manager Coral Hair – Committee Advisor <u>Rotorua Lakes Council Staff</u> Sam Fellows, Group Manager Organisational Performance & Innovation <u>Tauranga City Council</u> Andy Mead, Head of City Planning and Growth Annabel Bayes, Strategic Advisor to Mayor (online) <u>Western Bay of Plenty District Council</u> Annika Lane: General Manager - Strategy and Community <u>Whakatāne District Council</u> Emlyn Hatch, General Manager People and Partnerships

External

Tangi Utikere, MP, Labour Opposition Spokesperson for Local Government (online)

Andre Stuart (Project Manager) and Marlon Bridge (Project Director), Wastewater Investment Accelerator Project

Apologies:

Kawerau District Council Chief Executive - Morgan Godfery,
 Ōpōtiki District Council Chief Executive - Stace Lewer,
 Rotorua Lakes Council Chief Executive - Andrew Moraes,
 Taupō District Council Chief Executive - Julie Gardyne and
 Whakatāne District Council Chief Executive - Steven Perdia

In accordance with Standing Order 14.3 the Chairperson vacated the chair to enable the Deputy Chairperson to chair the meeting. The Deputy Chairperson reminded those present that this meeting was being livestreamed and recorded and that the recording would be made available on the Bay of Plenty Regional Council website [Bay of Plenty Mayoral Forum - 10 September 2026](#)

1. Karakia Whakatuwhera/Opening Prayer

A karakia was provided by Mayor Nándor Tánczos.

2. Apologies

None from members.

3. Order of Business

Item 7.2 in the agenda, the Labour Opposition Spokesperson for Local Government Tangi Utikere, MP, would be attending online at 10:30 am and any items that had not concluded at this time would continue at the conclusion of item 7.2.

4. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

None

5. Minutes**Minutes to be Confirmed****5.1 Bay of Plenty Mayoral Forum Minutes - 11 June 2026****Resolved**

That the Bay of Plenty Mayoral Forum:

- 1 Confirms the Bay of Plenty Mayoral Forum Minutes - 11 June 2026 as a true and correct record.**

**[Denyer/Tunui]
 [CARRIED]**

6. Agenda Items

6.1 Verbal Update on Simplifying Local Government Head Start Pathway Proposals

Key Points:

Three sub-regional unitary proposals had been submitted for the Head Start Pathway.

Eastern Bay of Plenty Unitary Authority

Councils

- Kawerau District Council
- Ōpōtiki District Council
- Whakatāne District Council

Proposal

- Create a single Eastern Bay of Plenty Unitary Authority covering the Ōpōtiki, Kawerau and Whakatāne District Council boundaries
- Combine territorial authority functions and relevant regional council functions into one organisation
- Replace the current separate district and regional council arrangements for the Eastern Bay area.

Western Bay of Plenty Unitary Authority

Councils

- Tauranga City Council (TCC)
- Western Bay of Plenty District Council (WBOPDC)

Proposal

- Establish a single unitary authority covering the Western Bay sub-region
- Combine territorial authority functions and relevant regional council functions into one organisation
- Replace the current separate district and regional council arrangements for the Western Bay area
- TCC supported progressing the proposal
- TCC and Rotorua Lakes Council (RLC) submitted their existing proposals together as a co-ordinated package with a jointly signed cover letter explaining that the proposals should be considered as one reform proposal. This followed RLC obtaining a deadline extension from Local Government Minister Hon Simon Watts
- WBOPDC had voted not to join the Head Start proposal but had resolved to signal it would develop a joint letter of intent with TCC to send to the Minister of Local Government, generally outlining its desire to progress amalgamation work in the sub-region. Confirmed that the letter had been sent to the Minister
- WBOPDC understood the difficulty faced by the RLC elected members when making their decision following WBOPDC's decision not to join, however, given WBOPDC's recognition that amalgamation with Tauranga was a likely outcome, RLC elected members should derive comfort that they acted in the best interests of their community
- WBOPDC, if not included in the Head Start process, would continue to work with other councils through the back-stop process.

- **Central Unitary Authority**

Council

- Rotorua Lakes Council

Proposal

- Establish a single unitary authority covering the RLC region
- Combine territorial authority functions and relevant regional council functions into one organisation
- Submitted after RLC obtained a deadline extension from Local Government Minister Hon Simon Watts
- RLC and TCC submitted their existing proposals together as a co-ordinated package with a jointly signed cover letter explaining that the proposals should be considered as one reform proposal
- Te Arawa Iwi Chairs worked alongside the RLC in developing this proposal.

Key Points - Members:

- Acknowledged that the Head Start proposals were not aligned with other reform initiatives
- Valued the opportunity to engage in frank, open, and constructive discussions throughout the process
- Noted that, while awaiting Cabinet decisions on the Head Start proposals, efforts would focus on advocating to Ministers and Members of Parliament for the three sub-regional unitary model
- Emphasised the importance of maintaining strong collaboration and ongoing communication to achieve the best outcome for the Bay of Plenty
- Continued to plan and prepare for both potential Cabinet outcomes, including readiness to move into a detailed design phase; undertake further community consultation; and complete due diligence, should approval be granted.

Resolved

That the Bay of Plenty Mayoral Forum:

- 1 Receives the report, Verbal Update on Simplifying Local Government Head Start Pathway Proposals.**

**[Drysedale/Tunui]
[CARRIED]**

6.2 Shared Services and Functional Review

Presented by: Fiona McTavish, Chief Executive and Steve Groom, Governance Manager, BOPRC

Key Points:

Shared Services

- Significant progress had been made on three priority shared services initiatives as follows:
 - The waste management project was the most advanced, with work progressing in collaboration with Waikato councils.

- The business case for a regional Building Consent Authority was also well advanced.
- The Information and Communication Technology (ICT) services project, involving all councils in the region, was currently being scoped to assess existing systems, capabilities, risks, and opportunities.

Functional Review

- The Chief Executive of WBOPDC was leading a cross-council work programme to review both territorial local authority (TLA) and regional council functions. The review aimed to determine which functions were best delivered locally, regionally, or inter-regionally. Rather than providing a progress update, the intention was to return to the next Mayoral Forum meeting with proposed timelines, strategic direction, and key focus areas.
- There was a sense of urgency to clearly demonstrate which services could be delivered regionally, particularly given the level of interest and scrutiny from central government through the reorganisation process
- Chief Executives required a clear mandate from the Mayoral Forum to further develop and bring forward proposals for consideration by councils
- Next steps included the workshop on 25 September 2026 to undertake a deeper assessment of which functions were best delivered at the local, regional, or inter-regional level.

Key Points - Members:

- By requesting that Chief Executives report back with options and recommendations, rather than a progress update, at the next Mayoral Forum meeting (refer resolution 3), the Forum would be best placed to provide clear direction and mandate to Chief Executives
- Noted that the smaller unitary councils provided a useful model for sub-unitary authorities in the Bay of Plenty and were willing to share their experiences and learnings on delivering both TLA and regional functions
- Needed to be mindful that either through the Head Start proposals or the Backstop process, the TLAs and regional councils would cease to exist in their current form, emerging as unitary councils
- There was potential to move quicker in determining which functions should be delivered locally, regionally, or inter-regionally by assessing the delivery capacity and capability of each sub-region.

Key Points - Staff:

- A stocktake of functions currently delivered across the region and how they were shared would be presented at the workshop on 25 September 2026
- Smaller unitary authorities often relied on support from neighbouring regional councils to deliver certain environmental functions, providing a practical example of services that may be better suited to a regional or inter-regional approach. Information on how “super-regional” functions were delivered would be provided at the workshop
- Te Uru Kahika was the primary mechanism through which regional and unitary councils collaborated on shared services and secured central government co-funding. Examples of collaborative initiatives included flood management, Land, Air, Water Aotearoa (LAWA), environmental monitoring, and the national public transport ticketing system. Further information on these initiatives would be presented at the workshop

- In the new planning system, it was recommended that compliance and enforcement functions should be transferred to a national regulator with regional compliance hubs. Policy work was expected to be progressed after the Planning and Natural Environment Bills were passed. These were the only functions identified for potential to be delivered nationally.

Resolved

That the Bay of Plenty Mayoral Forum:

- 1 Receives the report, Shared Services and Functional Review.**
- 2 Notes the progress made since the 11 June 2026 Mayoral Forum meeting on the functional review workstream and the three identified shared services opportunities.**
- 3 Requests Chief Executives to report back on options at the next Mayoral Forum.**

**[Denyer/Moore]
[CARRIED]**

6.3 Labour Opposition Spokesperson for Local Government

Presented by: The Labour Opposition Spokesperson for Local Government, Tangi Utikere, MP

Key Points:

- Labour supported the idea that local government needed reform and simplification, but it was critical of the Coalition Government's "Simplifying Local Government" programme and the way it was being implemented, particularly the short timeframes given to councils to develop reorganisation proposals. Councils had been given insufficient time to properly engage with communities, assess options and make decisions
- Disappointed that the Coalition Government had not taken a bipartisan approach to simplify local government reform
- Labour supported efforts to simplify local government structures, but reforms should not result in a loss of community voice or local democratic representation
- Labour had not opposed all amalgamations or structural changes outright, with some voluntary reorganisations making sense where they were locally driven and supported by communities
- In relation to rates capping legislation, Labour supported the Bill progressing to the select committee stage but had not guaranteed support beyond that point. This would provide councils and communities with an opportunity to share their views on the potential impacts of rates caps in their local areas

In response to questions

- When asked what Labour would do with the current Head Start proposals and Backstop process if it was the government, Labour had signalled it would:
 - Review the progress of the Coalition Government's reforms

- Work alongside local government on implementation where there was willingness to continue with Head Start proposals
- Place greater emphasis on community representation and local input as Labour had concerns that local democracy and local voice was threatened by the reforms
- Assess whether reforms underway were delivering intended outcomes before proceeding further
- Difficult to comment on Backstop process as there was a lack of clarity on what this entailed
- The former Minister of Local Government, Hon Simeon Brown, had dismissed the Future for Local Government report, which was disappointing given that it had been developed from a local government perspective. Labour expressed concern that decisions made too hastily could require reconsideration or reversal in the future
- Labour indicated it would repeal any Coalition Government legislation that removed voting rights from non-elected members, maintaining that decisions on governance arrangements should be determined by individual councils. Expected the Bill to be returned to Parliament in the next two weeks with some amendments
- Labour advised it would repeal the legislation requiring polls on Māori representation and reinstate the previous framework, under which decisions on Māori wards and constituencies were treated in the same manner as any other ward or constituency
- Labour had supported the Planning and Environmental Bills to select committee process and were surprised that the Bills were reported back to Parliament in a worse state than originally introduced. Labour made it clear it would cancel the proposed regulatory takings compensation provisions in the Planning Bill, which would require compensation to landowners where planning rules or environmental protections restricted private property rights. It would also restore Mana Whakahono ā Rohe agreements and the recognition of Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles
- Labour was open to further engagement with the local government sector on potential funding mechanisms, including options such as the Crown paying rates on its properties or sharing a portion of GST revenue with councils. However, it was not committing to specific changes at this stage. Labour was clear that it did not support imposing any additional unfunded mandates on the sector and a clear indication of additional costs should be included in papers to Cabinet
- The Coalition Government was making decisions that undermined local democracy and adversely affected councils, making it important for local government to stand together and voice its opposition.

Resolved

That the Bay of Plenty Mayoral Forum:

- 1 Records its sincere thanks to Tangi Utikere, Labour Opposition Spokesperson for Local Government, for speaking to the Mayoral Forum on Local Government Reform.**

**[Drysedale/Tunui]
[CARRIED]**

11:00am - The meeting **adjourned**.

11:25am - The meeting **reconvened** and Mayor Tapsell and Mayor Funnell **withdrew** from the meeting.

6.4 Preparing for the Bay of Plenty Regional Spatial Plan

Presentation: Bay of Plenty Regional Spatial Plan

Presented by: Namouta Poutasi – General Manager Strategy & Science and Adele Hadfield - Strategy and Planning Manager, Bay of Plenty Regional Council); Annika Lane - General Manager - Strategy and Community, Western Bay of Plenty District Council and Andy Mead – Head of City Planning and Growth, Tauranga City Council

Key Points:

- Seeking feedback and strategic direction from the Bay of Plenty Mayoral Forum on preparation for the first Bay of Plenty Regional Spatial Plan (RSP) that:
 - the Spatial Planning Committee (SPC) evaluation principles were appropriate (recommendation 2)
 - the identified SPC options were appropriate for further consideration by councils (recommendation 3)
 - the Process Agreement was sent early to the Minister of Local Government (recommendation 7)
- An RSP would be required under the new Planning Act to guide growth, infrastructure, land use, environmental protection and investment decisions across the region for 30+ years
- Pre-enactment feedback had helped refine the evaluation principles and identification of a preferred SPC option and included:
 - support for councils "no regrets" approach
 - meaningful Māori and iwi involvement must be embedded from the outset
 - support for recognising sub-regional differences, while still enabling regional decision-making where issues required a Bay of Plenty wide response
 - support for enhanced SPC governance arrangements
 - the RSP should align with wider reforms, existing evidence and local planning ork
 - early and ongoing community engagement would be critical to success
- A SPC would be required by legislation to prepare the RSP. Two governance models were evaluated with the enhanced model receiving stronger overall support. The SPC would coordinate preparation of the RSP and oversee implementation planning
- Process Agreements were binding on local authorities and the SPC and set out clearly:
 - how councils would work together and with the SPC
 - how responsibilities would be divided
 - how consultation and pre-notification engagement would be carried out
 - how the secretariat would be established and managed
 - how iwi participation and Treaty settlement arrangements would be recognised
 - how any inter-regional content would be agreed and prepared
- Councils would retain statutory decision-making powers and would approve the Process Agreement, public notification of the draft RSP and the adoption of the final RSP

- Proposed timeline was set out with the final RSP being adopted by June 2028
- Next steps included:
 - Drafting an outline Process Agreement following enactment considering direction from the Mayoral Forum, Councils, joint committees, government guidance and direct engagement with iwi/Māori
 - Refine key issues and opportunities
 - Progress secretariat and programme arrangements for decision-making
 - Establish SPC and confirm appointments
 - Amend the Mayoral Forum Terms of Reference once the SPC was established.

Key Points - Members:

- Conscious of costs and the need to minimise duplication of effort, recognising the significant work already undertaken through the sub-regional planning processes
- Noted that the sub-regional plans were developed independently, which may have limited elected members' understanding of the content, priorities and implications of plans across other parts of the Bay of Plenty
- Expressed concern about the practical mechanisms for achieving consistency on regionally significant matters across sub-regional plans, while also enabling effective integration between them
- Queried the proposed size and composition of the SPC, including whether appointed members should possess specific skills, expertise or experience
- Supported bringing elected members together in November 2026 for a briefing on regional spatial planning, to share and showcase the content of the existing sub-regional spatial plans, improve collective understanding and to highlight the purpose and requirements of the Process Agreement before decisions were required from councils.

In Response to Questions:

- Indicative costs and funding allocations were referred to the Chief Executives' Group for consideration. A range of funding models was explored to identify the most equitable approaches. In terms of resources, the approach was to minimise external expenditure and avoid unnecessary duplication of work
- The legislation set out a mediation process based on principles of good-faith dispute resolution. Where differences could not be resolved through mediation, matters may be escalated to the Minister for determination
- The skills, experience and expertise of members appointed to the SPC would be an important consideration in ensuring the committee could effectively fulfil its responsibilities
- The Process Agreement would provide a mechanism for establishing decision-making principles and criteria to determine which matters required a consistent and integrated regional approach. It may also provide for the delegation of decision-making to sub-regional areas where issues were more appropriately addressed at a local scale,
- RSPs were narrower in scope than existing planning frameworks, with a primary focus on land use and development. Unlike current non-statutory spatial plans, RSPs prepared under the new legislation would carry statutory weight and were likely to require a more robust, and potentially different, evidence base. Staff were continuing to assess the implications of these requirements, noting that detailed regulations and government guidance were not expected to be released for a further six to nine months. Until this framework was available and fully understood, it remained

difficult to determine the extent of any additional work that may be required.

Resolved

That the Bay of Plenty Mayoral Forum provide the following feedback and direction to local authorities for consideration, as part of their decision making:

- 1 Receives the report, Preparing for the Bay of Plenty Regional Spatial Plan.**
- 2 That the Spatial Plan Committee evaluation principles in section 7 of Attachment 1 are appropriate.**
- 3 Identified Spatial Plan Committee options are appropriate for further consideration by the local authorities of the BOP region, following enactment of the Planning and Natural Environment Bills.**
- 4 The development of the first Regional Spatial Plan for the Bay of Plenty will be a collaborative exercise that recognises the roles and responsibilities of each local authority, sub-regional joint committee and the Spatial Plan Committee and recommends that roles and responsibilities be clearly articulated in the Process Agreement and relevant terms of reference.**
- 5 The local authorities of the Bay of Plenty region, as the final decision makers on the Process Agreement, will be responsible for any further direction and decision making on the matters contained in this report after enactment of legislation, including agreeing on the Terms of Reference for the Spatial Plan Committee (noting a subsequent required update to the Mayoral Forum Terms of Reference).**
- 6 Note the approach to identifying key issues and drivers of growth and change in the region in section 10 of Attachment 1, which will be subject to ongoing refinement to give effect to national instruments and during preparation of the draft Regional Spatial Plan; and**
- 7 The Bay of Plenty Mayoral Forum agree that the Process Agreement is sent early to the Minister of Local Government (supported by Ministry for Cities, Environment, Regions and Transport), who is the territorial authority for the offshore islands.**

**[Drysedale/Tunui]
[CARRIED]**

6.5 Presentation on the Wastewater Investment Accelerator Programme

Presentation by: Andre Stuart, Wastewater Investment Accelerator (WIA) Project Manager and Marlon Bridge, Project Director, Wastewater Investment

Key Points:

- Outlined the WIA programme, being led out of National Infrastructure Funding and Financing Ltd, under a mandate from the Minister of Local Government
- WIA programme aimed to accelerate investment in wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs) by procuring standardised modular WWTPs for small communities (less than 2,000 population) across New Zealand to improve environmental compliance and cost efficiency
- Voluntary scheme with mayoral governance oversight

- WIA project was necessary due to large level of non-compliance with small WWTPs, with many needing a new consent within five years
- Due to regulatory pressures and the new wastewater environmental performance standards, significant investment was required and costs were currently prohibitive for small communities to upgrade their WWTPs
- Amendments to the Infrastructure Funding and Financing Act 2020 (IFF) allowed off-balance sheet financing solutions for water providers (Councils and Council Controlled Organisations) for the purchase and building of water infrastructure assets which gave providers the opportunity to build essential water assets without breaking their legal borrowing limits
- The infrastructure design was developed in a way that made it easier to obtain approval, and not necessarily need a consent, for discharges to the environment where the technology met the regulatory standards
- Request for Proposal was being developed for generic solutions and there was keen interest from the market both locally and globally. Various options were available from purchasing and installing through to purchasing, installing and operating, with additional options for operator training and warrant of fitness checks
- The package consisted of a module WWTP (40' container), connections with various storage tanks and pump stations. Different modules could be added as required with one module servicing 500 people
- Water entities would need to undertake accessway improvements, install transformer and cabling to site and infill oxidation pond (partial) to create space for the new plant. The oxidation ponds would continue to be used for overflows, storage during wet weather and plant maintenance
- Provided an example using the Murupara WWTP that would result in wastewater being treated to a higher standard than currently through oxidation ponds
- Seven WWTPs were identified in the Bay of Plenty region including Rotoiti, Maketū, Ōngare Point, Edgecumbe, Murupara, Tāneatua and Te Mahoe
- Potential application for developments out of sequence, communities with failing septic tanks, communities with a holiday surge in demand, and Auckland Council was looking at using modules for stormwater issues.

In Response to Questions:

- The power demand for each module was relatively low, at approximately 4-6 kWh per unit, plus pumping requirements. However, a transformer would still be required. Alternative power sources, such as solar generation and battery storage, could be incorporated to improve resilience and sustainability and reduce reliance on grid electricity
- The standardisation of modular WWTP technology significantly reduced costs, as most conventional WWTPs were designed as bespoke solutions. Additional benefits of standardisation include improved availability of spare parts and greater workforce flexibility, with operators able to move between facilities without requiring retraining
- IFF mechanisms could be applied to wastewater infrastructure
- Water entities were not included within the Government's rates cap settings
- While some larger wastewater treatment facilities were exploring carbon capture technologies, these solutions were generally not yet proven, cost-effective, or widely deployed at the scale of a modular plant serving approximately 2,000 people. Further technical and economic assessment would be required to determine whether carbon capture could be

practically implemented and deliver meaningful environmental benefits at this scale.

Resolved

That the Bay of Plenty Mayoral Forum:

- 1 Receives the report, Presentation on the Wastewater Investment Accelerator Programme.**

**[Denyer/Moore]
[CARRIED]**

7. Karakia Kati/Closing Prayer

A karakia was provided by Mayor Nándor Tánczos.

12:34 pm – the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED

Mayor Tania Tapsell
Chairperson, Bay of Plenty Mayoral Forum

Bay of Plenty Emergency Management Committee

Open Minutes

Commencing:	Friday 25 September 2026, 10:00am
Venue:	Council Chambers, Western Bay of Plenty District Council, 1484 Cameron Road, Greerton, Tauranga and via Zoom (Audio Visual Meeting)
Chairperson:	Mayor Faylene Tunui - Kawerau District Council (KDC)
Deputy Chairperson:	Mayor James Denyer - Western Bay of Plenty District Council (WBOPDC)
Members:	<u>Ōpōtiki District Council (ODC):</u> Mayor David Moore <u>Tauranga City Council (TCC):</u> Mayor Mahé Drysdale; Cr Kevin Schuler (Alternate) (via Zoom) <u>Whakatāne District Council (WDC):</u> Mayor Nándor Tánczos <u>Rotorua Lakes Council (RLC):</u> Mayor Tania Tapsell <u>Bay of Plenty Regional Council Toi Moana (BOPRC):</u> Deputy Chair Glenn Dougal, Cr John Scrimgeour (Alternate) <u>WBOPDC:</u> Cr Shane Beech (Alternate) <u>National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)</u> Shona Morgan – Senior Regional Emergency Management Advisor (via Zoom)
In Attendance:	<u>Emergency Management Bay of Plenty (EMBOP):</u> Stace Tahere - Manager, Operations; James Jefferson - Principal Advisor, Emergency Management; Paul Greenshields - Manager, Planning; Kieran Miller - Manager, Risk and Engagement; Julian Reweti - Principal Advisor, Recovery; Shell Brandt - Advisor, Planning; Samme Moore - Senior Advisor, Communications and Engagement; Andrea Thompson - Executive Assistant <u>TCC:</u> Sarah Omundsen - General Manager Regulatory and Community Services <u>BOPRC:</u> Fiona McTavish - Chair of Coordinating Executive Group (CEG) and Chief Executive; Merinda Pansegrouw - Committee Advisor <u>WBOPDC:</u> Matt Potton, Chief Executive
Apologies:	Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular (TCC Alternate); Deputy Mayor Sandra Kai Fong (RLC Alternate); Cr Curley Keno (ODC Alternate); Deputy Mayor Sela Kingi (KDC Alternate) and Jono Gracie – EMBOP Regional Manager

Declaration of Public Recording

Committee members were reminded that the meeting was being recorded and that the recording would be made available on the BOPRC website and archived for a period of three years: [Emergency Management Committee - 25 September 2026](#).

Opening Karakia

Provided by: Stace Tahere - Manager, Operations, EMBOP.

1. Apologies

Resolved

That the Bay of Plenty Emergency Management Committee:

- 1 Accepts the apologies from Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular (TCC Alternate), Deputy Mayor Sandra Kai Fong (RLC Alternate), Cr Curley Keno (ODC Alternate) and Deputy Mayor Sela Kingi (KDC Alternate) tendered at the meeting.

Moore/Dougal
CARRIED

2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

None advised.

3. Minutes

Minutes to be Confirmed

3.1 Bay of Plenty Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Joint Committee Public Minutes - 3 July 2026

Resolved

That the Bay of Plenty Emergency Management Committee:

- 1 Confirms the Bay of Plenty Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Joint Committee Public Minutes - 3 July 2026 as a true and correct record.

Dougal/Beech
CARRIED

4. Reports

Decisions Required

4.1 Strategic and Governance Implications of the Emergency Management Act 2026

Presented by: James Jefferson, Principal Advisor, Emergency Management, EMBOP.

Key Points - Staff:

- Provided an overview of the implications of the Emergency Management Act 2026, which took effect on 4 September 2026
- Key changes included:
 - Councils' Long Term Plan (LTP) activities would need to clearly reflect group plan objectives and emergency management outcomes
 - Greater responsibility placed on Chief Executives for emergency management capability and service delivery, including where operational responsibilities were delegated
 - The Emergency Management Committee's (EMC) responsibilities had been expanded, particularly in relation to risk reduction, regional coordination, and oversight of emergency management activities
 - Central government expected councils to utilise existing tools and resources to meet new requirements while further guidance from national agencies was anticipated
 - Stronger oversight from NEMA with an enhanced role as regulator and system steward
 - Associate members could be appointed to support the Committee in meeting its statutory responsibilities. This could address a potential need for additional expertise and skills, particularly in science and risk reduction disciplines.

In Response to Questions:

- Legal advice had confirmed that associate members could vote on ordinary committee business where appointed as voting members, but could not vote on matters relating to emergency powers under the Emergency Management Act 2026
- A future workshop would be held to help the EMC identify potential associate members for appointment, determine the expertise required around the Committee table, and consider capability gaps in areas such as risk reduction and scientific expertise
- Coordinating Executive Groups (CEGs) would be able to engage additional expertise to support emergency management functions
- Although Councils were already undertaking substantial risk reduction work through regional planning initiatives and natural hazards programmes, the new Act sought that infrastructure strategies, levels of service, and planning decisions actively contribute to reduce and manage risk
- Reporting and assurance mechanisms for elected members would require further development to provide sufficient information for identifying gaps
- Confirmed elected members would be provided with additional support and guidance to help them understand and fulfil their new governance responsibilities
- Provided an update on engagement with iwi and Māori representatives joining at the CEG level, noting ongoing efforts to ensure regional representation and participation in emergency management planning.

Key Points - Members:

- Acknowledged increased governance responsibilities for emergency management to be reflected in day-to-day council decision-making, LTPs, infrastructure investment, land-use planning, risk reduction activities and the importance of integrating emergency management considerations into future planning and growth strategies
- Emphasised the importance of community engagement, education, and participation as part of a whole-of-community emergency management

approach; and acknowledged the value of ongoing collaboration with iwi and Māori, recognising the importance of maintaining those relationships.

Item for Staff Follow Up:

- Undertake a future workshop to assess capability needs, governance responsibilities, identify skills gaps, and consider associate member appointments to enhance EMC effectiveness.

Resolved

That the Bay of Plenty Emergency Management Committee:

- 1 Receives the report, Strategic and Governance Implications of the Emergency Management Act 2026; and**
- 2 Notes the updated Terms of Reference for the Bay of Plenty Emergency Management Committee, which have been amended to align with the requirements of the Emergency Management Act 2026.**

**Denyer/Dougal
CARRIED**

4.2 BOP CDEM Group Annual Report 2025/2026

Presented by: Paul Greenshields, Manager, Planning EMBOP.

Key Points - Staff:

- Presented the Bay of Plenty Civil Defence Emergency Management (BOP CDEM) 2025/2026 Annual Report highlighting the significant achievements delivered during the previous year
- The report provided a comprehensive overview of progress across all priority activities and demonstrated the successful completion of key work programmes through the collective contributions of partner agencies and stakeholders.

Key Points - Members:

- Acknowledged that the Annual Report provided a strong summary of the BOP CDEM's achievements but suggested some graphs/visual elements could be amended to be easier to read: referenced Figure 4 on page 47 of the Agenda, demonstrating which 2025-2026 Annual Plan Activities link back to which specific Plan Goals
- Thanked Bay of Plenty Emergency Management staff for their contribution to national emergency response activities, including personnel deployed to support the Southland Local State of Emergency
- Requested an update on the Emergency Management radio network and noted its importance given the region's risk profile.

In Response to Questions:

- The reporting framework and Figure 4 intended to illustrate how annual activities contributed to achieving Group Plan outcomes; undertook to review graphs and consider how to improve in future reports to best display progress
- Lessons learnt from the Southland Deployment:

- Demonstrated the effectiveness of established incident management systems, processes, and training
- Highlighted the value of maintaining a skilled regional workforce that could be mobilised to support emergency responses both within and outside the region
- Strong relationships between emergency management groups and committees enabled resources and personnel to be shared effectively when local capacity became overwhelmed
- Deploying teams rather than individuals, providing staff with peer support, wellbeing assistance, and a stronger support network while operating away from their home region
- Reinforced the value of inter-regional collaboration and the ability of emergency management organisations to support affected communities across New Zealand during significant events
- Group Communication System Review: confirmed that the replacement of the two-way radio system was being progressed as a matter of urgency. An estimated cost of \$500,000 had been identified to improve radio communications, with funding to be sourced from emergency reserve targeted rate funds. Staff were continuing to investigate options/funding requirements, with a further report on progress of the radio network to be presented at a future meeting
- Community engagement was delivered collaboratively, with EMBOP working through local councils and emergency management officers to support community preparedness, outreach, and resilience initiatives.

Action to Follow Up:

- Group Communication System Review: staff to provide a progress report on radio network progress and future options at the next meeting.

Resolved

That the Bay of Plenty Emergency Management Committee:

- 1 Receives the report, BOP CDEM Group Annual Report 2025/2026; and**
- 2 Endorses the BOP CDEM Group Annual Report 2025/2026 as the final document.**

**Tapsell/Denyer
CARRIED**

4.3 Tauranga City Council Recovery Framework

Presented by: Julian Reweti, Principal Advisor, Recovery EMBOP and Sarah Omundsen, General Manager Regulatory and Community Services, TCC.

Key Points - Staff:

- Proposed Group Recovery Framework had been developed to provide a consistent regional approach to recovery and align arrangements across all local councils
- Its intent was to support governance and leadership decision-making during significant recovery events by providing clear roles, responsibilities, processes, and access to regional resources

- Did not prescribe how councils must undertake recovery locally; rather, it provided a regional structure within which councils could develop and maintain their own local recovery frameworks
- Developed as an interim approach to ensure there was no gap in recovery arrangements following legislative changes, the framework provided confidence that recovery planning and capability remained in place across the region
- A template based on the Western Bay model had been provided to support consistency across councils, with all councils encouraged to align their local recovery frameworks to the regional framework
- A consistent framework would simplify future updates and ensure recovery arrangements remained aligned across the region.

Key Points - Members

- Acknowledged the value of a regionally consistent approach and the benefits of having all councils operating under a common framework.

Resolved

That the Bay of Plenty Emergency Management Committee:

- 1 Receives the report, Tauranga City Council Recovery Framework; and**
- 2 Endorses the Tauranga City Council Recovery Framework 2026 as an Addendum to the “BOP CDEM Group Recovery Framework 2025.”**

**Tapsell/Tánczos
CARRIED**

Information Only

4.4 Bay of Plenty Regional Active Recovery Update

*Presentation: BOP CDEM Group Recovery Update to Joint Committee 25
September 2026 [↗](#)*

Presented by: Julian Reweti, Principal Advisor, Recovery EMBOP.

Key Points - Staff:

- Overview of recovery activities undertaken across the region following recent severe weather events, noting that while impacts were significant for affected communities, the events also served as a useful test of existing recovery arrangements and decision-making processes
- Group Recovery Framework and associated local recovery plans enabled councils to respond quickly, with existing templates and recovery documentation providing a consistent platform for recovery planning across the region
- Recovery planning and documentation developed by Bay of Plenty councils had been recognised as good practice and shared nationally for use by other regions
- Significant recovery and resilience work continued across the region, including flood and catchment management, infrastructure recovery, landslide risk assessment, hazard mapping, and other risk reduction initiatives

- Lessons learned from recent events had reinforced the importance of proactive recovery planning, hazard identification, and investment in resilience and risk reduction activities across the region.

Resolved

That the Bay of Plenty Emergency Management Committee:

1 Receives the report, Bay of Plenty Regional Active Recovery Update.

**Drysdale/Dougal
CARRIED**

4.5 Bay of Plenty CDEM Group Quarterly Report - September 2026

Presented by: Stace Tahere - Manager, Operations EMBOP.

Key Points - Staff:

- The quarterly report had been redesigned to provide a more concise and accessible overview of progress against the 2026/27 Annual Plan
- Delivery of the 2026/27 Annual Plan was tracking well, with 10 of 19 priority activities on track, the remaining activities scheduled to commence later in the year, and no activities currently identified as at risk
- Work was underway to strengthen collaboration with council emergency management officers and partner agencies through a new engagement framework, which was in its final review stage. Staff were also developing improved reporting measures to better demonstrate organisational capability and outcomes
- Training and exercising remained a key focus, with more than 500 staff trained across the region during the financial year
- Would be participating in NEMA's assurance pilot to assess preparedness and alignment with the Emergency Management Act 2026. Findings and recommendations would be reported back to the Committee in December 2026.

Key Points - Members:

- Sought further information on the potential impacts of the forecasted El Niño conditions and the implications for governance, preparedness, and risk management across the region.

In Response to Questions:

- A multi-agency steering group had been established to coordinate planning and preparedness activities in response to the anticipated El Niño event
- The steering group would identify business-as-usual roles and responsibilities of partner agencies, improve situational awareness across the region, and provide a coordinated understanding of emerging risks
- Work was also underway to identify triggers for escalating responses, including when emergency coordination arrangements may need to be activated, which agencies would lead responses, and the level of response required.
- Councils and partner agencies were already undertaking preparedness activities, with efforts focused on aligning and coordinating this work across the region.

Item for Staff Follow Up:

- Report back to the Committee on the outcomes of the El Niño steering group, including identified risks, preparedness measures, response triggers, and governance considerations.

Resolved**That the Bay of Plenty Emergency Management Committee:**

- 1 **Receives the report, Bay of Plenty CDEM Group Quarterly Report - September 2026.**

**Dougal/Tapsell
CARRIED**

4.6 National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) Update to the Bay of Plenty Emergency Management Committee - September 2026

Presented by: Shona Morgan – Senior Regional Emergency Management Advisor (via Zoom).

Key Points - NEMA:

- A series of webinars would be held in October 2026 to support elected members' understanding of the Emergency Management Act 2026, including a Governance and Leadership webinar specifically for mayors and elected members on 20 October 2026 at 11.00 am, to be recorded and made available for wider distribution
- The Emergency Management Sector Operational Systems (EMS-OS) had entered a phased delivery to modernise emergency management technology, with ongoing engagement helping shape future capability development
- Confirmed that NEMA was supporting national preparedness activities and shared situational awareness for potential El Niño impacts, including drought, wildfire risk, and weather-related disruptions.

Key Points - Members:

- Considered the increasing wildfire risk associated with climate change and sought information on how councils and communities could improve preparedness, including emergency response capability, land management, and building practices that reduce wildfire risk
- Requested a more detailed briefing on wildfire risk and preparedness, noting the importance of understanding the implications for governance, planning, and community resilience across the region, to understand areas where support/resourcing would be required
- Highlighted the need for proactive action before conditions deteriorate, particularly in areas with significant forestry, reserve land, and rural communities that may be vulnerable during extended dry periods.

In Response to Questions:

- EMBOP was working closely with Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) on El Niño and wildfire preparedness activities

- Recent emergency exercises had included a wildfire scenario involving the potential evacuation of Murupara, providing valuable insights into response arrangements, evacuation planning, and fire behaviour
- Wildfire risk and preparedness planning would form part of the wider El Niño preparedness work currently being coordinated through the regional steering group.

Items for Staff Follow Up:

- Provide future updates on wildfire preparedness and associated risk management activities
- Arrange a Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) presentation on wildfire risk, preparedness, and response arrangements at a future Committee meeting.

Resolved

That the Bay of Plenty Emergency Management Committee:

- 1 Receives the report, National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) Update to the Bay of Plenty Emergency Management Committee - September 2026.**

**Tapsell/Dougal
CARRIED**

4.7 Regional Manager's Written Update for the Bay of Plenty Emergency Management Committee - September 2026

Presented by: Stace Tahere - Manager, Operations EMBOP.

Key Points - Members:

- Reflected on lessons from the Paul Davison KC External Review Report
- Noted the importance of identifying and acting on early warning signs during emergency events, particularly indicators of potential landslide or slope failure. Cited an example where reports received through emergency call centres may provide opportunities to identify emerging hazards and strengthen situational awareness, even where the immediate incident appears to have been resolved.

Resolved

That the Bay of Plenty Emergency Management Committee:

- 1 Receives the report, Regional Manager's Written Update for the Bay of Plenty Emergency Management Committee - September 2026.**

**Tánczos/Denyer
CARRIED**

5. Public Excluded Section

Resolved

Resolution to exclude the public

1 Excludes the public from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting as set out below:

The general subject 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(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

Item No.	Subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Grounds under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution	When the item can be released into the public
5.1	Bay of Plenty Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Joint Committee Public Excluded Minutes - 3 July 2026	As noted in the relevant Minutes.	As noted in the relevant Minutes.	To remain in public excluded.
5.2	Bay of Plenty CDEM Whakaari/White Island Coronial Inquiry Update 25 September 2026	Withholding the information is necessary to maintain legal professional privilege.	48(1)(a)(i) Section 7 (2)(g).	On EMC Chair and the Regional Manager EMBOP's approval.

**Tunui/Drysdale
CARRIED**

The Committee moved into the public excluded session at 11:38 am and reconvened in public at 11:48 am.

11:50 am - The meeting **adjourned**.

12:20 pm - The meeting **reconvened**.

6. Presentation of Long Service Awards

Presentation of Long Service Awards ➡

Long Service awards presented by: EMC Chair, Mayor Faylene Tunui.

Meagan Edhouse

- Recognised Meagan Edhouse for 15 years of dedicated service in emergency management, acknowledging her significant contribution to emergency preparedness, response, training, planning, and community resilience across the Bay of Plenty and New Zealand
- Noted Meagan's leadership of the Marae Emergency Preparedness Planning Project, which received international recognition through the IAEM Global Partners in Preparedness Award and IAEM Oceania Partners in Preparedness Award in 2018

- Acknowledged Meagan's extensive operational experience supporting responses to major emergencies, including the Kaikōura Earthquake, Nelson Tasman Fires, Cyclone Gabrielle, Whakaari/White Island Eruption, COVID-19 response, and regional flooding events
- Recognised Meagan's ongoing contribution to the emergency management profession, including her Associate Emergency Manager certification and service as Secretary of the International Association of Emergency Managers Oceania Council
- Congratulated Meagan on receiving the Long Service Award and thanked her for her dedication, professionalism, and lasting contribution to communities across the Bay of Plenty and beyond.

Nicky Parker

- Recognised Nicky Parker for more than 20 years of dedicated service to Civil Defence Emergency Management, acknowledging her significant contribution to emergency welfare, response, recovery, and community resilience since 2002
- Noted Nicky's extensive experience in emergency management roles with Thames-Coromandel District Council and Emergency Management Bay of Plenty, including her current role as Principal Advisor Welfare and Group Welfare Manager
- Acknowledged Nicky's leadership and contributions during numerous major emergency events, including the Canterbury and Kaikōura earthquakes, Edgecumbe Floods, Nelson Tasman Wildfires, Whakaari/White Island Eruption, COVID-19 pandemic, Cyclone Gabrielle, and Wairoa Flood Event
- Recognised Nicky's national leadership within the welfare sector through her involvement with regional and national welfare coordination groups and her contribution to strengthening emergency management capability across New Zealand
- Congratulated Nicky on receiving the Long Service Award and thanked her for her dedication, professionalism, and lasting contribution to emergency management and community wellbeing.

Closing Karakia

Provided by: Stace Tahere – EMBOP Manager, Operations.

Next hui

Friday, 11 December 2026, at Rotorua Lakes Council Chambers.

12:33 pm – the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED

Mayor Faylene Tunui
Chairperson, Bay of Plenty Emergency
Management Committee

COUNCIL REPORT

Date : 16 October 2026
To : Ordinary Council Meeting, 27 October 2026
From : His Worship the Mayor, David Moore
Subject : **MAYORAL REPORT 5 SEPTEMBER 2026 – 16 OCTOBER 2026**
File ID : A1433153

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- This report provides an update to Council on meetings and events attended by His Worship the Mayor for the period 5 September 2026 to 16 October 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) **That the report titled “Mayoral Report 5 September 2026–16 October 2026” be received.**

PURPOSE

1. To provide an update to Council on meetings and events attended by His Worship the Mayor.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

2. The matters detailed in this report relate to the following priorities from Ōpōtiki District Council's Long-Term Plan 2024-2034:
 - ☒ Community Priority One: Strong relationships and partners
 - ☐ Community Priority Two: Investment in our district
 - ☐ Community Priority Three: Wellbeing is valued
 - ☐ Community Priority Four: Our communities are resilient
 - ☐ Community Priority Five: Growth is sustained over time

DISCUSSION

3. Since 5 September 2026 I have attended or met with the following:

7 September 2026

Councillor/CEO catch up meeting

10 September 2026

Bay of Plenty Mayoral Forum, Tauranga

11 September 2026

LGNZ briefing: Infometrics' Brad Olsen on rates capping and latest quarterly Insights, via Zoom

14 September 2026

Council workshop

15 September 2026

Extra Ordinary Council meeting

Ordinary Council meeting

16 September 2026

LGNZ briefing: Preparing for Head Start decision announcements, via Zoom

Met with Ōpōtiki College Student Leadership team

Property Advisory Group meeting

18 September 2026

Māori Language Week - Whakatōhea Presentation (Raupatu)

Eastern Bay of Plenty Community Foundation Annual Dinner, Whakatāne

21 September 2026

Council workshop

22 September 2026

Coast Community Board meeting

LGNZ briefing: the Minister of Local Government, via Zoom

23 September 2026

Councillor/CEO catch up meeting

24 September 2026

Risk and Assurance Committee meeting

LGNZ briefing: Lessons from the Mauao tragedy, via Zoom

25 September 2026

Bay of Plenty Emergency Management Committee meeting, Tauranga

28 September 2026

Performance and Delivery Committee meeting

LGNZ briefing: Chlöe Swarbrick discusses the Green Party's approach to Local Government, via Zoom

1 October 2026

LGNZ briefing: The role of elected members in the new planning system, via Zoom

2 October 2026

Tauranga

Regional Transport Committee workshop

Regional Transport Committee meeting

5 October 2026

Unveiling: Malcolm Campbell Lifestyle Village (previously Porritt Glade Lifestyle Village)

LGNZ briefing: Green Party's Julie Anne Genter discusses infrastructure and the Resource Management Act, via Zoom

6 October 2026

Citizenship Ceremony

7 October 2026

Councillor/CEO catch up meeting

Council workshop

8 October 2026

LGNZ briefing: Hon Kieran McAnulty & Tangi Utikere discuss Labour's policies relevant to Local Government, via Zoom

9 October 2026

Ōpōtiki College Opening of New Spaces - Karakia and Breakfast

Deputy Mayor Maxwell attended the Pōhiri and Dedication later that morning on my behalf

Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee meeting, Whakatāne

12 October 2026

Declaration Ceremony for Victor Luca, the newly elected Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Eastern Bay General Constituency Councillor, Whakatāne

13 October 2026

LGNZ Te Maruata Hui, Rotorua

14-15 October 2026

Local Government New Zealand Conference, Rotorua

Financial/budget considerations

4. There are no financial/budget considerations associated with this report.

Risks

5. There are no risks associated with this report.

Local government purpose considerations

6. The purpose of local government is to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and to meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality, cost-effective, and local infrastructure, public services, and the performance of regulatory functions; and to support local economic growth and development by fulfilling this purpose.
7. The subject matter of this report has been evaluated in terms of the meeting the purpose of local government during the process of developing this report.

SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT ASSESSMENT

Assessment of significance

8. On every issue requiring a decision, Council is required to determine how significant a decision is to the community, and what the corresponding level of engagement should be. Council uses the Significance Flowchart in the Significance and Engagement Policy to determine the level of significance.
9. The level of significance related to the decision in this report is considered to be **low**. Because the decision is determined to have **low** significance in accordance with the policy, the corresponding level of engagement required is **Inform**.

Assessment of engagement

10. As the level of significance has been determined to be **low**, the level of engagement required is **Inform** according to the Engagement Framework of the Significance and Engagement Policy:

INFORM

To provide balanced and objective information to assist understanding about something that is going to happen.

11. The tools that Council will use for the 'Inform' level of engagement include a report in the public agenda of the Council meeting and may include a combination of public notices in the newspaper and/or on Council's social media.

David Moore

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR

COUNCIL REPORT

Date : 19 October 2026
To : Ordinary Council Meeting, 27 October 2026
From : Principal Policy Advisor, Joel Hingston
Subject : **2027-2037 LONG TERM PLAN PROGRAMME**
File ID : A1433200

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Preparation of the 2027-2037 Long Term Plan is now underway. The Long Term Plan will establish Council's strategic direction, service delivery priorities, and funding approach for the next 10 years.
- The plan has been structured into several phases including strategic direction setting, activity management planning, strategy development, community engagement and plan adoption.
- The report outlines key milestones, emerging considerations and how these will be addressed throughout the programme.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) **That the report titled "2027-2037 Long Term Plan Programme" be received.**
- 2) **That Council endorses the proposed 2027-2037 Long Term Plan Programme.**

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an overview of the proposed programme, and key milestones for the development of the 2027-2037 Long Term Plan (LTP) and to seek Council's endorsement of the proposed approach.
2. Endorsement of the programme will provide staff with clear direction to progress the development of the LTP, whilst ensuring elected members have appropriate opportunities to feed into the process and provide direction at various stages of the plan.
3. In effect, the proposed approach will ensure Council meets its legislative deadlines, while providing for meaningful community engagement.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

4. The matters detailed in this report relate to the following priorities from Ōpōtiki District Council's Long-Term Plan 2024-2034:
- ☒ Community Priority One: Strong relationships and partners
 - ☒ Community Priority Two: Investment in our district
 - ☒ Community Priority Three: Well-being is valued
 - ☒ Community Priority Four: Our communities are resilient
 - ☒ Community Priority Five: Growth is sustained over time.

BACKGROUND

5. An LTP is Council's primary strategic planning document that will set the direction for the district over a 10-year period. The plan outlines the activities Council intends to undertake, confirm the level of service, as well as determine the infrastructure and financial investments required to support the outcomes sought.
6. Under the Local Government Act 2002, councils are required to adopt an LTP every three years. The 2027-2037 LTP must be adopted by 30 June 2027.
7. The current 2024-2034 LTP established Council's strategic priorities and investment programme to address the economic, legislative and infrastructure needs identified at that time. The development of the 2027-2037 LTP provides an opportunity to reassess current priorities, confirm future levels of service and ensure that planned investment remains aligned with the district's long-term needs.

OPTIONS

8. Two options are available to Council. Namely:
- a. Endorse the proposed 2027-2037 Long Term Plan Programme; or
 - b. To not endorse the proposed 2027-2037 Long Term Plan Programme.

OPTION 1: Endorse the proposed 2027-2037 Long Term Plan Programme	
Description	<i>Council endorses the proposed programme, governance structure and decision pathway for development of the 2027-2037 Long Term Plan.</i>
Advantages	<i>Provides clear direction for staff. Enables timely direction of statutory requirements.</i>
Disadvantages	<i>None identified.</i>
Impact on mana whenua	<i>Supports early engagement with iwi to understand priorities and aspirations that may help inform Long Term Plan development.</i>
Strategic alignment	<i>Supports all community priorities through the development of Council's primary strategic planning document.</i>

OPTION 1: Endorse the proposed 2027-2037 Long Term Plan Programme

Associated risks	<i>Legislative Change, programme delays may require adjustment to the proposed work programme.</i>
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OPTION 2: To not endorse the proposed 2027-2037 Long Term Plan Programme

Description	<i>Council does not endorse the proposed programme. Staff are requested to return with a revised approach.</i>
Advantages	<i>Provides Council with the opportunity to seek an alternative approach if members consider the programme does not adequately meet governance expectations, resource requirements, or strategic needs.</i>
Disadvantages	<i>May delay giving effect to key programme milestones, and place pressure on statutory timeframes.</i>
Impact on mana whenua	<i>Delays may postpone planned engagement activities with iwi.</i>
Strategic alignment	<i>May impact Council's ability to efficiently progress the development of its primary strategic planning document.</i>
Associated risks	<i>Delays to programme delivery could affect activity planning, financial modelling, audit review timeframes and Council's ability to meet legislative deadlines for adoption of the LTP.</i>

DISCUSSION

Ōpōtiki District Council's LTP Development

9. Preparation of the LTP is now underway through a structured programme of workshops, formal Council decision points, assurance reviews and statutory milestones (Appendix 1). The programme commences with the confirmation of key assumptions, before progressing the development of activity options, financial modelling, infrastructure and strategies, and the identification of significant projects. This staged approach is intended to ensure key decisions are informed by analysis and elected member oversight and direction throughout the process.
10. Assurance activities are embedded throughout the programme, with oversight provided through the Risk and Assurance Committee and external audit review process. Key milestones include the submission of the draft LTP documentation for audit, consideration of audit feedback, public consultation through the Special Consultative Procedure, hearings and deliberations, and final audit review. This process culminates in the adoption of the LTP by 30 June 2027.

Financial/budget considerations

11. Development of the LTP will be undertaken primarily using existing resources.

Policy and planning implications

12. The LTP is Council's primary strategic planning document and is required under the Local Government Act 2002. The programme will inform future activity management plans, infrastructure planning, financial strategies and future policy cycle reviews.

Impact on mana whenua

13. The development of the LTP will include engagement with iwi to understand their priorities, aspirations and shared areas of interest. This will help inform Council's long-term decision-making and support alignment between Council and Iwi.

Climate impact considerations

14. The development of the LTP will consider and incorporate Council's existing climate change commitments, strategic priorities and objectives.

Risks

15. There are several risks in the plan's development. Principally driven by the legislative and regulatory uncertainty. However, these will be monitored throughout the project's development.

Local government purpose considerations

16. The purpose of local government is to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and to meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality, cost-effective, and local infrastructure, public services, and the performance of regulatory functions; and to support local economic growth and development by fulfilling this purpose.
17. The subject matter of this report has been evaluated in terms of the meeting the purpose of local government during the process of developing this report as outlined below.

Good-quality, cost-effective, and local infrastructure

18. The LTP programme will inform infrastructure investment decisions over the next ten years by ensuring activity management planning, asset information and financial forecasting are considered as the plan develops.

Good-quality, cost-effective, and local public services

19. The programme provides a framework for reviewing levels of service and ensuring community expectations are balanced against affordability and long-term financial sustainability.

Good-quality, cost-effective, and local performance of regulatory functions

The programme supports Council in meeting its statutory planning obligations under the Local Government Act 2002 through a structured and compliant planning process.

Supports local economic growth and development

20. The LTP will identify infrastructure, service and investment priorities that contribute to the wider economic and community development outlook for the district over the 10-year period.

SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT ASSESSMENT

Assessment of significance

21. On every issue requiring a decision, Council is required to determine how significant a decision is to the community, and what the corresponding level of engagement should be. Council uses the Significance Flowchart in the Significance and Engagement Policy to determine the level of significance.
22. The level of significance related to the decision in this report is considered to be **low**. Because the decision is determined to have **low** significance in accordance with the policy, the corresponding level of engagement required is **Inform**.

Assessment of engagement

23. As the level of significance has been determined to be **low**, the level of engagement required is **Inform** according to the Engagement Framework of the Significance and Engagement Policy:

INFORM

To provide balanced and objective information to assist understanding about something that is going to happen.

24. The tools that Council will use for the 'Inform' level of engagement include a report in the public agenda of the Council meeting and may include a combination of public notices in the newspaper and/or on Council's social media.

CONCLUSION

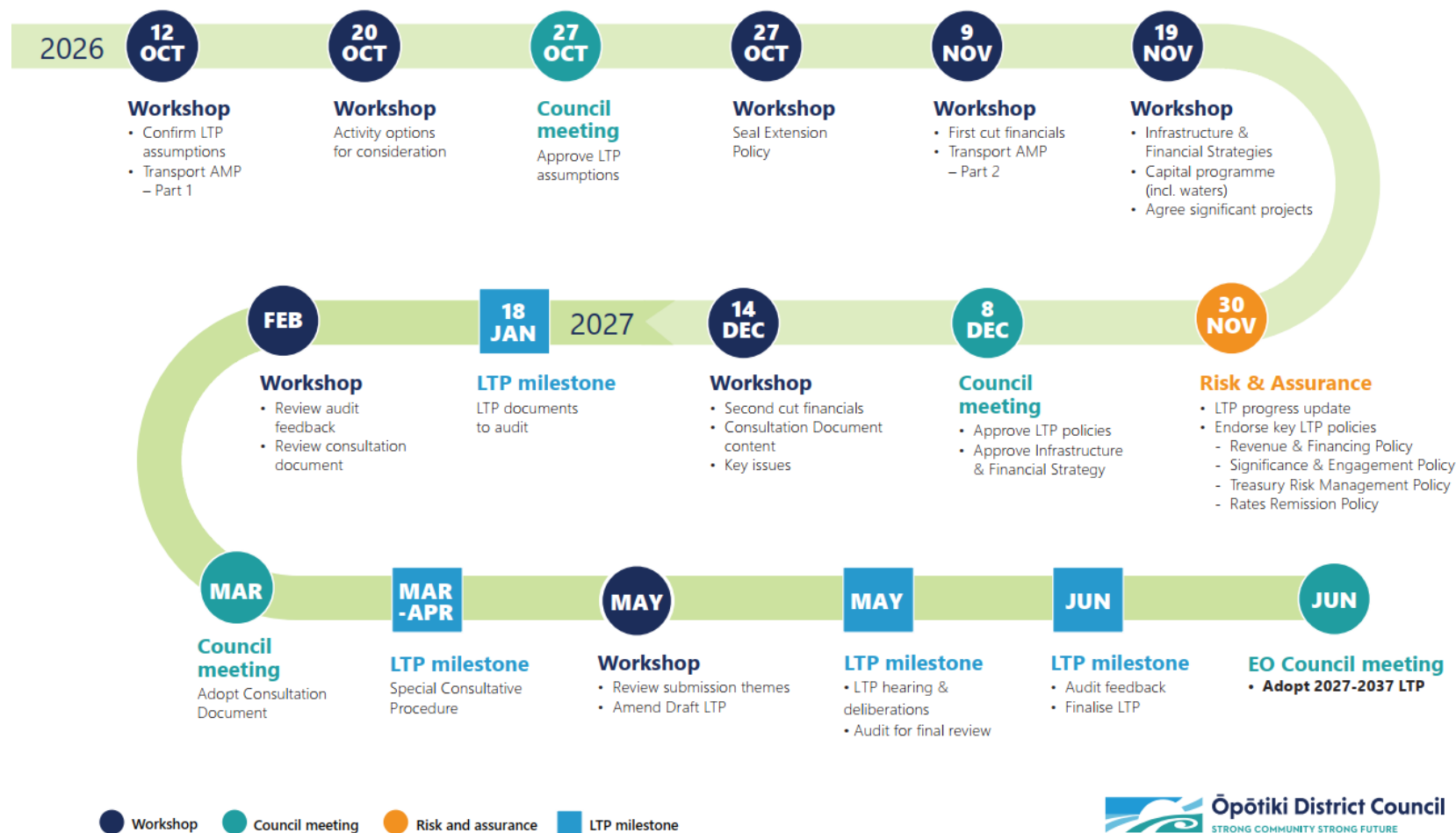
25. The proposed programme establishes a clear and structured pathway for the development of the 2027-2037 LTP. The plan incorporated key assurance milestones, enables meaningful elected member input, and supports future community engagement while ensuring Council remains on track to meet its statutory adoption deadline of 30 June 2027. Endorsing the programme will provide the foundation for the timely and effective development of Council's principal strategic planning document.

Joel Hingston

PRINCIPAL POLICY ADVISOR

Appendix 1 – 2027-2037 LTP key dates and decision pathway

2027-2037 Long Term Plan key dates and decision path



COUNCIL REPORT

Date : 19 October 2026

To : Ordinary Council Meeting, 27 October 2026

From : Principal Policy Advisor, Joel Hingston

Subject : **2027-2037 LTP – ENDORSEMENT OF KEY ASSUMPTIONS AND COMMUNITY PRIORITIES**

File ID : A1433198

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Preparation of the 2027-2037 Long Term Plan requires Council to establish both a set of significant forecasting assumptions and a strategic framework that will guide future planning and investment decisions. Together, these components provide the foundation for development of the draft 2027-2037 Long Term Plan.
- The proposed assumptions have been developed using the best information currently available and reflect Council's understanding of the key factors likely to influence the district over the next ten years.
- The report also presents a proposed set of community priorities and goals. Following a review of the current framework, the proposed framework maintains continuity with the 2024-2034 LTP while ensuring it remains relevant to the district's changing needs and aspirations.
- Endorsement of the key assumptions and community priorities does not commit Council to future funding, service levels or policy decisions. Rather, it confirms the basis upon which the draft 2027-2037 Long Term Plan will be prepared.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) **That the report titled "2027-2037 LTP – Endorsement of Key Assumptions and Community Priorities" be received.**
- 2) **That Council endorses the proposed 2027-2037 LTP Key Assumptions and Community Priorities.**

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement of the proposed significant forecasting assumptions and community priorities that will guide development of the 2027-2037 Long Term Plan (LTP). The report outlines the proposed assumptions and community priorities developed

through elected member workshops. Endorsement of these elements will provide a structural basis for future planning, investment analysis and decision-making as the LTP programme progresses.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

2. The matters detailed in this report relate to the following priorities from Ōpōtiki District Council's Long-Term Plan 2024-2034:
 - ☒ Community Priority One: Strong relationships and partners
 - ☒ Community Priority Two: Investment in our district
 - ☒ Community Priority Three: Well-being is valued
 - ☒ Community Priority Four: Our communities are resilient
 - ☒ Community Priority Five: Growth is sustained over time.

BACKGROUND

3. Preparation of the LTP requires Council to make assumptions regarding future conditions, growth, costs, service demands and infrastructure requirements. These assumptions provide the foundation for the financial, infrastructure and service delivery forecasts contained within the LTP and enables Council to assess future opportunities, risks and investment requirements over a ten-year period.
4. Under Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2002, councils are required to disclose the significant forecasting assumptions that underpin their financial estimates and identify the risks associated with those assumptions. Where uncertainty exists, councils must explain the nature of that uncertainty and the potential effect on forecasts.
5. Significant forecasting assumptions are not intended to predict future outcomes with certainty. Rather, they represent Council's best assessment of future conditions based on information available at the time the LTP is prepared. As circumstances change, assumptions are reviewed, tested and updated throughout the LTP development process to ensure forecasts remain reasonable and support informed decision-making.
6. Alongside this, Council has reviewed the community priorities and goals and have confirmed a preference to refine the existing priorities rather than develop a new framework. The proposed community priorities and goals provide a clear line of sight between community aspirations and strategic direction.
7. Endorsement of the assumptions and community priorities does not commit Council to future funding decisions, levels of service or policy positions. Rather, it confirms an agreed planning framework upon which staff can prepare the draft 2027-2037 LTP for Council consideration. As the programme continues to move forward, the assumptions and priorities will continue to be monitored and reconfirmed prior to the adoption of the final plan.

OPTIONS

8. Two options are available to Council:
- Endorse the proposed key assumptions and community priorities
 - Do not endorse the proposed key assumptions and community priorities.

OPTION 1: Endorse proposed Key Assumptions and Community Priorities.	
Description	<i>Council endorses the proposed Key Assumptions (Appendix 1) and community priorities (Appendix 2) as the planning framework for development of the 2027-2037 LTP.</i>
Advantages	<i>Provides a clear and consistent basis for financial modelling, infrastructure planning and activity management planning. Confirms the strategic direction that will guide future service delivery and investment decisions. Enables development of the draft LTP to continue in accordance with approved programme timeframes.</i>
Disadvantages	<i>There are no disadvantages associated with this option.</i>
Impact on mana whenua	<i>Enables ongoing incorporation of assumptions relating to partnerships with Iwi and Hapū.</i>
Strategic alignment	<i>Supports development of Council's primary strategic planning document and enables integrated consideration of infrastructure, service delivery and financial sustainability.</i>
Associated risks	<i>There are no risks associated with this option.</i>

OPTION 2: Do not endorse the proposed Key Assumptions and Community Priorities.	
Description	<i>Council does not endorse the proposed key assumptions and community priorities and directs staff to undertake further work before returning a revised framework for consideration.</i>
Advantages	<i>Provides an opportunity to undertake further analysis, testing or refinement before confirming the planning framework.</i>
Disadvantages	<i>May delay aspects of LTP development. Will also create uncertainty regarding the assumptions and strategic direction that will be applied.</i>
Impact on mana whenua	<i>May delay consideration of strategic priorities with respect to engagement with Iwi.</i>
Strategic alignment	<i>This option does strategically align with any priorities.</i>
Associated risks	<i>Delays in confirming assumptions and community priorities may compress future stages of the LTP programme and reduce the time available for testing assumptions, preparing supporting strategies and considering investment options.</i>

DISCUSSION

Proposed assumptions

9. The proposed key assumptions have been developed to provide an evidence-based foundation for the preparation of the LTP (Appendix 1). These items reflect the current understanding of the key factors that may influence Council's financial position and strategic priorities over the next ten years.
10. Several assumptions have been assessed as having a high level of uncertainty due to their reliance on external factors beyond Council's direct control. Changes in any of these areas could have a material impact on Council's financial forecasts, level of service, capital investment programme or funding requirements. In response, responsibility for monitoring these rests with assumption owners. If any changes are required, these will be brought back to Council for consideration.

Proposed community priorities

11. As part of the LTP development process, Council reviewed the existing community priorities and associated goals to determine whether they remain aligned with Council's strategic direction and the district's future needs. During a workshop in June 2026 on community priorities, Elected Members confirmed a preference to refine the existing priorities, rather than develop a new set.
12. The proposed list of communities have largely incorporated the aspirations of elected members while maintaining relevance to the community priorities adopted in the 2024-2034 LTP (Appendix 2). Together, these provide a clear line of sight between community aspirations, and future decisions around investment and service delivery and continuing to build on the work undertaken since the 2024-2034 LTP adoption.

Policy and planning implications

13. The proposed Key Assumptions and Community Priorities will inform development of the 2027-2037 LTP and its supporting strategies. Endorsement does not predetermine future policy positions, but establishes the planning framework that will be used to assess options and model scenarios.

Impact on mana whenua

14. The proposed community priorities recognise the importance of strong relationships and partnerships in achieving outcomes for the district. The assumptions framework also acknowledges the ongoing role of iwi and hapū in shaping the future of the district through strategic partnerships.

Climate impact considerations

15. The assumptions registrar includes specific consideration of climate change and recognises that climate-related impacts are likely to influence resilience planning and future investment decisions over the life of the LTP. Endorsement of the proposed assumptions will enable climate change considerations to be incorporated.

Risks

16. The purpose of the assumptions register is to identify and transparently communicate areas of uncertainty that may influence the LTP. Key risks identified within the register include water services reform, legislation change, inflation, affordability, external funding availability, climate change and natural hazard events. To manage this uncertainty, the assumptions will continue to be monitored, tested and updated as the plan's development progresses.

Local government purpose considerations

17. The purpose of local government is to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and to meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality, cost-effective, and local infrastructure, public services, and the performance of regulatory functions; and to support local economic growth and development by fulfilling this purpose.
18. The subject matter of this report has been evaluated in terms of the meeting the purpose of local government during the process of developing this report as outlined below.

Good-quality, cost-effective, and local infrastructure

19. The proposed assumptions and community priorities provide a framework for identifying the infrastructure investment required to support future growth over the next ten years.

Good-quality, cost-effective, and local public services

20. The community priorities establish the outcomes Council seeks to achieve for the district, while the assumptions framework supports consideration of future service demands and community expectations. Together, they provide a basis for reviewing levels of service and ensuring resources are directed towards areas of greatest community benefit.

Good-quality, cost-effective, and local performance of regulatory functions

21. The programme supports Council in meeting its statutory planning obligations under the Local Government Act 2002 through a structured and compliant planning process.

Supports local economic growth and development

22. The proposed community priorities recognise the importance of investment, partnerships and sustainable growth in supporting the district's future prosperity. The assumptions framework provides the basis for considering the infrastructure, services and investment necessary to support economic development opportunities across the district.

SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT ASSESSMENT

Assessment of significance

23. On every issue requiring a decision, Council is required to determine how significant a decision is to the community, and what the corresponding level of engagement should be. Council uses the Significance Flowchart in the Significance and Engagement Policy to determine the level of significance.
24. The level of significance related to the decision in this report is considered to be **low**. Because the decision is determined to have **low** significance in accordance with the policy, the corresponding level of engagement required is **Inform**.

Assessment of engagement

25. As the level of significance has been determined to be **low**, the level of engagement required is **Inform** according to the Engagement Framework of the Significance and Engagement Policy:

INFORM

To provide balanced and objective information to assist understanding about something that is going to happen.

26. The tools that Council will use for the 'Inform' level of engagement include a report in the public agenda of the Council meeting and may include a combination of public notices in the newspaper and/or on Council's social media.

CONCLUSION

27. The proposed key assumptions and community priorities provide a coherent framework for development of the 2027-2037 LTP. Together, they establish both the planning parameters and strategic direction to support future decision-making, financial forecasting, infrastructure planning and service delivery.
28. The proposed assumptions reflect Council's current understanding of the factors likely to influence the district over the next ten years, while the community priorities provide a clear expression of the outcomes Council is seeking to achieve for its communities. Although some material may be

reviewed and refined as additional information becomes available, endorsement of the proposed framework will provide certainty for the next phase of the LTP development, with final determination by Council on the community priorities and assumptions to be made in June 2027.

Joel Hingston

PRINCIPAL POLICY ADVISOR

Appendix 1 – Proposed Assumptions

Ref	Assumption	Assumption statement	Uncertainty	Risk to LTP	Financial impact	Service impact	Mitigation / management response
1	Water services delivery model	Council will continue to deliver water services under the Local Water Done Well framework. Responsibilities, funding arrangements, compliance expectations and delivery model settings may change during the LTP period.	High	High	High	High	Maintain live financial modelling, monitor reform settings, align water services strategy and infrastructure forecasts, and update Council as decisions are confirmed.
2	Central government reform	Legislative and policy reform affecting local government, planning, resource management, infrastructure, emergency management and environmental regulation will continue, but will not fundamentally remove Council's core role as a territorial authority.	High	High	Medium	Medium	Monitor Bills, regulations and sector guidance; prepare submissions where appropriate; update affected policies, AMPs and forecasts as requirements become clearer.
3	Population growth	District population growth expected to follow medium growth projection over the LTP period, with growth concentrated in areas where infrastructure capacity and land availability support development.	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Review Stats NZ, Infometrics and local building consent trends annually; test growth assumptions against infrastructure capacity and demand changes.
4	Demographic change	The district will continue to experience demographic shifts, including ageing, changing household composition and changing community expectations for access, mobility and service delivery.	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Incorporate demographic implications into activity planning, levels of service reviews, community facilities planning and accessibility improvements.
5	Inflation and price change	Operating and capital costs will increase in line with forecast inflation indices used for the LTP, including local government cost indices where available. Actual price movements may differ materially by activity and asset type.	High	High	High	Medium	Use recognised indices, apply annual forecast reviews, include contingencies for major projects, and update budgets where market evidence indicates material variance.
6	Interest rates and borrowing costs	Interest rates will fluctuate over the LTP period but remain within the range assumed in Council's treasury and financial forecasts.	Medium	High	High	Low	Maintain treasury monitoring, apply prudent debt management, review borrowing assumptions regularly, and test debt affordability through the Financial Strategy.

Ref	Assumption	Assumption statement	Uncertainty	Risk to LTP	Financial impact	Service impact	Mitigation / management response
7	Capital delivery market	Construction costs, contractor availability, materials supply and consultant capacity will be sufficient to deliver the capital programme, although timing and cost pressures may occur.	Medium	High	High	Medium	Stage projects where necessary, market test estimates, maintain contingency provisions, prioritise critical works and review deliverability through project governance.
8	NZTA funding assistance	NZ Transport Agency funding assistance rates and subsidy programmes will remain available at levels assumed in the LTP for eligible transport activities.	Medium	High	High	Medium	Align transport programme with GPS, RLTP and NLTP priorities; maintain evidence for investment cases; prepare local-share sensitivity analysis.
9	Useful lives and depreciation	The useful lives of Council assets and associated depreciation rates remain materially appropriate for forecasting renewals, depreciation expense and asset replacement needs.	Low	Medium	Medium	Low	Review useful lives through revaluations, condition assessments and AMP updates; adjust forecasts where asset performance differs from current assumptions.
10	Asset data quality	Asset condition, performance, quantity and cost data are sufficiently reliable to support renewal planning, investment prioritisation and infrastructure strategy forecasts.	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	Implement AMP improvement programme, prioritise critical asset data, record confidence grades and update forecasts as better information becomes available.
11	Workforce and capability	Council will be able to recruit, retain and access suitably qualified staff, contractors and specialist advisors required to deliver services, maintain compliance and implement the LTP work programme.	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Review workforce capacity, use shared services and external expertise where needed, sequence work programme and identify critical capability risks.
12	Climate change	Climate change impacts will occur progressively during the LTP period and can be managed through planned adaptation, resilience investment, risk-based asset management and emergency management arrangements.	High	High	High	High	Use climate scenarios in infrastructure planning, prioritise exposed assets, integrate adaptation into AMPs and monitor national/regional guidance.
13	Natural hazards and	The frequency and severity of natural hazard events will remain within the range considered in Council's risk, resilience,	High	High	High	High	Maintain CDEM readiness, insurance review, resilience planning and contingency response

Ref	Assumption	Assumption statement	Uncertainty	Risk to LTP	Financial impact	Service impact	Mitigation / management response
	emergency events	insurance and emergency management planning.					arrangements; prioritise lifeline and critical asset investment.
14	Insurance availability	Insurance cover will remain available for Council assets and activities, although premiums, excesses, exclusions and information requirements may increase.	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Complete annual insurance reviews, improve asset information, consider risk retention options and prioritise mitigation for exposed assets.
15	Economic activity and harbour-related growth	Economic activity associated with the harbour, aquaculture, horticulture, tourism and primary industries will continue to support district growth and influence demand for infrastructure and services.	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Monitor economic indicators, harbour activity, employment trends and infrastructure demand; align economic development actions with transport, reserves and town centre planning.
16	External funding	External grants, subsidies, co-funding and partnership funding assumed in the LTP will be available for projects where they have been specifically identified in financial forecasts.	High	High	High	Medium	Separate committed and uncommitted funding, prepare sensitivity scenarios, maintain grant pipeline monitoring and identify alternative delivery options if funding is not secured.
17	Technology and cybersecurity	Council's technology systems, digital infrastructure and cybersecurity controls will remain fit for purpose and capable of supporting service delivery, financial management and statutory reporting.	Medium	Medium	Medium	High	Maintain ICT investment plan, cybersecurity controls, backup and business continuity arrangements, and monitor system risks through governance reporting.
18	Affordability and rating capacity	Council can fund planned levels of service and investment while maintaining rates, debt and user charges within affordability thresholds that are acceptable to the community and consistent with the Financial Strategy.	High	High	High	High	Use affordability modelling, staged investment, levels of service choices, rates smoothing and clear consultation material on trade-offs.
19	Iwi, hapu and partnership arrangements	Partnerships with iwi, hapu, neighbouring councils, government agencies and community organisations will continue to support delivery of Council's strategic objectives and statutory obligations.	Medium	Medium	Low	Medium	Maintain early engagement, clarify roles and expectations, resource partnership commitments and reflect agreed priorities in activity plans.

Ref	Assumption	Assumption statement	Uncertainty	Risk to LTP	Financial impact	Service impact	Mitigation / management response
20	Activity management planning maturity	Activity Management Plans will continue to improve and provide sufficient evidence to support the Infrastructure Strategy, Financial Strategy, levels of service decisions and audit review.	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	Maintain AMP ownership matrix, improvement programme, peer review and QA gates; align AMPs to LTP assumptions and financial forecasts.

Appendix 2 – 2027-2037 Proposed Community Priorities

Five community priorities

1	Strong relationships and partners	Genuine relationships with iwi and hapū, community groups and stakeholders.
2	Investment in our district	Advocate for and attract high-quality investment across the district.
3	Well-being is valued	Value well-being, toi ora and engagement now and into the future.
4	Our communities are resilient	Support informed decisions about resilience and adaptation.
5	Growth is sustained over time	Plan for a future-focused district that is ready for growth.

The goals

1	Strong relationships and partners	• Enhance relationship with our partners • Our service delivery supports shared outcomes with our partners • Advocate and influence with our partners for our community
2	Investment in our district	• Develop plans that support investment and are future focused • We are prepared to act on opportunities that support investment for our community • Our returns on investment benefit the community
3	Well-being is valued	• Enhance our spaces and places to deliver community outcomes • We support equitable decision making to enhance the community • We provide services that support the community
4	Our communities are resilient	• Address risks to our community with our partners • Critical strategic infrastructure is planned and prioritised • Our emergency management is read and responsive to support the community
5	Growth is sustained over time	• Land use changes are appropriate • Infrastructure responds to and supports growth • Growth strengthens our economy, communities and quality of life

COUNCIL REPORT

Date : 7 October 2026
To : Ordinary Council Meeting, 27 October 2026
From : Asset Manager, Jessica Wiseman
Subject : **APPROVAL OF LOCAL SHARE ALLOCATION FOR MINOR IMPROVEMENTS**
File ID : A1433334

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The available local share for minor improvements is \$677,651 across 2025/26 and 2026/27; \$620,000 is allocated to Motu Road Ford, Ōhiwa Beach Road resilience, Waioatahe Beach Detour and Resurfacing 2027, leaving \$57,651 available.
- Council has secured additional Low Risk Programme funding for 2024–2027, increasing the 2027 resurfacing programme from \$409,000 to \$1.101 million.
- Formal approval is sought to allocate the existing local share across the identified projects so Council can maximise subsidy, improve resilience and deliver resurfacing outcomes earlier.
- Approval is also sought to allocate the remaining \$57,651 local share towards carpark improvements within the district, with the final location(s) and scope to be confirmed following further assessment and consideration of district priorities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. **That the report titled “Approval of Local Share Allocation for Minor Improvements” be received.**
2. **That Council approves the reallocation and bundling of \$620,000 of local share for minor improvements to Motu Road Ford (\$14,400), Ōhiwa Beach Road resilience (\$57,600), Waioatahe Beach Detour (\$375,000), and the 2027 resurfacing programme (\$173,000), noting a remaining local share balance of \$57,651.**
3. **That Council approves the allocation of the remaining \$57,651 local share funding towards carpark improvements within the district.**

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to obtain formal Council approval to reallocate and bundle the local share for minor improvements across the projects discussed at the workshop, confirm the associated increase to the 2027 resurfacing programme, and allocate the remaining local share

towards carpark improvements within the district while retaining flexibility over the final location(s) and scope of works.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

2. The matters detailed in this report relate to the following priorities from Ōpōtiki District Council's Long-Term Plan 2024-2034:
3. ☒ Community Priority One: Strong relationships and partners
4. ☒ Community Priority Two: Investment in our district
☐ Community Priority Three: Wellbeing is valued
5. ☒ Community Priority Four: Our communities are resilient
6. ☒ Community Priority Five: Growth is sustained over time

BACKGROUND

7. The Long-Term Plan 2024–2034 provides local share for minor improvements of \$337,338 in 2025/26 and \$340,313 in 2026/27, totalling \$677,651.
8. At the 'Local Share Minor Improvements' workshop on 25 March 2026, the following funding allocations were presented:
 - Motu Road Ford, Total budget \$120,000, Local Share \$14,400
 - Ōhiwa Beach Road resilience, Total budget \$480,000, Local Share \$57,600
 - Waiotahe Beach Detour, Total budget \$1,500,000, Local Share \$375,000
 - Resurfacing 2027, Total budget \$692,000, Local Share \$173,000

(As shown in appendix A)
9. These allocations total \$620,000 and leave a remaining local share balance of \$57,651.
10. Council subsequently secured additional Low Risk Programme funding which increase the 2027 resurfacing programme from \$409,000 to \$1.101 million without requiring additional local share funding.

OPTIONS

11. Three options have been assessed. Option 1 is preferred because it implements the workshop direction, retains the existing overall local-share budget, supports approved external funding and improves delivery outcomes.

OPTION 1: Approve the proposed reallocation and bundling (preferred)

Description	Approve \$620,000 of local share across Motu Road Ford, Ōhiwa Beach Road resilience, Waiotahe Beach Detour and Resurfacing 2027, and allocate the remaining \$57,651 towards carpark improvements within the district. The final
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OPTION 1: Approve the proposed reallocation and bundling (preferred)

	<i>carpark location(s) and scope would be confirmed following further assessment and consideration of district priorities.</i>
Advantages	<i>Implements the workshop direction; maximises approved subsidy; advances resilience and safety projects; enables full delivery of the 2024-27 resurfacing programme; remains within approved local-share provision.</i>
Disadvantages	<i>None identified.</i>
Impact on mana whenua	<i>No specific impact is identified from the funding decision itself. Project-level engagement and statutory processes will continue where works may affect sites or matters of significance to mana whenua.</i>
Strategic alignment	<i>Supports strong partnerships, investment in the district, resilient communities and sustained growth.</i>
Associated risks	<i>Construction cost escalation and delivery capacity may affect scope or timing; these risks can be managed through programme prioritisation, procurement and ongoing budget monitoring.</i>

OPTION 2: Approve a different allocation

Description	<i>Approve a revised distribution of the available local share among the four identified projects.</i>
Advantages	<i>Allows Council to change priorities or retain a larger contingency.</i>
Disadvantages	<i>May reduce planned project scope, delay delivery, or weaken alignment with approved external funding and the workshop outcome.</i>
Impact on mana whenua	<i>Impacts would depend on which projects are reduced or deferred; project-level engagement would still be required where relevant.</i>
Strategic alignment	<i>Could support the same priorities, but with less certainty of achieving the planned resilience and resurfacing outcomes.</i>
Associated risks	<i>A changed allocation may require programme or funding approvals to be revisited and could result in lost subsidy or delayed procurement.</i>

OPTION 3: Do not approve the reallocation (status quo)

Description	<i>Retain the current unbundled local-share position and take no formal allocation decision at this meeting.</i>
Advantages	<i>None identified.</i>
Disadvantages	<i>We lose the opportunity and funds approved from NZTA subsidy. Local economy losses and our level of service may drop.</i>
Impact on mana whenua	<i>No direct impact from retaining the status quo, but delayed resilience and access improvements may defer benefits for affected communities.</i>

OPTION 3: Do not approve the reallocation (status quo)

Strategic alignment	<i>Provides weaker alignment with investment, resilience and sustainable growth priorities.</i>
Associated risks	<i>Risk of delayed delivery, rising costs, reduced resurfacing outcomes and inefficient use of available subsidy.</i>

DISCUSSION

12. Option 1 is recommended because it delivers the workshop direction and makes the best use of available subsidy funding. It allocates \$620,000 of local share to Motu Road Ford, Ōhiwa Beach Road resilience, Waiotaha Beach Detour and Resurfacing 2027, and allocates the remaining \$57,651 towards carpark improvements within the district. This funding supports key resilience, safety and connectivity projects, enables delivery of the full 2024-27 resurfacing programme, and stays within Council's approved local-share budget. Flexibility over the final carpark location(s) and scope will allow Council to respond to further assessment and district priorities. Any risks relating to project costs or delivery can be managed through normal programme and budget monitoring.

Allocation of Remaining Local Share

13. It is proposed that the remaining \$57,651 local share funding be allocated towards carpark improvements within the district. Potential opportunities identified for further consideration include the Wharf carpark and Moody Place, including sealing improvements where appropriate.
14. These locations are indicative only. Retaining flexibility in the allocation will allow the final site(s) and scope of works to be confirmed following further assessment and consideration of district priorities, including any alternative priority that may emerge through Council discussion.

Financial/budget considerations

15. The Long-Term Plan 2024–2034 provides \$677,651 of local share funding for minor improvements across 2025/26 and 2026/27. This report recommends allocating \$620,000 of that funding to Motu Road Ford, Ōhiwa Beach Road resilience, Waiotaha Beach Detour, and the 2027 resurfacing programme, and allocating the remaining \$57,651 towards carpark improvements within the district. The final location(s) and scope of the carpark works would be confirmed following further assessment and consideration of district priorities.
16. Council has secured an additional \$692,000 through the Low Risk Programme, increasing the 2027 resurfacing programme from \$409,000 to \$1.101 million. This additional funding does not increase the approved local share provision, but enables Council to maximise available subsidy funding and deliver more resurfacing work within the existing local share budget.

Policy and planning implications

17. The preferred option is consistent with the Long-Term Plan 2024–2034, which already provides the local share and the planned Maintenance, Operations and Renewals programme. It supports Council's priorities for partnerships, district investment, resilient communities and sustained growth. No significant inconsistency with Council policy or planning documents has been identified from the information available.

Impact on mana whenua

18. No specific adverse impact on mana whenua has been identified from the funding reallocation itself. The projects include works affecting access, roads and coastal resilience; therefore, any required project-specific engagement and statutory assessment should continue through design and delivery, including consideration of relationships with ancestral land, water, sites and taonga.

Climate impact considerations

19. The proposed programme strengthens resilience to weather-related disruption and coastal impacts, particularly through the Ōhiwa Beach Road and Waiotahe Beach Detour projects. Resurfacing and pre-seal repairs also support the long-term durability of the network. Detailed climate and environmental effects will continue to be managed at project level.

Risks

20. Key risks are further construction-cost escalation, delivery-capacity constraints, changes to eligibility or timing of subsidy, and project delays. These risks may reduce scope or defer benefits. Mitigations include bundling work where efficient, confirming funding conditions before commitment, applying normal procurement and project controls, prioritising critical scope, and monitoring expenditure and delivery against the approved programme. Not approving the allocation presents a greater risk of delay, foregone subsidy and continued deterioration.

Local government purpose considerations

21. The purpose of local government is to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and to meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality, cost-effective, and local infrastructure, public services, and the performance of regulatory functions; and to support local economic growth and development by fulfilling this purpose.
22. The subject matter of this report has been evaluated in terms of the meeting the purpose of local government during the process of developing this report as outlined below.

Good-quality, Cost-effective and Local Infrastructure

23. The proposed funding allocations support delivery of transport infrastructure improvements and renewals that enhance network resilience, safety and accessibility while maximising available external subsidy funding.

Good-quality, Cost-effective and Local Public Services

24. Improved network reliability and resilience supports provision of safe and effective transport services for residents, businesses and visitors.

Good-quality, Cost-effective and Local Performance of Regulatory Functions

25. The proposed funding allocations do not alter Council's regulatory functions. Delivery of projects will continue in accordance with statutory requirements and funding conditions.

Supports Local Economic Growth and Development

26. Improved transport connectivity and road condition support movement of people, goods and services and contribute to economic activity across the district.

SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT ASSESSMENT

Assessment of significance

27. On every issue requiring a decision, Council is required to determine how significant a decision is to the community, and what the corresponding level of engagement should be. Council uses the Significance Flowchart in the Significance and Engagement Policy to determine the level of significance.
28. The level of significance related to this decision is considered to be **low**. The decision reallocates funding already approved through the Long-Term Plan, does not increase total local share expenditure, does not transfer a strategic asset and is not expected to significantly change levels of service or impacts on ratepayers. The corresponding level of engagement is Inform.

Assessment of engagement

29. As the level of significance has been determined to be **low**, the level of engagement required is **Inform** according to the Engagement Framework of the Significance and Engagement Policy.

INFORM

To provide balanced and objective information to assist understanding about something that is going to happen.

30. The tools that Council will use for the 'Inform' level of engagement include a report in the public agenda of the Council meeting and may include a combination of public notices in the newspaper and/or on Council's social media.

CONCLUSION

31. Approval of Option 1 will formalise the workshop direction by allocating \$620,000 of the \$677,651 local share already provided through the Long-Term Plan across Motu Road Ford, Ōhiwa Beach Road resilience, Waiotahe Beach Detour and the 2027 resurfacing programme, and allocating the remaining \$57,651 towards carpark improvements within the district. The Wharf carpark and Moody Place are indicative opportunities only; the final location(s) and scope will be confirmed following further assessment and consideration of district priorities. This will advance resilience, safety, access and network-renewal outcomes without increasing Council's approved local-share provision.

Jessica Wiseman

ASSET MANAGER

Appendix A

Extract from the workshop PowerPoint presentation



Where Council's local share has been allocated

Budget:				
ODC Local Share Minor Improvements 626101.223				
	2026		\$ 337,338.00	
	2027		\$ 340,313.00	
Total			\$ 677,651.00	
Funds Allocated:				
Project	Total Budget	FAR	Local Share	NZTA Programme/Approval
Motu Rd Ford	\$ 120,000.00	88%	\$ 14,400.00	Crown Resilience Programme, 4 Oct 2024
Ohiwa Beach Rd Resilience	\$ 480,000.00	88%	\$ 57,600.00	Crown Resilience Programme, 4 Oct 2024
Waiotaha Beach Detour	\$ 1,500,000.00	75%	\$ 375,000.00	Targeted Fund, 11 Apr 2025
Resurfacing 2027	\$ 692,000.00	75%	\$ 173,000.00	MOR Programme 15 Dec 2025
			\$ 620,000.00	
Balance for allocation	\$ 230,604.00	75%	\$ 57,651.00	

COUNCIL REPORT

Date : 19 October 2026

To : Ordinary Council Meeting, 27 October 2026

From : Group Manager Service Delivery, Nathan Hughes

Subject : **CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME – RENEWAL OF A CRITICAL SECTION OF THE WATER MAIN TO ŌPŌTIKI TOWNSHIP**

File ID : A1434078

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the option to advance up to \$400,000 of capital works budget from later years of the LTP to Year 3 (2026/27) of the current 3-Year phase to provide adequate budget to replace a failing section of water main along Otara Road that supplies water from the treatment plant to the Ōpōtiki network.
- \$1.6m was brought forward for this project in the 2026/27 Annual Plan based on an engineer's estimate. Since this estimate the cost of pipe has increased, and connections have been added to the scope so the renewed water main can be brought online as the primary water main, with the existing water main retained as a backup.
- The current budget may be adequate; however, it leaves no contingency funding available. This contingency is especially important for this project as there are risks associated with construction costs with connecting the renewed water main with ageing fittings and pipes. Hence this request is being made to provide for contingency funding for the project if needed.
- This does not increase the total LTP budget allocation. The current LTP identified the replacement of 5.8km of the water main over a 30-year period. Of this \$2.18m was allocated for years 4-10 of the LTP, with a further \$6.8m earmarked for years 11-30. The same level of investment has also been committed to with the Water Services Delivery Plan of a 10-year period.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) **That the report titled "Capital Works Programme – Renewal of a Critical Section of the Water Main to Ōpōtiki Township" be received.**
- 2) **That Council approve advancing up to \$400,000 from later years of the LTP to the 2026/27 budget as contingency funding for renewing the water main connecting the water treatment plant to the Ōpōtiki network.**

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the option to advance up to \$400,000 of capital works budget to support the renewal of ~2.1km of the water main that supplies water from the treatment plant to the Ōpōtiki network

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

2. The matters detailed in this report relate to the following priorities from Ōpōtiki District Council's Long-Term Plan 2024-2034:
 - ☐ Community Priority One: Strong relationships and partners
 - ☒ Community Priority Two: Investment in our district
 - ☐ Community Priority Three: Well-being is valued
 - ☒ Community Priority Four: Our communities are resilient
 - ☒ Community Priority Five: Growth is sustained over time.

BACKGROUND

3. The budgets allocated in the 2024–2034 LTP, while based on the best available information at the time, can become outdated. It is therefore important to regularly review the programme to identify opportunities to improve delivery, achieve better value for ratepayers, and incorporate new details and insights to guide spending decisions.
4. The Asset Management and Project Delivery teams undertook an investigation to identify the highest priority areas in the water supply network for renewals and improvements.
5. The water main along Otara Road, southeast of Ōpōtiki township connecting the treatment plant to the Ōpōtiki network was identified as the highest priority. This water main pipeline is the only feed of treated water to Ōpōtiki township, and it has experienced multiple failures. Given the main's critical role and ongoing risk of further failure, there is a clear need to develop a replacement strategy which should also include planning to enhance overall system resilience.

OPTIONS

OPTION 1: Advance the contingency budget to renew the water main	
Description	<i>Provide approval for the advancement of up to \$400,000 in contingency funding for this project from later years of the LTP into Year 3 (2026/27) of the current 3-Year phase to renew the water main along Otara Road.</i>
Advantages	<i>Increases the resilience of the water supply network. Reduces the risk of loss of drinking water to Ōpōtiki Township.</i>

OPTION 1: Advance the contingency budget to renew the water main

Disadvantages	<i>No disadvantages.</i>
Impact on mana whenua	<i>No impacts identified other than the advantages, disadvantages and risks mentioned.</i>
Strategic alignment	<i>Aligns with the Long-Term Plan intent to implement effective asset management practices.</i>
Associated risks	<i>Addresses risks associated with the deteriorating existing water main.</i>

OPTION 2: Do not approve

Description	<i>Do not provide approval for the advancement of up to \$400,000 in contingency funding for this project from later years of the LTP into Year 3 (2026/27) of the current 3-Year phase to renew the water main along Otara Road.</i>
Advantages	<i>There are no identified advantages for this option.</i>
Disadvantages	<i>This option will not realise the advantages identified in Option 01.</i>
Impact on mana whenua	<i>No impacts identified other than the advantages, disadvantages and risks mentioned</i>
Strategic alignment	<i>Does not align with the Long-Term Plan intent to implement effective asset management practices.</i>
Associated risks	<i>Risks being exposed to economic and safety risks from deteriorating water main.</i>

DISCUSSION

6. \$1.6m of this budget was brought forward as part of the approved 2026/27 annual plan. This was based on an engineer's estimate of costs. However, since this estimate was generated, further development of the project has advanced, the cost of pipe has increased, and connections have added to the scope so the renewed water main can be brought online as the primary water main, with the existing water main retained as a backup. The current budget may be adequate; however, it leaves no contingency funding available. Hence this request is being made to provide for contingency funding of up to \$400k for the project.
7. This does not increase the total LTP budget allocation. The current LTP identified the replacement of 5.8km of the water main over a 30-year period. Of this \$2.18m was allocated for years 4-10 of the LTP, with a further \$6.8m earmarked for years 11-30. The same level of investment has also been committed to with the Water Services Delivery Plan of a 10-year period.

Financial/budget considerations

8. The proposed recommendations would have no effect on rating and no material difference to organisational costs. There will be enough 'head room' through delayed expenditure in other projects to cover the costs of this project including the requested contingency.
9. However, as highlighted there are expected longer term positive benefits by implementing good implementing good asset management practices in renewing and upgrading the existing water supply assets.

Policy and planning implications

10. There were no Policy or Planning implications identified in the preparation of this report

Impact on mana whenua

11. There were no mana whenua implications identified in the preparation of this report

Climate impact considerations

12. The implementation of a staged (planning, communication, then actioning) approach to programme delivery will enable ŌDC to locate and adopt opportunities to have positive impact on the climate and minimise any potential unfavourable impacts.

Risks

13. The reliability of project delivery at ŌDC has been acknowledged as a critical area for enhancement, receiving focused attention and commitment from both Council and staff to drive continuous improvement and strengthened outcomes.
14. By adopting the proposed changes, ŌDC will be in a stronger position to meet its stated goals of reliability, consistency, and effective self-performance in delivering the expected benefits from its capital projects.
15. If this project doesn't have adequate contingency budget, it is at risk of not being completed, with associated risks to the supply of drinking water to Ōpōtiki Township.

Local government purpose considerations

16. The purpose of local government is to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and to meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality, cost-effective, and local infrastructure, public services, and the performance of regulatory functions; and to support local economic growth and development by fulfilling this purpose.

17. The subject matter of this report has been evaluated in terms of the meeting the purpose of local government during the process of developing this report as outlined below.
18. This project is important to increase the resilience and reliability of the water supply to Ōpōtiki Township.

SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT ASSESSMENT

Assessment of significance

19. On every issue requiring a decision, Council is required to determine how significant a decision is to the community, and what the corresponding level of engagement should be. Council uses the Significance Flowchart in the Significance and Engagement Policy to determine the level of significance.
20. The level of significance related to the decision in this report is considered to be **low**. Because the decision is determined to have **low** significance in accordance with the policy, the corresponding level of engagement required is **Inform**.

Assessment of engagement

21. As the level of significance has been determined to be **low**, the level of engagement required is **Inform** according to the Engagement Framework of the Significance and Engagement Policy:

INFORM

To provide balanced and objective information to assist understanding about something that is going to happen.

22. The tools that Council will use for the 'Inform' level of engagement include a report in the public agenda of the Council meeting and may include a combination of public notices in the newspaper and/or on Council's social media.

CONCLUSION

23. Providing the option to advance the budget to deliver this project will help resolve a known issue, increase the resilience of the water supply network, and continue momentum with renewals and improvements to critical infrastructure.
24. This proactive approach aligns with the Performance and Delivery Committee's strategy to improve capital works delivery.
25. There will be minimal short-term impact on ratepayers due to this project as there will be sufficient available headroom in the 2026/27 budget.

Nathan Hughes

GROUP MANAGER SERVICE DELIVERY

COUNCIL REPORT

Date : 9 October 2026
To : Ordinary Council Meeting, 27 October 2026
From : Strategy and Policy Manager, Michael Fryer
Subject : **BAY OF PLENTY PLAY, ACTIVE RECREATION AND SPORT STRATEGY**
File ID : A1430529

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The Bay of Plenty Play, Active Recreation and Sport (PARS) Strategy 2026-2036 provides a regional framework to improve participation in play, active recreation and sport across the Bay of Plenty.
- The strategy recognises challenges faced by the district and seeks to promote locally-led approaches to improving participation.
- The strategy complements the Spaces and Places Strategies adopted by Council in 2025 and is intended to inform future planning and investment decisions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) **That the report titled " Bay of Plenty Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy" be received.**
- 2) **That Council adopts the Bay of Plenty Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy.**

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the development of the Bay of Plenty Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy (Appendix 1) and to seek adoption of the plan to guide Council's implementation that will help inform future planning and investment decisions.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

2. The matters detailed in this report relate to the following priorities from Ōpōtiki District Council's Long-Term Plan 2024-2034:
 - ☐ Community Priority One: Strong relationships and partners
 - ☒ Community Priority Two: Investment in our district
 - ☒ Community Priority Three: Well-being is valued

- ☐ Community Priority Four: Our communities are resilient
- ☐ Community Priority Five: Growth is sustained over time

BACKGROUND

3. The Bay of Plenty Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy 2026-2036 (PARS) was commissioned by Sport Bay of Plenty and prepared by RSL Consultancy. The strategy provides a regional framework intended to increase participation in play, active recreation and sport and support improved wellbeing outcomes across the Bay of Plenty Communities.
4. Governance of the strategy was provided through a regional Steering Group comprising all six Bay of Plenty territorial authorities, Sport Bay of Plenty, and Sport New Zealand. A mana whenua advisory group was also stood up to support the strategy development.
5. The strategy complements the regional and local Spaces and Places strategies adopted by Council in April 2025. While these focused primarily on infrastructure provision, facility development and long-term investment priorities. The PARS strategy focuses on participation outcomes, reducing barriers to access, strengthening partnerships and improving community well-being. In effect, the strategies provide a complementary framework that can help inform future Long-Term Plan and Annual Plan decision-making.
6. The strategy proposes nine priority action areas:
 - Strengthening regional collaboration and implementation.
 - Building partnerships with hapū, iwi and Māori organisations.
 - Removing barriers to participation.
 - Building partnerships across health, education and community sectors.
 - Strengthening workforce capability.
 - Delivering more inclusive and participant-centred programmes.
 - Activating spaces and places.
 - Increasing awareness and promotion.
 - Improving policy and planning settings that support active lifestyles.
7. Should Council resolve to adopt the strategy, implementation will be coordinated through a Bay of Plenty-wide PARS implementation network led by Sport Bay of Plenty and community partners. Council's role will be to participate and support implementation where activities align with existing priorities and work programmes. Any Council involvement will be accommodated within existing operational budgets.

OPTIONS

OPTION 1: Agree to adopt the Bay of Plenty Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy	
Description	<i>Adopt the Bay of Plenty Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy.</i>
Advantages	• <i>Supports a coordinated regional approach to improving well-being.</i> • <i>Complements the existing Spaces and Places Strategies.</i> • <i>Supports Long Term Plan considerations.</i> • <i>Enables continued participation in implementation and regional initiatives.</i>
Disadvantages	<i>May create community assumptions regarding future investment, although all funding decisions remain subject to Council Long Term Plan and Annual Plan processes.</i>
Impact on mana whenua	<i>Minimal impact. Mana whenua may be engaged when undertaking specific projects.</i>
Strategic alignment	<i>Investment in our district.</i> <i>Well-being is valued.</i>
Associated risks	<i>None identified.</i>

OPTION 2: Agree to not adopt the Bay of Plenty Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy	
Description	<i>Council will not be bound to give effect to any implementation points as developed in the plan.</i>
Advantages	<i>None identified.</i>
Disadvantages	<i>Reduces alignment with regional partners.</i> <i>Limits Council's influence over future implementation discussions.</i>
Impact on mana whenua	<i>There is no direct impact on Mana Whenua. However, not aligning with a regional framework that promotes strengthened partnerships with iwi and hapū to improve participation may send the wrong signal.</i>
Strategic alignment	<i>None identified.</i>
Associated risks	<i>Moderate strategic risk through reduced regional alignment.</i>

DISCUSSION

Relevance for Ōpōtiki

- Engagement from the Ōpōtiki district had been strong throughout the plan's development. This included two workshops with the community, which were well attended by parties within the town and members of the Coast communities.
- Engagement from the Ōpōtiki district was strong throughout the development of the strategy. This included two well-attended community workshops involving representatives from local sports

organisations, schools, iwi and wider community stakeholders. Participation was also received from communities along the Coast.

10. Key issues that emerged through consultation were

- Travel distance and transport requirements have been identified as significant barriers to participation. With affordability continue to impact participation opportunities.
- The district has a significant Māori population and therefore has an important interest in approaches that support Māori well-being and participation.

11. To address this, the strategy specifically references the need for local delivery approaches, travel reduction initiatives and community-led solution. As a starting point, the strategy highlights Ōpōtiki Taki Hīkoi as an excellent standard for collaboration between Council and iwi – ensuring culturally grounded opportunities are developed for active participation.

Financial/budget considerations

12. There are no immediate financial implications associated with adopting this strategy. Any future initiatives requiring Council funding would be subject to separate processes.

Policy and planning implications

13. The strategy may inform future Long Term Plan and Annual Plan processes.

Impact on mana whenua

14. The strategy was developed with input from Iwi. This included actions relating to design, delivery and participation opportunities.

Climate impact considerations

15. The strategy encourages increased participation within natural environments and supports planning approaches that consider environmental sustainability and climate resilience.

Risks

16. No associated risks with the decision sought.

Local government purpose considerations

17. The purpose of local government is to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and to meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality, cost-effective, and local infrastructure, public services, and the performance of regulatory functions; and to support local economic growth and development by fulfilling this purpose.

18. The subject matter of this report has been evaluated in terms of the meeting the purpose of local government during the process of developing this report as outlined below.

Good-quality, cost-effective, and local infrastructure

19. The PARS strategy provides a regional framework to help guide future investment in play, active recreation and sport assets. This will support Council to make informed decisions about the planning, development and use of recreation infrastructure.

Good-quality, cost-effective, and local public services

20. The PARS strategy supports the delivery of community and recreation facilities, which are recognised as a core function of local government.

Good-quality, cost-effective, and local performance of regulatory functions

21. The PARS strategy will help inform future planning and policy decisions relating to recreation, open space and community infrastructure provision.

Supports local economic growth and development

22. The PARS strategy supports local economic growth by encouraging investment in recreation assets and facilities that contribute to community development.

SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT ASSESSMENT

Assessment of significance

23. On every issue requiring a decision, Council is required to determine how significant a decision is to the community, and what the corresponding level of engagement should be. Council uses the Significance Flowchart in the Significance and Engagement Policy to determine the level of significance.
24. The level of significance related to the decision in this report is considered to be **low**. Because the decision is determined to have **low** significance in accordance with the policy, the corresponding level of engagement required is **Inform**.

Assessment of engagement

25. As the level of significance has been determined to be **low**, the level of engagement required is **Inform** according to the Engagement Framework of the Significance and Engagement Policy:

INFORM

To provide balanced and objective information to assist understanding about something that is going to happen.

26. The tools that Council will use for the 'Inform' level of engagement include a report in the public agenda of the Council meeting and may include a combination of public notices in the newspaper and/or on Council's social media.

CONCLUSION

27. The Bay of Plenty PARS Strategy provides a regionally developed, evidence-based framework for increasing participation in play, active recreation and sport and improving wellbeing outcomes across the region.
28. The strategy complements Council's existing Spaces and Places Strategies and focuses on providing for increased recreational participation.
29. Endorsing the strategy signals Council's support for a coordinated regional approach to enhancing health, well-being and strengthening partnerships to improve participation outcomes. While preserving Council's ability to determine future priorities and investment through statutory processes.

Michael Fryer

STRATEGY AND POLICY MANAGER



Bay of Plenty Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy 2026-2036

Prepared for: Sport Bay of Plenty

Prepared by: Recreation Sport Leisure Consultancy



Document Information and Acknowledgements

Document version: Final

Date: 6 July 2026

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Acknowledgements

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Tania Humberston – Kawerau District Council
Ian Molony – Whakatāne District Council
Scott Parker, Samantha Pottage – Western Bay of Plenty District Council
Amy Taylor – Tauranga City Council

With Thanks To:

Iwi and mana whenua representatives, key agencies including Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Department of Conservation, Bay Venues, health agencies and education providers. Community members and stakeholder groups who completed surveys and attended workshops to help inform the strategy. All other Sport Bay of Plenty staff who supported the strategy development process through sharing their knowledge, insights and time to help facilitate stakeholder engagement.

Cover image: Parafed Bay of Plenty

Internal Images: Sport Bay of Plenty and Parafed Bay of Plenty.



About RSL Consultancy

RSL Consultancy undertakes projects and offers strategic advice throughout Aotearoa to enable community well-being. We support organisations to make informed decisions when it comes to their people, facilities, places and spaces. RSL carries out a range of pre-planning work from needs assessments and feasibility reports to business cases. We also work on a range of organisational strategic and operational projects.

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Disclaimer

Information, data and general assumptions used in the compilation of this report have been obtained from sources believed to be reliable. RSL Consultancy has used this information in good faith and makes no warranties or representations, express or implied, concerning the accuracy or completeness of this information. RSL Consultancy is acting as an independent consultant. In doing so, the recommendations provided do not necessarily reflect the intentions of the client. Interested parties should perform their own investigations, analysis and projections on all issues prior to acting in any way in regard to this project.

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1 Executive Summary

1.1 Introduction and Purpose

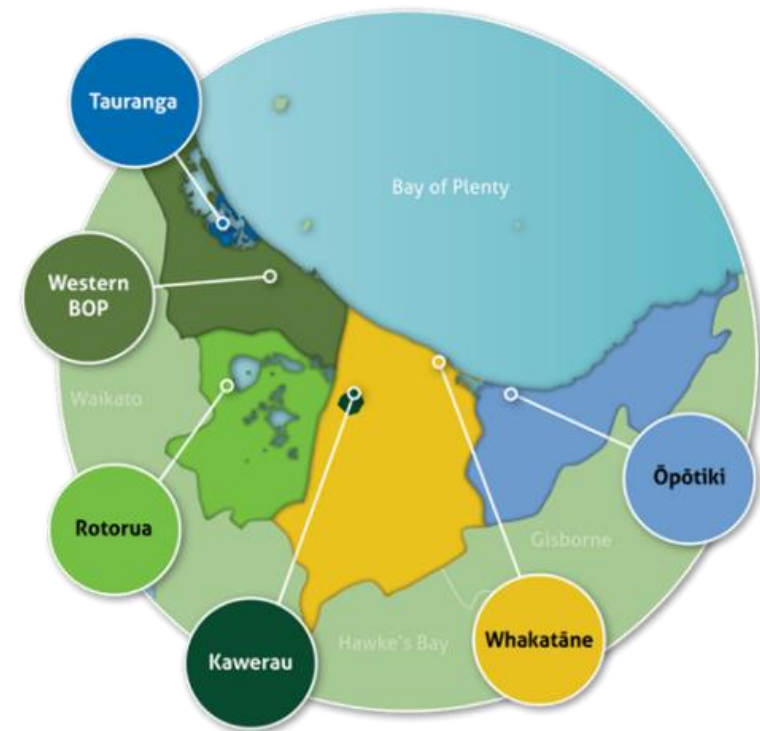
Increasing physical activity has many social, cultural and economic benefits

The benefits of physical activity for hauora (wellbeing) are well known. Physically active people are less likely to suffer serious health conditions and are more likely to have positive mental health outcomes than those who are inactive. Involvement in play, active recreation and sport helps to build social connections and create strong, vibrant communities. It also contributes to local economies through activity-based tourism, drawing people to stay and spend while engaging in play, active recreation and sport activities and events.

While the Bay of Plenty is known for its natural environment and play, active recreation and sport opportunities, not everybody in the Bay of Plenty is currently meeting the daily recommendations for being active. Different people and communities across the region experience barriers that affect how easy it is for them to regularly engage in play, active recreation and sport.

The purpose of this regional strategy is to help increase physical activity levels of residents across the Bay of Plenty Region. The Strategy brings together a diverse set of partners who, through the power of collaboration, can influence and support more people in the Bay of Plenty to get more active, more often.

Figure 1-1 The Bay of Plenty Region



1.2 Current and Strategic Context

1.2.1 Physical Activity Levels

- New Zealand Health Survey (NZHS) data shows that in 2023/24 around two-thirds of the Bay of Plenty population met the recommended guidelines (Active or Highly Active), while the remaining one-third of the population were either “Insufficiently Active” or sedentary¹.
- There is a general trend of decreasing physical activity in the Bay of Plenty with a 2% decline in adults who are active/ highly active over the last 10 years.
- Overall, physical activity levels for some people in the Bay of Plenty population are significantly below the regional (66% adults and 49% young people²) and national averages (61% of adults and 57% young people³).

Bay of Plenty Adult population groups where the level of physical activity is below the regional average of 66% are:

People living with a disability 41%	People on Low Incomes 59%
Māori 60%	Women 61%

This is consistent with the Sport New Zealand Active NZ Survey 2024/25⁴ which shows that groups less likely to meet activity guidelines include:

- Girls
- Ethnic minorities
- Disabled people

- Rainbow communities
- People living in high deprivation areas (communities)
- People experiencing challenges to their mental health⁵.

1.2.2 Participation Trends

The most significant trend occurring in play, active recreation and sport is people increasingly choosing informal, casual participation options

The Sport NZ Insights Tool⁶ provides an indication of the Top 10 activity preferences for people in the Bay of Plenty. It includes activities like walking, jogging, individual workouts, cycling, along with gardening, and many play options. These activities share common characteristics. They are typically:

- Informal, casual, largely recreational or play-based
- Can be undertaken as an individual – as opposed to team-based activities⁷.

While traditional sport is still an important way that many people engage in physical activity, many others prefer to participate in different ways.

¹ Source: New Zealand Health Survey (NZHS)

² Sources: NSHS (Adults) and Sport Bay of Plenty Voice of Rangatahi Report 2024.

³ Source: Sport New Zealand [Active NZ Survey 2024/25](#)

⁴ Source: Sport New Zealand [Active NZ Survey 2024/25](#)

⁵ Sport New Zealand [Active NZ Survey 2024/25](#) See Appendix 3 for some more detail on participation levels from the Active NZ Survey 2024/25.
rslc.nz

⁶ Source: Sport New Zealand Insights Tool – Activity Behaviours uses modelled participation to show preferences, using combined data from the 2022 and 2023 Active NZ Survey and Statistics NZ Census 2018. This information is indicative only.

⁷ These trends align with responses to the community surveys undertaken for this Strategy.

1.2.3 Demographic Context

With a growing and increasingly diverse community across the Bay of Plenty, it is important to ensure that a wide range of participation opportunities in play, active recreation and sport continue to be offered, and that the provision of spaces and places supports growing communities.

Key demographic factors influencing communities in the Bay of Plenty, and how people participate in play, active recreation and sport include:

- Ongoing significant population growth with regional population expected to grow by over 100,000, 31% from 350,000 (2023) to 460,000 (2053)
- An ageing population, with 33,000 extra people aged 75+ across the region by 2053 (108% increase)
- 11% growth in young people aged 0-14 years across the region, but a -10% decline in young people in Western Bay of Plenty District.
- Increasing proportion of people identifying as Asian (from 9% to 17%)
- Varied deprivation levels across the region, lower in Western areas and higher in Eastern and Central parts of the region.

1.2.4 The Advantages and Challenges of the Region

The Bay of Plenty environment supports active lifestyles, but there are also many challenges.

A high-level analysis of the region's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats gives an indication of the current state of the play, active recreation and sport system across the Bay of Plenty.

Summary - Strengths and Opportunities

- People choose to live in the region for its environment and active lifestyles
- access to natural environments (coast/beaches, water bodies, open space)
- Marae and whānau-based networks and partnerships with mana whenua
- Popularity of regional and sub-regional parks, DoC land, trails and nature-based experiences
- Alignment to mātauranga Māori and concepts like kaitiakitanga
- Diversity and inclusion policies and investment shifts in support
- School partnerships/resource sharing
- Growing popularity of some activities

Summary - Weaknesses and Threats

- Travel required to access opportunities for some
- Variances in community needs and levels of service across the region.
- Funding and financing constraints have a moderate to high impact (on both individual and organisational budgets)
- Higher expectations of provision quality from community. Added to this is pressure from a growing population
- Impacts of climate-related weather events and network resilience
- High demand and use pressure on some destinations and facilities

1.2.5 Strategic Change Impacting Local Government

The Bay of Plenty has 6 territorial authorities and 1 regional authority, which all have a role to play in supporting play, active recreation and sport. Local Government in New Zealand is in a period of significant strategic change. This is expected to have impacts on the role and function of local government and therefore, how play, active recreation and sport opportunities are supported in future. This Strategy cannot fully consider the rapidly changing local government environment, as reform is currently underway. However, it is hoped that this Strategy may be used to help inform some of the future approaches and priorities within whatever the future sphere is for local government in play, active recreation and sport.

1.3 Insights From the Community

A wide range of engagement was undertaken across the Bay of Plenty to inform this Strategy. Individuals and organisations were surveyed, focus groups and interviews were held with partner agencies and interest groups and multiple community stakeholder workshops were held across the 6 territorial authority areas in the region. This community engagement was a critical way to identify and test the needs, challenges and barriers facing whānau and communities related to participation in play, active recreation and sport.

Five consistent challenges are impacting participation in play, active recreation and sport across the region⁸.

1. The current provision of opportunities to be active is not meeting the needs of some target groups in the community.
2. The current play, active recreation and sport system has been shaped by approaches that don't always reflect Māori perspectives. There is an opportunity to include more Māori -led, culturally grounded ways of working so that the system better supports everyone.
3. Not all people and whānau in the community have the same means to access opportunities to be active.
4. Participation opportunities are often very structured and provided at set times and constrained by facility design and availability. Current provision is often not flexible or responsive to the informal options participants are seeking.
5. People are not always aware of available physical activity opportunities or may need different opportunities and support to become and/or stay active.

Community engagement also provided an opportunity to identify things that are currently working to get people active.

Organisations and communities across the Bay of Plenty are delivering many great opportunities which support diverse participation needs.

Stakeholders expressed a desire for more sharing of successes and opportunities to learn from the great mahi, which is already occurring to support inclusive participation in play, active recreation and sport across the

⁸ These were identified consistently from analysis of participation information, demographic data and consideration of feedback received through surveys and community stakeholder workshops. Data which directly evidences these challenges is rslc.nz

provided in [Section 3](#) and [Appendix One](#). All examples given in this section come from community surveys, workshop discussions or Sport Bay of Plenty engagement with rangatahi and tamariki.

region. Several short case studies highlighting some successful approaches are included in [Appendix 3](#) of this Strategy.

1.4 Influencing Physical Activity

Diverse communities and varied experiences of individual barriers mean a multi-faceted and multi-sector approach is needed to increase activity levels.

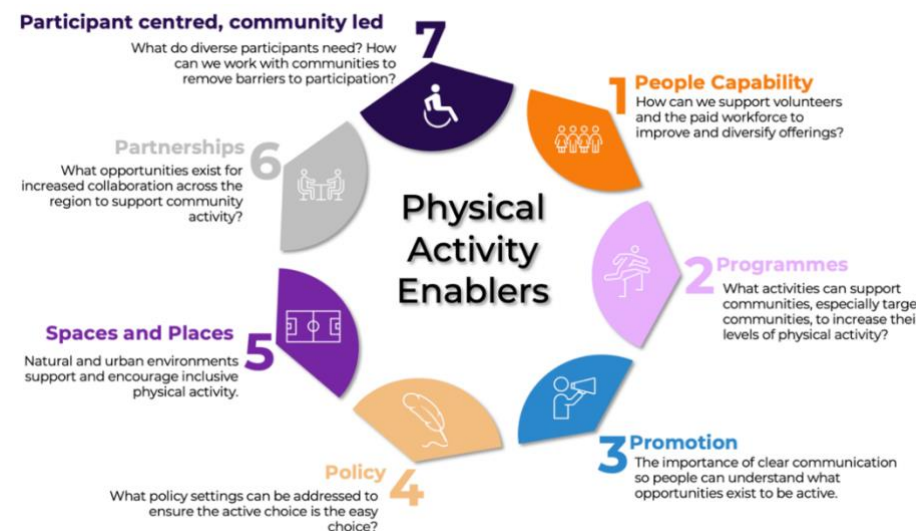
The factors that influence people's participation in play, active recreation and sport are many and varied. This means a one-size-fits-all approach will not enable the desired increases in participation across the Bay of Plenty. This Strategy looks to guide how resources and joint efforts are brought together to support individuals to be more active. To do this means approaches for identified communities to **target** barriers, to influence and **grow** existing participation levels or **sustain** those who are already active. (see Figure 1-2)

Figure 1-2 Target – Grow – Sustain Framework



This strategy identifies 7 key enablers of physical activity (see Figure 1-3). These are 7 interconnected factors that together influence how people access, experience and engage in physical activity opportunities. They represent the practical areas through which organisations across the Bay of Plenty can influence physical activity outcomes and support the hauora (wellbeing) of whānau and communities. Continued and new effort is needed in each area to tackle the diverse factors which influence whānau and community participation.

Figure 1-3 Enablers of Physical Activity



The Target – Grow – Sustain Framework, and the Enablers of Physical Activity are explained further in [Section 6](#) of the Strategy and reflected in, and connected to the priority actions in the [strategy roadmap](#).

1.5 Vision, Outcomes and Guiding Principles

Vision:

Enhance the hauora (wellbeing) of whānau and communities in the Bay of Plenty through inclusive opportunities to participate in play, active recreation and sport.

Achieving this vision will require increases in play, active recreation and sport participation across the region. Key desired outcomes include:

- Increasing Participation
- More Beneficial Partnerships
- Inclusive, Culturally Relevant Opportunities
- Local Activation
- Improved Wellbeing⁹

Guiding Principles

The strategic approach and priorities of this Strategy are grounded by 9 guiding principles:

Uphold and Honour Te Tiriti O Waitangi

Community-led

Collaborative Network Approach

Kaitiakitanga - Connection to Place and Te Taiao

Inclusive and accessible

Motivation and Awareness

Whānau friendly

Intergenerational, benefit-led investment

Future-proofing, innovation and adaptability

These guiding principles are explained in detail in [Section 7](#).

⁹ A measurement framework will need to be established, guided by example indicators which are included in section 7 of this Strategy.

1.6 Roadmap to a More Active Bay of Plenty

The [Strategy Roadmap](#) (Section 8) is focused on actions to **target** barriers and influence and **grow** participation, assuming that business-as-usual participation opportunities will also be **sustained**. Different stakeholder organisations, community groups and individuals have different roles to play in helping to drive action and maximise the opportunities for participation across the region.

The Roadmap identifies 9 priority action areas:

- Provide platforms for collaboration
- Build partnerships with hapū, iwi, Māori organisations
- Work with communities to reduce barriers to access
- Build jointly beneficial agency and community partnerships
- Upskill and support the community delivery workforce
- Use co-design and collaborative approaches to support diverse participant needs
- Maximise the use of spaces and places and increase local participation
- Increase awareness of the benefits of participation and grow involvement
- Consider policy and process settings that can better support and enable people to live active lifestyles

A series of sub-actions are identified under these 9 priority areas. The detailed roadmap is provided in Section 8.

All stakeholders are encouraged to consider what role they can play in helping to realise the vision of this Strategy, and to work together in a spirit of partnership to maximise the inclusive opportunities available to support physical activity across the Bay of Plenty.



2 Introduction

2.1 Why does the Bay of Plenty need a Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy?

Increasing physical activity has many social, cultural and economic benefits – play, active recreation and sport provide physical activity opportunities.

The benefits of physical activity for hauora (wellbeing) are well known. Physically active people are less likely to suffer serious health conditions and are more likely to have positive mental health outcomes than those who are inactive. What is less well understood are the broader benefits of play, active recreation and sport for local communities and the economy. Involvement in play, active recreation and sport helps to build social connections and create strong, vibrant communities. It also contributes to local economies through activity-based tourism, drawing people to stay and play while participating in casual recreation as well as events such as tournaments and mass participation activities such as running or cycling events.

While the Bay of Plenty is known for its natural environment, which strongly supports play, active recreation and sport opportunities, not everybody in the Bay of Plenty is currently meeting the daily recommendations for being active. Different people and communities across the region have different barriers that affect how easy it is for them to regularly engage in play, active recreation and sport. Creating the opportunity for more active daily lifestyles for individuals and communities across the Bay of Plenty will require action to address the barriers and inequalities that exist. To successfully create change requires different interventions and approaches to suit the needs of individuals, whānau and communities.



Snapshot of Benefits of Physical Activity:

The key benefits of engaging in physical activity through play, active recreation and sport are consistently identified across a spectrum of national and international research¹⁰. A selection of those benefits is outlined below.

- Fundamental movement skills and physical health benefits - Improves attention, memory, learning, creativity and imagination - Supports mental health - reducing stress and anxiety - Supports self-confidence, self-esteem, resilience and independence	- Physical health benefits, including reduced risk of chronic diseases including cancer, heart disease, dementia - Promotes relaxation, improves sleep quality - Reduces anxiety and depression - Strengthens relationships - Improves brain function	- Supports balance and coordination and reduces risk of falls - Increases muscle tone, coordination and reaction time - Maintains cognitive skills (memory) - Facilitates social interaction - reduces isolation and loneliness - Helps people live independently for longer	- Builds social connection and cohesion - Reduces healthcare costs - Increases workforce productivity - Sustainability benefits of increased active transport (walking and cycling) - Economic benefits e.g. 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup benefit-cost ratio of \$1.34¹¹.
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2.2 Why is Physical Activity Important?

The broad benefits of physical activity for wellbeing are many and varied for different individuals. However, a narrow focus on the individual benefits from physical activity, particularly from a health lens, risks under-valuing the significant broad benefits that participation in play, active recreation and sport can provide from a community and social perspective. In turn, this can create a risk of under-investment in what may be perceived as a 'nice to have' for communities.

Recently, there have been increasing efforts to help quantify the broader societal benefits of physical activity and participation in play, active recreation and sport. Highlights from some research capture important context for decision-makers when the prioritisation of investment in play, active recreation and sport across the Bay of Plenty region is being considered.

¹⁰ This includes information in publications from Sport NZ Ihi Aotearoa, the World Health Organisation, Centres of Disease Control (CDC) USA, Healthy Aging CORE Alberta (Collaborative Online Resources and Education), Dr Peter Gray a professor of psychology at Boston College and a world authority on the importance of play, Dr Amanda Gummer a UK based 'play' expert.

¹¹ Source: New Zealand Major Events [article](https://www.rslc.nz).
rslc.nz

74% (people surveyed) say sport and physical activity help build vibrant and stimulating communities.

- The Value of Sport, Sport New Zealand (2017)¹²

“For every \$1 invested in recreational physical activity, \$2.12 worth of social impacts are generated.”

Recreational physical activity makes a significant contribution to Māori wellbeing through strengthening intergenerational relationships and reinforcing cultural values, beliefs, social norms, and knowledge.

- The Social Return on Investment (SROI) of Recreational Physical Activity in Aotearoa New Zealand¹³.

“A benefit-cost ratio of 1.34 was identified, in other words for every \$1 put in, Aotearoa New Zealand saw a return of \$1.34”

“312,008 international visitor nights in New Zealand attributable to the FIFA Women’s World Cup Australia and New Zealand 2023™, with an average stay of 11.6 nights.”

- FIFA Women’s World Cup 2023™ National Economic Impact Evaluation Report¹⁴

There is limited research on the economic benefits of play. However, indications are that investing in urban play spaces in particular can:

- Increase foot traffic and economic activity for businesses situated near play spaces.
- Increase property values for properties in proximity of play spaces.¹⁵

¹² [The Value of Sport](#) (Main Report 2017) Sourced from Sport NZ.

¹³ [Social Return on Investment \(SROI\) Report](#) – Summary October 2017 and associated case studies can be explored [via Sport NZ](#).

¹⁴ Sourced from [New Zealand Major Events](#).

¹⁵ Summarised from Articles/discussion documents by Auckland Council (2017) and Playground Centre (2017).

3 Purpose of the Strategy

3.1 Bringing Partners Together with a Common Focus

The collective efforts of many can support the changes in physical activity levels across the region.

The purpose of this regional strategy is to help increase physical activity levels of residents across the Bay of Plenty Region through participation in play, active recreation and sport. The Strategy provides a forum to bring together a diverse set of partners who have an interest in improving physical activity levels in the region. Through the power of collaboration, many partners can contribute to influence and support more people in the Bay of Plenty to get more active, more often.

The Strategy provides a roadmap that identifies priorities for future focus to help create more active whānau and communities across the region. It recognises that different ideas and approaches need to be developed in partnership with communities. A range of actions are required; some interventions will have region-wide benefits, while more locally-led, specially designed interventions may be needed in sub-regional and local community areas to better target those who are currently missing out on physical activity.

It is intended that different organisations and stakeholders can 'see themselves' in the roadmap and take the initiative to lead or support actions. This approach can help individuals and communities across the region work towards a shared vision which increases overall participation in play, active recreation and sport.

Figure 3-1: Area Included in the Strategy

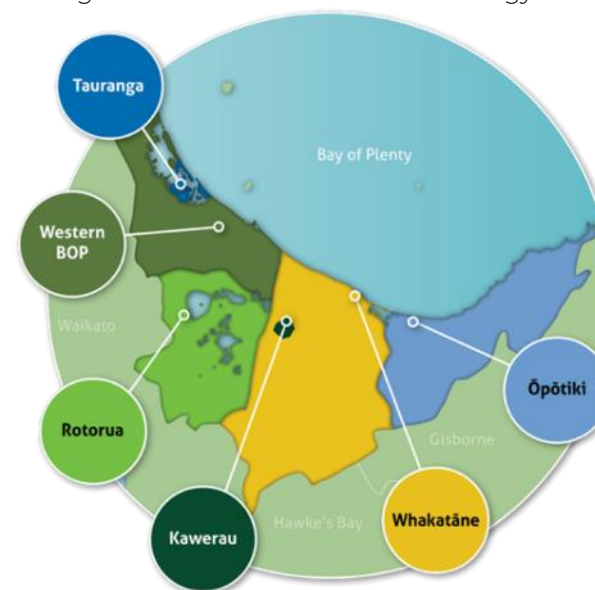


Figure 3-2: Bay of Plenty PARS – Strategic Fit



This Strategy provides a high-level, overarching framework to guide future focus and priorities in play, active recreation and sport across the Bay of Plenty Region.

This Strategy does not replace existing local and regional strategies; rather, it is intended to work with, and support the successful implementation of existing strategies and plans, as well as informing new priorities that organisations across the region can incorporate into the strategic plans and work programmes.

4 Current and Strategic Context

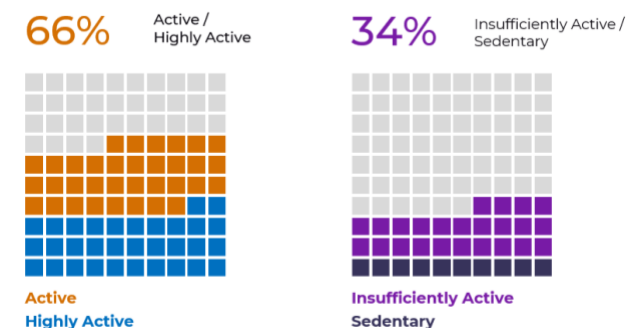
Physical activity levels for some in the Bay of Plenty population are significantly below the regional and national average¹⁶.

4.1 Physical Activity - The New Zealand Picture

Meeting and exceeding the recommended thirty minutes of moderate physical activity on most if not all days each week is an accepted driver of good health. Achieving this level of activity reduces the chances of developing cardiovascular diseases, certain cancers, diabetes, osteoporosis and depression.¹⁷ At a national level, the most recent (2024/25) Sport New Zealand Active NZ Survey¹⁸ indicates that there are improvements in the overall activity levels of New Zealanders – particularly after the reduction observed during the Covid-19 pandemic. However, some population groups are still less likely to meet activity guidelines. These include:

- Girls
- Ethnic minorities
- Disabled people
- Rainbow communities
- People living in high deprivation areas (communities)
- People experiencing challenges to their mental health¹⁹.

Figure 4-1: Physical Activity Levels 2023/24 - All Bay of Plenty Source: NZHS



4.2 Current Physical Activity Levels in the Bay of Plenty

Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora, measures the physical activity levels of New Zealanders in the New Zealand Health Survey (NZHS) based on a three-year average – starting from 2011/12²⁰. This data helps to provide a regional view of physical activity levels and a breakdown for gender, certain age groups, ethnicities and abilities. In 2023/24, around two-thirds of the Bay of Plenty population met the recommended guidelines (Active or Highly Active), while the remaining one-third of the population were either “Insufficiently Active” or sedentary.

¹⁶ All data has some limitations such as collection method, sample size and analysis method. The data used in this Strategy provides valid indicators.

¹⁷ The Costs of Physical Inactivity, Toward a Regional Full Cost Accounting Perspective

¹⁸ Sport New Zealand [Active NZ Survey 2024/25](#)

¹⁹ Sport New Zealand [Active NZ Survey 2024/25](#) See Appendix 3 for some more detail on participation levels from the Active NZ Survey 2024/25.

²⁰ This survey is favoured as it takes a broad definition of physical activity, which includes any moderate physical activity each day, including as part of someone's job.
rslc.nz

Some relevant physical activity trends include:

4.2.1 General Trend of Decreasing Physical Activity in the Bay of Plenty Population

Since 2013/14 the NZHS shows there has been a gradual decrease in the overall physical activity levels in the Bay of Plenty – down about 3% over the ten-year period 2013/14 to 2023/24.²¹ This is consistent with national trends of declining activity levels.

4.2.2 Activity levels vary across different parts of the community

The NZHS identifies some adult population groups where the level of physical activity is below the regional average of 66%.

Table 4-1 Physical Activity Levels for Adult Population Groups

Women	Māori	People on low incomes	People living with disability
61%	60%	59%	41%
-5%	-6%	-7%	-25%

People living with a disability in the Bay of Plenty region are significantly less likely (25% less) to be sufficiently active, compared to other adults in the region. Gender differences in physical activity levels can be recognised at an early age. Physical activity levels of females begin to decline from the age of about 15 (Year 10). The Voice of Rangatahi Trend report (2021-24) prepared by Sport Bay of Plenty²² notes a substantial difference between the frequency of boys who are physically active for at least 5 days a week (58%) compared to girls (44%). The NZHS shows this trend of lower activity continues for women over the age of 15 with 39% of this group identified as insufficiently active / sedentary, compared to 30% of men.

Further detail on these physical activity trends, and others, is provided in [Appendix 2](#) (including information on how disability is defined).

²¹ All data on this page is from the New Zealand Health Survey (NZHS), unless otherwise specified.

²² Voice of Rangatahi Trend report (2021-24) measures year 7-13 students.

4.3 Bay of Plenty Regional Participation Trends

There is a trend towards people choosing informal, casual participation options

The Sport NZ Insights Tool²³ provides modelled participation data, which gives an indication of activity preferences for people in the Bay of Plenty. This information is indicative of what people might be participating in. The top 10 activity preferences share common characteristics. They are typically:

- Informal, casual, largely recreational or play-based
- Can be undertaken as an individual – as opposed to team-based activities²⁴.

While participation will vary over time, the top 10 activity behaviours outlined in Figure 7 have consistently been in the top 10 for the Bay of Plenty over time.

Figure 4-2 Top 10 Activity Behaviours in the Bay of Plenty Region

Walking (for sport or leisure)	Jogging/running	Individual workout	Swimming	Playing (Running around, climbing trees, make believe)	Road Cycling ²⁵	Gardening	Playing on playground	Games (e.g. 4 square, tag, bull rush)	Group Exercise
1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th

Source: Sport New Zealand Insights Tool – Activity Behaviours uses modelled participation to show preferences, using combined data from the 2022 and 2023 Active NZ Survey and Statistics NZ Census 2018. This information is indicative only.

Information on ‘organised sport’ participation preferences is provided in [Appendix 2](#).

²³ Source: Sport New Zealand Insights Tool – Modelled participation uses combined data from the 2022 and 2023 Active NZ Survey and Statistics NZ Census 2018.

²⁴ These trends align with responses to the community surveys undertaken for this Strategy.

²⁵ This category covers cycling, biking, including use of an e-bike.

4.4 Demographic Summary

With a growing and increasingly diverse community across the Bay of Plenty, it is important to ensure that a wide range of participation opportunities in play, active recreation and sport continue to be offered, and that the provision of spaces and places supports growing communities.

This is especially important for different those segments of the population who are often have lower participation levels including:

- Disabled people
- Women and girls
- Ethnic groups including Māori, Pacific Peoples and Asian
- Rainbow communities
- People living in high deprivation areas (communities)
- People experiencing challenges to their mental health

The visual summary on page 15 provides a high-level overview of some key demographic trends and projections expected to influence the region and sub-regions over the next 30 years.

- Age Group and Population projections are for the period 2023-2053
- Ethnicity projections are for the period 2023-2043. Note: People can identify as more than 1 ethnicity so percentages do not add to 100.

More detailed demographic information, which supports the visual summary, is provided in [Appendix 1](#).

Data sources

The territorial authorities of the Bay of Plenty have required a number of different data sets to be used for the demographic projections in this strategy. These are outlined in [Appendix 1](#). The growth projections ranged from low to high projections (depending on direction from each the territorial authority). The data sets identified by each council in the Bay of Plenty have been combined to create a regional population projection.

Comments About the Projections

It has been identified that the high projections are significantly "higher" compared to previous high growth projections based on the 2018 Census, therefore some caution may need to be applied with regard to these projections, especially the long-term 30-year growth indicators.

At the time of writing, ethnic profile projections based on the 2023 Census had not been released, so all ethnic profile projections are based on the 2018 Census data and are only until 2043.

BAY OF PLENTY DEMOGRAPHIC SUMMARY

31%



REGIONAL

POPULATION GROWTH

350,000 → **460,000**
(2023) (2053)



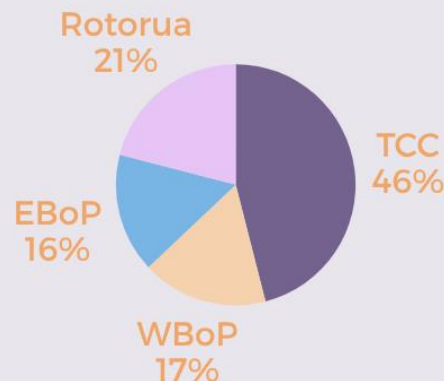
50%

OF THE REGION'S GROWTH
EXPECTED IN TAURANGA
CITY

25%

OF THE REGION'S GROWTH
EXPECTED IN ROTORUA
DISTRICT

**REGIONAL
POPULATION
DISTRIBUTION
STABLE**



**Annual rate of
population growth will
slow from**

6% → **4%**

11% **OVERALL GROWTH
IN 0-14 YEARS**

Rotorua

29%

-10%

**Western Bay of
Plenty**

Kawerau

32%



**THOSE
IDENTIFYING
AS ASIAN
INCREASE**

9% → 17%

**REGIONAL
ETHNIC
PROFILE
CHANGING**

**MĀORI
POPULATION
INCREASING**

44% → 56%

Rotorua

68% → 81%

Ōpōtiki



26%

OF ROTORUA
POPULATION
IDENTIFYING AS
ASIAN BY 2043



WESTERN BAY OF
PLENTY DISTRICT WILL
BE THE 'OLDEST' IN
2053 WITH

34%

OF THE
POPULATION
65+

108%

GROWTH IN 75 + YEAR
OLDS

= 33,000

extra people aged 75
plus across the region



DEPRIVATION

Lower in
Western Areas

Higher in
Central and
Eastern Areas



4.5 The Advantages and Challenges of the Region

The Bay of Plenty environment supports active lifestyles, but there are also many challenges.

To guide the development of this Strategy, a high-level analysis of the region's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats gives an indication of the current state of the play, active recreation and sport system across the Bay of Plenty. This assessment frames potential areas of focus that have been tested through stakeholder and community engagement.

Table 4-2: Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats Summary

Strengths	Weaknesses
- Many residents choose to live in the region for its environment and active lifestyles - Existing access to natural environments (coast/beaches, water bodies, open space) - Strong planning base in some areas - Marae and whānau-based networks - Popularity of regional and sub-regional parks, with more land available to develop in future	- Travel required to access opportunities for some - Variability of user charges across the region and consequences of this - Stigma of social issues in some areas and community safety impacts - Cross-boundary relationships between Councils often not strong - Health/level of some relationships between key agencies, community organisations and tangata whenua / mana whenua.
Opportunities	Threats
- Alignment to mātauranga Māori and concepts like kaitiakitanga - Trails and nature-based experiences (e.g. provision of regional and sub-regional parks and DoC-administered land) - Partnerships with tangata whenua / mana whenua - Diversity and inclusion policies and investment shifts in support - Land access and industry partnerships - School partnerships/resource sharing - Growing popularity of some activities - Seasonal workforce	- Funding and financing constraints have a moderate to high impact (on both individual and organisational budgets) - Higher expectations of provision quality from community. Added to this is pressure from a growing population - Narrow scope of some roles (e.g. Department of Conservation - tourism focus, health sector) - Impacts of climate-related weather events and network resilience - High demand and use pressure on some destinations and facilities (indoor and outdoor) - Different decision-making structures across the region - Variances in community needs and levels of service across the region.

With significant population growth forecast for the Bay of Plenty region, there are both opportunities and pressures related to providing physical activity opportunities for a growing, more diverse population, including challenges associated with spatial planning to ensure adequate recreation space is provided for communities.

4.6 Strategic Change Impacting Local Government

The Bay of Plenty has 6 territorial authorities and 1 regional authority, which all have a role to play in supporting play, active recreation and sport. Local Government in New Zealand is in a period of significant strategic change, which will mean changes to the purpose, scope and scale of regional and territorial authorities. Some of the main legislative changes proposed include:

- Water services reform
- Simplifying Local Government – which proposes replacing regional councils and signals amalgamations of territorial authorities either voluntarily through “Head Start Pathway” or by potential Central Government directive
- Local Government (System Improvements) legislation, which emphasises a back-to-basics approach and focus on delivery of essential services and regulatory functions. Community and recreational facilities are identified as core services with recognised value.
- Legislation to impose a rates cap on local government
- Opportunities for establishing long-term central and local government agreements through the ‘City and Regional Deals’ initiative.

All of this is expected to have impacts on the role and function of local government and therefore, how play, active recreation and sport opportunities are supported in future. Other legislative change also has the potential to impact recreation outcomes for communities, such as Conservation Law Reform.

This Strategy cannot fully consider the rapidly changing local government environment, as reform is currently underway. Therefore, the Strategy has not been designed to specifically respond to local government and other legislative reform. However, it is hoped that this Strategy may be used to help inform some of the future approaches and priorities within whatever the future sphere is for local government in play, active recreation and sport.

5 Insights from the Community

5.1 Challenges Affecting Participation in the Bay of Plenty

Five consistent challenges are impacting participation in play, active recreation and sport across the region²⁶.

1. The current provision of opportunities to be active is not meeting the needs of some target groups in the community.

- Many female rangatahi see a lack of social options as a barrier / gap to their participation
- Feedback shows many people wish to (or do) engage through play and recreation (rather than organised sport).

2. The current play, active recreation and sport system has been shaped by approaches that don't always reflect Māori perspectives. There is an opportunity to include more Māori -led, culturally grounded ways of working so that the system better supports everyone.

- Māori may feel more comfortable with whānau-friendly settings
- A more holistic hauora focus is needed (mental, social, physical wellbeing) to resonate and be successful.
- Physical activity also needs to consider and support traditional Māori sports (e.g., ki-o-rahi, kapa haka) and a broader understanding of activation in te taiao e.g. hunting, fishing)

3. Not all people and whānau in the community have the same means to access opportunities to be active.

- Fees and affordability are significant barriers to participation, particularly for tamariki and rangatahi (all surveys).
- Travel distance / time to suitable spaces are also barriers to being active (all surveys – and school kaiako feedback)

4. Participation opportunities are often very structured and provided at set times and constrained by facility design and availability. Current provision is often not flexible or responsive to the informal options participants are seeking.

- Three of the top five barriers to participation are lack of time, competing work / family commitments, and priority of children's commitments.
- People are more likely to engage in physical activity as an individual or with friends and whānau
- Three of the five most popular spaces and places for being physically active are natural spaces - the beach, natural water bodies and tracks and trails.
- Flexibility to participate at a suitable time and around other activities and work / family commitments is desired.

²⁶ These were identified consistently from analysis of participation information, demographic data and consideration of feedback received through surveys and community stakeholder workshops. Data which directly evidences these challenges is provided in [Section 3](#) and [Appendix One](#). All examples given in this section come from community surveys, workshop discussions or Sport Bay of Plenty engagement with rangatahi and tamariki.

5. People are not always aware of available physical activity opportunities or may need different opportunities and support to become and/or stay active.

- Survey responses indicated some organisations want help to publicise their sport/activity, some desire for different marketing so those not on social media know what's available
- Workshop feedback showed people are often not aware of available activities, there was desire for more education, promotions and awareness raising and a need for a variety of communication channels (including word of mouth)
- Desire for promotion of Māori events and physical activities such as kapa haka, pa wars, iwi/hapū/marae games

Stakeholders who attended community workshops in Ōpōtiki, Whakatāne, Kawerau, Te Puke, Tauranga and Rotorua considered and discussed these key challenges and possible ideas for action to help address these consistent challenges. Priorities identified consistently across all community workshops were:

- Partnerships between multiple stakeholders within and outside the sector, including more partnerships with Māori
- Participant-centred, community-led approaches to help reduce barriers
- Need to support the capability of people within the workforce (paid and volunteer) and at governance level in community organisations
- Activating local spaces and places and ensuring facilities are welcoming and inclusive
- Desire for local programme delivery, including ensuring programmes are relevant to different local communities
- Promotion and education to help increase participation
- Some stakeholders saw a need for policy and process change and advocacy

These community priorities have been considered and reflected in the framework and enablers for influencing physical activity outlined in [Section 6](#).

5.2 Examples of What is Currently Working to Get People Active

Organisations and communities across the Bay of Plenty are delivering many great opportunities which support diverse participation needs.

Stakeholders expressed a desire for more sharing of successes and opportunities to learn from the great mahi, which is already occurring to support inclusive participation in play, active recreation and sport across the region. [Appendix 3](#) provides short case studies of some successful approaches which may help encourage other organisations to try something new and impactful in their own community, reach new participants or increase the frequency of participation by people who are already active.

To achieve increased physical activity levels across the region, it is important to continue to offer successful programmes and initiatives which are already getting people active (sustaining existing activity), as well as offering new approaches which may attract a more diverse range of people to engage in new or increased participation.

Longer term funding for staff – year to year contracts are hard on both the employee (no certainty) and the organisation.

Tauranga Workshop Attendee



RSOs often don't have representatives from Eastern Bay of Plenty (on their Boards.)

Kawerau Workshop Attendee



Some play spaces cater only to older children and are not suitable for babies, toddlers, or under-6s to use independently.

Play survey response



If we had the facilities, the spaces and places, it would break down a lot of barriers for our whānau.

Ōpōtiki Workshop Attendee



We just want to deliver rugby league to anyone and everyone.

Te Puke Workshop Attendee



Benefits of physical activity - My mind is clearer and it helps my whole Whare Tapa whā entirely.

Individual survey response



Benefits of physical activity - The walks I have been doing helps me feel good as I struggle with social anxiety and suffer panic attacks. I always find afterwards that my stress levels drop and that I am able to do normal things like shopping and being in public spaces.

Individual survey response



Over the last 3 years we ran an inclusive play programme called FLIPA, ... as a result more inclusive play opportunities were created in BOP.

Play survey response

6 Influencing Physical Activity

Diverse communities and varied experiences of individual barriers mean a multi-faceted and multi-sector approach is needed to increase activity levels.

The factors that influence people's participation in play, active recreation and sport are many and varied. The wide diversity of communities, and individuals' varied experiences of barriers and challenges means a one-size-fits-all approach will not enable the desired increases in participation to raise overall physical activity levels across the Bay of Plenty. This Strategy looks to guide how resources and joint efforts are brought together to support individuals to be more active. To do this means approaches for identified communities to **target** barriers, to influence and **grow** existing participation levels or **sustain** those who are already active.

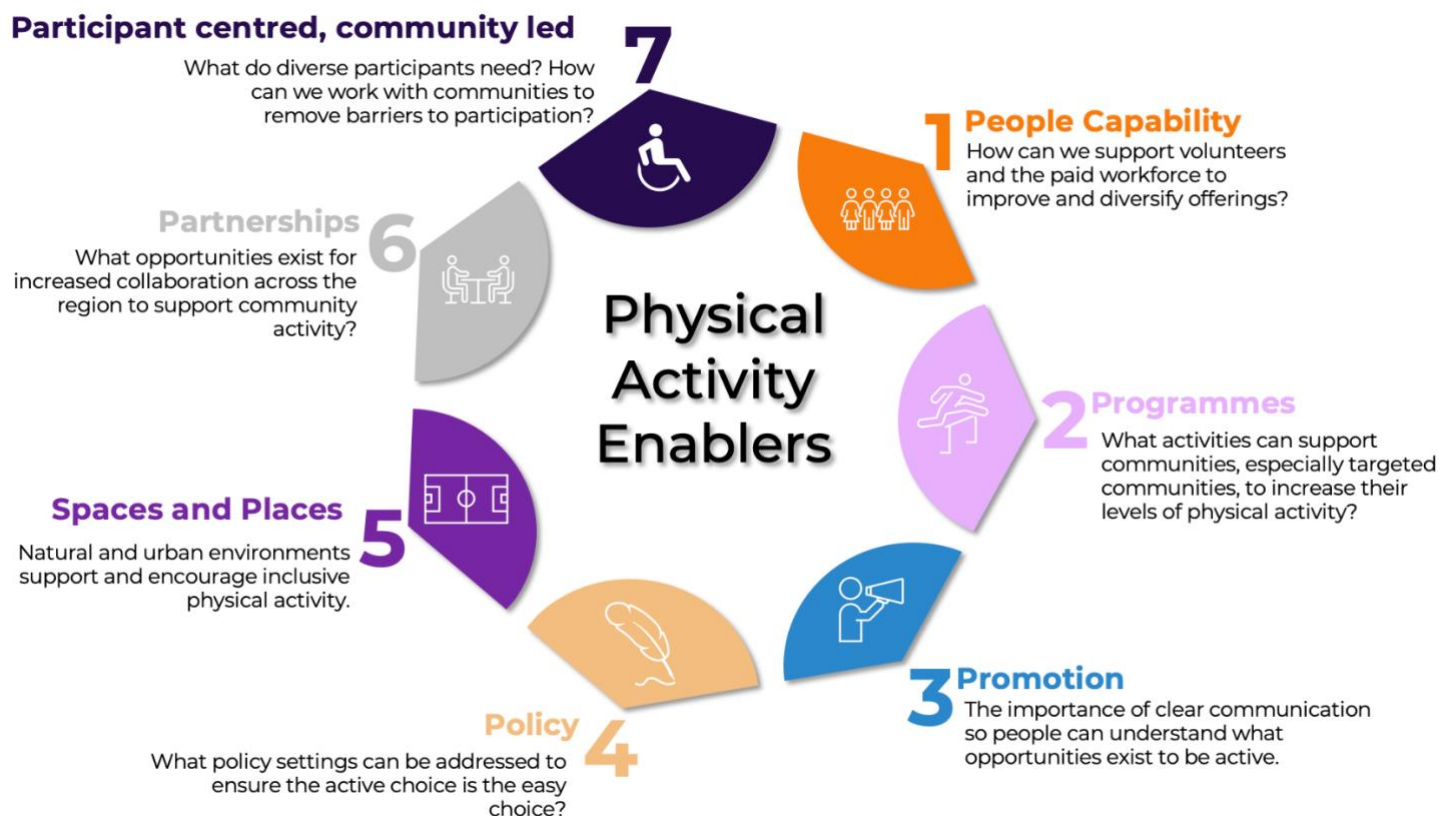
Figure 6-1 Target-Grow-Sustain Framework



Groups in the **target** and **grow** focus include women and girls, people with disabilities, Māori and ethnic minorities and people living in high deprivation communities.

Achieving the target, grow or sustain goals will mean a mix of implementation approaches that engage across multiple partners. This strategy identifies 7 key enablers of physical activity (see Figure 6-2). These are interconnected factors that together influence how people access, experience and engage in physical activity opportunities. Continued and new effort is needed in each area to tackle the diverse factors which influence whānau and community participation.

Figure 6-2 Enablers of Physical Activity

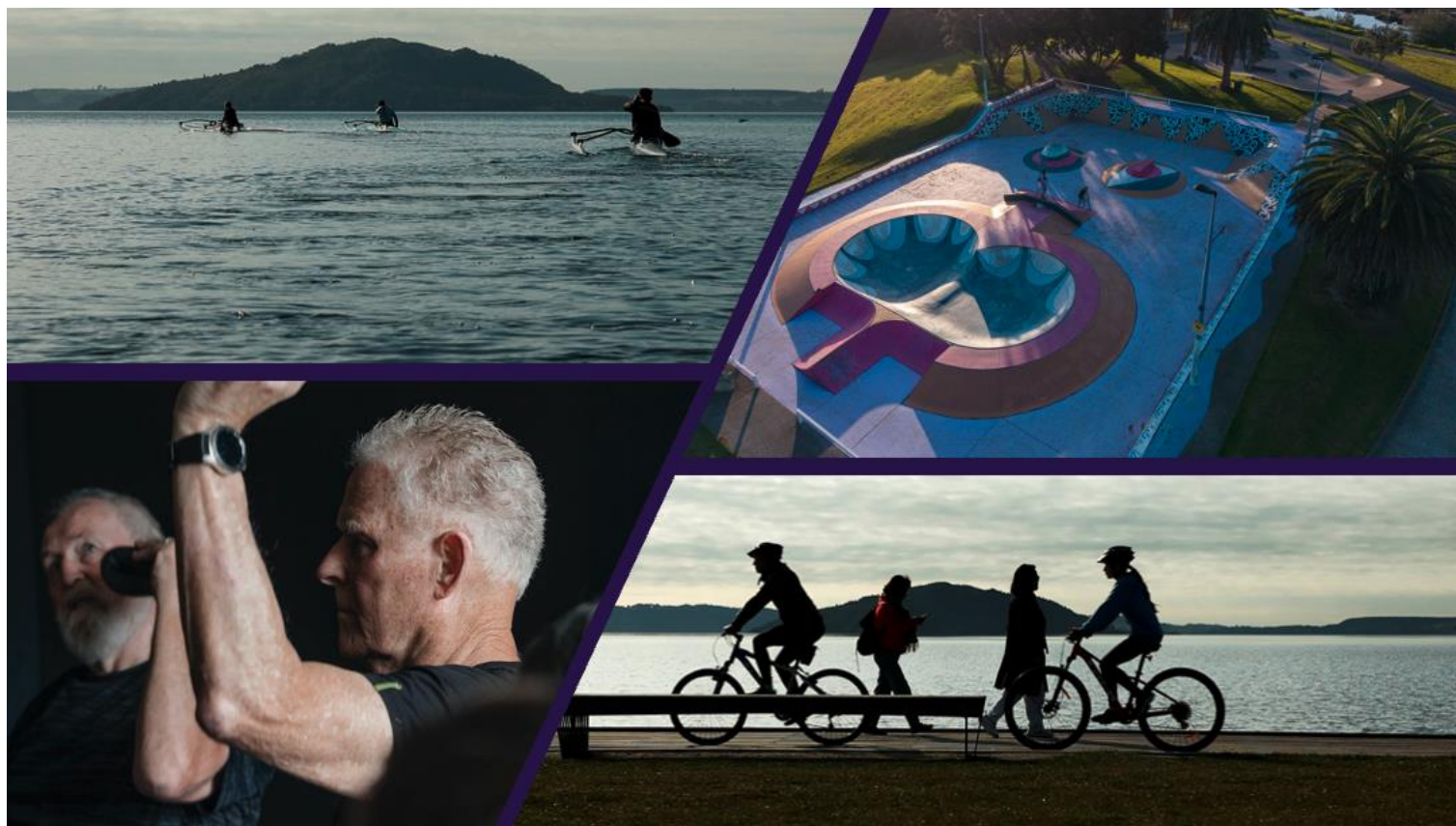


These 7 Enablers of Physical Activity – People Capability, Programmes, Promotion, Policy, Spaces and Places, Partnerships, and Participant-centred, community-led represent the practical areas through which organisations across the Bay of Plenty can influence physical activity outcomes and support the hauora (wellbeing) of whānau and communities. These enablers are connected to the priority actions in the strategy roadmap. The way these enablers may be applied will need to be flexible to the specific circumstances of different communities and individuals.

7 Vision, Outcomes and Guiding Principles

7.1 Vision

Enhance the hauora (wellbeing) of whānau and communities in the Bay of Plenty through inclusive opportunities to participate in play, active recreation and sport.



7.2 Desired Outcomes

Achieving this vision will require increases in play, active recreation and sport participation across the region. Key desired outcomes this strategy is seeking to achieve, and example indicators are outlined in Table 7-1.

Table 7-1: Desired Outcomes and Example Indicators

Desired Outcomes	Example Indicators
Increasing Participation	• Improvements in the rates of physical activity across all demographic groups • Reduction in participation gaps for disabled, women and girls, Māori and high-deprivation communities. • Increasing levels of participation through sports organisations (membership or casual participants)
More Beneficial Partnerships	• Increases in the number of mutually beneficial community partnerships leading to enhanced participation opportunities, such as: ○ Number of new community club facility and programme partnerships ○ Number of new partnerships with iwi, hapu, whānau ○ Number of training and development opportunities provided, including through partnership approaches.
Inclusive, Culturally Relevant Opportunities	Provision of more inclusive, culturally relevant play, active recreation and sport opportunities such as: ○ Number of tākaro Māori programmes supported; ○ Number of programmes catering to diverse participant groups ○ Number of inclusive, culturally relevant training opportunities and resources provided to the sector
Local Activation	• Increases in the number of play, active recreation and sport opportunities provided in local spaces and places such as: ○ Increases in number of sport and recreation programmes delivered locally (decentralised) ○ Increases in number of local activation events (including partnerships with schools or other community space providers) ○ Number of new or enhanced local play, active recreation and sport assets in local communities (including partnerships for access to existing or new school or marae assets)
Improved Wellbeing	• Enhanced community wellbeing survey results;

7.3 Guiding Principles

The strategic approach and priorities of this Strategy are grounded by 9 guiding principles

The priorities identified in the roadmap of this Strategy have been influenced by these guiding principles, which will also be applied throughout the implementation of the Strategy. These principles have been agreed by key partners who have supported the development of the Strategy.

Uphold and Honour Te Tiriti O Waitangi: We recognise the mana of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and commit to authentic partnership with whānau, hapū, and iwi. Our approaches will enhance hauora in ways grounded in Te Ao Māori, reflect local cultural narratives, and support Māori-led design, delivery, and decision-making. We acknowledge that Māori hold unique worldviews, knowledge systems, and lived perspectives, and we commit to implementing Te Tiriti in ways that respect, protect, and do not diminish or redefine these perspectives.

Kaitiakitanga - Connection to Place and Te Taiao: Te taiao is central to play, active recreation, and sport in the Bay of Plenty. We will protect and enhance environmental wellbeing, strengthen people-place connections, and plan, design, and operate spaces and experiences in ways that are sustainable, climate resilient, and respectful of whenua.

Whānau friendly: We will provide a wide range of welcoming and inclusive play, active recreation and sport opportunities that reflect different ages, interests, abilities, and cultural identities, ensuring whānau feel safe, valued, and able to participate together.

Community-led: Communities know their own needs and aspirations. We will support local leadership, volunteers, and organisations to design and deliver quality play, active recreation, and sport experiences that reflect local identity and priorities, including Māori-led initiatives.

Inclusive and accessible: We will enable broad participation by ensuring everyone has meaningful opportunities to be active, especially those currently missing out. Our play, active recreation and sport opportunities will be inclusive, safe, accessible, and responsive to diverse needs.

Intergenerational, benefit-led investment: We will invest in ways that deliver long-term wellbeing for current and future generations. Our decisions will prioritise hauora outcomes and recognise wider social, cultural, economic, and environmental benefits. Guided by local knowledge, Māori voices, participant insights, and evidence, we will direct resources to those with the greatest need and support sustainable, flourishing communities and te taiao.

Collaborative Network Approach: High-quality outcomes require collective effort. We will work in partnership across hapū, iwi, Māori, education, health, councils, community organisations, and private providers to align investment, share resources, reduce duplication, and ensure equitable access to opportunities that reflect community needs across the Bay of Plenty.

Motivation and Awareness: We will strengthen community understanding of the benefits of play, active recreation, and sport, and support people who need help accessing opportunities or building confidence to make active choices.

Future-proofing, innovation and adaptability: The play, active recreation and sport system will be adaptable and future-focused. By encouraging creative solutions which are informed by evidence, local and Māori knowledge, we will ensure future opportunities remain relevant to changing community needs.

Through the development of this Strategy, it was clear that working with tangata whenua and mana whenua will be fundamental to future success. Partner organisations were clear in their commitment to upholding Te Tiriti o Waitangi and working in a spirit of partnership with hapū, iwi and Māori organisations. Values which will be applied, to help enable the spirit of partnership in the implementation of the Strategy, will include:

- Whanaungatanga – we will build and nurture mutually beneficial relationships in local communities and across the region
- Manaakitanga – we will respect and uplift the mana of others through how we interact
- Tauutuutu – we will practice reciprocity, acknowledging the efforts and contributions individuals and organisations bring to the play, active recreation and sport kaupapa across the region.

Iwi Māori provided valued feedback during the Strategy development process and were clear about the importance of Māori worldviews and perspectives being incorporated throughout the Strategy. The guiding principles were significantly enhanced through the input of iwi Māori. Some significant concepts were also raised through engagement, including mana motuhake and Māori data sovereignty. The importance of these for iwi Māori is acknowledged, and while those concepts are not incorporated within the guiding principles of the Strategy, partner organisations recognise them as being important to hapū, iwi and Māori organisations.

8 Roadmap to a More Active Bay of Plenty

This roadmap draws on secondary data and insights along with learnings from engagement with stakeholder organisations and individuals regarding the needs, challenges and barriers facing whānau and communities related to participation in play, active recreation and sport in the Bay of Plenty region.

It is important to acknowledge that there is a lot of great mahi being done across the region in play, active recreation and sport. Most whānau and communities have lots of opportunities to participate; it is important to **sustain** these opportunities. However, there are also key challenges and barriers which mean that not everyone in the Bay of Plenty is as active as they might like to be. The roadmap is focused on actions to **target** barriers, and influence and **grow** participation, assuming that business-as-usual participation opportunities will also be **sustained**.

The roadmap identifies a series of actions linked to the 7 Physical Activity Enablers:

People Capability	Programmes	Promotion	Policy	Spaces and Places	Partnerships	Participant-centred, community-led
						

Using an interconnected approach, applying all of the 7 Physical Activity Enablers could help the Bay of Plenty region unlock greater levels of physical activity through play, active recreation and sport to achieve the vision of enhanced hauora (wellbeing) for whānau and communities. These 7 Enablers represent the practical areas through which organisations across the Bay of Plenty can influence physical activity outcomes and hauora (wellbeing) of whānau and communities. The way these enablers may be applied will need to be flexible to the specific circumstances of different communities and individuals.

Different stakeholder organisations, community groups and individuals have different roles to play in helping to drive action and maximise the opportunities to create changes in levels of participation for identified communities by **targeting** barriers, influencing and **growing** existing participation levels and **sustaining** participation levels of those who are already active. All stakeholders are encouraged to consider what role they can play in helping to realise the vision of this Strategy, and to work together in a spirit of partnership to maximise the inclusive opportunities available to support physical activity across the Bay of Plenty.

8.1 Roadmap to Increased Physical Activity Levels Across the Bay of Plenty

Implementation Timeframes

All stakeholders who have a role in driving implementation of the roadmap actions will need to consider this Strategy within their own work programmes and resource allocation. The timeframes indicated are intended to help guide prioritisation of effort, but are also subject to individual organisational processes and budgets. Implementation will also be impacted by the capacity and priorities determined by individual communities across the Bay of Plenty region. The timeframes given for each sub-action are indicative only. The timeframe categories used in the roadmap are:

Short: 1-3 years

Medium: 4-6 years

Long: 7+ years

Ongoing

Community Determined

Enablers	Actions
  	1. Provide platforms for collaboration to: a. Enable strategy implementation through establishing a BOP PARS - Implementation Working Group (PWG) to develop and assign accountability for the actions in this strategy. This would be supported by sub-regional focussed groups to progress strategy implementation and accountabilities. (Short and Ongoing) b. Enhance the sharing of good practice at community level with a combined resource bank that builds on existing tools, templates and good practice approaches. This can be developed and shared through existing or new forums such as Play Network hui, RSO²⁷ forums, and recreation provider meetings. (Short and Ongoing) c. Improve collaboration between NSOs²⁸, RSOs and local clubs to make better use of limited resources, including through: - o Exploring opportunities for shared resourcing initiatives, such as shared administrative and committee roles (Short and Ongoing) - o Increasing communication to ensure RSOs²⁹ understand what support local clubs need to better enable local delivery, especially in rural communities. (Short and Ongoing)

²⁷ As well as NSOs (where relevant).

²⁸ It is not expected that NSO's would typically be involved in this action. However, some sports do not have RSO's such as Golf and gymnastics, in those circumstances this action would be directly supported by the relevant NSO.

²⁹ As well as NSOs (where relevant).

Enablers	Actions
	2. Build partnerships with hapū, iwi, Māori organisations to: a. Provide more culturally aligned opportunities for play, active recreation and sport provision within Māori settings. (Ongoing — Community Determined) b. Increase Marae-centred provision of physical activity spaces and opportunities. (Medium – Community Determined) c. Provide more opportunities where Māori sports organisations and community delivery organisations can support hapū with hauora outcomes. (Ongoing — Community Determined) d. Co-design targeted programmes which support health and physical activity outcomes for Māori communities. (Ongoing – Community Determined)
	3. Work with communities to reduce barriers to access to: a. Minimise access limitations to participation because of travel³⁰ through: - o Travel schemes/community vans (Community Determined) - o Local delivery models (Ongoing - Community Determined) - o Changing competition formats to reduce weekly travel requirements, especially for rural communities such as Ōpōtiki and the East Coast. (Medium - Community Determined) b. Support affordable participation³¹ through consideration of: - o Fee support – hardship schemes, sponsorships for ‘fee-free ’’ options (Ongoing – Community Determined) - o Share schemes such as boot/uniform swaps (Ongoing – Community Determined) - o Support for emerging athletes (if cost or access is a barrier) (Medium to Long - Community Determined) c. Non-council land suitable for recreation uses.

³⁰ This is particularly relevant for rural and high deprivation communities.

³¹ Particularly in high deprivation communities.

Enablers	Actions
	This may include areas of land in education, government, iwi or private ownership and is likely to require formal access agreements. (Medium to Long - Community Determined)
 	4. Build jointly beneficial agency and community partnerships, including: a. Identifying and developing existing or new partnerships that deliver integrated health and recreation outcomes, including the continuation of proven programmes such as Green Prescription. (Ongoing) b. Continuing to strengthen and expand partnerships with education³² to identify opportunities to provide more fun, flexible and social participation opportunities for tamariki and rangatahi. (Ongoing - Community Determined)
   	5. Upskill and support the community delivery workforce (paid and volunteer), including through recognition, training and development initiatives which: a. Enable them to better support target groups such as women and girls, people with disabilities, and those with specific cultural needs³³. (Short and Ongoing) b. Support community providers who need help with the use of digital platforms, marketing and promotions. (Medium) c. Provide guidance on how to incorporate Te Ao Māori and Mātauranga Māori approaches into community programme delivery. (Short – Ongoing) d. Help community delivery organisations to identify ways to grow their volunteer base³⁴. This may include ideas for rewarding and incentivising volunteers. (Short to Medium - Community Determined) e. Celebrate and share the successes of existing sport programmes and events to recognise positive outcomes and highlight success stories which other community delivery organisations can learn from. (Ongoing)

³² There are many existing positive examples of partnerships with education providers which need to be continued. There is an opportunity to spread similar positive education partnerships more widely across the Bay of Plenty.

³³ Current examples of positive programmes include Bay Venues offering swimming lesson in te reo Māori, Korean, Mandarin and sign-language, and an ethnic women's swimming initiative. Other organisations may need support to deliver similar welcoming and inclusive opportunities.

³⁴ In communities where delivery of participation opportunities is impacted by less volunteer engagement.

Enablers	Actions
   	6. Use co-design and collaborative approaches to support diverse participant needs through: a. Continuing to develop and grow initiatives which support targeted participant groups including: - o Options which support and reflect ethnic communities' cultural needs (Ongoing - Community Determined) - o Options which support and enable disabled participants (Ongoing - Community Determined) - o Women and girls' participation with consideration of aspects such as flexible, low-commitment formats, childcare availability, in-school options, women and girls-only sessions or mixed gender options (Ongoing - Community Determined) - o Supporting and enhancing existing Māori-led delivery and supporting more by Māori for Māori participation opportunities and whānau-friendly formats. (Ongoing - Community Determined) b. Exploring a more coordinated regional and sub-regional programme of diverse participation offerings. (Medium) c. Providing more flexible participation formats and enhanced social connection opportunities, which may support ongoing motivation to be active. (Ongoing) d. Ongoing reviews and refreshes of current delivery models using voice of participation data and other insights to ensure they remain relevant and attractive to participants. (Ongoing) e. Identifying ways to better align and diversify funding streams to support participation outcomes, including consideration of: - o aligning funding to initiatives that support those facing barriers (Short to Medium – Ongoing) - o seeking opportunities to access private and philanthropic funding. (Short to Medium – Ongoing)

Enablers	Actions
  	7. Maximise the use of spaces and places and increase local participation through: a. The activation of neighbourhood spaces³⁵ with low-cost/ no cost recreation and nature-based assets³⁶, mobile delivery, small-sided games and participation events (such as whānau games, parkrun). (Medium – Ongoing) b. Making spaces and places more welcoming and inclusive for all, through: - o Identifying safety enhancements such as lighting for night use, barrier-free access, footpath and site maintenance. (Medium – Ongoing) - o Co-designed enhancements to make spaces more appealing to rangatahi (Ongoing) - o Ensure those with disabilities and accessibility needs (such as older adults and parents) are included in co-design processes for upgrades and new spaces and places developments. (Ongoing) c. Exploring ways to increase connection between tangata and te taiao in culturally appropriate ways to provide opportunities for all to participate within the natural environment. (Short - Ongoing) d. Enhanced promotion of existing spaces and places which have capacity for more play, active recreation and sport use, including community and cultural gathering spaces. (Ongoing - Community Determined) e. Continuing to seek innovative spaces and places partnerships which cluster or hub play, active recreation and sport facilities (such as aquatic centres, courts, fields) with each other, as well as compatible community assets such as libraries, community centres, open spaces and commercial areas. (Ongoing) See section 8.2 for an overview of capital development priority projects from the Bay of Plenty Spaces and Places Strategy 2024.

³⁵ Such as schools, public open space, pathway networks, indoor facilities and marae.

³⁶ This could include items such as outdoor fitness equipment, courts, frisbee golf and items to support play.

Enablers	Actions
   	8. Increase awareness of the benefits of participation, and grow involvement through: a. Support capability development within community delivery organisations to better enable them to align messaging, and use diverse channels³⁷ to increase people's engagement with region-wide or local motivation campaigns such as Play Week and step challenges³⁸. (Medium) b. Considering the use of "local champions" and have a go initiatives to encourage low participation groups (target and grow focus) to "see themselves" in participation options³⁹. (Short – Ongoing) c. Increasing the use of te reo Māori in promotions and messaging. (Ongoing - Community Determined) d. Researching how existing digital platforms, apps and tools could be better leveraged to help drive participation. (Medium)
  	9. Consider policy and process settings that can better support and enable people to live active lifestyles including: a. Developing a more integrated approach to PARS planning within and across territorial authorities by working across departments and council boundaries to better connect physical activity and play considerations into disciplines such as transport and urban planning to help make active choices easier choices. (Short – Ongoing) b. Exploring if system changes can make it easier for community delivery organisations. This could include identifying ways to streamline, align or simplify booking policies, systems, venue hire bonds and fees and charges. (Medium) c. Continue to review and adjust provision and/or access standards which support and encourage wider physical activity opportunities through land development policies (such as development contributions) and spatial planning. (Ongoing)

³⁷ This could include promotions through other community settings such as libraries, community centres and other gathering spaces and community events.

³⁸ For example, Australia's Cerebral Palsy Alliance [Steptember](#) campaign and Steptober monthly step challenges.

³⁹ For example, [Abilities Unleashed](#) by Disability Sports Australia, Sport NZ's "[#Its my Move](#)" and Sport England "[This Girl Can](#)" which provides inspiration for women to get active regardless of shape, size and ability.

8.2 Further Information on Spaces and Places Priorities

The Bay of Plenty Spaces and Places Strategy 2024 has a series of recommendations which remain an important part of ensuring the Bay of Plenty region has fit-for-purpose spaces and places to support community participation in play, active recreation and sport. In summary, the capital development priorities over the 10-year period of that strategy include:

- Regional / sub-regional aquatic and indoor court projects, including a regional Badminton Facility (with multiuse courts), completion of upgrades to the Rotorua Aquatic Centre and future planned development of a new Te Puke Swimming Pool
- Rex Morpeth Park redevelopment
- Staged implementation of Baypark and Blake Park Masterplans
- Sports field enhancement and provision projects in Rotorua
- Progressing plans for the proposed Te Puke Gymsports (BOP Movement HQ) facility.
- Progressing the development of an inner-city skate park in Kuirau Park, Rotorua (to replace the existing skate park).
- Staged enhancements to existing sport and recreation sites in line with the Ōpōtiki Spaces and Places Strategy.
- Upgrade the netball facilities at Eve Rimmer Park (subject to outcomes of needs and feasibility assessment).



Appendix

The following appendix provides additional information and supporting material. It includes detailed data, supplementary explanations, and relevant resources that may be useful for further context or clarification.

9 Appendix 1 – Demographic Detail

9.1.1 Data Sources and Projections

The territorial authorities of the Bay of Plenty have required a number of different data sets to be used for the demographic projections in this strategy, as follows:

Territorial Authority	Data Source and Projection
Western Bay of Plenty	WBoPDC LTP Projections Pro-rated Age Groups by % of Stats NZ Low Projection and Census 2018 High (ethnicity)
Tauranga City	TCC LTP Projections and Census 2018 High (ethnicity)
Rotorua Lakes	Census 2023 High and Census 2018 High (ethnicity)
Whakatāne	Census 2023 High and Census 2018 High (ethnicity)
Ōpōtiki	Census 2023 High and Census 2018 High (ethnicity)
Kawerau	Census 2023 High and Census 2018 High (ethnicity)

The data sets identified by each council in the Bay of Plenty have been combined to create a regional population projection.

Comments About the Projections

It has been identified that the high projections are significantly "higher" compared to previous high growth projections based on the 2018 Census, therefore some caution may need to be applied with regard to these projections, especially the long-term 30-year growth indicators.

At the time of writing, ethnic profile projections based on the 2023 Census had not been released, so all ethnic profile projections are based on the 2018 Census data and are only until 2043.

9.2 Bay of Plenty Regional Demographic Projections

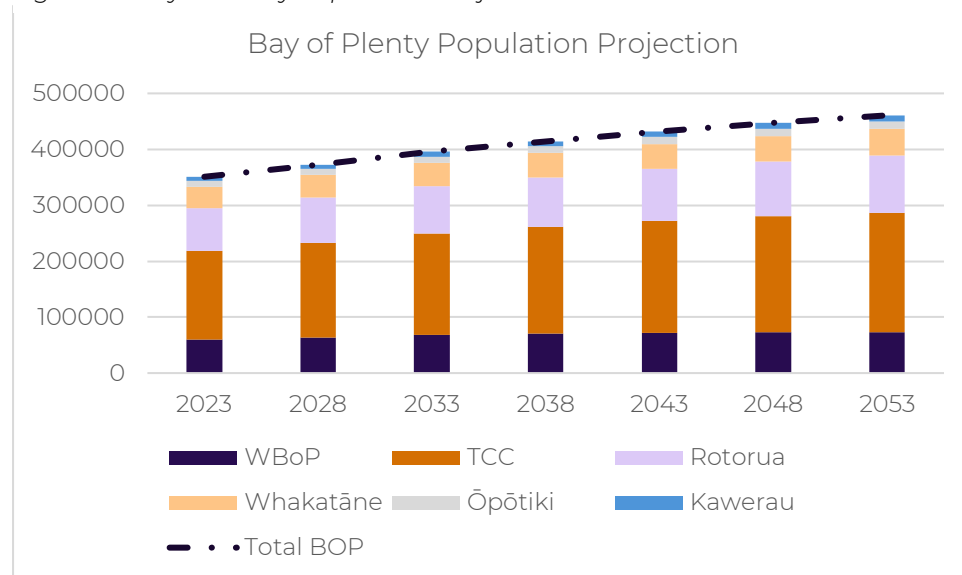
9.2.1 Population Projection

- The population of the Bay of Plenty region is expected to grow by over 100,000 (31%) in the 30 years to 2053.
- In 2023, the regional population was just over 350,000.
- The population is expected to be grow to over 460,000 by 2053.
- Growth is projected in all 6 TA areas, ranging from 23% in the Western Bay of Plenty District and Whakatāne to 41% in Kawerau. Growth in the other three areas is expected to be in the mid-30%'s.

Table 9-1 Bay of Plenty Population Projection

Territorial Authority	2023	2028	2033	2038	2043	2048	2053	Change 2023-2053	% Change 2023-2053
Western BoP	59480	64066	68371	70803	72160	72626	73014	13534	23%
Tauranga City	158900	168880	180696	190452	199508	207990	213870	54970	35%
Rotorua Lakes	76610	80940	84840	88940	93270	97720	102470	25860	34%
Whakatāne	38150	39990	41640	43150	44540	45770	46950	8800	23%
Ōpōtiki	10200	10780	11390	12000	12600	13120	13640	3440	34%
Kawerau	7640	8120	8660	9180	9680	10230	10780	3140	41%
Total BOP	350980	372776	395597	414525	431758	447456	460724	109744	31%

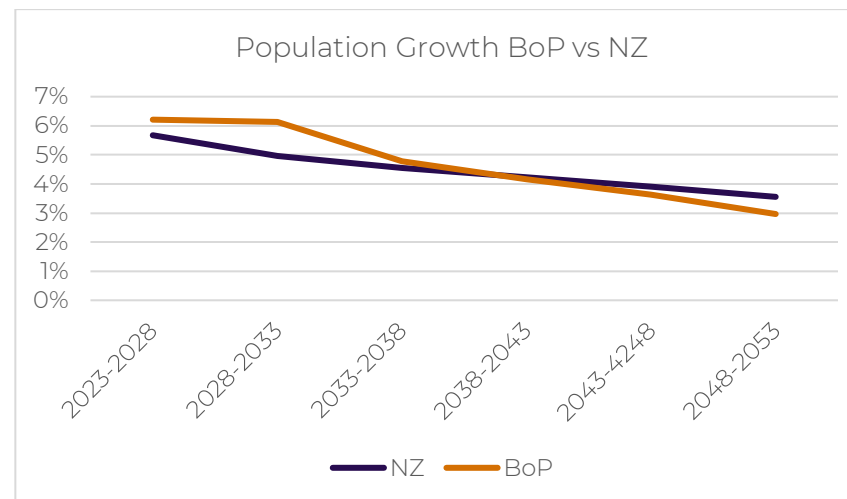
Figure 9-1 Bay of Plenty Population Projection



9.2.2 Rate of Population Growth

Over the 30 years to 2053, the rate of population growth in the Bay of Plenty Region is expected to slow from around 6% between 2023-2028 to approximately 4% over the 2048-2053 period. The New Zealand population as a whole is expected to experience a similar decrease in population growth rate.

Figure 9-2 Rate of Population Growth



9.2.3 Population Distribution

- The distribution of the population across the region is expected to be similar in 2053 to what it was in 2023.
- Just under half the population is expected to continue to live in Tauranga City (46%).
- Nearly a quarter of the population is expected to live in the Rotorua district (22%).
- Ōpōtiki and Kawerau have a very small proportion of the population currently, and this is expected to remain the same in 2053.

Table 9-2 Bay of Plenty Population Distribution

Territorial Authority	Proportion of Population	
	2023	2053
Tauranga City	45%	46%
Rotorua Lakes	22%	22%
Western BoP	17%	16%
Whakatāne	11%	10%
Ōpōtiki	3%	3%
Kawerau	2%	2%

Figure 9-3 Bay of Plenty Population Distribution

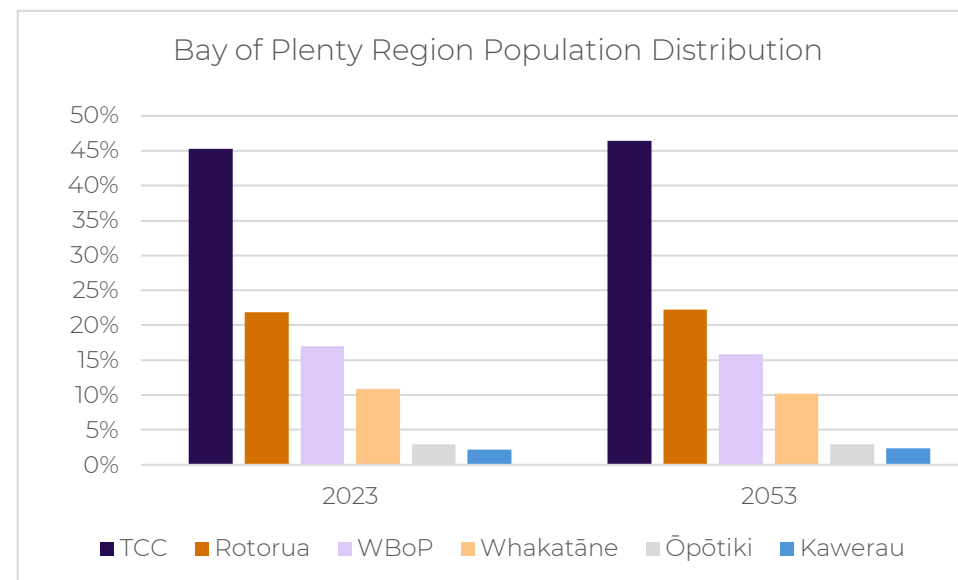
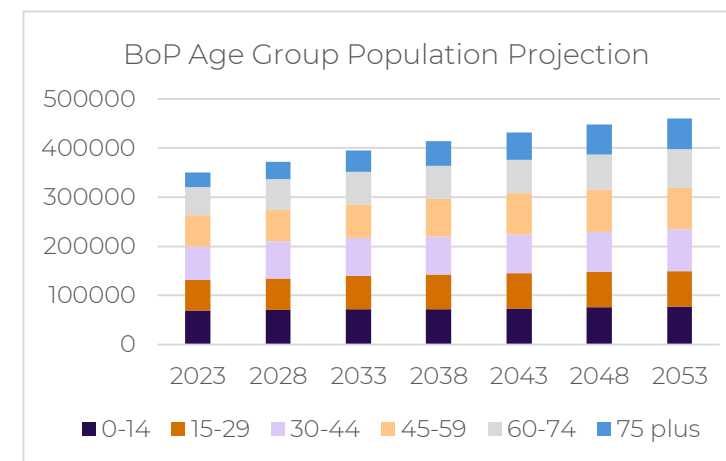


Figure 9-4 Bay of Plenty Age Group Population Projection



9.2.4 Age Group Population Projection

- Growth is expected in all 15-year age groups.
- Significant growth (108%) expected in the 75-plus age group. This equates to nearly 33,000 extra people in this age group across the region.



Table 9-3 Bay of Plenty Age Group Population Projection

BoP Summary	2023	2028	2033	2038	2043	2048	2053	Change 2023-2053	% Change 2023-2053
0-14	69599	70925	72324	72585	73588	75672	77507	7907	11%
15-29	61496	63572	67452	70091	71118	71815	71904	10408	17%
30-44	68880	75565	77467	76776	79141	82562	85892	17013	25%
45-59	62939	63937	68367	77577	83988	85154	83896	20957	33%
60-74	57587	62134	66763	66912	67993	71761	78116	20528	36%
75 plus	30479	36643	43225	50584	55930	60492	63409	32930	108%



9.2.5 Population Structure

- In 2023, there was a lower proportion of people in the 75-plus age group across the Bay of Plenty compared to other age groups. By 2053, it is expected that the population of the region will be fairly evenly spread across all age groups - from 14% in the 75-plus age group to 19% in the 30-44 age group.
- The structure of the Bay of Plenty population is currently very similar to that of New Zealand as a whole and is projected to remain very similar in 30 years' time.
- By 2053, in three of the districts (WBOPDC, TCC and Whakatāne) the population is expected to be fairly evenly distributed across the age groups. By contrast, in Rotorua Lakes, Ōpōtiki and Kawerau, there is still expected to be significantly fewer people in the 75-plus age group than in the other age groups.

Table 9-4 Bay of Plenty Population Structure

Age Group	2023	2053	% Change 2023-2053	2023	2053	% Change 2023-2053
	Bay of Plenty			New Zealand		
0-14	20%	17%	11%	19%	15%	2%
15-29	18%	16%	17%	19%	16%	9%
30-44	20%	19%	25%	21%	20%	23%
45-59	18%	18%	33%	18%	19%	37%
60-74	16%	17%	36%	15%	17%	48%
75 plus	9%	14%	108%	7%	12%	126%

Figure 9-5 Bay of Plenty Age Structure 2023 and 2053

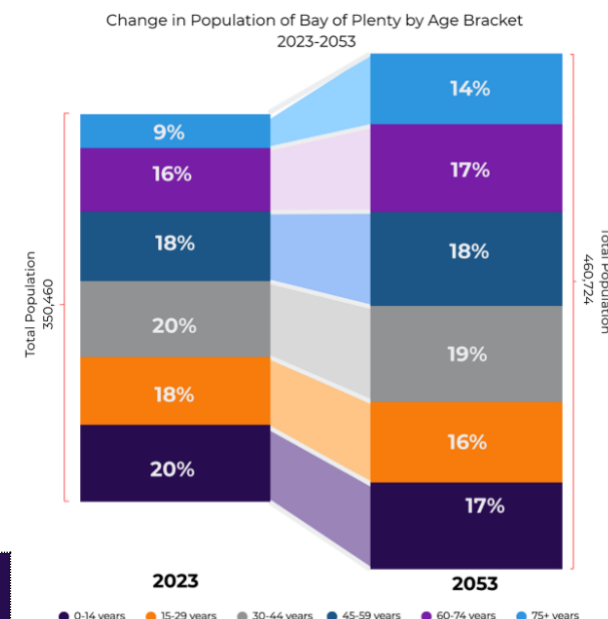
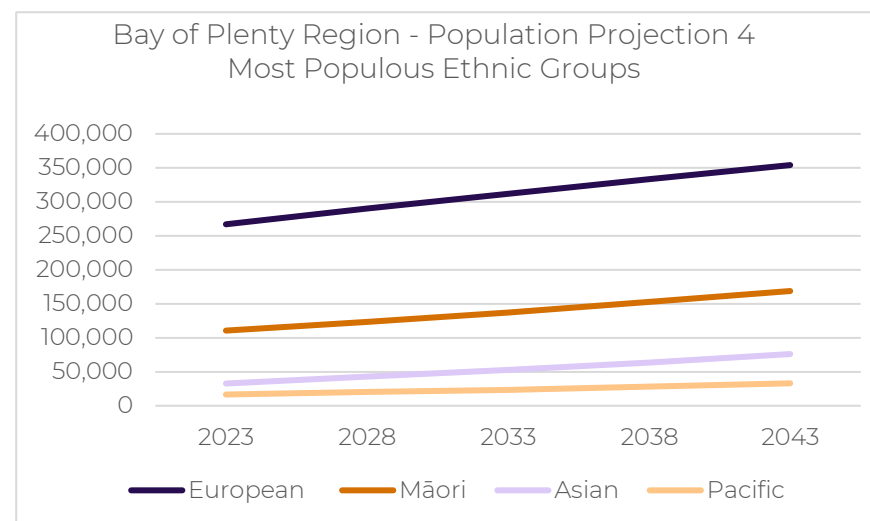


Figure 9-6 Bay of Plenty Ethnic Population Projection

9.2.6 Ethnic Population Projection⁴⁰

- Approximately three-quarters of the Bay of Plenty population identify as European, and one-third identify as Māori (2023).
- All four most represented ethnic populations are predicted to increase in number over the 20-year period to 2043.
- In 2043, the proportions of those identifying as European and Māori are expected to be similar to 2023. Notably the proportion of those who identify as Asian is expected to increase to 17% from 9%.



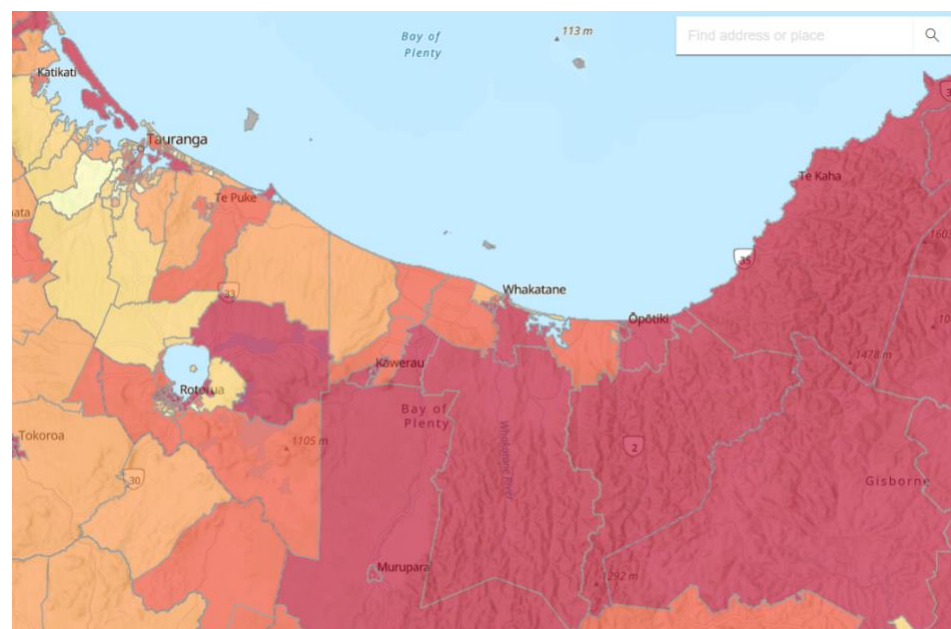
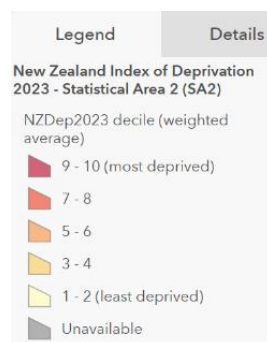
Source: Bay of Plenty Region Ethnic Population Projection, Census 2018, High Scenario

⁴⁰ Individuals can identify as more than one ethnicity so ethnic totals may add to more than 100%
rslc.nz

Figure 9-7 Bay of Plenty Region Levels of Deprivation⁴¹

9.2.7 Deprivation Levels

- The Western areas of the Region are generally categorised as less deprived
- The Eastern areas of the region are categorised as either very deprived or “most deprived” as per the NZ Index of Deprivation 2023.
- The Central BOP has parts which are categorised as medium deprivation through to very deprived or “most deprived”.



⁴¹ Source: [EHINZ](#)

10 Appendix 2 – Data and Insights

All available participation and physical activity data has some limitations due to factors such as collection methodologies, sample size (including demographic segments) and analysis methodologies. The sample size can be a concern when comparing regional data to national data, as well as when comparing demographic sub-sets of the population. However, the data used in this Strategy comes from reputable national and regional sources and is valid to use as indicators of physical activity levels and participation trends.

Sport NZ Active NZ Survey 2024/25

The Sport New Zealand Active NZ Survey 2024/25⁴² outlines physical activity guidelines as:

Young people should be physically active for 420-plus minutes per week

Adults should be physically active for 150-plus minutes per week

The 2024/25 national results identify that 61% of adults are meeting guidelines, and 57% of young people. However, some population groups are still less likely to meet these activity guidelines. These include:

Girls – 54% (compared to 59% of boys)

Ethnic minorities – Māori 58%, Pacific Peoples 53% and Asian 46% (compared to 61% of NZ European)

Disabled young people – 52% (compared to 58% of non-disabled)

Rainbow communities – 33% (compared to 57% of young people and 61% of adults)

People living in high deprivation communities – including young people medium (56%) and high deprivation areas (53%) compared to 60% in low deprivation communities

People experiencing challenges to their mental health – 58%

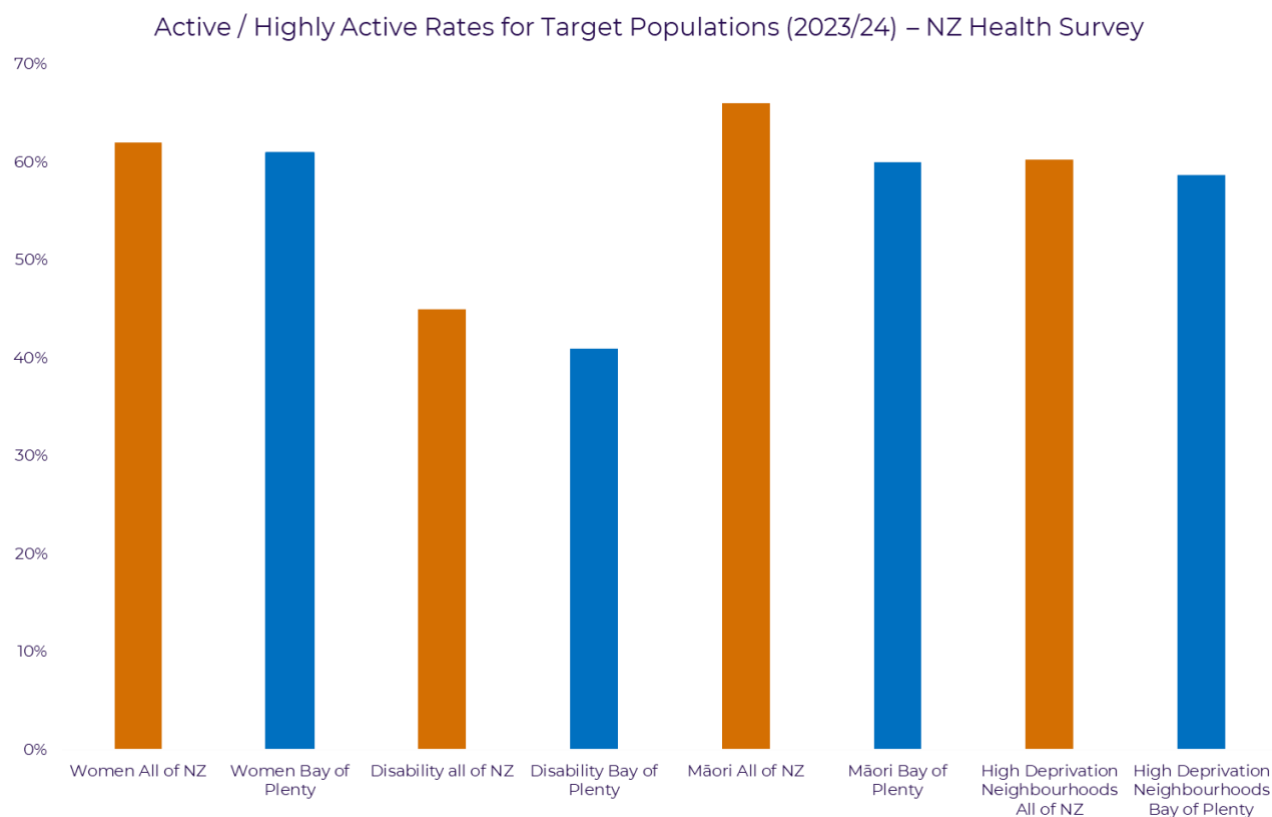
⁴² Sport New Zealand [Active NZ Survey 2024/25](https://www.rslc.nz/active-nz-survey-2024-25)
rslc.nz

New Zealand Health Survey (NZHS) – Further Detail

Activity Levels

While the overall activity rate in the Bay of Plenty (66%) is above the national level, the levels for different groups of the population are lower than the New Zealand average (64%). Bay of Plenty population groups with lower activity levels include women and girls, the disabled, Māori, and those living in high-deprivation communities (as outlined in Figure 10.1)

Figure 10-1: Active / Highly Active Rates for Population Segments (2023/24) - NZ Health Survey (NZHS)



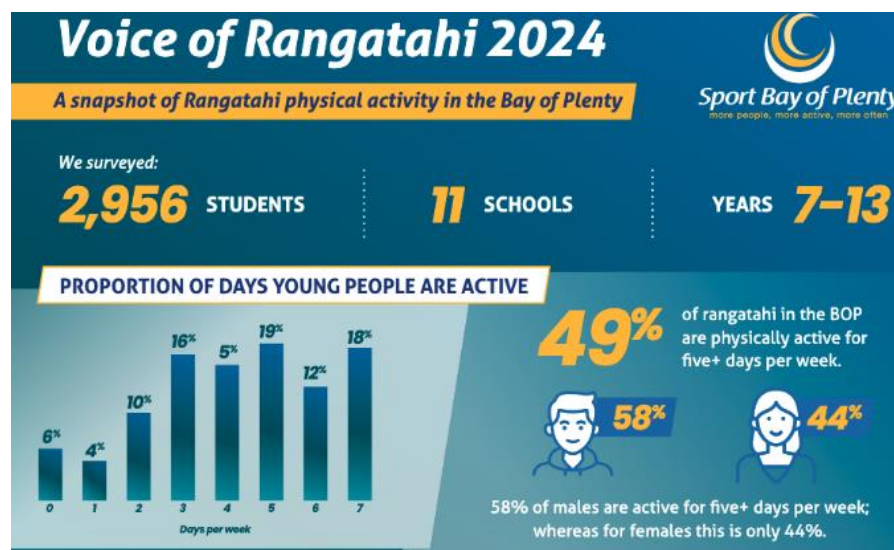
How is Disability Defined?

The NZHS uses the Washington Group Short Set (WG-SS) questions to identify adults with a disability. Using the WG-SS, disabled adults are those who have at least a lot of difficulty seeing or hearing (even with glasses or hearing aids), walking or climbing stairs, remembering or concentrating, self-care, or communicating⁴³.

10.1.1 Differences by Gender

Figure 10-2 Key Insights - Sport Bay of Plenty Voice of Rangatahi Report 2024

The Voice of Rangatahi Trend report (2021-24) prepared by Sport Bay of Plenty⁴⁴ identifies differences between boys and girls participation.



⁴³ The six domains included in the WG-SS were chosen because they were found to be the ones that identified a majority of people at risk of being restricted in their independent participation in society.

⁴⁴ Voice of Rangatahi Trend report (2021-24) measures year 7-13 students.

Figure 10-3 outlines the differences in physical activity levels of men and women over the 10 year period (source: NZHS data). Figure 10-4 provides the NZHS 10 year trend which shows a 2% decline in adults in the Bay of Plenty who are active/ highly active (source: NZHS data).

Figure 10-3 Physical Activity Comparison by Gender (Adults)

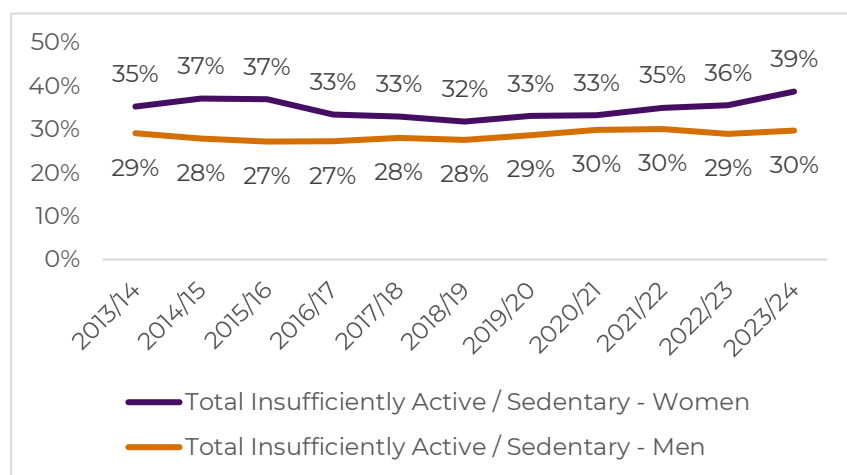
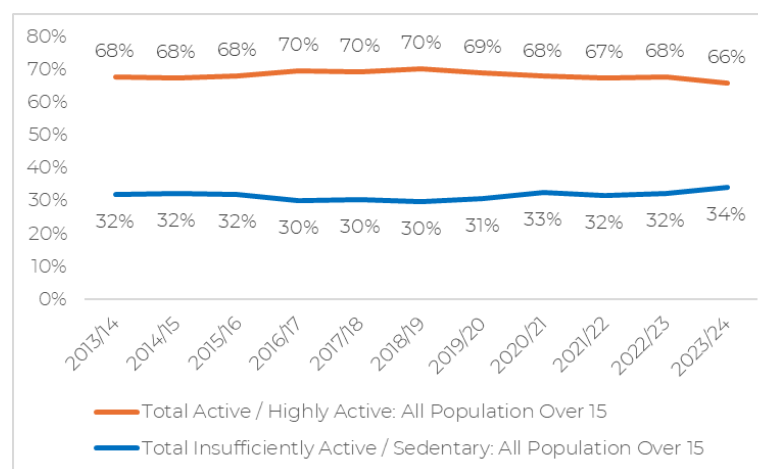


Figure 10-4 Adult Physical Activity Levels - Bay of Plenty (2013/14-2023/24)



Differences in activity levels between genders is recognisable at an early age in the Bay of Plenty.

The physical activity⁴⁵ levels of females begin to decline from the age of about 15 (Year 10) – as illustrated in Figure 10-5.

Figure 10-5 Days Active Rangatahi Girls (Year level comparison) 2021/24 (NZHS)

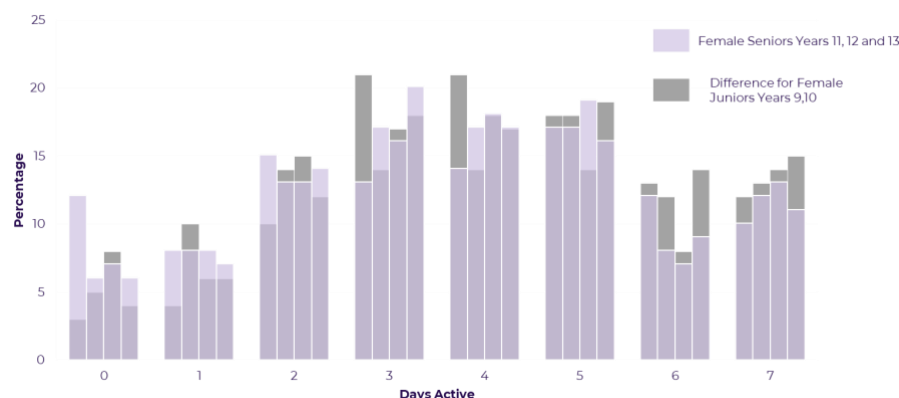
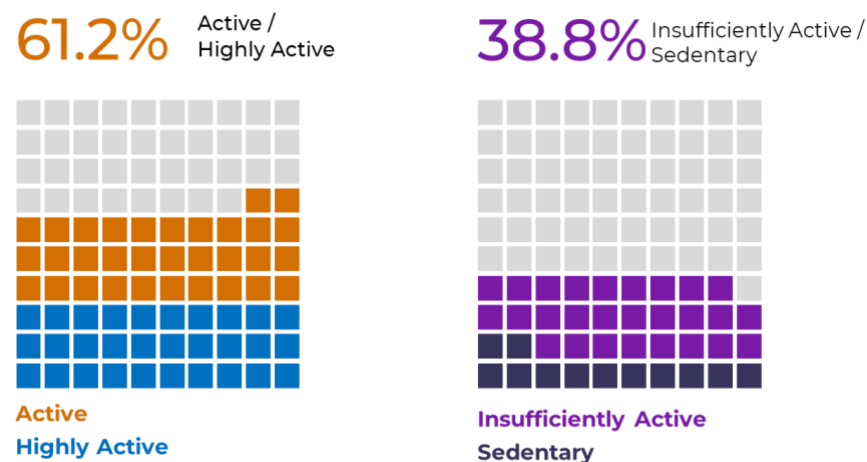


Figure 10-6 Physical Activity Levels in the Bay of Plenty – Women over the Age of 15 (2023/24 NZHS)



The pattern of activity differences continues for women over the age of 15, with adult women less likely to meet the recommended physical activity levels than men in the Bay of Plenty Region. 61% of women in the region are either active or highly active compared to 70.2% of men for the same categories.

Adult women in the Bay of Plenty have marginally lower levels of activity with 61% active or highly active, compared to 62% for all of New Zealand.

10.1.2 Organised Sport Participation Rates

Sport NZ Insights - activity behaviours data for the top 5 participation rates in the more 'organised'/ traditional sport category are set out in Table 6.

⁴⁵ Percentage of rangatahi who are physically active for five plus days a week.

It is important to note that this data is modelled and indicative only. It suggests that participation in basketball and golf is consistently higher across the Bay of Plenty than across New Zealand as a whole.

Table 10-1 Participation in Traditional and Organised Sport – All Ages

City / District Council Area	Football	Basketball	Golf	Rugby	Netball
					
All of New Zealand	6.3%	4.4%	3.7%	2.7%	3.4%
Bay of Plenty Region	5.1%	4.7%	4.5%	3.4%	3.2%
Tauranga City	5.1%	4.5%	4.7%	3.2%	3%
Western Bay of Plenty District	5%	4.5%	4.8%	3.2%	3%
Rotorua District	5.1%	5%	4.2%	3.6%	3.3%
Kawerau District	5.1%	5.4%	4.2%	4%	3.8%
Whakatāne District	5%	5.1%	4.4%	3.7%	3.5%
Ōpōtiki District	5%	5.5%	4.3%	4%	3.8%

Source: Sport New Zealand Insights Tool – Activity Behaviours uses modelled participation to show preferences, using combined data from the 2022 and 2023 Active NZ Survey and Statistics NZ Census 2018. This information is indicative only.

Almost all sport and recreation activities are reliant on some form of space or place (asset or facility) to enable participation. A large proportion of these spaces and places are provided through public funding and administration (e.g. public parks, beaches, skate parks, playgrounds, tracks and trails and pools) and offer many opportunities for casual and informal participation.

Facilities for more formalised use include bookable and fit-for-purpose spaces such as indoor courts, sports fields, aquatic centres, and multi-use venues. Typically, these cater for organised activities at set times such as sports training and competition, group exercise classes and scheduled activities, along with tournaments and major events.

10.1.3 Bay of Plenty Top 5 'organised sport' activity behaviours - young people

When the Sport New Zealand Insights activity behaviour data is considered from a facility-based, 'organised' sport⁴⁶ perspective it indicates:

Figure 10-7 Top 3 'Organised Sport Activity Behaviours By Demographic Groups

Primary Students			Secondary Students			All Demographics		
								
Football (soccer)	Gymnastics	Basketball	Football (soccer)	Basketball	Volleyball	Football (soccer)	Basketball	Golf
17.1%	11.7%	11.1%	13.7%	13%	11.4%	5.1%	4.7%	4.5%

Source: Sport New Zealand Insights Tool – Modelled participation uses combined data from the 2022 and 2023 Active NZ Survey and Statistics NZ Census 2018. Indicative only.

This demonstrates the ongoing value of traditional sport for many people of all ages across the Bay of Plenty, it also reinforces the importance of key assets like sports fields and open space, indoor and outdoor courts and sport-specific facilities, that provide important platforms for organised club activity.

⁴⁶ Some activities such as cycling, swimming, were within the data but are not included in the top 5 summary as they are expected to largely reflect recreational participation.
rslc.nz

Most of these 'organised sports' can be undertaken in casual, informal ways, such as green fee golf (rather than membership) and in social or family-friendly formats like casual beach volleyball, social 'summer' football and outdoor ½ court or 3x3 basketball.

Inactivity

Not all New Zealanders are active, with the Insights Tool reporting 23.4% of all New Zealanders to be inactive. The inactivity level for the Bay of Plenty region is 22.3%, with individual council area rates of inactivity ranging from 22% in Western Bay of Plenty and Tauranga to 23.8% in Ōpōtiki. This Strategy is an opportunity to consider how the inactive can change their behaviour with access to and knowledge of opportunities and spaces and places which support physical activity in daily life.

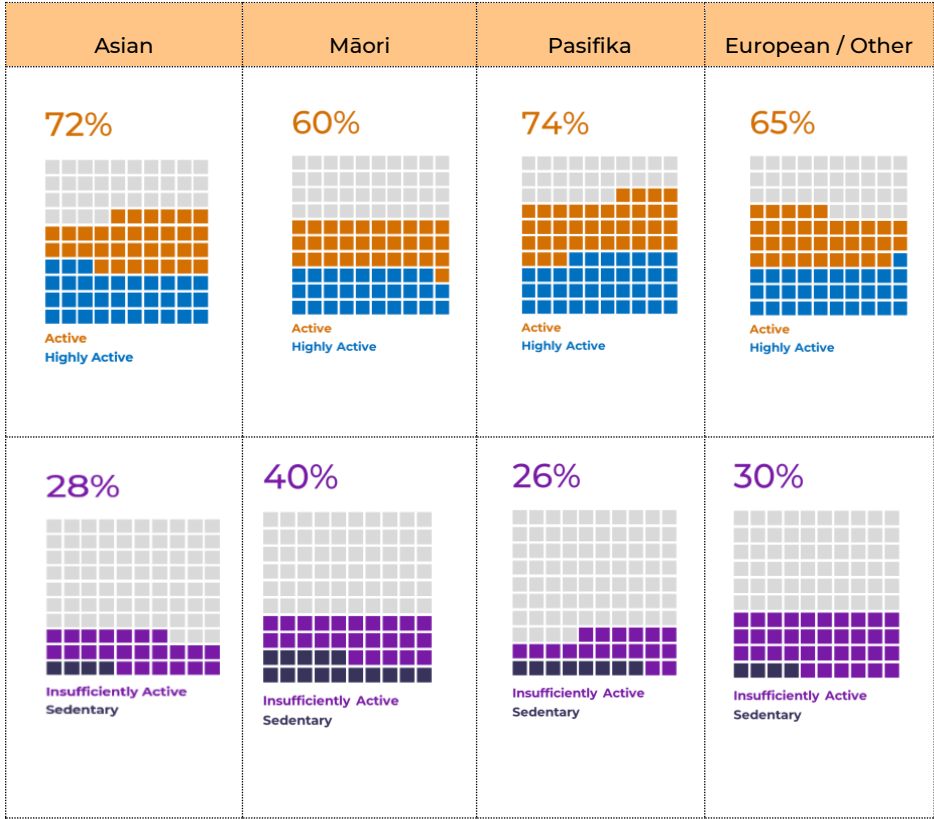


10.1.4 Differences in Physical Activity – By Ethnicity (2023/24)

Health NZ data demonstrates some significant differences in activity levels across ethnic groups in the Bay of Plenty. This is outlined by the four ethnic groupings in Table 10-3, and indicates that efforts to increase physical activity by Māori will be important in the Bay of Plenty, especially in communities with higher proportions of people identifying as Māori, such as in Central and Eastern Bay of Plenty.



Table 10-3: Ethnic Group Participation Comparisons (NZHS 2023/24)



⁴⁷ Source: Health NZ
rslc.nz

10.1.5 Physical Activity Levels By Deprivation

Neighbourhood deprivation refers to the New Zealand Index of Deprivation 2018 (NZDep2018), developed by researchers at the University of Otago (Atkinson et al 2019). NZDep2018 measures the level of socioeconomic deprivation for each neighbourhood (Statistical Area 1, SA1) according to a combination of the following 2018 Census variables: household income, benefit receipt, household crowding, home ownership, employment status, qualifications, single-parent families, living in a home with dampness/mould and access to the internet. An earlier version of NZDep (NZDep2013) was used in the NZHS years 2014/15 and 2018/19, and NZDep2006 was used before NZHS 2014/15.

Note: In the Strategy references are made to deprived communities rather than neighbourhoods. Those references are linked to the Deprivation Index.

NZHS reports generally use NZDep2018 quintiles, where quintile 1 represents the 20% of small areas with the lowest levels of deprivation (Dep 1 - the least deprived areas) and quintile 5 represents the 20% of small areas with the highest level of deprivation (Dep 5 - the most deprived areas).

Deprived communities in the Bay of Plenty have slightly lower levels of active/highly active adults (59%) compared to activity levels of those in deprived communities across the whole of New Zealand (60%).

Figure 109 Low Physical Activity Level Comparison

Figure 10-8 Physical Activity Levels – Deprived Communities BOP (NZDep Index)

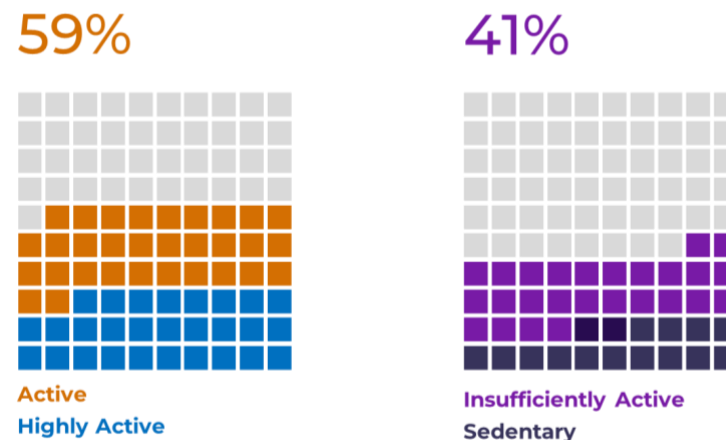
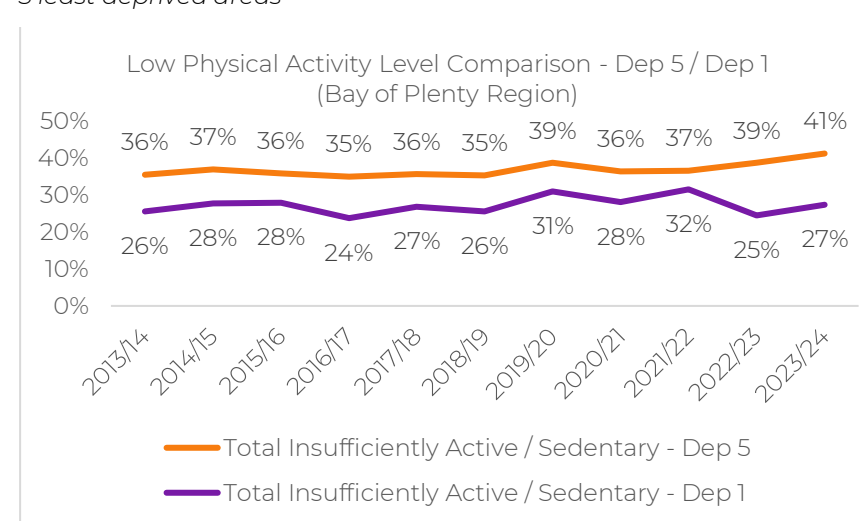


Figure 15: Comparison by Deprivation Quintile – 1 most deprived areas, 5 least deprived areas¹



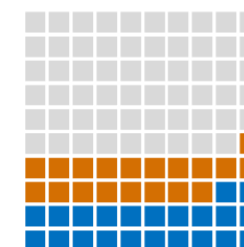
10.1.6 Differences for Disabled People

People living with a disability in the Bay of Plenty region are significantly less likely, (25% less), to be sufficiently active, compared to other adults in the region. 59% of disabled people in the Bay of Plenty are likely to be insufficiently active / sedentary. This signals more can be done to support involvement of disabled people in play, active recreation and sport within the region.

Figure 10-10 Physical Activity Levels – Disabled People BoP (NZHS 2023/24)

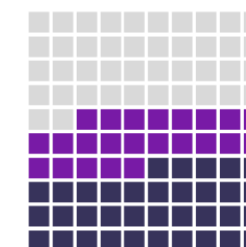


41%



Active
Highly Active

59%



Insufficiently Active
Sedentary

11 Appendix 3 – Examples of Success

What is Currently Working To Get People Active?

Organisations and communities across the Bay of Plenty are delivering many great play, active recreation and sport opportunities which enable participation for many people across the region.

It is important to sustain what is currently working, as well as expand different, effective approaches more widely across the region.

11.1 Examples of Success

This section provides some brief case studies of initiatives and approaches that have been successful in supporting physical activity for diverse communities in the Bay of Plenty region. These reflect the target, grow and sustain framework.

There is a lot of great mahi which is occurring across the Bay of Plenty which is not specifically identified here. Many RSOs⁴⁸, Māori organisations and clubs are implementing initiatives that support diverse participants and positive participation experiences. This includes delivery of targeted programmes which support and encourage participation by:

- women and girls, including through regular programmes and one-off events
- young people, including in-school delivery and targeted support such as financial assistance to participate (free fees or payment plan options)
- those with disabilities, including through regular programmes and one-off events
- people from different ethnic and cultural backgrounds, including by Māori for Māori activities
- local delivery of events and have a go experiences
- partnerships to increase use of spaces and places, such as existing clubs sharing spaces with other activities and actively seeking new and diverse participants, such as bowls and golf clubs offering opportunities for young people to engage with their sports

There has also been a significantly increased focus, in recent years, on enhancing physical activity opportunities for young people, such as through new approaches to play, increased effort and initiatives in education settings such as the Healthy Active Learning programme and school, club partnerships.

Other initiatives, such as 'Positive Vibes' are also important to the participant experience and should be sustained going forward.

⁴⁸ As well as NSOs (where relevant).
rslc.nz

The brief case studies are a snapshot of some successful approaches. They are provided to highlight some examples of the types of initiatives and approaches that should be sustained, and considered by other organisations to help enhance the offerings available to people across the region. The examples given here do not in any way suggest that these are the only successful approaches that are currently supporting people to become or remain active through play, active recreation and sport in the region.

11.1.1 Green Prescription – Supporting Improved Wellbeing

Green Prescription is a national initiative that was developed some 30 years ago to improve physical activity and nutrition. The programme relies on referrals from health professionals to providers such as Sport Bay of Plenty, who develop appropriate programmes to support adults and families to improve health outcomes through physical activity and nutrition changes. Analysis of the Green Prescription programme shows that:

for every \$1 invested for adults, there is a \$14 return and for young people an \$8 return⁴⁹.

Benefits to the participants include⁵⁰:

- Improved physical wellbeing
- Increased quality of life and expectancy
- Fewer falls in older people
- Reduced dependency on disability and long-term benefits
- Improved social wellbeing
- Reduced use of health services such as ED visits and hospitalisations
- Increased productivity
- Avoid costs of Type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease and other conditions

⁴⁹ From a national evaluation of Health New Zealand's Green Prescription programme conducted by NZ Institute of Economic Research – [media release from Sport Bay of Plenty](#).

⁵⁰ Ibid.

11.1.2 BaySwim – Innovative Approach to Learn to Swim Programmes

In 2025 BaySwim⁵¹ received a Merit Award at the Recreation Aotearoa Aquatic Awards. This recognised the innovate and inclusive approach that the BaySwim team have been applying to learn to swim programmes. This includes specialist lessons and programmes for people with sensory sensitivities, and for children living in foster care, culturally appropriate swimming classes for ethnic women⁵², lessons in Korean, Chinese and sign language and a teach the teacher programme that empowers kaiako (teachers) to deliver swimming lessons to their own ākonga (students) in te reo Māori. They have also been delivering modified water safety programmes for schools with students who have special needs. BaySwim Manager Claire Horner said: *“Our innovation isn’t built on flashy tech, it’s grounded in something much more powerful: meeting people where they are”*. Claire also notes that *“Each programme Bayswim creates is in response to real community needs and is designed to reflect the diversity of the communities we serve.”*

11.1.3 Pāpāmoa Hills Cultural Heritage Regional Park Upgrade

In November 2023, the regional park reopened after a series of upgrades which were undertaken to improve the user experience.

“We’re delighted to see so many people enjoying the upgraded Pāpāmoa Hills experience, and engaging with the cultural stories of our area through the interpretation panels.” – Regional Council Land Management Officer, Hayden Schick⁵³.

Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Regional Council owns the park on behalf of the community, and developed the upgrades in partnership with Te Uepū, which includes representatives of Waitaha, Ngā Pōtiki, Ngāti Pūkenga and Ngāti Hē along with Regional Council representatives. The upgrades included:

- New entrance and car park
- Interpretation and wayfinding signs
- Toilets
- Additional tracks⁵⁴

From November 2023 to November 2024 the park had a 126% increase in visitors compared to previous years. This demonstrates how investment, guided by a positive community - iwi partnership, can result in increased utilisation of a key regional open space.

⁵¹ Bay Venues learn to swim programme team. For more information see the [BaySwim website](#).

⁵² Bayswim also won the 2025 NZ Swim Teachers and Coaches: Swim Schools - (Innovation) Programme of the Year Winner for the ethnic women’s programme.

⁵³ Content sourced from [Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Regional Council](#).

⁵⁴ Unfortunately, some areas of the park have been closed since the rainfall event in January 2026. Areas which have re-opened have high utilisation levels.

11.1.4 Rotorua Golf Collective – Aotearoa's First Single Sport Collective

Rotorua's 3 18-hole golf clubs have formed a collective to collaborate and share expertise, programmes and services to further golf in the district and ensure future sustainability. The clubs had talked about shared issues and challenges in the past, and the potential for greater collaboration, but the talk had not previously resulted in any action. Following a recommendation that the clubs explore collaborative opportunities and the potential for shared resourcing in the 2023 Rotorua Golf Facility Strategy (co-funded by Golf NZ and Rotorua Lakes Council), Sport Bay of Plenty then supported the clubs to engage further to see if the ideas could become something tangible. A combined working group from the 3 clubs was formed in 2024, facilitated by Sport Bay of Plenty. The clubs pooled resources to self-fund an initial exploration phase, and were then supported by Rotorua Trust in 2024 for consultancy support to work through a formal hub establishment journey. The Collective officially formed in 2025. Each club remains a separate, sovereign entity, but they now have a collective organisation with a mandate to work on behalf of the clubs for the betterment of golf as a whole, allowing critical resources to be shared and to reduce operational cost burdens. Some thoughts from members of the collective:

“Most other hubs that have been created are based around a single sports facility and multiple sports. This is the first time it's been one sport and three completely separate facilities who are all competing with each other in some respects. The fact this has been created, the fact it's been done in Rotorua, I think is really positive.” – Haydn Marriner – Rotorua Golf Collective Chair

“It's early days, but the collective has plenty of opportunities through a collaborative approach that will hopefully benefit the clubs long term” - Arikikapakapa Golf Club General Manager Clinton Butler

Springfield Golf Club representative Craig Tiriana observes that “each of the clubs has different offerings, but they are stronger together”.

“All three clubs were struggling to remain financially viable, and we know there could be some benefit to working together, potentially sharing resources, working to promote green fee players. - Sue Falconer of Lakeview Golf and Country Club⁵⁵.

⁵⁵ More information on the Collective is available on the [Sport Bay of Plenty website](#) or from Golf NZ's Bay of Plenty Regional Manager Mark Webb.

11.1.5 Play Trailers- Taking Play to the People!

Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa has funded 4 play trailers across the Bay of Plenty in the past 3 years. These trailers are housed at Katikati Community Centre, Te Puke Collab, Bay Venues Limited and Te Manatū Ahurea o Tūhoe Trust. The contents of the trailers were informed through engagement with local tamariki and rangatahi. The contents of the trailer in Te Puke were especially informed by those living with (or supporting someone with) a disability.

The play trailer in the Tūhoe rohe was first used at Tūhoe Ahurei 2025. Festival organisers, Te Manatū Ahurea o Tūhoe Trust and the Mataatua Sports Trust, had seen a gap in the opportunities provided for young people at the sport festival. Sport Bay of Plenty was able to support the vision of the organisers with an exciting and inclusive space for tamariki and rangatahi to engage in movement, tākaro and traditional Māori games such as ki-o-rahi. The trailer is now used year-round across Tūhoe communities supporting marae, hapū, kura, and whānau with tools to uplift physical activity through culturally resonant play for all ages. The long-term goal is to support ki-o-rahi as a permanent feature of the festival sports day.

Discussions about 'Access to Play for Tamariki, During and Beyond a Crisis', identified that the play trailers could provide some activity for young people should there be a crisis in Te Puke or Katikati. The Western Bay District Councils Emergency Response Team now has access to these trailers if needed to support their community response⁵⁶.

The trailers have been used at various events and locations, including whanāu evenings, school holiday activations, Play Week, in schools, and to add play to larger-scale events such as the Katikati Avocado Festival and many more events across the region.

Other recent examples of the 'Power of Play' in action across the region include:

- **Tauranga City Centre Supports Incidental Play** – through applying a play lens and installations including High 5 Hands, the floor is lava, magic mirrors and wayfinding features.
- **Neighbourhood Play Systems Work, Western Heights Primary School and Aorangi Primary School, Rotorua** - Students identified an opportunity to cover up graffiti at the local shopping centre. Local mural artist Marc Spijkerbosch worked with students from both schools to design a mural, and students were involved in painting sessions to bring it to life. With support from Resene, playful stencils have been added through an alleyway by Aorangi School, featuring hopscotch, footprints and a maze to support a more playful journey to school for tamariki.

For more information, see the Power of Play report summary in Appendix 4.

⁵⁶ These local discussions and action built on learning from Sport Canterbury and Healthy Families Ōtautahi Christchurch [published by Sport New Zealand](#).
rslc.nz

11.1.6 Inclusive, Culturally Responsive Experiences Combining Learning and Movement

Selwyn Ridge Primary School and Sport Bay of Plenty enabled a class to use Kī o rahi as a whole term inquiry, which brought learning to life. Students learnt the pūrākau of Kī o rahi and were able to use it as a foundation of literacy learning. It helped bring maths alive, through measurement and geometry for measuring playing fields and game zones. Students will also be able to connect the pūrākau of Kī o rahi to arts and creativity through animations. Of course, the highlight was playing the taonga Tākaro itself, experiencing the teamwork and physicality important to Kī o rahi. The class were then able to become tuakana-teina (older-younger peer mentors), teaching other classes how to play. Quotes from students highlight the value of this approach:

“We got to do math’s, and it was fun, we had to measure the field for Kī o rahi” - Henry, Year 6.

“I loved playing the teachers vs students game, especially because I got to be a teacher” – Piper, Year 6

“It was fun being role models and sharing our learning and animations to teach other classes Kī o rahi” – Charlie, year 6

This is a great example of integrated learning, creating inclusive experiences through amplifying pūrākau and integrating physical activity through traditional Māori Tākaro into school settings.

11.1.7 Ōpōtiki Taku Hikoī – shows what’s possible through genuine partnership between hapū, iwi and council

Led by Whakatōhea Māori Trust Board and Ōpōtiki District Council, and co-designed with all six local hapū, the kaupapa turns the Motu Trails into more than a track—it becomes a story you move through. Twelve pou whakairo sit along the trail, each sharing a hapū pūrākau and whakapapa, bringing culture, identity, and connection to whenua to life through walking, riding, play, and exploration

Hapū shaped what stories were told, where the pou sit, and how people experience the trail, making sure it feels authentic and grounded in local voices. What started as a community-led idea has grown into something even bigger, with Waikato University students creating a custom digital app that blends storytelling, technology and taonga tākaro. The result is a future-focused trail that feels alive—where culture, story and the trail feel like Ōpōtiki.

12 Appendix 4 - Additional Sources of Information

12.1 Support for Inclusive Approaches

A conversation with Sport Bay of Plenty staff is a great start for organisations who are wanting to consider how they can provide more inclusive opportunities for communities. The team has experience and connections to help support a wide range of inclusivity considerations including working with different ages, genders, ethnicities and abilities.

There is also an ever-growing set of resources, tools and guidelines available to support the provision of inclusive play, active recreation and sport opportunities. This section provides information and links to a range of resources for those who want to take a deeper dive into considering and responding to the needs of different population segments.

12.1.1 Recreation Aotearoa A-Z of Industry Standards and Guidelines

Recreation Aotearoa provides a significant number of guidance documents and standards related to recreation provision. The [full A-Z List is available here](#) and continues to be updated as new guidance emerges. Some of the guidance documents available include:

- Aquatics facility guidelines including accessibility considerations for websites
- Community recreation guidelines, including facility guidelines and trans and gender diversity guidance for exercise and recreation providers
- Good practice guidelines, including for increasing participation of Muslim women and girls
- Outdoor guidelines - Accessibility and inclusion in Outdoor Education and Recreation; Outdoor Accessibility Design Guidelines; Te Ao ki te Pō: a Māori Perspective on Recreation and many more
- Parks, play and open spaces guidelines, such as a guide to the Healthy Parks Healthy People Approach
- Spaces and Places guidelines, most of which have been produced by Sport New Zealand, several of which are covered in section 10.2 and are available on the Sport New Zealand website or as links within the Recreation Aotearoa A-Z list.

12.2 The Power of Play - Bay of Plenty Report 2022

This document captures key insights about play across the Bay of Plenty, including barriers and enablers. Many things are working well to support play in the sub-regions with highlights including:

Region-wide	Central Bay of Plenty	Eastern Bay of Plenty	Western Bay of Plenty
Activities in the outdoors using the natural environment Freely available, accessible local play Facilities such as playgrounds, parks, pools, cycleways Programmes and classes run by local clubs and schools Holiday programmes One-off community events and festivals Kaiako who prioritise play within daycare and schools.	Events such as fun in the park series, Children's Day, Te Papa Tākaro o te Arawa (supporting traditional Māori games). Investment in places to support play such as Whakarewarewa Redwood's Forest, Lakefront playground Bikes in schools and council bikes in the community Stand Tall in Fordlands (weekly programme with music, kai, play), Maramataka programme (culture centre with Tato Ponamu).	Events including kapa haka, pā wars, all-age group sports days, Maraenui fishing competitions, fun days at Magpie Park (Ōpōtiki District), Christmas in the Park (Whakatāne), Toi's Challenge, Teddy Bear's Picnic, beach dig Places that support play, such as Wharf swings and slides and the Children's Art House (Ōpōtiki), CREW upcycling centre (Whakatāne) Playgroups, Digitech	Investment in play space upgrades and new developments, including adjustable basketball courts Tumble time Bay Active and Plunket collaboration with Gymsports Local hapū stories used in the development of the Waihi Beach playground Technology such as geocaching Family events such as New Year's Eve, Matariki, Parafed whānau days, pop-up water play

These are a just of few of many initiatives which are making a difference for tamariki, rangatahi and whānau by making play more accessible and inclusive across the region.

12.3 Secondary Data Review

This section contains a summary of many national, regional and local documents of relevance to play, active recreation and sport in the Bay of Plenty. To avoid duplication with the Bay of Plenty Spaces and Places Strategy 2024, this section focuses on documents which were not covered in the secondary data review of that report (Appendix 6), which can be sourced via [Sport Bay of Plenty](#).

12.3.1 National Documents

12.3.1.1 Determining the Future-Social, Cultural, Economic, and Commercial Determinants of Wellbeing in Aotearoa New Zealand

A 2025 Public Health Advisory Committee report, which looks at determinants outside the health sector that impact on health and wellbeing and proposes greater investment in and empowerment for communities to support their aspirations for self-determination, capacity and strength as fundamentals to build on. The report recommends increased access to infrastructure.

12.3.1.2 The Value of Blue and Green Spaces – Sport New Zealand 2025

The report considers how nature, blue (outdoor spaces with visible surface water like lakes and rivers) and green (outdoor spaces partly or completely covered by vegetation of any kind like trees, grass, bush, parks and gardens) spaces can enhance physical activity and wellbeing in Aotearoa New Zealand. It consolidates findings from national and international research. The findings show that blue and green spaces and te taiao (the natural world) are critical aspects of quality physical activity for young people in NZ

Key findings:

- Being in nature inspires people to be physically active and can lead to longer and more intense physical activity.
- Being active in blue and green spaces is important for supporting the hauora (health and wellbeing) of tamariki and rangatahi. It can be more beneficial than being active indoors or in grey spaces.
- For Māori, physical activity in te taiao supports cultural connection and wellbeing.
- Being active in blue and green spaces has a positive influence on mental and social development for tamariki and rangatahi.
- There are actions we can take to support all tamariki and rangatahi to benefit from being active in blue and green spaces and te taiao.
- Five minutes in nature is all it takes to feel the positive effects on mental health.

12.3.1.3 The Case for Investing in Play, Active Recreation and Sport for Local Government

Sport New Zealand has a wide range of research and evidence that helps articulate the value of play, active recreation and sport. Recently, it has pulled together a range of key resources⁵⁷ that help tell the story of the importance of investment in play, active recreation, and sport. In summary, key points are:

- Local government has a unique and critical role in play, active recreation, and sport – providing vital community assets and grant opportunities that support local communities to participate in play, active recreation, and sport.
- Provision of play, active recreation, and sport facilities, infrastructure, resources and opportunities is important to a large proportion of the population. In 2022:

⁵⁷ Sourced from: <https://sportnz.org.nz/resources/the-value-of-play-active-recreation-and-sport-for-local-government/>
rslc.nz Bay of Plenty Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy |

- 73% of adults and 92% of young people (aged 5-17 yrs) participated each week in play, active recreation, and sport.
- 79% of adults and 63% of young people would like to have been doing more play, active recreation, and sport
- High deprivation, Asian and Pasifika population groups were significantly less likely to participate

In summary, it is important to understand and acknowledge that the benefits and value of play, active recreation and sport go well beyond physical health outcomes. They also benefit people and communities “socially, mentally, emotionally, psychologically and spiritually”⁵⁸.

12.3.1.4 Sport New Zealand Strategic Plan 2024-2028

Continuing with the vision of *Every Body Active*, the Plan identifies:

- 3 long-term outcomes:
 - Increased frequency, intensity, time and type of participation in physical activity and sport
 - Enhanced experience of participants, supporters, volunteers, and workforces
 - Increased variety of culturally distinct pathways for tangata whenua and all New Zealanders
- 3 strategic focus areas:
 - Maintaining physical activity levels of tamariki
 - Reducing the decline in physical activity levels for rangatahi
 - Improving equity for tamariki and rangatahi who are less active
- 4 strategic priorities to be successful:
 - Capable and resilient partner organisations
 - Quality opportunities and experiences
 - Empowered local communities and hapori
 - Active schools and kura

12.3.1.5 Towards 2032 - Sport New Zealand Strategic Plan for 2020-2032

Sport New Zealand's Strategic Direction, 'Towards 2032' sets out their direction and outcomes for the next 12 years.

Sport New Zealand's vision is, *Every Body Active* and their purpose is to contribute to the wellbeing of everybody in Aotearoa New Zealand, by leading an enriching and inspiring Play, Active Recreation and Sport system.

Long-term outcomes include:

⁵⁸ The value of sport in challenging times, Karen Laurie. Sourced from: <https://balanceisbetter.org.nz/the-value-of-sport-in-challenging-times>
rslc.nz Bay of Plenty Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy |

- Improved Frequency
- Enhanced Experience
- Increased Variety
- Improved system

12.3.1.6 Environment Sustainability Guidelines - Sport New Zealand 2024

These guidelines were designed to be read in conjunction with the New Zealand Spaces and Places Framework.

The purpose of the guidelines is to help territorial authorities and sport and recreation organisations navigate the range of issues relating to environmental sustainability that affect spaces and places for play, active recreation, and sport (referred to as spaces and places) in New Zealand.

These guidelines apply specifically to the environmentally sustainable inception, design, construction and operation of spaces and places. They are intended to help organisations identify and adopt sustainability measures that will:

- Help to improve present operations
- Support decision-making for future investment

Four key sustainability concepts are conveyed in the guidelines:

- Sustainability First: considering and implementing sustainable practice is essential for the operational resilience, financial viability and long-term cost effectiveness of spaces and places. Examples include:
 - Reducing greenhouse gas emissions by improving energy efficiency and making informed material choices.
 - Making a step-change in water management by reducing consumption and minimising discharges.
 - Reducing all waste going to landfill and developing a culture of re-use and recycling.
- Whole of Life: all projects must be considered in terms of their long-term consequences. This applies to positive and negative impacts on the community and environment that spaces and places engage with, and also to the affordability of operating facilities in the future. Examples of this approach include:
 - Setting strategic aspirations for reducing GHG emissions.
 - Accounting for operating and maintenance costs and how they will be funded over time.
 - Considering the preparation needed for resilience against future extreme weather events (flooding, storms, coastal erosion, and heat waves).
 - Considering material maintenance, durability and lifespan (including what happens to them at end-of-life)
- Needs Assessment: thinking and acting sustainably requires reducing excess and effectively utilising resources. Careful consideration of needs, as opposed to wants, should guide decision-making, with particular focus on the needs of potential future users of spaces and places.

- Context: social, cultural, transport, ecological and economic context must be considered. Solutions need to minimise negative impacts and create win-win outcomes for the wider community. This requires working with a wide range of stakeholders and expertise as early as possible in the project.

12.3.1.7 Guidance Document for Sports Field Development, Sport New Zealand (2019)

The guidance document is designed to help achieve a realistic sports field development that meets the needs of the local community.

It provides guidance on each of 4 stages:

- Needs analysis
- sports field options
- Cost analysis
- The Way Forward

To assist with the cost analysis, refer to the [Sport New Zealand: Whole of Life Costs Model for Sports Fields](#). This model calculates the capital and maintenance costs and the cost recovery amount required (per hour of use) to break even over a 30-year lifecycle.

12.3.1.8 National Indoor Active Recreation and Sport Facilities Strategy - Sport New Zealand 2024

Sport New Zealand's [National Indoor Active Recreation and Sport Facilities Strategy](#) (National Strategy) was completed in 2024. It informs investment in the indoor active recreation and sport facility network across New Zealand. It provides guidance on how best to transition and transform the current network to better meet community needs. Relevant direction from this National Strategy to this Spaces and Places plan includes:

- Acknowledging the increasing pressures indoor active recreation and sport faces like maintaining existing facilities, meeting increasing demand, adapting to changing needs, escalating costs of provision (both capital and operational), adapting to climate change and improving environmental sustainability.
- A changing climate driving more frequent weather patterns likely to continue with more rain and intense heat, driving demand for more activity to be indoors or under cover.
- Use of a full-time equivalent (FTE) ratio that is assigned to each indoor court in the national database based on the amount of time available at both peak and off-peak times a court is available for community use.
- Assigning an FTE to school facilities with community use between 0.25-0.75 depending on the level of community use at peak times.
- Confirming peak demand times are considered to be 4pm-9pm weekdays and 8am-5pm weekends.
- Establishing a national benchmark figure of 1 court per 7,800 population.
- Observing best practice should include detailed regional/local analysis taking into account specific local geographic and climate conditions alongside applying the national benchmark indicators.

- Identifying that nationally, to meet demand, the number of FTE courts will need to increase by 20% by 2038.

12.3.1.9 National Aquatic Facilities Strategy - Sport New Zealand 2024.

The purpose of the Strategy is to inform organisations such as councils that contribute to the network provision of aquatic facilities:

- What is currently available and where
- What needs the current facilities fulfil
- What the current aquatic facility needs are
- How the current facilities will track out to 2038
- Who to involve in the process
- Insights on quality aquatic facility planning practice

Supply Assessment/ Facility Use Type

Rather than identifying every aquatic facility as one facility, the Strategy considers pool availability by a full-time equivalent (FTE) measure:

- Council/community facility – Indoor = 1.0 FTE / Seasonal = 0.4 FTE
- School pool (with community availability – Indoor = 0.5 FTE / Seasonal = 0.1 FTE
- Private swim school – 0.5 FTE
- Event facility provision (with community use at other times) – 1.0 FTE
- Pool with no community availability – 0 FTE

The benchmark for provision is a minimum of 27m² of aquatic space per 1,000 population.

FTE water space assessment is subject to water type demand indicators. However, this figure cannot be considered in isolation. Before the benchmark can be applied, consideration must be given to whether the demand for each of 3 types of facility use is being met:

- Fitness, health, lane sports, deep water sports – 16%
- Aquatic competence – 17%
- Leisure, play, relaxation, hydrotherapy, school, recreational access – 67%

The benchmark of 27m² of aquatic space per 1,000 population should be applied as the minimum requirement when the pool water type balance is achieved.

12.3.1.10 Skate Guidelines for Local Government - Sport New Zealand 2024

These guidelines align with the main principles and approach outlined in Sport New Zealand's Spaces and Places Framework 2024. For the purposes of these guidelines, 'Skate' encompasses:

- Skateboarding
- Scooter riding
- BMX
- Roller and inline skating

The report has several case studies from around NZ and Australia. Summary points from these guidelines include:

Community engagement is critical

- Make it authentic
- Include Skateboarding NZ, specialist designers, current/potential users
- Groups to keep in mind – women/girls, young people, disabled and neurodiverse communities

Types of provision include:

- Street and plaza
- Bowl and transition
- A combination of the above

The provision of associated amenities should include:

- Lighting
- Shade and cover
- Seating
- Toilets and drinking fountains
- Integration with other activities
- Disability design considerations
- Signage

12.3.1.11 A Te Tiriti o Waitangi-informed Approach to Spaces and Places Provision for Physical Activity (Sport New Zealand)

- Honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi is a priority for Sport New Zealand.
- Importance of embedding a mātauranga Māori approach in spaces and places planning.
- Provides a framework to guide practice, assisting enablers and providers of spaces and places to give effect to the key principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi – Mana Ōrite (partnership), Mana Māori (Protection) and Mana Taurite (Participation).
- It provides examples of how these principles can be supported through planning, development and operations of spaces and places. Some examples include:
 - Early and enduring engagement with mana whenua; including cultural expertise within project teams, governance structures and planning phases.
 - co-design approaches to new facilities (spaces and places) and incorporation of spaces that support manaakitanga, kaupapa Māori physical activity spaces, along with incorporating naming, cultural history and values into site selection and design.
 - incorporating into design and Māori activity offerings, along with programmes that are holistic, accessible and responsive.
 - subsidies and programme initiatives to support participation by marginalised groups, including in relevant employment opportunities.
 - Incorporating environmentally sustainable practices such as sustainable energy solutions, climate resilient site selection, restoration of natural habitats, and celebration of historic sites.
 - Development of cultural competency within facility management and programming workforce.

12.3.1.12 Te Pākē o ihi Aotearoa – Sport New Zealand Ihi Aotearoa Māori Outcomes Framework 2022

Provides a framework that weaves together Māori long term outcomes and guiding principles. The framework is designed to be robust, protect people and kaupapa, and to weave together what is most important to Māori. It has equal status with the Sport New Zealand Outcomes Framework, and both strengthens and aligns with its long-term outcomes.

The intent is to support Māori wellbeing and to enable tangata whenua to participate and succeed as tangata whenua.

The principles of Te Pākē are:

- Kia popo ki te kaupapa - Be authentic to the purpose
- kia tika te mahi - act with integrity
- Me aroha ke te tangata - respect for others

The framework includes:

- Mana Ōrite – authentic partnerships, equality, mutual outcomes
- Mana Māori – active protection of te reo, tikanga, taonga and mātauranga Māori
- Mana Taurikte – Māori-led, equitable and accessible pathways

Mauri Tū

- Tu te Ihi – culturally capable
- Tū Te Wehi – Te Tiriti-led
- Tū Te Wana – culturally capable and responsive

Mauri Ora

- Te Ihi – cultural identity
- Te Wehi – cultural connection
- Te Wana – cultural vitality

12.3.1.13 Te Aho a Ihi Aotearoa – Māori Activation Plan - Sport New Zealand 2022

Focuses on medium-term outcomes and aims to activate the Aho (Māori outcomes) set out in Te Pākē o Ihi Aotearoa. Te Aho sets out where we are now and provides the strategic priorities for the 2021-2024 period in support of moving to the desired future as set out in Te Pākē.

Current strategic priorities and actions are outlined under:

- Te Whakamana I Te Tiriti - Giving effect to the Treaty

Partnerships, protection, and participation introduced

- Mauri Tū - Building Cultural Capability

In individuals, the organisation (Sport New Zealand) and the sector

- Mauri Ora – Cultural Vitality

Te Ihi, Te Wehi, Te Wana

12.3.1.14 Te Whetū Rehua – The Guiding Star - Sport New Zealand Updated 2021

Te Whetū Rehua is a framework that supports Māori being able to participate as Māori. Originally developed as a guide to deciding appropriate activities for He Oranga Poutama in 2012, the framework was updated in 2021 and is also recommended for broader use, such as:

- A criteria tool for Tū Manawa funding decisions
- A cultural capability tool for organisations
- A leadership development guide for bicultural governance partnerships

It is based on five key Māori cultural values for sport:

Te Reo me ōna tikanga

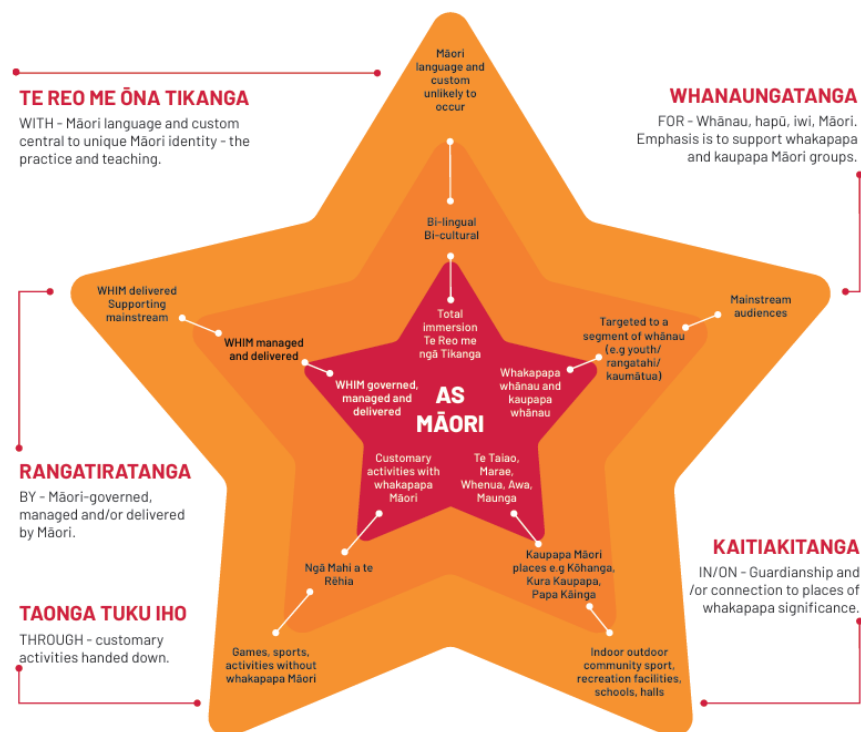
Rangatiratanga - Leadership and Management

Whanaungatanga

Taonga tuku iho

Kaitiakitanga

It can be used as an assessment tool to help develop sport in ways that uphold and encourage Māori values.



12.3.1.15 Tākaro Māori⁵⁹

Allows tamariki to experience joy and fun while giving them opportunity to make sense of their culture, whakapapa, and the world they live in.

It supports the idea that tamariki need to have opportunities to play in ways that are relevant to them and their culture. It also recognises the importance of te taiao in tākaro Māori.

The value of Māori play includes:

- Offering tamariki an opportunity to play as Māori.
- Creating meaningful connections with others.
- Enabling cultural knowledge and language transmission across generations and at all levels.
- Creating opportunities for tamariki to understand who they are while having fun.
- Celebrating our Indigenous knowledge and unique view on Play in Aotearoa.

12.3.1.16 Māori Voices of Play – Insights Report 2020⁶⁰

This report explores the current realities around play opportunities for Māori and explores the strengths, aspirations and challenges for Māori play. It recognises the importance of te taiao in Māori play.

It summarises a number of resources and approaches that support Māori play:

- Te Whetū Rehua (see page 76-77)
- Tupuwaekura – Healthy Active Learning from a Māori world view.
- Atua Matua – a shift back to mātauranga Māori, whakapapa connections and environmental wisdoms through exploring and experiencing te taiao.
- Te Ara hihiko ā Māui – a framework which utilises the stories of Māui and his brothers as a metaphor for a pathway to innovation when it comes to play.

The report also provides a summary of Māori play approaches including the past and current role of:

- Te Whare Tapere – iwi-community houses of storytelling which included pursuits of ngā waiata (song), ngā haka (dance), ngā kōrero (stories), ngā taonga pūoro (musical instruments), ngā taonga-o-wharawhara (adornments), ngā karetao (puppets) and ngā tākaro (games and amusements).
- Te Whare Tu Taua – the house of war and weaponry which involves a lot of physical activity to learn about battle, defence and attack moves, physical dexterity, footwork, balance, and speed.

⁵⁹ Sourced and summarised from: <https://sportnz.org.nz/get-active/ways-to-get-active/play/takaro-maori/>

⁶⁰ Sourced and summarised from: <https://sportnz.org.nz/resources/maori-voices-of-play-insights-report/>

- Ngā Taonga Tākaro – traditional Māori sports and games such as ki-o-rahi, poi toa (poi games), waka ama, manu tuktuku (kite flying).
- Ngā mahi a te Rēhia – Māori pastimes of pleasure such as music, song, haka and poi, storytelling, sports, and games.

Current approaches to support Māori participation include by Māori for Māori physical activity programmes and events such as Pā Wars, Māori Movement Aka, He Pī Ka Rere to name a few.

12.3.1.17 The Importance of Play, Sport New Zealand Play Principles 2017⁶¹

Children have a right to play.

- Play is important to the well-being of young New Zealanders.
- Play is a cornerstone of our Physical Literacy Approach.
- Play is the shared responsibility of everyone.
- Young people must have access to enriched and varied playful experiences within their local environments.
- Adults must understand what their role is in enabling play.
- Young people need the opportunity to experience risk and challenge through play.
- Wherever possible, play should include the opportunity to be active.

This document recognises that the right of a child to play is protected in Article 31 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child⁶², which was ratified by New Zealand in 1993.

12.3.1.18 Play Development 5 Phases – Working Together to Protect the Right of Young People to Play

A resource to support Sport New Zealand's partner organisations to develop greater awareness and opportunities for play. The five phases are:

Phase 1: Create Play Champions – Organisations Appoint Play Champions.

Phase 2: Let's Talk Play – a play discussion and scan report for your organisation and associated region to inform phases 3 and 4.

Phase 3: Let's Plan for Play – a play for play as a cross-organisational workstream and priority within your organisation.

Phase 4: Let's Empower Play – a play advocate helps establish local play networks and identify their community play hubs.

⁶¹ Sourced and summarised from: <https://sportnz.org.nz/resources/the-importance-of-play/>

⁶² See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-rights-child>

Phase 5: Re-play – The monitoring and evaluation process is used for positive change, and to empower kids and families to shape their play experiences.

12.3.1.19 Play Aotearoa [International Play Association Aotearoa New Zealand](#)

Play Aotearoa is the leading national organisation promoting children's play in New Zealand. They aim to make every child's right to play a reality. Their workshops, educational programmes, and online materials are designed to assist people to understand and grow towards becoming experts in facilitating and delivering play.

They have several free resources available on their website including:

A poster setting out the terms of Article 31 of the United Nations Conventions on the Right of the Child [31-poster-A4-final-les-PORTRAIT-rdc.pdf](#). Those things specifically relevant to play:

- Must have time and space for play, recreation, and relaxing
- Governments must find ways to get rid of the things that get in the way of time for play
- Children must have opportunities to explore and understand their own culture

Articles entitled:

- [Dont-take-down-the-monkey-bars.pdf](#) which concludes that although playgrounds are a common location where for paediatric injuries occur, these injuries are relatively low in frequency and severity
- [Children-s-use-of-environmental-features-affording-risky-play-in-early-childhood-education-and-care.pdf](#) The document discusses the importance of risky play in early childhood education highlighting its benefits for children's development and the influence of environmental factors on their engagement in such play.
- [People-make-play-the-impact-of-staffed-play-provision-on-children-families-and-communities.pdf](#) The article looks at the benefits of staffed play provision and how play providers can enhance outreach, track attendance, and involve communities in decision-making to build legitimacy and support.

12.3.1.20 Sport New Zealand Active Recreation Plan for Rangatahi 2021-2024

Having already identified rangatahi as a crucial target group for their 2024-2032 Strategic Plan, SNZ developed this Plan to reinforce that commitment:

- Honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi and continue the learning journey to apply it in their work
- Increase internal and external awareness and understanding of great practice in active recreation for rangatahi
- Incorporate youth voice, and support youth leadership across their work
- Establish new partnerships and invest resources externally and internally

To do this, SNZ has established a working relationship with Ara Taiohi; Aotearoa NZ's peak body for youth development, to utilise their Mana Taiohi principles (in diagram below) and mana-enhancing approaches. In addition, the framework of Te Whetū Rehua, will be used to inform, guide and influence how this plan evolves to become bi-cultural.

12.3.1.21 Te Whai Oranga 2025-2030: Our Strategic Horizon Recreation Aotearoa

Recreation Aotearoa is the national voice for recreation in Aotearoa New Zealand—an organisation that champions the wellbeing of people, places, and the environment through inclusive and culturally grounded recreation experiences. Their strategic direction for the next 5 years is to empower, support, and connect the recreation industry so that all New Zealanders can access quality recreation experiences.

The Long-term priorities identified in Te Whai Oranga are:

- Te whai oranga o te taiao – Enhancing the wellbeing of the natural environment through recreation. The natural environment is cared for and regenerated by the recreation industry.
- Te whai oranga o te whenua – Enhancing the wellbeing of place through recreation. The places where recreation occurs are enhanced by the recreation industry.
- Te whai oranga o ngā tangata - Enhancing the wellbeing of people and communities through recreation. More New Zealanders enjoy and benefit from a wider range of inclusive, culturally relevant recreation opportunities.
- Te whai oranga o Te Tiriti o Waitangi – Realising the promise of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Mātauranga Māori is embedded in the recreation industry; the potential of the Māori recreation sector is unlocked.

12.3.2 Relevant Regional Documents

Document	Purpose	High-Level Overview	Relevance to BOP PARS
BoP Spaces and Places Strategy 2024	To provide a range of insights that will help guide regional planning for play, active recreation and sport spaces throughout the region. Recognising the limitations of resources and the necessity for prioritising future investments.	The Strategy provides a vision, guiding principles and a set of criteria to help inform future priorities. It also provides a decision-making framework which is intended to be used, along with the principles and criteria, to help assess current and future proposed investments in spaces and places. Regional, subregional and local recommendations are set out in the Strategy identifying lead agencies for each recommendation. Some of these relate to capital development priorities for spaces and places.	The provision of spaces and places are one of the enablers of physical activity opportunities for communities. The BOP Spaces and Places strategy provides clear direction about future facility priorities which will form part of the broader PARS strategy.
Sport BoP Strategic Plan 2022-2026	To set the strategic direction of the organisation's operations over the next 4 years taking an insights driven, locally led approach	The vision is to contribute to the enhanced wellbeing of BoP by increasing activity among the less active and developing a highly collaborative and capable physical activity system on the region. Sport BoP intends to do this by: Targeting high deprivation communities	This piece of work delivers Sport BoP's goal to develop a Bay-wide strategy for play, active recreation, and sport. The priorities set out in the Sport BOP Strategic Plan will also underpin some of the priorities for the PARS.

Document	Purpose	High-Level Overview	Relevance to BOP PARS
		- Addressing the needs of girls and young women - Engaging youth/rangatahi - Developing a Bay-wide strategy for play, active recreation, and sport	

12.3.3 Relevant Local Documents

Document	Purpose	High-Level Overview
Whakatāne		
Whakatāne Open Spaces Strategy 2025-35	To guide how Council will plan, protect, develop, and manage its open space network to establish a future focused, resilient, and inclusive open space network that supports the growing district and enhances the wellbeing of those who live and spend time in the district	There are approximately 1,440ha or 330 public open spaces including - Playgrounds - Campgrounds - Cemeteries and crematories - Sports reserves The Strategy identifies 11 key projects to be undertaken over the next 10 years. Eight of these are relevant to PARS: - Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub – enhance/upgrade facilities to improve sports, culture, and recreational offerings - Eve Rimmer carpark layout and access at this key sports facility - Accessible play spaces across the district – improving and creating play spaces across the district that are inclusive and accessible for all children - Murupara parks improvements – to better serve local needs - Maraetōtara improvements – enhancing park facilities to support greater access and use

Document	Purpose	High-Level Overview
		- o Southern regeneration: - o Murupara – revitalising open spaces as part of wider community regeneration - o Minginui – to support wellbeing and connection - o Wairaka Park upgrade – to improve access, play, and community use
Active Whakatāne – District-wide Transport and Recreation Strategy 2020	To represent a collective vision for active transport and recreation to help overcome obstacles and embed active transport into people's lives. It also aligns with the district's focus on climate change and will help reduce emissions and private car dependency.	The Strategy identifies 3 investment areas: • Commuter walking, scootering, and cycling • Safe ways to school • Recreational walking and cycling trails (underway) Projects evolving include: • New mountain bike park • Ōpōtiki to Whakatāne coastal journey
Whakatāne River Greenways Concept Plan 2014	To encourage public enjoyment and participation by providing different experiences and highlighting unique features as part of the Whakatāne River Greenway	The Plan identifies recreational enhancements that could be made to increase use/active recreation at different parks and reserves around the district including: • Upgrading walk and cycleways • Inclusion of fitness equipment • Waterpark and swimming area development (Mataatua Reserve)
Tauranga		
TCC Play, Active Recreation and Sport Action and Investment Plan (AIP) 2023-2033	To help deliver on the city-wide vision (<i>Tauranga: Together we can... prioritise nature, lift each other up, and fuel possibility</i>) plus the primary strategy for a well-planned city and the Our Public Places Strategic Plan.	The AIP focuses on the Our Public Spaces Strategic Plan objective of increasing participation by providing easily accessible opportunities for organised and informal play, active recreation, and sport for people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities. The AIP identifies specific actions and programmes of work, time frames (which LTP period) and who is responsible for the actions for: • Identified reserves • Sports fields

Document	Purpose	High-Level Overview
		• Indoor courts • Aquatic centres • Halls and community centres • Playgrounds and playful spaces • Facilities for outdoor roller and wheely activities • Outdoor hardcourts and hockey turf • Supporting coastal, harbour and river water activities • Shared pathways • Other activities such as bowls and equestrian
Rotorua		
Rotorua Open Spaces Network Plan 2022-2040	To provide guidance for provision of public open space across Rotorua Lakes Council.	The focus is on residential areas and ensuring that future population growth is supported with a fit for purpose open space network meeting the social, recreational and cultural needs of the Rotorua community.
Pārekareka: Rotorua Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy	Both this Strategy and the Open Space Network Plan are intended to help guide the approach, programme of work and future priorities for provision of play, active recreation and sport facilities and opportunities across the Rotorua district. They are intended to guide the direction, investment (through Council's Long-term Plan (LTP) processes), and the work programme for Rotorua Lakes Council. This Strategy is also intended to help inform key organisations involved in play, active recreation and sport in Rotorua as	The Strategy identifies what success will look like and what RLC will do and who they will work with to achieve the results they are seeking. This is not about specific development projects but more about a way of working to achieve better outcomes for the Rotorua community in the play, active recreation and sport space and to ensure the actions identified in the Open Space Network Plan are implemented. It's about good planning, collaboration/partnerships, inclusivity/accessibility

Document	Purpose	High-Level Overview
	to the future priorities and desires of the Rotorua Community.	
Western BoP		
WBoPDC Recreation and Open Space LTP 2024- 2034	Identifies that the recreation and open space network plays an important role in contributing to the social, environmental, cultural and economic wellbeing of the community. Covers all recreation and open space assets owned and administered by Council. The provision of these activities supports the community outcomes of: • We can all enjoy a healthy and safe lifestyle • Our environment is clean, green and values • Our communities are vibrant and welcoming to all.	The Plan outlines the benefits of an active, healthy community and how the network of public open space and facilities provide opportunities for people to interact socially and improve their health as well as contributing to the protection of cultural, landscape and ecological values. The Plan outlines how WBoPDC will achieve community outcomes by identifying their goals and approaches. The focus areas are identified as: • Pools • Reserves • Sports Centres • Walking and Cycleways • Boat Ramps It identifies what work will be undertaken over the next 10 years and the level of budget allocated for the actions in any given year. It also sets service level targets to measure performance against.
Ōpōtiki		
Ōpōtiki Spaces and Places Strategy 2024	To provide more detailed guidance for the Ōpōtiki district than that provided in the Regional Spaces and Places Strategy. Both Strategies will help guide ODC's LTP, annual plans and its future work	The Strategy identifies marginal supply - significant challenges in the supply of: • Aquatic facilities • Indoor courts • Specialised indoor facilities

Document	Purpose	High-Level Overview
	and investment in play, active recreation, and sport spaces and places	The Strategy identifies short-, medium-, and long-term priorities for action. Including investigative and exploratory work as well as implementation of existing masterplans and staged enhancements to existing spaces and places
Kawerau		
Age Friendly and Accessible Kawerau Strategy 2017-2019	Provide a guide to ensure policy and place makers take greater responsibility to create environments which are 'age friendly' for the older people that use them. Including and planning for the needs of people with disabilities.	While the Strategy is not specifically about active recreation it does make recommendations around: Programming/Activations in partnership with Sport BoP to keep people active Incorporation of accessibility design principles into the design and alterations of all facilities at the pools and any walking trails at parks and reserves

12.3.4 Iwi Documents

Iwi	Document	Relevant Points
Ngāti Manawa	AGM Booklet 2024	Acknowledges the work done to develop the Taniwha trails project Notes concern that under the constitution, they cannot entertain sports funding to iwi members
Ngāti Manawa	EBOP Spatial Plan Submission November 2024	Noted the existing town pool, a vital resource for both local and regional whānau, lacks disability access and requires substantial upgrades to meet community needs. Enhancements must prioritise inclusivity and ensure it continues to serve a wider user base effectively.
Ngāti Whare Group	Annual Report 2023/24	Acknowledges continued efforts to focus on social, economic, and health-related challenges
Tūhoe	Annual Report 2023/24	Acknowledges their purpose is to promote the educational, spiritual, economic, social and cultural advancement of the iwi



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Rangiora, New
Zealand

COUNCIL REPORT

Date : 16 October 2026
To : Ordinary Council Meeting, 27 October 2026
From : Chief Executive Officer, Stace Lower
Subject : **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S UPDATE**
File ID : A1433292

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- This report provides an update to Council on LGOIMA requests and meetings/events attended by the Chief Executive Officer for the period 5 September 2026 to 16 October 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) **That the report titled "Chief Executive Officer's Update" be received.**

PURPOSE

1. To provide an update to Council on LGOIMA requests and meetings/events attended by the Chief Executive Officer.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

2. The matters detailed in this report relate to the following priorities from Ōpōtiki District Council's Long-Term Plan 2024-2034:
 - ☒ Community Priority One: Strong relationships and partners
 - ☐ Community Priority Two: Investment in our district
 - ☐ Community Priority Three: Wellbeing is valued
 - ☐ Community Priority Four: Our communities are resilient
 - ☐ Community Priority Five: Growth is sustained over time

DISCUSSION

3. LGOIMA Requests

LGOIMA Tracking (20/10/2025-21/10/2026)

Month	Submitter	Subject	Due
August 2026	Joe Kingi	Historical Records and Meeting - Te Kaha 78 and Te Kaha Water Supply	08/09/2026
September 2026	Mighty Earthworks	2026-09-15 - Mighty Earthworks - Opotiki, Waihou Bay and Te Kaha Resource Recovery	13/10/2026
October 2026	Melissa Wenham	Melissa Wenham - All Correspondence and Complaints Relating to My Property	02/11/2026
	Mikaela Sotutu	Drainage SH2 Cycleway between Opotiki and Waiotahe	03/11/2026
	Andre Meyer	Register of licensed premises	09/11/2026
	Constanza Gajardo	Road repair, clean up costs from forestry slash and sediment 2017-2026	11/11/2026
	Julian Cheung	Supplier payments from 1 July 2026 to date	11/11/2026
	NZ Utilities Advisory Group	Transport Corridors 9Code) compliance return 2025-26	13/11/2026
	Meyer	Spatial data alcohol ban areas	17/11/2026
	Andre Meyer	Controlled purchase operation results since 1 October 2023	17/11/2026
	Ayla Yeoman	Spending on Simplifying Local Government Reform	17/11/2026

4. Meetings / Events Attended by the Chief Executive Officer – 5 September 2026 –16 October 2026:

7 September 2026

Councillor/CEO catch up meeting

Eastern Bay of Plenty CEs meeting, via Teams

9-11 September 2026

Taituara Conference, New Plymouth

14 September 2026

Council workshop

15 September 2026

Extra Ordinary Council meeting

Ordinary Council meeting

16 September 2026

LGNZ briefing: Preparing for Head Start decision announcements, via Zoom

Met with Ōpōtiki College Student Leadership team

Property Advisory Group meeting

17 September 2026

Catch up meeting with Te Tāwharau o Te Whakatōhea CEO, Dickie Farrar

18 September 2026

BOPLASS Board meeting, via Teams

BOPLASS Shareholders meeting, via Teams

Bay of Plenty CEs meeting, via Teams

21 September 2026

Water NZ Pre-Conference DIA workshop, Hamilton

22 September 2026

Hamilton

Water NZ Conference

Water NZ CEs Forum

LGNZ briefing: the Minister of Local Government, via Zoom

23 September 2026

Councillor/CEO catch up meeting

24 September 2026

Risk and Assurance Committee meeting

LGNZ briefing: Lessons from the Mauao tragedy, via Zoom

28 September 2026

Performance and Delivery Committee meeting

Tenders and Procurement Sub-Committee meeting

LGNZ briefing: Chlöe Swarbrick discusses the Green Party's approach to Local Government, via Zoom

29 September 2026

Eastern Bay CEs catch up meeting, Whakatāne

30 September 2026

Waioweka-Otara Rivers Scheme Advisory Group meeting

1 October 2026

Webinar: Implementing the new Emergency Management legislation

6 October 2026

Citizenship Ceremony

Coast Community Board workshop

7 October 2026

Councillor/CEO catch up meeting

Council workshop

8 October 2026

Eastern Bay CEs catch up meeting, via Teams

LGNZ briefing: Hon Kieran McNulty & Tangi Utikere discuss Labour's policies relevant to Local Government, via Teams

9 October 2026

Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee meeting, Whakatāne

MCERT Webinar - Development levies

12 October 2026

Declaration Ceremony for Victor Luca, the newly elected Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Eastern Bay General Constituency Councillor, Whakatāne

13 October 2026

Rotorua Museum tour hosted by Rotorua Lakes Council

CEs dinner, Rotorua

14-15 October 2026

Rotorua

Local Government New Zealand Conference

Bay of Plenty CEs meeting

Financial/budget considerations

5. There are no financial/budget considerations associated with this report.

Risks

6. There are no risks associated with this report.

Local government purpose considerations

7. The purpose of local government is to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and to meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality, cost-effective, and local infrastructure, public services, and the performance of regulatory functions; and to support local economic growth and development by fulfilling this purpose.
8. The subject matter of this report has been evaluated in terms of the meeting the purpose of local government during the process of developing this report.

SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT ASSESSMENT

Assessment of significance

9. On every issue requiring a decision, Council is required to determine how significant a decision is to the community, and what the corresponding level of engagement should be. Council uses the Significance Flowchart in the Significance and Engagement Policy to determine the level of significance.
10. The level of significance related to the decision in this report is considered to be **low**. Because the decision is determined to have **low** significance in accordance with the policy, the corresponding level of engagement required is **Inform**.

Assessment of engagement

11. As the level of significance has been determined to be **low**, the level of engagement required is **Inform** according to the Engagement Framework of the Significance and Engagement Policy:

INFORM

To provide balanced and objective information to assist understanding about something that is going to happen.

12. The tools that Council will use for the 'Inform' level of engagement include a report in the public agenda of the Council meeting and may include a combination of public notices in the newspaper and/or on Council's social media.

Stace Lower

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

REPORT

Date : 16 October 2026

To : Ordinary Council Meeting, 27 October 2026

From : Chief Executive Officer, Stace Lower

Subject : **RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC**

SECTION 48 LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION & MEETINGS ACT 1987

THAT the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

17. Confirmation of In-Committee Minutes – Ordinary Council Meeting 15 September 2026.

18. In-Committee Minutes – Risk and Assurance Committee meeting 29 June 2026.

19. Notes From Council Workshops.

The general subject 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(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

Item No	General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
17.	Confirmation of In-Committee Minutes – Ordinary Council Meeting 15 September 2026	That 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 exists.	Section 48(1)(a)
18.	In-Committee Minutes – Risk and Assurance Committee Meeting 29 June 2026	That 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 exists.	Section 48(1)(a)
19.	Notes From Council Workshops	That 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 exists.	Section 48(1)(a)

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act or section 6 or section 7 or section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

17.	Protect the privacy of natural persons Protect information Protection from improper pressure or harassment Prevent disclosure or use of official information Carry out negotiations Maintain legal professional privilege Carry out commercial activities	Section 7(2)(a) Section 7(2)(b)(i) & (ii); (d) & (e) and Section 7(2)(c)(i) & (ii) Section 7(2)(f)(ii) Section 7(2)(j) Section 7(2)(i) Section 7(2)(g) Section 7(2)(h)
18.	Protect the privacy of natural persons Protect information (commercial sensitivity) Protection from improper pressure or harassment Prevent disclosure or use of official information Carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities	Section 7(2)(a) Section 7(2)(b)(ii) Section 7(2)(f)(ii) Section 7(2)(j) Section 7(2)(h)
19.	Protection from improper pressure or harassment Prevent disclosure or use of official information	Section 7(2)(f)(ii) Section 7(2)(j)