
Monday, 29 November 2021

Te Hui o Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga

Hastings District Council

Hastings District Rural Community Board Meeting

Kaupapataka

Open Attachments – Volume 1

Te Rā Hui:
Meeting date: **Monday, 29 November 2021**

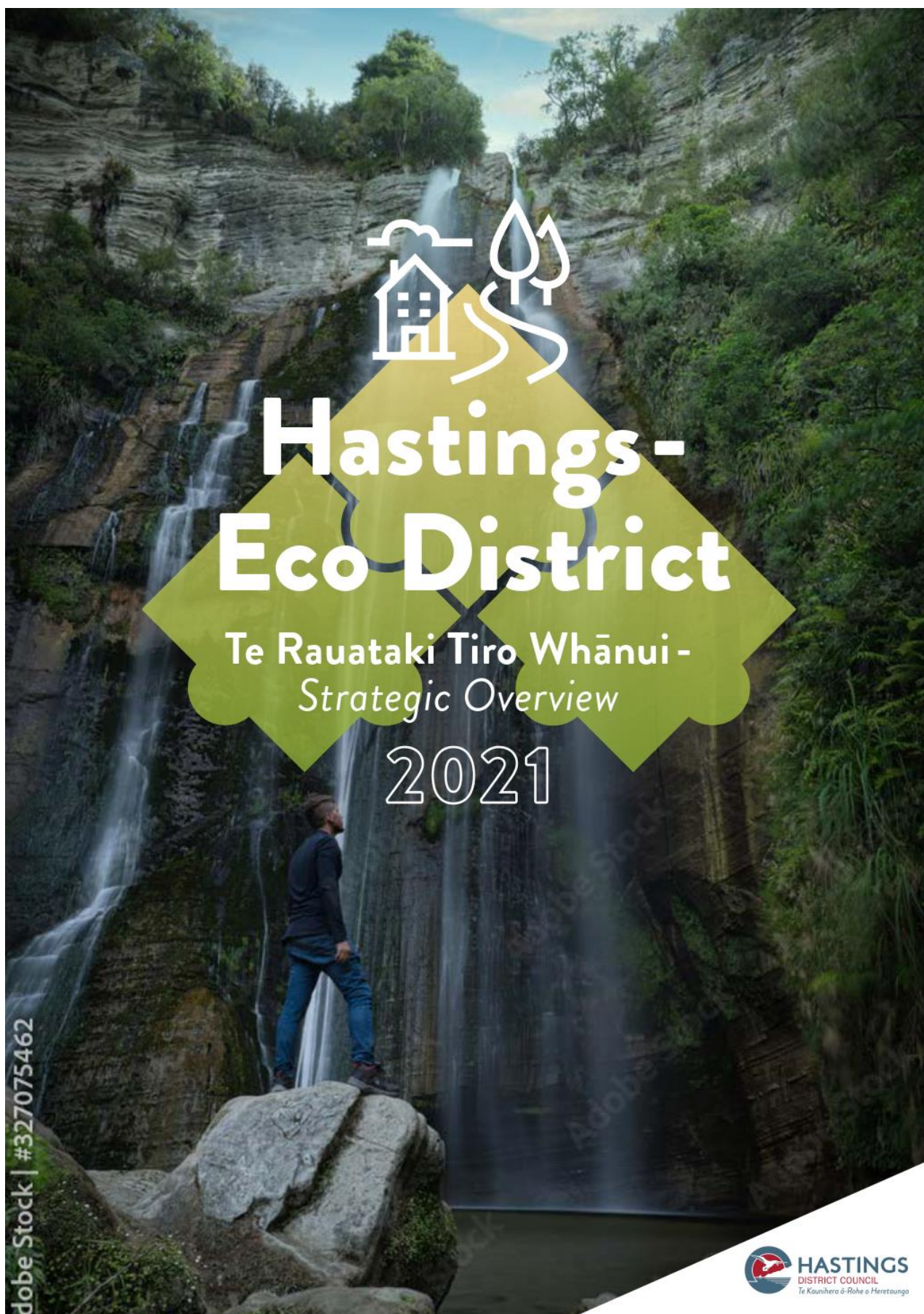
Te Wā:
Time: **2.00pm**

Te Wāhi:
Venue: **Landmarks Room
Ground Floor
Civic Administration Building
Lyndon Road East
Hastings**

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HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL
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TE KAUNIHERA Ā-ROHE O HERETAUNGA

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Te Kaupapa – Purpose

This document provides an overview of Council's strategic work that contributes to environmental sustainability. This strategic overview has been developed to contribute to a healthy environment and community.

Hastings District Council established the Eco District Subcommittee in 2019. This document is the first Eco District Strategic Overview to be prepared by the Committee. The document is intended to be a **living document** that will keep evolving and remain responsive to new information and changes in central government priorities, whilst providing a solid foundation for Council's future ways of operation. It is recommended that the strategy will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Te Wawata – Our Aspiration

To be a district that is environmentally sustainable, now and in the future. With time our district will realise the benefits to both, society and the environment from creating and utilising clean energy, lowering greenhouse gas emissions, reducing our ecological footprint, and protecting our landscapes, wetlands and soils.

Ō Tātau Whāinga – Our Goals

With the help of key partnerships, Hastings District aims to have a sustainable future and a reduced ecological footprint through effective planning of infrastructure and the protection, maintenance and enhancement of our natural and built environment. To do this we have set ourselves the following key goals, which forms the basis for our priority areas of focus:

1. To use our natural resources with respect, wisdom and foresight
2. To minimise our carbon footprint and adapt to inevitable climate changes.
3. To treasure and nurture our natural environment.
4. To model sustainable action and to work with and inspire others.

Te Rautaki Tiro Whānui – Strategic Overview

This strategic overview contributes to Council's current (2021-2031) Long Term Plan which identifies the wellbeing of the environment as one of its main priorities. Whilst Eco District is directly linked to our environmental outcomes, it also effects community wellbeing and overlaps with other Council aspirations, which acknowledges that protecting our precious local natural Taonga, our waters, land and our wider environment is everyone's responsibility.

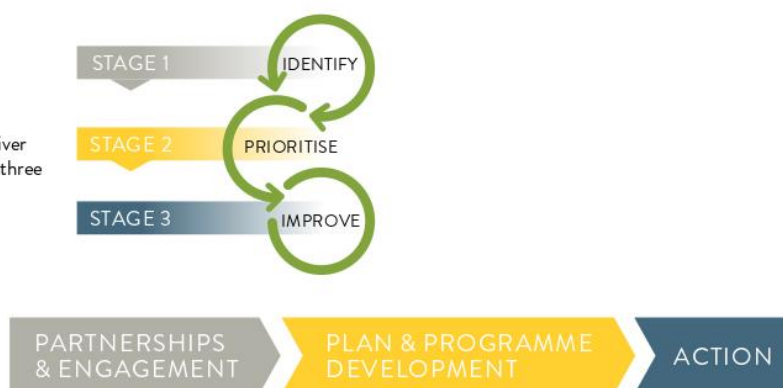
There is a mature understanding that our current way of living creates an increasing burden on the planet and that the environmental impacts of our activities are unsustainable and come with severe consequences, because the health of our people is significantly influenced by the health of our environment.

This document is not a regulatory rule based document, but it identifies priorities towards the achievement of long-term goals of sustainability. It therefore contributes to our identity as a district and as individuals in this district who are taking pride and actively participating in preserving and improving the environment by minimising harm.

Me Pēhea - How?

For this strategic overview to be successful it will require both, collective and individual responsibility and action. To deliver this strategic overview a simple three step process will be followed:

For successful outcomes a partnership approach with early and ongoing engagement is absolutely key. This will then lead to work programme development and coordinated delivery of actions.



Council needs to take a collective leadership role and demonstrate organisational commitment by being a role model and adopting a significant role in education and communication.

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Mihi

Tēnā koutou kei ngā maunga, kei ngā mana, kei ngā reo. Tēnā hoki tātau e te kāinga o Heretaunga; Heretaunga-ara-rau, Heretaunga-haukū-nui, Heretaunga-hāro-o-te-kāhu, Heretaunga-raorao-haumako, Heretaunga-ringahora, Heretaunga takoto noa, Heretaunga tēnā rā tātau katoa.

Anei mātau ko ngā uri whakaheke o Kahungunu e noho nei hei kaitiaki o ēnei whenua takoto noa. Anei hoki mātau e tuku nei i ngā mihi ki tēnā, ki tēnā kua tau mei nei ki tēnei rautaki e kīia nei ko te Rautaki Tautaiāo ā-Rohe o Heretaunga. Mai i te hauruatanga o te rautau tekau mā iwa tae noa ki tēnei wā tonu, Na here iōra ngā ringa hora me tōna reo whakatau tukua ki te marea me te mātinini.

Ka mau tonu te iwi kāinga ki te reo o maioha i a mātau e whakanui i ngā taonga tuku iho nō te tuawhenua, nō ngā takutai moana arā, ko te oranga, te toitūtanga me te kaitiakitanga o te taiao

me te ao tūroa nei; ko te whenua te waiū mō ngā uri whakatipu kei te heke mai. Kāti rā, koinei tā mātau i raro i ngā manaakitanga o te iwi kāinga o Heretaunga, o Kahungunu, o Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga. Piki mai rā, kake mai rā, nau mai, haere mai ki te Rautaki Tautaiāo ā-Rohe o Heretaunga; mauri ora ki te rangi, mauri ora ki te whenua, mauri ora ki a tātau katoa!

To all peoples, greetings to one, greetings to all. Greetings to those of you too, the community and residents of Heretaunga; Heretaunga and all its beauty and abundance of welcoming, fertile, undulating landscapes, and that we are all caretakers of today, Heretaunga salutes you!

We the people of Ngāti Kahungunu acknowledge you today just as we have done so since the 1850s when our forebears first welcomed new settlers to our lands and in doing so, held true to the values that have passed down to us today

through our cultural narratives such as, 'Heretaunga ringahora' - 'Heretaunga of its welcoming arms and hospitality abundant'.

Today, we continue to uphold these values as we aspire to also champion the wellbeing of our natural environment, the land, the waters and all so that its sustainability, wellbeing and enduring nature is there for future generations to cherish and utilise, and in doing so pass on to their successors.

And so welcome once again as we introduce you to this strategic overview with the blessings and support of Heretaunga, of Ngāti Kahungunu and of the Hastings District Council; welcome, welcome, welcome! Embrace this strategic overview, the Hastings District Council Eco District Strategic Overview; may the life force be alive in the skies, on the earth and with us all!

Te Tirohanga Heretaunga 2030 – *Vision Hastings District 2030*

The Hastings District is at the heart of the Hawkes Bay region. Our role as the economic powerhouse for the region is critical to our future prosperity. Whether that's as the leading food producing hub in New Zealand, with its related downstream manufacturing activity, through to the industrial and employment hub for the region.

The Hastings district also plays a key role in visitor attraction and cultural fulfilment being the home of many of the regions outstanding natural areas, recreation and cultural experience opportunities.

Heretaunga that sits in the heart of Ngāti Kahungunu gives us our cultural identity and cultural narratives captured through the following whakataūaki and which is embedded in our strategic approach:

- Heretaunga-ara-rau – myriad of pathways and opportunities to be seized
- Heretaunga-haukū-nui – life enriching waters that sustain the region
- Heretaunga-hārō-o-te-kāhu – the beauty of our landscape through the eyes of a hawk
- Heretaunga-raorao-haumako – the fertile landscape which underpins our prosperity
- Heretaunga-ringahora – renowned for warm hospitality and open arms
- Heretaunga takoto noa – strong leadership over the challenges ahead

We enjoy and treasure our great quality of life. It's a great balance that gives us some of the bigger city experience without the hassle and cost.

There are however challenges. Hastings District is likely to be a highly desirable place to live for some time and managing how we grow effectively will be important;

environmental quality cannot be traded for economic gain. Our economy needs to diversify to shift our reliance on land based production and we need to lead in innovation around the food and beverage sector. Not all of our people are engaged with the economy, living prosperous lives and fulfilling their potential and aspirations. The fruits of this place need to be shared more equitably. Climate change will impact on our community and we need to find the best path to mitigating and adapting to those impacts.

*Our vision for the future is
captured in this proverb:*

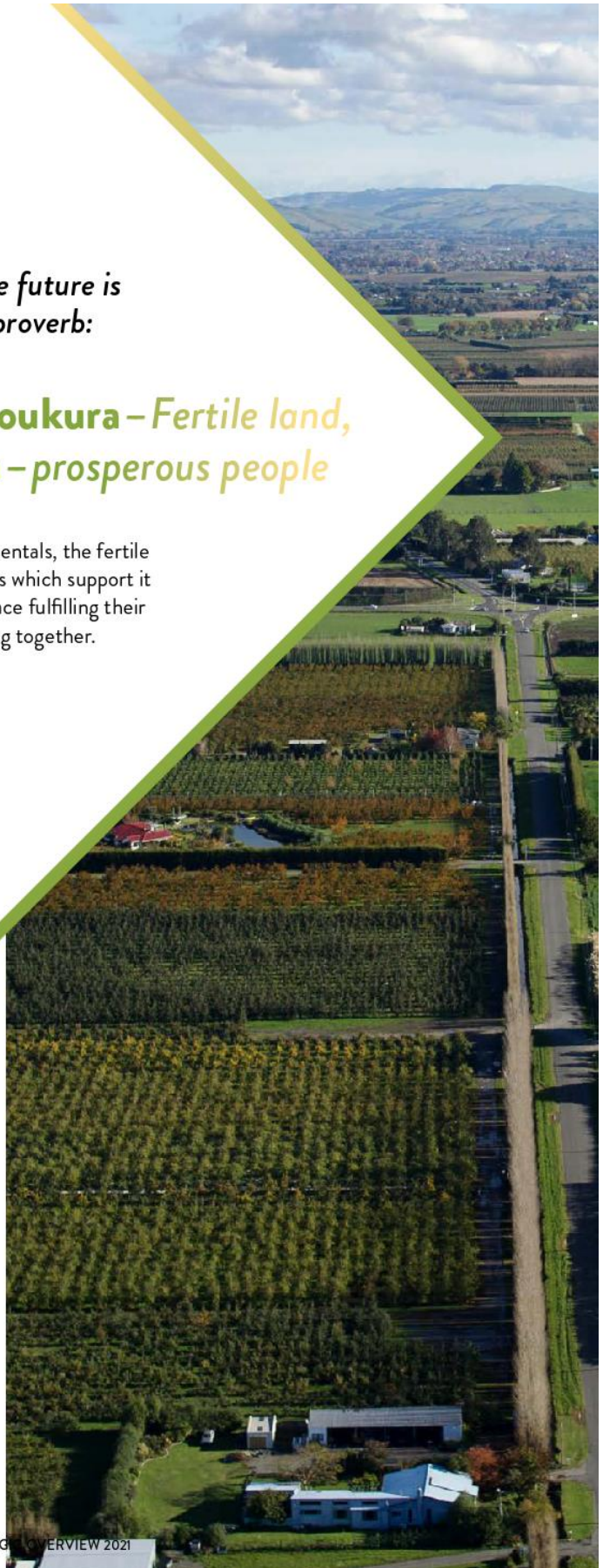
**Heretaunga whenua houkura – Fertile land,
Heretaunga haponi ora – prosperous people**

It represents our fundamentals, the fertile
land and life giving waters which support it
and the people of this place fulfilling their
aspirations and prospering together.

*To fulfil the vision,
Council has developed
four overriding community
outcomes. This strategy has
been developed to achieve:*



This Eco District Strategic Overview is a means to
an end – not the end itself. It is a living document
and it should be considered in tandem with
both the District Development and the Great
Communities Strategic Overviews.





Ngā Whakaarotau ā Te Kaurihera – Council Priorities

The Council have established the following priorities (LTP 2021-2031) which need to be given effect through this strategic overview:

Ngā Taonga Tuku Iho - *Our Natural Treasures*

- Promoting water and energy efficiency
- Enhancing biodiversity
- Sustainable management of natural and physical resources
- Nurturing iconic landscapes
- Managing healthy waterways
- Deliver waste minimisation and resource recovery working towards zero waste

Te Whakahauma Kotia tō tātau Kāinga - *Enhancing Where We Live*

- Healthy environment to enable healthy, liveable and safe communities to thrive.
- Parks, recreational spaces and reserve upgrades
- Sustainability lens to be applied to any future community development
- Managing urban sprawl onto the productive Heretaunga Plains by a more compact community that is connected by a range of effective transport options
- Encourage more sustainable practices and provide more guidelines whilst building diverse houses for our people

Tō Tātau Kōtuituitanga - *Getting Around*

- Developing sustainable transport alternatives
- Remaining agile, open to new technologies
- Progressing the use of freight hubs including road/rail/port integration to lead towards a more carbon neutral future

Te Mārohirohi Ōhanga - *The Economic Powerhouse*

- Embraces technological advances that enable economic growth with an environmental ethos
- Heretaunga continues to be a region that leads in terms of opportunities for employment, recreation, economic growth in a balanced and sustainable way
- Encouraging sustainable practices within new investments and improvements in our district

Ngā Hapori o te Taiwhenua - *Rural Living*

- Adaptation of new land use and farming futures (climate change)



Ko Ngā Rangapū Mana Whenua – Mana Whenua Partnerships

Ngāti Kahungunu and its many hapū have held mana whenua status across Heretaunga (Hastings District) since the Kahungunu 16th century migration south from the Tūrangunu (Gisborne District). Historical events associated with this period resulted in a complex tributary political system of interconnected hapū kinship groups and a heritage legacy of more than 1000 years of settlement across Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay. Mana whenua partnerships today are underpinned by Te Tiriti o Waitangi, the founding document of Aotearoa New Zealand.

Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga recognise that the Territorial Authority area includes the mandated areas of interest for:

- Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Inc.
- Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga
- Te Taiwhenua o Te Whanganui-a-Orotū
- Heretaunga-Tamatea Settlement Trust
- Mana Ahuriri Trust
- Maungaharuru-Tangitū Trust
- Ngāti Pāhauwera Development Trust
- Ngāti Hineuru Iwi Trust
- Takitimu District Māori Council

Mana whenua partnerships and engagement with Council operations are guided by:

- Te Kura Nui Māori Relationships Framework
- Heretaunga Ringahora Māori Engagement Framework
- Heretaunga Ararau Te Reo Māori Strategy
- Te Aranga Cultural Design Guide

TE KURA NUI MĀORI RELATIONSHIPS FRAMEWORK

Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga mana whenua partnerships are guided by Te Kura Nui Māori Relationships Framework. Te Kura Nui acknowledges that mana whenua have an innate spiritual connection to whenua land and their respective landscapes unique to Heretaunga. This acknowledgement frames the Heretaunga cultural lens through which all things Māori are viewed and worked through alongside Council policies, procedures and legislation. Te Kura Nui becomes the kahu (cloak) that embraces and guides Council to an understanding of local hapū aspirations for achieving positive economic, social, environmental and cultural outcomes.

The Te Kura Nui Māori Relationships Framework lays the foundation for positive and genuine partnerships to flourish and thrive as we continue to embrace and uphold the articles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. In this way, the 'kura nui' is viewed as the vessel that houses a philosophy, a kahu, as a way of knowing, of being, and of doing.

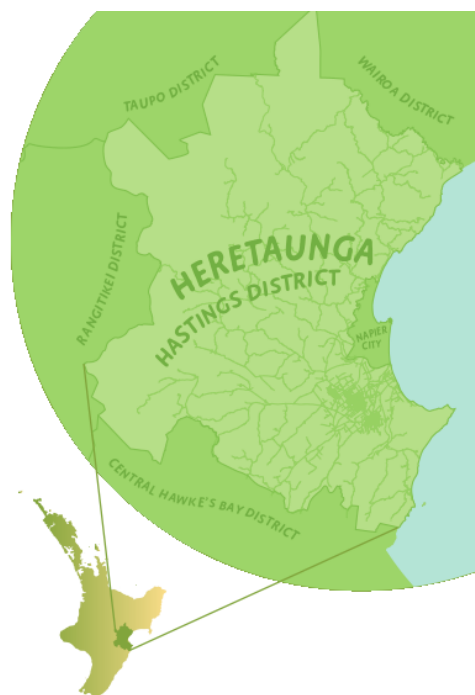
Te Kura Nui takes its name from the ancient lullaby 'Pinepine Te Kura', composed in the 17th century by the Chief Whatuiāpiti for his son Te Umurangi, and the lyrics personify him as the 'little tiny treasure' who came from below Awarua, the noble treasure, the famous treasure, the treasure from afar off, the treasure of Tūhaepō.

Council recognises the unique relationship mana whenua have with the environment and their role as kaitiaki. We also value the holistic approach of the Māori world view that considers the relationship between the wellbeing of people and the wellbeing of the environment as one.

Heretaunga Takoto Noa – Hastings District in a Nutshell

Our district encompasses 522,657 hectares (5,226 km²) of very unique land with a population of 81,537 (Stats NZ 2018). The Hastings District has experienced steady growth in the last 25 years. In this time the district's population has grown by close to 20,000. Continued growth will create further pressure on our environment, resources and infrastructure. Competing priorities have become the normality. Quantity and quality issues need to be carefully balanced.

The Heretaunga Plains contains some of the most fertile and productive agricultural and horticultural soil in New Zealand. The aquifer system beneath the Heretaunga Plains is the main groundwater resource for the Heretaunga Plains, Hastings and Napier communities. The local economy is highly dependent on land based primary production. Viticulture, horticulture, agriculture land uses and associated businesses such as processing and commercial services, including the commercial visitors industry are the backbone of the local economy.



POPULATION GROWTH (STATS NZ)

YEAR	TOTAL POPULATION	INCREASE	INCREASE %
1996	66,279	N/A	N/A
2001	67,428	1,149	1.73%
2006	70,842	3,414	5.06%
2013	73,251	2,409	3.40%
2018	81,549	8,298	11.33%
2023*	90,000	8,541	10.36%
2033*	96,700	6,700	7.44%
2043*	101,800	5,100	5.27%
2048*	103,800	2,000	1.96%

* Stats NZ, Subnational Population Projection Medium Value¹

Population projection numbers (courtesy of Statistics NZ) predict that by 2033 our district will surpass 95,000 residents and by 2048 we are forecasted to reach approximately 103,800. This forecasted population growth will have a significant effect on our local environment.

URBAN AREA GROWTH 1969-2020

URBAN GROWTH 1969-2020	URBAN LAND IN 1969 (HA)	URBAN LAND 1969-2020 (HA)	INCREASE IN LAST 50 YEARS (%)
Clive & Whakatū	65	35	54%
Flaxmere	39	355	910%
Hastings	1298	145	11%
Havelock North	485	367	76%
Haumoana Te/Awanga	34	70	206%
Total Area (Ha)	1921	972	51%

INDUSTRIAL AREA GROWTH 1969-2020

INDUSTRIAL GROWTH 1969-2020	INDUSTRIAL LAND 1969 (HA)	INDUSTRIAL LAND 1969-2020 (HA)	INCREASE IN LAST 50 YEARS (%)
Irongate	0	121	N/A
Ōmāhu Industrial	45	193	429 %
Hastings Industrial	94	0	0%
Tōmoana	0	32	N/A
Whakatū	26	171	658 %
Total Area (Ha)	166	516	311 %

¹ <https://www.stats.govt.nz/information-releases/subnational-population-projections-2018base2048> National population projections: 2020(base) - 2073

Looking at the future, greenfield residential growth areas have been identified as an approximate 367 hectares for the 2015-2045 period of the Heretaunga Plains Urban Development (2017) study, whilst industrial area growth is signalled to be 105 hectares by 2031.

A snapshot of the Councils State of Environment Report 2019



STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT ISSUE	OVERALL STATE 2009-2014	OVERALL STATE 2015-2019	SUMMARY
SUSTAINABLE LAND USE			
Land Use			The district's land cover is divided as follows: 93% grassland/vegetation cover, 4% crops/orchards/vineyard cover, 1% built up urban land cover. The Rural Zone makes up 93% of the District, the Plains Zone ~6%, and urban zones make up ~1%.
Sustainable Urban Development			Demand for new dwellings remained consistent with dwelling numbers averaging 232.2 per year. This is higher compared with the previous reporting period. Infill subdivision accounted for 35.95% of all lots created in 2015-2019, compared with 37% during the previous reporting period.
Protection of Versatile Soils			Approximately 13% of the District is Class I, II and III soils.

AMENITY, CHARACTER & HERITAGE MANAGEMENT			
Residential Amenity			The top 3 non-residential activities in residential zones were educational facilities, commercial activities and other unclassified activities.
Coastal Amenity			Apart from the East Road development in Haumoana, there has been little development within other coastal settlements as there was a total of six new lots. Half of the new lots were created in Whirinaki and Waipatiki.
Natural Heritage/ Landscape Character			3.4% of Hastings District contains a significant landscape character area or outstanding natural feature. 1.6% of total land in the District contains an identified area of significant indigenous vegetation or significant habitats of indigenous fauna.
Cultural & Historic Heritage			There are 148 outstanding trees, 94 heritage items, 3 heritage areas, 93 wāhi taonga sites and 1,204 archaeological sites identified in the District Plan.

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT ISSUE	OVERALL STATE 2009-2014	OVERALL STATE 2015-2019	SUMMARY
SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE			
Water Management			The District has a consent for 928,470m ³ of water in any 7-day average for public water supply. Our domestic water consumption has decreased from 440 litres per day in 2008 to about 380 litres per person per day. Commercial and industrial consumption is also relatively stable about 1,600,000 cubic litres per year.
Waste Water Treatment			The District holds two consents for wastewater treatment and discharge – at East Clive and Waipatiki. Discharges from East Clive total an annual daily average of 53,000m ³ and are well within environmental standards. 95% of the 72% residents connect to the District's sewage system are satisfied with their sewerage system (note: 5% of survey respondents were not very satisfied with the District's system.).
Trade Waste Disposal			There are 30 industries connected to the separated trade waste system. Between 2015/19, there has been five warning notices for non-compliance issued each year.
HAZARD MANAGEMENT			
Natural Hazards			The District experiences major storm events and flooding, coastal erosion and inundation, and rural wildfires.
Hazardous Substances			The average reported incidents occurring per year involving hazardous substances responses were consistent with an average of 13.75 responses per year.
SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT			
Solid Waste			Solid waste is disposed of to the Omarunui Landfill, serving both Napier and Hastings districts. Waste volumes to Omarunui Landfill fluctuated over the reporting period and this is indicative of economic prosperity in the region and changes to legislation. A 2016 report identified that approximately 15% of waste being disposed of at Omarunui Landfill was recyclable and 34% was compostable. In total, 49% of the waste could have been diverted from landfill disposal.
Hazardous Waste			There is an annual collection service for residents to drop off household hazardous wastes (known as HazMobile). HazMobile volumes peaked in 2006 when 27 tonnes were collected across the Hawke's Bay Region. Since 2007, the volume of hazardous waste collected by HazMobile has fluctuated between 14-25 tonnes.

Ngā wāhi whakaarotau – *Priority Areas of Focus*

The Healthy Environment and
People outcome has four priority
areas of Council focus as follows:

Te whakataarotau 1

Priority 1

E WHAKAMAHIA
PAITIAI NGĀ TAONGA WAI ME
NGĀ TAONGA WHENUA

WATER AND LAND
RESOURCES USED WISELY

Te whakataarotau 2

Priority 2

HE PAPAI RAWA
ATU TE ĀHUARANGI ME
TE HEKE MAI WARO

A BETTER CLIMATE AND
CARBON FUTURE



Te whakataarotau 3

Priority 3

KA WHAKAREIA, KA
WHAKAMARUMARUTIA
ANŌTIA TE TAIAO
THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT
IS ENHANCED
AND PROTECTED

Te whakataarotau 4

Priority 4

HE KĀKĀRIKI, E
ORA HOKI AI I NGĀ RĀTONGA
Ā-KAUNIHERA
COUNCIL SERVICES ARE
GREEN AND HEALTHY



Water and Land Resources

CONTEXT

Our climate is getting warmer², placing increasing pressure on our already substantial and growing demand for water. This combined with a greater understanding around the limited availability of water as well as better manage water allocation, creates an enormous challenge for accommodating and supporting community wellbeing and growth.

Like water, there is increasing pressure on our soils and land due to competing demands for a wide mix of activities.

HDC POSITION

The Council supports the preserving (and nurturing back to health) of our precious Taonga, the life giving elements of Hawkes Bay, both the land and water. This needs to happen in a way that supports our growing community and its economic wellbeing; through greater efficiency of use, prioritised and equitable allocation, sustainable methods of augmentation underpinned by integrated spatial and catchment planning.

WATER ACTIONS

LEAD AGENCY	ACTION	TIMELINE
DIA & MfE	Three Waters Reform Programme aims to be completed	2022 December
MfE	Drinking Water Source Protection	TBC. Craig Thew
MfE	National Environmental Drinking Standard	
MfE & GNS?	Drinking Water Source Protection	
HBRC	Regional Freshwater Assessment	Stage 1–August 2021
HBRC	Groundwater flow modelling	February 2023
GNS	Craig T to advise	

KEY SUCCESS MEASURES

- Improved quality of local water catchments
- HDC is compliant with HBRC and other agency guidelines
- Water is accessible and affordable
- Reduced number of complaints

LAND RESOURCES ACTIONS

LEAD AGENCY	ACTION	TIMELINE
HDC	Medium Density Housing Strategy - Implementation	Ongoing
Cabinet & Ministers	Final decision on NPS – HPL	2021
HDC & NCC	Spatial Plan for our District as required by the Strategic Planning Act (including HPUD Review)	2022–2024
HDC	State of Environment Report	2021
MfE	RMA Review	2022
HDC	Wider utilisation of Procurement guide to reducing carbon emission in building	ongoing
HDC & HBRC	Clifton to Tangoio Coastal Hazard Strategy consultation	2022

KEY SUCCESS MEASURES

- Developing the future spatial plan that will then become operationalised.
- Monitor against spatial plan
- Growth of medium density housing

² <https://environment.govt.nz/facts-and-science/climate-change/evidence-of-climate-change/#its-getting-hotter-in-new-zealand-and-around-the-world>

Climate and Carbon



CONTEXT

The increasing emission of greenhouse gases and carbon emissions due to human activity has a negative effect on our climate that presents increasing and ongoing challenges for human habitation as well as the natural environment. This manifest through rising temperatures, more frequent and severe droughts, increased storm events and rising sea levels.

HDC POSITION

The Council accepts that a certain level of climate change is now locked in and we will need to support our communities to adapt to the changes that will bring, while striving to mitigate against even greater changes by modelling and leading a community based transition to a low carbon future.

ACTIONS

LEAD AGENCY	ACTION	TIMELINE
HDC	Measure Council's carbon footprint	2021/2022
HDC	Energy Audit for Council	2021/2022
HDC	Develop Climate Change Action Plan for Council	2022
HBRC & HDC	Deliver transport initiatives	2022/2023
HBRC & HDC	Collaborate with HBRC to measure the Councils carbon footprint	TBC

KEY SUCCESS MEASURES

- To have more information for greater understanding and baselining.
- Give effect to relevant government policies – implementation & enforcement
- Active Transport Strategy implemented
- Operate an efficient vehicle fleet (electric/hybrid)
- Facilitate and collaborate with other agencies to enable alternative transport options within our region
- Community is more informed, aware and responsive of climate change



HASTINGS - ECO-DISTRICT STRATEGIC OVERVIEW 2021 // HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL // 13



CONTEXT

This priority speaks to the natural values and the protection and enhancement of our Mahinga Kai and iconic landscapes that we all enjoy as a community. Healthy and swimmable waterways, strong eco systems, outstanding recreational space and the protection and enhancement of our iconic landscapes.

Biodiversity in particular, is essential for all life as it gives greater resilience to ecosystems, organisms and humans. This diversity is vitally important for people, because it underpins how ecosystems function and the wide range of ecosystem services which human societies have always depended upon. In Hawke's Bay we've lost a lot of biodiversity, particularly indigenous vegetation and wetlands, and a lot of our natural taonga are still under threat.

HDC POSITION

The Council seeks to protect the values and quality of our natural environment along with the remaining cradles of biodiversity through its District Plan and direct action. We will regenerate, repatriate, re-establish, and re-create greater biological diversity by working with others and focussing on the open spaces Council owns and manages on behalf of the community.

ACTIONS

LEAD AGENCY	ACTION	TIMELINE
HDC	Review of Reserve Strategy	2021
HDC	Reserve Enhancement Programme for identified reserves	Ongoing
HDC	Reserve Management Planning	2021
HDC	Prepare Hastings Green Streets	Ongoing
HDC	Comply with the National Policy Statement on Indigenous Biodiversity	TBC

KEY SUCCESS MEASURES

- All significant National areas in the district are identified
- Development and population of mahinga kai (waahi taonga) register.
- Recommended Areas for Protection (RAP) identified
- Increase road reserve planting
- Targets in the reserve strategy are met
- Increase in number of native plantings in council reserves





Clean and Green Council Services



CONTEXT

Making sure all Council owned facilities and projects are in line with council strategies and policies/plans for sustainability and climate change plans is in itself a challenge, as it requires changing existing practices, infrastructure, plant and equipment as well as community expectations and the capability and awareness of staff and governors alike.

HDC POSITION

The Council wants to lead by example by building capability and processes that ensure environmental sustainability, climate change mitigation and climate change adaptation are at the forefront of decision making and actions we take on behalf of the community. This will include changing existing practices along with measuring, monitoring, reporting and holding ourselves to account for our progress and achieving our environmental goals.

Wasting less as a community
“Most of the things we do, buy and consume generate some form of waste. If not managed properly, it can have a negative impact on people’s wellbeing and the health of the environment”.

ACTIONS

LEAD AGENCY	ACTION	TIMELINE
HDC	20% total tonnage increase in common recyclables diverted from Ōmarunui	2024
HDC	30% total tonnage decrease in organics to Ōmarunui Landfill	2024
HDC	Develop further community education and engagement strategy. Continuous learning and education/awareness programmes	ongoing
HDC	Engage ToiTu Envirocare to measure, reduce and offset our emissions and achieve globally recognised certification status	2021/2022
HDC	Undertake energy audit and create an ‘energy plan’ for our organisation	2021/2022
HDC	Seek out funding opportunities that enables a ‘greener’ organisation	ongoing
HDC	Establish and further advance collaboration and partnership opportunities	Ongoing
HDC	Sustainability aspects to be ‘operationalised’ within the organisation (from project planning to execution)	Ongoing

KEY SUCCESS MEASURES

- Increase in common recyclables diverted from Ōmarunui Landfill
- Decrease in organics to Ōmarunui Landfill
- Integrate sustainable guidelines into Councils procurement policy
- Sustainability aspects are taken into account at the conception of projects
- Measure Council’s carbon footprint to create a baseline from which future progress can be monitored.
- Community is more informed, aware and responsive of climate change

What Else You Need To Know – Important Context

This section gathers together important information to understand the context for the Council's objective and positions for each of the priority focus areas.

**Freshwater is
Hawke's Bay most
precious and
valuable resource**



In many regions around the world, changing precipitation and melting snow and ice are altering hydrological systems, affecting water resources in terms of quantity and quality. Globally major future rural impacts are expected in the near-term and beyond through impacts on water availability and supply, food security, and agricultural incomes, including shifts in production areas of food and non-food crops across the world.

National Context

NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT FOR FRESHWATER MANAGEMENT (NPS-FM)

The fundamental concept that the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPS-FM) is based upon is Te Mana o te Wai. Te Mana o te Wai refers to "the fundamental importance of water and recognises that protecting the health of freshwater protects the health and wellbeing of the wider environment. Te Mana o te Wai is about restoring and preserving the balance between the water, the wider environment and the community.

The objective of this National Policy Statement is to ensure that natural and physical resources are managed in a way that prioritises:

- (a) the health and the well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems
- (b) the health needs of people, such as drinking water
- (c) the ability of people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being, now and in the future

The integrated management of water is guided by a list of (15) policies within the NPS-FM.

THREE WATERS REFORM PROGRAMME

In July 2020, the Government launched the Three Waters Reform Programme – a three year programme to reform local government water services. Currently 67 councils own and operate the majority of the drinking water, wastewater and storm water services across New Zealand. The Government's intention is to reform local government's three water services into a small number of multi-regional entities with a bottom line of public ownership.

Council has signed a memorandum of understanding to partake in the exploration of future service delivery options. A regional review also explored future service delivery options locally.

Regional Context

Managing water quality and quantity is one of the most important priorities of Hawke's Bay Regional Council. Water is critical for urban communities, primary production, processing, industrial use and farm management and demand is outstripping supply. The focus needs to be put on adaptation planning and importantly prioritized implementation.

REGIONAL WATER SECURITY PROGRAMME

The Regional Water Security Programme is giving effect to national body of works in relation to National Policy Statement on Fresh Water and aiming to make sure Hawke's Bay has long-term, climate resilient secure supplies of freshwater for all. In 2020 the Government's Provincial Growth Fund (PGF) allocated \$30.6 million for a package of 4 regional freshwater security initiatives.

1. Regional Freshwater Assessment

This assessment will for the first time, provide a comprehensive analysis of our freshwater, including the growing gap between how much we want and how much we have. The assessment will consider freshwater requirements of tangata whenua and provide engagement opportunities for the community to contribute to long term freshwater management planning. The assessment looks at a range of options to ensure supplies, including water storage, conservation, and more efficient use of water and land use practices.

2. Heretaunga Water Storage

PGF funding was granted to accelerate the investigation of water storage development in the Heretaunga region for environmental, productive and municipal purposes. The initial focus is on expanding the existing water storage scheme on private land at Te Tua Station. The Te Tua water storage facility is an option that can significantly improve environmental conditions in lowland streams relatively quickly.

3. Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR)

Aquifers are recharged every day from rainfall, rivers, unlined water races and canals and irrigation activities. MAR is a set of physical tools that enables the capture of high quality water from rivers and streams during high winter flows and use it to purposefully recharge aquifers, complementing the natural recharge processes. It is a proven technique that is utilised in other parts of the world.

4. 3D Aquifer Mapping Project

The latest airborne electromagnetic survey technology enables an insight to see deep underground and get a picture of the aquifers down to 300m depth. The information gained from this project will help better understand the aquifers and groundwater and to assist in the protection and management of this resource for future generations.

TANK

TANK was set up to improve water quality, set fair rules to use and allocate water in the Tūtaekunī, Ahuriri, Ngāruroro and Karamū (TANK) catchments.

The TANK plan proposes a package of objectives, policies and rules to apply to the use of land and water in the TANK catchments. The plan change seeks to deliver sustainable outcomes through a management framework that contributes to the region's economic growth and environmental integrity, while providing for the values identified by the community.

HDC Context

Better management of the three waters for our community is vital. It is the health of the myriad of waterways and the safeguarding of our drinking water supply to ensure quality and quantity that can support necessary growth as well as it can lead to a supply. Mitigating the effects of urban storm water and investigating future best practice options for reducing the impact of wastewater discharge is crucial to reduce environmental impacts.

WATER CONSERVATION DEMAND MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The HDC Water Conservation Demand Management Strategy (WCDMS) outlines Council's commitment to a range of measures that will help achieve sustainable and efficient use of water and thereby minimise the environmental effects of abstraction on surface and groundwater resources. Protecting the health of freshwater protects the health and wellbeing of the wider environment. This strategy focuses on prudent operational and maintenance best practice across the networks as well as awareness and education programmes. WCDMS has been prepared to act as an overarching strategy for all HDC water supplies.

The Parks Irrigation Efficiency Project is an example of how Council can sustainability manage our water use. The automated pop up watering systems deliver water more effectively and efficiently by allowing night time use which in turn reduces water usage by up to 90%.

DRINKING WATER STRATEGY

Providing safe drinking water is Council's number one priority. Access to information relating to sustainable groundwater abstraction rates and stream depletion effects from groundwater abstraction across the Heretaunga Plains. This means that Council needs to ensure that it has adequate water to meet the current and future demands of the community, water is used efficiently while also ensuring that its abstractions are within sustainable allocation limits and are not having an adverse environmental effect.

This strategy details projections on how much water is needed, what is the best possible source of the water as well as looking at how the safe drinking water is efficiently distributed.



Best use of land resources

National Context

NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT (NPS-UD)

Both the National Policy Statement on Urban Development (NPS-UD) and the National Policy Statement on Highly Valuable Land (HPS-HPL) aims to provide guidelines around urban development and effective management of highly productive land.

The National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020 (NPS-UD) is about ensuring New Zealand's towns and cities are well functioning urban environments that meet the changing needs of our diverse communities. It removes overly restrictive barriers to development to allow growth 'up' and 'out' in locations that have good access to existing services, public transport networks and infrastructure.

NPS-UD is set out to improve how our cities respond to growth to enable improved housing affordability and community wellbeing.

PROPOSED NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT ON HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE LAND (NPS-HPL)

The National Policy Statement on Highly Productive Land (NPS-HPL) which is in draft format and yet to be gazetted recognises that our land is a precious Taonga, an irreplaceable treasure and source of life and wellness for our country. Our economy depends on our land our history and culture are tied to it. The land that is highly productive for primary production is classified by the Land Use Capability (LUC). Versatile soils are classified as Land Use Capability 1, 2, or 3e. Land that has class 1 rating under the LUC system is the most versatile and has the fewest limitation of use. Versatile soils are rare in NZ accounting for only 5.5% of the total.

The value of this land for primary production is often given inadequate consideration with more weight generally given to other matters and priorities. The NPS-HPL proposes that local authorities will be required to consider the availability of highly productive land within their region or district for primary production now and for future generations. NPS will encourage local authorities to be more future focused about planning how and where development should occur and identify 'no go' areas where development should not occur.

PROCUREMENT GUIDE TO REDUCING CARBON EMISSION IN BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

Government has signalled a clear commitment to reduce carbon emissions and have proposed changes to the regulatory framework in the building and construction sector. The building and construction sector is a large contributor to emissions from producing materials, constructing buildings, energy used in buildings and must play a major part if New Zealand is to reach its climate change goals, including Net Zero Carbon by 2050.

The recently published Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment procurement guide intended to help people involved in the procurement and construction projects to understand how they can influence change in reducing carbon emissions. This guide is a first step towards supporting government agencies to lead the way in reducing carbon emissions generated by the construction of new government buildings.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT REFORM

The Government is proposing a repeal of the RMA and replacing it with 3 pieces of new legislation; outlined below. It is intended that the subcommittee process for each bill will take place in 2022 and that they will be passed into law before the end of 2022.

Natural and Built Environment Act

This is the main piece of legislation to replace the RMA. The purpose of this Act will be to enhance



the quality of the environment by means of the National Planning Framework and Natural Built Environment Plans prescribing environmental limits, to support the wellbeing of present and future generations. It has more of an emphasis of protecting and where necessary restoring the natural environment and is outcomes focussed. It requires the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi to be “given effect to” rather than “take into account” under the current legislation. The Natural and Built Environment Act would significantly rationalise the number of regional and district plans from over 100 to around 14 – one for each region.

Strategic Planning Act

This Act provides a strategic and long-term approach to how we plan for using land and the coastal marine area. Long-term spatial strategies in each region would apply a 30 year horizon and identify areas that: will be suitable for development; need to be protected or improved; will need new infrastructure and other social needs and are vulnerable to climate change effects and natural hazards.

Climate Change Adaptation Act

This Act will support New Zealand’s response to the effects of climate change. It will address the complex legal and technical issues associated with managed retreat and funding and financing adaptation.

Implications for the Hastings District Council

There is no express intention that the RMA reforms will lead to any structural change of local government. However, streamlining of regional and district planning documents under the RMA to just one for the Hawke’s Bay region will have implications for the roles that Council currently have. Once the draft bills have been released further implications will be identified. Council may wish to make a submission on the proposed bills once they have been developed.

Regional and HDC Context

HERETAUNGA PLAINS URBAN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (HPUDS)

The Heretaunga Plains Urban Development Strategy 2017 (HPUDS) outlines our future intentions in respect of urban growth and is underpinned by the principle of protecting our valuable soils. HPUDS takes a long term view of land use and infrastructure and it is regularly reviewed. A key pillar within the strategy is the transition to a more intensive housing model if we are to effectively balance the desire for growth with the protection of our natural resources.

HASTINGS MEDIUM DENSITY HOUSING STRATEGY

Complementing the intentions of HPUDS the Medium Density Housing Strategy promotes ways to increase housing density. The challenge and critical task ahead is to turn this strategy and implementation plan into effective action.

SPATIAL PLANNING – HERETAUNGA 2050

Spatial planning is strongly advocated by the current government through the proposed Strategic Planning Act with the commitment of resources and funding for agreed joint spatial plan initiatives. The role of spatial planning is important for joined up thinking, planning, policy implementation and funding across administrative boundaries and multiple agencies. It will assist in providing greater clarity in the strategic direction communities and agencies wish to take over the longer term (30 – 50 year timeframe).

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Council’s State of Environment Report (2019) is a snapshot of environmental conditions and the interactions between people and the environment is currently in development and due to be completed by 2021. This report covers a wide range of content such as; sustainable land use, air and water sustainability, amenity, character and heritage management, sustainable infrastructure, hazard management, sustainable waste management.



Climate and Carbon

National and Regional Context

The most significant environmental challenge facing the world is climate change and the biggest challenge is mitigation and adaptation. Climate change will impact the economy, and the health and wellbeing of all communities. Based on the latest climate change projections for New Zealand, by the end of this century we are likely to experience: higher temperatures; rising sea levels; more frequent extreme weather events – including droughts and floods and a change in rainfall patterns.

Projections for Hawke's Bay are consistent with the national situation with changes to climate already happening and the rate of future change dependent on how fast greenhouse gases increase. Key predictions for the region include:

- Annual average minimum temperatures are expected to increase
- The number of frost days are expected to decrease over time
- The average number of heatwave days per year is expected to increase
- Extreme, rare rainfall events are projected to become more severe in the future
- Drought potential is projected to increase
- Rising sea level
- Water availability - decreases in annual average discharge and mean annual flows are predicted to decrease for most catchments.

For our Hastings District, the impacts of these climate changes will be felt by all of our community regardless of whether they live in a rural, urban or coastal area. Heat stress, extreme precipitation, inland and coastal flooding, landslides, air pollution, drought, and water scarcity pose risks for people, assets, economies, and ecosystems.

All coastal hazards, and their severity, will be influenced by climate change and the effects have significant implications for our coastal environments and the communities. Ongoing sea-level rise is also likely to increase exposure of infrastructure and cause habitat loss in coastal areas.

Changing climate, including warmer temperatures, increased droughts and more intensive, frequent and damaging rainfall events, poses a substantial risk to our land assets, and effects food production and rural communities. Future reductions in rainfall and increases in drought severity may cause fire risk to increase, affecting forestry, the natural environment, and the tourism sector.

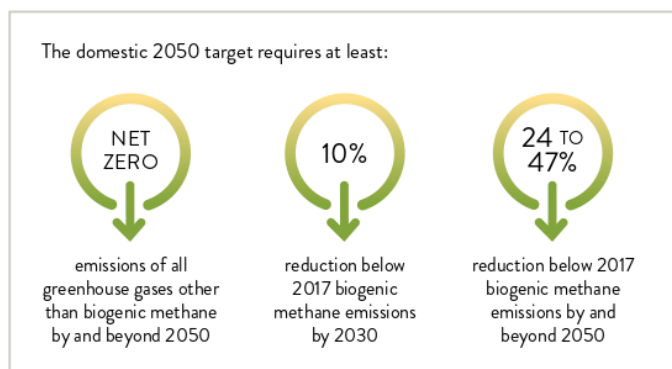
In our urban areas infrastructure and urban form are strongly interlinked, and lock in patterns of land use, transport choice, housing, and behavior that impact on greenhouse gas emissions.

THE CLIMATE CHANGE COMMISSION'S FINAL REPORT

The Climate Change Commission has provided advice to Government on its first three emission budgets and directions for its reduction plan 2022-2025. The report clearly outlines that "the time is now" to transition to a thriving, climate resilient and low emission Aotearoa.

There are technically achievable, economically affordable and socially acceptable pathways for Aotearoa to take to achieve a climate-resilient and low emissions future. While there are some differences in opinion on which of these paths Aotearoa should take, the work of He Pou a Rangi the Climate Change Commission shows there is consensus on the end goal, as well as the need, and the urgency, for action.

Our obligations under the Climate Change Response Act



The Commission has recommended a number of critical actions to be undertaken by Government in the following sectors:

- Transport
- Energy, Industry and Buildings
- Land (Agriculture and Forestry)
- Waste



³ Ministry for the Environment

⁴ By 0.5 – 1.0 degrees C. by 2040. By 2090, minimum temperatures at most locations are projected to increase by 0.5-1.0 degrees C. (medium pathway) or 1.5 – 2.5 degrees C. (high pathway)

⁵ Climate Change Projections and Impacts for Tairāwhiti and Hawke's Bay – Prepared by NIWA for the Gisborne District Council and the Hawke's Bay Regional Council

⁶ <https://ccc-production-media.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/public/Inaia-tonu-nei-a-low-emissions-future-for-Aotearoa/inaia-tonu-nei-a-low-emissions-future-for-Aotearoa.pdf>

⁷ The full programme of work can be found on the Ministry for the Environment website - <https://www.mfe.govt.nz/climate-change/climate-change-and-government/climate-change-programme>

<https://ccc-production-media.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/public/Inaia-tonu-nei-a-low-emissions-future-for-Aotearoa/inaia-tonu-nei-a-low-emissions-future-for-Aotearoa.pdf>

THE GOVERNMENT'S CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE

The New Zealand Government has a climate change programme of work that is aimed at reducing New Zealand greenhouse gas emissions.⁸ Key aspects of this work include:

- National climate change risks assessment for New Zealand gives a national picture of how we may be affected by climate change related hazards and identifies the most significant risks and opportunities for New Zealand.
- A National Adaptation Plan will address the most significant risks identified by the risk assessment. The Government will be working with key stakeholders including local government with respect to the development of this plan.
- The Emissions Reductions Plan will describe how New Zealand will meet its emissions budgets and make progress towards meeting the 2050 target.
- The New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme is Government's key policy tool for reducing emissions and meeting New Zealand's emission targets and future emissions targets.

Council will need to keep abreast of national climate change developments as it is likely that there will be future implications for local government. For example, the National Adaptation Plan, yet to be fully developed may require the development of local climate change risk assessments and local Adaptation Plans. If this was a future requirement it would likely be targeted at the regional level.

REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE

HBRC declared a climate change emergency in June 2019 accepting local and international science that there is a small window of time to act to avoid the most damaging long term effects of the climate crisis. HBRC has set the goal for the region to be carbon neutral by 2050.

HBRC is currently undertaking a wide range of actions through their current work;

- Public Transport & Cycling
- Sustainable Homes
- Flood protection & Erosion Control Scheme
- Climate Action Hawkes Bay & Biodiversity
- Environmental monitoring
- Education

HBRC's Climate Crisis Survey 2020 investigated Hawke's Bay residents' attitudes towards the environment especially relating to climate change. The majority (90%) believes that climate change is already occurring and 55% of the residents are prepared to pay more to combat impacts of climate change. The main perceived sources of negative impact on climate change were linked to population growth and waste, energy and transport, and the various industrial processes. The respondents of the survey believe that climate change in Hawke's Bay could lead to extreme weather events such as droughts which have a flow on effect on crop production and water storage to name a few. Other top challenges identified in the survey include economy and drinking water.

COUNCIL CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE

Local Government also has responsibilities under the Resource Management Act to prepare and respond to the impacts of climate change.

Council can respond to climate change in three key ways:

MITIGATION

ADAPTATION

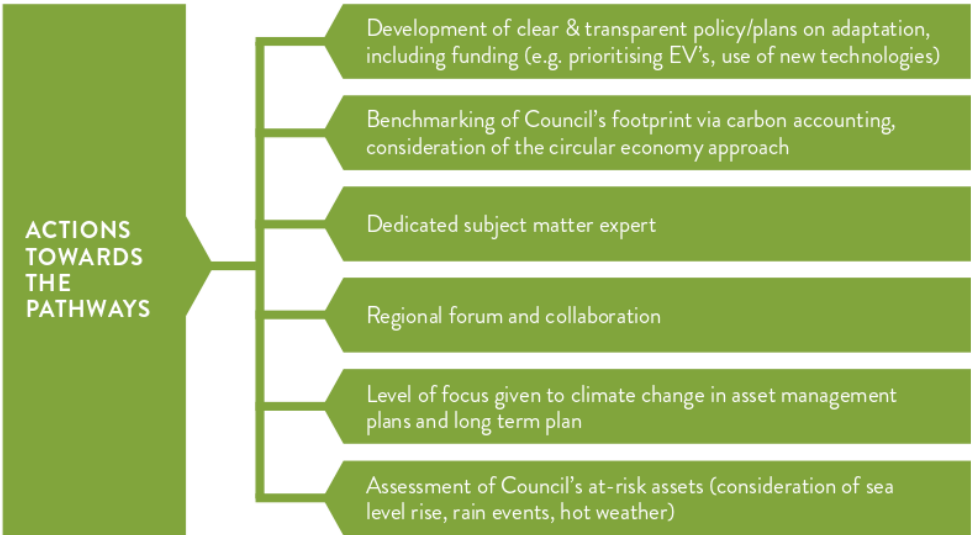
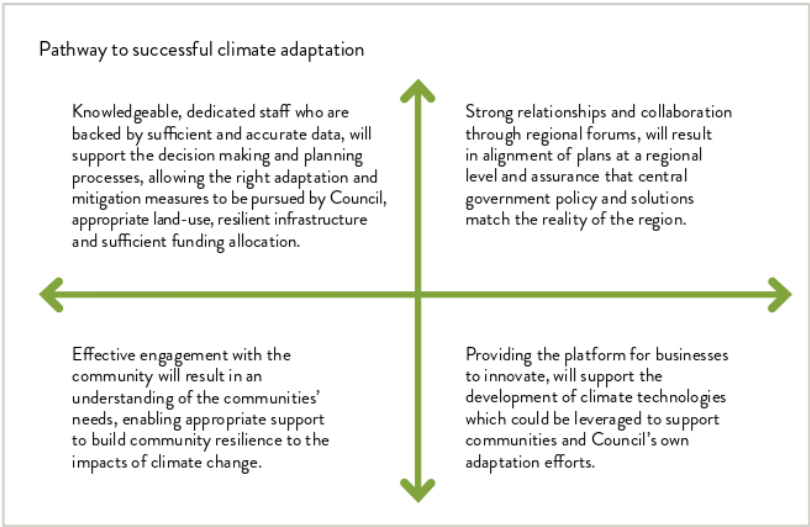
LEADERSHIP

Key responses that have the effect of lessening greenhouse gases and the impact on climate change include:

- Coastal hazards and their severity, will be influenced by climate change which will bring increased storminess and sea-level rise. The Clifton to Tangoio Coastal Hazards Strategy is being developed in response to the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement which requires Local Authorities to consider and plan for coastal hazards (including tsunamis); taking a 100 year view. It is a joint strategy being developed by the Hastings District Council, Hawke's Bay Regional Council, Napier City Council and groups representing mana whenua and tangata whenua.
- The Heretaunga Plains Urban Design Strategy (HPUDS) was a significant step toward achieving climate change mitigation goals locally. HPUDS seeks to minimise energy usage in transportation and to encourage efficient use of current infrastructure. HPUDS also sends a clear message about the importance of the productive land values associated with the Heretaunga Plains and the need to protect versatile soils from on-going urban development.
- The Medium Density Housing Strategy has been adopted by Council and the second generation District Plan includes provisions to encourage more intensive development, subject to amenity controls. The challenge and critical task ahead is to turn this strategy into an effective implementation plan.

- Sustainable subdivision and building design that maximises the use of solar energy and minimises water use, together with construction processes and technologies that minimise waste and maximise the use of natural products, can both help mitigate against climate change and increase resilience to its impacts. The Council's Best Home initiative was an example of how Council can take the lead on matters such as these. With the recently enacted Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act it may be timely for Council to re-energise itself and try some other ways to motivate the community to adopt a more sustainable built form and living.
- Measure Council's carbon footprint - this will provide baseline information as a starting point for reduction measures to be undertaken and progress measured. An energy audit will provide a baseline assessment and inform Council on how to improve energy efficiency.
- To guide Council's climate change response we plan to develop a Climate Change Action Plan that will provide a strategic direction for adapting to and mitigating the effects of climate change.
- Council aiming to become carbon neutral (excl. landfill) as an organisation

The outcomes of Council's Risk Assessment summarized below;



9 Climate Change Projections and Impacts for Tairāwhiti and Hawke's Bay - Prepared by NIWA for the Gisborne District Council and the Hawke's Bay Regional Council



MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT – SUMMARY REPORT

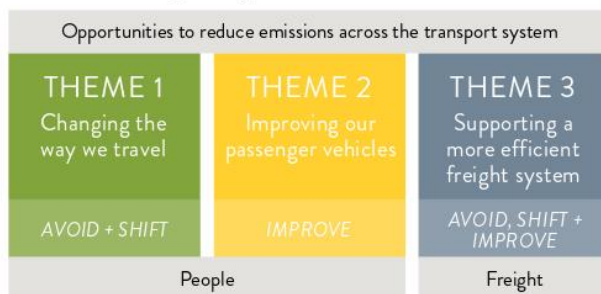
Transport Emissions: Pathways to Net Zero by 2050 green paper details some key statistic that explains transport emission and framework to address emission factors.

- 47% of Aotearoa's CO₂ emissions come from transport, and 21% of gross domestic emissions (as part of the energy sector).
- 67% of our CO₂ transport emissions come from travel by light vehicle – cars, vans and utes. Light vehicle CO₂ emissions are 7% higher now than in the previous 10 years.
- Our larger cities generate more emissions than rural towns based on population and the number of vehicles. (However, per capita transport emissions are lower in cities.)

To achieve Net Zero by 2050, the Ministry of Transport is utilizing the Avoid-Shift-Improve framework¹⁰.



The framework is supported by the three main themes



Local Government will have a key role to achieve the proposed goal of Net Zero by 2050.

¹⁰ <https://www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/environment-and-climate-change/climate-change/>

REGIONAL LAND TRANSPORT PLAN 2021-2031 (RTLTP) ⁹

This plan takes an integrated approach, sets out to identify the key issues and prioritise future investment. It envisages to achieve a vibrant, accessible and sustainable transport network for Hawke's Bay.

This plan is focusing on three major outcomes:

- Reducing deaths and serious injuries on Hawke's Bay roads by 40% by 2030.
- Making our transport system more sustainable and creating a healthier community.
- Having reliable and predictable travel times for freight.

Hastings District Council is actively involved in the transport space and collaborating on many initiatives with other agencies. Safe, sustainable and efficient transport is a priority for Council and many initiatives have been completed, such as cycle way extensions, safe pathways and other significant safety improvements to our roading network. This work is ongoing, and will include future work on alternative transport options, bridge strengthening programme, electric vehicle charging station network and so on. A partnership approach is identified as a key to success in this area.



Priority 3

Natural Environment

National Context

DRAFT NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT ON INDIGENOUS BIODIVERSITY (NPS)

The purpose of the NPS is to set out objectives and policies in relation to maintaining indigenous biodiversity and to specify what local authorities must do to achieve those objectives. Under the proposed NPS an integrated approach will be taken to identifying Significant Natural Areas in partnership with mana whenua.

NPS Timeline

26 NOV 2019 - CONSULTATION OPENED

14 MAR 2020 - CONSULTATION CLOSED

31 AUG 2020 - SUMMARY OF SUBMISSIONS RELEASED

MID 2021 - EXPOSURE DRAFT

END OF 2021 GAZETAL

There is likely to be a significant amount of work for Council to do to comply with the NPS when it is made final. There is a requirement to identify all of the Significant Natural Areas within the district and also any natural area corridors that are important habitats.

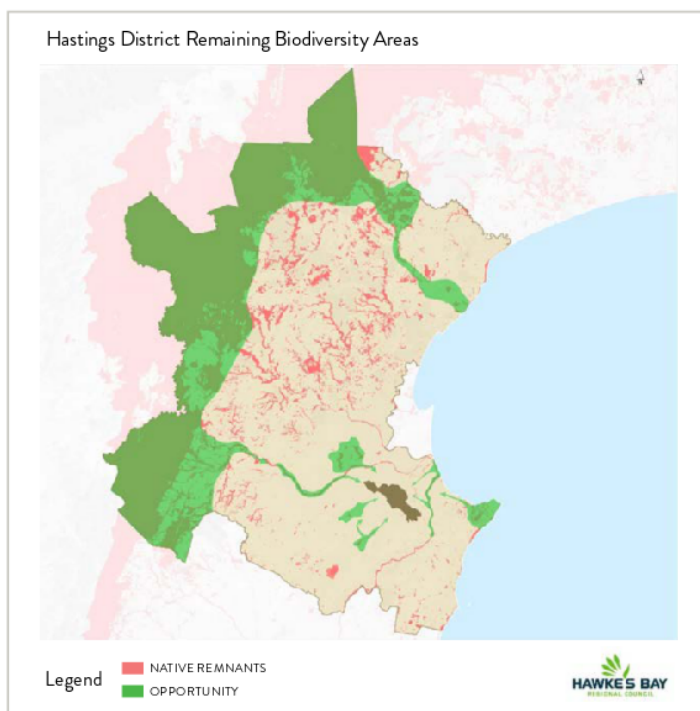
Currently the district plan identifies Recommended Areas of Protection on the planning maps and any modification of indigenous vegetation in these areas requires a resource consent application. These Recommended Areas of Protection were identified by the Department of Conservation in the 1990's. Council will need to arrange an assessment of the existing Recommended Areas of Protection and also identify any new areas of significant indigenous vegetation.

One of the major tasks will be to engage with rural landowners where a large proportion of the Significant Natural Areas will be located, particularly where there is regeneration such as Manuka or Kanuka.

Regional and HDC Context

INCREASING BIODIVERSITY

Much of the original habitat of the Hastings District that supported a wide range of ecosystems has been turned into pasture (51%). In response to the huge land clearances and loss of ecosystems across Hawke's Bay a regional biodiversity strategy has been developed along with an action plan to address future biodiversity considerations. HBRC is leading this work which has had an initial focus on mapping and prioritising the region's ecosystems that will be followed by active restoration of those areas. Biodiversity Hawke's Bay are a key partner in this work.



The above map shows the native remnants in the region (red) and the areas of opportunity (green) that have been identified by HBRC to increase biodiversity. The map illustrates the opportunity to connect biodiversity areas from the hinterland, to the waterways and urban and coastal areas.

For Council, a leading way to contribute to increasing biodiversity and enhancing green connections is through the land it owns; in the form of reserves, open spaces and its roading network. Reserve Management Plans are a key tool to enhance biodiversity; for e.g. extensive planting has taken place as part of the Cape Coast Reserve Management Plan; the Havelock North Reserve and Keirunga Gardens. The Plans provide opportunities to investigate ecological responses and are implemented over a 10 year period. Planting on the road network (for e.g. roundabouts and berms) also provides good opportunities; they do not take away from the recreation usage and can create green corridors.

PROTECTING AND ENHANCING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT IN OUR RESERVES

Council owns or manages 184 reserves, covering over 650 hectares on behalf of the community. The management of these reserves provides Council with a responsibility to protect and enhance the natural environment that these reserves provide both now and in the future. Council are fortunate to have the support of partners that share the same aspirations which includes more than 120 people who are members of 10 parks and reserves Care Groups in Hastings.

The Council's current strategic intent in respect of the provision and management of our parks and open spaces draws from the 2009 Reserves Strategy (under review), the 2009 District Wide Reserves Management Plan, and the individual Reserve Management Plans that have been prepared for specific reserves.

Within the Reserve Strategy, water, biodiversity, natural hazards, plants and animal pests are key areas of focus for the Natural Values policy section.

Reserve Enhancement Programme

Continue completion of programmed actions contained within the Reserve Management Plans for Cornwall Park, Havelock North Village Green, Tainui Reserve, Waimārama Reserves, Cape Coast Reserves and Raureka Reserves.

Reserve Acquisition

94% of residential properties shall be within 500m of a Local Area Park.

There are key deficit areas primarily in Hastings and Havelock North where there are gaps in reserve provision. Opportunities will be actively considered when they arise. Partnerships with private open spaces such as the A&P Society will also be explored.

Reserve Management Planning

- Prepare a 2021 Open Spaces Strategy
- Review the 2009 District Wide Reserve Management Plan
- Prepare Individual Reserve Management Plans for Keirunga Gardens; Tainui Reserve; Windsor Park, Frimley Park

CREATING GREEN CORRIDORS
THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT

The Hastings Green Streets Strategy is being prepared to support the Hastings District Council's vision to strengthen the District's existing street and road corridor tree infrastructure. The Strategy will aim to consolidate, extend and enhance the established street tree network by providing a range of long term open space greening initiatives which are appropriately tailored to their unique environments. The Strategy will focus on unique, long-term, open space greening initiatives for the road reserves and corridors along the key route ways into the District's urban areas and neighborhood streetscapes.

The Hastings Green Streets Strategy is underpinned by three key objectives that guide the desired outcomes of the Strategy;

AMENITY	IDENTITY	SUSTAINABILITY
Enhancing the visual and physical qualities of the district	Strengthening the perception and character of the district	Promoting sustainability by contributing to resource conservation and habitat creation

- The existing street tree and road reserve planting framework is one of the District's most important natural assets. 'Green streets' provide more than just aesthetic benefits for the District. They also:
- Provide shade and shelter in what is one of the hottest locations in New Zealand.
 - Serve to slow storm water run-off and therefore reduce pressure on other forms of infrastructure.
 - Can provide habitat and increase urban biodiversity, whilst limiting the effects of pollution.
 - Foster identity and the individual character of areas within the district's urban environments.

In order for the Strategy to be effective it is essential that urban trees are afforded the same degree of priority as other important urban infrastructure elements. Creative solutions must be utilised to ensure that trees remain a key feature of the District's streetscapes.





National Context

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT (MINISTRY FOR ENVIRONMENT) WORK PROGRAMME THAT WILL IMPACT ON COUNCIL

National waste strategy - under development	The strategy will set the direction and guide investment. Public consultation on a draft strategy will be held in second half of 2021.
Waste legislation review (Waste Minimisation Act and Litter Act)	Strengthened legislation will support the new waste strategy for New Zealand by providing tools and incentives to transform the waste sector and help transition to a more circular and resource-efficient economy. Public consultation on possible legislative changes will be held in the second half of 2021. Any changes in waste management legislation will inform the review of Council's Waste Management and Minimisation Plan which is due in 2024.
Product Stewardship Schemes	Regulated product stewardship helps put responsibility for a product's life-cycle and waste management on manufacturers, importers, retailers and users rather than communities, councils, neighbourhoods and nature. The Government has declared six priority products for regulated product stewardship under the Waste Minimisation Act. Ministry for Environment is working with stakeholders to co-design product stewardship schemes for each priority product group
Expansion of the national waste disposal levy	The Government has confirmed its plans to increase and expand the national waste disposal levy to divert more material from landfill. It will use the revenue gathered from the waste disposal levy for resource recovery and waste minimisation. A public consultation finished in 2020. More than 80 per cent of submitters agreed the status quo needed to change. Most were broadly in support of increasing and expanding the levy.
Investment in recycling infrastructure	The Government is investing \$124 million in a number of recycling infrastructure initiatives across the country. This is part of the Covid-19 Response and Recovery Fund infrastructure focus announced on 1 July 2020. The funding is to speed up progress in filling major gaps in waste recycling infrastructure.
NZ Emission Reduction Plan (including waste)	This work is led by Climate Change Commission

The single-use plastic bags ban recently passed its first anniversary. As a result of this, it is estimated that 1.1 billion fewer plastic bags ended up in our landfills and oceans.

Regional and HDC Context

SOLID WASTE

The Ōmarunui landfill has a finite lifespan, dependant on the quantity of waste going in. The lifespan will be maximised if we find better ways to divert waste material. Waste is polluting our land, our lakes and rivers, and our coasts and oceans. It contributes 5% of New Zealand's greenhouse gas emissions.

The Joint Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2018 - 2024 was prepared and adopted by Hastings District and Napier City Councils and addresses key waste issues facing these communities, including:

- Of the waste currently going to Ōmarunui Landfill 49.1% is commonly recyclable and/or compostable material. The remaining 50.9% includes a significant amount of potentially divertible material such as electronic waste, wood waste, plaster board, scrap metal and so on. In other words, we can cut our waste in half 50% of material going to Ōmarunui Landfill can be composted or recycled, with the other 50% containing more divertible items.
- Kitchen and garden waste makes up a third of all waste entering Ōmarunui Landfill.
- Close to 80% of "rubbish" coming from householders can be diverted elsewhere.
- Litter, and illegal dumping continue to occur despite fines, enforcement and education.
- A large number of rural residents have little to no access to proper waste disposal.

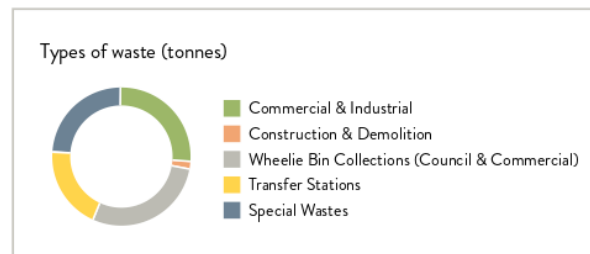
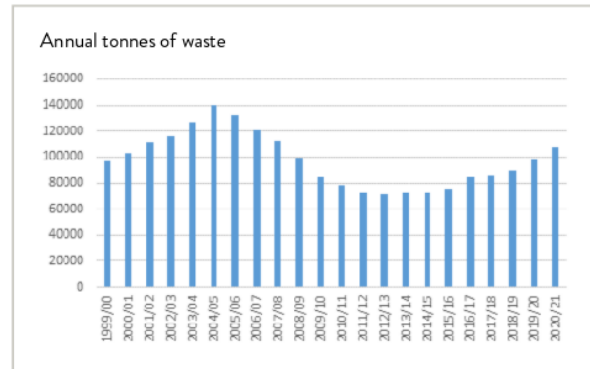
The current waste strategy is focused on:

- Reducing, recovering and recycling more waste.
- Improving information on waste generation and movements in Napier and Hastings.
- Improving community awareness on waste and recovery trends and knowledge around resource recovery and diversion potential.
- To continually look at utilising innovative waste disposal technologies

Council leads by example, with easy access recycling receptacles for its more than 400 staff throughout every floor in its workplaces.

34,000 Tonnes or 46%

WASTE GROWTH 2015-2020



For significant change in this area, individual ownership needs to be taken and behavioural change is necessary. This is likely to take time and ongoing education programmes are necessary to achieve this outcome.

Council first launched Sus'd, a household sustainability programme in 2009 with the aim to make a genuine difference in the community. Council worked with Sustaining Hawke's Bay Trust providing a programme to our community. Given the focus on climate change and sustainable living, this or a similar initiative might need to be revisited in the future to effectively help our community in this space.

To achieve better outcomes, future waste minimisation actions include:

- Joint implementation with Napier City Council
- Work with Commercial Sector to develop initiatives to reduce waste, including construction and demolition waste
- Improvement at the Henderson Road Refuse Transfer Station
- Consider a food waste and/or organic waste collection
- Bylaw Review
- Engagement with District Health Board and Medical Officer of Health

¹¹ <https://www.mfe.govt.nz/waste/waste-and-government#legislation>





ENSURING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENTS

The Engineering Code of Practice is a comprehensive document which provides engineering guidelines to developers and contractors undertaking subdivision and land use projects in the District.

The code has been developed to assist with the implementation of sustainable development approaches in managing the impact of growth, enable flexibility in design and promote innovative and sustainable land development and infrastructure solutions. With respect to natural eco-systems developers must ensure that natural eco-systems are able to continue to function and are not degraded or lost as a result of the proposed land development and/or subdivision. Enhancement of existing natural eco systems should be considered a priority as a form of mitigation.

Where it is possible and feasible Council should aim for incorporating sustainable elements into all Council led development, such as projects outlined in the 30 year infrastructure roadmap. Council also has sustainability requirements within its Procurement Policy 2020, requiring Council contractors to minimise the environmental impacts of goods and services. Along with council's procurement policy, sustainability considerations will become integrated with Council's project planning processes and Council reporting processes.

OTHER SIGNIFICANT COUNCIL INITIATIVES

Council is continuously looking at ways to provide services and run its operation that are in line with sustainability principles. Some completed initiatives include;

- Significant energy efficiency has been achieved by implementing LED lighting in our district
- Council's vehicle fleet includes a number of Electric and Hybrid vehicles
- Council's procurement policy has a sustainability focus
- Sustainable Tourism Attractions, which include Toi Toi and Splash Planet
- Hybrid work arrangements, online meetings, webinars and training where applicable and possible.

FUTURE COUNCIL INITIATIVES

Sustainability is an ever evolving field where new initiatives, emerging technologies and collaboration enables new solutions to existing challenges. To successfully and effectively deliver on this strategy council needs to keep abreast of emerging information and government initiatives. It is crucial to have an active role in continuous awareness and education programmes for our community. Convenience culture comes with a high hidden price, however the impacts of our actions becoming increasingly obvious. Whilst changing our behaviour can take time it has become evident it is absolutely necessary, to create a more sustainable existence.

Transport is a significant area of focus where alternative options are continually being examined. This includes further expanding the iways network for alternative means of transport as well as looking at new inventive ways to deliver public transport. HBRC will be consulting the community about an on demand public transport service. This initiative will use innovative technology and have real benefits for reduced carbon emissions across the region and has the potential to make public transport more useful and accessible for everyone.

With the rapid evolution of the Autonomous Vehicle (AV) technologies, the Ministry of Transport established an AV work programme that looks at current and future opportunities and risk associated with AVs in New Zealand. Whilst there is significant 'discovery' work happening in this space, currently there is no government policy on this technology. Smart innovations in our district will have an ever growing importance as many efficiencies can be gained by utilising innovative technology to solve challenges that are facing us. This includes the trial of Big Belly Bins solar powered smart waste compactor units.

Council intends to investigate and pursue central government and other agency programmes for collaboration and possible non-ratepayer funding opportunities.

Ō Tātau Hoa – *Partners*

Our partners are important and success depends on collaborative effort on focused priorities. Building and strengthening relationships is a key to achieve success.

Key strategic partnerships include:

- Mana Whenua
- Iwi / hapū authorities
- Ministry for the Environment
- Ministry of Transport
- Ministry of Primary Industries
- Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment
- New Zealand Transport Agency
- Department of Conservation
- Hawke's Bay District Health Board
- Hawke's Bay Regional Council
- Napier City Council
- Biodiversity Hawke's Bay
- Care Groups - Reserves
- Environment Centre Hawke's Bay – Sustaining Hawke's Bay Trust
- Schools - Enviro programmes
- Industry groups
- Universities and Research Institutes
- Forest and Bird
- Nourished for Nil
- Re-Sources
- Menzshed





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Ko ngā Mahere me ngā Rautaki Tauawhi – Plans and Supporting Strategies

HDC Plans and supporting strategies to deliver on the Eco District Strategy:



EXISTING COUNCIL STRATEGIES AND OTHER RELEVANT AGENCY DOCUMENT	PRIORITY AREA	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF STRATEGY
Kahungunu ki uta, Kahungunu ki Tai, Marine and Freshwater Strategic Plan		The strategy sets out the aspirations of Kahungunu for the use and management of marine and freshwater fisheries within our rohe. The strategy prioritises localised management in accordance with tikanga and supports the mana of hapū in this respect.
Maori Conservation Ethic: A Ngāti Kahungunu Perspective		A holistic approach where Tikanga Maori is at the very core of any conservation ethic. The responsibility for preservation of Mauri is that of the accredited Kaitiaki.
Tutaekuri Awa Management and Enhancement Plan 2014		The purpose of this plan is to identify and describe the views and intentions of the Tūtaekuri awa Hapū and the aspirations for the Tūtaekuri awa in the future. The main principle is to enhance the mauri of the Tūtaekuri awa.
Mana Ake - Nga Hapu o Heretaunga 2015 published by Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga		TBC
Long Term Plan 2018-2028	Priority 1-4	LTPs outline all things a council does and how they fit together. They show what will be done over the plan's 10 year period, why the council is doing things and their costs.
Te Kura Nui – Maori Responsiveness		Organisational cultural framework that will capture the needs and aspirations, that will represent a Heretaunga (Hastings District) and Ngāti Kahungunu understanding and framing of the workforce's growth and development as culturally competent practitioners.

EXISTING COUNCIL STRATEGIES AND OTHER RELEVANT AGENCY DOCUMENT	PRIORITY AREA	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF STRATEGY
Drinking Water Strategy 2018		This strategy presents a vision for the delivery of water services based on an agreed set of objectives that has water quality and safety as its prime objective. The strategy includes a combination of new and redefined initiatives based on investigations, modelling and science to inform how Council will progress in meeting the targets and timeframes it is proposing in the 2018-2028 LTP
Water Conservation and Demand Management Strategy (WCDMS)		This strategy outlines HDC's commitment to a range of measures that will achieve an efficient use of water and thereby minimise the environmental effects of abstraction on surface and groundwater resources.
TANK		TANK is set out to manage water quality and quantity for the Tūtaekurī, Ahuriri, Ngaruroro and Karamū (TANK) catchments
Heretaunga Plains Urban Development Strategy -HPUD's (2017)		Outlines our future intentions in respect of urban growth, underpinned by the principal of protecting our valuable soils. A key pillar within the strategy is the transition to a more intensification housing. This strategy is also a significant step toward achieving climate change mitigation goals locally. HPUDS seeks to minimise energy usage in transportation and to encourage efficient use of current infrastructure.
Medium Density (Housing) Summarised Strategy & Medium Density Implementation Programme		This strategy has been developed to promote increased housing density. The challenge and critical task ahead is to turn this strategy into an effective implementation plan.
Hastings Urban Issues and Urban Design Strategy		The Hastings Urban Issues project was initiated in August 2009 in order to generate new approaches to urbanism that more closely reflected the shifting priorities and challenges associated with achieving more sustainable urban growth.
Hastings District Plan		RMA1991 requires Councils to have a District Plan to manage the physical and natural environment. The Plan guides how the district's land and resources can be used, developed or protected, in order to avoid or lessen the impact of any adverse effects. The second generation District Plan includes provisions to encourage more intensive development, subject to amenity controls
Place-Based Housing Partnership		Short term Housing Strategy
Hastings Medium and Long Term Housing Strategy		Medium and Long Term Housing Strategy
30 Year Infrastructure Strategy 2021	Priority 1-5 (TBC)	Infrastructure Road Map - a high level view of the most likely scenario for significant projects
Beyond iWay: Hastings District Council Walking and Cycling Strategy		Provide a strategic framework supporting walking and cycling beyond the current iWay programme through to 2022. Identify specific actions and a programme for implementation to ensure the sustained development and promotion of walking and cycling within the Hastings district.

EXISTING COUNCIL STRATEGIES AND OTHER RELEVANT AGENCY DOCUMENT	PRIORITY AREA	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF STRATEGY
Hawke's Bay Regional Land Transport Strategy 2012-2042		The Regional Land Transport Strategy addresses strategic transport needs for Hawke's Bay while the Regional Land Transport Programme identifies specific transport activities for which the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) and councils in our region are seeking national funding for the next 3 years. CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW FOR 2021-2031. In consultation.
Heavy Freight Transport Strategic Plan 2014		Key objective of the HFTSP is to provide a sustainable, integrated and safe heavy freight system for the Hastings District to ultimately support the economic development of the Hastings District and wider Hawke's Bay Region
Climate change projections and impacts for Tairāwhiti and Hawke's Bay		https://www.hbrc.govt.nz/assets/Document-Library/Reports/Climate-change-projections-and-impacts-for-Tairawhiti-and-Hawkes-Bay.pdf
Clifton to Tangoio Coastal Hazards Strategy 2120		Currently under development, this Strategy will provide a long term framework for managing the coast between Clifton and Tangoio. The long term vision for the strategy is that "Coastal communities, businesses and critical infrastructure from Tangoio to Clifton are resilient to the effects of coastal hazards". It is being developed collaboratively by the Hastings District Council, Hawke's Bay Regional Council, Napier City Council and groups representing mana whenua through a joint committee.
Hastings Coastal Environmental Strategy 2000		To establish a comprehensive Coastal Environment Strategy that will enable the community to develop an integrated regime to protect, manage and develop the Coastal Environment
Reserves Strategy		Provide an overall framework for the acquisition and development of reserve land within the district.
Reserve Management Plans		Outline the Council's general intentions for the use, development and maintenance of its key reserves.
Hawke's Bay Bio-Diversity Strategy 2015-2050		The Hawke's Bay Regional Council supported the development of the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Hawke's Bay. It takes a regional approach to improve habitats and support native species. The strategy takes responsibility for improving native species habitats and populations in Hawke's Bay. The strategy was developed collaboratively with other organisations and interests including Hastings District Council.
Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2018 – 2024		Sets out the regions waste challenges and intended response. This plan details how Council intends to reduce waste within its own operation and support waste minimisation in the wider community.
Litter Reduction Strategy 2008		To provide a long-term sustainable approach to litter reduction. The strategy acknowledges and aligns with the work of the Keep Hastings Beautiful Trust. The strategy will also endorse funding requests for litter initiatives.
Engineering Code of Practice 2020		Sets out the engineering standards and guidelines that apply for subdivision and land use projects.

EXISTING COUNCIL STRATEGIES AND OTHER RELEVANT AGENCY DOCUMENT	PRIORITY AREA	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF STRATEGY
Regional Economic Development Strategy 2016 and Matariki		The Matariki Action Plan (MAP) is our navigational map to Matariki Hawke's Bay Regional Development Strategy for economic, inclusive and sustainable growth.
Council's Financial Strategy		How Council will fund its activities and the impact this will have on services, debt and rates levels over time.
Hastings Retail Strategy 2003 & Hastings City Centre Strategy 2013		Achieve the form and pattern of retail development in Hastings district – both spatially and over time. This Strategy represents a 20-year approach to move the Hastings City Centre forward. This strategy recognises our City Centre's key strengths and aligns these with future opportunities.
Havelock North Village Centre Framework		Guides planning and growth of the village centre in a way that is consistent with sustainable development.
Flaxmere Town Centre Urban Design Framework		Provides a land use planning framework, guiding decision on urban form, land use and community projects in and around the Flaxmere Village Centre.

National Policy Statements and Strategies relating to Eco District Priority Areas

NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENTS & FRAMEWORKS	PRIORITY AREA	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF STRATEGY
Treaty of Waitangi		New Zealand's founding document. The Treaty is a broad statement of principles on which the British and Māori made a political compact to found a nation state and build a government in New Zealand.
National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020		Sets out the objectives and policies for freshwater management under the Resource Management Act 1991. https://environment.govt.nz/publications/national-policy-statement-for-freshwater-management-2020/
A low Emissions future for Aotearoa		https://ccc-production-media.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/public/Inaia-tonu-nei-a-low-emissions-future-for-Aotearoa/Inaia-tonu-nei-a-low-emissions-future-for-Aotearoa.pdf
New guide to reducing carbon emissions in construction		https://www.procurement.govt.nz/about-us/news/new-guide-to-reducing-carbon-emissions-in-construction/
Ministry for the Environment – Climate Change		https://environment.govt.nz/what-government-is-doing/areas-of-work/climate-change/
MBIE –building for Climate Change		https://www.mbie.govt.nz/building-and-energy/building/building-for-climate-change/





Item 5



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