Wednesday, 30 July 2025

Te Hui o Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga
Hastings District Council
Heretaunga Takoto Noa Māori Standing Committee Meeting

Kaupapataka

Attachments Volume 1

Te Rā Hui: Meeting date:	**Wednesday, 30 July 2025**
Te Wā: Time:	**1:00 PM**
Te Wāhi: Venue:	**Council Chamber** **Ground Floor** **Civic Administration Building** **Lyndon Road East** **Hastings**

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HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL
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Phone **06 871 5000** | **www.hastingsdc.govt.nz**
TE KAUNIHERA Ā-ROHE O HERETAUNGA

KO TE PŪRONGO TŌ TE TAIAO
STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORT

2020 - 2024

HERETAUNGA HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL

RĀRANGI TAKE CONTENTS


HE MIHI

Kei ngā mana, kei ngā reo, kei ngā pari kārangaranga o tēnā pito, o tēnā takiwā, o tēnā hapū o te rohe whānui o Heretaunga, anei ngā kupu whakamiha ki a koutou katoa!

E tika ana kia tukuna atu ngā whakaaro ki a rātau mā ko ngā rau-o-piopio kua purea atu e ngā hau maiangi, e ngā hau pūkerikeri ki tua o te ārai. Kāti rātau te tira mātai pō ki a rātau, waiho ake ko tātau te tira mātai ao ki a tātau.

Tēnā rā tātau katoa e whakamana nei i tō tātau reo rangatira i raro i te āhua o ngā kupu kōrero ā kui mā, ā koro mā me ngā tāhuhu kōrero o te rohe whānui o Heretaunga.

Kei ngā marae rua tekau mā whā o Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga, kei ngā hapū kārangaranga, kei ngā Taiwhenua o te takiwā nei, anei anō te maioha ki a koutou, otirā, ki a tātau katoa.

Otirā, Heretaunga-ara-rau, Heretaunga-haukū-nui, Heretaunga-hāaro-te-kāhu, Heretaunga-raorao-haumako, Heretaunga-ringahora, Heretaunga takoto noa; tihei Heretaunga!

Greetings to you the many, many voices from every corner of the district and community of Heretaunga, greetings and salutations to one, to all!

It is important that in moving forward, we acknowledge the past and so we remember our loved ones across the district who have passed and whose legacies we uphold today.

Greetings to us all as we celebrate our stance as a Council in acknowledging the place of te reo Māori today across Heretaunga district, a language and history that is both rich and pertinent to community development today.

To our marae and hapū across the district and our iwi partners including Post-Settlement Governance Entities and Taiwhenua, greetings and acknowledgements to you.

And so it is with pride that we acknowledge Heretaunga of its converging Arcadian pathways, Heretaunga of its life-giving dews and waters, Heretaunga of its beauty seen from the eye of the hawk, Heretaunga of its fertile plains, Heretaunga of its hospitality and open arms, and Heretaunga of its many departed chiefs; we acknowledge the living spirit of Heretaunga here with us today!

KŌRERO A TE KOROMATUA ME TE TUMU WHAKARAE

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE

This State of the Environment Report for Heretaunga Hastings District is the fourth to be completed, providing a snapshot of our environment and the impact of our community activities as at 31 December 2024.

By monitoring and reporting on the state of the environment, our council and community has information that helps us plan how we respond to key environmental considerations and pressures.

This comes in the context of significant external factors over the past five years including the Covid-19 pandemic and Cyclone Gabrielle, and now an economic recession; all of which have corresponding environmental implications.

It is important we are all informed about how our natural and built environment is being managed – both by Heretaunga Hastings District Council and also Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council, local organisations, community groups and individuals who all have a role to play in looking after our environment.

Our council has a strong, and necessary, focus on climate change adaption and mitigation within its strategic planning framework.

We need to meet the needs of our community, both today and in the future, as well as protect and sustainably manage our environment.

Social, cultural and economic considerations, including our ongoing commitment to tangata whenua, also factor into our activities and planning.

We all have a part to play in safeguarding our environment for future generations, and this report helps inform multiple stakeholders' plans and strategies for protecting and enhancing our natural resources.


TIROHANGA WHĀNUI
O TE PŪRONGO
REPORT
OVERVIEW

REPORT OVERVIEW

This State of the Environment Report is organised in two parts.

This first part provides an introduction to state of the environment reporting; the parameters for this Report; a snapshot of Heretaunga Hastings District and its people to provide context in understanding the interaction between people and the environment; and an introduction to commonly held environmental values and mana whenua values as they relate to the environment.

The second part of this report describes the state of the District's environment. This commences with a table providing an executive summary of the state of the District's environment for each of the five report sections:

- Sustainable Land Use;
- Amenity, Character & Heritage Management;
- Sustainable Infrastructure;
- Hazard Management; and
- Sustainable Waste Management.

These sections reflect the key topics selected for this State of the Environment Report and align with the functions of the Heretaunga Hastings District Council. It is recognised that these sections are a starting point only and future State of the Environment Reports will evolve and may incorporate additional topics relevant to the District's environment.

Each section commences with a summary table which provides a quick glance at the indicators for that topic and a summary of the indicators over the reporting period.

Each section is then divided into sub-topics following a standard format, as follows:

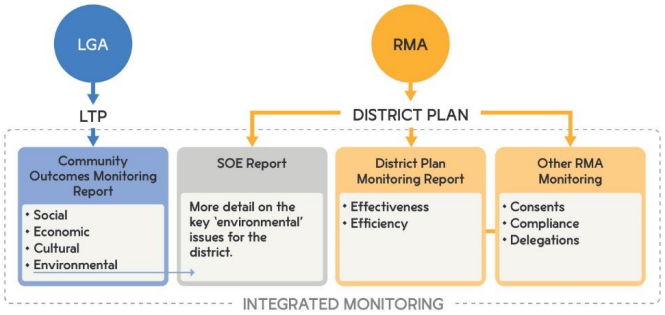
- An introduction;
- A table summarising the relevant community outcomes and District Plan outcomes and how the state of the environment indicators also inform those outcomes;
- Presentation of monitoring information for each indicator;
- A summary statement based on the indicator results for the topic in question; and
- Identification of current and suggested responses for Council and for the community.

WHAKATAKINGA
INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

This is the fourth State of the Environment Report for Heretaunga Hastings District. It depicts the state of the district's environment as at 31 December 2024.

The process for developing this State of the Environment Report (SoE)



has involved:

- Refining on the indicators that formed the basis of the first report in 2008;
- Subsequently determining what supporting data is available and being collected by Heretaunga Hastings District Council; and
- Conducting the updated Public Voice survey with a citizens panel to understand community perceptions.

It has been prepared by Heretaunga Hastings District Council (Council) pursuant to Section 35 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). Section 35(2)(a) requires monitoring of the state of the environment to the extent appropriate to enable Council to carry out its statutory functions under the Act.

FIGURE 1: MONITORING FRAMEWORK

This document also seeks to integrate overlapping monitoring functions in the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) to monitor and report on progress towards achieving the stated community outcomes for the District (including 'environmental' outcomes) as detailed in the Long Term Plan (LTP) for Heretaunga Hastings District.

The flow chart in Figure 1 indicates where State of the Environment reporting fits within Council's wider monitoring framework.

This Report depicts the state of the environment for Heretaunga Hastings District as at 31 December 2024. It focuses on those aspects of the environment that are directly related to the functions of the Heretaunga Hastings District Council as set out in Section 31 of the RMA.

Heretaunga Hastings District Council is responsible for controlling the effects of activities on land including the effects of land use activities on natural hazards, hazardous substances, contaminated land, indigenous biological diversity, noise, and the surface of rivers and lakes.

In contrast, Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council manages natural resources like air, water, soils and the coastal marine area, at a regional scale. It too has functions in respect of natural hazards, hazardous substances and identifying and monitoring contaminated land. The Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council (HBRC) are required to produce their State of the Environment report on the areas within their control. To reduce repetition, the report aims to not cover information that HBRC would address in their State of the Environment report.

For more detailed reporting on the state of these resources, refer to the Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council's own State of the Environment Reports, available at: https://www.hbrc.govt.nz/environment/state-of-the-environment/three-yearly-report/

The State of the Environment Report compiles, assesses and reports on information on the condition of the environment, the key pressures on it, and what responses are in place to address the issues.

At this point, it is helpful to introduce the **'Driving Force – Pressure – State – Impact – Response'** (DPSIR) model, which was developed from the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development's (OECD) 1993 'Pressure – State – Response' (PSR) model.

The PSR and DPSIR models are the most frequently used approach to State of the Environment reporting internationally, and have been adopted in Aotearoa New Zealand, Canada, United Kingdom, and Australia. Like the previous State of the Environment Report, the DPSIR model has again been adopted for this report. This assists with continuity across reporting years.

DPSIR indicators aim to address four fundamental questions:

- What is happening to the environment?
- Why are changes happening to the environment?
- Are these changes to the environment significant?
- What is society's response to these changes to the environment?[1]

'Driving Force', 'pressure', 'state', 'impact' or 'response' indicators can be categorised according to the type of information they provide.

The Table 1 provides a description of each type of indicator:

TABLE 1: DESCRIPTION OF DPSIR INDICATORS

Indicator type	Description
Driving Force[2]	Describes social, demographic, and economic developments. Primary driving forces are population growth and changes in people's needs and activities. These change lifestyles and overall levels of production and consumption, which in turn exert pressures on the environment.
Pressure	Tracks people's use of natural resources and land, and production of waste and emissions (for example, greenhouse gases and particulates into the air). These pressures can change environmental conditions.
State	**Describes the quantity and quality of the environment and natural resources (for example, water quality, air quality, or land cover).**
Impact	**Describes the effects that environmental changes have on environmental or human health (for example, the level of human illness related to exposure to air pollution).**
Response[3]	**Describes responses by government, organisations, or the community to prevent, compensate, ameliorate, or adapt to changes in the environment (for example, the introduction of regulations such as national environmental standards and legislative initiatives to protect native vegetation and biodiversity).**

Source: Ministry for the Environment (adapted from European Environment Agency, 2003).

While it is important for indicators to have continuity across reporting years in order to identify long terms trends, there are occasions where indicators need to be altered in order to reflect changes in policy direction and goals for the District Plan.

[1] Environment Aotearoa New Zealand 2007', 2007, Ministry for the Environment.
[2] 'Driving force' indicators for Heretaunga Hastings District are generally found in the following section of this Report – 'Snapshot of the Heretaunga Hastings District and Its People'.
[3] 'Response' indicators for Heretaunga Hastings District are generally summarised as bullet points in terms of proposed community and council responses, and found at the end of each topic in this Report.

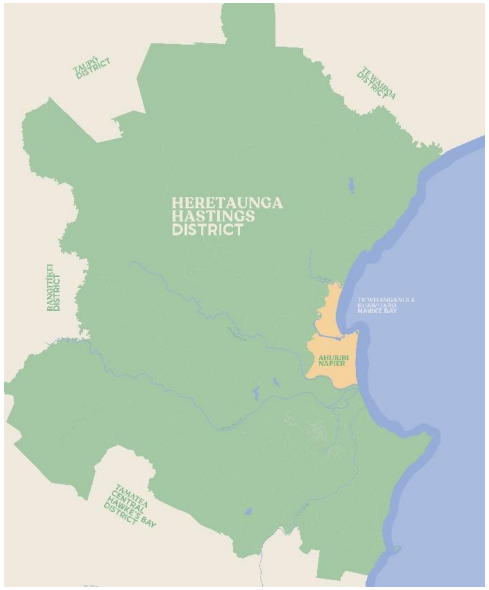

TIROHANGA O TE ROHE ME NGĀ TĀNGATA
SNAPSHOT OF THE DISTRICT & ITS PEOPLE

TŌ TĀTOU ROHE OUR DISTRICT

Heretaunga Hastings District is renowned for its fertile soils, plentiful clean water and beautiful scenery, so the quality of our environment and its protection for future generations is very important to us.

The district covers a land area of 522,639 hectares (5,226 km^2). The Pacific Ocean is to the east, and our six neighbouring territorial authorities share the remaining boundaries (see figure below).

FIGURE 2: HERETAUNGA HASTINGS DISTRICT AND NEIGHBOURING TERRITORIAL AUTHORITIES



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

Heretaunga Hastings District comprises the major urban centre of Karamū Hastings, several smaller urban areas including Karanema Karanema Havelock North, Pāharakeke Pāharakeke Flaxmere, Awapuni Awapuni Clive and Whakatū, as well as a number of rural service and coastal settlements.

The landscapes and river systems of our District hold significant cultural, spiritual, ecological, recreational, as well as economic values for us. The hapū of Ngāti Kahungunu have always valued and acknowledged the bounty of the land as a taonga – **'Heretaunga haukū nui'.** The fertile soils, aquifers, waterways and life-giving dew **(haukū nui)** combine, providing an environment rich for cultivation, providing manaaki for mana whenua and the community as a whole.

Our western border is dominated by the presence of the Ruahine and Kaweka Ranges. The major river systems in our district are the Tukituki, Ngaruroro, Tūtaekurī and Te Hiuka Waiohinganga Esk Rivers and their tributaries. Our landscape is also dominated by the presence of the Heretaunga Plains and surrounding hills, Te Mata, Kahurānaki, Kohinerākau Mt Erin, along with the Lake Tūtira basin and significant wetlands. These features are also embedded in the oral traditions of mana whenua.

The Heretaunga Plains, formed as a result of uplift, erosion and fluvial processes, contains some of the most fertile and productive agricultural and horticulture land in the country. The aquifer system underneath the Heretaunga Plains is the main groundwater resource for the Heretaunga Plains, Karamū Hastings and Ahuriri Ahuriri Napier communities, providing 85% of our water requirements.

Heretaunga Hastings District has a mild temperate climate protected from the prevailing westerly winds by the mountain ranges. As a result, we experience a calm, dry, sunny climate characterised by long hot summers and mild winters. These environmental factors contribute to our District's strong association with horticulture, cropping and viticulture, and accompanying recreation and tourism. Heretaunga Hastings is Aotearoa Aotearoa New Zealand's largest producer of apples, pears and peaches, and second largest producer of grapes and wines.

Ō TĀTOU TĀNGATA OUR PEOPLE

DISTRICT POPULATION

The Heretaunga Hastings District is home to 89,200 people (based on Statistics Aotearoa New Zealand resident population estimates). Since the 2018, the population of our District has grown by around 5%.

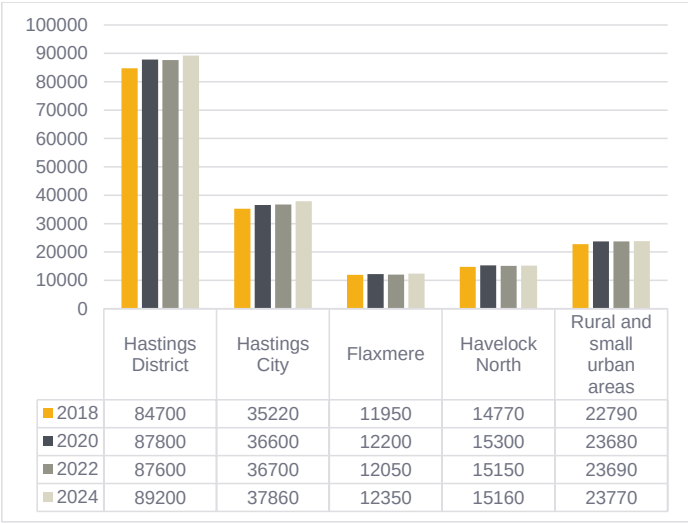
FIGURE 3: HERETAUNGA HASTINGS DISTRICT POPULATION 2018 - 2024

Source: Statistics Aotearoa New Zealand[4]

From the 67 Districts in Aotearoa New Zealand, Heretaunga Hastings District's population ranks 11th and represents 1.7% of Aotearoa New Zealand's population.

As can be expected, the majority of the District's population reside in the urban areas of Karamū Hastings City (42.4%), Karanema Havelock North (16.9%) and Pāharakeke Flaxmere (13.8%). The remainder of the population is distributed between the smaller urban areas, such as Awapuni Clive, Whakatū, Haumoana, Te Āwanga, and rural areas of the district.

FIGURE 4: DISTRIBUTION OF HERETAUNGA HASTINGS DISTRICT POPULATION 2018 - 2024



	Hastings District	Hastings City	Flaxmere	Havelock North	Rural and small urban areas
2018	84700	35220	11950	14770	22790
2020	87800	36600	12200	15300	23680
2022	87600	36700	12050	15150	23690
2024	89200	37860	12350	15160	23770

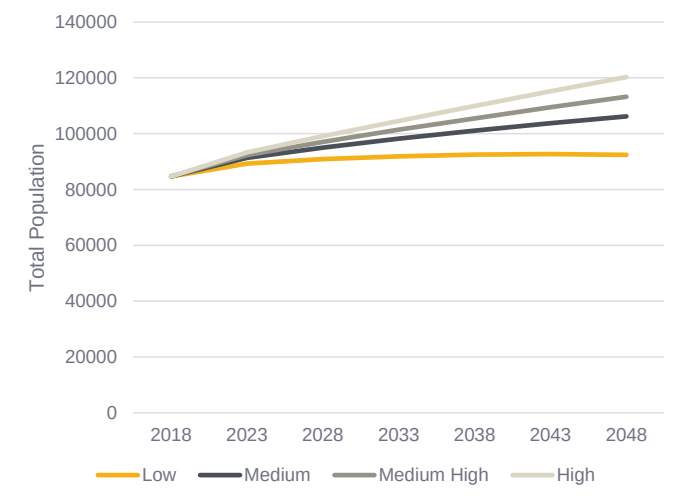
Source: Statistics Aotearoa New Zealand

4 This uses Statistics Aotearoa New Zealand resident population estimates as opposed to census night data due to reliability and better representation of actual population dynamics.

The distribution of the population within our District has remained steady. Pāharakeke Flaxmere and Karanema Havelock North both saw 3% and 2.5% increases in their population, respectively, compared to 2018. Karamū Hastings city experienced an approximate 7% increase whereas the rest of the district increased by 4% since 2018.

The medium high series for population projections[5] suggest that our District will grow to 113,250 people by the year 2048. This equates to an increase of 26% (24,050 people) over the 24 years from 2024 to 2048.

FIGURE 5: HERETAUNGA HASTINGS DISTRICT POPULATION PROJECTIONS WITH 2018 BASE



Source: Statistics Aotearoa New Zealand

[5] Statistics Aotearoa New Zealand adopt a series of projections based on varying fertility, mortality and migration rates – low, medium and high series projections.

TABLE 2: LOW, MEDIUM, MEDIUM HIGH AND HIGH POPULATION PROJECTIONS WITH 2018 BASE

	2018	2023	2028	2033	2038	2043	2048
Low		89,300	90,900	91,900	92,500	92,700	92,400
Medium	84,700	91,300	95,000	98,200	101,100	103,800	106,200
Medium High	84,700	92,300	97,050	101,400	105,500	109,500	113,250
High		93,300	99,100	104,600	109,900	115,200	120,300

Source: Stats Aotearoa New Zealand

Overall, Heretaunga Hastings District has been experiencing a high increase in population, particularly in Karamū Hastings City. This increase in population is projected to continue into the future.

ETHNIC COMPOSITION

Based on the 2023 Census, a higher proportion of us identify as Māori (28.4%) compared with 17.8% nationally, and 69.9% of us identify ourselves as belonging to the European ethnic group (similar to the national figure of 67.8%).

A total of 24,435 Māori usually live in the Heretaunga Hastings District. This is an increase of 2,166 people since Census 2018.

Heretaunga Hastings District has a proportion of residents who identify themselves as Māori that is significantly higher than the national average. This is particularly evident in the urban area of Pāharakeke Flaxmere where those identifying as Māori make up close to half of the population.

MANA WHENUA MANA WHENUA

Heretaunga Hastings District Council have a key focus on strengthening mana whenua relationships, being responsive to the aspirations of marae, whānau, hapū and iwi.

Of significance between 2019-2025 is the full completion of Tiriti o Waitangi Treaty of Waitangi settlements and establishment of Post Settlement Governance Entities (PSGE's) alongside the Iwi Authorities. Moving into a post-settlement environment Council are fostering 1:1 relationships with PSGE's while maintaining a collective mana whenua relationship through the Heretaunga Takoto Noa Māori Standing Committee.

RELATIONSHIPS

Council works widely with mana whenua across marae, whānau, hapū and iwi.

Cyclone Gabrielle, 2023, strengthened Council's relationship especially with marae and hapū. Immediately following the cyclone marae received regular visits from the Mayor, Chief Executive, and Council Officer's to support recovery from the event.

TREATY OF WAITANGI PARTNERS:

- Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Inc.
- Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga
- Te Taiwhenua o Te Whanganui a Orotū
- Tamatea Pōkai Whenua Trust
- Mana Ahuriri Trust
- Maungaharuru-Tangitū Trust
- Ngāti Pāhauwera Development Trust
- Ngāti Hineuru Iwi Trust
- Ngā Uri o Te Heipora (Karanema Reserve)

CYCLONE GABRIELLE RECOVERY PARTNERS:

- Ngā Piringa Hapū o Ōmāhu
- Ngāti Pārau Hapū Trust

TE ARANGA CO-DESIGN PARTNERS

- Ngā Marae o Heretaunga Charitable Trust
- Ngāti Kahungunu Rūnanga Arts & Culture Board
- Iwi Toi Kahungunu

COUNCIL GOVERNANCE

COUNCIL KAUMĀTUA

Mr Owen Jerry Hāpuku MNZM (Member of the Aotearoa New Zealand Order of Merit) holds the role of Council Kaumātua with the primary task of supporting the Mayor in her ceremonial duties across Heretaunga Hastings. Pāpa Jerry is a calming presence alongside the Mayor and Council at public events and official Council business.

TAKITIMU MĀORI WARD

Māori Wards were formally adopted for the 2022 Triennium. Council continues to embed the presence of Takitimu Ward Councillors elected for their inaugural triennium. The Mayor and Council see the inclusion of Māori Wards as positive and important to making decisions that are inclusive of Māori perspectives.

A by-election was held following the resignations of Cr Renata Nepe and Cr Anne Redstone in February. Three nominations were received for the by-election, with Cr Heather Te Au-Skipworth announced as the successful candidate on 27 May.

A key focus of the Takitimu Māori Ward Councillors is supporting the Mayor and Council to be more centred in Te Tiriti o Waitangi The Treaty of Waitangi.

HERETAUNGA TAKOTO NOA MĀORI STANDING COMMITTEE

The Pou Ahurea Matua is the reporting officer for the Heretaunga Takoto Noa Kōmiti, which comprises the Mayor, six Councillors (three Takitimu Māori Ward Councillors), and eight Mana Whenua Members supported by the Council Kaumātua.

The Kōmiti is underpinned by kotahitanga *unity*, bringing together Council and the Māori Authorities that represent mana whenua:

- Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Inc.
- Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga
- Te Taiwhenua o Te Whanganui-a-Orotū
- Ngāti Pāhauwera Development Trust
- Maungaharuru-Tangitū Trust
- Ngāti Hineuru Trust
- Tamatea Pōkai Whenua Trust
- Mana Ahuriri Trust

HDC: TANGATA WHENUA WASTEWATER JOINT COMMITTEE

The Tangata Whenua Wastewater Joint Committee is established as a requirement of Council's Wastewater Discharge Consent (Condition 29). The Committee maintains governance oversight of Te Whare o Whiro The Wastewater Treatment Plant at Waipureku East Awapuni Clive.

Half the Committee are Tangata Whenua representatives whose functions include, but are not limited to receiving, reviewing, and recommending action on reports such as the Annual Wastewater Compliance Report and involvement in the nine yearly consent review.

The Committee is currently chaired by Takitimu Ward Councillor Ana Apatu and a key focus is a cultural review as a part of the nine yearly consent review. The Committee have enjoyed whakawhanaungatanga *relationship building* with the Heretaunga Takoto Noa Kōmiti with a shared site visit to Te Whare o Whiro and participation into the development of Te Hā o Waiaroha.

ŌMARUNUI REFUSE LANDFILL JOINT COMMITTEE

Ōmarunui Refuse Landfill Joint Committee is a three way partnership with Te Kaunihera o Ahuriri Ahuriri Napier City Council and Ngāti Pārau who have two representatives appointed to the Committee.

A highlight for the Committee has been the opening of Te Whare Mukupara at the Ōmarunui Landfill. The name Mukupara was gifted by Ngāti Pārau Kaumātua Tāmati Kearns, with the meaning of waste minimisation. Te Whare Mukupara is built of recycled material from Heretaunga House and is Council's centre for waste minimisation education.

RESPONSIVENESS

Council demonstrates responsiveness to mana whenua aspirations through co-Governance mechanisms, policies and action plans focused on:

PAPAKĀENGA

The 2019 Hastings Place Based Housing Plan has been a significant driver for enabling Papakāenga development by whānau across the district. The plan supports one of the key pillars of our Council's long term plan vision 2018/2028 to provide or facilitate the provision of homes for our people.

MARAE DEVELOPMENT FUND

The Marae Development Fund is an important component of Council's community grants programme especially targeted to the development of marae. The fund is accessible to marae for a wide variety of marae-based needs such as crockery, kitchenware, seating, mattresses, and all those things needed for an operational marae.

HERETAUNGA ARARAU TE REO MĀORI POLICY AND ACTION PLAN

The Heretaunga Ararau Te Reo Māori Policy and Action Plan was adopted by Council in 2020 and aims to strengthen the Heretaunga Hastings District Council's contribution to the sustainability of te reo Māori within the Heretaunga Hastings District. It recognizes te reo Māori as a taonga (treasure) of whānau, hapū, iwi, and Māori and seeks to embed its use across all areas of council business.

The action plan has most prominently achieved bilingual signage in Council buildings and facilities, dual place name signage for parks & reserves, dual place name wayfinding signage, marae name signs and whānau-based street names.

In 2023 Council entered into a Memorandum of Understanding and Partnership Agreement with the Department of Internal Affairs, Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga and Kauwaka Ltd to be enrolled into their Aotearoa Reo Rua Bilingual Towns and Cities programme. The programme provides a financial contribution to the objectives of the Heretaunga Ararau Te Reo Māori Action Plan.

TE ARANGA CO-DESIGN PHILOSOPHY

The Te Aranga do-design principles were adopted by Council in 2019 as an action of the Heretaunga Ararau Te Reo Māori Action Plan to support the implementation of cultural design in the public realm to achieve the following action:

The implementation of a Māori cultural design framework based on te ao Māori principles to support how we design and build in the city (including planning for growth and the District Plan).

Council's Te Aranga Co-Design Principles:

Ringahora Chiefly Leadership

Te Reo Māori The Māori Language

Pūrākau Place-Based Design

Pōtikitanga Cultural Innovation

Waiaroha Cultural Infrastructure (Te Hā o Waiaroha *The Waiaroha Way)*

TE HĀ O WAIAROHA THE WAIAROHA WAY

Te Aranga Co-design Principles have been applied to key Council projects in partnership with Iwi Toi Kahungunu the mana whenua artist design collective for Ngāti Kahungunu. Co-design with mana whenua design artists has fostered a unique Heretaunga Hastings look and feel with consistency across the public realm as evidence through these projects:

2024-25	Te Pae o Karamū Hastings Civic Square	Iwi Toi Kahungunu
2024-25	Te Pā Harakeke Pāharakeke Flaxmere Senior Housing Complex	Alex Heperi
2024-25	Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Museum Taonga Store	Tūhoe Huata
2023	Te Pae Whīra o Pāharakeke The Pāharakeke Flaxmere Skate Park	Iwi Toi Kahungunu
2023	Te Whare o Mukupara *The House of Mukupara*	HDC
2023	Te Whare o Waiaroha *The House of Waiaroha*	Iwi Toi Kahungunu
2022	Toitoi	Ariki Huata
2022	Heretaunga 300 East Block Mākirikiri crossing	Dena Bach
2021	I Uta Ki Tai CBD Tree Grates	Ariki Huata
2020	Heretaunga 200 East Block Takapau Whāriki	Charles Ropitini

The adoption of the Te Aranga Design Philosophy has seen positive transformational change in the public realms of Karamū Hastings CBD and Pāharakeke Flaxmere where te reo Māori is seen through art, design and linguistics.

Te Hā o Waiarohа *The Waiaroha Way* is a philosophy of environmental care and reciprocity represented by Te Whare o Waiaroha *The House of Waiaroha.* The philosophy is expressed through the extension of the Te Aranga Co-design Principles focused specifically for landscape architecture and infrastructure design.

TŌ TĀTOU TAIŌHANGA OUR ECONOMY

Heretaunga Hastings' economy is highly dependent on the strength of its land-based industries – from vineyards and orchards to cropping and farming – all of which depend on the rich, fertile soils of the Heretaunga Plains.

To protect this precious resource, much of the area is safeguarded under the Plains Production Zone, which prioritises soil-based food and fibre production.

While this zone is primarily focused on preserving land for growing and grazing it does allow, in appropriate circumstances, for other forms of primary activities that don't depend directly on the soil.


UARATANGA TAIAO
ENVIRONMENTAL
VALUES

TOITŪTANGA SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability is a term used interchangeably with concepts such as environmentalism or being 'green'. One of the most commonly used and widely adopted definitions of sustainable development is *"meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs"*[6]. This is the overarching principle of 'sustainable management' – the promotion of which is the central guiding purpose of Aotearoa New Zealand's 'Resource Management Act 1991' (RMA).

Sustainability is about the relationship between people and planet both current and in the future; remembering that we are inextricably part of this planet, and that our societies (including economies) depend upon healthy biological and physical systems.

There is a growing realisation that we are currently living beyond our means, and that our way of life is placing an increasing burden on the planet. The environmental impacts of our consumption and production patterns can be severe and an inefficient use of resources.

Sustainability or sustainable development is about protecting natural resources and enhancing the environment (where appropriate), and understanding environmental limits.

As part of this, there is a movement towards creating sustainable communities that are:

- Active, inclusive and safe
- Environmentally sensitive – providing places for people to live that are considerate of the environment and the flora and fauna that live in it
- Well designed and built – featuring a quality built and natural environment
- Well connected – with good transport services and communication linking people to jobs, schools, health and other services
- Thriving – with a flourishing and diverse local economy
- Well served – with public, private, community and voluntary services that are appropriate to people's needs and accessible to all
- Fair for everyone – including those in other communities, now and in the future[7].

[6] *Our Common Future*: Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development (1987), Oxford: Oxford University Press (Brundtland Report).

[7] *'Sustainable Communities: People Places & Prosperity'*, 2005, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM), HM Government, London.

CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION

Sustainability and climate change are intertwined. A sustainable future requires a concerted effort to both mitigate climate change and adapt to its effects, while also promoting sustainable practices across all sectors to ensure a healthy planet and equitable well-being for present and future generations.

Climate change is the most significant environmental challenge facing our region and the world. The dual challenge lies in both mitigation and preparing for unavoidable impacts, adaptation. Climate change affects every part of our lives: our economy, infrastructure, health, and the wellbeing of our communities.

Cyclone Gabrielle was a powerful and devastating reminder of how these changes are already impacting us here in the Heretaunga Hastings District. The event highlighted the vulnerability of our communities, infrastructure, and land to extreme weather and natural hazards. It also underscored the urgent need for resilience and climate-informed decision-making at all levels of planning and investment.

Climate change projections for Aotearoa New Zealand show that by the end of this century we are likely to experience higher temperatures, rising sea levels, and changing rainfall patterns that may deliver more frequent extreme weather events such as droughts and floods. For Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay, these changes are already happening. The pace and severity of future impacts will depend on global efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

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[8].

For our Heretaunga Hastings District, the impacts will be felt across rural, urban, and coastal communities. Risks include heat stress, intense precipitation, inland and coastal flooding, landslides, air pollution, drought, and water scarcity. These effects will challenge the resilience of our people, infrastructure, economy, and ecosystems.

In coastal areas, the combination of sea-level rise and more frequent storms is expected to increase erosion, flood risks, and habitat loss, placing added pressure on communities and infrastructure. Inland, changing rainfall and rising temperatures threaten productive land, food systems, forestry, and water security. Fire risk is also likely to increase, affecting rural livelihoods and natural areas.

Urban areas are also at the forefront of climate change. Our infrastructure and the way we design our towns and cities are directly linked to emissions, transport choices, and community resilience. Decisions made today will shape how we live, move, and adapt in the future.

8 Climate Change Projections and Impacts for Tairawhiti and Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay – Prepared by NIWA for the Tairawhiti Gisborne District Council and the Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council

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

MITIGATION

Our mitigation work focuses on reducing greenhouse gas emissions through sustainable transport, energy efficiency, waste reduction, leadership, and collaboration. These actions help improve air quality, lower costs, and support Aotearoa Aotearoa New Zealand's transition to a low-emissions economy.

Sustainable Transport: Expansion of the iWay walking and cycling network and the Heretaunga Arakura – Pathways to School programme encourage low-emission travel options.

Energy Efficiency: Upgrades such as the transition to LED streetlights and energy audits of council buildings aim to lower energy consumption.

Renewable Energy: The Ōmarunui landfill gas-to-electricity plant captures methane to generate electricity, powering approximately 1,000 homes.

Waste Minimisation: Programs like kerbside recycling and the Waste Minimisation Fund support community-led recycling initiatives.

ADAPTATION

Our adaptation work is designed to make our core infrastructure more resilient, guide development away from areas exposed to natural hazards, and strengthen community preparedness.

We are supported by strong partnerships with local, regional, and national organisations, including mana whenua, Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council, and Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency.

Infrastructure Resilience: Following the widespread damage from Cyclone Gabrielle, the Council has prioritised the repair and strengthening of infrastructure, including enhancements to stormwater systems to better manage future flood risks.

Land Use Planning: Climate-resilient urban growth is being supported through strategic planning documents like the Future Development Strategy (FDS) and Plan Change 5 – Right Homes, Right Place.

Water Resilience: Infrastructure projects such as the Frimley and Waiaroha reservoirs are increasing the reliability and resilience of the district's drinking water supply in the face of climate variability and population growth.

Coastal Protection: The Council continues to invest in coastal resilience initiatives, including dune restoration, and seawall upgrades.

LEADERSHIP

The council demonstrates leadership in climate action through:

Policy Development: Creation of a climate policy framework to guide future decision-making.

Regional Collaboration: Participation in the Technical Advisory Group and the Climate Action Joint Committee fosters regional cooperation.

Organisational Accountability: Completion and verification of the council's organisational carbon inventories for consecutive financial years.

TE HĀ O WAIAROHA THE WAIAROHA WAY (ENVIRONMENTAL PRINCIPLES)

The journey of infrastructure co-design with mana whenua commenced for Council with the design of Te Whare o Whiro The Waste Water Treatment Plant in 2013. An important co-design element of the plant was the establishment of the Tangata Whenua Waste Water Committee who oversees the performance integrity of Mātauranga Māori intertwined with the day-to-day operations of the plant.

Key learnings from Te Whare o Whiro have been included in the Heretaunga Ararau Te Reo Māori Policy and Action Plan:

All Council infrastructure projects will apply lessons from the development of organisational cultural responsiveness as a good example of how we can incorporate te reo Māori in design and build, as Heretaunga Ararau is applied to all new Council funded build projects.

Organisational cultural responsiveness and lessons learnt from Te Whare o Whiro have been integral to the design and development of Te Whare o Waiaroha and formal adoption of four environmental principles that guide Te Hā o Waiaroha *The Waiaroha Way*.

The principles are developed by the mana whenua members of the Heretaunga Takoto Noa Joint Māori Standing Committee and the Tangata Whenua Wastewater Committee and were formally adopted by Council in 2023.

Mana Atua – The presence and wellbeing of Atua.

Mana Taiao – The health and wellbeing of earth, water, sky, air.

Mana Tangata – The health and wellbeing of people in the area of interest.

Mātauranga Māori – The ability to input or extract customary practices and co-design opportunities.

The principles ensure that the integrity of Te Puku o Te Taniwha The Hastings Water Treatment Plant is upheld to deliver safe, secure and clean water with the knowledge that we are also collective caring for the natural environment through good clean infrastructure design.

The adoption of Te Hā o Waiaroha *The Waiaroha Way* has required extensive cultural development with the Three Waters Teams and water engineers to best understand how to operationalise the philosophy in their day-to-day work with case studies developed leveraging Council's parks and reserves with water infrastructure needs.


WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA O TE PŪRONGO TŌ TE TAIAO
SUMMARY OF THE STATE OF ENVIRONMENT

SUMMARY OF THE STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Key Symbolising the State of the Resource

baseline information from which future trends will be measured

marked improvement in the state of the resource

the state of the resource remains steady or only exhibits small fluctuation

marked decline in the state of the resource

The ‘Indicator Reference(s)’ and ‘Related Indicators’ columns on the following page area reference to the detailed information for each indicator in the various report chapters.

State of the Environment Issue	Overall State 2015 - 2019	Overall State 2020 - 2024	Summary	Indicator Reference(s)	Related Indicators
SUSTAINABLE LAND USE					
Land Use			Heretaunga Hastings District comprises approximately 98% vegetated land cover, and approximately 98.1% of the district is zoned Rural or Plains Production Zone. There has been little change to the rural zones and the biggest changes lie in the residential zones where areas have been rezoned to the Medium Density Residential Zone. This zone will facilitate appropriate intensification in the urban areas to achieve sustainability objectives. Land cover and zoning allocation continues to reflect a rural provincial area in Aotearoa New Zealand. Comparisons suggest there has not been any significant change in land cover or land use patterns within the district since the previous State of the Environment Report.	LU1 and 2	SD3, VS5
Sustainable Urban Development			Between 2020 and 2024, Heretaunga Hastings District saw growth in new housing activity, with 1,392 building consents issued for new dwellings, resulting in 1,864 new units — an increase from 1,273 consents and 1,364 units in 2015–19. Infill subdivision became more prominent, making up 58% of all new lots created, up from 47% in the previous period. Notably, there were no plan change requests to rezone rural land for urban development during this time.	SD1 – 3	LU2, VS2, VS3, VS5, CA1, CA2, NH1 – 3
Protection of Versatile Soils and Productive Capacity			There has been no change to the proportion of highly productive soils, which remain at 13% Class I, II and III. Between 2020–2024, the share of new dwelling consents in the Rural and Plains Production Zones increased slightly compared to 2015–2019, while consents in Rural Residential Zones declined. Subdivision activity in the Rural Zone has grown to an average of 47 consents per year (up from 31), while the Plains Production Zone has seen consistent subdivision levels. Demand for Farm Park subdivisions remain low, with only four applications lodged, similar to the previous period. No new rezoning requests were received in this period, contrasting with the previous period's significant rezoning for urban expansion. Land use consents in the Plains Production Zone have dropped from an annual average of 49 to 41.	VS1 – 7	LU2, SD1 – 3

State of the Environment Issue	Overall State 2015 - 2019	Overall State 2020 - 2024	Summary	Indicator Reference(s)	Related Indicators
AMENITY, CHARACTER & HERITAGE MANAGEMENT					
Residential Amenity			Residential amenity remains generally stable with a notable decrease in non-residential activities within residential zones and a drop in noise complaints and concern about noise pollution. However, community perception of safety has declined. The district has increased open space provision, but satisfaction with parks and recreational facilities has slightly dropped—potentially due to changes in survey design. Overall quality of life and pride in the city's appearance have improved, reflecting positive sentiment toward the living environment.	A1 – 10	NC1, H1, H2, WS6, WW4
Coastal Amenity			While fewer subdivision consents were issued in coastal residential zones, a greater number of lots and building consents were granted, indicating continued development interest. No new land was rezoned for coastal residential purposes in this period, maintaining the existing coastal development footprint.	CA1 – 4	NC1, NH1 – 3
Natural Heritage/ Landscape Character			Approximately 138,291.3 hectares of land is identified as an ONFL, SAL, RCL or CCL. This equates to approximately 26.4% of the total land area of the district. Development pressures on rural character landscapes continue to grow, with increases in both subdivision and building consents. Activity in sensitive landscape areas such as ONFLs and SALs has also slightly increased. While subdivision within significant indigenous vegetation areas remained steady, there was no uptake of conservation lot provisions. However, the extent of land under QEII and Ngā Whenua Rāhui covenants is significant, offering long-term protection for biodiversity.	NC1 – 3	SD1, VS2, VS3
Cultural & Historic Heritage			Perception of public art and cultural opportunities has improved, with fewer residents expressing dissatisfaction. Resource consents to modify heritage buildings and notable trees have increased slightly, and although no wāhi taonga rules were triggered, several consents were processed on sites containing them. Archaeological authority activity also rose slightly, and papakāenga development has grown, indicating increased support for Māori housing and cultural values.	H1 – 4	SD1, SD3, VS2, VS3, VS5, CA1

State of the Environment Issue	Overall State 2015 - 2019	Overall State 2020 - 2024	Summary	Indicator Reference(s)	Related Indicators
SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE					
Transportation			Resident satisfaction with council roads has declined slightly, with less than half reporting satisfaction, particularly in rural areas. Satisfaction with cycling and walking infrastructure, and perceptions of safety for these modes, remain relatively unchanged. However, census data reveals growing reliance on private and company vehicles, while active transport modes like walking and cycling have continued to decline. For children under 15, car-based travel to education has increased, highlighting rising car dependency and challenges for sustainable transport.	T1 - 4	A6, A10
Water Management			Water use in the district is increasing, with both domestic and commercial/industrial consumption trending upwards—partly due to better metering and system management. Although the number of water take consents has remained steady, the total allowed abstraction rate has decreased. Compliance with drinking water standards has varied, reflecting changes in infrastructure and regulatory requirements. Resident dissatisfaction with water quality has significantly improved since the last survey, dropping from 49% to 24.9%.	WS1 – 6	A10
Waste Water Treatment			The district maintains two main wastewater discharge consents, with the East Awapuni Clive facility performing well and consistently meeting compliance. However, the Waipātiki scheme has faced challenges, particularly with nitrate limits, prompting a consent renewal and planned upgrades. Wastewater volumes remain steady, though satisfaction with the sewerage system has declined since 2019, and complaint numbers have risen. Despite this, overall system stability is being maintained.	WW1 – 4	A10, TW1, TW2
Trade Waste Disposal			The volume of trade waste has shown a slight downward trend, consistent with previous years. The number of industries connected to the trade waste system remains unchanged at 30. Non-compliance issues have slightly increased, with more warning notices issued, largely due to repeated exceedances in oil, grease, and suspended solids. Most of these issues are being addressed through system upgrades by the affected industries.	TW1 and 2	WW1 – WW4, HS1, HS2, HW1

State of the Environment Issue	Overall State 2015 - 2019	Overall State 2020 - 2024	Summary	Indicator Reference(s)	Related Indicators
Stormwater			The district continues to operate under an expired urban stormwater discharge consent while a new global consent is under consideration. Compliance with existing conditions has generally been strong. Resident satisfaction with the stormwater system is mixed, with a slight majority satisfied, though nearly a quarter remain dissatisfied, highlighting an area for ongoing improvement in service delivery and infrastructure capacity.	STM1 - 3	A10
HAZARD MANAGEMENT					
Natural Hazards			Between 2020 and 2024, the district faced significant natural hazard challenges, most notably the devastating impact of Cyclone Gabrielle in 2023, which caused widespread flooding, landslides, loss of life, and major damage to property and infrastructure across the district. Weather events during this period were generally more unsettled, with more frequent regional warnings, severe storms, and coastal inundation, although damage from vegetation wildfires decreased. Around 1.81% of the district's land area (9,481.5 hectares) is covered by a natural hazard overlay in the District Plan. During this period, 46 subdivision consents were granted in tsunami inundation areas, 12 in river hazard areas, and 4 in land instability areas, with 4 further consents granted under natural hazard rules. Building activity in hazard areas decreased significantly, with 236 new building consents issued compared to 1,083 in the previous reporting period.	NH1 – 3	SD1, SD3, VS2, VS3, A6, CA1, CA2
Hazardous Substances			Between 2020 and 2024, six resource consents were granted for Major Hazardous Facilities, the same number as the previous period (2015–2019). Over the same time, the average number of reported hazardous substance spills has decreased slightly, from 16 per year to 13 per year, indicating a small improvement in managing hazardous materials.	HS1 and 2	A6, TW1 – 3, SW1, SW3, HW1

State of the Environment Issue	Overall State 2015 - 2019	Overall State 2020 - 2024	Summary	Indicator Reference(s)	Related Indicators
SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT					
Solid Waste			Ōmarunui Landfill continues to perform well environmentally, with mostly full compliance and only minor non-compliances. Solid waste volumes show a fluctuating trend, likely linked to economic activity and policy changes. Organic materials make up the largest portion of waste, and nearly 40% of all waste could be diverted through recycling or composting—similar to previous reporting periods. Fly-tipping remains an issue, particularly in urban and plains areas, with over 5,600 incidents reported there. Recycling volumes have remained steady but dipped slightly in the last year, likely due to Cyclone Gabrielle. However, public satisfaction with recycling facilities has improved significantly, with dissatisfaction dropping from 43% to 25.8%.	SW1 – 5	HW1
Hazardous Waste			HazMobile continues to operate annually, collecting around 20 tonnes of hazardous waste each year. This figure has remained stable compared to the previous reporting period, suggesting consistent service and demand.	HW1	A6, HS1, HS2, SW2,
Contaminated Land			There are 350 verified HAIL (Hazardous Activities and Industries List) sites across Heretaunga Hastings District, covering about 2% of the district's land area. Most sites currently pose no quantifiable risk to land use, with only two identified as contaminated. Between 2020 and 2024, 64 land use consents and 75 subdivisions occurred on HAIL sites, highlighting ongoing development pressure and the need for careful management and assessment of these areas.	CS1 - 2	HS1


WHAKAMAHINGA
WHENUA
SUSTAINABLE
LAND USE

SUSTAINABLE LAND USE

The issues at a glance

Indicator		State 2015 - 2019	State 2020 - 2024	Summary
Land Use				
LU1	Land cover classes			At a high level there is very little change in land cover classes (scrub and shrubland -0.01%, forest +0.02%, and grassland, sedgeland and marshland -0.02% change). The district is dominated by these three land cover classes. Assessment of the sub-classifications of land cover classes show that there has been an increase in exotic forestry cover.
LU2	Land use zones			Very little change to land use zones in the Heretaunga Hastings District Plan since 2019. The biggest change has been in response to Plan Change 5 - Right homes, right place where parts of residential zones have been rezoned to the Medium Density Residential Zone. This zone facilitates residential development at higher densities to achieve sustainable development objectives.
Sustainable Urban Development				
SD1	Building consents for new dwellings			1,392 building consents for new dwellings and 1,864 units were granted between 2020–24 compared with 1,273 consents and 1,364 units in the period between 2015-19.
SD2	Infill subdivision in the Residential Zones			Infill subdivision accounted for 58.09% of all lots created in 2020-24, compared with 47% during the previous reporting period.
SD3	Plan change requests for rezoning from rural to urban			Between 2020-24 there were no plan change requests to rezone rural land to urban.
Protection of Versatile Soils				
VS1	Versatile soils in the District			No change. 13% Class I, II and III soils.

Indicator		State 2015 - 2019	State 2020 - 2024	Summary
VS2	New dwellings in the Rural/Plains Production Zones			The percentage of building consents for new dwellings granted in the Rural and Plains Production Zones has increased from 18.8% and 10.1%, to 20.3% to 13.1% respectively. There was a decline in building consents for new dwellings granted in the Rural Residential Zones.
VS3	Subdivision in the Rural/Plains Production Zones			The number of subdivision consents granted in the Rural Zone has increased to an average of 47 applications granted per year over the reporting period. Between 2015-19, this was an average of 31 Rural Zone subdivisions granted each year. The number of consents granted in the Plains Production Zone is comparable to the previous report, remaining at 5-6 applications granted per year. The number of non-complying consents granted has been comparable between the two periods for both zones.
VS4	'Farm Park' subdivision in the Rural Zone			Demand for Farm Park subdivisions has remained low with four applications received between 2020-24 throughout the district. This is comparable with the previous report in which five applications were received between 2015-19.
VS5	Rezoning of Rural/Plains Production Zone land			There have been no rezoning requests between 202-24 however 38ha of Plains Production Zone land was rezoned to Karanema Havelock North General Residential in 2020 and 3ha of Rural Zone land was rezoned as Rural Residential in 2021. In contrast, the previous report noted 3 rezoning requests in the Plains Production Zone, and approximately 260ha of Plains Production Zone land was rezoned for urban development.
VS6	Types of Land Use Consents Applied for in the Plains Production Zone			The number of land use consents applied for not directly related to land based primary production averaged 41 consents per year between 2020 – 2024, a decrease from 49 per year in the previous reporting period.

Amongst other things, the purpose of the RMA is about enabling people and communities to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing now, whilst sustaining the potential of natural resources to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations and safeguarding the life-supporting capacity of soil.

Section 31 of the RMA gives the District Council the function of managing and controlling the effects of the use, development, or protection of land.

WHAKAMAHINGA WHENUA LAND USE

How we use land affects the type of vegetation cover present and the soil beneath. A change in land use can result in a loss of, or change in, vegetation and soil quality.

Loss of vegetation can cause erosion and have a negative impact on water quality in streams, rivers and (eventually) groundwater, all of which affects the biodiversity and sustainability of natural resources.

The Heretaunga Hastings District Plan manages the effects of land use through a mechanism called zoning. Zoning reflects the existing and potential pattern of development within the district. Different areas have their own distinct character within the district. Zoning is used as a framework for standards and other methods which protect and enhance the desirable aspects of the character in each Zone.

INDICATORS

The following table shows the indicators that are used to monitor the state of land use in the district. These indicators are also used to inform other monitoring programmes for the district, such as Community Outcomes Monitoring and monitoring achievement of the anticipated outcomes in the Heretaunga Hastings District Plan, as shown below.

INDICATORS FOR LAND USE

Indicator		Indicator Type	Relevant Community Outcomes and How it Informs these Outcomes	Relevant District Plan Outcomes
			• An environment that is appreciated, protected and sustained for future generations. • The Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay community is well informed and educated about the environment.	**Heretaunga Hastings District Plan** Section 2.3.3.6 (How the District Plan will deliver the vision) A place-based approach has been adopted in drafting the District Plan, identifying those areas of the district that have special characteristics that set them apart from other areas of the District. These areas are identified as Strategic Management Areas (SMAs). There will be a series of zones within the SMAs that recognise areas of land uses.
LU1	Land Cover Classes	State	An understanding of the district's land cover and land use patterns will assist in planning for future development in an integrated way, in achieving sustainable use of land and water resources, and moving to a more compact urban form.	
LU2	Land Use Zones	State and Response		

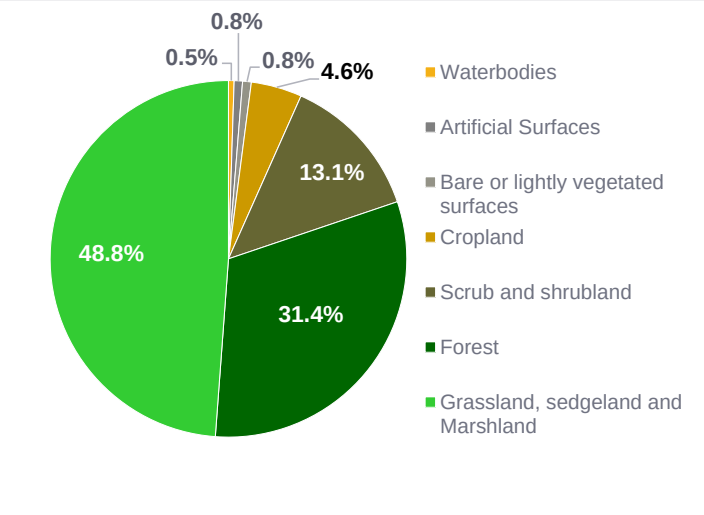
MONITORING INFORMATION

INDICATOR LU1: LAND COVER CLASSES

Land cover data provides an indication of the range of land uses in the district, and their relative land area. This provides a good understanding of how the district's land resource is being utilised.

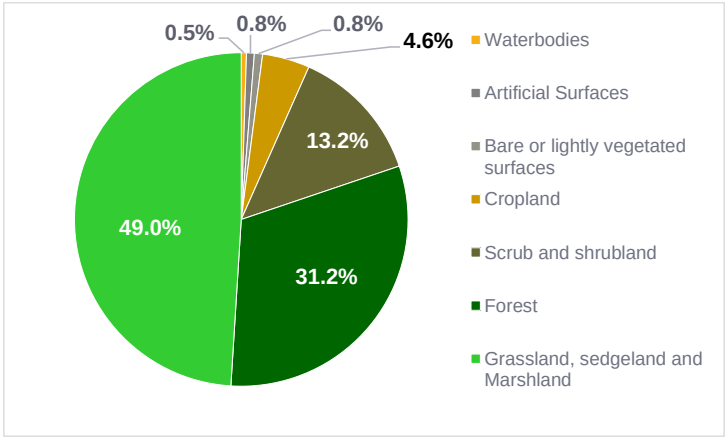
The following graph shows the percentage of land cover in the district as at December 2020 (when version 5 of the Land Cover Database was released). The next version of the Land Cover Database is due to be released shortly after the completion of this report.

FIGURE 6: LAND COVER OF HERETAUNGA HASTINGS DISTRICT (2020)



Source: Land Cover Data Base 5 (LCDB5), Landcare Research

FIGURE 7:LAND COVER OF HERETAUNGA HASTINGS DISTRICT (2015)



Source: Land Cover Data Base 4 (LCDB4), Landcare Research

The above graphs show that there has been a slight change in land cover in the Heretaunga Hastings District with a loss of grassland, sedgeland and marshland and scrub and shrubland and an increase in forest cover, and very slight increases in artificial surfaces and cropland.

These changes are far more noticeable when they are considered at a sub-category level, as shown in the table below.

TABLE 3: SUMMARY OF LAND COVER CHANGE IN HERETAUNGA HASTINGS DISTRICT BETWEEN 2015 AND 2020

		2015	2020	Change in area
Classifications	**Land Cover Types**	**Hectares**	**Hectares**	**Hectares**
Artificial Surfaces	Urban Parkland/Open Space	3120.36	3142.76	22.4
	Built-up Area (settlement)	645.89	645.89	0
	Surface Mine or Dump	89.83	89.83	0
	Transport Infrastructure	81.15	81.15	0
Bare or lightly vegetated surfaces	Landslide	434.88	524.57	89.69
	Gravel or Rock	3178.87	3160.62	-18.25
	Sand or Gravel	524.57	434.44	-90.13
Waterbodies	Lake or Pond	805.64	827.08	21.44
	River	1834.4	1834.4	0
	Estuarine Open Water	7.14	7.14	0
Cropland	Short-rotation Cropland	9738.56	9847.85	109.29
	Orchard, Vineyard or Other Perennial Crop	14266.4	14263.34	-3.06
Grassland, sedgeland and Marshland	High Producing Exotic Grassland	241154.15	240737.19	-416.96
	Low Producing Grassland	9046.69	8590	-456.69
	Tall Tussock Grassland	5420.24	5339.3	-80.94
	Herbaceous Freshwater Vegetation	451.98	451.98	0
	Herbaceous Saline Vegetation	34.85	34.85	0
	Fernland	324.11	315.7	-8.41
Scrub and shrubland	Gorse and/or Broom	1367.37	1316.93	-50.44
	Manuka and/or Kanuka	53985.24	53954.64	-30.6
	Matagouri or Grey Scrub	70.13	62.62	-7.51
	Broadleaved Indigenous Hardwoods	12280.37	12202.58	-77.79
	Sub Alpine Shrubland	603.32	603.32	0
	Mixed Exotic Shrubland	193.62	208.77	15.15
Forest	Deciduous Hardwoods	3474.26	3419.48	-54.78
	Exotic Forest	65942.51	67576.56	1634.05
	Forest - Harvested	6650.59	6079.5	-571.09
	Indigenous Forest	86868.72	86843.35	-25.37

Source: Land Cover Data Bases 4 & 5 (LCDB4 & LCDB5), Landcare Research

The greatest change in land use that can be seen in the table over the years from 2015 to 2020 is the increase of area occupied by exotic forests. In 2015 this area was 65,942.51 hectares and in 2020 this increased by 1,634.05 hectares or by 2.5%. Conversely, there was also a significant drop in area considered harvested forest which may be a result of harvesting cycles at the time the mapping was carried out.

Within the same timeframe there were losses in scrub and shrubland as well as areas of grassland, sedgeland, and marshland. This information could suggest some land conversion to exotic forests as well as short-rotation cropland which also saw an increase in area occupied (up 1.12%).

INDICATOR LU2: LAND USE ZONES

Land uses in Heretaunga Hasting District are managed by zones. A zone is an area of land set aside for a specific range of land uses. Each zone is managed according to the different environmental outcomes that are being sought for the zone. Activities within the zones are managed according to the anticipated environmental effects, and the ability of the District Plan to avoid, remedy or mitigate these effects. As part of the District Plan review in 2015, there was a shift towards a place-based approach to zoning which also introduced overarching Strategic Management Areas (SMA).

The Rural SMA for example is the Heretaunga Hastings District's largest environment comprising approximately 473,100 ha of land which accounts for 93% of the district's total land area.

The zones in the Heretaunga Hastings District Plan can be generally grouped as follows:

- **Rural Zone:** traditionally oriented towards land-based primary production but becoming increasingly diversified; provision for limited commercial and industrial activities ancillary to its primary production focus; and limited opportunity for residential lifestyle lot subdivision
- **Plains Production Zone:** focuses on sustaining the life-supporting capacity of the highly versatile Heretaunga Plains soil resource; residential lifestyle subdivision is discouraged and restricted to only that which provides for the balance to be amalgamated into an adjoining title
- **Rural-Residential Zone:** accommodates development of peri-urban lifestyle blocks and is generally located on land with lower fertility soils. This also includes the Special Character Zones (Te Mata and Tukituki) along with the Iona and Karanema Havelock North Special Character Zone.
- **Residential Zones:** covers the main urban residential areas and settlements, and areas identified for future residential expansion.
- **Commercial Zones:** 15 Commercial Zones provide for the different commercial requirements of businesses within the district.
- **Industrial Zones:** Six (6) Industrial Zones provide for the various levels and types of industrial activity in the district.

The following table shows the area of land within each of the Operative District Plan Zones as at the end of 2019 and at the end of 2024. This shows where there may have been gains and losses in zone area.

TABLE 4: THE TOTAL AREA OF EACH ZONE IN HERETAUNGA HASTINGS DISTRICT PLAN AS AT 2024

Zones		Area (ha) 2019 – Decisions version of Operative District Plan	Area (ha) at 2024 - Operative District Plan Zones (incl. Plan Change 5 decisions)
Rural	Rural	481,673	481,670
Plains	Plains	31,114	31,076
Rural Residential	Havelock North Rural Residential	643.31	643.31
	Iona special character	39.83	39.83
	Rural Residential	869.22	872.28
	Te Mata Special Character	517.64	517.63
	TukiTuki Special Character	300.17	300.17
	Total Rural Residential	**2,370.17**	**2,373.22**
Residential	Coastal Settlement	38.35	38.35
	Clive-Whakatū Residential	80.86	80.86
	Flaxmere Community Residential	3.9	1.96
	Flaxmere General Residential	319.31	259.42
	Hastings Character Residential	53.23	53.23
	Hastings City Living	56.09	-
	Hastings General Residential	1066.53	888.53
	Haumoana-Te Āwanga Residential	97.88	97.88

Zones		Area (ha) 2019 – Decisions version of Operative District Plan	Area (ha) at 2024 - Operative District Plan Zones (incl. Plan Change 5 decisions)
	Haumoana-Te Āwanga Deferred Residential	3.78	3.78
	Haumoana-Te Āwanga Deferred Residential A	1.9	1.90
	Haumoana-Te Āwanga Deferred Residential B	2.22	2.23
	Havelock North Character Residential	361.66	361.66
	Havelock North General Residential	291.03	262.47
	Plains Settlement	30.53	30.53
	Medium Density Residential	-	360.783
	Waimārama Coastal Settlement	37.54	37.54
	Total Residential	**2,444.81**	**2,481.11**
Commercial	Bridge Pa Suburban Commercial	0.08	0.08
	Central Commercial	50.17	50.17
	Clive-Whakatū Suburban Commercial	5.26	5.26
	Commercial Service	38.23	38.23
	Flaxmere Commercial	3.98	3.93
	Flaxmere Commercial Service	3	2.97
	Haumoana-Te Āwanga Suburban Commercial	1.66	1.66
	Havelock North Village Centre Business	8.61	8.61
	Havelock North Village Centre Retail	8.86	8.86
	Havelock North Village Mixed	3.58	3.58
	Large Format Retail	20.57	20.57
	Residential Commercial	5.62	5.62
	Suburban Commercial	8.4	8.40
	Waimārama Suburban Commercial	0.13	0.13
	Total Commercial	**158.15**	**158.07**
Industrial	Deferred General Industrial	3.06	-
	General Industrial	642.67	645.59
	Havelock North Village Centre Industrial	4.41	4.41
	Light Industrial	40.75	36.29
	Tōmoana Food Industry	17.13	17.13
	Whirinaki Industrial	95.38	95.38
	Total Industrial	**803.4**	**798.799**
Other	Deferred Regional Sports Park Zone	7.21	7.21
	Hawkes Bay Regional Sports Park	28.96	28.96
	Nature Preservation Zone	2,573.20	2,573.20
	Open Space	1,451.94	1,454.59
	Regional Hospital	13.55	13.55

Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

There has been no significant change to the area covered by each of the zones in table 4, with the exception of the residential zones.

The residential zones of Pāharakeke Flaxmere, Karamū Hastings and Karanema Havelock North all changed in area as a result of Plan Change 5.

Plan Change 5 introduced the Medium Density Residential Zone which rezoned the Hastings City Living Zone, and parts of the general residential zone in Pāharakeke Flaxmere, Karamū Hastings and Karanema Havelock North. As well as a portion of the Pāharakeke Flaxmere community residential zone and a portion of the light industrial zone at the saleyards on Maraekākaho Road.

The Medium Density Residential Zone identifies areas of the district that are suitable for higher densities of residential development in response to government direction in the National Policy Statement on Urban Development.

Plan change 5 is not operative, as appeals are currently being mediated, however the Medium Density Residential Zone still applies as it has legal effect. This means that the zone is in effect, but resource consents need to be assessed against both the provisions of Plan Change 5 and the current operative provisions. That is why it is appropriate to include it in table 4.

More details on rezoning are provided under indicators SD3 and VS5.

Small changes occurred in the Plains Production Zone, which was rezoned to Karanema Havelock North General Residential in response to the mediation of an appeal to the proposed Heretaunga Hastings District Plan in 2020. The request to rezone the land at Waipuna Brookvale was made to Council as part of public submissions on the Proposed District Plan back in 2014.

Approximately 3 ha of land was changed to Rural Residential from Rural to correct a planning map error in 2021.

Heretaunga Hastings District comprises approximately 98% vegetated land cover, and approximately 98.1% of the district is zoned Rural or Plains Production Zone. There has been little change to the rural zones and the biggest changes lie in the residential zones where areas have been rezoned to the Medium Density Residential Zone. This zone will facilitate appropriate intensification in the urban areas to achieve sustainability objectives.

Land cover and zoning allocation continues to reflect a rural provincial area in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Comparisons suggest there has not been any significant change in land cover or land use patterns within the district since the previous State of the Environment Report.

RESPONSES

FOR COUNCIL

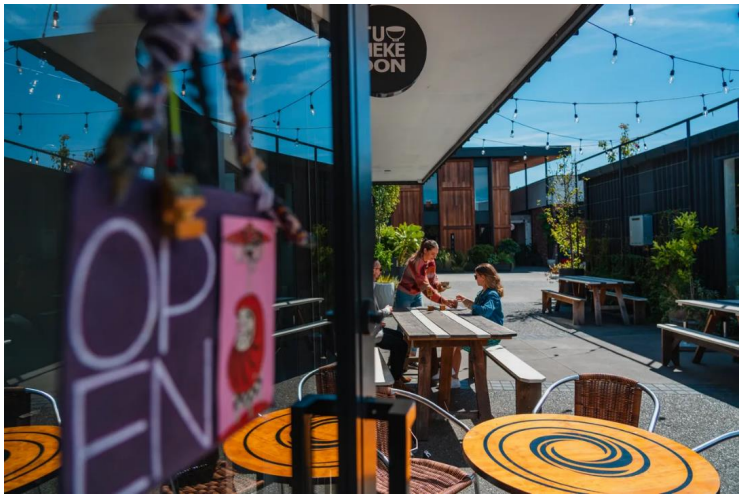
- Continue to monitor changes in land cover and land use patterns (zoning) over time, to determine/confirm any areas of the district experiencing significant change or pressure.

WHANAKETANGA WHENUA TĀONE TOITŪ SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Areas close to the urban centres and the hills surrounding the Heretaunga Plains face considerable pressure to accommodate increased urban activities (commercial and industrial activities) and residential housing

The price, infrastructure potential and close proximity of the Heretaunga Plains to the urban centres of Karamū Hastings City, Karanema Havelock North and Pāharakeke Flaxmere generates considerable demand to utilise the land for a range of uses. Once land has been converted to urban, it is unlikely that this process will be reversed.

Of course, sustainable urban development is not about no development or urban growth – the issue is about striking an appropriate balance, efficient use of land resources at a rate that balances demand and supply and investigating alternatives to greenfield expansion. Indicators in this section illustrate whether development is sustainable.



INDICATORS

The table below shows the indicators that are used to monitor urban development in the District. These indicators are also used to inform other monitoring programmes for the District, such as Community Outcomes Monitoring and monitoring achievement of the anticipated outcomes in the Proposed Heretaunga Hastings District Plan, as shown below.

INDICATORS FOR SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Indicator		Indicator type	Relevant community outcomes and how it informs these outcomes	Relevant district plan outcomes
			• An environment that is appreciated protected and sustained for future generations. • Safe and secure communities. • A lifetime of good health and wellbeing. • Development in Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay is sensitive to the need to protect and promote o Environmental wellbeing.	**Heretaunga Hastings District Plan** Section 2.3.2.2 (The Role of the District Plan in Delivering the Vision): …the resources of the district that support land based primary production need to be carefully managed to ensure that they remain available for future generations…the versatile soils of the Heretaunga Plains should be protected from unnecessary development and that future urban growth should be provided for within the existing boundaries of the urban environment. This will require more intensive use of the existing residential areas. Section 2.4.2 Anticipated Outcomes (Urban Strategy): • UDAO2 Increased intensification of the existing urban environments, while maintaining acceptable levels of residential amenity in accordance with the development outcomes sought for the zone. • UDAO4 Urban development that avoids, remedies or mitigates adverse environmental effects, particularly in respect of the Heretaunga Plains Unconfined Aquifer, and avoids the loss of valuable finite soil resources on the Heretaunga Plains in line with the Heretaunga Plains Urban Development Strategy. Section 2.8.3 Anticipated Outcomes (Rural Resource Strategy): • RRSAO1 The continued availability, development and utilisation of the life supporting capacity of the Heretaunga Hastings District's soil resources for a range of activities
SD1	Building Consents for New Dwellings	Pressure	The number of building consents for new dwellings provides a good indication of demand for residential development and can highlight where pressure for development is occurring. Knowing where development pressure is occurring enables better strategic planning towards achieving infill development and a more compact urban form.	
SD2	Infill Subdivision in the Residential Zones	Pressure	Infill subdivision provides for residential demand without encroaching on currently undeveloped land. The higher the rate of infill development the less the impact of development on the District's land resource, as well as enabling efficient provision of services and infrastructure and more compact urban form.	

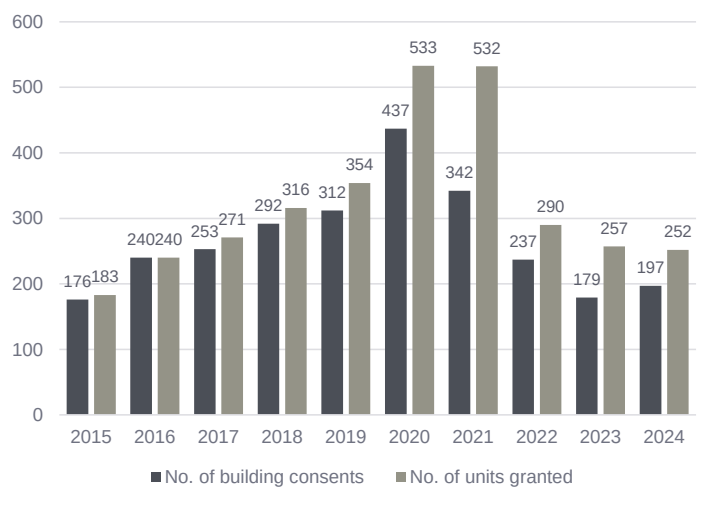
Indicator		Indicator type	Relevant community outcomes and how it informs these outcomes	Relevant district plan outcomes
SD3	Plan Change Requests for Rezoning from Rural to Urban	Pressure	Rezoning of rural land for urban development can directly impact on the potential of the District's land and soil resources to provide for future generations. Together with understanding population dynamics and projections for the District, an understanding of demand and pressure for urban rezoning and where this is occurring, can assist with long term planning for sustainable urban development.	

MONITORING INFORMATION

INDICATOR SD1: BUILDING CONSENTS FOR NEW DWELLINGS

Building consents for new dwellings are a measure of the level of demand for residential urban development in the district. The following graph shows the number of building consents for new dwellings for each year between 2015 and 2024, and the number of residential units granted each year.

FIGURE 8: NUMBER OF BUILDING CONSENTS AND RESIDENTIAL UNITS GRANTED FOR NEW DWELLINGS (2015 - 2024)



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council[9]

[9] Figures shown above for 2015 – 2019 may be different than as reported on in the previous report due to changes in the methodology for retrieving data. The source is still Heretaunga Hastings District Council but the information comes from the Growth and Development team that monitor development in the district.

Over the five years between 2020 and 2024, there were 1,392 building consents granted for new dwellings.

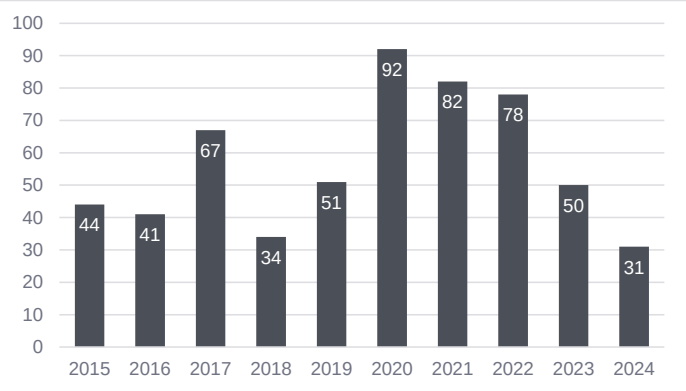
Demands for building consents for new dwellings peaked sharply in 2020 and 2021 before returning to numbers comparable to the previous reporting period in 2022. These statistics reflect the effect that covid had on development in 2020 with the housing market then cooling due to reduced immigration and rising interest rates.

Zones that saw the most demand for building consents for new dwellings were Hastings General Residential, Rural, and Plains Production.

INDICATOR SD2: INFILL SUBDIVISION IN THE RESIDENTIAL ZONES

Infill development often represents an efficient form of urban development. Over the reporting period infill subdivision rose sharply in 2020 and has since declined steadily. This pattern of infill subdivision reflects a similar pattern to that of the building consents for new dwellings as a result of Covid and economic conditions.

FIGURE 9: NUMBER OF INFILL SUBDIVISIONS GRANTED IN THE RESIDENTIAL ZONES (2015 - 2024)



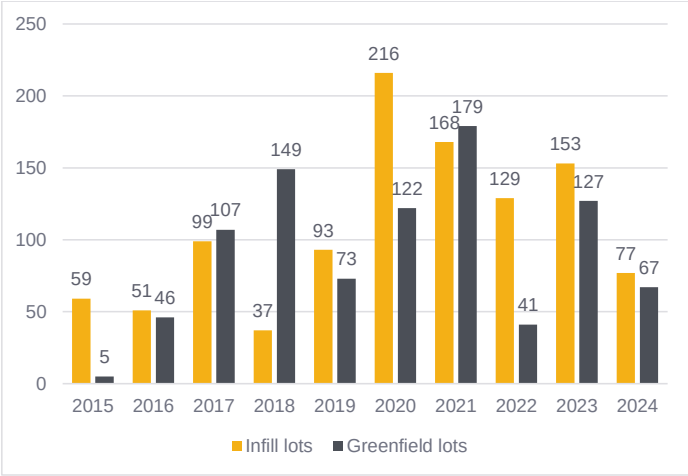
Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council[10]

The Heretaunga Plains Urban Development Strategy (HPUDS[11]) has directed urban growth in Ahuriri Napier and Hastings and on the Heretaunga Plains since its inception in 2010. The draft Ahuriri Napier Hastings Future Development Strategy (FDS) will replace HPUDS and build on its legacy by looking out another 30 years[12].

Over the life of the FDS, growth within the existing urban area is expected to deliver at least 50 per cent of all residential growth. Over the long-term, intensification is anticipated to deliver the majority (60 per cent) of future residential growth across both Ahuriri Napier and Heretaunga Hastings toward the end of the 30 years.

The figure below shows the number of residential infill lots granted consent between 2015 – 2024 compared to greenfield lots.

FIGURE 10: NUMBER OF RESIDENTIAL INFILL AND GREENFIELD LOTS GRANTED RESOURCE CONSENT BETWEEN 2015 - 2024



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council[13]

Residential infill since 2015 has for the most part exceeded greenfield development in the Heretaunga Hastings District, and in many years is more than 50% residential lots created. Intensification has a number of benefits, including:

- providing a greater variety of housing choices that can better serve a diverse range of socio-economic and demographic needs;

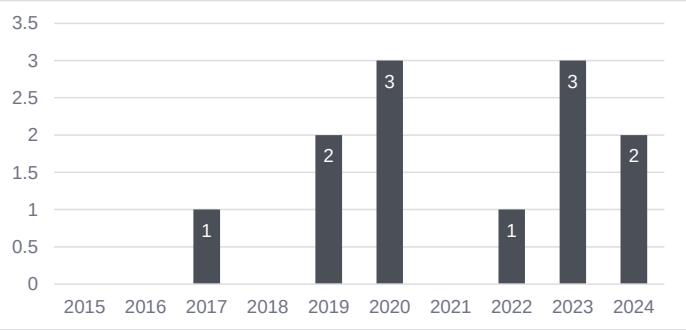
[10] Figures shown above for 2015 – 2019 may be different than as reported on in the previous report due to changes in the methodology for retrieving data. The source is still Heretaunga Hastings District Council but the information comes from the Growth and Development team that monitor development in the district.
[11] Heretaunga Plains Urban Development Strategy, 2010, Heretaunga Hastings District Council, Ahuriri Napier City Council & Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council.
[12] Draft Ahuriri Napier Hastings Future Development Strategy 2024 – 2054, 2024, Heretaunga Hastings District Council, Ahuriri Napier City Council & Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council.
[13] Figures shown above for 2015 – 2019 may be different than as reported on in the previous report due to changes in the methodology for retrieving data. The source is still Heretaunga Hastings District Council but the information comes from the Growth and Development team that monitor development in the district.

- allowing more people to live in close proximity to jobs, social amenities (e.g. schools) and areas of high natural amenity;
- reducing reliance on private vehicle travel, in turn supporting a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and enabling a more viable public transport system; and
- Making more efficient use of existing infrastructure and reducing the need to extend existing networks.

Council is taking steps to facilitate infill in the urban areas through Plan Change 5 (refer back to indicator LU2).

Comprehensive residential development (CRD) is a type of development that can also occur as part of infill subdivision. CRD is characterised by higher number of residential units on smaller site areas. CRD helps us to provide variety in housing types and to increase the number of residences in already zoned residential areas. Below shows the number of subdivision consents granted for CRD for the last 10 years.

FIGURE 11: SUBDIVISION CONSENTS GRANTED FOR COMPREHENSIVE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN 2015 – 2024.



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

In 2022 Council notified Plan Change 5 – right homes, right place. This plan change will make it easier to build more houses on a site and assist with the provision for a greater range of housing types and affordable housing options in a new Medium Density Residential Zone. It is recommended that the next State of the Environment report look at subdivision and development in the Medium Density Residential Zone compared with CRD in the other residential zones.

INDICATOR SD3: PLAN CHANGE REQUESTS FOR REZONING FROM RURAL TO RESIDENTIAL/RURAL RESIDENTIAL

Between 2020 and 2024 there have been no plan change requests to rezone from rural to residential or rural residential.

Between 2020 and 2024, Heretaunga Hastings District saw growth in new housing activity, with 1,392 building consents issued for new dwellings, resulting in 1,864 new units — an increase from 1,273 consents and 1,364 units in 2015–19. Infill subdivision became more prominent, making up 58% of all new lots created, up from 47% in the previous period. Notably, there were no plan change requests to rezone rural land for urban development during this time.

RESPONSES

FOR THE COMMUNITY:

- Take up opportunities to participate in the review of urban development strategies and future rezoning proposals in the district.

FOR COUNCIL:

- Continue to promote best practice land development examples and good practice guidelines
- Contribute to the replacement of HPUDS with the Hasting Napier Future Development Strategy.
- To monitor the efficacy of the new Medium Density Residential Zone in achieving urban development outcomes.

TE TIAKI I TE ONE RAKA PROTECTION OF VERSATILE SOIL

Class I, II and III soils are generally considered the most fertile and versatile and contain the greatest productive potential for farming and horticulture.

Heretaunga Hastings District has a finite resource of good quality rural land. The district's economy heavily relies on the Heretaunga Plains soils for horticulture and viticulture, and rural pastureland for sheep and cattle. The loss of high-quality rural land to residential development could in the future compromise the ability of the district to support the extensive farming, horticulture and viticulture industries on which much of the community relies.

The rural land resource, and particularly the Heretaunga Plains soil resource, is important to the district for economic, cultural and social reasons. The Heretaunga Plains is a resource rich area of Aotearoa New Zealand, blessed with high value soils, good water supply and a temperate climate. With such resources the Plains have been the focus for settlement, with the main industrial base being in support of the agriculture and horticulture sectors.

The value of the soil and water resource to the economy and the wellbeing of the community has changed little over time. Ongoing growth in the residential and industrial sectors, along with changing horticulture practices has led to increasing competition for the water and soil resources.

Areas of rural land are often purchased and subdivided into smaller lots for residential and lifestyle purposes, particularly close to townships, although this is offset by the amalgamation of larger lots.

Diversification and intensification of activities in rural areas also means pressure to divide rural land into smaller and smaller lots, likely in an attempt to offset capital investments. Land fragmentation can result in a shortage of properties of suitable size for viable farming and horticulture units in the future.

Since the first State of the Environment Report was published, Heretaunga Hastings District Council, Ahuriri Napier City Council and Te Matau-ā-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council have embarked on a collaborative approach towards managing urban growth on the Plains from 2015 to 2045. The joint Strategy was first adopted in 2010, then a reviewed version re-adopted by the three councils in early 2017 (HPUDS 2017). The legacy of HPUDS is being carried on by the Hastings and Ahuriri Napier Future Development Strategy (FDS) which was released for public feedback in November 2024.

The FDS seeks to manage urban growth on the Heretaunga Plains in a way that acknowledges mana whenua and their aspirations for development, is respectful of the precious land and water resources that sustain us, while supporting our housing, business and community needs.

Additionally, the National Policy Statement on Highly Productive Land came into force in 2022. This national direction further restricted inappropriate use and development on class I, II, and III soils.

INDICATORS

The table below shows the indicators that are used to monitor the state of the versatile soils in the district. These indicators are also used to inform other monitoring programmes for the district, such as Community Outcomes Monitoring and monitoring achievement of the anticipated outcomes in the Proposed Heretaunga Hastings District Plan, as shown below.

INDICATORS FOR PROTECTION OF VERSATILE SOIL AND PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY

Indicator		Indicator type	Relevant community outcomes and how it informs these outcomes	Relevant district plan outcomes
			• An environment that is appreciated, protected and sustained for future generations. • Development in Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay is sensitive to the need to protect and promote environmental wellbeing.	**Heretaunga Hastings District Plan** Section 2.3.2.2 (The Role of the District Plan in Delivering the Vision): …the resources of the District that support land based primary production need to be carefully managed to ensure that they remain available for future generations…the versatile soils of the Heretaunga Plains should be protected from unnecessary development and that future urban growth should be provided for within the existing boundaries of the urban environment. This will require more intensive use of the existing residential areas. Section 2.4.2 Anticipated Outcomes (Urban Strategy): • UDAO2 Increased intensification of the existing urban environments, while maintaining acceptable levels of residential amenity in accordance with the development outcomes sought for the zone. • UDAO4 Urban development that avoids, remedies or mitigates adverse environmental effects, particularly in respect of the Heretaunga Plains Unconfined Aquifer and avoids the loss of valuable finite soil resources on the Heretaunga Plains in line with the Heretaunga Plains Urban Development Strategy. Section 2.8.3 Anticipated Outcomes (Rural Resource Strategy): • RRSAO1 The continued availability, development and utilisation of the life supporting capacity of the Heretaunga Hastings District's productive land resources for a range of activities.
VS1	Versatile Soils in the District	State	The amount of versatile soils in the District indicates the state of the soil resource, and assists in understanding the rarity of the resource and the effect of loss of valuable finite soil resources both for present and future generations.	
VS2	New Dwellings in the Rural/Plains Production Zones	Pressure	The number of new dwellings in the rural area gives a good indication of the pressure for residential development in the rural area.	
VS3	Subdivision in the Rural/Plains Production Zones	Pressure	The number of subdivisions to create additional sites, including lifestyle lots, in the rural area gives a good indication of the pressure the rural soil resource is under, and an understanding of this enables informed response towards protecting this resource.	

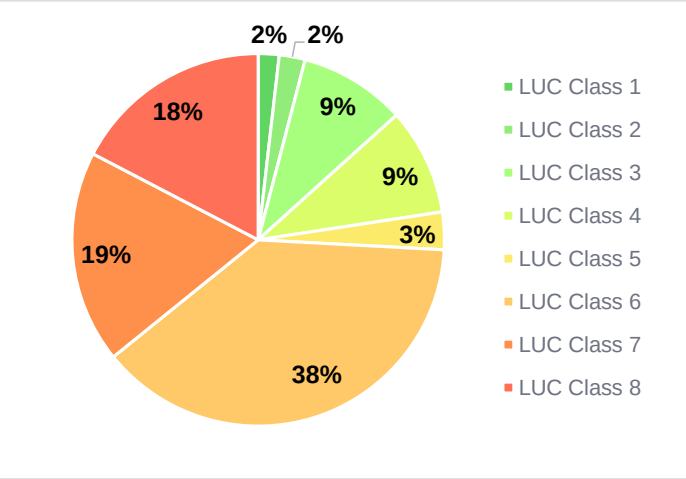
Indicator		Indicator type	Relevant community outcomes and how it informs these outcomes	Relevant district plan outcomes
VS4	'Farm Park' Subdivision in the Rural Zone	Pressure	Farm parks are one method of providing for low density residential demand with less impact on the life supporting capacity of the soils. The number of farm parks and sites created can inform ongoing attempts to achieve balance between use, development and protection.	
VS5	Rezoning of Rural/Plains Production Zone Land	Pressure	Rezoning of the Plains Production Zone is a good indicator of the impact of urban expansion and development on the extent of the finite soil resource of the Heretaunga Plains.	
VS6	Land Use Consents Granted in the Plains Production Zone	Pressure	The types of land use consents that are granted in the Plains Production Zone provides an indication of what activities are occurring on the finite soil resource other than those directly related to land-based primary production, and thereby what pressures are impacting on it.	

MONITORING INFORMATION

INDICATOR VS1: VERSATILE SOILS IN THE DISTRICT

Class I, II and III soils are generally considered the most fertile and versatile and contain the greatest productive potential for farming and horticulture. There are 68,514hectares (or 13.11%) of the district comprising class I, II or III soils.

FIGURE 12: LAND AREA BY LAND USE CAPABILITY



Source: LRI Land Use Capability Data, Landcare Research

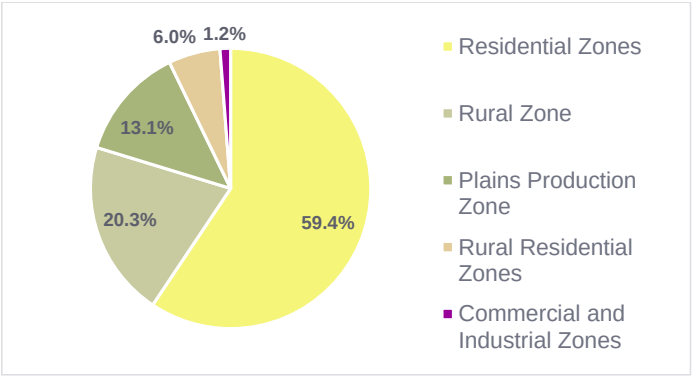
INDICATOR VS2: NEW DWELLINGS IN THE RURAL/PLAINS PRODUCTION ZONES

New dwellings in the Rural and Plains Production Zones provide a useful indication of the urbanisation of the soil resource.

The Draft FDS strategy seeks to achieve a compact urban form, focused on a network of consolidated and intensified centres in Ahuriri Napier and Karamū Hastings, continuing the work of the Heretaunga Plains Urban Development Strategy (HPUDS)[14].

The following chart presents the distribution of building consents for new dwellings in the Heretaunga Hastings District by zone categories for 2020 to 2024.

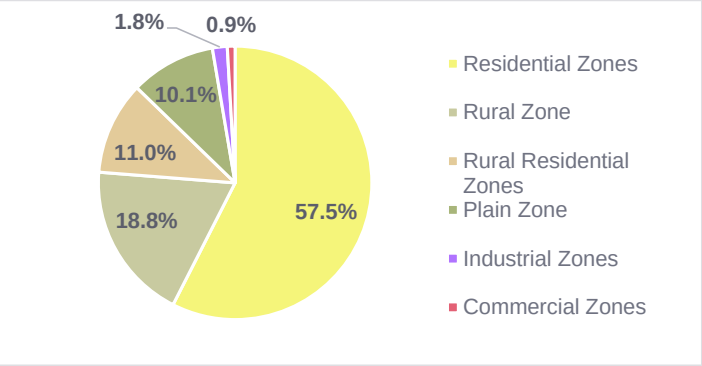
FIGURE 13: PERCENTAGE OF BUILDING CONSENTS FOR NEW DWELLINGS BY ZONE CATEGORIES FOR 2020 - 2024



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

14 Draft Ahuriri Napier Hastings Future Development Strategy 2024 – 2054, 2024, Heretaunga Hastings District Council, Ahuriri Napier City Council & Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council.

FIGURE 14: PERCENTAGE OF L BUILDING CONSENTS FOR NEW DWELLINGS BY ZONE FOR 2015 - 2019

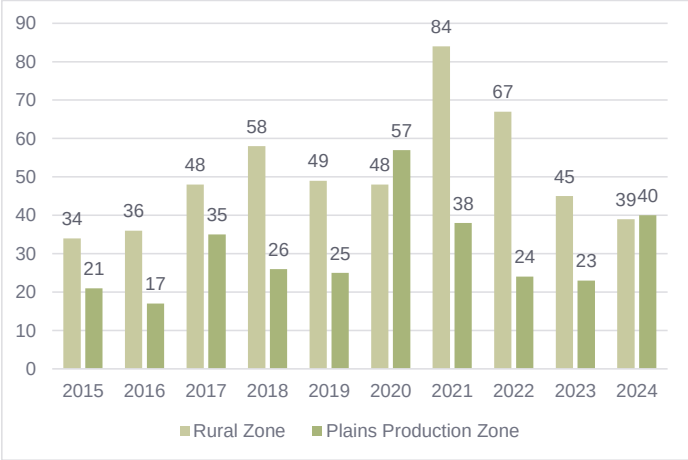


Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

As shown in Figure 13, over half of all new dwellings in the period from 2020 to 2024 were within the urban zones. This is consistent with the trend from the previous reporting period as shown in Figure 14.

The majority of new dwellings were within the residential zones of Karamū Hastings, Pāharakeke Flaxmere and Karanema Havelock North which had 55% of all new dwellings. The previous reporting period saw 52.7% of all new dwellings in the same area. Another third comprised 20.3% and 13.1% of new dwellings in the rural zone and plains production zone respectively. This is a slight increase compared to the 2015 – 2019 period. The rural residential zones contributed 6% (compared to 11% in the previous reporting period).

FIGURE 15: BUILDING CONSENTS FOR NEW DWELLINGS IN THE RURAL AND PLAINS PRODUCTION ZONES (2015 - 2024)



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council[15]

Demand for building consents to construct new dwellings in the rural zone and plains production zone shows continuing demand, with a simultaneous downturn in building consents for new dwellings in the rural residential zones.

[15] Figures shown above for 2015 – 2019 may be different than as reported on in the previous report due to changes in the methodology for retrieving data. The source is still Heretaunga Hastings District Council but the information comes from the Growth and Development team that monitor development in the district.

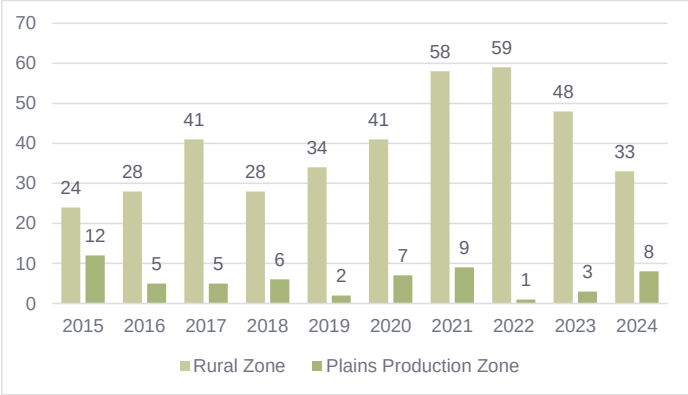
INDICATOR VS3: SUBDIVISION IN THE RURAL/PLAINS PRODUCTION ZONES

Subdivision can lead to land fragmentation and an increased and accelerated supply of smaller sites which may not safeguard the life-supporting capacity of the finite rural land resource. Fragmentation creates expectation of higher land value, making land aggregation and larger rural properties less appealing.

Council has maintained a strong policy position on adhering to the provisions of the Plains Production Zone to protect the Plains Production Zone resource. This strong policy stance position is reflected in the number of successful Environment Court cases supporting the Council's stance on soil protection.

Subdivision in the Plains Production and Rural Zones therefore, is an indicator of fragmentation of the rural land resource. The following graphs show the number of subdivision applications granted for the Plains and Rural Zones from 2015 - 2024.

FIGURE 16:NUMBER OF SUBDIVISION CONSENTS GRANTED IN THE RURAL AND PLAINS PRODUCTION ZONES 2015 – 2024



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council[16]

For the current reporting period, subdivisions in the Rural Zone have an average of 48 consents granted a year for residential development. The average number of a consents granted in the Plains Production Zone is much lesser due to the restrictive subdivision rules of that zone.

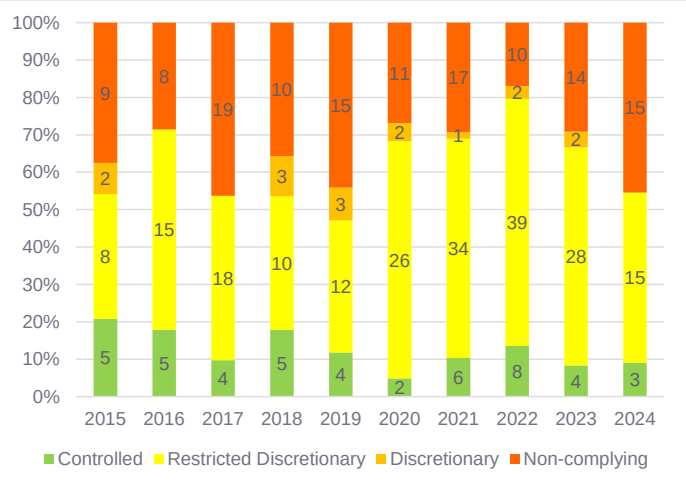
Non-complying activities represent development that is contrary to the District Plan provisions. Therefore, the number of non-complying subdivision consents provides a strong indication of 'pressure' to develop land over time.

The proportion of non-complying subdivisions granted in the rural zone was approximately 28% between 2020 – 2024. This has decreased from 39% over the period between 2015 - 2019. Additionally, the proportion of controlled subdivision consents granted has also decreased from 14% in

[16] Figures shown above for 2015 – 2019 may be different than as reported on in the previous report due to changes in the methodology for retrieving data. The source is still Heretaunga Hastings District Council but the information comes from the Growth and Development team that monitor development in the district.

the previous reporting period to 9% between 2020 – 2024. It appears as though the number of restricted discretionary activities applied for has increased.

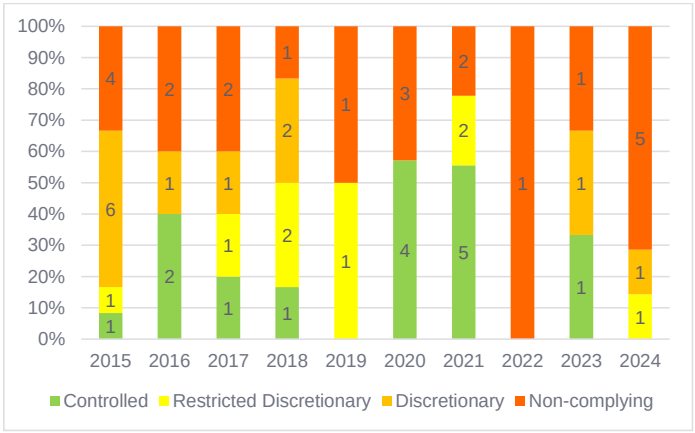
FIGURE 17: ACTIVITY STATUS OF RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISIONS GRANTED FOR IN THE RURAL ZONE (2015 - 2024)



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

The proportion of non-complying subdivisions granted in the Plains Production Zone has increased in 2020 and 2024 to 44% of total subdivisions granted from 33% in the previous reporting period.

FIGURE 18: ACTIVITY STATUS OF SUBDIVISIONS GRANTED IN THE PLAINS PRODUCTION ZONE (2015 - 2024)

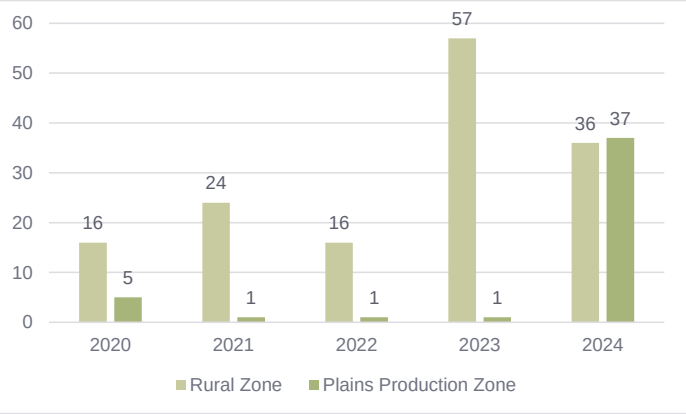


Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

It makes sense that controlled activities form a small portion of subdivisions granted as a result of the rule structure of the district plan for both rural zones. As for non-complying activities, between the two reporting periods the number of non-complying activities granted are very similar.

The following graphs show the number of non-complying lots granted.

FIGURE 19:NON-COMPLYING LOTS GRANTED IN THE RURAL AND PLAINS PRODUCTION ZONES (2020 - 2024)



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

Given that the Plains Production Zone typically receives less applications for subdivision than the Rural Zone it is expected that only few lots are created in this zone. The exception is in 2024 new lots were granted as part of a resource consent on the Oderings site in Karanema Havelock North.

The increase in non-complying lots created in the rural zone in 2023 are the result of the granting of two farm park consents.

Subdivision in the Rural and Plains Production Zones between 2020 and 2024 appears to indicate some pressure on the rural soil resource for residential development purposes particularly in the rural zone.

INDICATOR VS4: 'FARM PARK' SUBDIVISION IN THE RURAL ZONE

Residential Farm Parks are another mechanism to cater for demand for rural residential lifestyle sites. 'Farm parks' are a form of rural residential development which recognises a desire for smaller rural residential sites and enabling this by retention of the majority of the parent title for continued land-based activities (often administered by a body corporate comprising the owners of the residential sites).

The benefit of farm park subdivisions, in contrast with traditional rural subdivision, is efficient and effective operation of the balance farm/lot in the long term i.e. minimising the loss of productive soils, and better compatibility with the pattern of development on adjoining land and avoiding reverse sensitivity issues/conflict with neighbouring land-based activities. The uptake of residential farm park provisions can provide an indication of a more sustainable rural subdivision approach when compared with standard lifestyle subdivision.

The Heretaunga Hastings District Plan provides for 'farm park' developments in the Rural Residential Strategic Management Area and Te Mata Special Character Zone as controlled activities. In the Rural Zone they are provided as Discretionary activities under certain conditions. Farm Park subdivisions are not specifically provided for in the Plains Production Zone, reflecting the strong emphasis away from fragmentation of the Plains soil resource.

There were 5 residential farm park subdivision applications in the Rural Zone during the previous State of the Environment reporting period. A further 4 farm park applications have been applied for between 2020 and 2024. These are:

- RMA20210615 – 36 lot residential farm park, Karanema Havelock North. Granted.
- RMA20220287 – 35 lot residential farm park, Te Pōpō Roys Hill. Granted.
- RMA20240065 – 27 lot residential farm park, Maraekākaho.

- RMA20240438 – 13 lot residential farm park, Maraekākaho.

The residential farm park concept was relatively new to the District at the time of the first State of the Environment Report. After more than 10 years, farm parks are still relatively small in number, but contribute towards subdivision applications in the rural zone involving the creation of more than 3 lots. This suggests that the larger rural lifestyle subdivisions in the Heretaunga Hastings District are adopting more sustainable land use principles.

INDICATOR VS5: REZONING OF RURAL/PLAINS PRODUCTION ZONE LAND

The demand for and granting of plan changes to rezone Rural and Plains Production Zoned land reflects a direct loss of soils for land based primary production purposes.

As outlined in indicator LU2 small changes occurred in the rural zones.

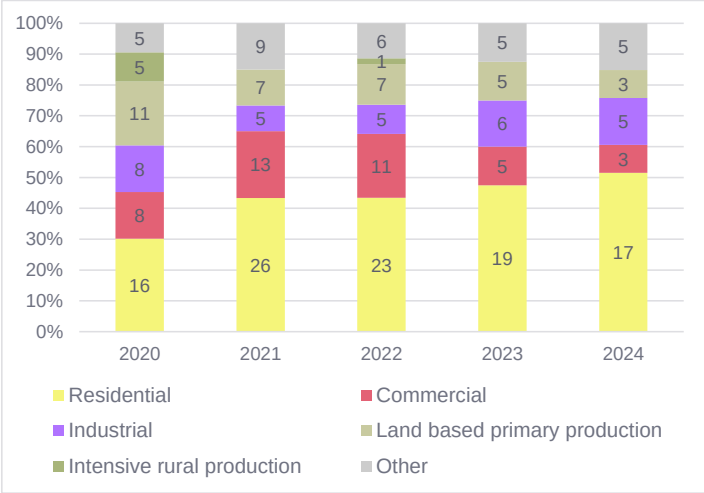
Approximately 38ha of the Plains Production Zone was rezoned to Karanema Havelock North General Residential in response to the mediation of an appeal to the proposed Heretaunga Hastings District Plan in 2020. The request to rezone the land at Waipuna Brookvale was made to Council as part of public submissions on the Proposed District Plan back in 2014.

Approximately 3 ha of land was changed to Rural Residential from Rural to correct a planning map error in 2021.

INDICATOR VS6: TYPES OF LAND USE CONSENTS GRANTED IN THE PLAINS PRODUCTION ZONE

It was identified in the first State of the Environment Report that monitoring the demand and types of land use consents for activities not directly related to land based primary production, could provide further valuable information about pressure to develop on the versatile soils of the Heretaunga Plains.

FIGURE 20:TYPES OF LAND USE CONSENTS APPLIED FOR IN THE PLAINS PRODUCTION ZONE (2020 - 2024)



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

The number of land use consents applied for in the Plains Production Zone averaged 41 consents per year between 2020 – 2024, a decrease from 49 per year in the previous reporting period. The data shows an increase in the proportion of residential related activities applied for. Many of the residential consents applied for were for oversized secondary dwellings, yard encroachments, buildings or structures ancillary to residential activities and papakāenga. Conversely, there was a decrease in proportion of land based primary production and commercial activities applied for.

Land based primary production is a permitted activity in the zone so it is anticipated that consents relating to these kinds of activities would be low. The decrease in applications for commercial activities may be due to the

introduction of the National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land further restricting use and development on productive soils.

There has been no change to the proportion of highly productive soils, which remain at 13% Class I, II and III. Between 2020–2024, the share of new dwelling consents in the Rural and Plains Production Zones increased slightly compared to 2015–2019, while consents in Rural Residential Zones declined. Subdivision activity in the Rural Zone has grown to an average of 47 consents per year (up from 31), while the Plains Production Zone has seen consistent subdivision levels. Demand for Farm Park subdivisions remain low, with only four applications lodged, similar to the previous period. No new rezoning requests were received in this period, contrasting with the previous period's significant rezoning for urban expansion. Land use consents in the Plains Production Zone have dropped from an annual average of 49 to 41.

RESPONSES

FOR THE COMMUNITY

- If you wish to live rurally, consider buying properties in the established Rural Residential and Lifestyle Character Zones.

FOR COUNCIL

- Continue to review the effectiveness of District Plan provisions applying to subdivision and development in the Plains Production Zone
- Continue to monitor the types of Resource Consents applied for in the Plains Production Zone to track pressure on the finite soil resource of the Heretaunga Plains from activities not directly related to land based primary production.
- Monitor the aggregation of land supported by cutting of surplus residential sites
- Continue to implement and review the Heretaunga Plains Urban Development Strategy (HPUDS) and it's replacement the FDS

WHAKAHAERETANAGA RATONGA, WHANONGA ME TE TUKU IHOTANGA
AMENITY, CHARACTER AND HERITAGE MANAGEMENT

AMENITY, CHARACTER AND HERITAGE MANAGEMENT

The issues at a glance

Indicator		State 2015 – 2019	State 2020 - 2024	Summary
Residential Amenity				
A1	Non-residential activities in residential zones			There were 53 resource consents granted to undertake non-residential activities in the residential zones of the district between 2020 and 2024, this was a decrease from 81 between 2015-2019. The top 3 non-residential activities between 2020 and 2024 have been earthworks, infrastructure and 'other', compared to the previous reporting period in which the top non-residential activities were for 'educational facilities', 'other activities' and 'commercial activities.
A2	Complaints in residential zones			The previous report did not present any data on "complaints about non-residential activities in residential zones" because of issues to how the data is stored. To remedy that this indicator was changed to 'complaints in residential zones". Between 2020 and 2024, 159 complaints were received in the residential zones. The majority of these complaints were about construction/earthworks, home occupations, and inappropriate residential activity.
A3	Background noise levels			The average noise reading across all of the sites was 39.56 decibels. The previous State of the Environment report stated that background noise levels were between 35-45dBA (L95).
A4	Noise Complaints			Apart from the 2016-17 peak, noise complaints generally have decreased in the 5-year period.
A5	Residents' perception of noise pollution			In 2019 67% of people surveyed reported being concerned or very concerned about noise pollution. The latest survey shows that only 35% reported being concerned or very concerned.
A6	Residents' perception of the district as a safe place to live			For this reporting period 25% of people surveyed disagreed that Heretaunga Hastings District is a safe place to live. This is an increase from 16% in the previous reporting period.
A7	Provision of open space areas			The total Reserve provision for the Heretaunga Hastings District is 640.4351ha (of Heretaunga Hastings District Council owned public space, including newly acquired Tomoana Showgrounds) or 7.85ha/1000 people. This is an increase from the previous report that stated "the total reserve provision for the Heretaunga Hastings District is 596.9ha (land owned by HDC) or 7.32ha/1000 people."
A8	Residents' satisfaction with parks and reserves			In 2019 7% of survey participants were not satisfied with the parks and reserves in the district. This has remained about the same for the survey responses received for this report. Those that reported themselves as satisfied has declined since the previous report but may be a result of including a neutral option to respond with.

Indicator		State 2015 – 2019	State 2020 - 2024	Summary
A9	Residents' satisfaction with accessibility of recreational facilities			In 2019 10% of survey participants were dissatisfied with the accessibility of recreational facilities in the district, this remains unchanged for the survey results in this report. Those that reported themselves as satisfied has declined since the previous report but may be a result of including a neutral option to respond with.
A10	Residents' rating of quality of life			In 2019 80% of survey participants considered the quality of life in the district as good or very good. In the survey for this reporting period 82.1% considered quality of life in the district as good, very good or excellent.
A11	Residents' rating of sense of pride in the way their city looks and feels	-		In this survey 73.4% of survey participants had a good, very good, or excellent sense of pride in the way the city looks. This is an increase when compared to the previous survey in which 58% of survey participants were proud or very proud in how Karamū Hastings City looks.
Coastal Amenity				
CA1	Subdivision and development in Coastal Residential Zone			Between 2020 and 2024 there were three subdivision consents granted in the coastal residential zones compared to 6 in the previous reporting period. However, between 2020 and 2024 59 residential lots were granted as part of those subdivision consents versus 52 from the previous reporting period. As for building consents, 49 were granted in the coastal residential zones between 2020 and 2024, compared to 39 in the previous reporting period.
CA2	Demand for new coastal residential areas			No rezoning of land for coastal residential purposes has occurred in this reporting period. The previous report stated that with the exception of the District Plan review, there were no applications to rezone land for coastal residential purposes.
Natural Heritage/Landscape Character				
NC1	Subdivision within: • outstanding natural features and landscapes (onfl) • significant amenity landscapes (sal); • rural character landscapes (rcl); and • coastal character landscapes (ccl).			In the District Plan there are 8 ONFLs, 8 SALs, 7 RCLs and 5 CCLs. Between 2015 and 2019 there were 156 subdivision consents granted in total, this increased to 189 between 2020 and 2024. Almost all of the subdivisions occurred within RCLs.
NC2	Building activity within landscape areas			Between 2015 and 2019 there were 232 building consents granted in total, this increased to 258 between 2020 and 2024. Almost all of the building occurred within RCLs. Building consents granted in the more sensitive SALs and ONFLs increased from 34 to 43.

Indicator		State 2015 – 2019	State 2020 - 2024	Summary
NC3	Subdivision and development within Significant Indigenous Vegetation and Significant Habitats of Indigenous Fauna			Between 2015 and 2019, there were 14 land use consents and 21 subdivision consents relating to land located within a 'Recommended Area for Protection'. Between 2020 and 2024 land use consents within RAPs decreased to 3 land use consents granted, but subdivision consents granted increased slightly to 23. No subdivision consents included conservation lots. One consent was granted for vegetation clearance of indigenous vegetation outside a RAP.
NC4	Area of the district in Queen Elizabeth II and Ngā Whenua Rāhui covenants			Data from the Queen Elizabeth II National Trust confirms there are 125 different QEII covenants in the district. A total of 3,171.51 hectares are in Queen Elizabeth II National Trust Covenants, with the average size of a covenant at 25.37 hectares. Data from the Department of Conservation shows that 20,307.74 hectares of the district are protected by Ngā Whenua Rāhui covenants
Cultural & Historic Heritage				
H1	Residents' perception of public art and cultural opportunities			In this current survey 8.1% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with public art and cultural opportunities whereas in 2019 12% of participants were dissatisfied.
H2	Consents to modify/destroy heritage items			Between 2020 and 2024 there have been 21 resource consents granted for the modification or demolition of heritage buildings, this is an increase from 14 between 2015 and 2019. As for notable trees, there were 5 resource consents granted that concerned notable trees, with only one seeking removal of the tree due to safety concerns, this is an increase from 3 between 2015 and 2019.
H3	Consents to modify/destroy Wāhi Taonga			There have been no resource consents that trigger the rules in the District Plan regarding wāhi taonga. However, 13 resource consents granted that had wāhi taonga on the sites concerned but, in all instances, the wāhi taonga were not considered to be affected. The previous report recorded one resource consent.
H4	Archaeological sites and Authorities to modify/destroy Archaeological Sites			In total, 32 of the 38 authorities were granted between 2020 and 2024. This is slightly more than the previous report where 25 of the 31 authorities were granted.
H5	Number of resource consents for Papakāenga			Between 2020 and 2024 25 consents for Papakāenga were granted, an increase from 15 between 2015 and 2019.

Section 31 of the RMA gives the District Council the function of managing and controlling the effects of the use, development, or protection of land, and of particular relevance to the state of the amenity, character and heritage of the district.

Amenity values are defined in Section 2 of the RMA as *"those natural or physical qualities and characteristics of an area that contribute to people's appreciation of its pleasantness, aesthetic coherence, and cultural and recreational attributes".*

RATONGA Ā-WHARE RESIDENTIAL AMENITY

Karamū Hastings is the primary urban area of the district, with several smaller urban areas including Karanema Havelock North, Pāharakeke Flaxmere, Awapuni Clive and Whakatū, as well as a number of rural service, coastal and marae-centred villages.

As the commercial and business centre, Karamū Hastings provides the principal focal point of business activity, employment, retailing and entertainment.

The majority of the population live in the urban and plains areas.

The 2005 Aotearoa New Zealand Urban Design Protocol describes urban design as being:

"…concerned with the design of the buildings, places, spaces and networks that make up our towns and cities, and the ways people use them. It ranges in scale from a metropolitan region, city or town down to a street, public space or even a single building. Urban design is concerned not just with appearances and built form but with the environmental, economic, social and cultural consequences of design. It is an approach that draws together many different sectors and professions, and it includes both the process of decision-making as well as the outcomes of design."

Urban design is about connecting people and their places – making a successful environment that works now and into the future. Heretaunga Hastings District Council has adopted the NZ Urban Design Protocol, committing to creating sustainable and successful urban places for the community.

The community demands a high-quality urban environment with attractive places to live, work and undertake business and recreation, as well as being well connected and easy to get around. The Karamū Hastings community has a vision to enhance its valued lifestyle, culture and heritage. These are often subjective values.

New development can alter the amenity, character and heritage of its surroundings. The District Plan deals with issues such as compatibility, density and design to ensure amenity values are maintained or enhanced over time.

INDICATORS

The table below shows the indicators that are used to monitor the state of residential amenity in the district. These indicators are also used to inform other monitoring programmes for the district, such as Community Outcomes Monitoring and monitoring achievement of the anticipated outcomes in the Proposed Heretaunga Hastings District Plan, as shown below.

INDICATORS FOR RESIDENTIAL AMENITY

Indicator		Indicator type	Relevant community outcomes and council objectives	Relevant district plan outcomes
			Relevant Outcome Statements: • Safe and secure communities. • Development in Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay is sensitive to the need to protect and promote environmental wellbeing. • Supportive caring and inclusive communities. • Safe and accessible recreational facilities. • Enhanced provision of a variety of safe physical recreational opportunities.	**Heretaunga Hastings District Plan:** Section 2.4 (Urban Strategy): • A well-functioning residential market that is able to cater for and respond to demand for residential housing with the focus on compact development. • Increased intensification of the existing urban environments, while maintain acceptable levels of residential amenity in accordance with the development outcomes sought for the zone. • The completion of the HPUDS implementation programme. • Urban development that avoids, remedies or mitigates adverse environmental effects, particularly in respect of the Heretaunga Plains Unconfined Aquifer and avoids the loss of valuable finite soil resources on the Heretaunga Plains in line with the Heretaunga Plains Urban Development Strategy. • Increased Papakainga development on Māori land and on land close to marae. • Tangata Whenua values and aspirations related to urban development are recognised and provided for.
A1	Non-Residential Activities in Residential Zones	Pressure	Non-residential activities can positively or adversely affect the amenity values of surrounding residential areas depending on the scale and nature of the activities.	
A2	Complaints about Non Residential Activities in Residential Zones	Pressure	Understanding the type and extent of non-residential activities occurring in residential areas and monitoring complaints arising from such activities, enables Council to monitor the efficiency of the District Plan provisions and to assess the impact of, and tolerance for, such activities over time.	
A3	Background Noise Levels	State	Monitoring background noise levels within residential environments and changes to those levels resulting from changes in land uses, may indicate changes in amenity values over time.	
A4	Noise Complaints	Pressure	Monitoring noise complaints in residential areas indicates the impact of changing housing styles and densities or impacts of changing land uses or tolerance of noise by residents.	

A5	Residents' Perception of Noise Pollution	State	Measuring resident's perception of noise pollution in their environment provides a relative indicator of amenity values. People have limited noise tolerance levels e.g. levels at which noise causes health impacts such as sleep deprivation.
A6	Residents' Perception of the District as a Safe Place to Live	State	Remained high with 84% of those surveyed finding Heretaunga Hastings to be a safe place to live.
A7	Provision of Open Space Areas	State	The provision of quality well located open space areas is a key measure of amenity and urban design quality.
A8	Residents' Satisfaction with Parks and Reserves	State	89% of those surveyed were satisfied with the District's parks and reserves.
A9	Residents' Satisfaction with Accessibility of Recreational Facilities	State	Remained high at 90% surveyed compared with 91% in 2014.
A10	Residents' Sense of Pride in the way the City Looks and Feels	State	Sense of pride in the way the City looks and feels is another good indicator of amenity.
A11	Residents' Rating of Quality of Life	State	Rating the quality of life provides a good overall indicator of amenity, reflecting people's overall appreciation of their environment and lifestyle opportunities.

MONITORING INFORMATION

INDICATOR A1: NON-RESIDENTIAL ACTIVITIES IN RESIDENTIAL ZONES

The amenity of residential areas may be affected by the types of land use activities undertaken. Residential activities use land and buildings for the purpose of permanent living accommodation. This includes dwellings and garages. Any activity outside of this is considered to be non-residential. It should be noted that there is a certain expectation and level of acceptance for limited non-residential activities in residential areas, such as the corner shop, small home occupations, local doctors etc.

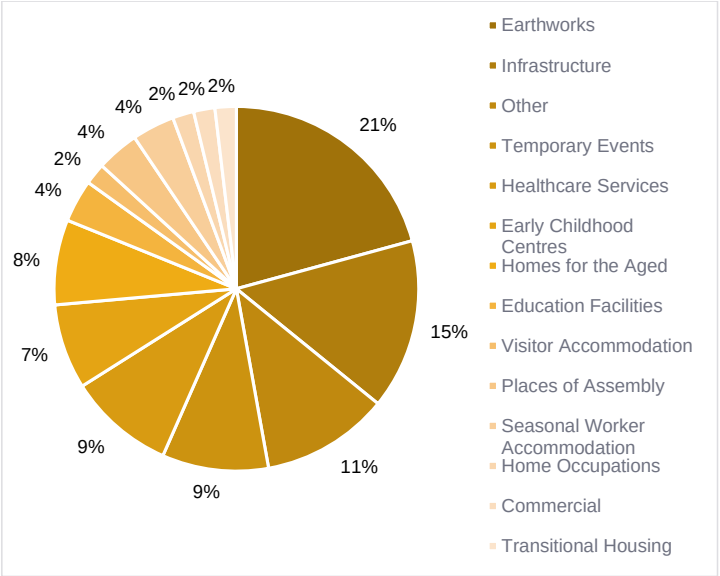
Some non-residential activities in the residential zones are permitted in the District Plan, and data on activities that do not trigger the need for resource consent is difficult to obtain without comprehensive survey. However, data on non-residential activities for which resource consents were required, can give some general information in terms of demand for such activities in residential areas. An increase in demand could suggest some pressure on residential amenity. Such information would also enable identification of any trends and possibly establish some correlation with people's appreciation of their residential neighbourhood.

The following graph shows the broad categories of the types of non-residential activities in Residential Zones that were granted resource consent during the period 2020 - 2024.

The most common non-residential activities that required resource consent are as follows:

1) Earthworks (11 resource consents granted). The majority of these were remediating contaminated land sites in preparation for residential buildings.
2) Infrastructure (8 resource consents granted). These included three waters infrastructure and telecommunication services.
3) Other (6 resource consents granted). This includes lighting and retaining walls and other activities that don't fit within the categories provided.

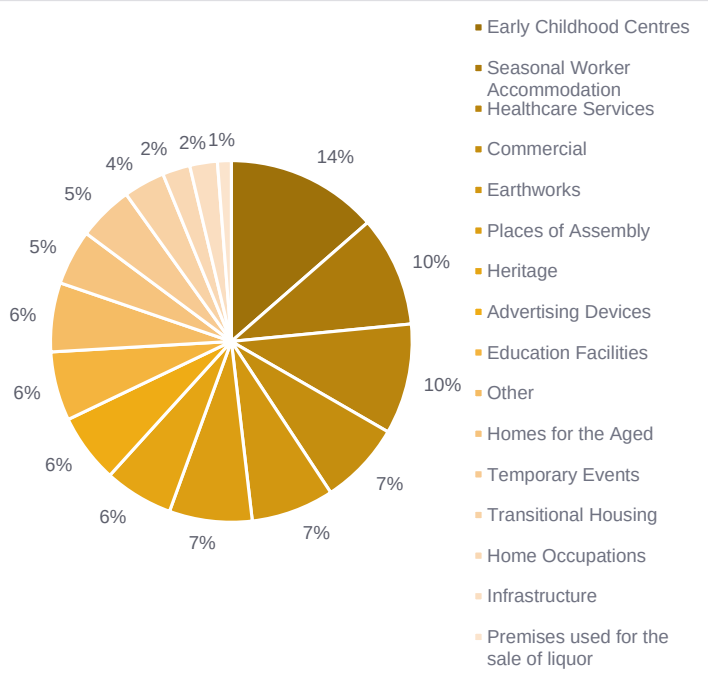
FIGURE 21: RESOURCE CONSENTS GRANTED FOR NON-RESIDENTIAL ACTIVITIES IN THE GENERAL RESIDENTIAL ZONES 2020 – 2024, FROM MOST TO LEAST – CLOCKWISE.



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

Due to the change in the methodology the retrieval of data the resource consents granted for non-residential activities in the General Residential Zones between 2015 – 2019 has been recalculated for comparison.

FIGURE 22: RESOURCE CONSENTS GRANTED FOR NON-RESIDENTIAL ACTIVITIES IN THE GENERAL RESIDENTIAL ZONES 2015 – 2019, FROM MOST TO LEAST – CLOCKWISE.

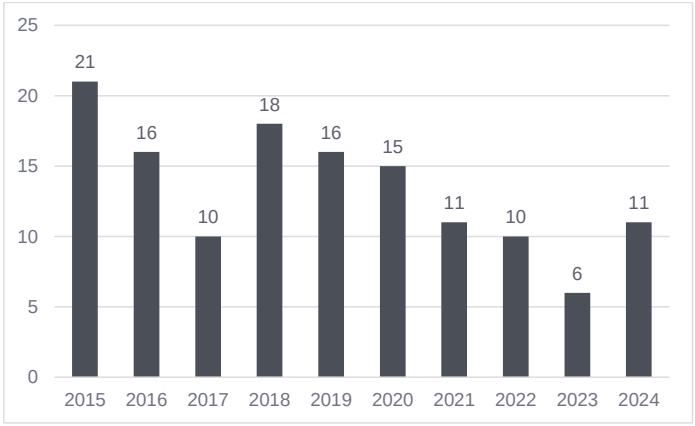


Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

The graphs show that over the period of 2020 - 2024, that there is more demand for earthworks and infrastructure related activities that are generally in relation to preparing and servicing residential activities. This is different to the types of land use consents granted in the 2015-2019 period that were predominantly early childhood centres, seasonal worker accommodation and healthcare services. This could be related to the spike in building activity seen during Covid in 2020 and 2021.

The following graph shows the number of non-residential activities granted resource consents during between 2015 - 2024. Consents granted reached a peak in 2015 with 21 consents granted, with the number of consents granted remaining relatively low over the past 5 years.

FIGURE 23: NUMBER OF NON-RESIDENTIAL ACTIVITIES GRANTED RESOURCE CONSENT IN THE GENERAL RESIDENTIAL ZONE



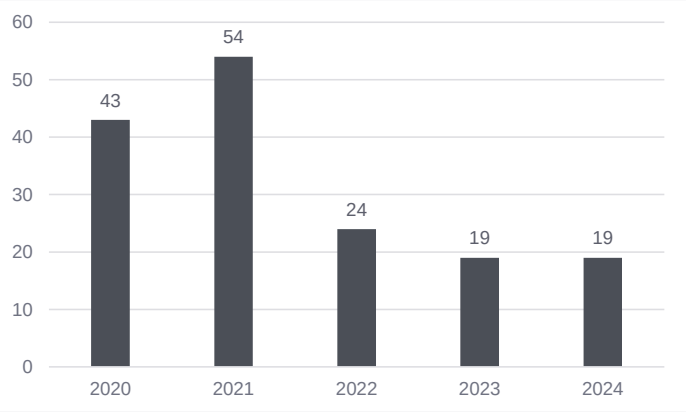
Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

INDICATOR A2: COMPLAINTS IN RESIDENTIAL ZONES

Changes in the volume of complaints about activities undertaken in residential zones can provide useful information about residents' concerns in relation to their appreciation of residential amenity.

The previous report did not report any data for the previous period stating that the data was not accessible. This is correct in that data was not categorised by the type of activity. In this report, planning complaints within the residential zones will be reported on. Below shows the number of complaints received from within the residential zones.

FIGURE 24: COMPLAINTS RECEIVED IN RESIDENTIAL ZONES BETWEEN 2020 - 2024



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

Complaints about construction/earthworks, home occupations, and inappropriate residential activity were the activities that concerned residents most.

Construction and development received the most complaints. These activities do have the potential to disturb adjoining properties particularly if dust, noise, accessibility and setbacks are not managed appropriately.

Potential home businesses were the second activity to receive the most complaints. These complaints were generally regarding activities that were perceived as being inappropriate to carry out as a home business in the residential zone. Home occupations are permitted in the District Plan in residential zones, but commercial and industrial activities are not and require resource consent in these areas.

Inappropriate residential activities were the third activity to receive the most complaints. This includes tiny homes or supplementary dwellings or granny flats not meeting District Plan standards.

INDICATOR A3: BACKGROUND NOISE LEVELS

Changes in background noise levels in residential areas are a key indicator of amenity values.

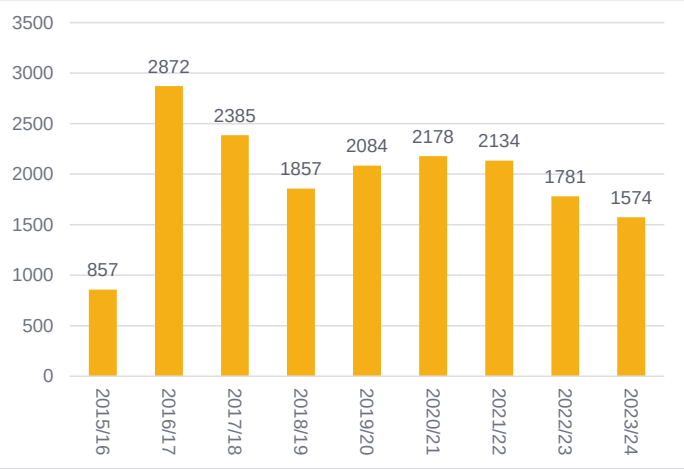
People are sensitive to noise levels and excessive noise can affect people's health and wellbeing. The background sound level has an impact on the perceived intrusiveness of a given noise source. A higher background sound level may 'mask' (i.e. conceal) some unwanted noises. Someone playing a loud stereo in a quiet residential area (a low background noise area) may draw complaint whereas the same activity near a busy road (with a higher background noise) may not cause complaint.

Background noise level readings are undertaken around every five years from 37 different monitoring sites in the Heretaunga Hastings District. Three recordings are taken per site (morning, mid-afternoon, and evening). Sites 1-17 are in Karamū Hastings City, sites 18-22 are in Pāharakeke Flaxmere, and sites 23-28 are in Karanema Havelock North. Individual sites can at times be subject to periods of higher noise levels at times due to factors such as cicada noise, elevated surf levels and traffic volumes. It is therefore it is important to look at the data sets obtained over a number of years rather than individual readings to get a more representative idea of whether local noise conditions are changing. During the most recent survey undertaken in 21/22 The average noise reading across all of the sites was 39.56 decibels. This average remains steady when compared to previous monitoring results.

INDICATOR A4: NOISE COMPLAINTS

The following graph below shows the total number of noise complaints between 2015 and 2024.

FIGURE 25: NOISE COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY HERETAUNGA HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL 2015-2023/24



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

Apart from the 2016-17 peak, noise complaints generally have decreased in the 5-year period.

It is important to note that from March 2023, a requirement for a second call after 30 minutes (to confirm the noise was still occurring) was introduced for most calls received between 7.00am and 10.00pm. This was due to the high number of complaints received where the noise was found to be no longer occurring upon investigation. The has resulted in less complaints being received since that time.

INDICATOR A5: PERCEPTION OF NOISE POLLUTION

Measuring residents' perception of noise pollution provides a further relative indicator of residential amenity values. Surveying people's level of concern regarding noise pollution provides a good overall perception of noise nuisance.

The following graph shows the results of Council's 'Public Voice Survey' and the Public Voice survey which replaced Communitrak in 2014. Many of the survey questions in the Public Voice survey replicated the Communitrak survey in order to produce results that could be compared with previous years. However, for this reporting period the responses to the questions participants could choose was changed. Previously participants were asked – "how concerned are you about noise pollution in Heretaunga Hastings District?" and could respond with:

- Very concerned
- Concerned
- A bit concerned, or
- Not concerned at all.

For this report, survey participants were asked to rate their level of agreement with the statement - "I am concerned about noise pollution in the Heretaunga Hastings District" and could respond with:

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Agree, or
- Strongly agree.

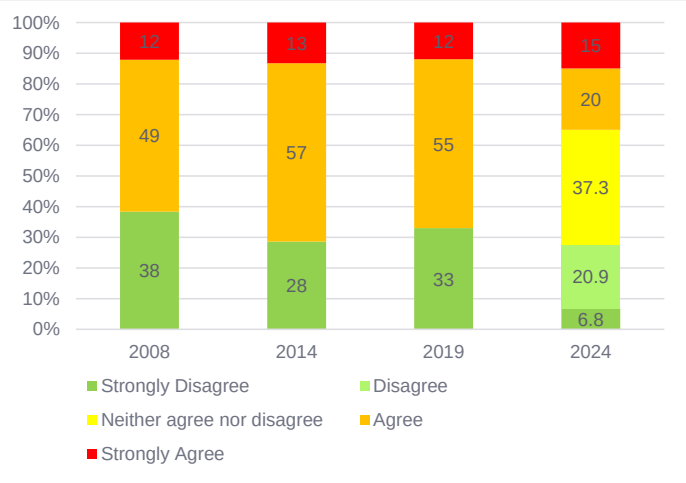
This does make comparison with previous years a little difficult, but a new approach was useful to standardise responses across the whole survey.

For the figure below this is how previous responses have been adjusted to be able to compare to the latest survey:

- Very concerned → Strongly agree
- Concerned and a bit concerned → Agree
- Not concerned at all → Strongly disagree

There are no responses that align with disagree nor neither agree nor disagree from the previous surveys.

FIGURE 26: THE PERCENTAGE OF SURVEY PARTICIPANTS THAT AGREE WITH THE STATEMENT 'I AM CONCERNED ABOUT NOISE POLLUTION IN HERETAUNGA HASTINGS DISTRICT", 2008 - 2024



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council Public Voice Survey

This indicator shows that concern about noise pollution is stable. In 2019 67% of people surveyed reported being concerned or very concerned about noise pollution. The latest survey shows that only 35% reported being concerned or very concerned. It is possible that having the option to neither agree nor disagree reduced the number of people that considered themselves to be concerned or very concerned.

Those most concerned about noise pollution in the district attribute this to loud vehicles and motorbikes, i.e. 'boy racers', and industrial and horticultural noise spilling into residential areas.

INDICATOR A6: PERCEPTION OF THE DISTRICT AS A SAFE PLACE TO LIVE

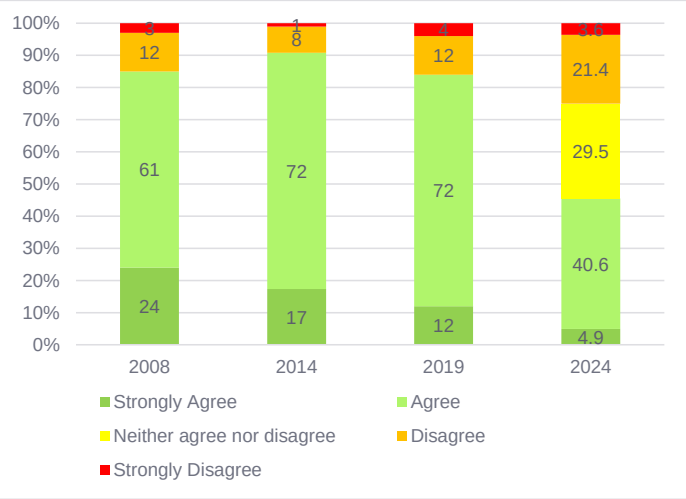
People's perception of general amenity values is usefully indicated by their awareness of safety and the extent to which social crimes are perceived as a problem.

The previous survey asked participants if they thought Heretaunga Hastings District was a safe place to live to which they could respond with 'definitely not', 'not really', 'mostly' or 'definitely'. In this survey 84% of respondents believed the Heretaunga Hastings District is a safe place to live.

In this survey participants were asked to rate their level of agreement with the statement 'I think Heretaunga Hastings District is a safe place to live', and could respond with 'strongly disagree', 'disagree', 'neither agree nor disagree', 'agree', or 'strongly agree'. In this recent survey 45.5% agreed and strongly agreed that Heretaunga Hastings District is a safe place to live. This is significant departure from the previous survey results however it is possible that giving people the option to neither agree nor disagree has resulted in this change. However, based on previous surveys there does appear to be a declining trend in those that strongly considered the district a safe place to live.

Those that don't feel Heretaunga Hastings District is a safe place to live attribute this to increasing homelessness, gang presence, unemployment, the economy and the emergence of radical politics.

FIGURE 27: THE PERCENTAGE OF SURVEY PARTICIPANTS THAT AGREE WITH THE STATEMENT 'I THINK HERETAUNGA HASTINGS DISTRICT IS A SAFE PLACE TO LIVE", 2008 - 2024



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council Public Voice Survey

To adjust previous surveys to the new format the following adjustments were made:

- Definitely not → Strongly disagree
- Not really → Disagree
- Mostly → Agree
- Definitely → Strongly agree

INDICATOR A7: PROVISION OF OPEN SPACE AREAS

The total Reserve provision for the Heretaunga Hastings District is 640.4351ha (of Heretaunga Hastings District Council owned public space, including newly acquired Tomoana Showgrounds) or 7.85ha/1000 people. Note that this provision does not include Te Mata Park, given this owned and managed by the Te Mata Trust Board.

Urban properties within walking distance of a park:

- Properties within 500m of a park Karamū Hastings - 94%
- Properties within 500m of a park Pāharakeke Flaxmere - 100%
- Properties within 500m of a park Karanema Havelock North - 90%
- Total properties within 500m of a park - 93%

Urban properties within walking distance of a playground:

- Properties within 500m of a playground Karamū Hastings - 63%
- Properties within 500m of a playground Pāharakeke Flaxmere - 89%
- Properties within 500m of a playground Karanema Havelock North - 53%
- Total properties within 500m of a playground - 64%

INDICATOR A8: RESIDENTS' SATISFACTION WITH PARKS AND RESERVES

It is not just the quantity, but the quality of open space and recreational facilities that is a key factor determining the pleasantness and desirability of a place to live, work and do business.

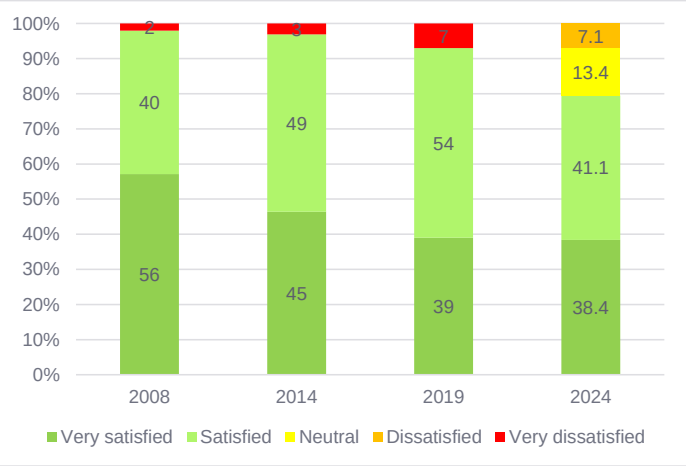
The following graph shows residents' satisfaction with parks and reserves over the monitoring period.

To align the previous survey options with the current, the following adjustments were made:

- Not very satisfied → Very dissatisfied
- Fairly satisfied → Satisfied

The previous surveys did not have a neutral option available nor another dissatisfied option.

FIGURE 28: THE PERCENTAGE OF SURVEY PARTICIPANTS THAT ARE SATISFIED WITH THE PARKS AND RESERVES IN THE DISTRICT 2008 – 2024



Source: Communitrak Survey and Public Voice Survey Heretaunga Hastings District Council

In 2019 93% of survey participants were fairly satisfied or very satisfied with the parks and reserves in the district. In the survey for this reporting period only 79.5% were satisfied or very satisfied. This is a decrease, however this could be a result of giving survey participants the option to be 'neutral' on the matter. In this survey no participants were very dissatisfied, 7.1% were dissatisfied which is on par with the previous survey in which 7% considered themselves not very satisfied.

Survey participants did generally consider the parks and reserves to be well maintained.

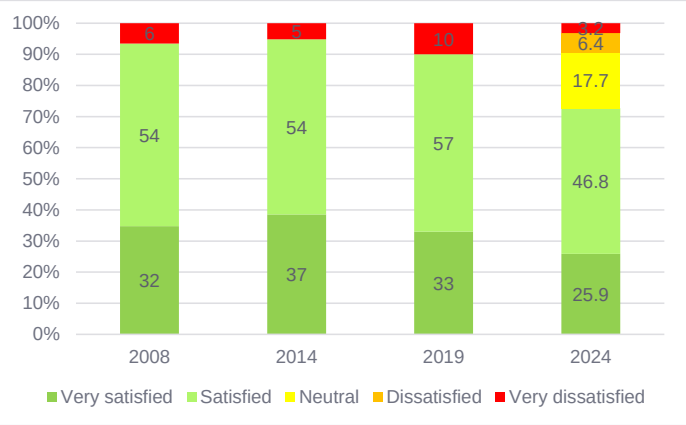
INDICATOR A9: RESIDENTS' SATISFACTION WITH ACCESSIBILITY OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Accessibility of recreational facilities also factors into people's appreciation of amenity. This following graph shows a high level of satisfaction with accessibility of recreational facilities in Heretaunga Hastings District.

To align the previous survey options with the current, the following adjustments were made:

- Not very satisfied → Very dissatisfied
- Fairly satisfied → Satisfied

FIGURE 29: THE PERCENTAGE OF SURVEY PARTICPANTS THAT ARE SATISFIED WITH THE ACCESSIBILITY OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IN THE DISTRICT 2008 – 2024



Source: Communitrak Survey and Public Voice Survey Heretaunga Hastings District Council

In 2019 90% of survey participants were fairly satisfied or very satisfied with the accessibility of recreational facilities in the district. In the survey for this reporting period only 72.7% were satisfied or very satisfied. This is a decrease, however this could be a result of giving survey participants the option to be 'neutral' on the matter. Those that are dissatisfied or very dissatisfied have remained stable since the previous survey with both surveys sitting at around 10% of participants dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.

Of participants in the survey 5.5% reported having a disability, long-term condition, or mental health condition that limits their ability to carry out daily activities. From this group 15% were dissatisfied with the accessibility of recreational facilities.

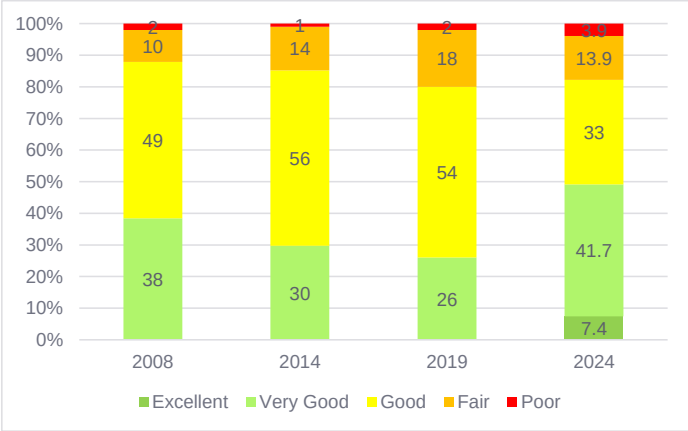
INDICATOR A10: RESIDENTS' RATING OF QUALITY OF LIFE

Perception of quality of life in the district indirectly indicates a general appreciation of amenity in its widest sense. A good rating of quality of life suggests a correspondingly high level of appreciation of amenity.

In 2019 80% of survey participants considered the quality of life in the district as good or very good. In the survey for this reporting period 82.1% considered quality of life in the district as good, very good or excellent. There was a slight increase that considered quality of life in the district as poor, increasing from 2% in 2019 to 3.9% for the current survey.

Survey participants commented on the upkeep in Karamū Hastings and Karanema Havelock North but those that considered quality of life in the district to be poor commented on homelessness, crime, the condition of roads and medium density development.

FIGURE 30: RATING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN HERETAUNGA HASTINGS DISTRICT 2008-2024



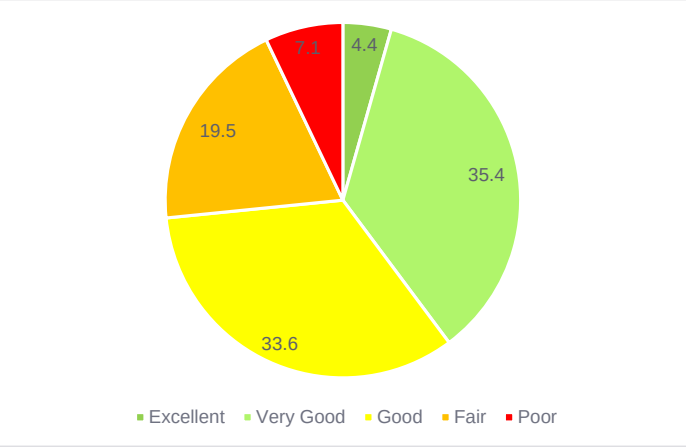
Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council Communitrak Survey and Public Voice Survey

INDICATOR A11: RESIDENTS' SENSE OF PRIDE IN THE WAY KARAMŪ HASTINGS CITY LOOKS AND FEELS

Sense of pride in the way the city looks and feels is a broad measure of indicating satisfied residents are with urban amenity.

The figure below does not offer comparisons to previous years due to each year having a different range of options that participants could answer with making it unfeasible to directly compare in a graph.

FIGURE 31: RATING OF PARTICIPANTS SENSE OF PRIDE IN THE WAY THE CITY LOOKS AND FEELS AS A PERCENTAGE 2024



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council Public Voice Survey

In this survey 73.4% of survey participants had a good, very good, or excellent sense of pride in the way the city looks. This is an increase when compared to the previous survey in which 58% of survey participants were proud or very proud in how Karamū Hastings City looks. 7.1% had a poor sense of pride compared to the 2019 survey where 5% of participants were not proud at all.

Residential amenity remains generally stable with a notable decrease in non-residential activities within residential zones and a drop in noise complaints and concern about noise pollution. However, community perception of safety has declined. The district has increased open space provision, but satisfaction with parks and recreational facilities has slightly dropped—potentially due to changes in survey design. Overall quality of life and pride in the city's appearance have improved, reflecting positive sentiment toward the living environment.

RESPONSES

FOR COMMUNITY

- Get involved in local planning processes—make submissions on the District Plan changes or development proposals. Get to know, and be considerate of, your neighbours.
- Maintain private property to contribute positively to neighbourhood appearance.
- Respect local rules and neighbours—especially around noise, parking, and home-based businesses.
- Use and care for local parks and shared spaces, reinforcing their community value.
- Celebrate and support the positive aspects of your community.

FOR COUNCIL

- Continue to monitor the number of non-residential activities establishing in residential areas.
- Complete a survey of Background Noise levels on a five yearly basis

- Review the causes of noise pollution in residential areas to identify methods to reduce the perception of noise pollution.
- Monitor the development of the Medium Density Residential Zone and comprehensive residential development in the general residential zones.
- Continue to survey residents' perception of quality of life, and satisfaction with the facilities provided in their neighbourhood.

RATONGA Ā-TAKUTAI COASTAL AMENITY

Coastal settlements within the district are generally low residential density and dotted along the coastline. They provide another option for residential living, where the amenity and character of these settlements are shaped by the coastal environment.

There are often competing demands between protecting a sometimes fragile coastal resource, the community's desire for access to, and the use, development and enjoyment of its resources.

These small settlements have grown on the coast as holiday places, around traditional marae settlements or as rural service centres including Whirinaki, Waimārama, Haumoana, Te Āwanga, Waipātiki and Tāngoio.

In recent times more permanent dwellings have established in these centres and some also offer basic commercial services.

Council's growth strategy has identified coastal areas where urban development can more readily be accommodated and by default, those areas where development should be resisted in order to protect coastal amenity and character. Much of this also relates to adequate infrastructural provision and coastal hazards.

The coast also has significant value as a place of recreation – swimming, picnicking, walking, surfing, diving and fishing. It also has significant cultural, spiritual and ecological values for mana whenua. The coast has played an important part in history for mana whenua, being a place of occupation and settlement, a source of food, of materials for whakairo (*carving*), raranga (*weaving*) and the making of tools and weapons. The coast contains numerous urupa and sites of significance for mana whenua.

INDICATORS

The table below shows the indicators that are used to monitor coastal amenity and character in the district. These indicators are also used to inform other monitoring programmes for the district, such as Community Outcomes Monitoring and monitoring achievement of the anticipated outcomes in the Heretaunga Hastings District Plan, as shown below.

INDICATORS FOR COASTAL AMENITY

Indicator		Indicator type	Relevant community outcomes and council objectives	Relevant district plan outcomes and how it informs these outcomes
			Relevant Outcome Statements: • An environment that is appreciated, protected and sustained for future generations. • The natural qualities of Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay's lakes, streams, waterways and coastlines are protected and enhanced.	**District Plan** Section 2.7 (Coastal Environment Strategy): • Improved understanding of the values and matters of significance that exist within the Coastal Environment. • An integrated management approach to the use, development, and protection of the Coastal Environment is implemented. • The protection of natural, cultural, heritage, and scenic features of the coast, that reflect the significance of such features to the character of the Coastal Environment, and their contribution to the community's social, cultural and natural heritage. • The adoption of long term sustainable development strategies for each of the coastal communities. • Iwi and Hapū values and interests will be recognised and provided for in Council's management of the coastal environment.
CA1	Subdivision and Development in the Coastal Residential Zone	Pressure	These indicators will enable Council to monitor trends for urban development particularly in coastal residential settlements and adjacent rural zones. This will assist in understanding if and where there are any pressures, in pursuing long term sustainable development strategies for the district's coastal communities, and ensuring the coastal environment is managed and protected.	
CA2	Demand for New Coastal Residential Areas	Pressure		

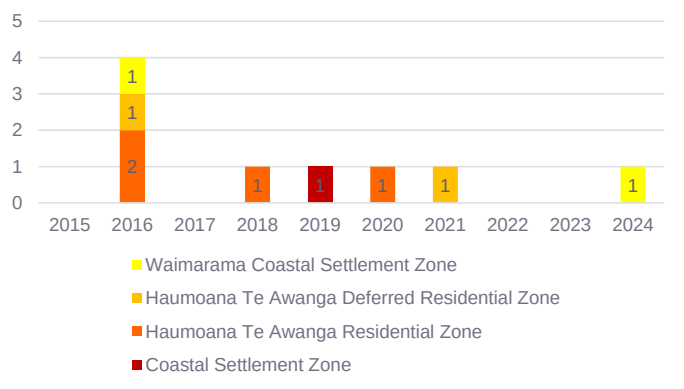
MONITORING INFORMATION

INDICATOR CA1: SUBDIVISION & DEVELOPMENT IN THE COASTAL ENVIRONMENT

Through the District Plan Council balances the need to provide for a diverse range of housing demands whilst striving to protect and sustain the amenity and character of coastal areas for future generations. Residential development in the coastal environment is a good indicator of pressure, as it relates directly to people's access to, and appreciation of, the coastal environment, and has the most influence on coastal character.

The following graph shows the number of subdivision applications granted in the coastal residential zones, and the number of additional lots created, in the ten-year period from 2015 to 2024 (not data from between 2015-2019 may differ to that reported in the previous State of Environment report due to changes in data retrieval methods).

FIGURE 32: NUMBER OF SUBDIVISION CONSENTS GRANTED IN THE COASTAL RESIDENTIAL ZONES (2015-2024)



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

Few subdivisions have taken place in the coastal residential zones – with an average of less than 1 subdivision per year over this period.

While the number of subdivision consents granted in these zones are low, the table below shows some subdivisions are creating many lots per consent. The additional lots can be split by settlement as follows:

TABLE 5: COASTAL RESIDENTIAL LOTS GRANTED AS A RESULT OF SUBDIVISION CONSENTS GRANTED BETWEEN 2015 - 2024

	Number of Extra Lots Created 2015-2019	Number of Extra Lots Created 2020-2024	Total Number of Extra Lots Created
Coastal Settlement	26	0	26
Haumoana/Te Āwanga	22	58	80
Waimārama Coastal	4	1	5

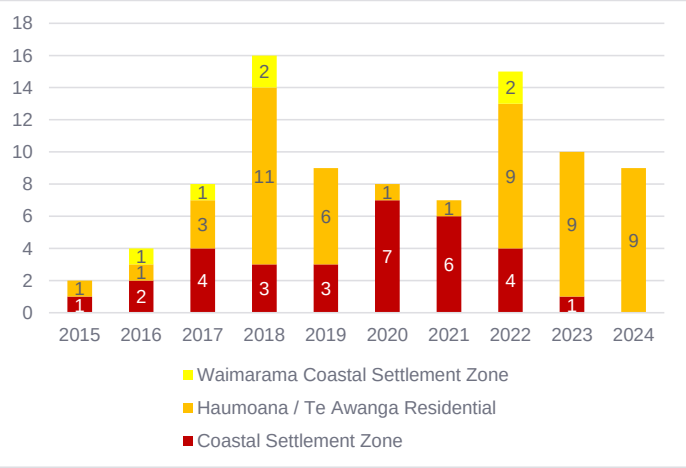
Over the reporting period the Haumoana – Te Āwanga zones had the most subdivision activity, whereas in the 2015-2019 period more subdivision occurred in the Coastal Settlement Zone (Whirinaki, Waipātiki and Tāngoio).

The demand to subdivide land in the coastal residential zones appears to remain stable over the previous ten years. It does appear that the pressure to subdivide has shifted from the Coastal Settlement Zone to Haumaona and Te Āwanga.

The number of building consents for new dwellings in the various coastal areas can provide a further picture of development over time.

The following graph shows that new residential building activity has gradually increased over the ten-year period to 2024, reaching a peak in 2018.

FIGURE 33: BUILDING CONSENTS FOR NEW DWELLINGS IN COASTAL RESIDENTIAL ZONES (2015 – 2024)



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

Building consents for new dwellings over all the coastal residential zones in the 5-year period from 2020 to 2024 comprised 4.1% of all new dwellings for the whole District over that period (49 of the total 1,392 building consents for new dwellings).

INDICATOR CA2: DEMAND FOR NEW COASTAL RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There has been no demand for new coastal residential areas over the reporting period.

While fewer subdivision consents were issued in coastal residential zones, a greater number of lots and building consents were granted, indicating continued development interest. No new land was rezoned for coastal residential purposes in this period, maintaining the existing coastal development footprint.

RESPONSES

FOR COUNCIL

- Monitor coastal development trends and respond with policies that balance amenity, environmental protection and climate resilience.

TUKU IHOTANGA TAIAO NATURAL HERITAGE / WHANONGA HORANUKU LANDSCAPE CHARACTER

Natural heritage is the legacy of physical landscapes and natural environments identified as having unique or outstanding characteristics that should be protected for future generations.

The significance of the physical landscape is based on how it is perceived and what it means to people. Landscape is the relationship between natural and human landscape patterns, human experience, and perception of these patterns, and meanings associated with them. Landscapes encompass both physical and intrinsic aspects. Mana whenua view the landscape as an historical record of past events. The landscape depicts occupation and whakapapa, showcasing the relationship between the people and the land. Oral traditions and landscape features combine to convey the history of hapū whenua in the district.

Heretaunga Hastings is characterised by, and known for, its significant natural landscape, with sun-baked hills surrounding a fertile basin of orchards, vineyards and farms.

Heretaunga Hastings District has simple and dramatic natural landforms which strongly express the geological processes forming the east coast of the North Island.

The natural heritage and landscape character of the district is distinct and highly valued by the community. Protection of natural heritage and landscape character is largely achieved through District Plan provisions. The District Plan identifies:

- Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes' (ONFLs), and 'Significant Amenity Landscapes' (SAL's), being significant landscapes and landscape features identified throughout the district. The outstanding landscapes also include cultural landscapes
- Rural and Coastal Landscape Areas as areas that are highly valued for their cultural patterns of land use, including rural patterns; and
- 'Recommended Areas for Protection' (RAPs). These are remnants of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna in the district.

INDICATORS

The table below shows the indicators that are used to monitor the state of natural heritage and significant landscapes in the district. These indicators are also used to inform other monitoring programmes for the district, such as Community Outcomes Monitoring and monitoring achievement of the anticipated outcomes in the Proposed Heretaunga Hastings District Plan, as shown below.

INDICATORS FOR NATURAL HERITAGE / LANDSCAPE CHARACTER

Indicator	Indicator type	Relevant community outcomes and council objectives	Relevant district plan outcomes and how it informs these outcomes
		Relevant Outcome Statements: • An environment that is appreciated, protected and sustained for future generations	**District Plan** Section 17.1 (Natural Features and Landscapes) • The values of cultural landscapes and important natural features and landscapes are not compromised by inappropriate building development, earthworks and the siting of building development or plantations. • A range of contrasting landscape types continues to provide a rich mixture of landscape amenity throughout the district. • There is a greater public awareness of the different landscape areas throughout the district, and the activities that could have an adverse effect on the key elements, patterns and character that contributes to the significance off those landscape areas. • Buildings do not visually intrude on the natural form of rural and coastal ridgelines and spurs. • Large scale earthworks do not visually intrude on the natural form of rural and coastal ridgelines, spurs, and hill faces. • Plantations are visually integrated with underlying landforms and the surrounding landscape. • Compact forms of urban settlement enhance the distinction between 'town and country', reinforce the identity of the settlement in the rural context in which they are located.

			Section 20.1 (Indigenous Vegetation and Landscapes) • Improved protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation, significant habitats of indigenous fauna. • Maintenance and enhancement of the biodiversity of indigenous plant and animal species within Heretaunga Hastings District and the natural habitats and ecosystems that support them. • A greater public awareness of the type, location, significance and vulnerability of indigenous vegetation, habitats and geological sites and available methods of protection. • Practical recognition of areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna and their importance to the community.
NC1	Subdivision within: • outstanding natural features and landscapes (onfl) • significant amenity landscapes (sal); • rural character landscapes (rcl); and • coastal character landscapes (ccl).	Pressure	Protection of significant and outstanding landscapes is a critical component of the wider environment which the community strives to protect for future generations in a sustainable manner and to recognise the importance of these landscapes to Māori. The number of significant and outstanding landscapes identified in the District Plan and thus afforded specific protection by the Resource Management Act is a valuable measure of how appreciated and protected such resources are. Hastings has a variety of landscapes which contribute to its cultural heritage and character. Maintaining the diversity of the district's landscape heritage relies upon maintaining the features that give the District its character and protect its cultural heritage. The volume and type of consents for development directly affecting SALs and ONFLs provides an indication of pressure on these landscapes and risk of damage or loss.
NC2	Building activity within landscape areas	Pressure	(refer above)
NC3	Subdivision and development within significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna	State	Human habitation and land development has resulted in most of the district's natural landscape(s) being modified. Today there are very few areas of remnant indigenous vegetation remaining. This increases the importance of protecting those remaining areas of native forest, wetlands, and regenerating scrubland. The number of significant natural areas identified in the District Plan and thus afforded specific protection by the Resource Management Act are a valuable measure of how appreciated and protected such resources are.
NC4	Area of the district in Queen Elizabeth II and Ngā Whenua Rāhui covenants		These covenants reflect community and landowner commitment to environmental stewardship and can help track progress toward national and local biodiversity goals. By monitoring changes over time, the Council can assess the effectiveness of non-regulatory conservation efforts.

MONITORING INFORMATION

INDICATOR NC1: SUBDIVISION WITHIN

- **OUTSTANDING NATURAL FEATURES AND LANDSCAPES (ONFL)**
- **SIGNIFICANT AMENITY LANDSCAPES (SAL);**
- **RURAL CHARACTER LANDSCAPES (RCL); AND**
- **COASTAL CHARACTER LANDSCAPES (CCL).**

The number of significant and outstanding landscapes identified in the Proposed District Plan and thus afforded specific protection by the Resource Management Act is a valuable measure of how appreciated and protected such resources are.

The District Plan, as of 2024 identifies a total of 138,291.3 hectares of land as being an ONFL, SAL, RCL or CCL. This equates to approximately 26.4% of the total land area of the district. These areas are delineated on the Planning Maps.

All of the features and landscapes identified are listed below.

Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes (ONFLs) include:

- Te Mata Peak and Te Mata East Face (ONFL1)
- Mount Erin - Kahurānaki (ONLF2)
- Kohinerākau Mount Erin – (ONFL3)
- Te Kauwae-ā-Māui Te Kauwae-ā-Māui Cape Kidnappers and Rangaiika Coast (ONFL4)
- Whakaari Headland – Tāngoio Bluff (ONFL5)
- Maungaharuru Range, Tītīokura, and Te Waka (ONFL6)
- Kaweka and Ruahine Ranges (within Forest Park boundaries) (ONFL7)
- Motu o Kura – Bare Island and Waimārama Coast (ONFL8).

Together these features cover approximately **81,460.35 hectares** in the district.

Significant Amenity Landscapes (SAL) include:

- Te Kauwae-ā-Māui Te Kauwae-ā-Māui Cape Kidnappers Headland (SAL1)
- Lake Tūtira Basin (SAL2)
- Maungaharuru Range, Tītīokura, and Te Waka (SAL3)
- Te Pōpō Roy's Hill – Hills surrounding Heretaunga Plains (SAL4)
- Te Aute Valley including Lake Poukawa, Te Aute Hill, Raukawa Range and Kaokaoroa Range (SAL5)
- Te Mata Peak Surrounds (SAL6)
- Kohinerāka Mount Erin and surrounds (SAL7)
- Waitangi (SAL8)

Together these features cover approximately **12,647.23** hectares in the district.

Rural Character Landscapes (RCL) include:

- Maungaharuru Te Waka (RCL1)
- Herepoho Eskdale Valley (RCL2)
- Tūtaekuri Valley (RCL3)
- Hills surrounding Heretaunga Plains (Korokipo, Swamp Road Hills, Matapiro Hills, Ngarururoro Valley, North Eastern Raukawa Hills and Puketapu Hills) (RLC4)
- Raukawa – Kaokaoroa (RCL5)

- Karanema Havelock Foothills (RCL6)
- Tuki Tuki Valley – (Mid and Upper Valley) (RCL7)

Together these features cover approximately **42,895.75** hectares in the district.

Coastal Character Landscapes (CCLs) include:

- Clifton (CCL1)
- Tāngoio Beach Settlement (CCL2)
- Waipuka Ocean Beach Settlement (CCL3)
- Waimārama and Peach Gully (CCL4)
- Waipātiki Beach (CCL5)

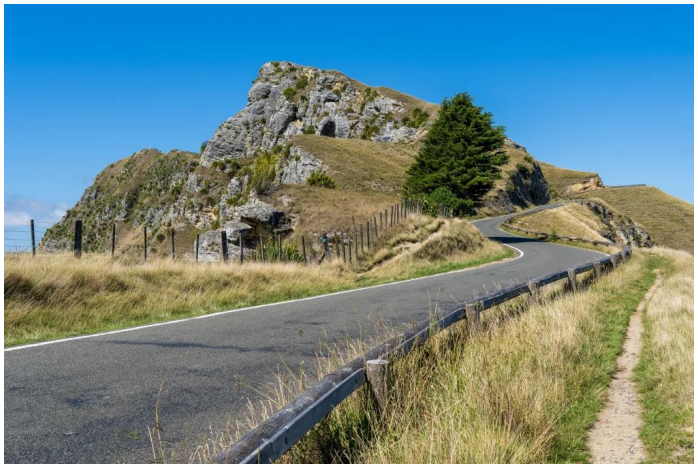
Together these features cover approximately **1,287.96 hectares** in the district.

Te Mata Peak (ONFL1) and Te Kauwae-ā-Māui Cape Kidnappers (ONFL4) are nationally and internationally recognised landscape features. The remaining areas and features have either regional or local significance.

The identification of and corresponding District Plan provisions relating to outstanding natural features and landscapes (ONFLs), significant amenity landscapes (SALs), rural character landscapes (RCLs), and coastal character landscapes (CCLs) are the principal mechanism to retain these resources for future generations to appreciate. Collectively, these areas fall within the natural features and landscapes section of the District Plan.

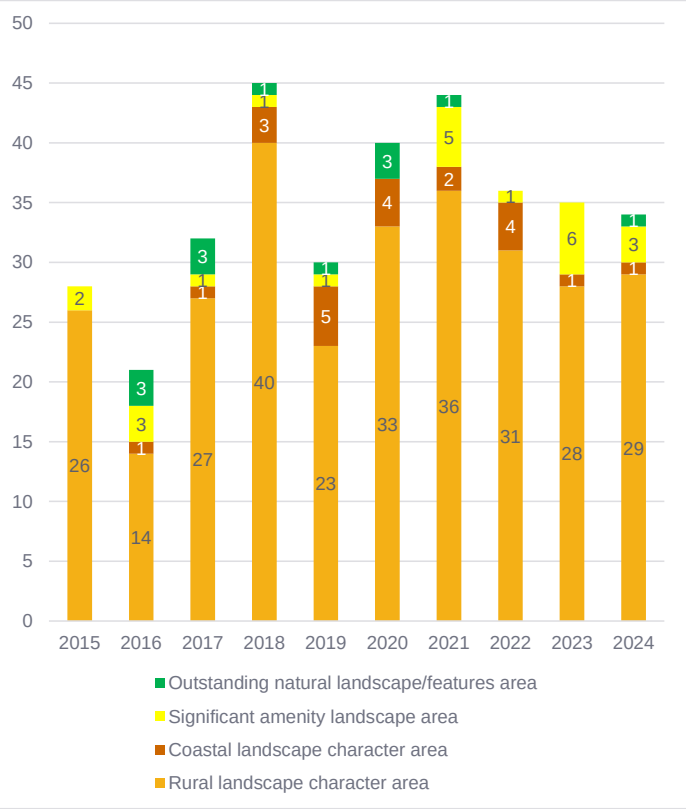
While all subdivisions trigger the need for a resource consent, only some land use activities in these identified landscape areas trigger the need for resource consent.

The focus of District Plan provisions is on buildings, earthworks and plantations on prominent ridgelines, hill faces and other landscape features, such as ONFLs and SALs. These activities are considered to pose the greatest risk to these landscapes.



Activities within RCLs and CCLs do not trigger a resource consent but they are a matter for consideration when resource consents are triggered in these areas.

FIGURE 34: SUBDIVISION CONSENTS GRANTED IN THE NATURAL FEATURES AND LANDSCAPE AREAS (2015-2024)



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

From the above graph, the number of subdivision consents granted in the landscape areas have shown a small increasing trend. This is most noticeable in the rural landscape character areas. In this area there are no specific rules in regard to subdivision however it becomes a matter for assessment. As for the other natural landscape areas subdivisions have been steady in the coastal landscape areas, there has been a slight increase in subdivision consents granted in the significant amenity landscapes and a slight decrease in consents granted in the outstanding natural landscapes and features.

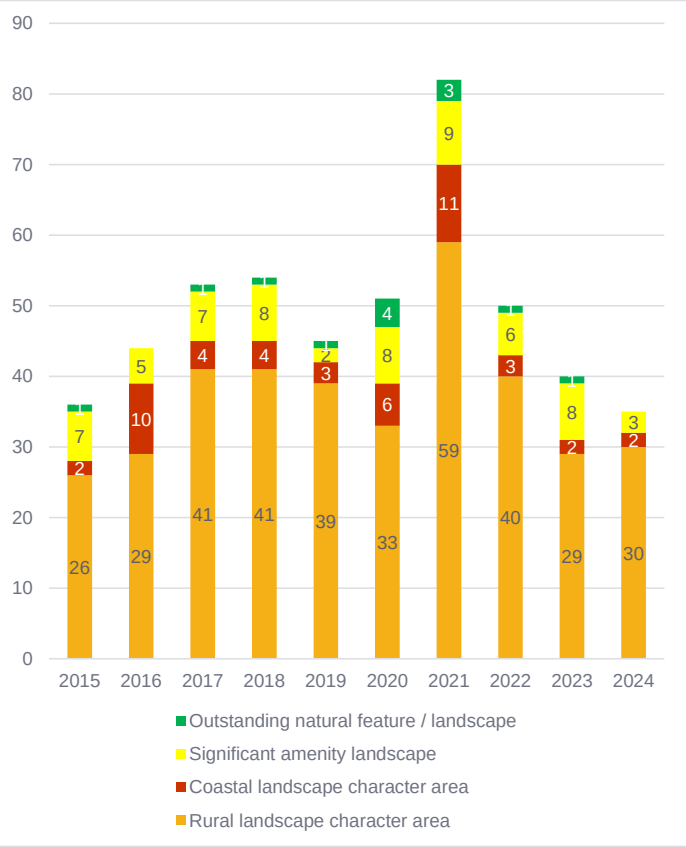
In the rural landscape character areas RCL4, 6 and 7 had the most subdivisions consents granted within them. These are the hills surrounding Heretaunga Plains (Korokipo, Swamp Road Hills, Matapiro Hills, Ngaruroro Valley, North Eastern Raukawa Hills and Puketapu Hills) (RLC4), Havelock Foothills (RCL6), and the Tukituki Valley – (Mid and Upper Valley) (RCL7).

Of the coastal landscape areas CCL4 Waimārama and Peach Gully had the most subdivisions granted, SAL6 Te Mata Peak Surrounds of the significant amenity features and ONFL4 Te Kauwae-ā-Māui Cape Kidnappers and Rangaiika Coast of the outstanding natural landscapes had the most subdivision consents granted. These areas had a much lower number of consents granted in comparison to the rural landscape character areas ranging between two to six over the five year period.

INDICATOR NC2: BUILDING ACTIVITY WITHIN LANDSCAPE AREAS

Another relative measure of development pressure in the landscape areas is building activity. The following graph shows the number of new dwelling and outbuilding building consents granted within SALs, RLCs, ONFLs and CLCs between 2015 and 2024.

FIGURE 35: BUILDING CONSENTS GRANTED FOR NEW DWELLINGS AND OUTBUILDINGS IN LANDSCAPE AREAS 2015-2024



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

As shown in the previous graph, building within the ONFL is low with 9 applications granted between 2020 – 2024, albeit an increase from the previous reporting period.

This may indicate that the restrictive planning provisions to build in the more highly valued outstanding landscapes of the district is having effect. However, the data is only indicative of land parcels that have had new dwellings or outbuilding construction that contain the landscape within its boundaries. This means that the construction itself may not have occurred within the landscape. A better indication may be if any rules in the Natural Features and Landscape chapter of the District Plan have been triggered.

Between 2020 – 2024 nineteen (19) consents were granted under rules specific to ONFLs and SALs. These were mostly for buildings above 50m^2, but also included earthworks, network utility structures, and vegetation planting.

Building is not as constrained in the RCL areas, and this is evident in the number of building consents granted within those areas over the whole of the reporting period.

This is not necessarily an indication of pressure of itself, or of an adverse impact on landscape values, as it may merely reflect that RCL has desirable areas for building and contains areas suitable for building.

Over the reporting period, building consents for new dwellings in RCLs and CLCs accounted for 12.6% of the total number of building consents in the district.

INDICATOR NC3: SUBDIVISION AND DEVELOPMENT WITHIN SIGNIFICANT INDIGENOUS VEGETATION AND SIGNIFICANT HABITATS OF INDIGENOUS FAUNA

Human habitation and land development have resulted in most of the district's natural landscape being modified. Today there are very few areas of remnant indigenous vegetation remaining. This increases the importance of protecting those remaining areas of native forest and

wetlands. The majority of remnant forest and wetlands areas are not formally protected to ensure their continued existence and enhancement.

The District Plan records areas of 'significant indigenous vegetation and habitats of indigenous fauna", comprising 58 Recommended Areas for Protection (RAPs). These represent approximately 7,576.70 hectares of land, 1.6% of the district's total land resource. The previous report stated that RAPs covered 8,335 hectares, however this now appears to have been an error. RAPs have covered this amount of area since 2015.

The rules in the district plan are triggered when there is modification of indigenous vegetation. This is for vegetation both inside and outside of the RAP areas, with performance standards for modification within RAPs being more restrictive.

Between 2020 – 2024 there were three (3) land use consents granted within RAPs, however they were not considered to affect the indigenous vegetation.

In the same period there was only one (1) consent granted for vegetation clearance. This was not for any vegetation within a listed RAP but to clear 130ha of regenerative mānuka / kānuka forest and exotic vegetation. The site was considered as of low ecological value and consent was granted as a restricted discretionary activity.

Subdivision can also have the potential to affect RAPs. Within the reporting period 23 subdivision consents were granted that had a RAP on the property, although in almost all circumstances the RAP was contained within the balance lot and not directly subjected to the subdivision.

Within the District Plan landowners can also protect natural areas including those listed as RAPs. These are called conservation lots and their purpose is to protect natural areas in perpetuity, and in return landowners can create additional lifestyle lots. Within the reporting period no subdivisions for conservation lots occurred.

INDICATOR NC4: AREA OF THE DISTRICT IN QUEEN ELIZABETH II AND NGĀ WHENUA RĀHUI COVENANTS

In addition to those areas identified in the District Plan, there are other methods of protecting natural areas that may provide some indication of the state of the district's remaining natural areas, such as QEII covenants which protect special open space features on private land in perpetuity, and Ngā Whenua Rāhui which are areas of native forest on Māori-owned land voluntarily set aside for protection.

Data from the Queen Elizabeth II National Trust confirms there are 125 different QEII covenants in the district. A total of 3,171.51 hectares are in Queen Elizabeth II National Trust Covenants, with the average size of a covenant at 25.37 hectares. It's difficult to compare this with the previous report as the previous report looked at QEII figures for the entire region as opposed to the district.

Data from the Department of Conservation shows that 20,307.74 hectares of the district are protected by Ngā Whenua Rāhui covenants.

Approximately 138,291.3 hectares of land is identified as an ONFL, SAL, RCL or CCL. This equates to approximately 26.4% of the total land area of the district.

Development pressures on rural character landscapes continue to grow, with increases in both subdivision and building consents. Activity in sensitive landscape areas such as ONFLs and SALs has also slightly increased. While subdivision within significant indigenous vegetation areas remained steady, there was no uptake of conservation lot provisions. However, the extent of land under QEII and Ngā Whenua Rāhui covenants is significant, offering long-term protection for biodiversity.

RESPONSES

FOR COMMUNITY

- If you are building or developing in the district, recognise and integrate your developments into the landscape
- Take the time to learn about or visit some of the outstanding landscapes and natural areas within the district.

FOR COUNCIL

- To continue monitoring development in landscape area and areas of significant indigenous vegetation and habitat
- To ensure provisions of the district plan align with the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity within the timeframes provided
- To promote instruments such as conservation lots as ways to protect indigenous biodiversity

TUKU IHOTANGA Ā-AHUREA, Ā-HĪTORI HOKI CULTURAL AND HISTORIC HERITAGE

Cultural heritage comprises the legacy of physical artefacts and intangible attributes of a group or society that are inherited from past generations, maintained in the present and bestowed for the benefit of future generations.

Positive public perception, awareness of the cultural and historic issues and support for investment in the district's heritage are important components of any successful programme to protect and enhance the resource for future generations.

The built heritage of hapū whenua are the marae of which there are 23 in the Heretaunga Hastings District. Marae are the cultural heart of Hapū and with wharenui *meeting houses* that are beautiful works of art.

Council primarily support marae through the Marae Development Fund and collectively accessing Government funding through the Heretaunga Takoto Noa Joint Māori Standing Committee for capital works and improvements to marae complexes.

The district has 101 sites of significance registered as wāhi taonga in the District Plan. These sites record important events and cultural practices. Protecting these sites from inappropriate development assists the oral traditions and customary practices of tangata whenua with mana whenua and protects cultural and historic heritage values for the community as a whole.

Heretaunga Hastings District has numerous recorded cultural heritage items including historic areas, buildings and objects, trees, wāhi taonga and archaeological sites.

Specific legislation designed to protect heritage items includes the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 and the Resource Management Act 1991. The Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 provides a framework for the identification and listing of heritage items and archaeological sites. The District Plan identifies those heritage resources worthy of protection and identifies methods to assist in their preservation. Some items in the District Plan are also listed as Historic Places Trust registered items.

INDICATORS

The table below shows the indicators that are used to monitor the state of cultural and historic heritage in the district.

These indicators are also used to inform other monitoring programmes for the district, such as Community Outcomes Monitoring and monitoring achievement of the anticipated outcomes in the Heretaunga Hastings District Plan, as shown below.

INDICATORS FOR CULTURAL AND HISTORIC HERITAGE

Indicator		Indicator type	Relevant community outcomes and council objectives	Relevant district plan outcomes and how it informs these outcomes
			Relevant Outcome Statements: • Communities that value and promote their unique culture and heritage. • Places, spaces, activities and events celebrating and strengthening the identities of all cultures within Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay. • Māori culture and language is respected, promoted and strengthened in the community.	**District Plan** Section 16.1 (Wāhi Taonga and Sites of Significance) • Recognition of and provision for Tangata Whenua cultural relationships associated with Wāhi Taonga. • Protection of listed Wāhi Taonga from the effects of land use activities. • Active participation of Tangata Whenua in the management of their ancestral land and resources Section 18.1 (Heritage Items and Notable Trees) • The preservation of a range of Heritage Items of significance to present and future generations of Heretaunga Hastings District residents and visitors. • Maintenance and enhancement of Heritage Items to enable their continued use and enjoyment while not detracting from their heritage value. • Reduction in the destruction of heritage buildings. • The retention of the character of identified heritage streetscapes that enhance the heritage value of the Karamū Hastings CBD • The retention, within their natural life span, of trees or groups of trees which have outstanding heritage value to the district's residents and visitors • Greater public awareness of heritage within the district.
H1	Residents' Perception of Public Art and Cultural Opportunities	State	Public perception and awareness of public art and cultural opportunities gives an indication of people's appreciation of their culture, and reflects respect for and strengthening of the identities of all cultures within the District.	
H2	Consents to modify/destroy heritage items	Pressure	The number and location of heritage items and wāhi taonga provides a snapshot of the district's cultural heritage and, in the case of wāhi taonga, identification of places of special significance to Tangata Whenua and a respect for Māori culture and values. The extent to which formal methods of protection are afforded to heritage items in the district indicates how much we appreciate and respect the cultural heritage of our District, and assists in the retention of these resources. The number of consents to modify or destroy heritage items or archaeological sites can identify pressure on historic and cultural resources.	
H3	Consents to modify/destroy wāhi taonga			

H4	Archaeological Sites and Authorities to Modify/Destroy Archaeological Sites	Pressure	The number of new archaeological sites surveyed over time provides an indirect indication of development pressure as archaeological survey generally accompanies development proposals, but also reflects the management and preservation of historic heritage for future generations. The number of authorities to modify or destroy archaeological sites can identify pressure on historic heritage.
H5	Number of resource consents for Papakāenga	Pressure	Counting the number of papakāenga consents granted is valuable because it provides insight into how effectively planning frameworks are supporting Māori housing aspirations and enabling the use of ancestral land. It reflects progress in recognising and providing for tangata whenua values and rights under the RMA and can help identify where further support or policy refinement may be needed. Tracking this number over time can also demonstrate commitment to equity in housing and support for culturally appropriate, sustainable development.

MONITORING INFORMATION

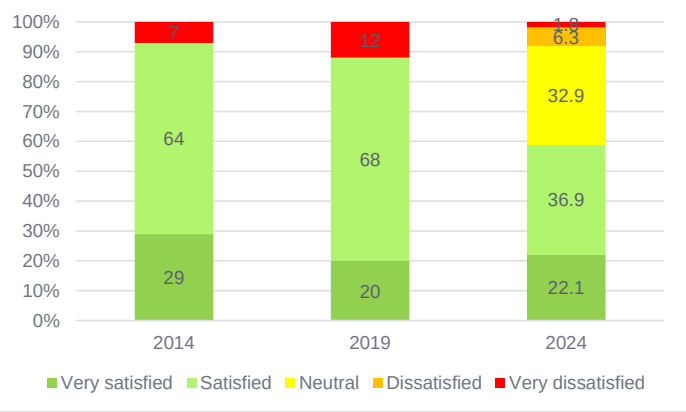
INDICATOR H1: RESIDENTS' PERCEPTION OF PUBLIC ART AND CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES

To achieve community support for protection and promotion of Heretaunga Hastings' unique culture and heritage, residents must first understand what the resource is and why it is important and valuable to their community and to the nation.

To align the previous survey options with the current, the following adjustments were made:

- Not very satisfied → Very dissatisfied
- Fair satisfied → Satisfied

FIGURE 36: THE PERCENTAGE OF SURVEY PARTICIPANTS THAT ARE SATISFIED WITH THE PUBLIC ART AND CULTURAL OPORTUNITIES IN THE DISTRICT 2008 – 2024



Source: Communitrak Survey and Public Voice Survey

In 2019 88% of survey participants were satisfied or very satisfied with the public art and cultural opportunities in the district. In the survey for this reporting period 59% were satisfied or very satisfied. It is possible that having the option to be neutral has resulted in the decrease of participants that consider themselves to be satisfied or very satisfied.

In this current survey 8.1% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied which is an improvement from 2019 where 12% of participants were very dissatisfied.

Many comments from survey participants that were dissatisfied thought that there should be more focus on essential services/infrastructure as opposed to art and culture. Those that were satisfied appreciated the street festivals, the shows at Toi Toi and exhibitions at the art gallery.

INDICATOR H2: CONSENTS TO MODIFY/DESTROY HERITAGE ITEMS

Karamū Hastings CBD is famous for its historic railway corridor and 1930s heritage streetscapes comprising over 150 buildings erected between 1931-1960 in the architectural styles of Stripped Classical, Eclectic Revivalism, Spanish Mission and Californian Revival, and Art Deco.

As at 2024, there were 94 heritage items, 4 historic areas, and 300 notable trees recorded in the District Plan.

TABLE 6: HERITAGE ITEMS IN THE DISTRICT PLAN

Heritage Items	Number
Outstanding and Significant Trees	300
Historic Areas	4
Heritage Buildings/Features (Te Mata Special Character Area)	94

Modification or destruction of heritage items can impact on the cultural and historic heritage of the district. The number of resource consents to modify or destroy listed heritage items can therefore identify growing pressure on these sites and gives a general indication of pressure on cultural heritage.

It should be noted that not all activities affecting heritage items are necessarily detrimental – resource consents are often required even where the activity is beneficial to the maintenance and protection of a heritage item. Examples of beneficial maintenance are the centennial conservation maintenance for the 1923 Hastings Cenotaph, restoration of the 1907 Keirunga Homestead, and strengthening of the 1923 Haumoana Hall.

Between 2020 and 2024 there have been 21 resource consents granted for the modification or demolition of heritage buildings. These included works for earthquake strengthening, removal of asbestos, constructing commercial kitchens, and fixing signs to the exterior of buildings. Signs on heritage buildings were the most common consent sought with 8 granted.

Of the 21 resource consents granted, one sought demolition of a heritage building while proposing to retain the façade.

In addition, there were a 5 further resource consents granted that were in vicinity of a heritage building but not directly seeking any alteration of them.

Compared to the previous reporting period which saw 14 resource consents affecting heritage buildings, there has been a marked increase in consents granted likely due to the redevelopment in Karamū Hastings CBD.

In 2022 a full CBD heritage building inventory was completed with a specific focus on below veranda original features such as terrazzo, tiles, window joinery, veranda soffits, doors and fittings.

In the period 2019-2024 the CBD has seen much positive transformation as buildings are refurbished, strengthened and adapted for new use.

As for notable trees, there were 5 resource consents granted that concerned notable trees, with only one seeking removal of the tree due to safety concerns. The remainder were in relation to activities occurring within the dripline of the notable trees or to do with their pruning.

INDICATOR H3: CONSENTS TO MODIFY/DESTROY WĀHI TAONGA

As of 2024, there were 101 Wāhi Taonga sites recorded in the District Plan.

Modification or destruction of heritage items can impact on the cultural and historic heritage of the district. The number of resource consents to modify or destroy listed items can therefore identify growing pressure on these sites and gives a general indication of pressure on cultural heritage.

There have been no resource consents that trigger the rules in the District Plan regarding wāhi taonga. The rules regulate earthworks, buildings, and intensive rural production within wāhi taonga sites, or activities that would destroy, damage or modify a site.

There have been 13 resource consents granted that had wāhi taonga on the sites concerned but, in all instances, the wāhi taonga were not considered to be affected. The previous report stated there was one resource consent relating to wāhi taonga.

INDICATOR H4: ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND AUTHORITIES TO MODIFY/DESTROY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

According to NZ Archaeological Association (NZAA) files, there are currently 1,461 recorded archaeological sites in the Heretaunga Hastings District, an increase from 1397 at the time of the previous report.

It should be noted that the file is only a record of those sites that have been surveyed and formally recorded. It does not reflect the total number of archaeological sites present in the district – given that sites are generally only surveyed in response to development proposals or specific requests, the vast majority of the district has not been subject to detailed archaeological survey.

Heritage Aotearoa New Zealand Pouhere Taonga received applications for authorities to modify or destroy archaeological sites in the period to the end of 2024. In total, 32 of the 38 authorities were granted between 2020 and 2024. The authorities had conditions imposed to minimise impacts on the archaeology present. This is slightly more than the previous report where 25 of the 31 authorities were granted.

The relatively low number of authorities granted suggests there is little pressure on archaeological sites within the district. The small number of authorities required as a result of subdivision or development proposals is in stark contrast to the number of subdivisions that have occurred in the district over this period. However, it is possible that there are sites being modified or destroyed for which no data is available. The constraints of the data mean that there is currently no good indicator for measuring the state or quality of archaeological resources in the district.

The archaeology of Tainui Reserve is of particular significance to Council as kaitiaki *stewards* of the site with Ngā Uri o Te Heipora, mana whenua for the Karanema Reserve Area. The site has been carefully rehabilitated in the recovery of Cyclone Gabrielle with removal of exotic trees and stabilisation of any impact to archaeological features.

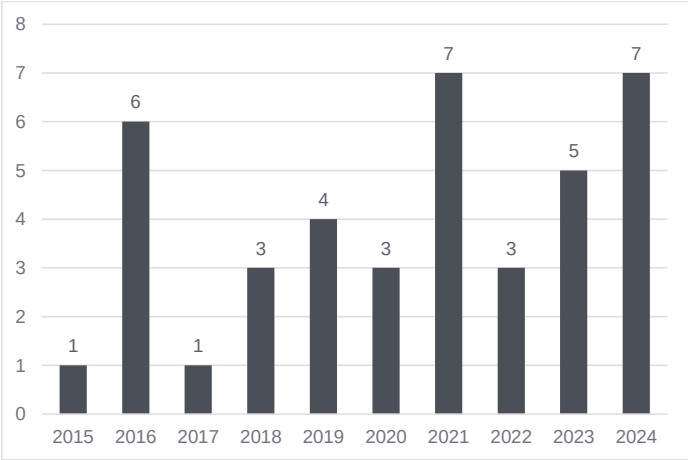
INDICATOR H5: NUMBER OF RESOURCE CONSENTS FOR PAPAKĀENGA

Papakāenga is the development of housing generally for Māori people on Māori Land. The ability to live on traditional lands in Papakāenga developments is seen as a way in which Māori will be able to maintain and enhance their culture and traditions.

The Papakāenga Development Policy & Implementation Project began in 2006. Māori have always aspired to achieve papakainga developments but a lack of finance and limitations in the former District Plan rules meant only one Papakainga was successful until the completion of the District Plan review in 2014.

Below shows the number of Papakāenga consents granted between 2015 – 2024.

FIGURE 37: NUMBER OF RESOURCE CONSENTS GRANTED FOR PAPAKĀENGA BETWEEN 2015 – 2024.



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

Over the last ten (10) years there has been an increasing trend in the number of resource consents granted for Papakāenga.

Heretaunga Hastings District Council have a strong focus towards enabling Papakāenga developments on whānau land. The District Plan outlines key provisions for enabling Papakāenga development alongside robust guidance to support whānau navigating through finance, regulatory processes, design and build.

Alongside new build Papakāenga, Heretaunga Hastings have a number of historic Pā Kāenga *villages* that have residential homes based around their marae. These Pā Kāenga are generally based on Native Reserve land dating from the late 1860s onwards.

Pā Kāenga are important in the mana whenua cultural and social fabric and tend to be the centre for Hapū activity, whereas Papakāenga are whānau centric.

The Pā Kāenga of Heretaunga Hastings are:

- Te Haukē
- Pakipaki
- Bridge Pā
- Ōmāhu
- Mōteo
- Waiohiki
- Waipatu
- Ruahāpia
- Whakatū
- Te Hāroto
- Waimārama
- Waipuka

Perception of public art and cultural opportunities has improved, with fewer residents expressing dissatisfaction. Resource consents to modify heritage buildings and notable trees have increased slightly, and although no wāhi taonga rules were triggered, several consents were processed on sites containing them. Archaeological authority activity also rose slightly, and papakāinga development has grown, indicating increased support for Māori housing and cultural values.

RESPONSES

FOR COMMUNITY

- Alert Council or the NZAA when potential archaeological sites are uncovered
- Find out about the stories that relate to major heritage sites, and get to know the history of your District and local area
- Treasure the memories of kaumātua and elders in our community.

FOR COUNCIL

- Continue to survey residents' satisfaction with access to arts and cultural opportunities
- Continue to initiate programmes to raise community awareness of and support for the cultural heritage of the district
- Ensure effects on archaeology and wāhi taonga are assessed in the processing of subdivision applications.


HANGATANGA TOITŪ
SUSTAINABLE
INFRASTRUCTURE

SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

The issues at a glance

Indicator		State 2015 - 2019	State 2020 - 2024	Summary
Transportation				
T1	Residents' satisfaction with Council roads			In this current survey 40.6% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied which is not too much different from the 2019 results where 37% of participants were dissatisfied. Those that reported themselves as satisfied has declined since the previous report but may be a result of including a neutral option to respond with. The overall satisfaction with Council roads was 35.2% compared with 45.7% of participants satisfied or very satisfied with urban roads versus 24.9% satisfied with urban roads.
T2	Residents' satisfaction with cycling/walkway infrastructure in the district.			In this current survey 16.5% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the cycling infrastructure which is about the same as those not very satisfied in 2019, which was 15%. Those that reported themselves as satisfied has declined since the previous report but may be a result of including a neutral option to respond with.
T3	Pedestrians and Cyclists feeling of Safety			In this current survey 6.7% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the safety of cyclists which is about the same as those that felt it was very dangerous in 2019, which was 5%.
T4	Means of travel			More than half of those travelling to work on census day in 2023 used a private vehicle, followed by working from home, and travelling by a company vehicle. Travelling by a private vehicle had increased from 2013, the use of company vehicles also had an increasing trend. Cycling or walking/jogging equated to less than 5% of people and both of these had a declining trend. For those that were under 15 on census day, more than half travelled to education centres as a passenger in a car, truck or van. This increased between census years of 2018 and 2023, whereas all other modes of transport taken decreased.
Water Management				
WS1	Consented water takes held by HDC for water supply purposes			Heretaunga Hastings District Council holds 12 operative resource consents from Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council for water take, providing for abstraction of 499,081m^3 of water in any 7-day average. The number of consents held remains unchanged but the abstraction rate is reduced from 928, 470m^3 of water in any 7-day average.
WS2	Domestic water consumption			The volume of domestic water consumed per person per day is continuing to increase. The average per day over the last five years is 540 litres compared to 440 litres over the previous reporting period.

Indicator		State 2015 - 2019	State 2020 - 2024	Summary
WS3	Commercial and industrial water consumption			Commercial and industrial water consumption from HDC public water supplies has increased throughout the reporting period. The change is due to an increase in the metering of both existing and new connected properties as well as improved management of the metering system.
WS4	Compliance with drinking water standards			Throughout the period, construction and commissioning of new treatment facilities as well as changes in compliance requirements has seen variable levels of full compliance achieved across a number of the water supplies.
WS5	Residents' rating of water quality			In this current survey 24.9% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the quality of domestic water quality in the district which is an improvement on the previous survey in which 49% of participants were dissatisfied.
Wastewater Treatment				
WW1	Consented wastewater discharges held by HDC			Heretaunga Hastings District Council holds two main resource consents for the discharge of wastewater from Te Whare o Whiro The East Clive Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme. The discharge consent from Te Whare o Whiro The East Clive Wastewater Treatment plant was granted on the 25 June 2014 with a consent expiry date on 31 May 2049 with a maximum discharge rate for 2800 litres per second. The discharge consent from the Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme was granted in 2005 and will expire on 31 May 2025 with a maximum volume of discharge of 76m³ per day (532m³ over a 7 day period) during Stage 1, and 172m³ per day (1204m³ over a 7 day period) at completion of Stage 2.
WW2	Compliance with conditions for wastewater discharges			Te Whare o Whiro The East Clive Wastewater Treatment Plant has demonstrated a high level of compliance with consent conditions; however the Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme has ongoing challenges in meeting consent conditions, particularly in relation to the nitrate limit. A consent renewal process is underway, and treatment upgrades are planned to address this. Outside of this issue, treatment processes have remained stable.
WW3	Volume of wastewater produced			Annual average daily volume from East Awapuni Clive Plant is approximately 46,000m^3. This is compared with 48,500m^3 at the time of the previous report.
WW4	Residents' satisfaction with Sewerage System			In 2019 8.3% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the quality of the sewerage systems in the district. In the previous survey 5% were very dissatisfied. In 2019 95% of survey participants were satisfied or very satisfied with the districts sewerage systems. In the survey for this reporting period 64.7% were satisfied or very satisfied with the sewerage systems in the district. The average number of complaints per year is 479 compared to 423 in the previous report.

Indicator		State 2015 - 2019	State 2020 - 2024	Summary
Trade Waste Disposal				
TW1	Amount of trade waste discharged through the separated trade waste conveyance system			There is a small downward trend in industrial flows, and this is what previous State of the Environment reports have found. The daily volume ranges between 4000m^3 per day to 36,000m^3 per day depending on the time of the year.
TW2	Number of industries connected to the separated trade waste conveyance system			Currently there are 30 industries connected to the separated industrial sewer. This number remains unchanged from the 2015-2019 report.
TW3	Number of reported incidents of Non-complying discharges of trade waste			The average warning notices issued per year has increased from 1 for between 2015-2019 to 2.2 for the period of 2020-2024. All the warning notices have been for repeated exceedances of approved limits for oil and grease and suspended solids. The industries involved have completed upgrades to their systems or the upgrades are near completion which will address the exceedances.
Stormwater Management				
STM1	Consented stormwater discharges held by HDC			The Urban Stormwater Discharge consent held by the Heretaunga Hastings District Council was granted in May 2010 and expired on 31 May 2022 with a new global consent lodged in February 2022. In accordance with s124 of the RMA, the discharges authorised under the expired consents are able to legally continue under the expired consents until such time as the new consent application is determined.
STM2	Compliance with consent conditions for stormwater discharge			The stormwater discharges are for the most part in full compliance with consent conditions.
STM3	Residents' satisfaction with stormwater system			In the survey, 51.7% of participants were satisfied or very satisfied with the stormwater systems, with 23.9% dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.

Section 31 of the RMA gives the District Council the function of managing and controlling the effects of the use, development, or protection of land.

The district's environmental health depends a great deal on the essential infrastructural 'bones' of a functioning community – transportation, water, wastewater, trade waste and energy. This chapter profiles how well the district is doing in relation to the sustainability of this infrastructure, as well as the options people take around sustainable resource use and disposal.

MOMO KAWENGA TRANSPORTATION

Transportation networks are critical in the daily functioning of the district. As a community the Heretaunga Hastings District is highly dependent on the mobility of its population, and particularly dependent on a well-designed roading network as its primary means of physical communication.

The Heretaunga Hastings District is a key hub for primary production and manufacturing, with strong connections to both domestic and international markets. Maintaining and strengthening these linkages is essential for the continued health of the local economy.

On 13–14 February 2023, Cyclone Gabrielle swept through the region, causing widespread devastation. Described as the most significant weather event in Aotearoa New Zealand this century, the cyclone inflicted hundreds of millions of dollars in damage to Council-owned infrastructure. This included the destruction of 13 bridges, significant damage to 28 more, the repair or replacement of over 2,000 culverts, and the reconstruction of more than 100 kilometres of roads. The damage left numerous communities isolated and underscored the critical importance of a resilient transport network.

As a result, recovery and long-term infrastructure resilience have become central to the Council's roading programme, with a strong focus in the 2024–2034 Long Term Plan on restoring connectivity and safeguarding vital transport links for the future.

Council's vision for transport in Hastings is to connect people and places, products and markets, through a safe, resilient, and sustainable network that works for all users — however they choose or need to travel. That means ensuring the road network is fit for purpose, while also reducing car dependency by investing in a range of transport options.

The Transport Network Business Case (2020) and the Active Transport Business Case (2020) both identified low uptake of active travel, poor perceptions of safety, and limited transport choice as major barriers to wellbeing and sustainability. Addressing these issues means not just rebuilding damaged infrastructure, but doing so in a way that encourages safer, more inclusive, and environmentally responsible travel options.

Going forward, a balanced programme was proposed with a bias towards community wellbeing and road safety. This programme aims to:

- Improve road safety.
- Improve customer experience.
- Increase community wellbeing.
- Increase uptake of active travel and public transport.

By learning from past events like Cyclone Gabrielle, and responding with a future-focused, multi-modal transport strategy, Hastings can better protect its communities and position itself for a more sustainable, connected future.

INDICATORS

The table below shows the indicators that are used to monitor traffic and transport in the district. These indicators are also used to inform other monitoring programmes for the district, such as Community Outcomes Monitoring and monitoring achievement of the anticipated outcomes in the Heretaunga Hastings District Plan, as shown below.

INDICATORS FOR TRANSPORTATION

Indicator		Indicator type	Relevant community outcomes and council objectives	Relevant district plan outcomes and how it informs these outcomes
			Relevant Outcome Statements: • Transport infrastructure and services that are safe, effective and integrated. • A safe and efficient transport network. • An inclusive, accessible system.	**District Plan** Section 26.1 (Transportation) • A transportation network that actively encourages alternative transport modes • A safe and efficient District Transport Network
T1	Residents' Satisfaction with Council Roads	State	Tracking residents' satisfaction with roads, cycleways, and footpaths is important because it provides direct feedback on how well the transport network is meeting the needs of the community. It helps councils understand user experiences, identify areas for improvement, and prioritise investment where it will have the greatest impact.	
T2	Residents' satisfaction with cycling/walkway infrastructure in the district	State		
T3	Pedestrians and Cyclists Feeling of Safety	State		
T4	Means of travel	Pressure	Tracking residents' main means of travel helps build a clear picture of how people move around the district and whether transport infrastructure is meeting community needs. It provides valuable insight into the balance between car use, public transport, walking, and cycling, and how this may be changing over time.	

MONITORING INFORMATION

INDICATOR T1: RESIDENTS' SATISFACTION WITH COUNCIL ROADS

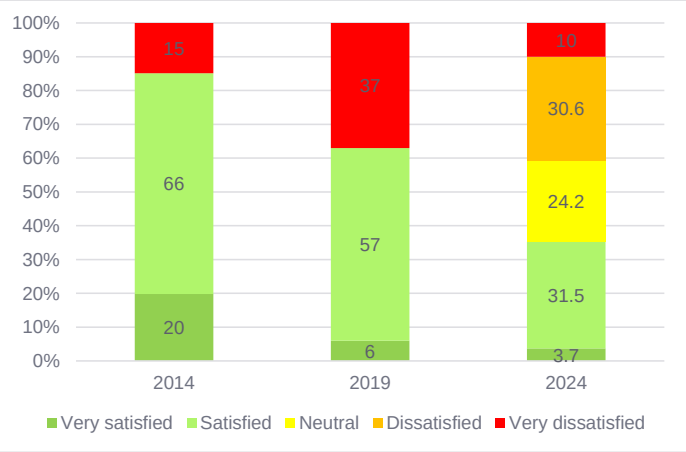
Resident's satisfaction with Council roads gives some insight into the state of Council roading infrastructure.

To align the previous survey options with the current, the following adjustments were made:

- Not very satisfied → Very dissatisfied
- Fairly satisfied → Satisfied

The new survey included new options – neutral and dissatisfied

FIGURE 38: THE PERCENTAGE OF SURVEY PARTICIPANTS THAT ARE SATISFIED WITH COUNCIL ROADS 2014 – 2024



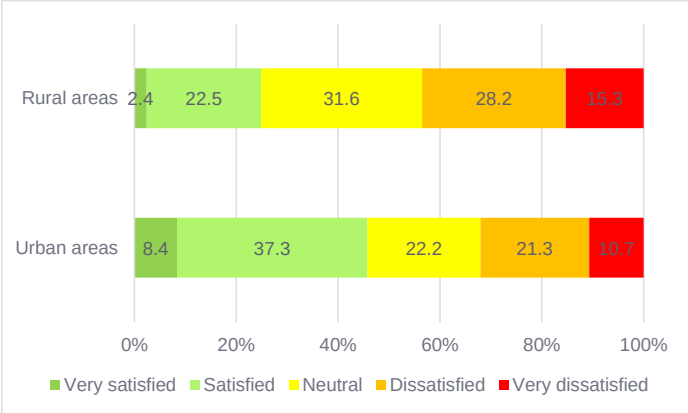
Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council Communitrak Survey and Public Voice Survey

In 2019 63% of survey participants were satisfied or very satisfied with Council roads. In the survey for this reporting period 35.2% were satisfied or very satisfied. It is possible that having the option to be neutral has resulted in the decrease of participants that consider themselves to be satisfied or very satisfied.

In this current survey 40.6% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied which is on par with the 2019 results where 37% of participants were very dissatisfied.

In this survey we also examined if there was any difference in satisfaction between urban and rural roads, as shown below.

FIGURE 39: THE PERCENTAGE OF SURVEY PARTICIPANTS THAT ARE SATISFIED WITH COUNCIL RURAL AND URBAN ROADS 2024



Source: Public voice survey

The overall satisfaction with Council roads was 35.2% compared with 45.7% of participants satisfied or very satisfied with urban roads versus

24.9% satisfied with rural roads. 43.5% of participants were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with rural roads compared with 32% that were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with urban roads.

Many comments from survey participants that were dissatisfied thought that roads had uneven surfaces in places and potholes and when these areas were resurfaced the workmanship was not to a good standard i.e. the road surface was still uneven or needing to be repaired not long after maintenance works had been carried out. Many survey participants also considered that roading infrastructure should be a top priority for Council.

INDICATOR T2: RESIDENTS' SATISFACTION WITH CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE DISTRICT

In 2019 85% of survey participants were satisfied or very satisfied with Council cycling infrastructure. In the survey for this reporting period 50.7% were satisfied or very satisfied. It is possible that having the option to be neutral has resulted in the decrease of participants that consider themselves to be satisfied or very satisfied.

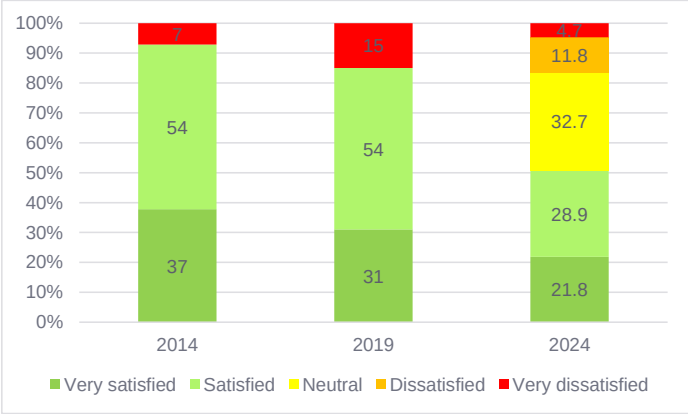
In this current survey 16.5% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the cycling infrastructure which is about the same as those not very satisfied in 2019, which was 15%.

To align the previous survey options with the current, the following adjustments were made:

- Not very satisfied → Very dissatisfied
- Fairly satisfied → Satisfied

The new survey included new options – neutral and dissatisfied.

FIGURE 40: THE PERCENTAGE OF SURVEY PARTICIPANTS THAT ARE SATISFIED WITH CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE DISTRICT 2014 - 2024



Source: Public voice survey

Participants that were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied felt that there were plenty of recreational cycling opportunities but that cycling for commuting was unsafe.

INDICATOR T3: PEDESTRIANS AND CYCLISTS FEELING OF SAFETY

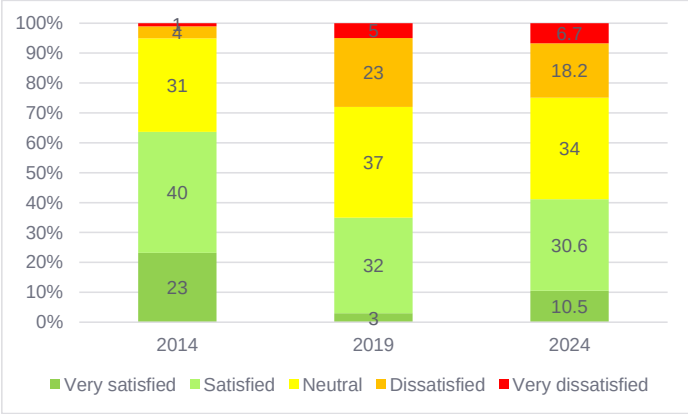
Residents' feeling of safety as pedestrians and cyclists gives some insight into aspects that might be hindering the use of more sustainable modes of transport.

The survey asked about the satisfaction with the quality and safety of footpaths, and the feeling of safety while riding a bicycle in the District.

The graph below represents the percentage of survey participants that are satisfied with the feeling of safety when cycling in the district. To align the previous survey options with the current, the following adjustments were made:

- Very dangerous → Very dissatisfied
- Dangerous → Dissatisfied
- Neither safe or dangerous → Neutral
- Safe → Satisfied
- Very safe → Very satisfied

FIGURE 41: THE PERCENTAGE OF SURVEY PARTICIPANTS THAT ARE SATISFIED WITH THE FEELING OF SAFETY WHEN CYCLING IN THE DISTRICT 2014 - 2024



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council Public Voice Survey

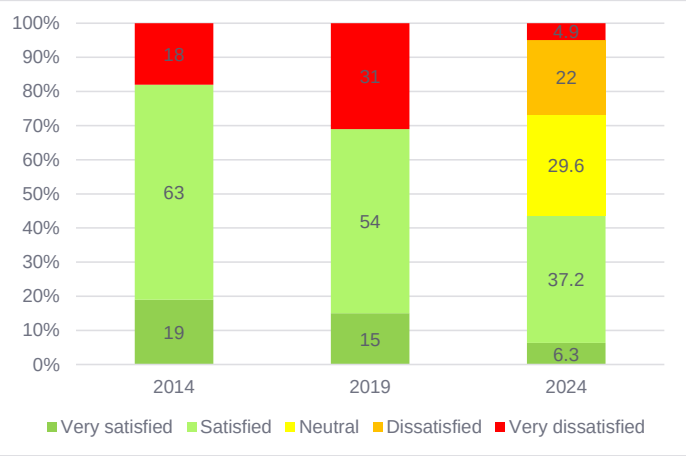
In 2019 35% of survey participants were satisfied or very satisfied with the feeling of safety when cycling, or they felt it was safe and very safe. In the survey for this reporting period 41.1% were satisfied or very satisfied with the feeling of safety when cycling in the district.

In this current survey 6.7% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the safety of cyclists which is about the same as those that felt it was very dangerous in 2019, which was 5%.

The survey also asked about the quality and safety of footpaths in the district. This is shown in the graph below. To align the previous survey options with the current, the following adjustments were made:

- Not very satisfied → Very dissatisfied
- Fairly satisfied → Satisfied

FIGURE 42: THE PERCENTAGE OF SURVEY PARTICIPANTS THAT ARE SATISFIED WITH THE QUALITY AND SAFETY OF FOOTPATHS IN THE DISTRICT 2014 - 2024



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council Public Voice Survey

In 2019 69% of survey participants were satisfied or very satisfied with the quality and safety of footpaths in the district. In the survey for this reporting period 43.5% were satisfied or very satisfied with the feeling of safety when cycling in the district. It is possible that having the option to be neutral has resulted in the decrease of participants that consider themselves to be satisfied or very satisfied.

In this current survey 26.9% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the safety and quality of footpaths in the district which is a slight decrease from those that were not very satisfied in 2019, which was 31%.

Those that were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied felt that footpaths were uneven or eroded, which can be challenging for those on mobility scooters. It was also noted that often cyclist use footpaths also leading to a decrease in the feeling of safety.

INDICATOR T4: MEANS OF TRAVEL

Understanding the different modes of transport—such as private vehicles, public transit, walking, and cycling—helps assess their impact on the environment, including emissions, energy use, and land demand. Private vehicle use contributes significantly to greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution, while active and shared modes can reduce environmental harm.

Data is collected as part of the census. Main means of travel to work is the usual method which an employed person aged 15 years and over used to travel the longest distance to their place of work.

TABLE 7: THE PERCENTAGE OF MAIN MEANS OF TRAVEL TO WORK

	2013	2018	2023
Work at home	9.7%	15.3%	14.8%
Did not go to work that day	10.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Private vehicle	55.5%	62.2%	62.8%
Company vehicle	10.6%	11.2%	12.5%
Passenger	4.2%	4.7%	4.3%
Public bus	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%
Bicycle	3.2%	1.9%	1.6%
Walk or jog	4.1%	3.1%	2.8%
Other	1.6%	1.1%	0.8%

Source: Stats NZ

More than half of those travelling to work on census day in 2023 used a private vehicle, followed by working from home, and travelling by a company vehicle. Travelling by a private vehicle had increased from 2013, the use of company vehicles also had an increasing trend. Cycling or walking/jogging equated to less than 5% of people and both of these had a declining trend.

TABLE 8: THE PERCENTAGE OF MAIN MEANS OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION FOR UNDER 15 YEAR OLDS

	2018	2023
Study at home	1.1%	1.4%
Passenger in a car, truck, or van	59.8%	65.6%
Bicycle	6%	4.8%
Walk or jog	18.8%	14.5%
School bus	11.4%	11%
Public bus	1.4%	1.1%

Source: Stats NZ

For those that were under 15 on census day, more than half travelled to education centres as a passenger in a car, truck or van. This increased between census years of 2018 and 2023, whereas all other modes of transport taken decreased.

Future State of the Environment reports may want to investigate the useability of Council's own data around modes of travel.

Resident satisfaction with council roads has declined slightly, with less than half reporting satisfaction, particularly in rural areas. Satisfaction with cycling and walking infrastructure, and perceptions of safety for these modes, remain relatively unchanged. However, census data reveals growing reliance on private and company vehicles, while active transport modes like walking and cycling have continued to decline. For children under 15, car-based travel to education has increased, highlighting rising car dependency and challenges for sustainable transport.

RESPONSES

FOR COMMUNITY

- Take opportunities to walk or cycle to work, school and neighbouring amenities.

FOR COUNCIL

- Continue the on-going publicity around healthy living and sustainable modes of transportation
- Continue to implement Heretaunga Hastings District Council's Walking and Cycling In future, Council could survey residents about recreational cycling what deters them from using public transport or non-motorised transport options.

WHAKAHAERETANGA WAI WATER MANAGEMENT

Water management refers to all aspects of providing freshwater for residential, commercial and industrial activities within the district.

The Heretaunga Plains Aquifer is the main groundwater resource for the Heretaunga Plains, Heretaunga Hastings and Ahuriri Napier communities. The water drawn from the aquifer is used for public water supply, irrigation, horticultural, agricultural, commercial, and industrial uses.

Heretaunga Hastings is lucky to have a good supply of fresh, clean water from its underground aquifers, but this cannot be taken for granted and we have a collective responsibility to manage this precious resource well.

The Council sources water for its 11 registered public water supplies from 24 individual bores and 3 springs.

Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council, Waiaroha - Heretaunga Water Discovery Centre

The water abstracted from the various sources is treated at our treatment facilities then distributed via 32 reservoirs and 550km of water mains to the homes and businesses connected. In addition, there are a number of smaller, privately managed water supplies throughout the district (managed by schools, marae, local communities etc).

Since the last report an additional 576 connections have been made across all Heretaunga HDC Water supplies.

INDICATORS

The table below shows the indicators that are used to monitor water services in the district. These indicators are also used to inform other monitoring programmes for the district, such as Community Outcomes Monitoring and monitoring achievement of the anticipated outcomes in the Heretaunga Hastings District Plan, as shown below.

INDICATORS FOR WATER MANAGEMENT

Indicator		Indicator type	Relevant community outcomes and council objectives	Relevant district plan outcomes and how it informs these outcomes
			Relevant Outcome Statements: • An environment that is appreciated, protected and sustained for future generations	**District Plan** Section 30.1 (Subdivision and Land Development) • Maintenance of public health and safety • Provision of a water supply of suitable quality and quantity to meet the needs of likely or potential land uses on the sites, including water for fire control and suppression
WS1	Consented Water Takes Held by Council for Water Supply Purposes	Pressure	These indicators will enable Council to monitor trends around the security and quality of water services infrastructure, and the quality of drinking water for community consumption.	
WS2	Domestic Water Consumption	Pressure		
WS3	Commercial and Industrial Water Consumption	Pressure		
WS4	Compliance with drinking water standards	State		
WS5	Residents' Satisfaction with the Water Supply	State	Measuring residents' satisfaction with the water supply is important because it provides insight into the reliability, quality, and safety of one of the most essential public services.	

MONITORING INFORMATION

INDICATOR WS1: CONSENTED WATER TAKES HELD BY COUNCIL FOR WATER SUPPLY PURPOSES

Heretaunga Hastings District Council manages 11 separate water supplies comprising 24 individual supply bores and 3 springs. The majority of these are located on the Heretaunga Plains.

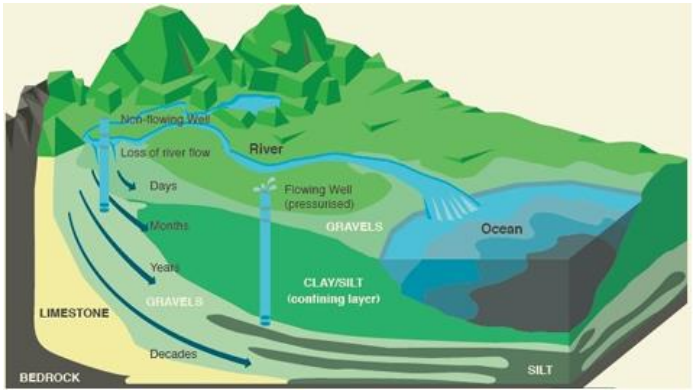
Heretaunga Hastings District Council holds 12 operative resource consents from Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council for water take. These are detailed in the following table.

TABLE 9: HERETAUNGA HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL WATER SUPPLY CONSENTS

Supply	HBRC Consent Number	Consent Expiry Date	Maximum Peak Flow and Abstraction Rates	
			Litres per Second	m^3 in any 7-day Period
Hastings Urban	AUTH-120019-05	31/05/2047	1,240	323,956
	AUTH-116302-03	31/05/2018	200	101,281
Haumoana & Te Āwanga	AUTH-124374-01	31/05/2041	50	20,000
Awapuni Clive	AUTH-114779-04	31/05/2025	50	13,500
	AUTH-114790-03			3,810
Whirinaki & Esk	AUTH-119527-01	31/05/2040	49	23,794
Esk Vineyard	AUTH-119526-01	31/05/2040	N/A	1,544
Waimārama	AUTH-119996-02	31/05/2033	20	5,180
Whakatū	AUTH-114782-04	31/05/2025	50	3,810
Ōmāhu	AUTH-111979-01	31/05/2026	14	1,000
Te Pōhue	AUTH-122615-01	31/05/2028	0.5	280
Waipatu	AUTH-120019-05	31/05/2023	10	176
Waipātiki	AUTH-120019-05	31/05/2055	2.5	750

Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

FIGURE 43: AQUIFER STRUCTURE



INDICATOR WS2: DOMESTIC WATER CONSUMPTION

In Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay, water consumption is highly seasonal. With demand management and restrictions in place, the summer consumption generally still reaches 1.5 times the winter consumption.

Demand in some supplies is also influenced by seasonal population growth, for example Waimārama, where the summer population without management can drive a three-fold increase in water use.

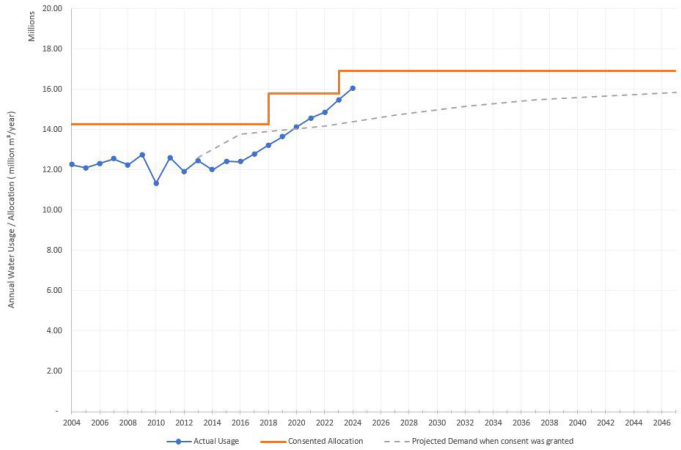
As a community water supplier, HDC has an important role in promoting efficient use and minimising waste. As a consent condition attached to many of our resource consents HDC has developed a Water Conservation and Demand Management Strategy. This outlines HDC's commitment to a range of measures that will achieve an efficient use of water and thereby minimise the effects of abstraction on surface and groundwater resources.

The Karamū Hastings Urban Supply Consents provided for a stepped increase in annual allocation during the term of the consent in order to provide for growth. Currently we are operating within the final step of the consent and further demand management measures are being implemented, planned or proposed to ensure we can continue to provide for the growth of our communities and demonstrate efficient use of the water that we have been allocated.

A significant achievement in demand management within the reporting period was the reduction of peak pressures within the Karamū Hastings Urban supply in early 2024 following the commissioning of the Karanema Havelock North Booster Pumpstation and the Frimley and Waiaroha treatment and storage facilities in Hastings.

Figure 44 shows the ongoing tracking of use against consented take and growth.

FIGURE 44: HASTINGS URBAN WATER SUPPLY – CONSENT ALLOCATION VS ACTUAL USAGE



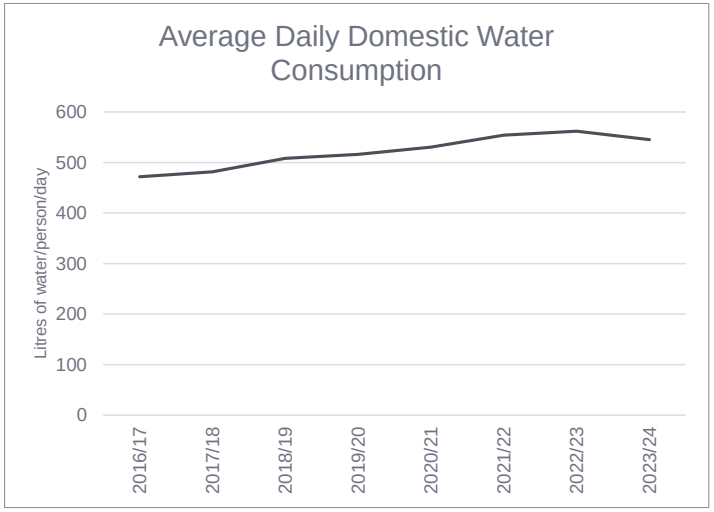
Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

As shown in the figure below, since 2016 the averaged consumption per capita has increased following changes to supply operation including the introduction of chlorination to the supply networks.

Over the reporting period, reported leaks have stabilised and proactive renewals programmes and leak detection continue to be enhanced.

The Haumoana and Te Āwanga supply had historic aesthetic water quality issues (taste, colour, and odour) due to the chemistry of the source water. Since the establishment of a new source as part of the treatment upgrades for the supply in 2020 water use within this supply has increased.

FIGURE 45: HASTINGS WATER SUPPLY – DOMESTIC WATER USAGE[17]



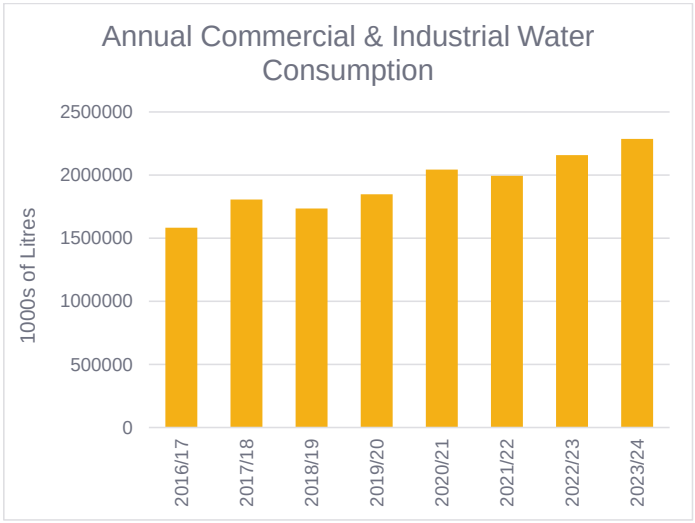
Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

INDICATOR WS3: COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL WATER CONSUMPTION

Commercial and industrial water consumption from HDC public water supplies has increased throughout the reporting period. The change is due to an increase in the metering of both existing and new connected properties as well as improved management of the metering system. Usage can also be affected by climatic factors.

17 The Domestic water usage data displayed is total abstraction minus metered commercial and industrial usage. Due to HDC not having universal metering of connections, the domestic water usage figure includes water loss on public and private side, all non-metered use and operational use/loss.

FIGURE 46: COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL WATER CONSUMPTION IN HERETAUNGA HASTINGS DISTRICT



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

It is important to note that these figures do not include process water for many of the large industries such as Heinz Wattie's and McCains who obtain their own process water from private bores consented by the HBRC. Most industry within the serviced area only utilise HDC supply to meet domestic needs, such as drinking water for staff.

INDICATOR WS4: COMPLIANCE WITH DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

Heretaunga Hastings District Council manages 11 Water Supplies spread across the district from Waimārama in the south to Te Pōhue in the North. The water supplies are comprised of 27 water sources, 16 treatment facilities and 17 distribution zones. The remaining supplies in the district are privately owned and managed.

Delivery of safe drinking water is a priority of the Heretaunga Hastings District Council. The extent of changes in the way Council is managing drinking water safety has been informed by the Board of Inquiry findings following the Karanema Havelock North contamination event which occurred in August 2016, and there is commitment at the highest level to achieve this.

Changes have been implemented across the entire drinking water space from catchment to tap including

- Improving our understanding of source risks through ongoing catchment risk assessment work and managing the risk through development of source protection zones (SPZs) and associated processes.
- Chlorination of all drinking water supplies since 2017.
- Treatment upgrades across all HDC public water supplies in the period 2017-2024 with 8 additional water treatment and storage facilities installed within the reporting period.
- Ongoing preventative and reactive maintenance and renewals programmes.
- Reservoir safety improvements programme.
- Restructured business with additional skilled resources including new Delivery and Service Assurance resources
- New internal processes, standards and systems

Fluoridation was also recommenced in the Karamū Hastings Urban supply in April 2024 following a direction to fluoridate from the Director General of Health in 2022. Historically the supply was Fluoridated however was paused in 2016 due to the need to chlorinate the supply, requiring new infrastructure and processes before it could be recommenced.

In addition, significant changes have occurred within the drinking water regulatory space within the reporting period. Changes include:

- March 2021 - The establishment of Taumata Arowai
- October 2021 – Water Services Act 2021 passed into law
- November 2021 – Taumata Arowai becomes Water Services regulator for Aotearoa New Zealand and introduces new Drinking Water Standards, Aesthetic Values and Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules

As well as the above, reform has been a constant throughout the period. The current pathway led by the National Government – Local Water Done Well, will see new 3 Waters delivery arrangements established within the next reporting period.

All of the Heretaunga Hastings District Councils supplies are managed to comply with the requirements of the Water Services Act 2021 and the operative Aotearoa New Zealand Drinking Water Standards and Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules.

Complying with current drinking water rules and standards requires a combination of treatment processes (UV, chlorination and in some supplies Cartridge Filtration) and routine monitoring of the source, treatment plant and reticulation.

Throughout the period, construction and commissioning of new treatment facilities as well as changes in compliance requirements has seen variable levels of full compliance achieved across a number of the water supplies.

The below table summarises the compliance status of the HDC supplies for compliance years 2019/2020 to 2023/2024 as well as providing commentary of changes that have occurred within the reporting period.

TABLE 10: COMPLIANCE STATUS OF HDC PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES

Supply Name	Source name	2019-2020		2020-2021		2021-2022		2022-2023 NOTE – Compliance requiremetns changed within reporting period (14 November 2022)		2023-2024		Comment
		Bacterial	Protozoal	Bacterial	Protozoal	Bacterial	Protozoal	Bacterial	Protozoal	Bacterial	Protozoal	
Hastings Urban	Waipuna Brookvale	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	5-log WTP with Cartridge Filtration & U.V installed in March 2017.
	Waiaroha - Eastbourne	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO*	NO*	3-log WTP with U.V installed and fully commissioned December 2023.
	Frimley	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO*	NO*	3-log WTP with U.V installed and fully commissioned December 2023.
	Portsmouth	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	Bore has Interim Class 1 status which complies with protozoa criteria of the DWQAR. Plant requires installation of UV treatment to meet Bacterial compliance planned for installation 2025/26.
	Wilson	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	3-log WTP with U.V installed in October 2018.
Awapuni Clive	Waipuna Clive-Ferry	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	3-log WTP with U.V installed in October 2021 - fully commissioned October 2021. Ferry Road source became emergency supply only upon commissioning of new WTP.
	Waipuna Clive-Tucker	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES					
Whakatū	Whakatū	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	3-log WTP with U.V installed and fully commissioned August 2023.
Haumoana	Haumoana	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	3 Log WTP with U.V installed 2020 – fully commissioned December 2020. New source developed which removes the historic aesthetic quality issues.

												Parkhill supply joined to Haumoana supply in July 2021 with the installation of a booster pumpstation. Existing Haumoana WTP and Parkhill WTP became emergency supply only upon commissioning of new WTP.
	Parkhill	YES	NO	YES	NO							
Waimārama	**Waimārama**	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	5 Log WTP with Cartridge Filtration & U.V installed and fully commissioned May 2021.
Ōmāhu	**Ōmāhu**	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	5-log WTP with Cartridge Filtration & U.V installed in September 2017.
Whirinaki	**Esk**	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES	5 Log WTP with Cartridge Filtration & U.V installed and fully commissioned August 2022. Esk and Whirinaki WTPs combined into single WTP for supply area. WTP significantly damaged by Cyclone Gabrielle on 14th February 2023. Compliant water again being produced from 6 April 2023.
	Whirinaki	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO**	YES		
Waipātiki	**Waipātiki**	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES	5 Log WTP with Cartridge Filtration & U.V installed and fully commissioned March 2023. Greensand and GAC filtration also installed to remove historic aesthetic quality issues.
Waipatu	**Waipatu**	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	3 Log WTP with UV installed in December 2017.
Te Pohue	**Te Pōhue**	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	Supply transferred to HDC owership and management in 2020 with no treatment in place and a permanant boil water notice in force. 5 Log WTP with Cartridge Filtration & U.V installed and fully commissioned December 2021.

*Compliant following full commissioning 1 December 2023

**WTP significantly damaged by Cyclone Gabrielle

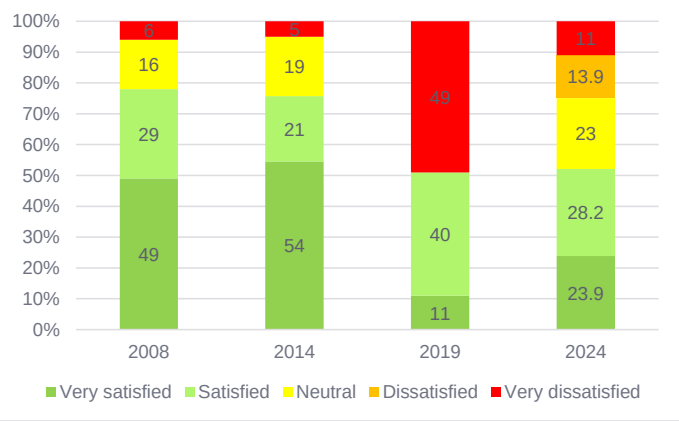
INDICATOR WS5: RESIDENTS' SATISFACTION WITH THE WATER SUPPLY

Resident's satisfaction with their water supply gives some insight into the state of water for domestic supply. In the most recent survey approximately 75% of participants were connected to Council water supply, this is the same proportion of reticulated water users as in the 2019 survey.

The graph below represents the percentage of survey participants that are satisfied with domestic water quality in the district. To align the previous survey options with the current, the following adjustments were made:

- Don't know / didn't respond → Neutral
- Not very satisfied → Very dissatisfied
- Fairly satisfied → Satisfied

FIGURE 47: RESIDENTS SATISFACTION WITH DOMESTIC WATER QUALITY 2008 - 2024



Source: Communitrak and Public Voice Survey Heretaunga Hastings District Council

In 2019 51% of survey participants were satisfied or very satisfied with domestic water quality in the district. In the survey for this reporting period 52.1% were satisfied or very satisfied with domestic water quality in the district.

In this current survey 24.9% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the quality of domestic water quality in the district which is an improvement on the previous survey in which 49% of participants were dissatisfied. However, the last survey did not give the opportunity to answer as 'neutral' or 'don't know'. At that time people may have been more inclined to be dissatisfied with domestic water quality given the Karanema Havelock North water crisis in 2016.

Most of the comments from those dissatisfied with the domestic water quality were in regard to the chlorination and fluoridation of the water affecting its taste and smell.

Water use in the district is increasing, with both domestic and commercial/industrial consumption trending upwards—partly due to better metering and system management. Although the number of water take consents has remained steady, the total allowed abstraction rate has decreased. Compliance with drinking water standards has varied, reflecting changes in infrastructure and regulatory requirements. Resident dissatisfaction with water quality has significantly improved since the last survey, dropping from 49% to 24.9%.

RESPONSES

FOR COMMUNITY

- By taking a few simple steps to reduce your water usage now, you can help ensure future generations enjoy the same access to good quality water, such as turning off the tap, fixing leaks, and using water saving devices on showers, washing machines and toilets.

FOR COUNCIL

- Demand management, and water conservation measures are a strong focus for Council into the future, including a public education campaign, an active leak detection program, and implementation of zone management and pressure reduction across the main supplies (Hastings, Karanema Havelock North and Pāharakeke Flaxmere)
- Council will continue to work towards improving and maintaining the quality of drinking water through the proposed planned upgrades to water supply infrastructure.

MAIMOATANGA PARA WAI WASTEWATER TREATMENT

Wastewater is the term used to describe a combination of domestic sewage (from showers, baths, toilets and kitchens) and trade wastes (liquid wastes produced by many industrial and commercial processes).

The provision of a wastewater system (sewerage scheme) is fundamentally important in terms of ensuring public and environmental health and well-being. The wastewater system collects, treats and manages wastewater disposal from homes, work places, businesses and industries in urban areas. The HDC wastewater system's ability to accept industrial wastewater (trade waste) is critical for the social and economic well-being of the District and Region.

Without wastewater schemes, there would be significant human health and environmental issues, especially within rapid growing and populated urban areas. In today's modern urban environment, wastewater schemes are developed in conjunction with the statutory processes of the RMA to ensure that adverse environmental effects are avoided, remedied or mitigated to an acceptable level.

The existing HDC Wastewater Scheme is made up of a network of pipes and pumps which collects the wastewater from Heretaunga Hastings, Karanema Havelock North, Pāharakeke Flaxmere, Whakatū and Awapuni Clive. This conveys the wastewater to Te Whare o Whiro East Clive Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), which after treatment, discharges wastewater from the two separate networks (as discussed below) through the 2,750m offshore ocean outfall into the marine receiving environment of Te Whanganui-a-Ruawharo Hawke' Bay.

The wastewater network comprises two separate networks:

1) A domestic and non-separable industrial wastewater system that primarily collects domestic wastewater and a small amount of trade waste from industries that are not able to connect to the separated industrial trade waste system. At the WWTP this wastewater is screened and treated using Biological Tricking Filters (BTFs). The BTFs are used to grow bacteria which biologically treat the wastewater to the required standard
2) A separated industrial wastewater system that collects industrial trade wastes. Trade wastes are treated on-site at individual industrial premises to comply with the water services bylaw requirements, prior to discharge into the separated industrial wastewater system. At the WWTP the trade wastes are screened through a 1mm slotted screen prior to mixing with the treated domestic and non-separable wastewater stream.

After passing through a grit removal unit the combined wastewater is then discharged through the offshore ocean outfall.

There is also a small wastewater system in Waipātiki this was established in the mid-2000s in response to environmental concerns around water quality in the local catchment.

Households in rural areas outside the service area rely on on-site wastewater treatment systems to treat and dispose of household wastewater. Properly installed and maintained, this is a hygienic, economical and environmentally safe way of disposing of household wastewater.

The Council's Engineering Code of Practice stipulates the manner in which new Wastewater schemes should be designed as part of land use development.

This section covers the Wastewater Services provided by the Council for the urban environment and certain communities around the District.

INDICATORS

The table below shows the indicators that are used to monitor wastewater treatment in the district. These indicators are also used to inform other Council performance monitoring programmes.

INDICATORS FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL

Indicator		Indicator type	Relevant community outcomes and council objectives	Relevant district plan outcomes and how it informs these outcomes
			Relevant Outcome Statements: • An environment that is appreciated, protected and sustained for future generations	**District Plan** Section 30.1 (Subdivision & Land Development) • Maintenance of public health and safety. • Provision of facilities for wastewater disposal and stormwater disposal for new sites.
WW1	Consented Wastewater Discharges held by Council	Pressure	These indicators will enable Council to monitor trends around the security and integrity of delivery of the district's community wastewater treatment and disposal systems, and the effects of wastewater disposal on the natural environment.	
WW2	Compliance with Consent Conditions for Wastewater Discharges	Response		
WW3	Volume of Wastewater Produced	Pressure		
WW4	Total Number of complaints received by the Council about any of the following: a) Sewage odour b) Wastewater system faults c) Wastewater system blockages d) The Council's response to issues with its Wastewater system	State		
TW1	Amount of Trade Waste Discharged through the Separated Trade Waste Conveyance System	Pressure	These indicators will enable Council to monitor trends around the safety and efficiency of trade waste disposal in the District.	
TW2	Number of Industries Connected to the Separated	Pressure		

Indicator		Indicator type	Relevant community outcomes and council objectives	Relevant district plan outcomes and how it informs these outcomes
	Trade Waste Conveyance System			
TW3	Number of warning notices issued	Pressure		

MONITORING INFORMATION

INDICATOR WW1: CONSENTED WASTEWATER DISCHARGES HELD BY COUNCIL

Heretaunga Hastings District Council holds two main resource consents granted by the Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council (HBRC) for the discharge of wastewater from community Wastewater schemes:

1) **Te Whare o Whiro East Clive Wastewater Treatment Plant** – the consent AUTH-120712-01 (CD130214W) is to discharge final combined wastewater into Te Whanganui-a-Ruawharo Hawke Bay at Waipūrēkū East Clive via the long offshore outfall

   - Consent granted on the 25th June 2014 with a consent expiry date on 31 May 2049 (35 year term); and
   - The consented maximum discharge rate is for 2800 litres per second.

   The consent was granted following an extensive consenting process that involved technical, environmental and public health assessments, consultation with the community and Iwi and finally a public submission process.

   The consent is for a 35 year term, with the requirement for nine yearly reviews. The reviews will consider system performance and technological advancement and will make recommendations about possible treatment improvements.

2) **Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme** – the consent AUTH-115047-02 (DP050397L) is for discharge of wastewater to land

   - Granted in 2005 and will expire on 31 May 2025 (20 year term);
   - Maximum rate of application of effluent of 5mm/m^2/day; and
   - Maximum volume of discharge of 76m^3 per day (532m^3 over a 7 day period) during Stage 1, and 172m^3 per day (1204m^3 over a 7 day period) at completion of Stage 2.

   The Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme has been designed to cater for the established properties within the Waipātiki coastal settlement, as well as the 29-lot subdivision granted in 2003.

Approximately 90% of properties designed for connection to the scheme have been connected, with only half a dozen properties still electing to continue with on-site septic tanks. There is provision for a second stage development when either the 76th connection occurs or when the discharge volume reaches 76m^3 per day, whichever occurs first.

INDICATOR WW2: COMPLIANCE WITH CONSENT CONDITIONS FOR WASTEWATER DISCHARGES

Te Whare o Whiro East Clive Wastewater Treatment Plant

Annual compliance reporting for 2019/20 through to 2023/24 has demonstrated a high level of compliance with consent conditions. Minor non-compliances were recorded in 2021/22 and 2022/23.

Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme

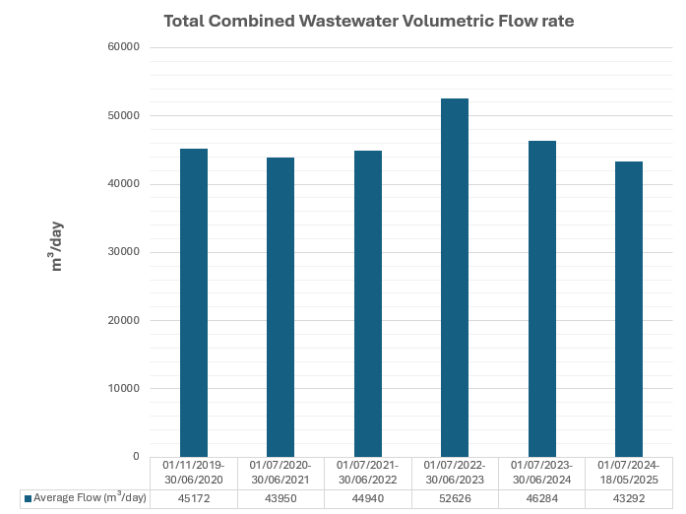
Annual compliance reporting from 2019/20 to 2023/24 has highlighted ongoing challenges in meeting consent conditions, particularly in relation to the nitrate limit. A consent renewal process is underway, and treatment upgrades are planned to address this. Outside of this issue, treatment processes have remained stable.

INDICATOR WW3: VOLUME OF WASTEWATER PRODUCED

Te Whare o Whiro East Clive Wastewater Treatment Plant

The following graph shows the annual average daily volume of wastewater discharged from the East Awapuni Clive Wastewater Treatment Plant via the long ocean outfall.

FIGURE 48: ANNUAL AVERAGE DAILY VOLUME



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

Annual daily averages remain relatively stable, with a variance of approximately 9,000 m³ observed between the maximum and minimum recorded volumes. This variability is primarily attributed to increased wet weather stormwater inflows. Predictably, flows fluctuate across different quarters, reflecting seasonal variations, wet weather events, and periods of peak industrial activity, particularly during the fruit and vegetable processing season.

Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme

There have been no Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme volume exceedances.

INDICATOR WW4: SATISFACTION WITH THE WASTEWATER SYSTEM MEASURE BASED ON:

The number of complaints about the wastewater system is an indicator of residents' satisfaction with the wastewater service.

Wastewater complaints received by the Council are about any of the following:

a) Sewage odour

b) Wastewater system faults

c) Wastewater system blockages

d) The Council's response to issues with its sewerage system.

Expressed per 1000 connections to the Council's Wastewater system.

The graph below shows the total number of complaints per annum.

FIGURE 49: TOTAL NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

Year	Customer Satisfaction	Serviced Properties	Total Complaints
2019/20	26.91	21395	576
2020/21	21.13	21395	452
2021/22	28.01	20919	586
2022/23	32.64 14.22 – Council Customer Service 6.39 – After Hours Customer Services	21908	715
2023/24	24.82 12.09 – Council Customer Service 6.70 – After Hours Customer Services	22082	548

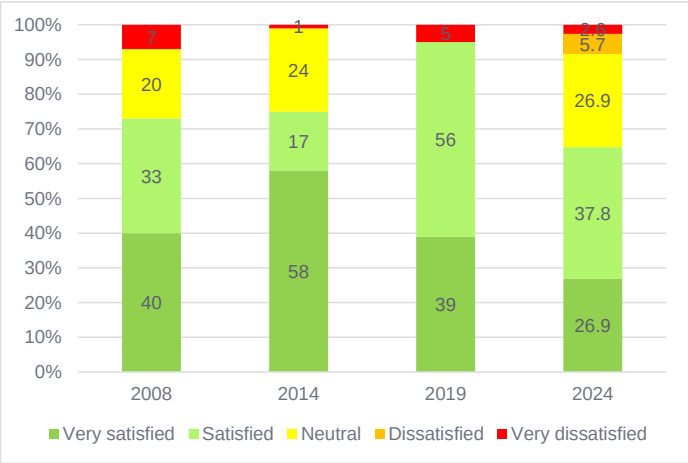
Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

The Public Voice survey included a question asking participants about their satisfaction with the wastewater system. In the most recent survey approximately 67% of participants were connected to Council sewerage system, this is slightly lower than the percentage reported in the 2019 survey which was 73%.

The graph below represents the percentage of survey participants that are satisfied with the sewerage systems in the district. To align the previous survey options with the current, the following adjustments were made:

- Don't know / didn't respond → Neutral
- Not very satisfied → Very dissatisfied
- Fairly satisfied → Satisfied

FIGURE 50: RESIDENTS' SATISFACTION WITH SEWERAGE SYSTEMS



Source: Communitrak and Public Voice Surveys

In 2019 95% of survey participants were satisfied or very satisfied with the districts sewerage systems. In the survey for this reporting period 64.7% were satisfied or very satisfied with the sewerage systems in the district. It is possible that providing a 'neutral' option for a response resulted in this change as it appears that the amount of those satisfied with the sewerage systems is more closely aligned with the 2014 response.

In this current survey 8.3% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the quality of the sewerage systems in the district. In the previous survey 5% were very dissatisfied.

Most of the comments from those dissatisfied with the sewerage systems were concerned about the capacity of the system or were dissatisfied that connections were not available in more rural areas.

INDICATOR TW1: AMOUNT OF TRADE WASTE DISCHARGED THROUGH THE SEPARATED TRADE WASTE CONVEYANCE SYSTEM

There is a small downward trend in industrial flows, and this is what previous State of the Environment reports have found.

The daily volume ranges between 4000m^3 per day to 36,000m^3 per day depending on the time of the year. Volumes are the greatest generally between February and April. This is when fruit and vegetable processors do most of their processing.

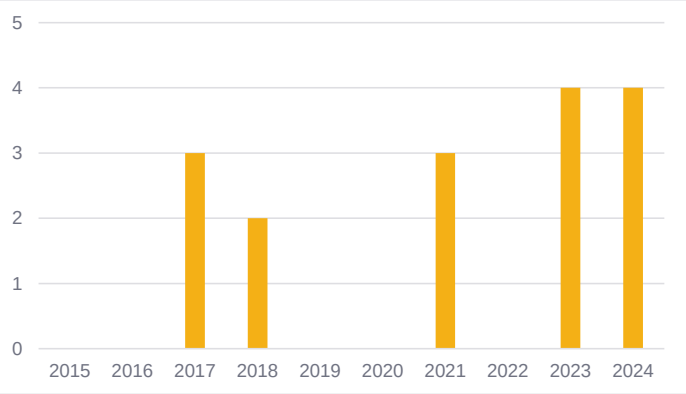
INDICATOR TW2: NUMBER OF INDUSTRIES CONNECTED TO THE SEPARATED TRADE WASTE CONVEYANCE SYSTEM

Currently there are 30 industries connected to the separated industrial sewer. This number remains unchanged from the 2015-2019 report. There were 2 additional industries connected in 2021 but since 2022 the number has dropped back to 30. The number of connected industries appears to have remained fairly static, albeit there is a slight increasing trend from when State of the Environment reporting began in 2008.

INDICATOR TW3: NUMBER OF WARNING NOTICES ISSUED

The graph below summarises the number of trade waste warning notices issued since 2015:

FIGURE 51: NUMBER OF WARNING NOTICES ISSUED BETWEEN 2015 AND 2024



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council Consent Trade Waste Records

The table shows there have been very few issues with trade waste disposal non-compliance, however, there has been a slight increase in non-compliance. The average warning notices issued per year has increased from 1 for between 2015-2019 to 2.2 for the period of 2020-2024. All the warning notices have been for repeated exceedances of approved limits for oil and grease and suspended solids. The industries involved have completed upgrades to their systems or the upgrades are near completion which will address the exceedances.

The district maintains two main wastewater discharge consents, with the Te Whare o Whiro East Clive Wastewater Treatment Plant performing well and consistently meeting compliance. However, the Waipātiki scheme has faced challenges, particularly with nitrate limits, prompting a consent renewal and planned upgrades. Wastewater volumes remain steady, though satisfaction with the sewerage system has declined since 2019, and complaint numbers have risen. Despite this, overall system stability is being maintained.

The volume of trade waste has shown a slight downward trend, consistent with previous years. The number of industries connected to the trade waste system remains unchanged at 30. Non-compliance issues have slightly increased, with more warning notices issued, largely due to repeated exceedances in oil, grease, and suspended solids. Most of these issues are being addressed through system upgrades by the affected industries.

RESPONSES

FOR COMMUNITY

- Do not pour chemicals, paints or thinners (or the like) down any drain
- For the wider community, notify Council compliance staff if you observe unsafe trade waste disposal practices
- For users of trade waste services, ensure compliance with trade waste guidelines so as to minimise the likelihood of non-complying discharges and resulting potential for adverse environmental effects.

FOR COUNCIL

- Continue to look at opportunities to make improvements to all wastewater infrastructure and to service future growth
- Continue to monitor and manage trade waste discharges under the Water Services Bylaw
- Continue to carry out monitor sampling and reporting as required by resource consent conditions

- Look at new technologies to assist in meeting conditions of consent/permitted activity standards for trade waste
- Encourage new industries to connect to the separated trade waste system
- Record discharge rates through the separated trade waste system
- Continue to investigate new technologies that would assist industries to meet their conditions of consent or the permitted activity standards.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Stormwater is the water that runs off impervious surfaces such as roofs, roads, driveways and footpaths.

Stormwater is essentially in the name: surface water generated by a rain event; particularly heavy storms.

Stormwater systems are used in built-up areas to manage rainwater from streets to reduce flooding and provide storage and treatment where appropriate. It is necessary because urban areas have limited green areas that would normally soak up rainwater. The more hard surfaces we have – things like roofs, driveways and forecourts – the more rain runs across the built environment and into the stormwater network rather than seeping into soft areas like gardens and lawns.

The stormwater network plays a crucial role in minimising flooding and mitigating effects on the built environment. Potential effects on the environment include:

- Physical impacts/damage including inundation of properties and buildings, erosion, sediment build-up etc. (from the discharge flow)
- Surcharging of wastewater systems (from inflow and infiltration of stormwater)
- Chemical impacts (and potentially human health impacts) from contaminants picked up in the flows
- Microbiological impacts and human health implications where these waters are used for recreational or drinking water purposes.

The stormwater system consists of a primary and secondary network. The primary network is generally the built stormwater assets (pipes, manholes, culverts etc.) that provides conveyance and (in some cases) treatment for smaller rainfall events. The secondary system provides for conveyance of stormwater in larger events to reduce the potential for land and buildings to be flooded and for people to be threatened. Secondary flow paths (such as roadways) act to control overland flow when the pipe system is overloaded and to contain excess stormwater within defined areas including parks and reserves.

Stormwater is generally not treated in the Hasting District, but some treatment systems are beginning to be implemented. Most of what you put onto your driveway or throw onto the street gets washed into the Karamū Stream and then potentially out to sea. That means the things we do above ground at home, at work and when we are out and about, can directly affect the environment.

INDICATORS

The table below shows the indicators that are used to monitor stormwater management in the district. These indicators are also used to inform other Council performance monitoring programmes.

INDICATORS FOR STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Indicator		Indicator type	Relevant community outcomes and council objectives	Relevant district plan outcomes and how it informs these outcomes
			Relevant Outcome Statements: • An environment that is appreciated, protected and sustained for future generations	**District Plan** Section 30.1 (Subdivision & Land Development) • Maintenance of public health and safety. • Provision of facilities for wastewater disposal and stormwater disposal for new sites.
STM1	Consented Stormwater Discharges held by Council	Pressure	These indicators will enable Council to monitor trends around the of delivery of the district's stormwater discharges, and the effects of stormwater discharge on the natural environment.	
STM2	Compliance with Consent Conditions for Stormwater Discharges	Response		
STM3	Residents' satisfaction with stormwater system	State		

MONITORING INFORMATION

INDICATOR STM1: CONSENTED STORMWATER DISCHARGES HELD BY COUNCIL

The Urban Stormwater Discharge consent held by the Heretaunga Hastings District Council was granted in May 2010 and expired on 31 May 2022 with a new global consent lodged in February 2022. This application encompasses the more area-specific consents held for areas such as Barnes Place, James Rochfort Place, Lowes, Ōmāhu North Industrial, Whakatū West Industrial stormwater and others which have also expired. In accordance with s124 of the RMA, the discharges authorised under the expired consents are able to legally continue under the expired consents until such time as the new consent application is determined. The new consent application is still being developed as we journey with Mana Whenua in partnership to establish a suitable consent

INDICATOR STM2: COMPLIANCE WITH CONSENT CONDITIONS FOR STORMWATER DISCHARGES

The following page shows the compliance of stormwater with consents. The stormwater discharges are for the most part in full compliance with consent conditions.

INDICATOR STM3: RESIDENTS' SATISFACTION WITH STORMWATER SYSTEM

The number of complaints about the stormwater system is an indicator of residents' satisfaction.

Stormwater system complaints received by the Council are about any of the following (but not limited to):

- Blocked pipes and catchpits
- Damaged pipes or catchpits
- Flooding and ponding
- Contamination and spill events
- Vegetation growth and debris in open waterways, drains and drainage reserves
- Erosion or scouring in open waterways and drains
- Trees growing on drainage reserves

TABLE 11: TOTAL NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

Year	Customer Complaints	Flooding Complaints	Connection Count
2020	286	9	22970
2021	234	15	23114
2022	406	14	23260
2023	542	19	23309
2024	298	8	23329

Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

FIGURE 52: STORMWATER COMPLIANCE 2020 - 2024

Authorisation Number	Location	Description	Compliance Year			
			1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021	1 July 2021- 30 June 2022	1 July 2022- 30 June 2023	01 July 2023 – 30 June 2024
AUTH-120054-03 & AUTH-120056-03	Omahu Road, Hastings	To divert stormwater from a 63 hectare industrial area (Omahu North Industrial Area) and to discharge this stormwater to land and to water via individual infiltration basins.	Low Risk Non-Compliance	Moderate Non-Compliance	Moderate Non-Compliance	Full Compliance
AUTH-119172-02	Lowes Pit, Hastings	To divert and discharge stormwater from the Lowes Pit stormwater catchment area (as shown in Schedule 1) to water (Lowes Pit).	Low Risk Non-Compliance	Moderate Non-Compliance	Full Compliance	Full Compliance
AUTH-119174-01	Barnes Place, Hastings	To divert and discharge stormwater from the Barnes Place stormwater catchment area to land (in a manner which may enter water).	N/A-Compliance Report not located	Moderate Non-Compliance	Low Risk Non-Compliance	Full Compliance
AUTH-119173-01	James Rochfort Place, Hastings	To divert and discharge stormwater from the James Rochfort Place stormwater catchment area to land and to water via a sand filter.	Low Risk Non-Compliance	Moderate Non-Compliance	Low Risk Non-Compliance	Full Compliance
AUTH-118324-03	Irongate Lower Southland Awahou Ruahapia Ruahapia Industrial Tomoana Mallory Karamu 2 Karamu 4 Clive Urban Herehere Mangarau Havelock Havelock Streams Mahora	To divert and discharge stormwater, excluding runoff that is not a consequence of rain, from any open drain system or piped stormwater drainage system to water, including discharges to land in a manner that subsequently results in the stormwater entering water, within the following catchments as shown in Attachment A:	Significant Non-Compliance	Moderate Non-Compliance	Low Risk Non-Compliance	Full Compliance

Authorisation Number	Location	Description	Compliance Period	
			10 May 2020 -20 March 2021	01 April 2022 – 31 January 2023
AUTH-112330-02	Whakatu Industrial Area	To discharge stormwater, condenser water, defrost water and subsurface drainage water from a managed reticulated stormwater system by gravity or through a pumped system into Clive River.	Low Risk Non-Compliance	Low Risk Non-Compliance

Authorisation Number	Location	Description	Compliance Period		
			27 November 2017 - 2 November 2020	1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021	01 July 2021 – 30 June 2022
AUTH-114364-05	Lyndhurst	To divert and discharge stormwater to the Lyndhurst and Mahora Drains and then to the Raupare Stream.	Moderate Non-Compliance	Moderate Non-Compliance	Moderate Non-Compliance

The Public Voice survey included a question asking residents' about their satisfaction with the stormwater system. This is the first time this had been included in the survey.

FIGURE 53: RESIDENTS' SATISFACTION WITH STORMWATER SYSTEMS

Source: Public Voice Survey

In the survey, 51.7% of participants were satisfied or very satisfied with the stormwater systems, with only 23.9% dissatisfied or very dissatisfied. Those that were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied felt that road sweeping or gutters were not adequate or that stormwater drains did not handle rain events well.

RESPONSES

FOR COMMUNITY

- Be mindful of where you wash your car because car wash soaps can cause harm to local waterways. Think about the location and park your car on a grassy or gravel surface and dispose of wash water correctly by disposing of water down your property's gully trap or sink.
- Empty and clean spa's and pools responsibly by 1. disposing of water by allowing it to soak into the ground or 2. through your property's gully trap into wastewater network, or 3. Using a pool service that follows proper disposal guidelines.
- Implement effective sediment and erosion controls for construction, demolition or renovation projects.
- Don't litter
- Never tip things like paint, stain,r thinners cooking oil or concreting wash-up directly into a stormwater drain, or onto paving where rainwater can wash it into a drain.
- Rake up your grass and hedge clippings and add them to your compost or green waste rubbish pile. Hosing them into the gutter (or letting the rain do it for you) puts them into the stormwater system, adding to the nitrogen load on the Karamū Stream.
- Avoid locating your compost pile on stream banks or on public drainage reserve land
- When working on machinery or vehicles make sure you have some way of 'catching' excess grease or oil, and a way of cleaning it up if there is a spill. Clean your machine or vehicle before transporting out onto the roadway. Keeping material off the concrete, and therefore out of the drains and waterways, is extremely important.
- For the wider community, notify Council compliance staff if you observe unsafe disposal practices
- For industrial or trade premises, ensure compliance with the Council's Consolidated Bylaw (2021) standards and your controlled stormwater

discharge approval (CDSA) so as to minimise the likelihood of non-complying discharges and resulting potential for adverse environmental effects.

FOR COUNCIL

- Continue to look at opportunities to make improvements to all stormwater infrastructure locations to provide treatment and to service future growth
- Continue to carry out monitor sampling and reporting as required by resource consent conditions
- Continue public education on responsible stormwater management

The district continues to operate under an expired urban stormwater discharge consent while a new global consent is under consideration. Compliance with existing conditions has generally been strong. Resident satisfaction with the stormwater system is mixed, with a slight majority satisfied, though nearly a quarter remain dissatisfied, highlighting an area for ongoing improvement in service delivery and infrastructure capacity.

WHAKAHAERETANGA MŌREAREA HAZARD MANAGEMENT

HAZARD MANAGEMENT

The issues at a glance

Indicator		State 2015-2019	State 2020-2024	Summary
Natural Hazards				
NH1	Natural hazard events			In 2023 the district was hit by Cyclone Gabrielle. There was district wide devastation, loss of life, the destruction of buildings, property, bridges and culverts as a result of widespread flooding and landslides. Cyclone Gabrielle was an unprecedented event that deeply affected many communities throughout the district. Weather related events were unsettled between 2020 and 2024. There was an increase in regional warning alerts, storm events and severity of coastal inundation. Inversely, vegetation wildfires and their damage decreased during this period.
NH2	Area of land identified as Natural Hazards			In total 9,481.5 hectares of land in the district is covered by a natural hazard overlay in the District Plan. This is 1.81% of the total land area of the district.
NH3	Number of consents for subdivision/land development within Natural Hazard Overlays			46, 12 and 4 subdivision consents were granted in the tsunami inundation, river hazard, and land instability overlays respectively. 4 consents were granted under the natural hazard rules in the District Plan. There were 1211 for land use consents and 47 for subdivision consents reported in the previous State of the Environment report.
NH4	Building consents granted within natural hazards overlays			The number of new buildings granted in the natural hazard overlays totalled 236 between 2020 and 2024. The number of building consents granted for new buildings between 2015 and 2019 totalled 1,083. This is a large decrease possibly due to changes to data retrieval and district plan hazard overlays.
Hazardous Substances				
HS1	Number of consents applying the hazardous facility screening procedure			Between 2020 and 2024, there have been 6 resource consents granted for Major Hazardous Facilities, resulting in a requirement for a resource consent application. Between 2015 and 2019 6 were required.
HS2	Number of reported incidents and callouts to hazardous substances spills			The number of reported spills involving hazardous substances has decreased from an average of 16 per year over the last reporting period to 13.

Section 31 of the RMA gives Heretaunga Hastings District Council the function of managing and controlling the effects of the use, development, or protection of land. Of particular relevance to the state of the environment in respect of hazards, is:

- The avoidance or mitigation of natural hazards; and

- The prevention or mitigation of any adverse effects of the storage, use, disposal, or transportation of hazardous substances.

The Heretaunga Hastings District is subject to a variety of hazards. These hazards include natural events such as earthquakes and flooding, through to events involving hazardous substances originating from our industrial and horticulture activities.

MŌREAREATANGA Ā-TAIAO NATURAL HAZARDS

The Heretaunga Hastings District has the potential to suffer effects from various natural hazard types. This includes earthquakes, coastal erosion, flooding, droughts, snow fall, volcanic activity and tsunamis.

Whilst natural hazard events are largely the result of natural processes and 'Acts of God', their impacts on the environment and severity are influenced by land use patterns, development and human activity.

Heretaunga Hastings District Council aims to avoid hazards through District Plan provisions where appropriate, the Resource Management Act and the Building Act. This includes the avoidance of subdivision on land subject to natural hazards or potential natural hazards, and the avoidance of subdivision where it could accelerate or worsen the risk of natural hazards.

INDICATORS

The table below shows the indicators that are used to monitor natural hazards in the district. These indicators are also used to inform other monitoring programmes for the district, such as Community Outcomes Monitoring and monitoring achievement of the anticipated outcomes in the Heretaunga Hastings District Plan, as shown below.

INDICATORS FOR NATURAL HAZARDS

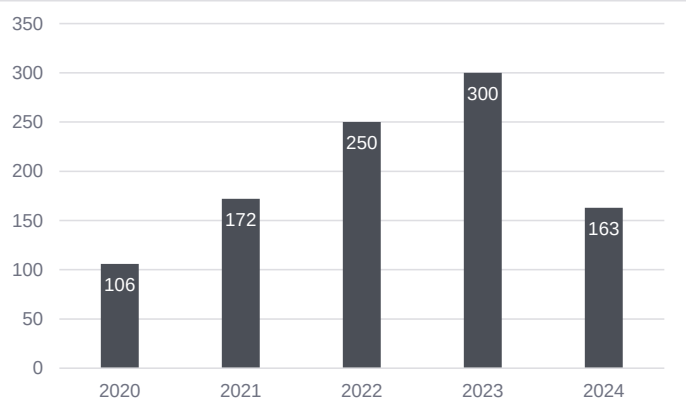
Indicator		Indicator type	Relevant community outcomes and council objectives	Relevant district plan outcomes and how it informs these outcomes
			Relevant Outcome Statements: • An environment that is appreciated, protected, and sustained for future generations. • Safe and secure communities. • A lifetime of good health and wellbeing.	**District Plan** Section 15.1 (Natural Hazards) • New Residential Zones are located outside of avoidable hazard risk areas. Where building development is already within a hazard area, the reasonable risk of the hazard is reduced and/or mitigated by minimum floor levels, buffers, setbacks or other building standards. • Reduction in risks to people and the community from natural hazards has been achieved by the avoidance of hazards where they may pose a significant risk to human life, property and infrastructure in proposed new development areas and by mitigation for existing development areas. Section 30.1 (Subdivision and Land Development) • Avoidance of subdivision on land that remains subject to natural hazards or potential natural hazards. • Avoidance of subdivision where it could accelerate or worsen the risk of natural hazards. • Maintenance or enhancement of public health and safety.
NH1	Natural Hazard Events	State	This indicator will enable Council to monitor trends around the type and nature of natural hazards occurring in the Heretaunga Hastings District, and their severity. Information on natural hazard events (such as significant flood events, storm surge events, rural fire events, and coastal erosion trends) will also, over a long timeframe, contribute to an understanding of the effects of climate change in the district.	
NH2	Area of Land Identified as Natural Hazards area	State and Response	This indicator indicates the state of the environment in terms of risk/vulnerability to natural hazards.	
NH3	Number of Consents for Subdivision/Land Development within the Natural Hazards overlays	Pressure	This indicator will indicate any trends toward, and pressure for, development of land identified as subject to natural hazards.	
NH4	Building consents granted within Natural Hazards overlays	Pressure	Monitoring the number of building consents granted within areas identified in the District Plan as Natural Hazards enables pressure on these areas to be identified.	

MONITORING INFORMATION

INDICATOR NH1: NATURAL HAZARD EVENTS

The following indicator provides a snapshot of recent natural hazard events related to weather and climate that have impacted on communities (such as major storm and flood events, coastal erosion and inundation events, and rural wildfires).

FIGURE 54: NUMBER OF REGIONAL WARNING ALERTS BETWEEN 2020 AND 2024



Source: Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Civil Defence Emergency Management Group

Whilst natural hazard events are not related to human activity, they do contribute to an understanding of how the presence of people and associated development can exacerbate their effects on people, property and the natural environment.

Ongoing recording of such natural hazard events may also, in the future, contribute to an understanding of the effects of climate change on the district over time (temperature, rainfall and weather patterns, sea level rise).

Major Storm and Flood Events

Flooding, storms, and severe weather are the most frequent hazard in Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay.

The table below shows the numerous major storms resulting in severe flooding in Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay since 1867.

TABLE 12: MAJOR STORM AND FLOODING EVENTS RECORDED IN TE MATAU-A-MĀUI HAWKE'S BAY TO 2024

Year	Date	Event
1867	25 May-4 June	A large flood in Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay, which according to the local Māori, there was no flood to compare with it in the previous 40 years. Rainfall in Ahuriri Napier was measured at 380 mm in four days. The Tukituki, Ngaruroro and Tūtaekurī all overflowed their banks at several locations, causing extensive flooding.
1893	4 December	Heavy rain cause flooding in the Waipawa River, with the highest levels ever known. The Tūtaekurī and Ngaruroro Rivers broke their banks, resulting in widespread damage.
1897	17 April	356 mm of rain fell in Ahuriri Napier over four days. The Ngaruroro River broke its banks between Te Pōpō Roy's Hill and Puketapu Fernhill and 'menaced' Karamū Hastings. It also broke its banks south of Te Pōpō Roy's Hill and flowed along a very old course. The Tūtaekurī River broke its banks and joined with floodwaters from the Ngaruroro River to flood Awapuni Clive and Ahuriri Napier.
1917	13 June	Flooding estimated to be greater than that of 1897 and nearly as bad as the 1867 flood, causing widespread damage in Ahuriri Napier. 187mm fell in 36 hours. At Mōrere, 522mm fell in four days, of which 319mm fell in 24 hours.
1924	11-12 March	Rainfall at Pekapeka Rissington was 510mm in 10 hours with 230mm falling in 2.75 hours. At Herepoho Eskdale, 419mm was recorded in nine hours.
1936	1 February	A cyclonic storm resulted in extensive flooding throughout Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay. In Ahuriri Napier 101mm fell in 24 hours.
1938	23-25 April	Herepoho Esk Valley Floods. Severe flooding was widespread after three days of heavy rain, with exceptional falls in some areas. In three days, 610mm fell at Tūtira, and a staggering 1,000mm at Puketītīrī (with 390mm in one day).
1941	4 May	Very heavy rain fell on Tamatea Central and Southern Hawke's Bay. At Pōrangahau 406mm fell in 24 hours, and the Pōrangahau River rose 14.3m above normal causing extensive flooding.
1948	13-14 May	In the Wairoa River catchment 307mm fell in three days at Onepoto, and 260mm at Tūai in the same period. The Wairoa River rose to a record height and flooded buildings in the Wairoa township.
1953	27-28 January	Exceptionally heavy rainfall over the Wanstead, Elsthorpe and Maraetōtara area. In the Mangarouhi Valley 349mm was registered in 24 hours, with the bulk of the fall occurring over six hours.
1974	15 June	Flooding in Ahuriri Napier from 157mm of rain in 24 hours.
1980	28 December	Rainfall at Whanawhana was recorded at 157mm in 48 hours. The Ngaruroro River breached the stopbank at Raupare Twyford resulting in serious flooding.
1988	7-10 March	Cyclone Bola was the most significant weather event in New Zealand since Cyclone Alison in the South Island in 1975. Bola caused considerable damage in the Gisborne and Wairoa districts. The highest total rainfall for the three day period was 635mm recorded at Pukeorapa.
1997	2-3 June	Wairoa District declared a Civil Defence Emergency at 1900, terminated at 2100 next day. About 166 people evacuated at Nūhaka after flooding and power failure associated with storm.
2001	9 December	A chain of thunderstorms formed up the eastern coast of New Zealand, which resulted in downpours in Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay. In Ahuriri Napier and Heretaunga Hastings, 50mm of rain fell in the hour before noon – close to the average for the entire month. It caused millions of dollars of damage from water and surface flooding and damaging some roofs and shop stock. It was cited as a 1/100-year rainfall event for Ahuriri Napier and Karamū Hastings city areas.
2002	10 January	An electrical storm formed near Waipukurau in the evening, travelled north and resulted in 77mm of rain in 90 minutes in Heretaunga Hastings and 70mm in Ahuriri Napier. The storm turned streets into rivers, damaged footpaths and properties, caused power cuts and flooded shops as stormwater systems were unable to cope with the second 1/100 year downpour in a month.

Year	Date	Event
2004	15 February	Tamatea Southern Hawke's Bay was hit with southerly winds and heavy rain. In 24 hours starting from around noon on Sunday, 15,228.5 mm fell at Shag Rock, and 197 mm fell at Wallingford. The Tukituki River reached a five-year level. Surface flooding occurred in Ōtāne, Waipawa, Waipukurau, and Takapau. Pōrangahau area was worst hit, with roads, the cemetery, businesses and houses flooded, and around six families evacuated.
2004	18 October	A thunderstorm dumped several days' worth of rain on Ahuriri Napier in just a few hours – described as a 'rainbomb' producing a 1/50 year event – the rain quickly filled up drains, and then roads. However, the rain was so intense (up to 180mm of rain recorded in a few hours in the epi-centre of Tamatea/Greenmeadows) it flooded numerous properties, with eight homes flooded and firms in the Onekawa industrial area estimating losses in the millions.
2007	17 July	Several houses in Maraekākaho were evacuated. Army unimogs evacuated 200 students and staff marooned at Puketapu School. Maraekākaho residents called it the worst flooding in 50 years.
2009	5 October	Heavy snow fell on the Napier-Taupō Road closing the road and trapping over 100 people. The local 4WD Club and NZ Defence assisted police to ferry people to safety.
2011	27 April	Coastal flooding event affected Haumoana, Te Āwanga, Clifton and Waimārama when a local rain event flooded properties and closed roads. Nine people at Waimārama and the Te Āwanga Motor Camp were evacuated and six homes were flooded.
2017		Snow and flood event (Napier-Taupō road closed along with Taihape – Napier (Gentle Annie Road).
2018	June	Te Huka Waiohinganga Esk River floods and severe weather in June closing Napier-Taupō road after heavy rain caused slips and flooding.
2020	9 November	A heavy rainstorm hit Ahuriri Napier on 9 November 2020 and caused disruption and damage. Insurance claims totalled $87.72 million. A local state of emergency was declared on 9 November, after torrential rain flooded the city, causing large slips and trapping people in their cars. The state of emergency lasted through until 13 November. At least 30 people had been evacuated, in what was called a 1:250-year event.
2022	22 – 24 March	The heavy rain event that occurred from 22 to 24 March 2022 in Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay, resulted in significant flooding and damage. Rivers in the region reached high levels, including some exceeding 5% and even 1% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) levels, which are long-term averages of once every 20 years and once every 100 years, respectively. Several roads were closed due to flooding and slips, and hundreds of people were evacuated on the East Coast and in parts of Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay
2022	11 – 13 April	Ex-Tropical Cyclone Fili was a significant weather event, and people were advised to keep up to date with the latest official Severe Weather Watches and Warnings issued by MetService. Strong, gusty winds began to affect Northland on Tuesday, 12 April, moving down the North Island from night-time through Wednesday. Power cuts occurred, particularly along the coast and in exposed/elevated areas in the northeast corner of the island. Soaking rain moved southward, with the heaviest falls occurring in an already sodden Te Wairoa and Gisborne where well over a month's worth of rain caused more flooding. Wave heights of over five metres in the NE North Island caused rough coastal sea conditions with the potential for beach erosion along the coast on Wednesday night. The storm impacts were short but sharp, and the storm moved well east of the country on Thursday, 14 April.
2023	10 – 11 January	MetService issued orange heavy rain warnings for the upper North Island, including Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay. Gale force winds and heavy rain were battering the upper North Island as ex-Tropical Cyclone Hale made its way southwards. This first tropical storm of the year caused severe flooding and slips caused road closures and power outages in parts of the upper North Island.
2023	13 – 14 February	On 13 and 14 February 2023, Cyclone Gabrielle caused significant damage across large parts of the North Island and lashed Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay with gale-force winds, a large easterly swell and record rainfall causing rivers to burst their banks, having a devastating impact on the region. It was the costliest tropical cyclone on record in the Southern Hemisphere.
2024	21 – 24 May	On Monday, 20 May 2024, at 9:35am MetService forecasted an orange heavy rain warning for Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay. Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council (HBRC) was forecasting the heaviest rain predicted in the Tūtaekurī, Ngaruroro and Tukituki catchments over an 48-hour period from 6:00pm on Monday night (20/05/2024), and a large offshore swell on Tuesday afternoon (21/05/2024). Between 20 May 2024 at 12:00pm and 21 May 2024 at 12:00pm up to 193mm of rainfall was recorded in the ranges at our Parks Peak rain gauge. On 22 May 2024 at 8:00pm the forecast was downgraded significantly for south of SH5 (watch removed), and reduced intensities and totals for Northern Te

Year	Date	Event
		Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay, in particular around Nūhaka and Te Māhia. Heavy rain caused streams and rivers to rise rapidly, and surface flooding and slips made driving conditions hazardous.

Source: Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Civil Defence Emergency Management Group

Cyclone Gabrielle

On 13 and 14 February 2023, Cyclone Gabrielle brought severe weather to much of Te Ika-a-Māui The North Island, with Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay among the hardest-hit regions. The cyclone arrived with gale-force winds, heavy swells, and record-breaking rainfall. Rivers overtopped their banks, leading to widespread flooding and landslides.

The impacts on people and communities were far-reaching. Sadly, eight lives were lost in Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay, and emergency services carried out around 300 rescues as the situation unfolded.

In the early hours of 14 February, the Mayor declared a State of Local Emergency for Heretaunga Hastings District under section 68 of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act. This was followed by a regional declaration from the Chair of Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council, and subsequently, a State of National Emergency was declared by the Minister later that same day. The national emergency remained in place until 14 March 2023.

At the height of the event, approximately 1,900 people were supported in Civil Defence Centres, many having had to leave their homes behind. Around 20,000 Civil Defence emergency payments were made to help affected families meet immediate needs.

Council teams worked tirelessly throughout the emergency and recovery phases. By 1 April 2023, over 930 building inspections had been carried out, and approximately 170 Council staff supported Emergency Operations Centre efforts during the response.

The effects of Cyclone Gabrielle were deeply felt across rural communities, marae, and the primary sector. It caused significant damage to homes, infrastructure, and livelihoods across the Heretaunga Hastings District. Cyclone Gabrielle is now considered the costliest tropical cyclone ever recorded in the Southern Hemisphere.

Cyclone Gabrielle marked a significant moment in our region's history — one that demonstrated both the scale of vulnerability and the strength of community in the face of adversity.

Since the beginning of 2024, many of HDC's communities have started to put together their own community resilience plans as identified in their Community Plans, with the assistance of Council. The purpose of these plans is to help the community to:

- Understand the hazards that exist in their community;
- Increase the resilience of residents by increasing awareness and, where possible, reducing the impact of local hazards in their community;
- Encourage social connection between neighbours and local groups; and
- Support each other following an emergency.

Coastal Erosion and Inundation

Coastal erosion is the removal of material at the coast causing the shoreline to retreat landward. The processes include not only the work of the sea, but also that of the wind, migrating river mouths and tidal inlets, coastal landslides and tectonics. Coastal erosion can also be caused, or exacerbated, by man-made structures placed in the coastal environment, which interfere with natural coastal processes.

Coastal inundation is the flooding of low-lying coastal areas by seawater. This occurs when storm surges or heavy swells, often coinciding with high tides, overtop beach crests. Beach front properties can also suffer from direct wave attack causing damage and localised flooding. Low-lying areas, which experience coastal erosion, can also be at greater risk of coastal inundation as natural barriers are weakened.

Erosion has been causing damage to property in the Heretaunga Hastings District since at least the 1850's. In particular, concern has grown at Awapuni Clive, Waimārama, Haumoana and Te Āwanga. The following table describes the two major coastal inundation events affecting Awapuni Clive and Haumoana in recent history.

TABLE 13: MAJOR COASTAL INUNDATION EVENTS RECORDED IN THE HERETAUNGA HASTINGS DISTRICT TO 2024

Year	Date	Event
1974	Aug	Seawater flooded three hundred hectares of horticultural and urban land in Waipūrēkū East Clive. To prevent a reoccurrence a sea exclusion bank was constructed in 1976-77 along the coastal area. However, the shoreline continued to recede and erosion was accelerated by the Heretaunga Hastings sewer outfall constructed in 1979. By 1982 erosion had substantially decreased the ponding area between the beach berm and the sea exclusion bank and it was twice overtopped by the sea. The long-term vulnerability of the area was recognised and in 1985 a scheme was initiated to move the sea exclusion bank further inland.
2002	3 Apr	About 20 Haumoana residents had to leave their homes as the high seas threatened a dozen properties near the corner of East and Clifton Roads, with some properties receiving major structural damage. The rough seas destroyed fences, cracked doors and tossed up stones smashing windows.
2007	17 Jul	Previously damaged house lost in heavy swell at corner of East and Clifton Roads, Haumoana. The Maraekākaho community was flooded in July 2007. A few houses were evacuated, while others were accessible only to residents
2008	8 Feb	Heavy swells of up to 6m, generated by the aftermath of cyclone Gene, pounded the coast and threatened beach front homes, with the wave level reaching homes opposite the Te Awanga Pub. Haumoana and Te Āwanga homes sustained the most damage.
2008	Jul	Three storms in a one-week period occurred, resulting in the Clifton Motor Camp losing some of its land when established pōhutukawa trees and 2m of coast were washed away when high tide came in.
2010	24 May	High seas along Clifton shoreline undermined six to eight metres of land by the Marine Club and motor camp.
2015	Mar	Cyclone Pam causing inundation in Haumoana.
2019		Cape Coast landslide causing serious injuries to two tourist and resulting in the closure of the coast walk to Te Kauwae-a-Māui Cape Kidnappers.
2024	25 – 27 June	A local state of emergency was declared for the Heretaunga Ward at 4:45am on Wednesday, 26 June 2024. High swell and waves caused a breach of the seawall in three locations at Springfield Road near Gaskin Place causing inundation of the Haumoana coastal area. This led to evacuations to the Haumoana School Hall. SH51 closed between Whakatū and Marine Parade, and Ellis Wallace Road closed due to a significant slip. An outage in Tūtira was limited to 15 customers. During the second night (Wednesday/Thursday) there was more overtopping of the seawall at Springfield Road, leading to more inundation and evacuations to the Haumoana School Hall, which remained open on the Thursday morning (27 June). The local state of emergency was lifted at 12:04pm on Thursday, 27 June 2024.

Source: Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Civil Defence Emergency Management Group

Rural Wildfire

A wildfire is an unplanned fire. During periods of drought, the risk of rural wildfires increases. There have been numerous large rural fires in Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay in the past.

Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay ranks among the warmest regions in Aotearoa New Zealand, with summer daytime highs averaging around 24°C, with an annual rainfall of 780mm/year. During periods of general, strong, west to north-west flow over Te Ika-a-Māui The North Island, the winds across lowlands can be warm, dry winds and in extreme cases temperatures may be 27-40ºC with a relative humidity of 8-30 percent.

Every year the Rural Fire Authorities in Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay are required to fight large rural fires. The Heretaunga Hastings District is one of the largest in the North Island. All of Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay is under Fire and Emergency jurisdiction, with the exception of public conservation land.

The table below depicts the statistics of hectares burnt and number of fires for Heretaunga Hastings District Council between 2020 and 2024.

TABLE 14: VEGETATION FIRE STATISTICS AND DAMAGE BY AREA (HA)

Year	Number of Vegetation Fire Events	Total Estimated Burn Area (ha)
2020	141	584.88
2021	114	75.96
2022	37	16.55
2023	96	18.43
2024	154	13.57

Source: Fire and Emergency HB

The previous report provided the statistics based on financial year, which can make direct comparisons difficult. However, based on those statistics there was on average 147 vegetation wildfires per year resulting in 5,104 hectares of damage for the years 2015 to 2019.

Between 2020 and 2024 there were an average of 108 vegetation wildfires per year resulting in an average 141 hectares of damage per year. This is a decrease from the previous reporting period.

Imposition of fire restrictions and total fire bans are mechanisms open to Rural Fire Authorities to minimise the risk of fire in the district under powers given to them under the Forest and Rural Fires Act 1977.

There were 6 restricted fire seasons between 2020 and 2024. These were from:

- 11 November 2019 – 10 February 2020 (rural only)
- 11 October 2020 – 3 February 2021 (rural only)
- 15 March 2021 – 31 May 2021
- 12 January 2022 – 1 March 2022
- 10 April 2024 – 17 April 2024
- 11 November 2024 – 28 April 2025

Complete fire bans were in place between:

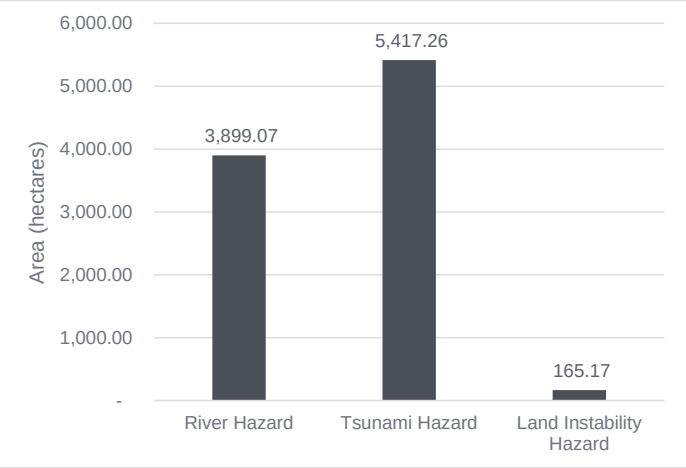
- 10 February 2020 – 2 June 2020 (rural only)
- 3 February 2021 – 15 March 2021
- 25 March 2024 – 10 April 2024

INDICATOR NH2: AREA OF LAND IDENTIFIED AS NATURAL HAZARD

The Heretaunga Hastings District has land classified as being at risk to natural hazards. This land is regulated in the District Plan through the river hazard, land instability, and tsunami hazard overlays. This is a change from the previous operative District Plan that had several Natural Hazard Resource Management Units (further discussed under indicator NH3.

The following graph shows the total land area in each of the hazard overlays in the Heretaunga Hastings District, where these are identified on the District Plan Maps.

FIGURE 55: TOTAL AREA OF COVERED BY EACH OF THE NATURAL HAZARD OVERLAYS AS AT 2024



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

In total 9,481.5 hectares of land in the district is covered by a natural hazard overlay in the District Plan. This is 1.81% of the total land area of the district.

In addition to the above areas, the Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Hazard Portal identifies all known hazards pertaining to Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay, including:

- Property Hazards
- Fault Lines
- Liquefaction
- Amplification
- Coastal Hazards
- Floor Risk Areas
- Detention Dams, Tsunami Inundation
- Landslide Risk

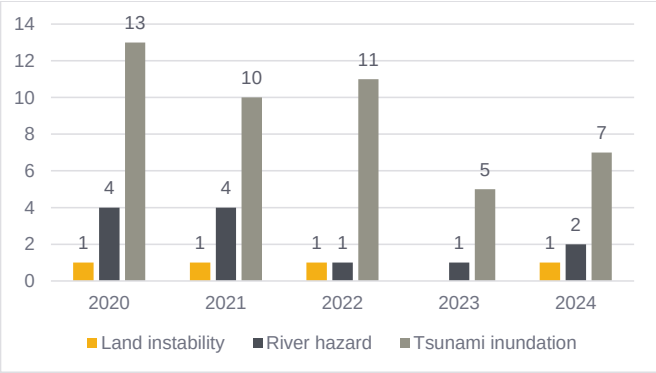
INDICATOR NH3: NUMBER OF CONSENTS GRANTED FOR SUBDIVISION/LAND DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE NATURAL HAZARD OVERLAYS

The current operative District Plan was made partially operative in 2020. It's approach to hazards is different to the previous plan that previous State of the Environment reports used. For example, the overlays in the previous District Plan were called Natural Hazard Resource Management Units (RMU's) and consisted of river, flooding, coastal, land instability and Haumoana inundation.

The current operative District Plan regulates activities within the river hazard, land instability, and tsunami hazard overlays. The rule framework is more restrictive than the previous operative plan so for these reasons this report will examine consents granted in the last five years – since 2020.

Subdivision occurs more frequently in the tsunami hazard overlay, most likely due to this area already covering small urban areas such as Awapuni Clive, Whakatū, and Haumoana – Te Āwanga. Additionally, to further build on any subdivided land, land use rules are less restrictive compared to the river hazard overlay. For example, all permanent buildings, structures and habitable buildings in the river hazard overlay (except sites zoned Coastal Settlement Zone at Tāngoio and Waipātiki) are non-complying and require resource consent. For the tsunami hazard zone activities that require resource consent are more like camping grounds and retirement villages.

FIGURE 56: NUMBER OF SUBDIVISION CONSENTS WITHIN THE NATURAL HAZARD OVERLAYS 2020 - 2024



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

Subdivisions granted in the river hazard overlay totalled 12 over the reporting period. Three of the subdivision consents were boundary adjustments, two were variations to consent and one a right of way easement.

The land instability overlay had the fewest number of subdivisions granted in the reporting period of the hazard overlays likely due to it being small in area.

Land use consents that trigger the rules in the natural hazard chapter of the District Plan are also important to look at as they can show us the demand for activities in those areas that require resource consent. Only two land use consents were granted under the natural hazard rules for the river hazard overlay and only two for the tsunami hazard zone.

Previous state of the environment reports used data that was broader – consents where the property intersected with a natural hazard area but the activity may have not been within the hazard area.

INDICATOR NH4: BUILDING CONSENTS GRANTED WITHIN NATURAL HAZARDS OVERLAYS

The graph below shows the number of building consents granted for new construction between 2020 – 2024 in the natural hazard overlays in the District Plan.

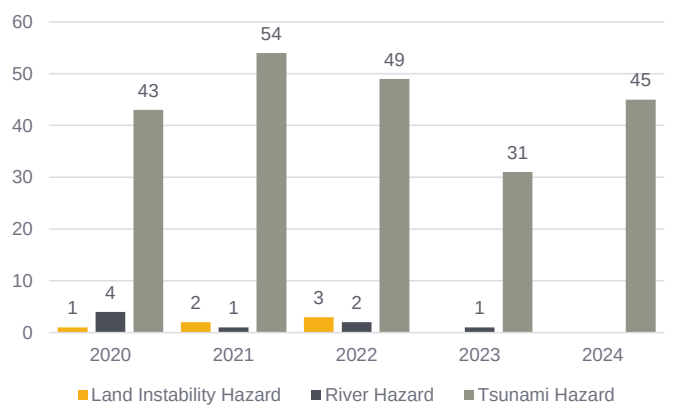
By far, most building consents were granted within the tsunami hazard overlay with a total of 222 over the reporting period. It is less likely that a resource consent will also be required to build in the tsunami hazard overlay. The only buildings that also require resource consent in this overlay are:

- Visitor Accommodation
- Non Residential Care Facilities
- Education Facilities
- Early Childhood Centres
- Homes for the Aged
- Places of Assembly
- Emergency Service Facilities
- Camping Grounds
- Health Care Services
- Retirement Villages

Eight building consents in total were granted for new construction in the river hazard overlay. Permanent buildings, structures and habitable buildings all require a resource consent to build in this overlay, however this excludes those in the coastal settlement zone in Waipātiki and Tāngoio. This is where most of the new construction occurred.

The land instability hazard overlay only saw six building consents granted for the reporting period.

FIGURE 57: BUILDING CONSENTS GRANTED FOR NEW BUILDINGS IN THE NATURAL HAZARD OVERLAYS IN THE DISTRICT PLAN 2020 - 2024



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

RESPONSES

FOR COMMUNITY

- Consider the risk of natural hazard when purchasing a property or building a home e.g. flooding, coastal hazard and land instability risks
- Be aware of, and adhere to, fire restrictions when in force

Between 2020 and 2024, the district faced significant natural hazard challenges, most notably the devastating impact of Cyclone Gabrielle in 2023, which caused widespread flooding, landslides, loss of life, and major damage to property and infrastructure across the district.

Weather events during this period were generally more unsettled, with more frequent regional warnings, severe storms, and coastal inundation, although damage from vegetation wildfires decreased.

Around 1.81% of the district's land area (9,481.5 hectares) is covered by a natural hazard overlay in the District Plan. During this period, 46 subdivision consents were granted in tsunami inundation areas, 12 in river hazard areas, and 4 in land instability areas, with 4 further consents granted under natural hazard rules. Building activity in hazard areas decreased significantly, with 236 new building consents issued compared to 1,083 in the previous reporting period.

- Have an emergency plan in place, and enough supplies to be able to support yourself in your home for at least three days in the event of a natural disaster.

FOR COUNCIL

- Monitor building consents and resource consents in current flooding areas and also HBRC flooding areas
- Carefully manage development in coastal hazard areas with a view to avoiding development in the most at risk areas.
- To monitor continued research and hazard modelling by Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council, identification of coastal hazard zones[18], and further areas of land instability risk as they become known.
- Review the Natural Hazards chapter of the District Plan

[18] In February 2004, consultants Tonkin and Taylor Limited prepared a report for Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council which assessed coastal hazard risks for the Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay coastline.

- Implement the recommendations from an independent review of Hawke's Bay's Civil Defence Emergency Management
- Support the Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Civil Defence Emergency Management (HBCDEM) Transformation Strategy

KIKO MŌREAREA HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

The Heretaunga Hastings District has a strong horticulture, viticulture and agricultural industry, each involving the use of various hazardous substances including herbicides, pesticides, and associated activities such as cool stores.

These substances, if not handled correctly, pose a significant hazard to people and communities within the district, as well as to the natural environment.

Uncontrolled release of hazardous substances into the environment has the potential to result in:

- Contamination of water, soil and air
- Short and long term damage to ecosystems
- Accumulation of persistent substances in the bodies of humans and animals, resulting in chronic and/or long term damage to their health
- Acute damage to human health through exposure to substances affecting skin, mucous membranes, respiratory and digestive systems
- Damage to the environment from fire or explosion events
- Damage to human health and property from fire or explosion events.

The potential for environmental damage from spills is of particular concern where hazardous substances are stored or used next to streams, lakes, aquifers and other sensitive areas.

INDICATORS

The table below shows the indicators that are used to monitor hazardous substances in the district. These indicators are also used to inform other monitoring programmes for the district, such as Community Outcomes Monitoring and monitoring achievement of the anticipated outcomes in the Heretaunga Hastings District Plan, as shown below.

INDICATORS FOR HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

Indicator		Indicator type	Relevant community outcomes and council objectives	Relevant district plan outcomes and how it informs these outcomes
			Relevant Outcome Statements: • An environment that is appreciated, protected, and sustained for future generations.	**District Plan** Section 29.1 (Hazardous Substances and Genetically Modified Organisms) • Avoidance of the potential effects to the community and the environment from the use, storage and transport of hazardous substances. • Activities utilise hazardous substances where necessary for their operations, in appropriate locations
HS1	Number of resource consents granted for major hazardous facilities	Pressure	Hazardous substances are a risk to the environment. To protect our environment and sustain it for future generations we need to minimise, manage and dispose of hazardous substances in a safe manner. Monitoring the number of activities requiring the employment of the hazardous facility screening procedure gives a good indication of what, where and the volume of hazardous substances in the district. It also gives an indication of the potential risks posed to the environment and enables better protection for present and future generations.	
HS2	Number of Reported Incidents and Callouts to Hazardous Substances Spills	Pressure	The number of reported callouts to hazardous substance spills again indicates the potential risks posed to the environment and the need for controls.	

MONITORING INFORMATION

INDICATOR HS1: NUMBER OF RESOURCE CONSENTS GRANTED FOR MAJOR HAZARDOUS FACILITIES

The previous District Plan contained a comprehensive hazardous substances regulation including rules requiring screening via the Hazardous Facilities Screening Procedure or HFSP. Advice from the Ministry for the Environment is that the HFSP is out of date and is a duplication of regulation. In addition to this the HFSP is difficult to use and was not often used in the assessment of activities under the District Plan. Notwithstanding this however, there is still the need to consider the potential impacts of major hazardous facilities and the appropriateness of their location with regard to community and environmental risk.

Between 2020 and 2024, there have been 6 resource consents granted for Major Hazardous Facilities, resulting in a requirement for a resource consent application.

These consents are as follows:

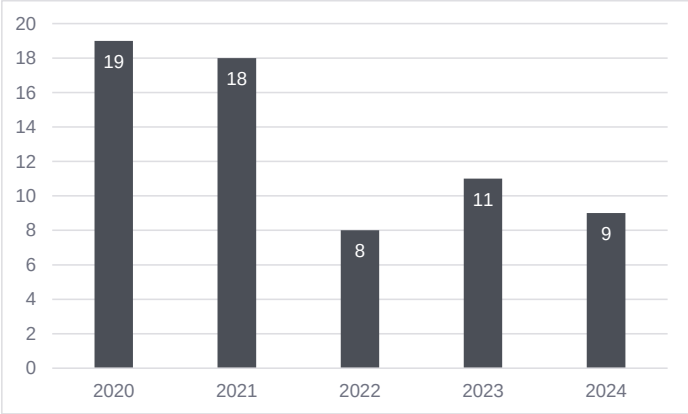
- RMA20190421 – replacement of the underground petroleum storage system;
- RMA20200296 – new transit depot for LPG tankers holding up to 23T of LPG on site;
- RMA20210627 - a filling shed for LPG bottles and 12 tonne underground LPG tank associated with the transit depot above;
- RMA20220030 - Major Hazardous Facility with oversized ancillary office space
- RMA20220344 - to construct, operate and maintain a 24 hour self-serve fuel facility; and
- RMA20230146 - proposing to establish and operate an LPG depot for the storage of LPG cylinders and LPG transport trucks.

Groundwater in the Heretaunga Plains Unconfined Aquifer (the main groundwater resource for people living on and adjacent to the Heretaunga Plains) is vulnerable to contamination from the effects of activities on the surface. This is because there is no impermeable surface sediment which would prevent or minimise the downward flow of contaminants. Only one of the sites was located within the area of the unconfined aquifer. The proposal was able to comply with the district plan which requires that all hazardous substances shall be stored or handled on areas which have impervious surfaces.

INDICATOR HS2: NUMBER OF REPORTED INCIDENTS AND CALLOUTS TO HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES SPILLS

The number of reported spills involving hazardous substances has decreased from an average of 16 per year over the last reporting period to 13.

FIGURE 58: HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES INCIDENTS & SPILLS BETWEEN 2020 AND 2024



Source: Fire and Emergency Aotearoa New Zealand

Of the hazardous substance incidents, only 1 was considered major.

Hazardous substance spills are dealt with by the Fire and Emergency Aotearoa New Zealand (FENZ) and/or Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council (HBRC).

Between 2020 and 2024, six resource consents were granted for Major Hazardous Facilities, the same number as the previous period (2015–2019). Over the same time, the average number of reported hazardous substance spills has decreased slightly, from 16 per year to 13 per year, indicating a small improvement in managing hazardous materials.

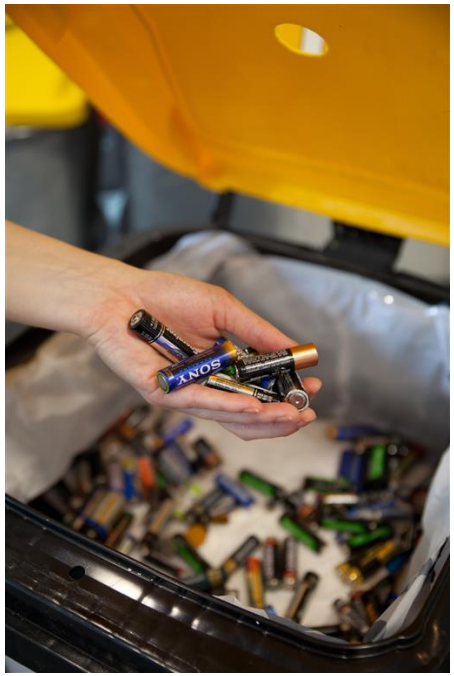
RESPONSES

FOR COMMUNITY

- Only use hazardous substances when absolutely necessary
- If you are using or storing any hazardous substances make sure that they are being used and stored in accordance with appropriate guidelines and regulations to avoid contaminating the land, air or water
- Unwanted hazardous substances should not be disposed of with general rubbish – the annual HazMobile Collection is a safe and easy way to dispose of such waste
- If you see or smell any chemical or oil spills, call the Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council Pollution Hotline Phone: (0800) 108 838 and tell the Pollution Response Team about it, or the Aotearoa New Zealand Fire Service.

FOR COUNCIL

- Ensure Council's Emergency Management staff continue to be suitably trained and maintain readiness to respond to emergency callouts involving hazardous substance spills
- Continue to work with EPA, WorkSafe NZ, the Aotearoa New Zealand Fire Service and Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council's Pollution Response Team to ensure appropriate response to incidents involving hazardous substance spills.



WHAKAHAERETANGA PARA TOITŪ
SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT

SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT

The issues at a glance

Indicator	State 2015-2019	State 2020-2024	Summary
Solid Waste			
SW1 Environmental performance of Ōmarunui Landfill			Landfill environmental monitoring has generally achieved full compliance with the conditions of consent, with a few minor non-compliances caused by brief delays in receiving information and one upheld odour complaint.
SW2 Volume of solid waste disposed			The results of this indicator show the fluctuating trend of waste being sent to landfill which is also indicative of economic prosperity in the region and changes to legislation.
SW3 Composition of solid waste disposed to Landfill			Organic material is the largest single component of the overall waste stream being disposed of at Ōmarunui Landfill, comprising 44% of the total, including paper and timber. Plastics make up another 15%. Approximately 14% of waste being disposed of at Ōmarunui Landfill was recyclable and 25% was compostable. In total, 39% of the waste could have been diverted to recycling or composting. The last report stated that 40% of material disposed to landfill is recyclable or compostable (40%).
SW4 Fly-tipping incidents in the district			Fly tipping has remained steady over the reporting period in the rural management area whereas fly tipping incidents are more variable in the urban/plains management area. There were 5,606 incidents in the urban/plains management area and 656 in the rural management area.
SW5 Volume of recycling			The volume of recycling has been steady over the reporting period with a slight decline in the last year, most likely due to the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle.
SW6 Residents' satisfaction with provision of recycling facilities			In this current survey 25.8% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the quality of the recycling facilities in the district. In the previous survey 43% were dissatisfied. It is possible that providing a 'neutral' option for a response resulted in this change.
Hazardous Waste			
HW1 Volume of hazardous waste disposed			HazMobile provided annually and collects on average 20 tonnes of hazardous waste which is steady in comparison to the previous report.
Contaminated Land			

CS1	Sites with a history of Hazardous Activities and Industries List (HAIL) in the district		The Heretaunga Hastings District has 350 verified HAIL sites in the district. They cover a total of 10,490 hectares which is 2% of the total land of the Heretaunga Hastings District. The majority of sites do not have a quanitifiable risk at the time of reporting with only two sites considered contaminated for land use.
CS2	Subdivision and development on HAIL sites		64 land use consents and 75 subdivisions occurred on HAIL sites between 2020 and 2024.

Section 31 of the RMA gives the District Council the function of managing and controlling the effects of the use, development, or protection of land, and of particular relevance to sustainable waste management, this includes for the purpose of:

- The prevention or mitigation of any adverse effects of the storage, use, disposal, or transportation of hazardous substances (which would include hazardous waste); and
- The prevention or mitigation of any adverse effects of the development, subdivision, or use of contaminated land.

PARA PAPATIPU SOLID WASTE

Waste is materials and energy which have no further use and are released into the environment as a means of disposal. Waste can be in solid, liquid or gaseous form. This section looks at solid waste.

The Waste Minimisation Act defines 'waste' as: "anything disposed of or discarded".

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 well-being and the health of the environment. Reducing these impacts can be achieved by reusing items rather than throwing them away and through recycling. The Council actively encourages as much waste reduction and recycling as possible and has a duty to manage waste in a way that minimises any effects on the District's land, air and water resources.

The Heretaunga Hastings District is served by Ōmarunui Landfill, which is situated at Ōmarunui Road and is jointly owned by the Heretaunga Hastings District and Ahuriri Napier City Councils. It is only open to commercial operators/contractors with a Waste Disposal Licence (it is not open to the general public). There are also a small number of private Class 2-5 landfills in the District.

Landfills produce leachate and greenhouse gases as materials break down slowly. Ōmarunui Landfill is constantly managing leachate and greenhouse gases and this will continue well after closure.

Ōmarunui Landfill is a Class 1 landfill and has successful systems in place to capture liquids and gases produced by the anaerobic decomposition of organic waste disposed of in landfill. In line with the Joint Waste Management and Minimisation Plan, the Councils support diverting organic materials from Ōmarunui in the first place rather than managing (and paying for) them at the landfill.

The goal is to reduce the amount of waste going to the landfill and to manage the disposal of waste so that the effects on the environment are minimal.

In 2018 Heretaunga Hastings District and Ahuriri Napier City Councils adopted a new Joint Waste Management and Minimisation Plan which sets out the actions that both Councils will undertake to manage waste and resource efficiency across the region. The Waste Management and Minimisation Plan was under review at the time of writing this report.

Photo source: HDC – Staff member completing a waste audit of kerbside rubbish.

INDICATORS

The table below shows the indicators that are used to monitor solid waste in the district. These indicators are also used to inform other monitoring programmes for the district, such as Community Outcomes Monitoring and monitoring achievement of the anticipated outcomes in the Heretaunga Hastings District Plan, as shown below.

INDICATORS FOR SOLID WASTE

Indicator		Indicator type	Relevant community outcomes and council objectives	Relevant district plan outcomes and how it informs these outcomes
			Relevant Outcome Statements: • An environment that is appreciated protected and sustained for future generations. • Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay is clean, green and pollution free.	NIL
SW1	Environmental Performance of Ōmarunui Landfill	Pressure	Monitoring the quality of the environment (in this case water) surrounding a landfill shows the actual impact (if any) that the leachate from waste disposal is having on the environment.	
SW2	Volume of Solid Waste Disposed	Pressure	The generation and disposal of solid waste puts pressure on land, water and air as wastes break down and produces contaminants that can enter the environment. Waste production over many years can result in the accumulation of pollution in the land and water surrounding the landfill. The risk associated with these contaminates are mitigated and managed via the engineered aspect of the site.	
SW3	Composition of Solid Waste Disposed to Landfill	Pressure	Some types of waste have greater effects on the environment than others (such as organic waste). Understanding the types of waste are being disposed of at the Landfill provides information to assist Council implement ways to reduce certain types of waste to further protect the environment.	
SW4	Fly-tipping incidents in the District	State	Fly-tipping is a major environmental issue and monitoring the number of incidents provides an indication of the level of waste disposed of incorrectly and will assist Council to find ways of reducing the problem.	
SW5	Volume of Recycling	Pressure	Recycling reduces the amount of waste being disposed to the landfill (it's a 'reuse' aspect of waste management).	
SW6	Residents' Satisfaction with Provision of Recycling Facilities	State	Monitoring residents' satisfaction with recycling facilities is useful to identify whether there is a need to improve or expand this service.	

MONITORING INFORMATION

INDICATOR SW1: ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE OF ŌMARUNUI LANDFILL

The Ōmarunui Landfill comprises of four valleys identified as suitable for refuse disposal. Area A received waste between 1988 and 2007 and is now closed. Area D has been operational from 2007 and has an estimated 4 years of capacity remaining. The remaining landfill space at Ōmarunui Landfill is expected to serve the Hastings and Ahuriri Napier communities for 50+ years beyond 2025.

The life expectancy of the landfill depends on the amount of waste being received. Reducing the amount of waste going to the landfill means the life expectancy of the facility increases accordingly. The longer the landfill lasts, the less impact our waste disposal will have on the environment, through postponing the need for another waste disposal facility and reducing the amount of pollutants produced.

The Ōmarunui Landfill is a fully contained Class 1 municipal landfill, meaning nothing should leave the site by way of pollution. Leachate is collected and re-circulated and methane gas is turned into electricity to power approximately 1000 homes. The Landfill is accredited with an ISO9000:2001 environmental management system.

Ōmarunui Landfill prescribes to best international practice and construction of Area D (the currently active part of the landfill) utilised a three liner system using; clay, Geosynthetic liner and HDPE plastic liner.

Heretaunga Hastings District Council hold a number of resource consents from Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council (HBRC), associated with the operation of the Ōmarunui Landfill:

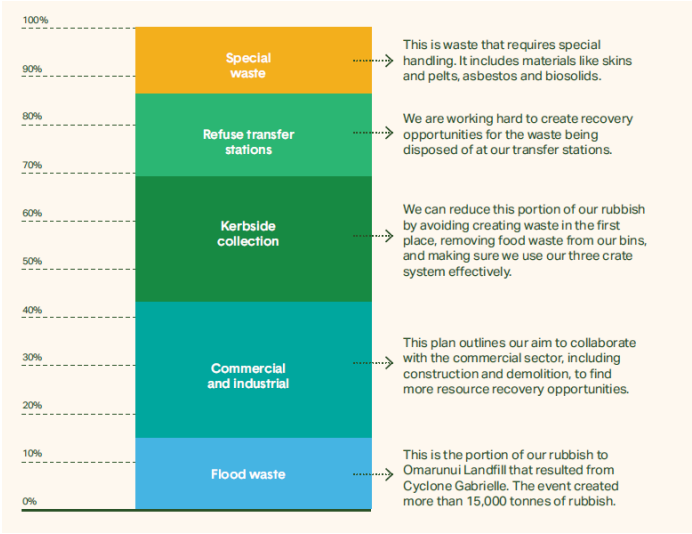
- AUTH -113983-04, To discharge leachate and waste into and onto land,
- AUTH -113987-03, To discharge treated stormwater to water via stormwater treatment ponds
- AUTH-113990-05, To discharge odour, dust and landfill gas into air
- AUTH-122021-02, To irrigate leachate on landfill capping
- AUTH-113993-0, To discharge contaminants to land and water
- AUTH-130324-01, To take groundwater for use
- AUTH-125046-03, To discharge landfill gas into air after combustion
- AUTH-127503-01, To discharge odour, dust and landfill gas into air
- AUTH-125114-01, To discharge contaminants to land and water
- AUTH-125115-01, The diversion and discharge of stormwater
- AUTH-125116-01, The diversion and discharge of drainage water

Landfill environmental monitoring has generally achieved full compliance with the conditions of consent, with a few minor non-compliances caused by brief delays in receiving information and one upheld odour complaint.

INDICATOR SW2: VOLUME OF SOLID WASTE DISPOSED

A large proportion of waste that goes to Ōmarunui Landfill comes from commercial and industrial activities (Figure 51). Residential waste (from transfer station drop-offs) and kerbside rubbish collections (including non-council collections) also makes up a reasonable quantity of waste going to Ōmarunui Landfill. These sources of waste provide our community the biggest opportunity to divert materials from landfill.

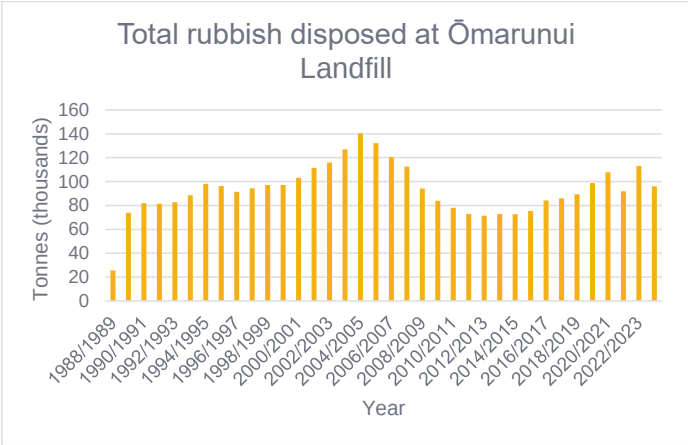
FIGURE 59: SOURCE OF WASTE DISPOSED OF AT ŌMARUNUI LANDFILL (2022/23)



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

The following graph shows the total tonnage of solid waste received at the Ōmarunui Landfill (being the combined tonnage of waste from kerbside services, refuse transfer stations, commercial waste operators and industrial waste sources from both Ahuriri Napier City and Heretaunga Hastings District).

FIGURE 60: VOLUME OF SOLID WASTE TO ŌMARUNUI LANDFILL (1999/00 – 2023/24)



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

The results of this indicator show the fluctuating trend of waste being sent to landfill which is also indicative of economic prosperity in the region and changes to legislation.

The largest portion of waste to landfill was commercial and industrial waste which is outside the control of Council services. The Joint Waste Management and Minimisation Plan identified opportunities for further consideration to reduce the volume of commercial waste entering landfill.

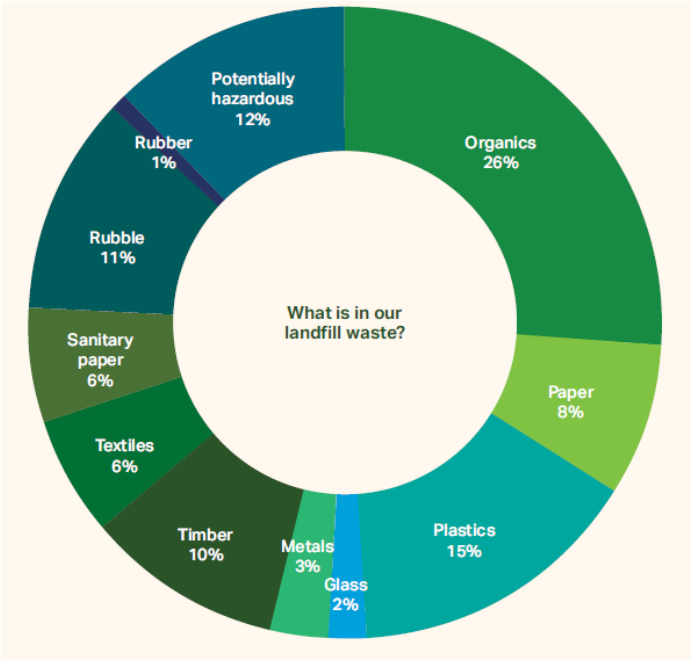
INDICATOR SW3: COMPOSITION OF SOLID WASTE DISPOSED TO LANDFILL

Using the Ministry for the Environment published protocol, Solid Waste Analysis Protocol (SWAP) surveys (waste audit) are carried out every

three years at the Ōmarunui Landfill, the refuse transfer stations and a sample of kerbside wheelie bins.

The first SWAP survey was carried out in 2007 for Heretaunga Hastings District and Ahuriri Napier City Councils[19]. Surveys have been undertaken in 2009, 2012, 2016, 2019, 2022 and 2024. The survey report contains detailed information on composition resulting from both a visual and 'sort and weigh' audit.

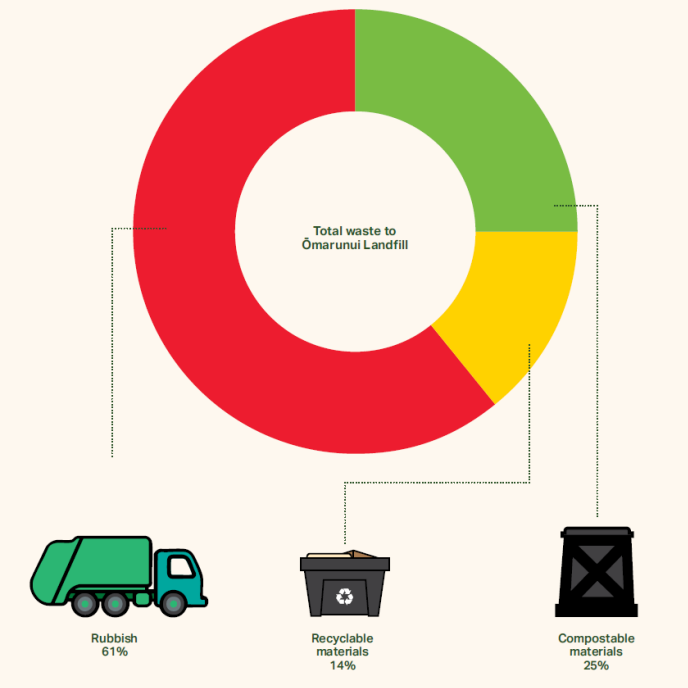
FIGURE 61: COMPOSITION OF OVERALL WASTE TO ŌMARUNUI LANDFILL (2024)



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

[19] *Survey of Solid Waste in Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay,* March 2012, Waste Not Consulting.

FIGURE 62: DIVERSION POTENTIAL OF WASTE DISPOSED OF AT ŌMARUNUI LANDFILL (2024)



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

Like in previous composition surveys, organic material is the largest single component of the overall waste stream being disposed of at Ōmarunui Landfill, comprising 44% of the total, including paper and timber. Plastics make up another 15%.

Approximately 14% of waste being disposed of at Ōmarunui Landfill was recyclable and 25% was compostable. In total, 39% of the waste could have been diverted to recycling or composting.

Organic waste, plastics and hazardous materials are the biggest streams (Figure 1.6), but we can also make a difference by reducing the amount of paper, rubble, and timber that ends up in the landfill. Overall, 39 per cent of landfill waste could be diverted to recycling or composting.

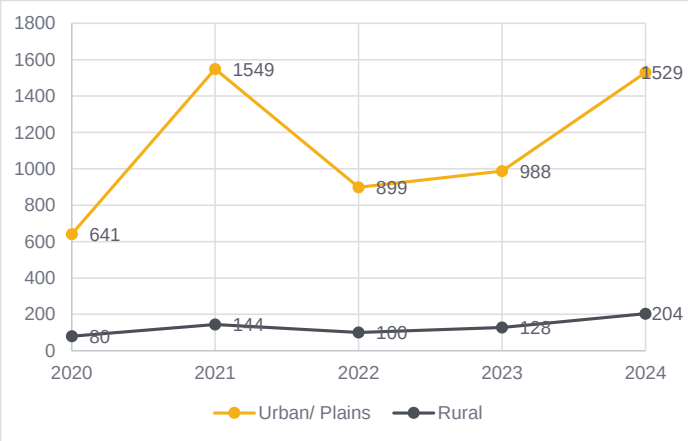
This information shows that there is still a large proportion of the waste being disposed of at the landfill that could potentially be composted, recycled or reused rather than sent to the landfill. Heretaunga Hastings District Council will continue to monitor and analyse trends through future surveys and inform the development of waste management and minimisation plans.

INDICATOR SW4: FLY-TIPPING INCIDENTS IN THE DISTRICT

Fly tipping is the illegal dumping of rubbish. Reliable data about the incidence of fly tipping in the district has been recorded since 2014. Common forms of rubbish dumped included animal carcasses, household waste, and car parts.

The graph below shows the numbers of incidents of fly-tipping, as opposed to the quantity or number of items dumped. This graph does not include numbers from the previous reporting period as they were based on financial year as opposed to calendar year.

FIGURE 63: NUMBER OF FLY-TIPPING INCIDENTS IN HERETAUNGA HASTINGS DISTRICT 2020 - 2024



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

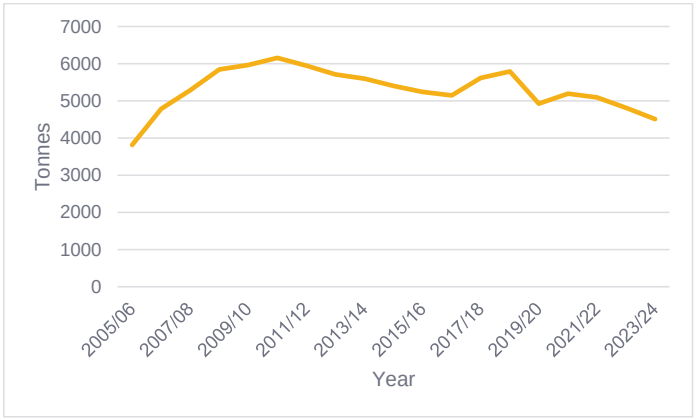
The total number of illegal dumpings has been classed into two management zones. There are rural area and urban/plains.

Fly tipping has remained steady over the reporting period in the rural management area whereas fly tipping incidents are more variable in the urban/plains management area.

INDICATOR SW5: VOLUME OF RECYCLING

Recycling facilities in the Heretaunga Hastings District include both kerbside collection and drop-off areas. Kerbside recycling is provided in the urban areas of Heretaunga Hastings, Pāharakeke Flaxmere, Karanema Havelock North, Awapuni Clive, Whakatū, Clifton, Te Āwanga and Haumoana – serving almost 70% of the district's population. The volume of recycling has been steady over the reporting period with a slight decline in the last year, most likely due to the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle.

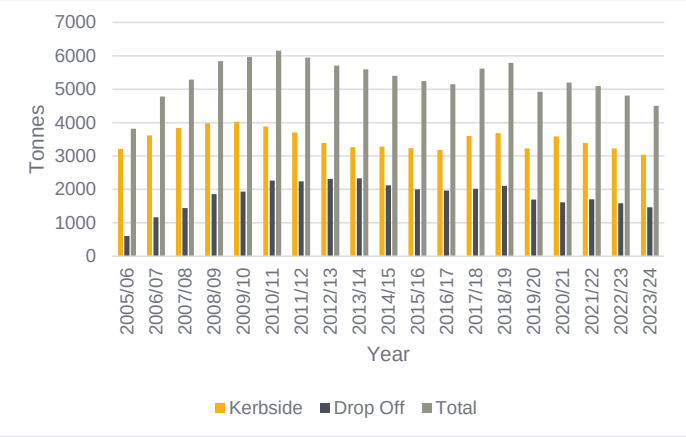
FIGURE 64: VOLUME OF RECYCLING (TONNES)



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

There are recycling drop-off facilities at the two Refuse Transfer Stations. The rural community is provided with six rural recycling drop off centres at Tūtira, Waipātiki, Pukehamoamoa, Maraekākaho, Poukawa and Waimārama.

FIGURE 65: KERBSIDE AND DROP OFF



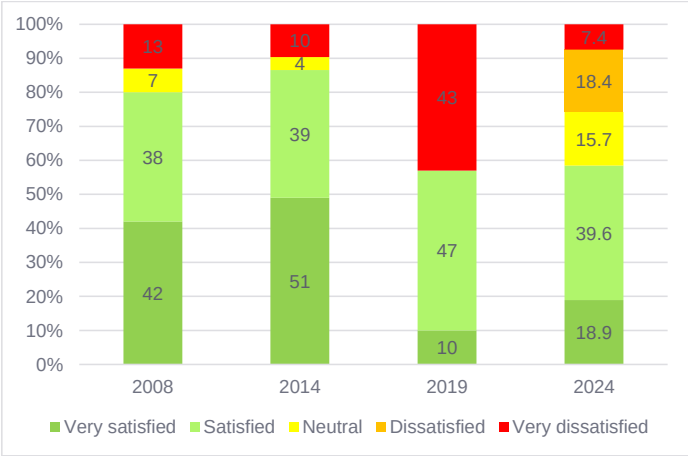
INDICATOR SW6: RESIDENTS' SATISFACTION WITH PROVISION OF RECYCLING FACILITIES

Resident's satisfaction with the provision of recycling facilities gives some insight into whether Council's recycling facilities are meeting demand in a way that encourages greater diversion of solid waste from going to the landfill.

The graph below represents the percentage of survey participants that are satisfied with the recycling facilities in the district. To align the previous survey options with the current, the following adjustments were made:

- Don't know / didn't respond → Neutral
- Not very satisfied → Very dissatisfied
- Fairly satisfied → Satisfied

FIGURE 66: RESIDENTS' SATISFACTION WITH RECYCLING FACILITIES



Source: Communitrak and Public Voice Surveys

In 2019 57% of survey participants were satisfied or very satisfied with the districts recycling facilities. In the survey for this reporting period 58.5% were satisfied or very satisfied with the recycling facilities in the district.

In this current survey 25.8% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the quality of the recycling facilities in the district. In the previous survey 43% were very dissatisfied. It is possible that providing a 'neutral' option for a response resulted in this change.

Most of the comments from those dissatisfied with the recycling facilities feel that the bins are too small, that the range of what is recycled is limited, or rural communities are not sufficiently serviced.

As for the operation of the landfill, below are complaints that have been received.

TABLE 15: TOTAL NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED ABOUT THE LANDFILL BETWEEN 2019 AND 2024

Year	No. Of Public complaints	No. Of Landfill Customer complaints
2019/20	12	1
2020/21	12	2
2021/22	7	1
2022/23	6	3
2023/24	4	0

Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

Typically landfill complaints fall into two categories, that being complaints from (i) the public i.e. neighbours, and (ii) landfill customers. The public complaints traditionally concern odour, birds, speeding vehicles (on Omarunui Rd), insecure truck loads and litter blown from the site.

Ōmarunui Landfill continues to perform well environmentally, with mostly full compliance and only minor non-compliances. Solid waste volumes show a fluctuating trend, likely linked to economic activity and policy changes. Organic materials make up the largest portion of waste, and nearly 40% of all waste could be diverted through recycling or composting—similar to previous reporting periods. Fly-tipping remains an issue, particularly in urban and plains areas, with over 5,600 incidents reported there. Recycling volumes have remained steady but dipped slightly in the last year, likely due to Cyclone Gabrielle. However, public satisfaction with recycling facilities has improved significantly, with dissatisfaction dropping from 43% to 25.8%.

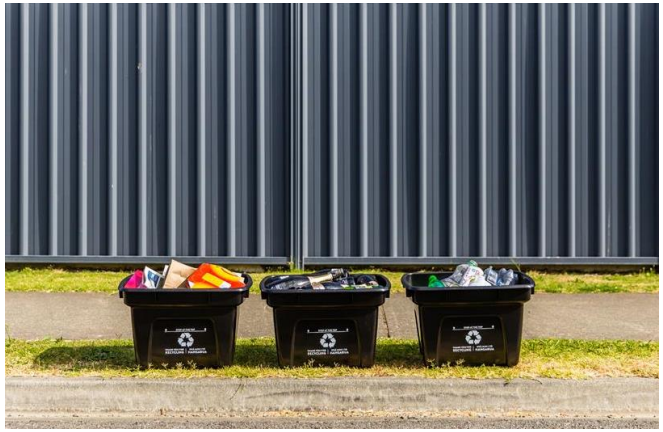
RESPONSES

FOR THE COMMUNITY

- Check out the Council's A to Z waste guide on how to properly dispose of a wide range of items;
- Reduce organics going to landfill by either recycling or composting where possible;
- Report illegal rubbish dumping.

FOR COUNCIL

- Emphasise services that promote circular activity (e.g. reduction and reuse), enhanced by educational initiatives that lead to behaviour change
- Strengthen partnerships with mana whenua to inform waste management and minimisation.
- Enhance further collection of material for recycling and recovery.
- Review the transfer station infrastructure and network to increase resource recovery.
- Minimise emissions by focusing on the recovery of key waste streams: organic waste, construction and demolition waste, and commercial waste.



PARA MŌREAREA HAZARDOUS WASTE

Hazardous waste is waste in solid, liquid or gaseous form that is toxic. This includes things such as paints, solvents, garden and household chemicals, petrol, oil and diesel, batteries, gas cylinders and light bulbs.

Hazardous waste can be dangerous at every stage of its 'life'. It can cause fire or toxic fumes, can be poisonous, and can leak and contaminate the soil or groundwater.

Hazardous waste can have significant impacts on the environment if not disposed of properly and needs special disposal facilities to prevent it from contaminating the environment. If it ends up in our landfill, it could pollute our environment.

Source: HDC – HazMobile, household hazardous waste collection

INDICATORS

The table below shows the indicators that are used to monitor hazardous waste in the district. These indicators are also used to inform other monitoring programmes for the district, such as Community Outcomes Monitoring and monitoring achievement of the anticipated outcomes in the Heretaunga Hastings District Plan, as shown below.

INDICATORS FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE

Indicator		Indicator type	Relevant community outcomes and council objectives	Relevant district plan outcomes
			Relevant Outcome Statements: • An environment that is appreciated, protected, and sustained for future generations. • Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay is clean, green and pollution free	**District Plan** NIL
HW1	Volume of Hazardous Waste Disposed	Pressure	Hazardous waste is very toxic to the environment. To protect our environment and sustain it for future generations we need to minimise any contamination from hazardous waste by managing and disposing of it in a safe manner.	

MONITORING INFORMATION

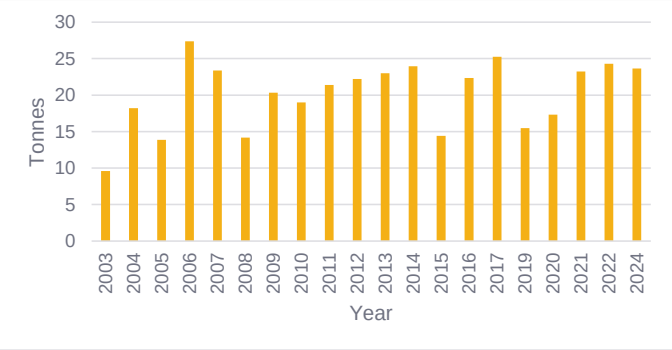
INDICATOR HW1: VOLUME OF HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSED

Currently, there is no comprehensive data on the volume of hazardous waste disposed of in the district, as there are numerous avenues for its disposal. That does not mean there is not significant hazardous waste being generated. For instance, Council still recovers an average of 12 – 15 tonnes of waste oil and 3.5 – 4 tonnes of household mixed batteries at the refuse transfer stations per annum.

The volume of waste collected through the HazMobile is also a good indicator. It is a free annual service for householders provided by the Heretaunga Hastings District Council, and Ahuriri Napier City Council.

The HazMobile stations itself in a carpark once a year so that householders can dispose of their hazardous wastes (old paints, waste oil, batteries, and household and garden chemicals) safely.

FIGURE 67: VOLUME OF HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTED THROUGH HAZMOBILE (2003-2024)



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

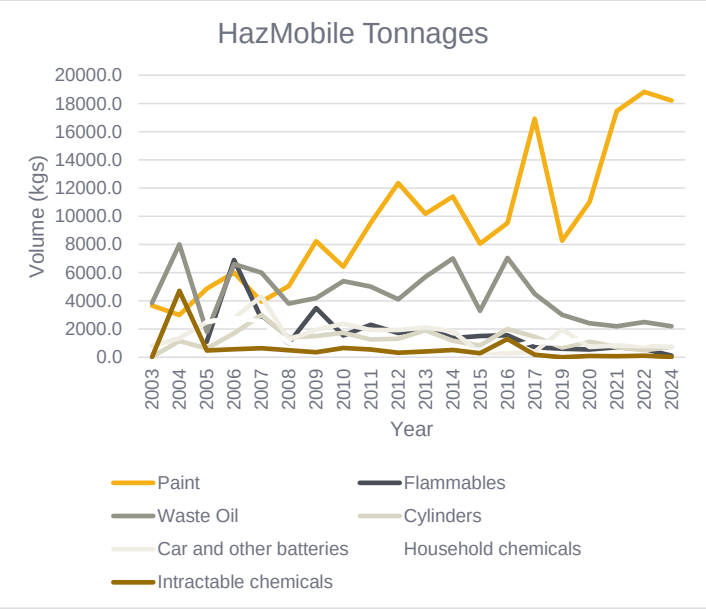
Source: HDC – HazMobile, household hazardous waste collection

The previous graph shows the volume of hazardous waste collected through HazMobile from 2003 to 2024 for the region. The steady participation of HazMobile suggests that Hastings residents are aware of the service and making use of it to dispose of common household hazardous waste.

Industries and businesses within the district are required to have other arrangements to dispose of their hazardous waste. This is usually with the with the supplier and therefore no information is available on the amounts being used or disposed.

Over recent years, there has been an increase in take back schemes such as the Resene Paintwise and Ag Recovery product stewardship schemes. It is likely that the way household chemicals are collected will shift from a council provided service to product stewardship scheme in the future.

FIGURE 68: COMPOSITION OF WASTE COLLECTED BY HAZMOBILE



Source: Heretaunga Hastings District Council

HazMobile continues to operate annually, collecting around 20 tonnes of hazardous waste each year. This figure has remained stable compared to the previous reporting period, suggesting consistent service and demand.

RESPONSES

FOR THE COMMUNITY

- Ensure that any household hazardous waste is disposed of appropriately by taking it to HazMobile or contacting the Regional Council.

FOR COUNCIL

- Monitor the type and volume of hazardous wastes collected through the HazMobile
- Monitor changes in the frequencies of organisations collecting hazardous wastes
- Support education campaigns on how to store and dispose of hazardous wastes appropriately and safely.

WĀHI PAIHANA CONTAMINATED SITES

Contaminated sites are properties or areas of land or soil where hazardous substances are present at levels above background levels and where they are likely to pose an immediate or long-term risk to human health or the environment.

Land can become contaminated when hazardous substances are not used, stored or disposed of in a safe way. This is usually from activities that have been, or are being, undertaken on sites that use chemicals and toxic substances, such as industries or some forms of horticulture.

Contaminated land is a problem when the hazardous substances are at a concentration and/or are located where they have, or are reasonably likely to have, a significant adverse effect on human health and the environment. As land is increasingly developed in Aotearoa New Zealand, it is important to know about contaminated land so people are not exposed to contaminants that may affect their health.

To help with identifying potentially contaminated land, the Ministry of the Environment has compiled a list of activities and industries commonly associated with contaminated land This list is called the Hazardous Activities and Industries List (HAIL). When disturbing the soil, subdividing or changing the use of the land that has a history of HAIL activitiy, the the National Environmental Standard for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health must be complied with to protect human health.

The Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council maintains a land use register of properties where information is held regarding current or past land-uses that have the potential to contaminate land. Information on the register is shared with local district and city councils to ensure protection of people and the environment.

If land has been identified as a HAIL site, it does not mean that it is contaminated, only that it has been used for an activity that could have resulted in contamination. The Council is continuing to the work with Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council to identify, categorise, and where necessary, work with the site owner to remediate sites as they are identified.

INDICATORS

The table below shows the indicators that are used to monitor hazardous waste in the district. These indicators are also used to inform other monitoring programmes for the district, such as Community Outcomes Monitoring and monitoring achievement of the anticipated outcomes in the Heretaunga Hastings District Plan, as shown below.

INDICATORS FOR CONTAMINATED LAND

Indicator		Indicator type	Relevant community outcomes and council objectives	Relevant district plan outcomes
			Relevant Outcome Statements: • An environment that is appreciated, protected, and sustained for future generations. • Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay is clean, green and pollution free	**District Plan** NIL
CS1	Sites with a history of Hazardous Activities and Industries List (HAIL) in the district	State	Measuring the number and location of sites with a history of Hazardous Activities and Industries List (HAIL) use in the district is valuable for understanding potential contamination risks to human health, the environment, and future land use.	
CS2	Subdivision and development on HAIL sites	Pressure	Measuring subdivision and development on HAIL (Hazardous Activities and Industries List) sites is important because these locations may be under pressure for redevelopment, especially as demand for housing and urban growth intensifies.	

MONITORING INFORMATION

INDICATOR CS1: SITES WITH A HISTORY OF HAZARDOUS ACTIVITIES AND INDUSTRIES LIST (HAIL) IN THE DISTRICT

The Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council (HBRC) maintains a land use register of properties where information is held regarding current or past land-uses that have the potential to contaminate land. If one of the activities listed in the Hazardous Activities and Industries List is occurring, or has occurred in the past, on a piece of land, then it is considered a 'HAIL' site. Hail sites are categorised differently depending on what we know about the site.

Verified HAIL sites are categorised by as follows:

- Verified HAIL: Risk Not Quantified: Insufficient information to quantify adverse effects or risks to people or the environment from known HAIL activity.
- Verified HAIL: At or Below Background (Natural State): The site has been investigated. The investigation results confirm there are no hazardous substances above local background concentrations other than those that occur naturally in the area.
- Verified HAIL: At or Below Background (Remediated): The site has been investigated and remediated. The post remediation validation results confirm there are no hazardous substances above local background concentrations other than those that occur naturally in the area.
- Verified HAIL: Managed For Land Use: The site has been investigated. Results show that there are hazardous substances present at the site in concentrations that have the potential to cause adverse effects or risks to people and/or the environment but the site is managed in a way that prevents human and/or ecological exposure to the risks.
- Verified HAIL: Suitable for Land Use (Natural State): The site has been investigated. Results show that there are hazardous substances present at the site but indicate that any adverse effects or risks to people and/or the environment are considered to be acceptable for the specified land use.
- Verified HAIL: Suitable for Land Use (Remediated): The site has been investigated and remediated. Results show that there are hazardous substances present at the site but indicate that any adverse effects or risks to people and/or the environment are considered to be so low as to be acceptable for the specified land use.
- Verified HAIL: Contaminated for Land Use (Environment): The site has been investigated. Results show that the site has a hazardous substance in or on it, or in groundwater or surface water that is reasonably likely and / or has significant effects on the environment.
- Verified HAIL: Contaminated for Land Use (Human Health): The site has been investigated. Results show that the site has a hazardous substance in or on it, or in groundwater or surface water that is reasonaboly likely and / or has significant adverse effects on human health.

Below is a table that shows verified HAIL sites in the district by category. This has not been measured in previous State of the Environment reports.

TABLE 16: THE AREA AND NUMBER OF VERIFIED HAIL SITES IN HERETAUNGA HASTINGS DISTRICT SORTED BY CATEGORIES

HAIL site categories	Total area (ha)	No. of sites
Verified HAIL - Risk Not Quantified	10,172.50	300
Verified HAIL - At or Below Background: Natural State	3.7	2
Verified HAIL - At or Below Background: Remediated	3.618	1
Verified HAIL - Managed For Land Use	229.579	18
Verified HAIL - Suitable for Land Use: Natural State	74.651	25
Verified HAIL - Suitable for Land Use: Remediated	0.684	2
Verified HAIL - Contaminated for Land Use: Environment	1.187	1
Verified HAIL - Contaminated for Land Use: Human Health	4.505	1
Grand Total	**10,490.427**	**350**

Source: Hawkes Bay Regional Council

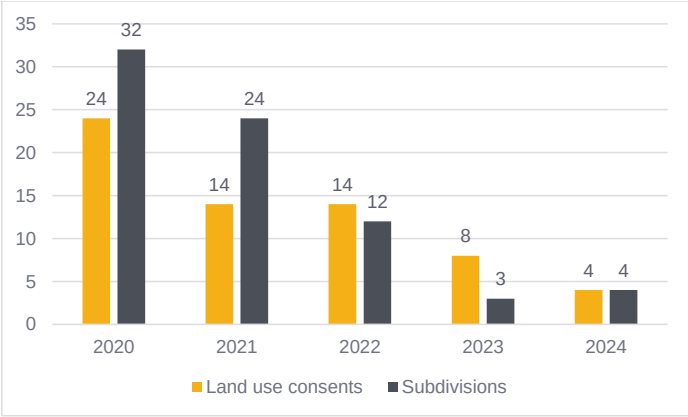
The Heretaunga Hastings District has 350 verified HAIL sites in the district. They cover a total of 10,490 hectares which is 2% of the total land of the Heretaunga Hastings District. The majority of sites do not have a quanitifiable risk at the time of reporting with only two sites considered contaminated for land use. Future reports may want to show any change in these figures.

Maps showing verified HAIL sites can be found on the Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Hazard Portal.

INDICATOR CS2: SUBDIVISION AND DEVELOPMENT ON HAIL SITES

Subdivision and development can occur on HAIL sites as long as it complies with the National Environmental Standard for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health. The graph below shows the number of subdivisions and land use consents granted on HAIL sites.

FIGURE 69: THE NUMBER OF LAND USE CONSENTS AND SUBDIVISION ON HAIL SITES BETWEEN 2020 - 2024



Source: Hawkes Bay Regional Council

Future indicators may need to be developed to create more meaningful information around contaminated land.

There are 350 verified HAIL (Hazardous Activities and Industries List) sites across Heretaunga Hastings District, covering about 2% of the district's land area. Most sites currently pose no quantifiable risk to land use, with only two identified as contaminated. Between 2020 and 2024, 64 land use consents and 75 subdivisions occurred on HAIL sites, highlighting ongoing development pressure and the need for careful management and assessment of these areas.

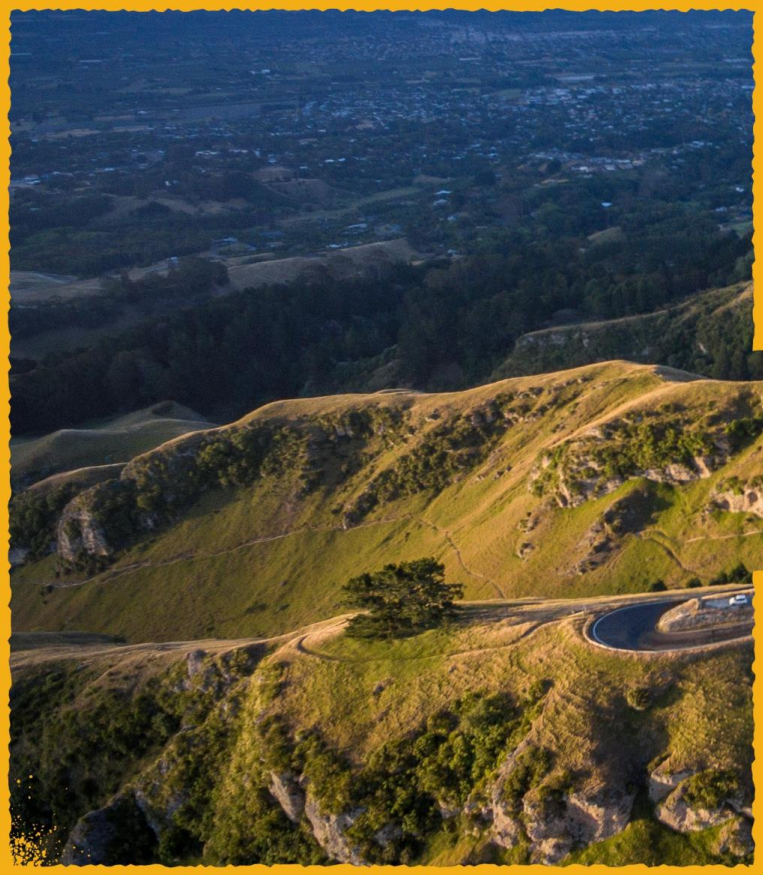
RESPONSES

FOR THE COMMUNITY

- HAIL sites can be checked on the Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Hazard Portal.
- Information held on a site can be requested as a site contamination report which contains information such as previous land uses, resource consents, pollution incidents and any investigations undertaken at the site. Contact Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council for further information.

FOR COUNCIL

- Continue to work with the Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council and landowners to identify and appropriately manage contaminated sites in the district
- Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Council have a register of contaminated sites.
- Keep improving on indicators that reflect the changes to the way contaminated sites are managed.



HERETAUNGA HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL

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