



Eketāhuna Community Board

Notice of Meeting

A meeting of the Eketāhuna Community Board will be held in the Eketāhuna War Memorial Hall, corner of Jones Street and State Highway 2, Eketāhuna on **Monday 11 August 2025** commencing at **10:00 am**.

Bryan Nicholson
Chief Executive

Agenda

- 1. Welcome and Meeting Opening**
- 2. Apologies**
- 3. Public Forum**

A period of up to 30 minutes shall be set aside for a public forum. Each speaker during the public forum section of a meeting may speak for up to 5 minutes.

Standing Orders may be suspended on a vote of three-quarters of those present to extend the period of public participation or the period any speaker is allowed to speak.

With the permission of the Chairperson, members may ask questions of speakers during the period reserved for public forum. If permitted by the Chairperson, questions by members are to be confined to obtaining information or clarification on matters raised by the speaker.

- 4. Notification of Items Not on the Agenda**

Major items not on the agenda may be dealt with at this meeting if so resolved by the Board and the chairperson explains at the meeting at a time when it is open to the public the reason why the item was not listed on the agenda and the reason why discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.

Minor matters not on the agenda relating to the general business of the Board may be discussed if the chairperson explains at the beginning of the meeting, at a time when it is open to the public, that the item will be discussed at that meeting, but no resolution, decision or recommendation may be made in respect of that item except to refer it to a subsequent meeting.

5. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest in Relation to this Meeting's Items of Business

6. Confirmation of Minutes 3

Recommendation

That the minutes of the Eketāhuna Community Board meeting held on 14 July 2025 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

7. Tararua District Council Report

7.1 Report from Tararua District Council 9

Recommendation

That the report from the Tararua District Council extraordinary meetings held 09 July 2025 and 22 July 2025, and the meeting held 30 July 2025 and be received.

8. Reports

8.1 Management Report 37

9. Reports from Board Representatives Appointed to Organisations and Assigned Responsibilities

10. Discussion Items

Election FAQs:

<https://www.tararua.govt.nz/your-council/governance/local-elections/frequently-asked-questions>

General Assistance Grants Scheme

11. Chairperson's Remarks

12. Items not on the Agenda

13. Closure



Eketāhuna Community Board

Minutes of a meeting of the Eketāhuna Community Board held in the Eketāhuna War Memorial Hall, corner of Jones Street and State Highway 2, Eketāhuna on Monday 14 July 2025 commencing at 10:00 am.

1. Present

Board Members: S C McGhie (Chairperson), L J Barclay, T M Carew (via Teams), and Cr M F Long

In Attendance

Her Worship the Mayor Mrs T H Collis
Cr S Gilmore

Ms F Chase	–	Facilities Manager (via Teams)
Mr D Erard	–	Alliance Manager
Mr A Desmond	–	Network Manager – Tararua Alliance
Ms P O’Neale-Searancke	–	Project Manager
Ms S Fountaine	–	Community Engagement Officer (via Teams)
Mrs A Dunn	–	Manager – Democracy Services (via Teams)
Mrs S Anthony	–	Democracy Support Officer

2. Apologies

That the apology from Board member Everlyne Chase be accepted, and leave of absence granted from the meeting.

Barclay/Long

Carried

3. Public Forum

Emma Elliot, Coordinator at Te Whatu Ora - Eketāhuna was in attendance and provided an update. She advised that her role currently encompasses financial administration. Eketāhuna Health Centre passed a recent audit and while they are yet to receive audit feedback from Te Whatu Ora - Health New Zealand, it was noted by auditors that the Centre provides an exceptional nursing service.

She spoke of the financial concerns experienced by the Health Centre. They consider the Eketāhuna Community Board to be a stakeholder to the Centre and invited the Board members to attend the AGM in September and noted that Board Member Chase is already involved as a Māori representative for the Centre and it was up to the Board whether she could also represent the Board at the same time.

She noted that the Health Centre filed a loss of \$11,000.00 in 2023, this was predominantly due to bringing nurses up to pay parity; 2024 showed a loss of \$15,000.00 mostly due to leave liability; understaffing has meant staff were unable to take leave and this then lifted to \$24,000.00. She spoke of success with fundraising efforts and donations for 2025, however the Centre will show a small deficit. The Centre is now looking at the budget for 2026 and forecasting that with the same level of fundraising, donations and grants they will be seeking close to \$10,000.00 and sought to apply to the Eketāhuna Community Board for a grant towards this.

During discussion the Board advised that the Eketāhuna Community Board General Assistance Grants Scheme was due to open following this meeting and encouraged the Eketāhuna Health Centre to apply via the Tararua District Council website.

4. Notification of Items Not on the Agenda

Nil

5. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest in Relation to this Meeting's Items of Business

Nil

6. Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Eketāhuna Community Board meeting held on 9 June 2025 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Barclay/Long

Carried

7. Tararua District Council Report

7.1 Report from Tararua District Council

That the report from the Tararua District Council extraordinary meetings held 4 June 2025, and 11 June 2025, and meeting held 25 June 2025 be received.

Barclay/Long

Carried

8. Reports

8.1 Management Report

The Eketāhuna Community Board considered the report of the Democracy Support Officer dated 26 June 2025 that provided an update on key activities and items of interest over the period 11 May 2025 to 6 June 2025 as reported to the meeting of the Infrastructure, Climate Change and Emergency Management Committee held 18 June 2025.

That the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 26 June 2025 concerning the Management Report be received.

Long/Barclay

Carried

8.2 Universal Water Metering

The Eketāhuna Community Board considered the report of the Project Manager dated 18 June 2025 that presented the case for implementing Universal Water Metering (UWM) across the Tararua District, outlining the project scope, and providing information regarding the delivery and procurement approach.

That the report from the Project Manager dated 18 June 2025 concerning the Universal Water Metering be received.

Long/Barclay

Carried

8.3 Portfolio Programme Project Report

The Eketāhuna Community Board considered the report of the Democracy Support Officer dated 26 June 2025 that provided an update on the key portfolios, programmes and project statuses as reported at the Infrastructure, Climate Change and Emergency Management Committee held 18 June 2025.

That the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 26 June 2025 concerning the Portfolio Programme Project Report be received.

Long/Barclay

Carried

8.4 Eketāhuna Litter Bin Service

The Eketāhuna Community Board considered the report of the Democracy Support Officer dated 13 June 2025 providing background information regarding

the Eketāhuna litter bin service.

That the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 13 June 2025 concerning the Eketāhuna Litter Bin Service be received.

Long/Barclay

Carried

Board member Terry Carew left the meeting (via Teams) at 10.24am.

8.5 Eketāhuna Community Plan

The Eketāhuna Community Board considered the report of the Community Engagement Officer dated 03 June 2025 that provided an update on the draft Eketāhuna Community Plan.

The Board advised that the Eketāhuna Community Plan was discussed with the Eketāhuna Our Town Committee and the draft is approved by the Board and the Committee for progression to the next stage of digitisation and placement on the TDC website.

That the report from the Community Engagement Officer dated 03 June 2025 concerning the draft Eketāhuna Community Plan be received

Long/Barclay

Carried

8.6 Discretionary Grant Fund Applications 2025

The Eketāhuna Community Board considered the report of the Manager – Democracy Services dated 17 June 2025 that sought a decision by the Board to advertise the availability of its General Assistance Grants scheme and invite applications for funding from the community.

That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 17 June 2025 concerning the Discretionary Grant Fund Applications 2025 be received.

Long/Barclay

Carried

That the Eketāhuna Community Board advertises the availability of the General Assistance Grants scheme for 2025 and invites applications for funding.

Long/Barclay

Carried

That the closing date for applications be 22 August 2025

Barclay/Long

Carried

9. Reports from Board Representatives Appointed to Organisations and Assigned Responsibilities

Nil

10. Correspondence

10.1 Minutes - Eketāhuna Radio Station 22 May 2025

Board member Barclay advised that the radio station is going well; they were no longer experiencing lagging in broadcasting and fundraising is ongoing. They have new team members on board and overall operations are positive.

That the minutes of the Eketāhuna Radio Station meeting held 22 May 2025 be received.

Long/Barclay

Carried

11. Discussion Items

Eketāhuna Main Street Maintenance – Dan Erard, Alliance Manager, was in attendance and provided an update to the Board noting that the sweep truck services Eketāhuna every 2 months with work undertaken in February, April and June 2025. He advised that a worker goes ahead of the sweep truck and pulls material from areas that the sweep truck is unable to access, they also check sump conditions, grates, and carry out general inspections.

A concern was raised regarding the debris remains left in Church Street and it was advised that this feedback would be investigated. The Board were encouraged to put in CRMs as this helps to notify relevant teams.

It was advised that footpath maintenance and cleaning currently has no routine schedule due to a significantly reduced budget received for footpaths, so the main priority is safety repairs and CRMs will be responded to.

It was noted that Corrections have undertaken some footpath clearing of overgrowth in Newman Road.

It was reported that the covered drain outside the Four Square in Eketāhuna required attention as the cover is not big enough and bark from the garden is getting into it; this is an area of high public use and noticeable. It was also noted that school bus signs in the area that were recently placed are falling over, and potholes have emerged on Bridge Street and Main Street through to Nireaha turn

off. These concerns were noted by the Alliance Manager, and the Board were again advised to submit CRMs.

12. Chairperson's Remarks

Nil

13. Items not on the Agenda

Nil

There being no further business the Chairperson thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 10:42am.

Chairperson



Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of the Tararua District Council held in the Council Chamber, 156 High Street, Dannevirke on Wednesday 9 July 2025 commencing at 10:30am.

1. Present

Her Worship the Mayor - Mrs T H Collis, Crs E L Peeti-Webber (Deputy Mayor), N L Chase, A K Franklin, S M Gilmore, P A Johns, M F Long, K A Sutherland, S A Wallace and S M Wards

In Attendance

Mr B Nicholson	- Chief Executive
Ms A Rule	- Policy and Planning Advisor
Ms F Chase	- Facilities Manager
Ms K Payne	- Facilities Property Officer
Mrs S Anthony	- Democracy Support Officer

2. Apologies

There were no apologies.

3. Reports

3.1 Hearing of Submissions on Freedom Camping Bylaw and Tararua District Reserves Management Plan Consultations

Freedom Camping Bylaw

Submission 020 – Colleen and Warren Cox: submitters did not appear before Council to speak to their submission.

Reserves Management Plan

Submission 003 – Dennis Wakely: spoke to his submission and presented a slideshow of photos taken from the Mangatoro Scenic Reserve. He spoke about his history in the area. He expressed his safety concerns with regard to the walking tracks, noting that the tracks were muddy and slippery, boardwalks were

broken with holes in the boards; there were no tracks in some places, and trees had fallen across paths. The swimming hole is still accessible via one track, however this track requires maintenance and he has been out and cut steps himself to ensure access. He advised that deterioration of the reserve tracks has happened over the last 5-10 years and sustained further damage following Cyclone Gabrielle in 2023. He queried the ownership of the reserve and sought information regarding the responsibilities of maintaining the reserve.

In response to questions regarding ownership and maintenance of the reserve, it was advised that Tararua District Council own the reserve and are responsible. When asked if local groups in the area would be willing to carry out maintenance work, he advised that this was not a job for them as most were over the age of 70. He queried whether other working groups such as Corrections could be utilised by the Council to maintain the reserve. It was acknowledged that this is an option and a request was made for the Chief Executive or the Facilities Manager to contact Corrections to carry out the work in the reserve as it is a safety issue and a valued amenity.

Submission 007 – Mark Wheeler: spoke to his submission and noted that the reserves were close to the hearts of the people in Pongaroa. He advised that there are 250 individual parcels of land in Tararua designated as reserves and 74 of those are in the Pongaroa district alone; there are insufficient funds to maintain all the parks and reserves in the Tararua, leading to most of the maintenance falling on the local communities, and it is vital for Council to support and work with the people who are doing the work in these areas already. He expressed that he was disappointed to see in the RMP that iwi are the sole partner for planning and management as in his opinion it does not acknowledge the decades of work done and knowledge amassed by community groups. He stated that Iwi are a business entity and services are charged for; iwi are guardians but in his opinion no support or action is shown on the ground, nor have Iwi representatives entered a submission on the RMP draft to his knowledge.

Reserve development and naming of reserves - he advised that there needs to be a greater emphasis on engaging the views of the community in the immediate area as they are the most knowledgeable and engaged, and most likely to be affected by any changes. Existing names have cultural value, it is acceptable in his opinion to add a second name however current names should be kept, as they are immediately recognised and provide emergency services instant identification of a location.

Health and safety policies – he noted that the draft mentioned preventing vandalism, providing shade and making the spaces smokefree and in his view this did not cover health and safety issues such as broken or damaged pathways, faulty equipment and fallen trees.

Culture, Heritage and Sustainability – he spoke of how equal weight should be given to preserving our European settler heritage as our Māori heritage, it is

important to tell our story as a district and as a people. He spoke of his disappointment that the rabbit weir in Waione, a 145 year relic, was destroyed. He urged that the Council be vigilant about any future attempts to remove traces of our early settlers in our district.

He noted that recent events at Four Mile Bush had created angst in the Pongaroa community, he went on to add that they had been told they generate very few CRM's as they tend to action issues themselves. He stated that better communication and cooperation from the Council is required, especially regarding speed of responses to potentially life threatening issues; the communication between Regional Council and TDC needs to be addressed as differing viewpoints create conflict.

In conclusion, he advised that something positive was required to fix the relationship between the Pongaroa community and TDC. With regard to streamlining delivery and efficiency in the area of managing reserves, he recommended the possibility of funding domain and community boards with a parks and reserves budget similar to the past main stream fund, with work being identified by both ward and council, with regular contact, financial accountability and expectation of service standards from both sides of the ledger. He noted that locals can do more per dollar spent than outside contractors; and recommended Council staff join in on community working bees to help with progress and building relationships.

In response to questions around ways to rebuild community trust and what community responsibilities could be built into the RMP, he advised that Council could invite engagement and look to the local people to take ownership; empower the locals by offering means and opportunity. It was acknowledged that not all Domain Boards operate in the same way, as some Domain Boards do not want any Council involvement. He also suggested that some reserves could be handed off to QE2, for example land locked esplanade reserves, if this was an option.

Submission 008 – Pongaroa Domain Board: Malcolm Ewenson read out a statement on behalf of Gordon Ellmers from the Pongaroa Domain Board. He stated how the Domain Board has a strong Māori presence on the Board, they are unfunded and call on Pongaroa The Way to Go Committee for assistance when needed. The Board was contacted over 2 years ago and asked what activities the Board undertook and he believed that these are what were considered as input into the draft plan. The Board consider the proposal to overlook groups in the future, who have a track record of successful reserve management and improvement, to be insulting and demeaning to the organisations. The Board are concerned over the occupation agreements clause, there are examples of buildings built by communities on council reserve land in past. How does proposed policy impact continuum, are they considered leases? What is the situation regarding ownership? And will there be compensation if council decides to reclaim the land and evict the rugby and squash clubs?

He noted that the Board expressed concern over the grazing leases arrangements, if it were not for the grazing of a small flock on the reserve without charge the Domain Board would be bankrupt, they are self-funding. Income from sheep and overnight camping fees barely cover the payments they must make to council for water rates, building WOF, and other council processing fees, as well as insurance, power, and maintenance.

He spoke about naming rights, the Board believe the current naming of reserves and signs are fine, we all know and identify with them, making changes must be done with input from local community first, then be put out for consultation. Such signage changes will have a cost which will likely diminish the poor funds.

He referred to the recent Four Mile Bush events, stating that Horizons and Council each conducted their own investigation; the Board agreed to pay the fine as cannot afford to fight it. The Board knew of the legal requirements for native timber salvage and had commenced an application through MPI when the log was removed from site. It had been hoped to sell usable timber to fund needed improvement work and pest control, however the timber has been removed. The Board believe compensation should be paid to the Board for the estimated value of the timber. The carpark and driveway were damaged by the removal of tree.

Following discussion, it was acknowledged that the Board's grazing agreement with Council should be formalised in a written agreement.

Submission 009 – Heather Monk: spoke to her submission noting she has been a member of the Pongaroa community for 56 years, beginning when it was still Akitio Council, then Dannevirke Council, and now Tararua District Council; Pongaroa got lost in the amalgamations. In 2000 the Pongaroa Way to Go Committee decided to make Four Mile Bush a Freedom Camping area; a toilet was added by her husband. She told the story from over the years as flood damage repairs were carried out in the camping/picnic area, arranged by her husband, and weed control had been carried out by herself. They check and clean the toilet every summer and the neighbour mows the area if required; following flood damage and Cyclone Gabrielle - drains were added and dead sheep removed as arranged by her husband and they cleaned silt out of the shelter. She advised that fences were broken in the flood allowing neighbouring cattle to enter and they are eating the regrowth and pugging the ground in the camping area.

She spoke of the RMP section on specimen trees, noting a pre-season check of the camping/picnic area found a dead tree; her husband as a logging contractor decided to fell the tree once tree confirmed dead and a health and safety risk, it was also reported to them by a visitor to the area as it was a significant health and safety risk. She pointed to the felling of trees section of the RMP draft and read out the criteria listed. She advised that they received a formal warning and a fine as a result of addressing the health and safety risk which met the criteria listed in the RMP draft. She stated that CRMs had been lodged in the past for

risky trees and no action was taken.

She pointed to the section of the draft regarding Council continuing to work with iwi regarding future management, and noted that in her opinion iwi have only been involved in a blessing prior to the bank repairs at a cost of \$600, she advised that she has not witnessed any assistance with weed control, maintenance, etc. but noted iwi have shown up since the cutting of the tree.

She advised that she was the recipient of a civic award, and noted that the community undergo many tasks with no cost to the council.

When asked if any CRM was lodged regarding the tree at Four Mile Bush, Heather responded no.

Her Civic Honour was acknowledged and she was thanked for her direct work and contributions to the community. When asked how the Council could work to rebuild trust she stated that she was unsure and advised that locals are now hesitant to carry out any remedial work due to regulations.

Submission 011 – Pongaroa The Way To Go Committee: Heather Monk spoke on behalf of the Committee as a member and read out a statement from the committee, noting that they were not approached for input into the draft document prior to its release and believes this should have been a core part of the plan's development and implementation. They believe consultation regarding the development of reserves or renaming them must be mandatory and place greatest emphasis on the opinions and views of the communities and groups in the areas as they live there and are the most knowledgeable and engaged.

She stated that naming reserves should always been done in consultation with local communities, domain boards or committees, and noted that this section in the draft is poorly worded.

She spoke of how changing names of reserves without notice was very concerning to the committee and must be discussed with the community directly affected to gain their support before any change is contemplated. She stated that existing names have cultural value to the local community. The committee agree that a second name could be added so long as the common usage name remains priority, she noted that new signage comes at a cost and queried what work would need to be sacrificed to fund the signs.

She queried why there is no mention of weed and pest control in the plan, and noted that it is a major issue affecting the survival of our bush reserves as they are fighting a constant battle of old man's beard, ivy, stinking iris, and jerusalem cherry to name a few.

She spoke of the recent events regarding the tree felling at Pongaroa and advised that both TDC and Horizons Regional Council had conducted investigations with Horizons concluding their investigation and TDC yet to finalise. She noted that this process highlighted a breakdown in communication between both sides and

hoped steps would be taken to rebuild relationships that have been badly damaged with the way the matter has been handled.

She outlined the works that have been carried out over the years, which still continues, using volunteer labour and funds drawn from the now disbanded main street funding programme:

- Construction, upgrades and maintenance of picnic area and shelters
- Installing of toilet
- Installation of a rock wall to prevent the reserve being eroded by the river
- Recovery of stuck vehicles
- Metalling of the parking area and driveway
- Ongoing work to remove old man's beard from the reserve area
- Various public safety improvements
- Bush walk in village (Cemetery Road) - development and maintenance of metal track network
- Undertaking drainage work
- Erection of signage and track markers
- Picnic table built
- Undertake repairs to fencing to keep stock out of reserve
- Pest control
- Centennial arch and grounds, painting and repair, removal of weeds and undergrowth and repaired pathway

She outlined work carried out by the Committee in the Pongaroa Reserve camping area in conjunction with the Pongaroa Domain Board:

- Development of the parking area
- Installed power points
- An ablution block for motor homes and campers
- Removal of row of pines threatening to fall over the camping area, and continual maintenance of this.

She also outlined work carried out by the Committee at the Pongaroa Community Hall, paid for by the Committee:

- New tables
- Sound system
- New curtains
- Equipped the kitchen with dishwasher, stove, fridge, hob, rangehood, cups, glasses, plates, and cutlery
- Removed school playground from Tiraumea and installed half behind the Hall with the other half in the village and made them code compliant

She spoke of how the current system works when people are engaged and motivated and want to make a difference. The Committee would like to a focus on greater engagement and support for existing volunteer groups that currently undertake work on behalf of the Council rather than hope that some new

arrangement will work as well or better. The Committee endorse the previous speakers of mention of funding for domains and reserves in the manner of main street funding used in the past which worked successfully. She stated that management is too large for council to undertake without the assistance of the entire community, the community which feels badly let down and ignored at the moment.

In discussion, it was asked for suggestions for the best ways to engage with the Pongaroa community. Heather advised that their current appointed Councillor currently engages well with the community. Mark Wheeler came forward as a Committee member and spoke of the difficulty in contacting staff at the council and requested more timely responses from staff when messages are left or enquiries made.

The Committee were advised that it was a legal requirement through current legislation to create the RMP for the Tararua District.

The meeting adjourned at 12:06pm and reconvened at 12:13pm.

The Chief Executive provided an update, stating that Council had received a formal complaint regarding the cutting down of the Kahikatea tree in Pongaroa and Council were obligated by law to investigate the complaint; the cutting down of the tree did fall under the Reserves Management Act (RMA) which meant Council are then obligated to look into it. Initially Council became aware that Horizons Regional Council had also received a complaint and had started their own investigation. He advised that he contacted a Senior Manager at Horizons and requested they keep TDC informed and work collaboratively together so as not to put any undue pressure on those people that needed to be spoken with in regard to the complaint, and was given assurance that that would happen. He was later notified that a Horizons Compliance Investigator had turned up in Pongaroa and interviews were carried out under caution. He advised that he then contacted Horizons to convey his disappointment that the interview had occurred without TDC's knowledge and without TDC being involved so it could be worked on together. At that point it was noted that Council will stop its investigation pending the investigation through Horizons Regional Council, who continued their investigation and a fine and warning was issued to the affected parties. He stated that from Council's perspective we could have continued the investigation under the Reserves Management Act, however, Council made the decision that whatever the result was from Horizons would be final from an enforcement perspective. If the Council had pursued the issue, it would have had to issue a fine under the RMA, however, Council was able to make a decision based on many other factors including that the intent was never there to break the Reserves Management Act, and factoring in the goodwill provided within the community in regard to that area. He advised that a letter has been sent to the affected parties on 30 June 2025. He noted that from Council's perspective this matter is now concluded. TDC's intention was never to work in silos and he has spoken to Horizons about how best they can work together in future. He stated that Council is a regulatory agency and must follow the law, and the RMA is the

one piece of legislation that governs the Reserves; it is not a Police matter. He noted that Council is now aware of where the part of the tree is and are working through what to do with the remains of the tree. He also reassured the Committee that Emergency callout is available to access 24/7.

Mark Wheeler stated that there is a \$3000 mess left from the tree removal including damage to the parking area and driveway, he advised that photos and information has been sent to Council but he has received no response. It was clarified to Mark that Council did not give permission for the tree to be removed and Council did not endorse any illegal activity; there is no commitment from Council to pay for damage from illegal activity. It was noted that the focus would be on learnings to ensure this does not happen again, and looking at how we can work together to come to a solution with better communication and better process, and to tidy up expectations from Council. A request was made for the Facilities Manager to work with Committee to find a resolution for tidying up the damaged area.

A request was also made for the Committee to feedback to their appointed Councillor representative once they have received the letter.

Following discussion, the Facilities Manager clarified that iwi were part of the development of the RMP; the second consultation and development of the final draft was completed with involvement from both our iwi partners, hence why they possibly haven't put in a submission. Next steps for collaboration with iwi is in developing our toolkit for managing the RMP following adoption.

It was also noted that pest control could be referenced in the RMP to the Horizons plan, as this sits under their responsibility as well including the funding requirements that go with it.

Freedom Camping Bylaw discussion – it was noted that there were comments in submissions around enforcement of rules and what this may look like. It was advised that Akitio experiences issues with campers on the foreshore blocking off access to furniture and BBQs that are available to public. It was queried whether the volume of freedom campers on the Akitio foreshore down from the camping ground had an impact on business for the camping ground. It was noted that Herbertville also has unique circumstances that need to be considered.

It was advised during discussion that the freedom camping prohibition in 50 and 70 km zones as mentioned in the bylaw draft, pertains to roadside only. There are visitors who stay on the street in campers outside friends or relatives houses. Councillors were advised that this needs to be considered in deliberations when it comes to the blanket prohibition clause in this area, and work will be done to present a summary of suggestions to Council. It was noted that the NZ Motorhome and Caravan Association submission provided valuable feedback to consider.

Reserves Management Plan:

Submission 012 - Judy Gleeson: Mayor Tracey Collis read out a written statement from the submitter who advised she was unable to attend in person due to being out of the area. The statement advised that she has misgivings about the service delivery review which indicates a change of direction for the parks, reserves, and domains, and recreational spaces may be pruned for financial reasons as well as control moved to other entities. She asked that Council take back control of these spaces, and consider taking care of the lawn mowing and maintenance required. She stated that where the Domain Boards are involved, Council could assign a designated Councillor for closer control. She spoke of her involvement with the Pahiatua Carnival Park Board and maintenance and weed control of the reserve that the Board has carried out over the years. She acknowledged the support they receive from TDC, and noted her plea is for the survival of the Domain Board. She described the operation of the Domain Board, including the financial position that is self-sustaining due to the camping aspect the reserve offers, and how they have been able to provide amenities for public and enhancement of facilities. Any future plan to annex off the Domain from the public would be a retrograde step and one size does not fit all. She noted that putting the Domain Board under the auspices of Explore Pahiatua would not help the cause including answering to Explore Pahiatua for elections guidance which is an ad-hoc decision not conveyed officially. She suggested that a supervisory representative from TDC present to meetings of organisations, residents and ratepayers, and offer opportunities for public to voice their opinions. She noted that Council should not dismiss the contributions of the volunteers, individuals and groups who have maintained and improved these facilities.

A request was made to Council's appointed representative on Explore Pahiatua to take back to Explore Pahiatua the comments around Explore Pahiatua and elections mentioned in the statement.

That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 24 June 2025 concerning the Hearing of Submissions on Freedom Camping Bylaw and Tararua District Reserves Management Plan Consultations be received.

That the Tararua District Council provide direction to officers on matters to be considered at the meeting of Council scheduled for 30 July 2025 as discussed, including:

Tararua District Reserves Management Plan:

- ***Community Partnerships with Locals and Councils***
- ***Naming rights and buildings***
- ***Consultation on re-naming of reserves***
- ***Budgets as part of the Annual Plan***
- ***Formal Partnership agreements***

- ***Main Street Funding***
- ***Weed and Pest Control***
- ***Flexibility and autonomy of Council with Domain Board involvement***

Freedom Camping:

- ***Enforcement***
- ***Akitio and Herbertville – what are the unintended consequences***
- ***Length of stay clearly defined***
- ***Akitio foreshore management***

Crs Johns/Wards

Carried

There being no further business the Chairperson thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 1:01pm.

Mayor



Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of the Tararua District Council held in the Council Chamber, 156 High Street, Dannevirke on Tuesday 22 July 2025 commencing at 1:00pm.

1. Present

Her Worship the Mayor - Mrs T H Collis, Crs E L Peeti-Webber (Deputy Mayor), N L Chase, A K Franklin, S M Gilmore, M F Long, K A Sutherland, S A Wallace and S M Wards

In Attendance

Mr B Nicholson - Chief Executive
Mrs A Dunn - Manager – Democracy Services

2. Apologies

That the apologies from Councillor P A Johns be accepted and leave of absence granted for the meeting.

Mayor Collis/Cr Sutherland

Carried

3. Public Excluded Items of Business

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

Appointment of Interim Chief Executive

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution follows.

<i>General subject matter to be considered</i>	<i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
<i>Appointment of Interim Chief Executive</i>	<i>To protect commercial and industrial negotiations</i>	<i><Section (1)(a)(i)</i>

ⓉARARUA DISTRICT COUNCIL

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

s7(2)(i) The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).

Crs Wards/Franklin

Carried

The meeting went into public excluded session at 1.01pm and resumed open session at 2:09 pm.

There being no further business the Mayor thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 2:10pm.

Mayor



Minutes of a meeting of the Tararua District Council held in the Council Chamber, 156 High Street, Dannevirke on Wednesday 30 July 2025 commencing at 9:30 am.

1. Present

Her Worship the Mayor - Mrs T H Collis, Crs E L Peeti-Webber (Deputy Mayor), N L Chase, A K Franklin (via Teams), S M Gilmore, P A Johns, M F Long, K A Sutherland, S A Wallace and S M Wards

In Attendance

Mr D Pettigrew - Xyst Limited (via Teams)

Mr B Nicholson - Chief Executive
Mr H Featonby - Group Manager - Operations
Ms T McDonald - Chief Financial Officer
Ms J Smith - Legal Counsel and Procurement Manager
Mr P Wimsett - Chief Advisor
Mr J Single - Regulatory Services Manager
Mrs S Walshe - Finance Manager
Ms A Charmley - Planning Services Manager
Ms A Rule - Policy and Planning Advisor
Ms M Cavanagh - Contractor – Corporate Planning
Mr K van der Oord - Communications Team Manager
Ms F Chase - Facilities Manager
Ms K Payne - Facilities Property Officer
Ms S Fountaine - Community Engagement Officer
Mr M Guile - Procurement Specialist
Mrs A Dunn - Manager – Democracy Services

2. Council Prayer

The Mayor opened the meeting with the Council Prayer.

3. Acknowledgement

The Tararua District Council acknowledged the sad passing of Mr Michael Lovett, of the Department of Internal Affairs, who had been involved in providing advice on three waters policy and was someone that many of the Chief Executives and

 TARARUA DISTRICT COUNCIL

Elected Members in New Zealand had a close relationship with.

4. Apologies

There were no apologies.

5. Public Forum

There were no requests for public forum.

6. Notification of Items Not on the Agenda

The following late items of business were notified for consideration in the public excluded session of this meeting:

Executive Search Service - Evaluation

Approval of Loan Agreement – Repayment and Readvance of Pukaha Mt Bruce Board loan to Tu Mai Ra Investments Ltd Partnership

The reasons these items were not listed on the agenda were due to delays in return of the evaluation forms for the Executive Search Service, and the time required to finalise loan documentation.

Consideration of these items cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting because:

Executive Search Service Evaluation: the need to start the recruitment process for a new Chief Executive as soon as possible

Approval of Loan Agreement: conditions of the Sale and Purchase Agreement require finalising by 30 July 2025.

That the following items be accepted as late items for consideration:

Executive Search Service – Evaluation

Crs Peeti-Webber/Chase

Carried

That the following items be accepted as late items for consideration:

Approval of Loan Agreement – Repayment and Readvance of Pukaha Mt Bruce Board loan to Tu Mai Ra Investments Ltd Partnership.

Crs Peeti-Webber/Chase

Carried

Crs S Gilmore and S Wallace recorded their votes against the motion.

7. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest in Relation to this Meeting's Items of Business

Nil

8. Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 25 June 2025 (as circulated) , Extraordinary Council meeting held on 9 July 2025 (as circulated) and Extraordinary Council meeting held on 22 July 2025 (as circulated) be confirmed as true and accurate records of the meetings.

Crs Sutherland/Wallace

Carried

9. Community Boards and Community Committees Reports

9.1 Minutes - Positively Woodville Community Committee

That the minutes of the Positively Woodville Community Committee meeting held 3 June 2025, and the meeting held 1 July 2025 be received.

Crs Gilmore/Johns

Carried

9.2 Minutes - Explore Pahiatua Community Committee

That the minutes of the Explore Pahiatua Community Committee meeting held 02 July 2025 be received.

Crs Gilmore/Johns

Carried

9.3 Minutes - Eketahuna Community Board

That the minutes of the Eketāhuna Community Board meeting held 14 July 2025 be received.

Crs Gilmore/Johns

Carried

9.4 Minutes - Dannevirke Community Board

That the minutes of the Dannevirke Community Board meeting held 21 July 2025 be received.

Crs Gilmore/Johns

Carried

10. Reports

10.1 Deliberations on Matters During the Proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw Consultation

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Policy and Planning Advisor dated 16 June 2025 that presented the results of the public consultation on the proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw, and sought decisions on each of the matters raised through the consultation for application to the final version of the bylaw, for adoption at the 27 August 2025 Council meeting.

In discussion, the Council reviewed the proposed recommendations from officers and agreed with the proposed responses to matters raised through submissions. It was noted during discussion of the proposed response for matters raised regarding freedom camping in Herbertville, that the request for more rubbish bins was an operational matter that did not need to be addressed through the bylaw.

With regard to discussions about freedom camping in Akitio, concerns were noted about high water use during the peak summer season impacting on the town's water supply. It was noted that members of Council's Three Waters team had met with the Akitio Ratepayers Association who would be assisting with a stock take of water tanks for properties connected to the water supply.

That the report from the Policy and Planning Advisor dated 16 June 2025 concerning the Deliberations on Matters During the Proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw Consultation be received.

That the Tararua District Council note the matters raised through submissions on the proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw.

That the officer recommendations in this report in response to matters raised through submissions regarding prohibitions and restrictions in the proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw be made.

That changes and corrections to the bylaw as noted in sections 9 and 10 of this report are made.

Crs Johns/Wards

Carried

Cr M Long left the meeting at 10:13am.

9.2 Deliberations on Matters During Draft Reserve Management Plan Consultation

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Facilities Manager dated 18 July 2025 that presented for consideration the results of the public consultation on the draft Reserve Management Plan and sought decisions on each of the matters raised through the consultation for application to the final

version of the Plan, for adoption at the 27 August 2025 Council meeting.

Mr Dafydd Pettigrew, of Xyst, was in attendance to answer questions relating to the draft Reserves Management Plan.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15am and resumed at 10:21am. Cr M Long returned to the meeting at 10:21am.

During discussion it was noted that the Facilities team were keen to work closely with the community and the Council's attention was drawn to the clause within the Plan that requires officers to engage with the entire community. From the submissions received, two changes had been made to the draft Plan. Officers spoke about the involvement of Council's iwi partners in developing the draft Plan and noted that this was a legal obligation of the Council. With regard to the clause in the Plan regarding renaming of reserves, it was noted that this clause provides a policy framework for officers in the event that there was a proposal to rename any reserve. It was highlighted that any renaming proposal would be undertaken in consultation with the community.

Cr A Franklin left the meeting at 10:40am.

In discussion, there was a suggestion that officer's recommendation 21 which outlined the requirement for officers to engage with the community be strengthened. However it was noted that there were multiple clauses throughout the Plan requiring consultation with the community.

Mr Pettigrew of Xyst Limited provided context for any requests for amendments, noting the prescriptive nature of legislation that covered the developing of a Reserves Management Plan. This involved two rounds of consultation, and following this, material changes could only be made in relation to matters raised through submissions.

In response to a suggestion that wherever iwi partnerships were mentioned within the Plan, that community groups be included in that wording, it was advised that the role of iwi holds a higher status through the Treaty of Waitangi, the Reserves Act and the Local Government Act. Where the Plan referred to iwi partnerships was within the section relating to manawhenua partnerships.

That the report from the Facilities Manager dated 18 July 2025 concerning the Deliberations on Matters During Draft Reserve Management Plan Consultation be received.

That the Tararua District Reserve Management Plan – Officers Responses to Submissions be received.

That the Officer recommendations in the Tararua District Reserve Management Plan – Officer Responses to Submissions for amendments to the draft Tararua District Omnibus Reserve Management Plan (RMP) be applied to the final version of the RMP for adoption by Council at its August 2025 meeting with

consideration given to strengthening recommendation 21 re communication, naming of reserves and the wording regarding iwi and community.

Crs Johns/Peeti-Webber

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 11:06am and resumed at 11:24am.

10.3 **Reserve Management Plan - Land Status and Classification**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Facilities Manager dated 24 July 2025 that sought confirmation of land to continue to be held under the Tararua District Reserve Classification report, and approve public notification of the proposal to declare and classify parcels of land in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977.

Officers advised of some minor amendments that were needed, which were as follows:

- One parcel needed to be removed from the map ID 421598 as this was entered in error and was Ministry of Education land;
- Associated townships on some of the listings needed correction due to incorrect labels;
- Three parcels of Dannevirke domain need classification and inclusion in the maps.

It was noted that the classification process was an administrative process. It was suggested that a list of the parcels of land classified as reserve be provided to the Community Boards and Community Committees for their information.

That the report from the Facilities Manager dated 24 July 2025 concerning the Reserve Management Plan - Land Status and Classification be received.

That the Council:

Confirm 25 parcels of land that will continue to be held under the Local Government Act 2002 as described in Attachment B of the Tararua District Reserve Classification report, noting the corrections required as advised by officers.

Approve public notification of the proposal to declare and classify 3 parcels of land according to their primary purpose, pursuant to section 14(2) of the Reserves Act 1977 as described in Attachment C of the Tararua District Reserve Classification report.

Approve the classification of 152 parcels of reserve land pursuant to section 16(1) and 16(2A) of the Reserves Act 1977, as described in Attachment D of the

Tararua District Reserve Classification report

Approve public notification of the proposal to reclassify 3 parcels of reserve land pursuant to section 24(2)(b) of the Reserves Act 1977, as described in Attachment E of the Tararua District Reserve Classification report.

Crs Wallace/Johns

Carried

10.4 **2024/2025 Annual Report on Dog Control Policy and Practices**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Regulatory Services Manager dated 27 June 2025 that sought adoption of the Annual Report on Dog Control Policy and Practices as required under provisions of the Dog Control Act 1996. It was noted that in publication of the agenda, one of the tables within the report had moved so that it obscured some of the wording, and a copy of the report was circulated that showed the wording. In response to a question about whether any dogs that were suitable for rehoming had been euthanised in the past year, it was noted that there were none that had been euthanised that were suitable for rehoming.

That the report from the Regulatory Services Manager dated 27 June 2025 concerning the 2024/2025 Annual Report on Dog Control Policy and Practices be received.

Crs Sutherland/Gilmore

Carried

10.5 **Regulatory Services Report 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Regulatory Services Manager dated 30 June 2025 that statistical information for the year 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

During discussion, concerns were noted regarding the Stop Plan Policy announced by the Coalition Government, and it was asked whether there was any opportunity for Council's concerns about the impact on the Tararua District from this policy to be raised to the Minister. It was noted that this policy impacted on the Council's ability to continue with rezoning to accommodate the expected demand for housing growth, and it was noted that it had been intended to programme for growth through the next Long Term Plan, noting the cost of providing infrastructure was a responsibility of the developer.

It was noted that there would be value in writing to the Minister to outline the issues faced by the Tararua District. Clarification was provided that the changes being proposed by the Government were to introduce a development levy, and there had been talk about introducing a targeted rate for the growth element. If this was introduced by the Government, then the Council would not be introducing these elements.

That the report from the Regulatory Services Manager dated 30 June 2025

concerning the Regulatory Services Report 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 be received.

Crs Gilmore/Wards

Carried

10.6 **Cyclone Gabrielle Final Report and Transition Document**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Procurement Specialist dated 12 June 2025 that presented the final report concluding the Tararua District Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Programme.

Representatives from the Manawatu-Whanganui Civil Defence Emergency Management office and the Rural Support Trust were in attendance.

Officers spoke about key achievements, highlighting the events held in collaboration with the Rural Support Trust, and working with the six marae and 13 Civil Defence groups.

In the Economic space, two reports had been funded one being a macro-economic report and the other a micro-economic report which provided information on the impact on the area and the recovery which highlighted ongoing recovery efforts needed going forward.

Representatives from the Rural Support Trust thanked the Council for their support and spoke about the learnings from the partnerships and networks that really helped achieve the outcomes they had. On the rural side, they noted that one of the big things was the ability to get into the rural communities and assist with hands on help. They noted the usefulness of the information received from surveys and the practical help provided.

Officers spoke about the assistance from Horizons Regional Council in the natural space and in the recovery side. The representative from the Manawatu-Whanganui Civil Defence Emergency Management office thanked the team, noting that the response and recovery had set a benchmark for other Councils to follow. She noted the model followed by Council's team had been shared with the Civil Defence team in Nelson who were following this model in their current response.

That the report from the Procurement Specialist dated 12 June 2025 concerning the Cyclone Gabrielle Final Report and Transition Document be received.

Mayor Collis/Wards

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 12:16pm and resumed at 12:50pm.

10.7 **Notification of Urgent Contestable fund recipients**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Community Engagement Officer dated 8 July 2025 that sought decisions on urgent contestable fund

applications.

In response to a question about why one applicant had been allocated more funding than what had been applied for, it was advised that this was due to the new criteria that had been adopted by the Council for international representatives.

That the report from the Community Engagement Officer dated 08 July 2025 concerning the Notification of Urgent Contestable fund recipients be received.

That allocation of Urgent contestable fund amount be taken from the total allocated for round 1 2025/26

<i>Applicant</i>	<i>Amount Requested</i>	<i>Amount Allocated</i>
<i>2001 - Mr Brodie Bennett</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>	<i>\$1,500</i>
<i>2002 - Dannevirke Bowling Club Woman's 4s Team</i>	<i>\$2,955.45</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>2004 - Mr Jamie Monaghan</i>	<i>\$2,250</i>	<i>\$1,500</i>
<i>2003 - Tararua Community Youth Services Charitable Trust</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>2005 - Jodie Kent</i>	<i>\$12,000</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>\$68,205.45</i>	<i>\$4,000</i>
<i>Amount remaining for round 1 2025/2026</i>		<i>\$46,000</i>

Crs Johns/Wallace

Carried

10.8 **Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority Solar Renewable Energy Funding**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Community Engagement Officer dated 8 July 2025 that presented information on the funding opportunity available through Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority's Community Renewable Energy Fund Programme and outlined the next phase of implementation.

It was noted that nominations had to be made to the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority today and information on successful applicants would be released once the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority had made their selection.

That the report from the Community Engagement Officer dated 08 July 2025 concerning the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority Solar Renewable Energy Funding be received.

Crs Long/Wallace

Carried

10.9 Elected Members Allowances and Expense Reimbursement Policy

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Manager – Democracy Services dated 30 June 2025 that provided information on the Remuneration Authority's new Home Security System Allowance outlined in the recently released 2025-26 Local Government Elected Members Remuneration Determination.

That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 30 June 2025 concerning the Elected Members Allowances and Expense Reimbursement Policy be received.

Crs Johns/Chase

Carried

10.10 Requests for Information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Manager – Democracy Services dated 10 July 2025 that provided information on requests for information received under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 10 July 2025 concerning the Requests for Information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 be received.

Crs Sutherland/Gilmore

Carried

11. Portfolio Reports

11.1 Cr S Gilmore: acknowledged the work of Positively Woodville for their work in beautification of Woodville, and with the flags recently installed in the main thoroughfare.

11.2 Cr S Wards: spoke about Ruralfest, that she had attended on behalf of the Council. She explained that the Ruralfest was a call to action in Parliament, that was attended by a mix of health representatives, as well as herself, and had a good attendance of Ministers including the Health Minister. The focus was on three – four key points that they discussed and sought an update on from the Ministers present. Key areas discussed were around workforce issues, rural – proofing and the importance for when decisions were made that it was harder and more expensive to deliver services in a rural setting. There was discussion around access to diagnostic services, suggesting a subsidy for accessing services

outside of town.

- 11.3 Cr N Chase: spoke about her attendance at the Local Government New Zealand Conference and Te Maruata Hui with Māori elected members and iwi partners. She noted the experiences shared by other elected members and the address at the conference about the abuse of elected members, and the experiences of female elected members facing harassment and bullying in their roles. She spoke about the discussions on partnership with iwi and building relationships, and talked about other community groups with their histories and being able to build collaborative relationships with them as well and the success from building relationships and working in partnerships. She spoke about the updates on reforms that were proposed.
- 11.4 Cr S Wallace: spoke about his attendance at the Local Government New Zealand conference, noting the address by the Deputy Prime Minister who spoke about the cost pressures driving rates increases.
- 11.5 Her Worship the Mayor: spoke about attendance at the Local Government New Zealand Conference, noting there was lots of discussion about the proposed rates cap, and noted that although there was an affordability issue in the country, when talking about capping core services this would cause further issues. She noted the announcement by Minister Chris Bishop at the conference on the new Stop Plan Policy.

12. Mayoral Matters

- 12.1 Her Worship the Mayor noted the request for a letter to be sent to the Minister outlining the impacts on the Tararua District from the Stop Plan Policy.
- 12.2 Her Worship the Mayor acknowledged Chief Executive Bryan Nicholson's last meeting of the Tararua District Council. She spoke about his contributions to the Council, noting he joined the Council during the Covid period, dealing with lockdowns and also his leadership through Cyclone Gabrielle. She spoke about him as a steady hand providing good advice, and acknowledged his work and achievements, both locally and regionally.

In response the Chief Executive spoke about issues experienced with Infrastructure which had provided the opportunity to plan for the future. He spoke about how overall he felt the decisions made by the Council had been the right ones, and that the district was in a good space. He acknowledged the outstanding staff within the organisation and wished everyone the best for the future.

13. Items not on the Agenda

Nil

14. Public Excluded Items of Business

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

Confirmation of Minutes

Executive Search Evaluation

Approval of Loan Agreement – Repayment and Readvance of Pukaha Mt Bruce Board loan to Tu Mai Ra Investments Ltd Partnership

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution follows.

<i>General subject matter to be considered</i>	<i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
<i>Confirmation of Minutes</i>	<i>To protect commercial and industrial negotiations</i>	<i><Section (1)(a)(i)</i>
<i>Executive Search Evaluation</i>	<i>As above</i>	<i>As above</i>
<i>Approval of Loan Agreement – Repayment and Readvance of Pukaha Mt Bruce Board loan to Tu Mai Ra Investments Ltd Partnership</i>	<i>As above</i>	<i>As above</i>

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

s7(2)(i) The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).

Crs Johns/Sutherland

Carried

Councillors S Gilmore and S Wallace recorded their votes against the resolution

The meeting went into public excluded session at 1:23pm and resumed open business session at 3:26pm.

15. Report of Public Excluded Decision released to Open Session – Approval of Loan Agreement – Repayment and Readvance of Pukaha Mt Bruce Board loan to Tū Mai Rā Investments Ltd Partnership

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Legal Counsel and Procurement Manager dated 28 July 2025 that presented to Council the draft loan agreement, deed of acknowledgement of debt and guarantee and indemnity documentation for Council's approval.

The report also explained the arrangements whereby the original loan to Pūkaha Mount Bruce Board would be repaid, and the Council would advance a loan to Tū Mai Rā Investments Limited Partnership, with security provided by Rangitāne Tū Mai Rā Trust in the form of a guarantee. It was noted that the repayment and advance of the loan would be book entries only and no money would change hands.

The Council were reminded of its previous resolution, made at its meeting held 25 June 2025, where the Council agreed in principle to the proposal to transfer the loan of \$1,000,000 to Rangitāne Tū Mai Rā Trust, and delegated authority to the Chief Executive to negotiate the terms and conditions of the transfer of the loan from Pūkaha Mount Bruce Board to Rangitāne Tū Mai Rā Trust, subject to confirmation of the agreement by the Council in a public excluded report.

The Chief Executive was also directed to pursue security under any loan agreement, to ensure that the Council was in a better situation for recovering the \$1 million, and that there be regular reporting on the status of the loan.

Officers advised that negotiations had now concluded and the loan agreement was presented to Council for confirmation.

In discussion officers advised that interest on the \$1 million loan was not part of the deal. The original loan documents already had stepped repayment of the principal included, however that had been made clearer in the new loan documents.

With regard to the Deed of Acknowledgement of debt, this recorded the arrangement where the old loan would be repaid and the new loan advanced. Pūkaha Mount Bruce Board, Tū Mai Rā Investments Limited Partnership and Tararua District Council would sign that document.

It was explained that the loan agreement was the way that the loan would be

advanced to Tū Mai Rā Investments Limited Partnership.

The Deed of Guarantee and Indemnity was the method of guaranteeing repayment of the loan which would be signed by Rangitāne Tū Mai Rā Trust as guarantor.

It was advised that the risk of financial default under the original loan is what was being addressed through the new arrangement. The new arrangement would mitigate the Council's risk of loss of funds. All of the documents had been legally reviewed, and key clauses socialised with the entities involved. All parties were in agreement with the contents of the documents.

It was noted that the Guarantee and Indemnity would protect Council against any default.

With regard to the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, it was advised that executing the loan agreements and supporting documents would not meet the threshold of a "significant" decision under Council's Significance and Engagement policy, as it is a restructuring of an existing arrangement. The cost to Council of \$146,000 through loss of interest revenue did not trigger the requirements to consult under the Significance and Engagement Policy. This means there is no consultation required with the community about the transfer of the loan.

Further, the restructuring of the loan would not have a significant impact on Council's finances. Council could investigate options for the treatment of the interest. It was noted that the loan agreement had a built in control that each year there would be a repayment made. A reporting requirement had been included for provision of the Annual Report of Tū Mai Rā Investments Limited Partnership to Council which will be built into Council's internal process.

With regard to the cost of foregoing interest of \$146,000 over the remaining term of the loan, a suggestion was made to reduce level of funding made available to the contestable fund, for example from \$100,000 to \$75,000, to recover some of this cost. It was advised that a report could be brought to Council on the suggestion of reducing the contestable fund and the options open to Council to account for the foregone interest. This report would consider the requirement to consult on any proposal.

Councillor S Wards left the meeting at 1:40pm.

In response to a question about whether it was usual for a Council to be lending funds to a commercial entity, officers advised that Council had previously made loans to commercial entities, however it was no longer usual for Council to do this. Following this arrangement, Council would not likely be entering other commercial loans or funding arrangements without consultation with the community. Council now had a contestable fund framework for investment and funding of community projects.

In response to clarification that was sought on the interest on the loan due for repayment in October, it was advised that the interest due under the previous loan's conditions had already been invoiced and is separate to the Deed of Acknowledgement before the Council at this meeting. Going forward there would be no interest costs invoiced to Tū Mai Rā Investments Limited Partnership.

In conclusion it was noted that the focus was on correcting a previous investment to mitigate risks that had arisen associated with that previous investment. Officers went over the obligations set out in the loan agreement, and the guarantee. If there was a default in the future, the Council was able to demand repayment of the whole amount, and if that was not paid, then the Guarantor would be responsible for payment and default interest could be included in that event.

That the report from the Legal Counsel and Procurement Manager dated 28 July 2025 concerning the Approval of Loan Agreement - repayment and readvance of Pūkaha Mount Bruce Board loan to Tū Mai Rā Investments Limited Partnership be received.

That Council approves the loan agreement and related documents between Tararua District Council and Tū Mai Rā Investments Limited Partnership.

That Council delegates authority to the Chief Executive and Mayor to execute the loan agreement, and deed of acknowledgement of debt on behalf of Council by affixing the common seal.

Crs Johns/Sutherland

Carried

Crs S Gilmore, M Long and S Wallace recorded their votes against the motion.

That the Chief Executive be directed to provide a report to Council on the options available to recover the interest of the loan through the contestable fund.

Crs Sutherland/Chase

Carried

Cr M Long recorded his vote against the motion

There being no further business the Mayor thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 3:27pm.

Mayor



Report

Date : 6 August 2025

To : Chairperson and Board Members
Eketahuna Community Board

From : Simone Anthony
Democracy Support Officer

Subject : **Management Report**

Item No : **8.1**

1. Recommendation

- 1.1 *That the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 31 July 2025 concerning the Management Report be received.*

2. Reason for the Report

- 2.1 This report provides an update to the Board on key activities and items of interest over the period 9 June to 9 July 2025 as reported in a memo to the Infrastructure, Climate Change and Emergency Management Committee (ICCEM) as there was no ICCEM meeting held in July, and the key activities and items of interest reported to the Community Development and Wellbeing Committee held 6 August 2025.

3. Background

- 3.1 As part of the scope of functions and authority delegated by the Council to the Eketāhuna Community Board, the Board has the responsibility for maintaining an oversight of the level of service concerning the facilities and activities provided within the Board's geographical area and make submissions to the Council on those levels of service, through the Annual Plan/Long-term Plan consultation process.
- 3.2 This report is provided to keep the Board informed on key activities and items of interest.

- 3.3 The scope of the update provided is districtwide, therefore contains information related to services and facilities outside of the wider Eketāhuna Community Board area. Where it has been possible, information relating solely to the northern ward area has been removed from the following report.

4. Transport

Alliance Management Overview

The Memorandum of Understanding with NZTA for the handing back of highway alternate routes is being finalised, with maintenance and management of the alternate routes returning to Council responsibility from 1 July.

Maintenance works on the eight detour roads will be carried out by Tararua Alliance, funded by NZTA to an agreed level over two years. The value of this funding will be confirmed in the MOU, expected to be finalised in July.

Design work is progressing for the Lindauer cycleway, and discussions continue with KiwiRail around access options around the two bridges along the cycleway route.

Culvert cleaning has been a strong focus around the network, ensuring roadside drainage is clear before the wet weather sets in. Work has progressed on four emergency works sites through June. The EcoReef solution on River Rd at Wakawahine has been recognised with an innovation award at New Zealand's Concrete Construction Awards.

The Land Stability Project is making excellent progress in the resilience space, with planting getting underway on 16 June.

Transportation Network Management Overview

SH3 and Gorge Revocation and detour routes hand-back

While the Saddle Road and the Pahiatua Track are the most widely known roads that were used as a detour, NZTA also took on maintenance of the following roads while the Gorge was closed. The roads below will be returned to TDC management as of 1 July. Any maintenance callouts will be managed by Tararua Alliance.

- Woodlands Rd (between SH3 and Oxford Rd)
- Oxford Rd (between Woodlands Rd and Saddle Rd)
- Saddle Rd (between Oxford Rd and the district boundary)
- Gorge Rd (SH3 to Ballance Valley Rd)
- Ballance Valley Rd (Gorge Rd to Makomako Rd)
- Makomako Rd (Mangahao to Pahiatua Track)
- Mangahao Rd (SH2 to Pahiatua -Mangahao Road)
- Pahiatua Track Rd (Makomako to PNCC Boundary)
- Pahiatua-Mangahao Rd (Mangahao to Makomako)

The agreed amount NZTA will fund for additional works will be confirmed in the MOU. The scope and value of works has been developed in consultation with Tararua Alliance's Network Management Team. The NZTA funding will cover maintenance of the above eight sections of road, over two construction seasons with is the end of this NLTP period.

Council's objective was to ensure the roads are returned to the condition they were in before NZTA took over the maintenance. The Saddle Road will remain a detour route for SH3 and needs to be maintained at a level appropriate for a detour as well as dictated by the volume of traffic using it.

We have taken traffic volume counts on the Saddle Road and Pahiatua Track before and after the highway opened. The readings below were taken over 7 days in November last year and June this year. The volume on the Saddle Road is higher than before the Manawatu Gorge closed (150 vehicles a day) but significantly lower now the highway is open. We expect this to reduce further over time. The numbers show the new highway is also diverting 49.55% of traffic from the Pahiatua Track.

Saddle Road

Before highway open (Nov 24) – 6941 vehicles a day (57.7%HV)

After highway open (20 June) – 255 vehicles a day (7% HV)

Pahiatua Track

Before highway open (Nov 24) – 3471 (12.79% HV)

After (20 June) – 1751 (9.3% HV)

Revocation of the old state highway is still a work in progress, with NZTA yet to provide a business case. Until a decision is made on the future of the Gorge and approaching road, maintenance and management will remain with NZTA.

Tararua Land Stability and Roding Resilience Project

Planting started on 16 June on Mangahei Road, with an MSD-funded planting crew of three people who are working under the supervision of Taiao Ora Contracting, with training provided by Horizons. The team will be planting for at least eight weeks, working through the pole planting sites confirmed for this year. 1,150 willows and 455 poplars have been provided by Horizons.

All but one landowner has elected to use the planting crew instead of planting themselves, and there are 66 sites confirmed for this winter (further sites being worked through). The team will be training on wet days, as well as other resilience

work such as wildling pine removal and native planting along the roadside.



School speed zone update

The Government introduced a new Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2024 in October 2024, which revokes and replaces the Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2022.

Speed management plans are now optional and no longer need to include a 10-year vision. The Rule also no longer requires regional speed management plans. There's a new binding schedule of road classifications specifying permanent speed limits or ranges of permanent speed limits for each class of road. Road Controlling Authorities (RCAs) must align proposed speed limits with this schedule.

RCAs must now explicitly consider economic factors, including the impact on travel times, when proposing speed limits. RCAs must complete and provide a cost benefit disclosure statement for each proposed change for consultation purposes (except for speed limits on roads captured by Section 11 – Transitional provisions, Section 5 – speed limits around schools, and new roads).

Consultation requirements are now more explicit. RCAs must publish summaries of submissions received during public consultation, explaining what has and hasn't changed as a result, and why.

Requirements for speed limits around schools have changed. In most cases, variable speed limits will need to apply to roads outside a school gate during school pick-up and drop-off times. RCAs must make all reasonable efforts to comply with the Rule's requirements around schools by 1 July 2026.

RCAs must reverse some recent speed limit reductions made between 1 January 2020 and when the Rule commenced on 30 October 2024 on certain roads.

Speed limit changes in speed management plans and alternative method proposals, which were approved and uploaded to the register, but not in force as at 30 October 2024 (as was the case for Tararua District Council), can no longer be implemented. To be 'in force' the speed limits must be 'live' with road signs and traffic control devices in place. Where this is not the case, a new speed management plan or alternative method proposal has to be prepared to meet the requirements of the new Rule.

How we are proposing to apply the new Rule:

Phase 1: Apply mandatory variable speed limits around schools by 1 July 2026, through the Alternative Method Proposal process required by the new Rule, as well as two additional minor permanent speed limit changes outside schools to allow us to meet the requirements of the Rule.

This involves establishing whether schools are Category 1 or 2, determining specific speed limits and distances based on their category, and appropriate times before and after school to apply the variable limits.

- Category 1 schools are typically those in urban environments where there are existing permanent speed limits below 100km/h to slow traffic and which provide a buffer zone for new variable speed limits. This category requires 30km/h speed limits, 150m either side of a school gate.
- Category 2 schools are more likely to be in rural areas with higher existing speed limits, where there is minimal pedestrian activity. This category requires 'less than 60km/h' speed limits, 300m either side of a school gate.

We are proposing that 16 of Tararua's 20 schools be designated as Category 1 with a 30km/h variable speed limit, due to their urban environments or lower surrounding speed limits.

The remaining four schools (Alfredton, Ballance, Kumeroa and Makuri Schools) are proposed to be designated as Category 2 schools with a 50km/h variable speed limit, due to their rural environments, the 100km/h surrounding speed limits, and limited pedestrian activity.

For consistency, we are proposing that all schools have the same variable speed limit times, being 8:30 to 9:10am before school, and 2:50 to 3:30pm after school.

Targeted engagement has been undertaken with each school on the new Rule and our proposed application of this, with only three schools responding and each agreeing with the proposed changes. We also met with Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Tamaki Nui A Rua and discussed wider safety concerns for Makirikiri Road, particularly the speed and volume of traffic passing the school.

For Makirikiri Road and Te Rehunga South Road (Ruahine School), there are challenges in meeting the new Rule due to the current location of the 70km/h speed signs. The location of these signs needs to be pushed out to accommodate the 30km/h variable speed signs and avoid confusion and contradictory information for drivers. For each of these changes we are required to meet the road length requirements for speed limits specified under the new Rule, which is 700m for 70km/h speed limit areas, or 2,000 for 100km/h. For Makirikiri Road, this requires us to change the whole length of the road to 70km/h which is what is being proposed.

To change these two permanent speed limits, we are required to consult with the public for a six-week period. This is planned for late July / early August 2005 and will be targeted consultation to affected houses / business, as well as through the Council's website and Bush Telegraph.

Funding has been approved by NZTA for the new signs, and all going well we would look to install these over the Christmas / new year holiday period to minimise disruption to schools. The signs will be a mixture of electronic signs on the busier road and State Highways, and static signs on the remainder.

Minor low-cost safety improvements have also been identified for several schools, such as no parking lines, painted edge lines and island build outs to improve visibility of signage.

Phase 2: Undertake a wider review of Tararua's permanent speed limits based on the road classifications and lengths within the Rule.

This would predominantly involve a review of our peri-urban roads on the urban fringe which have 100km/h speed limits, to establish whether lower limits are justified (i.e. 50-80km/h as specified under the new Rule).

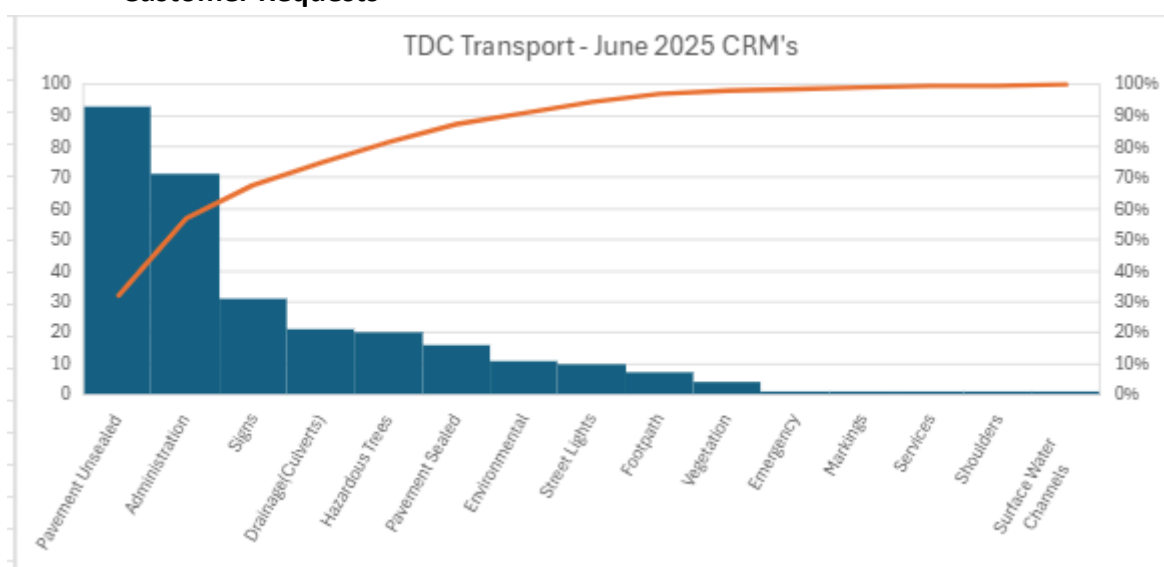
This is not a mandatory requirement, however, would allow council to address safety concerns raised for some of these roads (Cowper and Tipapakuku Roads in Dannevirke as an example).

It is proposed this work be undertaken in 2026 and involve full public consultation. This timeframe will allow us to monitor what other councils are doing to meet the new Rule and ensure we are being consistent, particularly with our neighbouring councils.

NZTA have signalled there is unlikely to be any funding for these changes, as their budgets are limited and focused on mandatory requirements.

Transport Operational Delivery Management Overview

Customer Requests

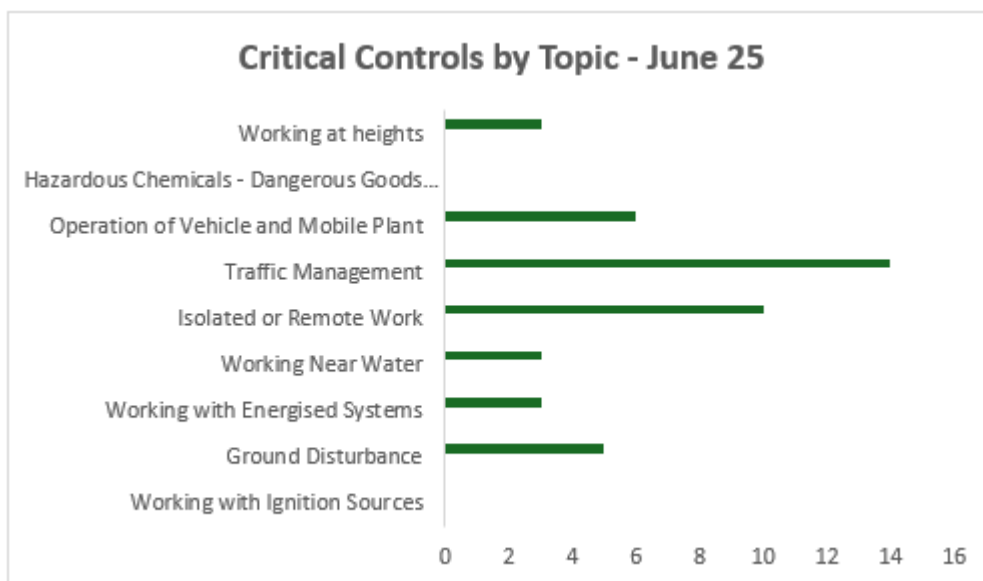
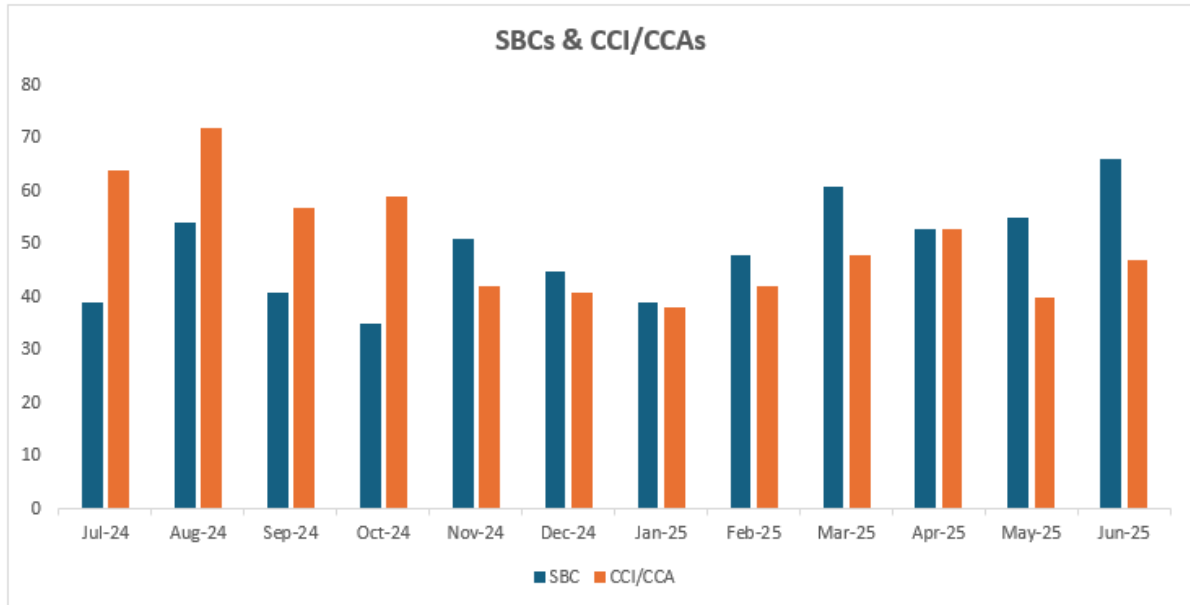


289 CRMs were received for the month of June with 58 resolved. 82 of CRMs required no action. The remaining CRMs have been programmed to be completed.

Tararua Alliance Zero Harm Performance Summary

Item	June 2025	FYTD
Total Incidents Reported	5	33
Near Misses	0	3
HiPo/Serious Harm	0	1
TRIFR	0	-
Recordable Injuries	0	0
Cardinal Rule Breaches	0	1
Incidents Involving a Critical Risk	0	21
Working Hours	33112	547114

The Alliance continues its positive trend relating to zero harm. All reported incidents in June are minor incidents resulting in no harm. Near miss reporting continues to be an area for improvement. There has been no near miss reporting for June.



In June, the Tararua Alliance achieved 99% of the target safety behaviour conversations (SBCs) and Critical Control Inspection/Audit (CCI/CCAs). The focus of the month's inspections and audits was traffic management and remote work due to the numbers of teams working in isolated areas of the network.

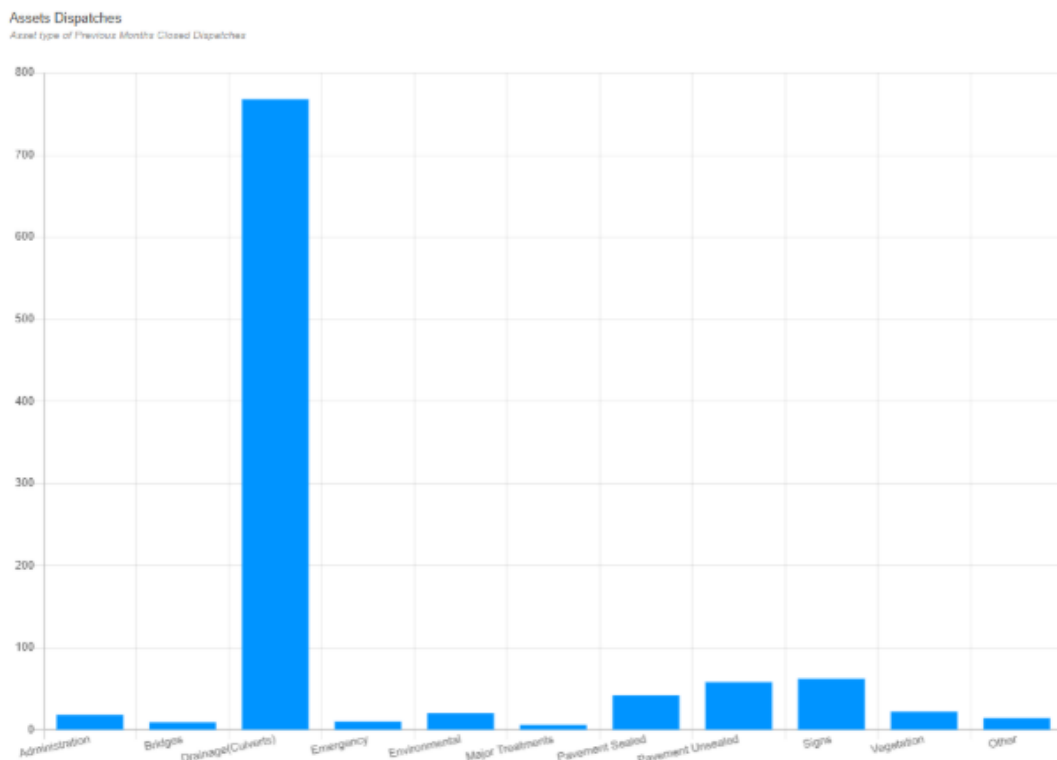
Maintenance Overview

Maintenance Delivery Overview

The maintenance teams are currently working on network safety priorities which includes pavement defects, safety signage and any emergency notifications that need immediate attention.

The rest of the maintenance resource are split between emergency work recovery teams where we are continuing with the cyclone recovery damage.

All Works – Dispatches Completed May 2025 – By Asset type.



Routine Maintenance

- 747 Urban catchpits cleaned out
- 52 culvert inlet outlets cleared Rural
- 43 sealed potholes
- 163km of grading unsealed roads
- 1127 cubic meters of unsealed metaling

Renewals Overview

Reseal Delivery

The reseal sites have been driven over with NZTA and confirmed for 2025-26 construction season. The 2025-26 reseal programme length is 90kms of the sealed

road network which is 7.6% of the sealed road network length. Designs and material procurement are now underway. Validation of the re seal programme is happening to start the pre-reseal repairs in July 2025.

Rehabilitations

Rehabilitation Planning

The rehabilitation sites have been driven over with NZTA and confirmed for the 25-26 construction season, the rehabilitation length is 4.56kms of sealed pavement which is a total of 0.4% of the sealed road network length.

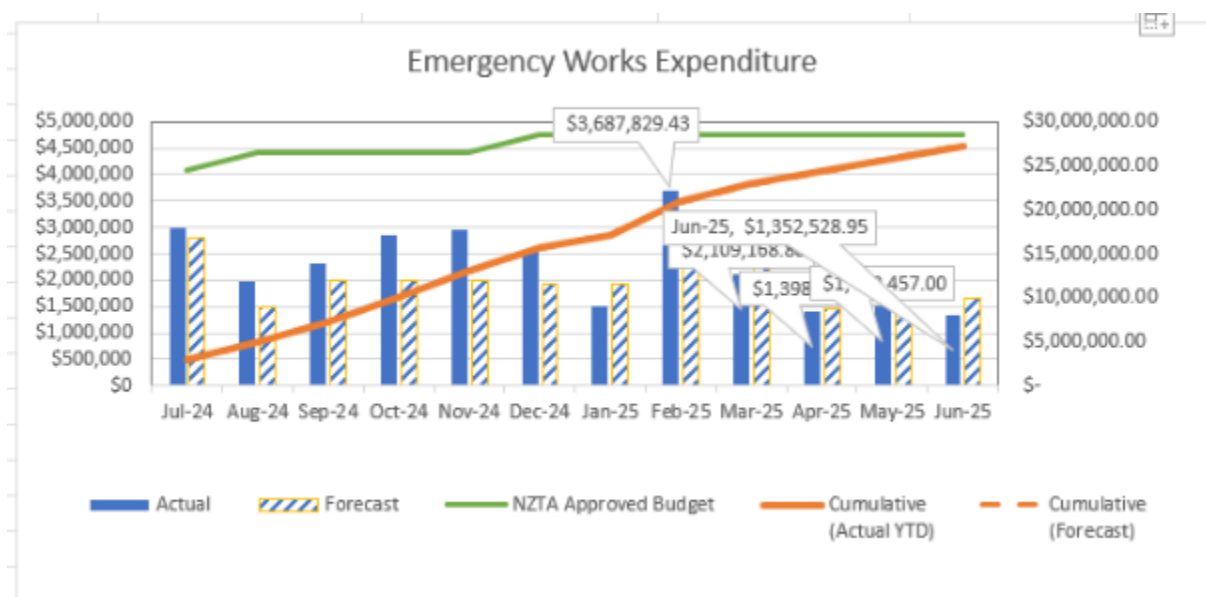
Now that these are confirmed we can start developing designs to facilitate the delivery in conjunction with developing schedules to make TCE's to tension delivery.

Enabling works is planned to commence in July where we will be undertaking culvert replacements and drainage works, this will dry out the subgrade so when we return in summer the conditions will be more favourable to pavement related activities.

Emergency Works Recovery

2024/25 FY - Emergency Works Forecast Expenditure

The total claim for emergency work for financial year 2024-2025 is \$27,217,694



Total Approved Emergency Works Funding (2024/25)
(NZTA Work Category 141)

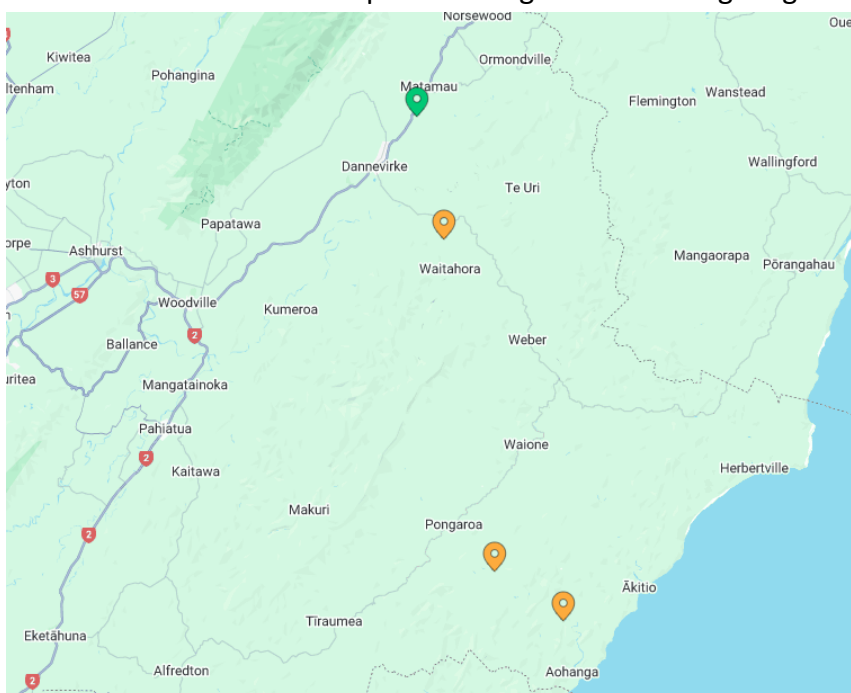
\$28,423,502

2024/25 Spend to Date (end of May 2025)	\$27,217,694.18
Expenditure in May	\$1,352,528.95

Emergency Works Delivery

High Complexity works

Current active worksites depicted with green and orange tags.

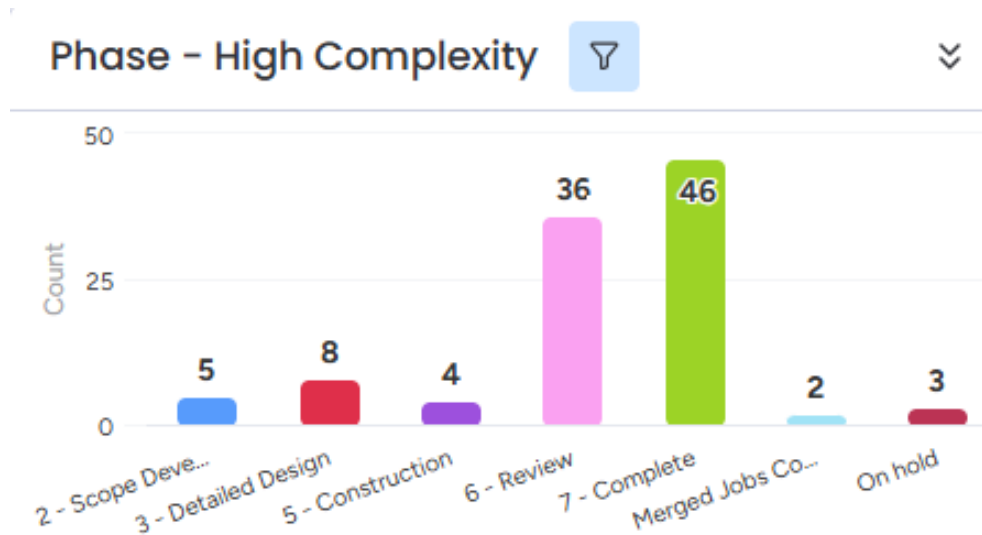


River Road, Akitio, RP 20km Wakawahine

This site is now complete. The project has won an innovation award at the Concrete Construction Awards in June. Lattey Group and EcoReef® submitted the entry and credited the award to the power of collaboration—bringing together contractors, local entrepreneurs, and the local council to develop groundbreaking solutions that serve rural communities while respecting our natural environment.



Current High Complexity Work Phase for 2024-2025 Programme



Phase	May Number	May Number	Change
Scope development	5	5	0
Detailed design	8	8	0
Approval/startup	0	0	0
Construction	6	4	-2
Review	35	36	1
Complete	44	46	2
On hold	4	3	-1

5. 3 Waters

Wastewater

Eketahuna Wastewater Programme

Commissioning of the Eketahuna Wetlands is now scheduled for mid-July.

Inflow and Infiltration

Following the last reporting period. In order to facilitate renewal of the consent for the discharge of the Eketahuna Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) by its due date of July 2028, we are developing and will implement a plan to reduce

inflow and infiltration (I/I) into the wastewater reticulation from its currently high levels.

To achieve this, TDC have engaged Citycare Water (CCW) to carry out a range of flow monitoring and I/I source detection field inspection and testing activities with the view to developing an overall I/I Management Plan aimed at reducing such flows.

Taonga Water Advisory (TWA) have been engaged to provide services related to technical review, support and strategy related to this scope of work.

Manhole remedial work is being scheduled and scope review of the work required will be conducted as we develop the overall I/I management plan.

Trade Waste

We are continuing to work through the review of fees and charges and are finalising the report for council with key input from our internal departments. It is intended to start hiring for a Trade waste and Backflow officer to manage and pursue these initiatives.

Sludge Management

We are removing the sludge from Woodville WTP with the help of Envirogen. The Woodville WTP backwash waste is discharged into a Clip tank, which facilitates solid-liquid separation.

Storm Water

A number of modelling and concept designs have been conducted for the district in particular Pahiatua and Woodville areas. The proposals are being reviewed for implementation where possible and for further review to be submitted to the next 3 Waters Strategic Advisory committee.

Reticulation Programmes

We have established a network programme management group in order to deconflict work programmes and ensure that our asset management plans are up to date and work is prioritised accordingly. This ensures that we manage by complexity and progress the necessary designs with the correct technical input to ensure that we deliver on issues or concerns that have interdependencies across the portfolio. It is already proving useful as we are better postured to now react operationally to raised issues and create actionable plans.

Consenting and Compliance

Last month we reported on the below abatement notice, work is well underway to meet this requirement. We have previously discussed with Horizons our schedule for installation and are working through our delivery.

- Abatement Notice 1495 to undertake flow meter verifications at the water abstractions that relate to the Pahiatua Municipal Water Treatment Plant, Eketāhuna Municipal Water Treatment Plant, and Dannevirke Municipal Water Treatment Plant.

- This Abatement notice relates to the installation and verification of flow monitors. Pahiatua flow meters were installed last reporting period.
- Eketahuna is now installed.
- Dannevirke is scheduled in this financial year and we have scheduled for the first weeks of July for preliminary works to begin.

Water Permits

Following previous report, we have had no significant changes to report to the following.

The Section 92 information for the Eketahuna (expired 2019) and Pahiatua (expired 2022) water permits were submitted.

We are currently working through the final Section 92 information for Woodville (expired 2021) with WSP. When complete Woodville will be submitted.

Traverse Environmental have been contracted for the Dannevirke Water Permit renewal.

WSP have been engaged to prepare and lodge Norsewood water supply resource consent application. The Norsewood bore is used for public water supply and has not required resource consent to date due to 50m³/day being a permitted activity, TDC wishes to apply for a volume of 90m³/day.

Administration

An update on our staffing considerations as relayed at the last management update.

Hiring positions:

- Water Treatment Trainee – Position has started.
- Water Treatment Operator – Offer through Tararua Alliance has been sent out to an international candidate.
- Waters Field Technician (Sampler) – Position has started.
- Trade waste and Backflow Officer role – Identified as part of the Better Off Funding is to be advertised shortly.

As an update to our previous communication, our Water Treatment Team Leader remains on extended leave. We continue to fully support this well-earned break and have adjusted our operations accordingly.

To manage the ongoing resourcing constraints, we have prioritised our workstreams, which has meant placing some projects on temporary pauses until the necessary capacity becomes available to progress the work effectively and with the necessary technical insights and diligence. Despite these adjustments, our

mitigation plan remains effective, and day-to-day operations are running smoothly.

Thanks to the continued efforts of the team and the support from across the organisation, we are in a strong position and maintaining operations. We'll continue to monitor and adapt as needed and will keep you informed of any significant changes through the Executive Leadership Team and/or ICCEM as appropriate.

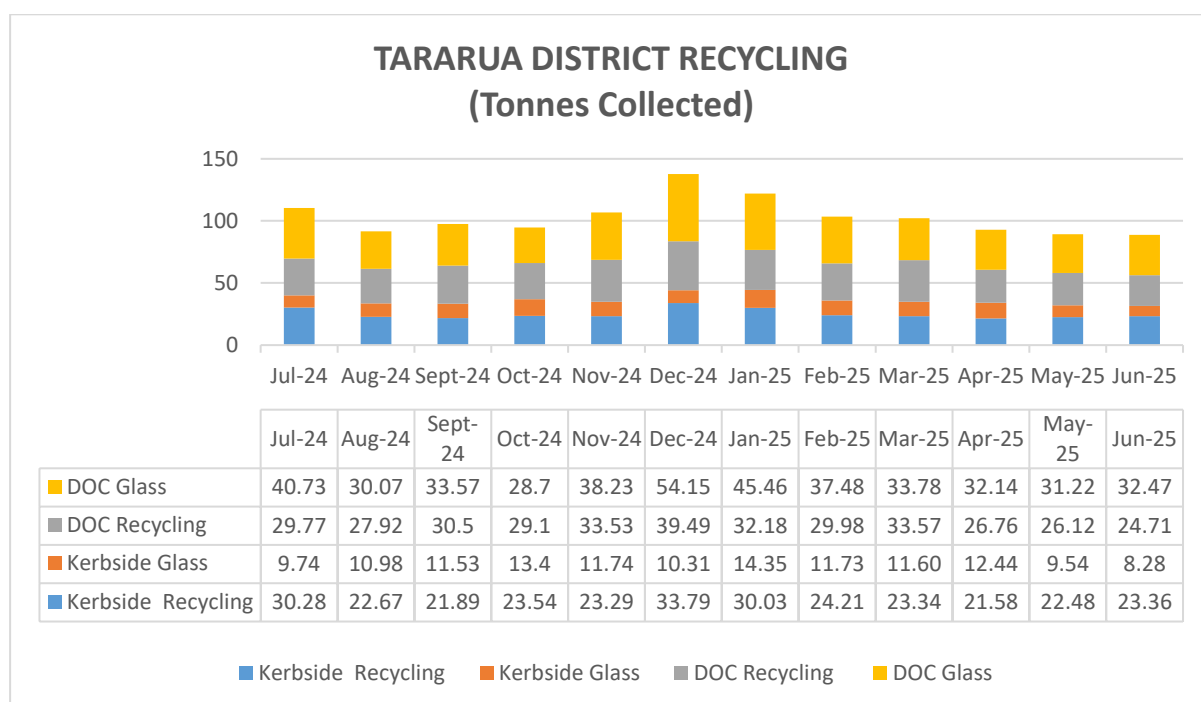
6. Solid Waste

Operational Activities

Budget/Activity					
Refuse Transfer Stations (RTS Sites)	<p>All transfer stations are running smoothly, and with the new financial year upon us we are currently coordinating two long awaited improvements budgeted for Dannevirke RTS.</p> <p>Replacement of all existing green torn windblow mesh along the boundary fence line with new black mesh, extending to include high mesh right along the front fence line. Mesh is very effective in preventing windblown debris such as loose paper and soft plastics from entering neighbouring farm paddocks where the livestock could potentially ingest causing illness. Or having debris landing over in a pond at the Treatment Plant, soft plastics are known for getting tangled up jamming a pump from operating.</p> <p>This will not only improve the site operationally, but will also enhance the overall presentation and site tidiness.</p> <p>The other improvement that has required significant thought in detail before proceeding is the replacement of all onsite signage. Key factors included careful consideration as to where to place them, how much information to place on them, and how much signage is required, ensuring consolidated information to prevent an unsightly cluster of 5 or 6 different signs when you pull onto the weighbridge.</p> <p>We look forward to sharing the new and improved signage once this work is completed.</p> <p><u>June 2025:</u></p> <table> <tr> <td>Waste diverted from landfill</td><td>3.09 Tonne</td></tr> <tr> <td>Contaminated recycling to Landfill</td><td>2.15 Tonne</td></tr> </table>	Waste diverted from landfill	3.09 Tonne	Contaminated recycling to Landfill	2.15 Tonne
Waste diverted from landfill	3.09 Tonne				
Contaminated recycling to Landfill	2.15 Tonne				
Recycle Drop-off Centres (DOC Sites)	<p>We are still experiencing contamination in the town drop off bins. Lower recorded volumes are typical of this time of year, both in the town drop off bins, and the kerbside collection bins.</p>				

Budget/Activity	
Kerbside Recycling Services	<p>Kerbside collections are currently going extremely well.</p> <p>Unfortunately, due to the onboarding and training of a new addition to the kerbside team, we didn't manage to capture/record audit data for the entire month of June.</p> <p>Rather than making assumptions to fulfil the unknown, we would prefer to report in full July's audit data.</p>

Waste Minimisation



Attachments

1. [Community Development and Wellbeing Committee Management Report - Facilities June - July 2025](#)
2. [Community Development and Wellbeing Committee - Communications 15 Apr - 15 Jun 2025](#)
3. [Community Development & Wellbeing Management Report - Customer Engagement - July 2025](#)

Strategic Priority	Connected Communities	
Status Report	Community Facilities	
	Reporting period	June – July 2025
	Activity Group Manager	Hamish Featonby
	Presented By	Fontayne Chase

1

Activity status					
Red: Roadblocks present Orange: Potential risks Green: on track	Overall	Staffing	H&S	Levels of service	Budget
Cemeteries (N= 23)					
Community Buildings (N= 37)			meterboards		
Parks and Reserves (N= 94)					
Pensioner Housing (N= 85)					
Public Conveniences (N= 21)					
Swimming Pools (N= 3)					
Camping Grounds (N=4)					
Commercial Property & Aerodrome					

Activity progress in reporting period
<p>Cemeteries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digitisation Project: Nearing completion, the data correction has been carried out and the final tweaks being put onto Local Maps layers, with the aim to have this mapping available on the TDC Cemetery Record Search, for public use. Godfrey Monument Restoration: The restoration of the historic Godfrey Monument at Mangatainoka was recently completed under the management of the NZ Master Monumental Mason Association. The project was fully funded by the Association, with further conservation work approved and supported by its National Office. Mangatera cemetery, Great War section collaboration project with Veterans Affairs is near completion.

- Property:
- Draft Lease is currently being negotiated between WAFC and TDC for the lease of Hockey Park.
- Woodville Cemetery reserve Lease is due for renewal in the coming months. Deed of Lease will be reviewed.
- Newman Domain – Parcel 2, Domain Board have expressed the desire to continue with the current Lessee. Right of Renewal will be discussed with Lessee.

Aerodrome:

- Drone flights within 4km of the Dannevirke Aerodrome have been on the rise. Such flights require written permission from the Aerodrome Manager and the potential issue of a Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) dependant on the flight, requiring more officer input.

Community Buildings:

- Online booking system for bookable spaces and assets has progressed to procurement.

Parks and Reserves:

- Installation of new swing set at Fountain Square has suffered delays impacted by weather and theft of materials.
- At the previous Committee meeting further information regarding a TDC Tree Asset register was requested to identify the difference between the Significant Tree Register in the District Plan and what was proposed.
- Council's District Plan includes a register of Significant Trees which are protected under the RMA and a specific process is undertaken before trees are added to the register. Maintenance including removal of trees listed on the Significant Tree register may require a Resource Consent.
- The Facilities team considers a TDC Tree Register, policy and Tree Asset Management Plan to be an essential tool that will:
 - Acknowledge both the benefits of trees and the challenges raised by them in making decisions about their management
 - Ensure planning for managing trees on parks, reserves, road reserves, cemeteries and other actively managed land throughout Tararua enables long-term benefits to the community
 - Provide a consistent approach for making day to day decisions about management of Council owned trees
 - Ensure active succession planting for future proofing
 - Ensure reliable data on Council owned trees is retained to enable safe, sustainable and cost-effective management.
-

- ### Pensioner Housing:

- | | | |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------|
| 1 Bedroom Unit | 5 days vacant | Lost Revenue \$135 |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------|

- Campgrounds:

- ### Overall Satisfaction



Priorities in upcoming reporting period

- Finalising GIS mapping project

- On going tree maintenance

Pensioner Housing:

- Implementation of new property management software – MRI Palace and Tenancy Practice Services.

Playground Equipment:

- Installation of new swing set at Fountaine Square

Parks & Reserves:

- Reserve Management Plan adoption

Community facilities:

- Meterboard upgrades project

Pools:

- Complete draft Asset Management Plan and Asset Register
- Schedule preventative maintenance of outdoor pool pumps and filters
- Prep for Poolsafe visits to outdoor pools in conjunction with operators
- All outdoor pools, including Pahiatua, are scheduled to open for this summer, maintaining commitments to expected levels of service.

Key risks

Cemeteries:

- Continued safety assessment and maintenance of trees in cemeteries posing a risk to visitors and or headstones

Community Buildings:

- Community facility meter boards have been inspected by Blue Current as part of their Smart meter upgrades. Inspections have identified owner obligations to make safe the meter boards prior to Smart meter installation. Works are scheduled to be carried out before December.

Parks and Reserves:

- Managing tree maintenance work within current budgets

Campground:

- Erosion monitoring at Dannevirke Holiday Park

Aerodrome:

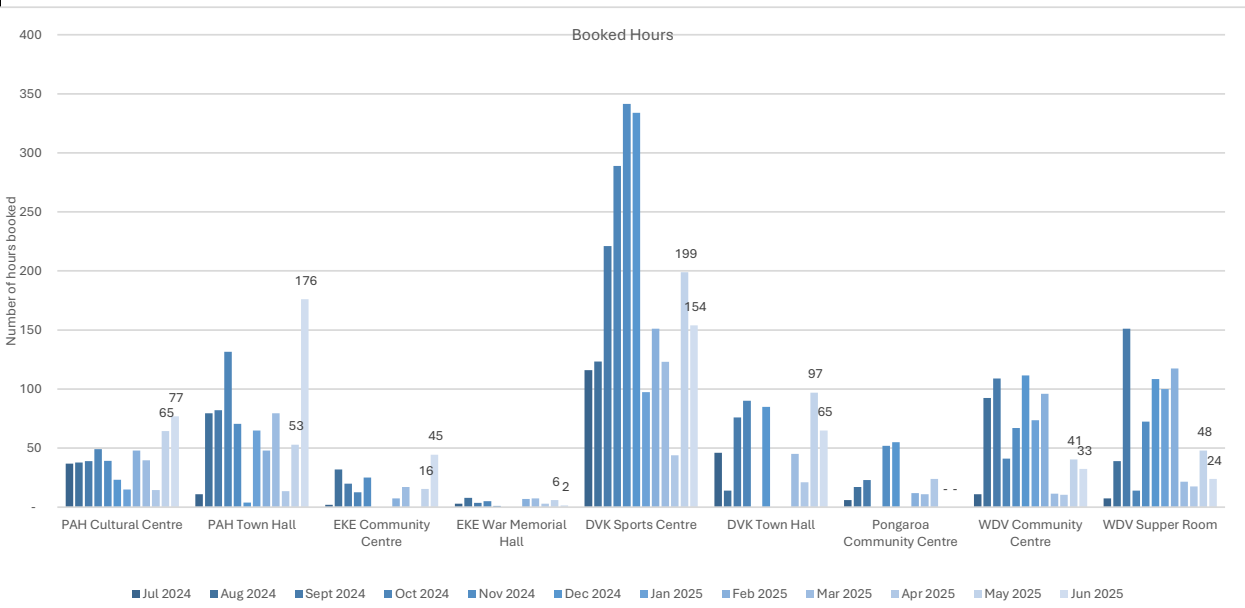
- Aerodrome users have been managing the rabbit population. Due to a significant rabbit warren on the northwestern edge of Runway 20, an excavator was brought in to cave the warren and re-level the ground.

Health and Safety

- Recommendation received from Blue Current smart metering service to investigate upgrade of Dannevirke Town Hall meter board. Other meter boards have been identified and works to be programmed for completion.

Key performance indicators

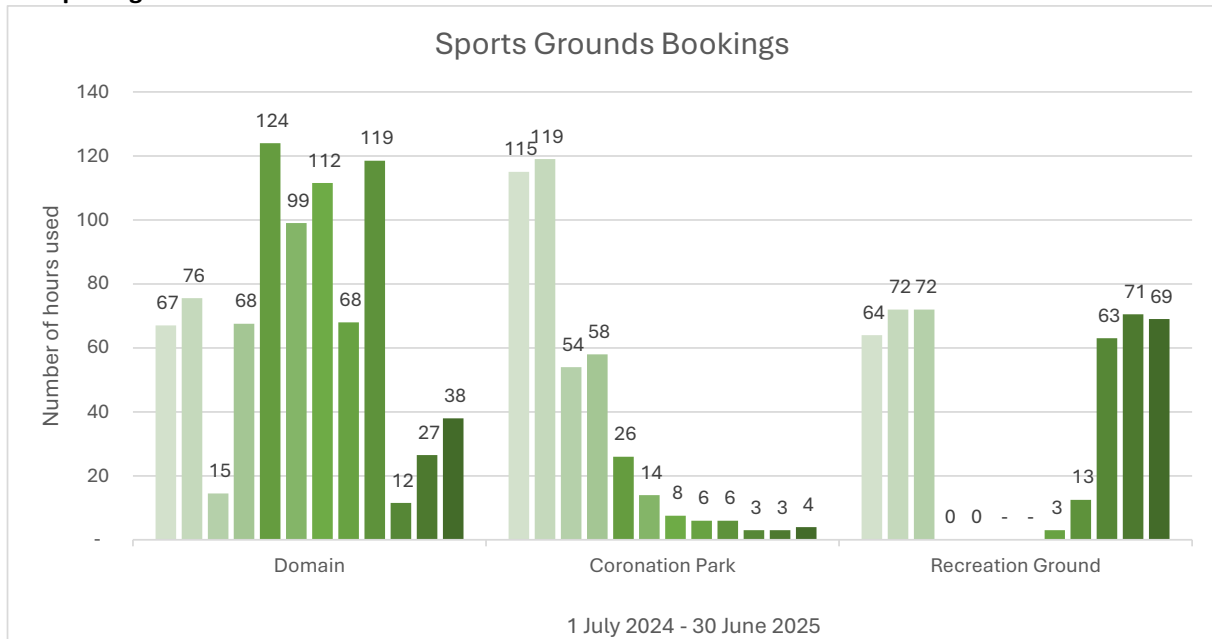
Facility booking hours:



Community Buildings

- Dannevirke Host Lions held their final book sale at the Town Hall
- Increased usage at Pahiatua Town Hall contributed by the bookings for the Tararua Dance School
- Increase usage at Eketahuna Community Centre contributed by numerous private events and Badminton.
- Woodville facilities show consist bookings in comparison to the same report period last year.

• **Sports grounds:**



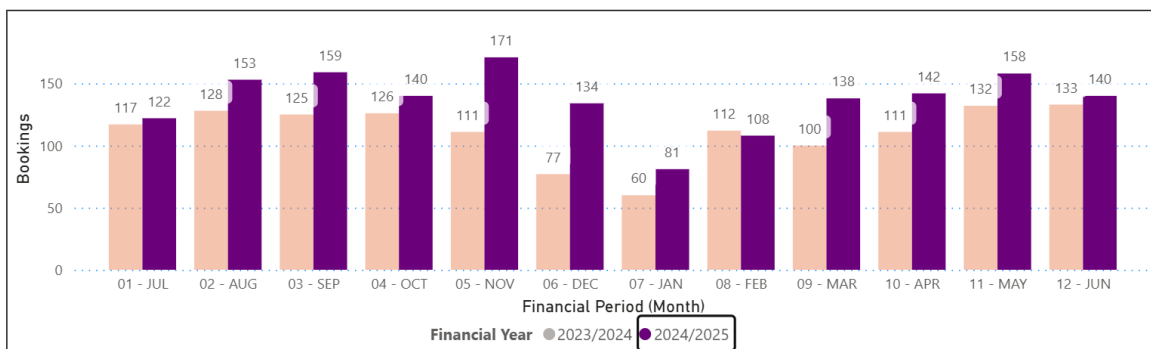
Key Insights

- No winter sports played at Coronation Park this season. JAB have moved to rugby park.
- Football clubs are the main users in Dannevirke Domain and Woodville Rec Grounds.
- There was a decrease of approximately 12.85% in the number of hours booked in 2025 compared to last year.

Trends

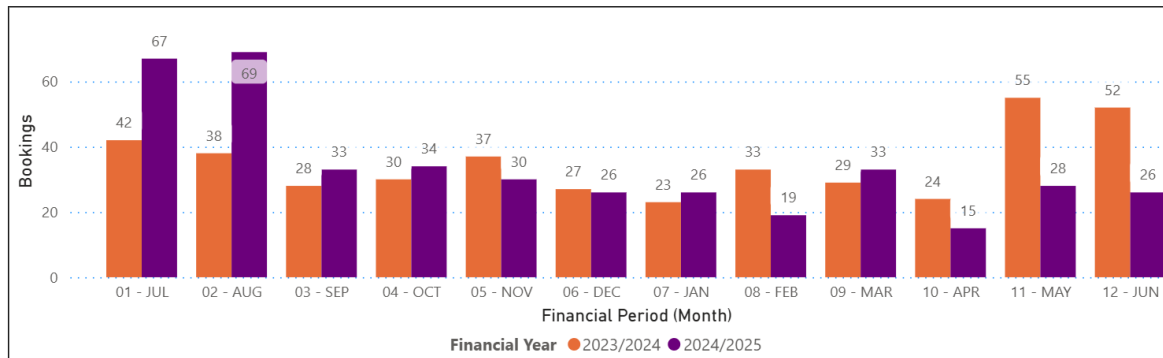
Facility Bookings

Community Buildings annual usage comparison

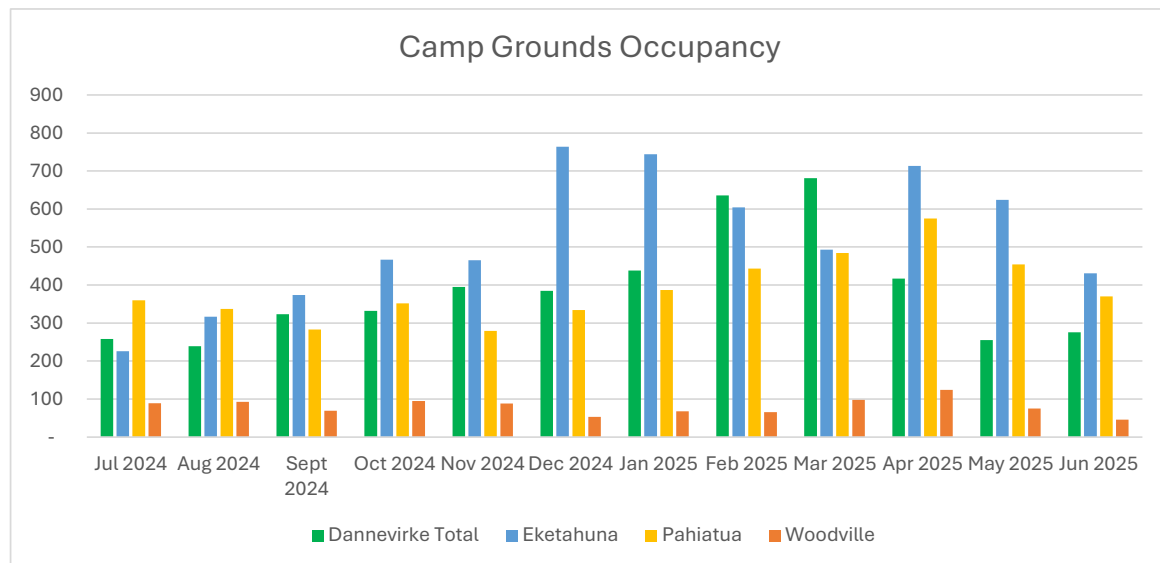


- **Key Insights:**
 - Cancellations slightly decreased from 9 to 7.
 - Community Building bookings achieved an annual increase by 20% more hours used compared with last year's total.

Sports grounds annual usage comparison



Campgrounds



- Total Campground visits increased by 466 in 2024/2025, rising from 16,013 in 2023/2024 to 20,583.
- Eketahuna remains the most visited campground
- Woodville continues to have the lowest usage

S17 a Review Update

Swimming Pools

Stage One:

SLA requirements reviewed – Outdoor Pools

- Action: Service Level Agreements reviewed amended to include additional support from Council to ensure compliance.

Completed

<p>TDC to introduce an operations check/audit to ensure service remains compliant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Pool Safe audit scheduled for December. TDC to complete preseason audit mirroring PoolSafe audit. 	Completed
<p>TDC to connect with Wimbledon Memorial Baths Committee to discuss land use expectations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: TDC asset Next Steps: Develop condition assessment and asset plan 	Completed
<p>TDC to propose a less restrictive approach to securing Depreciation Reserve funds for critical assets.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: TACT to complete Condition Assessment of their facility producing an Asset Plan Asset Plan will provide Council with the foresight required to schedule critical asset renewals and work with TACT to maintain Asset Register. 	Completed
<p>TDC to complete the recording of the outdoor pools assets in the RAMM system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: New Asset Register produced with costings and life expectancy. Next Steps: Data to be loaded into RAMM. In conjunction with pool operators asset renewal plan to be developed for 2026 - 2028 	In Progress
<p>TDC to seek asset cost estimates and asset condition assessments to populate the Asset Management Planning function in RAMM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Condition assessment report completed with a draft AMP. Additional feedback from pool operators required to finalise the AMP. 	Completed
Stage Two:	
<p>TDC to formally confirm the land use arrangement with the Wimbledon Memorial Baths Committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outcome: TDC Asset 	Complete
<p>Improve the measure of success of the facilities to be measurable of the SLA performance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Monthly reporting templates utilised to capture admission data from 24/25 season to compare with the 25/26 season. Regular EHO visits are scheduled for preseason and monthly during operation. – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Template design completed 	In Progress

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next step: Develop Business plan in conjunction with pool operators. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Awaiting variation contracts to be signed 	
<p>TDC to work with TACT to develop the facility Asset Management Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: proposal submitted to TACT in March to have an independent assessor complete condition assessment. TACT accepted proposal in May. Assessment date to be confirmed. 	Completed
<p>TDC to seek asset cost estimates and asset condition assessment to populate the Asset Management Planning function in RAMM for WaiSplash</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: In conjunction with TACT, TDC has arranged for the Condition Assessment to be completed by Amotto Consultants. The report will provide an Asset Register with estimated costing to contribute to the Asset Management Plan • Next Steps: TDC will support the administration of the Asset Register for WaiSplash and assist with development of maintenance planning. 	Completed
<p>TDC to initiate discussions with TACT regarding a change of focus to service delivery only and taking on Woodville Pools and divestment of asset management responsibility.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome from discussion. Not interested at this stage. 	Complete
<p>TDC to initiate discussion with BAT regarding the motivation to manage the new facility and Eketahuna Pools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Nil. Project brief already indicated no desire to manage the new facility. 	Complete
<p>TDC and current outdoor pool operators agree to a year extension to the SLA term 30 June 2026.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract variations signed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Eketahuna Woodville • New Agreement for Wimbledon 	In progress
Stage Three:	
<p>TDC to monitor the SLA performance measures, supporting the operators to achieve them where appropriate. (All Pools)</p>	To be monitored

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: TDC has engaged PoolSafe to support with compliance. Variation contract now includes an Accountability Schedule for transparency. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Poolsafe registration completed ✓ Contract variation include clear accountabilities. 	
TDC to maintain and monitor the asset management actions and work with the operators for any asset works as required (All Pools)	Ongoing
TDC confirms or not the suitability of continuing aquatic service delivery under Option 1	Complete
TDC confirm or not the suitability of Option 2	Complete
Camping Grounds - Short Term	
Ensure TDC Omnibus Reserve Management Plan allows for camping activity on each of these sites	Complete
Conduct an updated asset data collection and valuation across all sites <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Woodville TDC assets Carnival Park, mix of TDC and Board assets Eketahuna Motor Camp, Infrastructure TDC owned, operational assets contractor owned assets. 	Completed
Reassess three sites (excluding Woodville) against the Camping Ground Regulations 1985	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliant camping ground plan/sites marked and labelled 	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non self-contained site within required proximity of ablutions Action: assessment completed. Non urgent amendments to be made at later date. Ie. Consider relocating Cabin at DHP or alternative solution	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occupancy data is accurately collected and reported as per the regulations Action: The team are investigating an online AIO package. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interim reporting template provided to operators 	Monitoring
Develop a policy on the maximum duration of stay and a stand-down period at all TDC owned camping grounds. Ensure all operators are required to comply <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: regulations applied. 	Not started
Develop a more comprehensive financial data collection/reporting system to account for operational and renewal expenditure	With Procurement

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: online booking system due diligence in progress 	
<p>Work with all operators to encourage the development of online bookings and credit card pre-payment/security facilities in alignment with their accommodation inventory.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: investigations are ongoing to determine the most appropriate platform to implement for this activity. The team is considering a platform that will also support online bookings for bookable spaces. 	With Procurement
<p>Work with all operators to improve websites and online presences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Online platform will address this recommendation in due course. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve campground websites 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update TDC own website 	
Pahiatua Carnival Park – not legally incorporated	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enter new operational service deliver agreement/licence for an agreed initial term of 14 months with right of renewal of 2+3 years 	Further investigation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disclose to TDC daily occupancy and full financial information included in new service delivery agreement/licence. 	Monitoring
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discontinue to pay the management fee in exchange for Board retaining the visitor fee and allowance for the operator to remain in the onsite house under a legal tenancy agreement at peppercorn or low rent. 	Further investigation
Eketahuna Motor Camp	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TDC to work with the current operators to enter into a new licence agreement where maximum stays are enforced and daily occupancy and full financial information disclosed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	Developing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree an initial term of 14 months with negotiated renewal 	
Dannevirke Holiday Park	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renew contract for a further 14 months with recommended variations 	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relocate the non-compliant basic A-Frame cabin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: considering options for this asset. 	Not started
Woodville Campground	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council de-register the Woodville site as a camping ground and instead runs this facility in the immediate term as a self-contained overnight campground. • Action: Exemption Certification granted. 	Exemption received
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update advertising and signage • Action: no changes required 	Complete
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue with iSite for reservations and payments Action: no changes made. Online platform being investigated. 	Complete
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add rubbish disposal and promote local laundromat services Action: added to campground map plan 	Complete
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage contractors for daily security and cleaning checks Action: PPCS currently reporting via Antenno 	Monitoring
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operate as self-contained only freedom (free) camping over the Christmas Shutdown period • Action: investigations into automated services 	In progress

Strategic Priority	Interactive Council	
Status Report	Communications	
	Reporting period	15 Apr – 15 Jun 2025
	Activity Group Manager	Kawtar Tani
	Presented By	Karsten van der Oord

Activity status					
Red: Roadblocks present	Overall	Staffing	H&S	Levels of service	Budget
Orange: Potential risks					
Green: on track					
Communications Activities					

Activity progress in reporting period
<p>Consultations / Engagement</p> <p>The following public engagement activities were conducted. This includes communications planning, material development, FAQ development, consultation/engagement promotion, website development, managing the consultation period including feedback responses and media enquiries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Plan 2025/26 • Local Water Done Well • Freedom Camping Bylaw • Reserve Management Plan • Communications Survey • Draft Urban Enhancement Strategy 2025 – 2050 • Cemeteries Satisfaction Survey
<p>Campaigns</p> <p>The following campaigns were planned, developed, promoted, and conducted, mostly using Bush Telegraph, the TDC Facebook page, website, and radio. In some cases, extra digital geo-targeting was done:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Te ahu a Turanga – Manawatū-Tararua highway (Love Tararua/Love the Highway) • 2025 Local Elections campaign • Local Elections Pre-Election Report

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anzac Day promotion of events • Anzac Day Civic Service (Communications Team member as TDC guest speaker) • Top tips for exploring the Tararua District over Easter • Myth busting presentation in the council chambers • Preferred Dog Ownership • Dog registration • Dog Fees & Charges • Instalment 4 rates reminders • Universal water meters • Integration of Services • Direct Debit – Update on Rates Rebates comms • Internal campaign to promote use of GetHomeSafe app • Relocation of Visitor Information Services (Dannevirke) • Antenno posters • District-wide Contestable Fund • Public Education (Video Series with Waste-Ed) re Kerbside Recycling Contamination • Norsewood Flushing Programme • Host a Facebook Live for Candidate Information Session in Dannevirke • Matariki Celebrations (including fireworks safety for pets)
<p>Projects / Others</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compilation and graphic design of Tararua District Fast Facts • Inventory of Digital Spaces equipment, development of instruction manuals • Administration of the Manawatu-Wanganui Civil Defence & Emergency Management Facebook page • Finetuning of the Social Media Rules of Engagement • Implementing an alternative live stream system for Candidate Information Session • Health and Safety Brochures for Contractors and Transfer Stations • Piki Te Ora Health Expo –promotion for enrolling for election and communications survey • Strategic Framework Infographic • TDC website – updates and new information pages were added
<p>Priorities in upcoming reporting period</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Elections Run phase – nominations open for candidates • Analysis of the 2025 Communications Survey, development of action plan • Further comms planning for Integration of Services and Rationalisation of buildings

Key risks

- **Increasingly community commentary ahead of elections**
Mitigation: Ongoing monitoring; moderation on Council channels guided by our Rules of Engagement
- **Misinformation, particularly around water services**
Mitigation: Responding promptly where appropriate to correct the record

Health and Safety

Nothing significant to report

Key performance indicators

An increase in Council digital platform traffic

- **Facebook Followers:** 6,904 (previous reporting period 6,664 - up 240)
- **TDC website visitors:** 15,615 (previous reporting period 17,800 – down 2,185)

An increase in the number of submissions/feedback forms received:

- AP 2025/26 submissions: 40 (2024/25: 45; 2023/24: 136)
- LTP 2024/34 Submissions: 502 (2021/31: 70)
- Super Consultation 2022 Round 1 Submissions: 173; Round 2: 48

An increase in the number of Annual Communication Survey respondents. Target 200.

- 2025 Communications Survey : 154 respondents (2024: 149 respondents).

Trends

- Election-related comments are beginning to increase on our Council's Facebook page and website. +
- Increasing social media engagement on our page
- "Graffiti/vandalism" continues to be a hot report topic on Antenna

Trend statistics

Websites:

Chart 1: Total number of visitors (by IP address) to our websites



Facebook Statistics:

Overview:

Activity remains high on our Facebook page with:

- 240 new followers taking us to 6,904 – see chart 2

Chart 2: Total of TDC Facebook followers throughout reporting periods

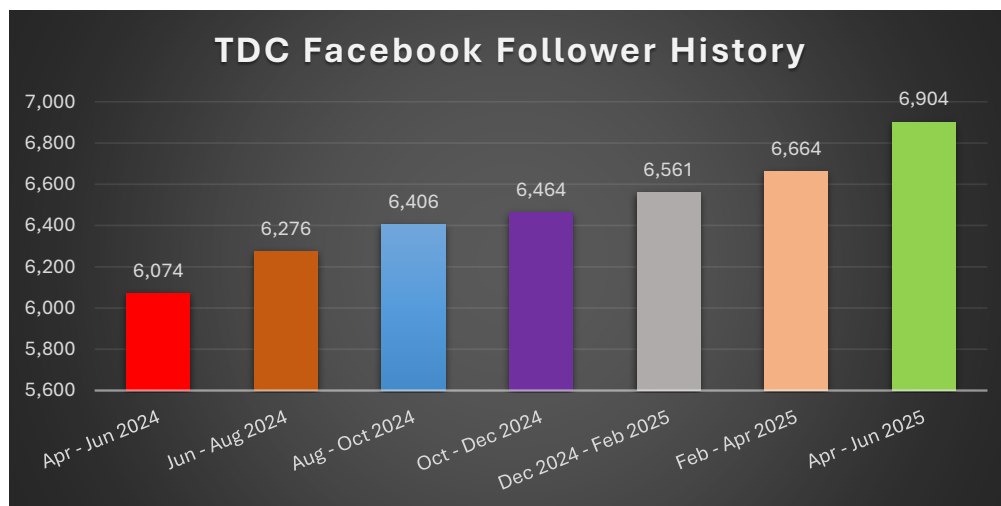
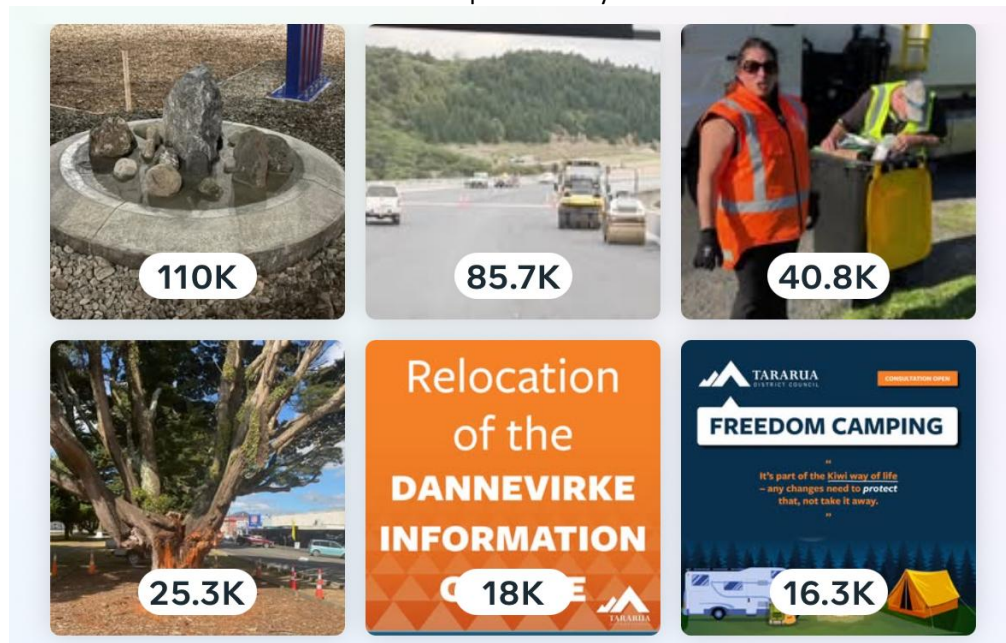


Chart 4: Top content by views



Media enquiries

11 Media enquiries about:

Upcoming plans for gorge road

Build-up of slash at Wainui bridge - Herbertville

Cutting down of native tree in Pongaroa

Dannevirke Information Centre

Freedom Camping Bylaw

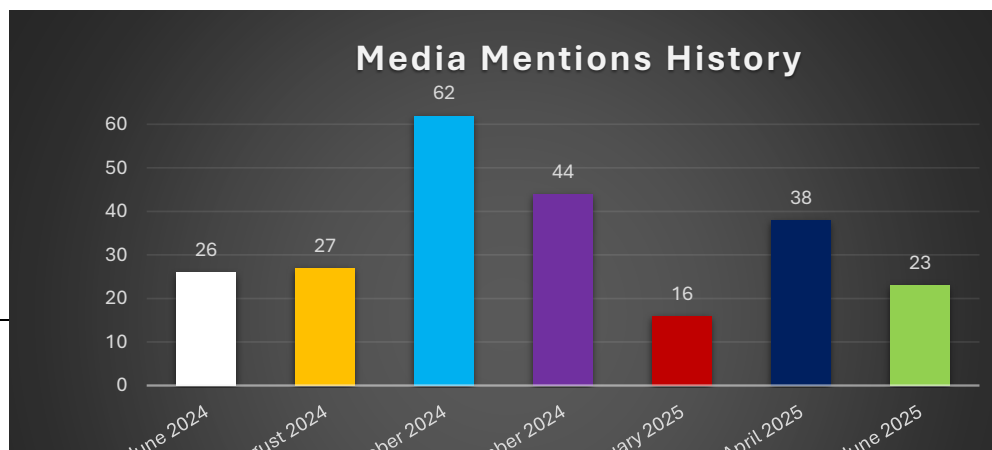
Route 52 APŌPŌ Award

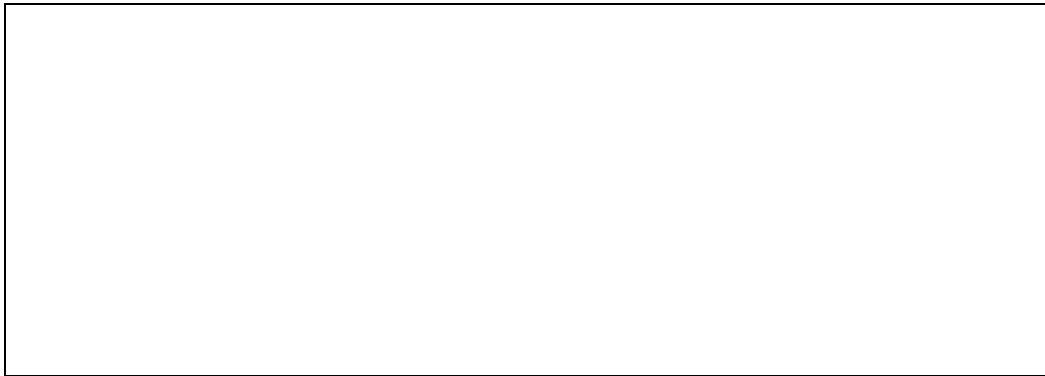
Contaminated Recycling x 3 Dog Fees and Charges in the Tararua District

Te Ahu a Turanga Manawatū-Tararua Highway

23 Media Mentions: Mainstream media and blogs concerning Tararua District Council – see chart 7*

Chart 7: Media Mentions captured over the reporting period





Strategic Priority	Interactive Council, Connect Communities & Thriving District	
Status Report	Customer Engagement	
	Reporting period	May to June 2025
	Activity Group Manager	Sandy Lowe
	Presented By	Sandy Lowe

Activity status					
Red: Roadblocks present	Overall	Staffing	H&S	Levels of service	Budget
Orange: Potential risks					
Green: on track					
Customer Services					
Libraries					
Visitor Information					

Activity progress in reporting period
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integration of Customer, Library and Visitor Services implemented from 30 June 2025. Cross training of key personnel has begun prioritising our casual cover and Woodville staff. Dana Burnett was appointment to the newly created Customer Engagement Manager role. Ongoing support to the Revenue Team, with preparation underway for Rates Rebate processing, receipt of 2025–2026 first rates instalment, dog registrations, and transfer of Information Centre services (i-Ticket and Intercity sales). Library upgrades completed, including self-check machine installations in Pahiatua and Woodville, new shelving and signage at Dannevirke, fibre upgrade at Woodville, and APNK scanner secured for Pahiatua. 73 children and accompanying adults attended National Simultaneous Storytime in May; new picture books received for Dannevirke and Woodville collections. 43 Welcome Packs distributed (April–June 2025), including 12 to purchasers outside the district. iSite and Customer Services working effectively to maintain booking services; Woodville has seen an increase in enquiries about walk/cycle tracks, particularly the new shared user path along Te Ahu a Turanga: Manawatū Tararua Highway.

- Two new tourism accommodation businesses established in Woodville (Skyline Breeze BnB and The Rose), with marketing support provided.
- New Tararua Visitor Guide printed and in high demand; Tararua Map update planned to reflect new highway and Woodville subdivision.
- Creative Communities functions transitioning to Community Engagement.
- Early planning for the 2026 Tararua Golf Tournament underway.

Priorities in upcoming reporting period

- Customer Engagement Team
 - Upskilling and cross training across all sites
 - New services imbedded into day-to-day processes
 - Progress site integration at Woodville i-SITE, Library and Service Centre
- Project - Telecommunications and Contact Centre Solution
- Strengthening the Customer Engagement teams capability and capacity to enhance support to wider Council Services
- Fill the remaining vacancy, Customer Engagement Coordinator

Key risks

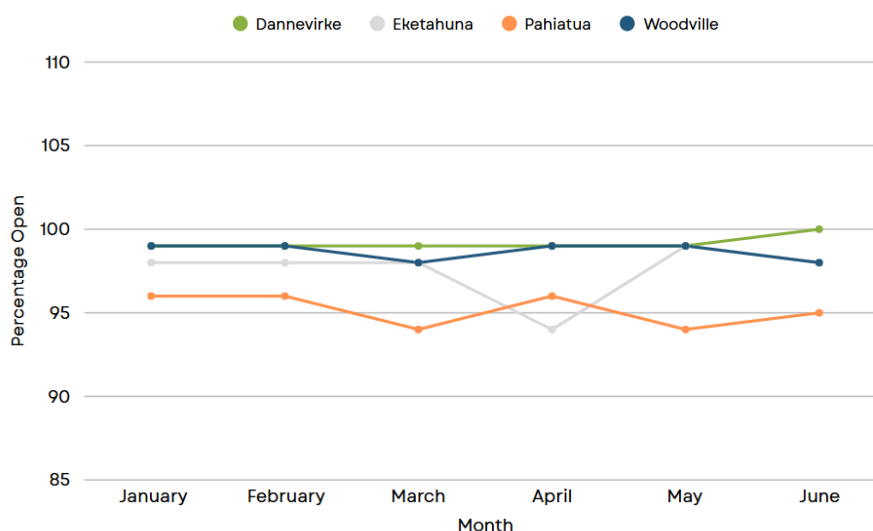
None to report

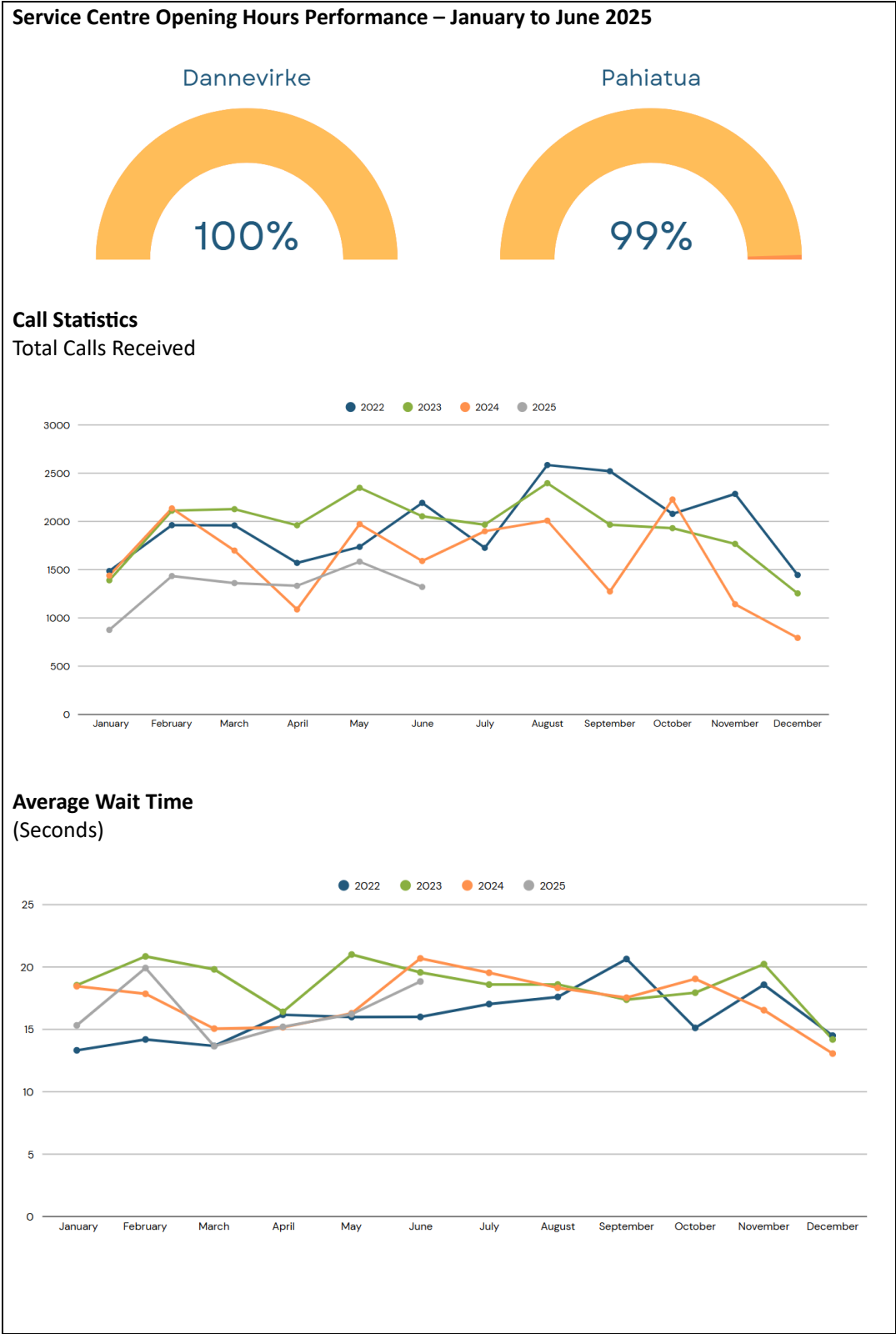
Health and Safety

None to report

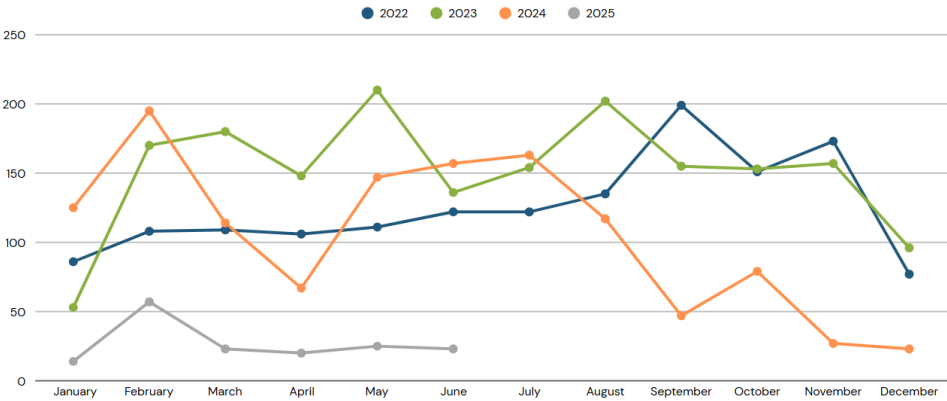
Key performance indicators

Libraries Opening Hours Performance – January to June 2025

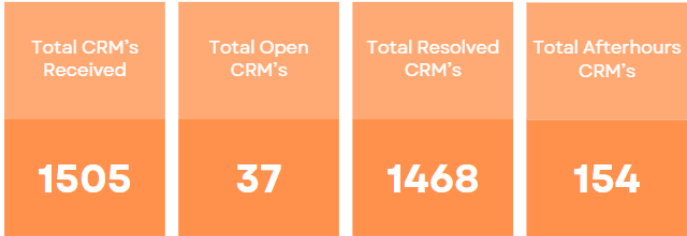




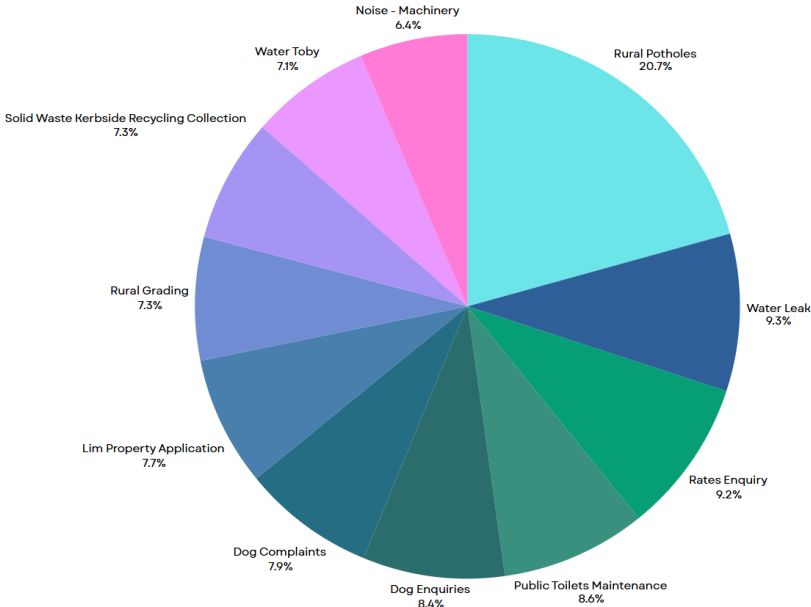
Abandoned Calls

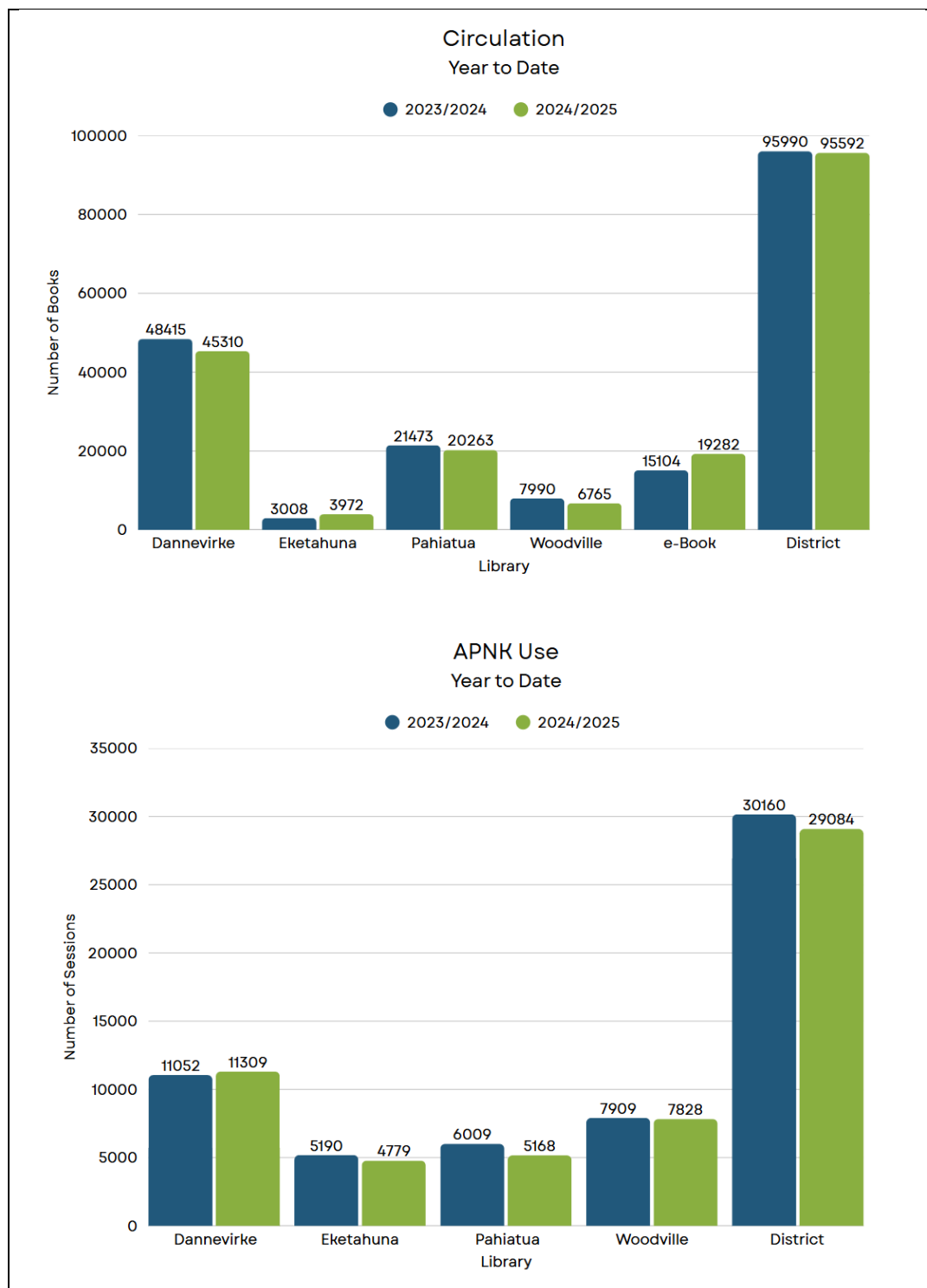


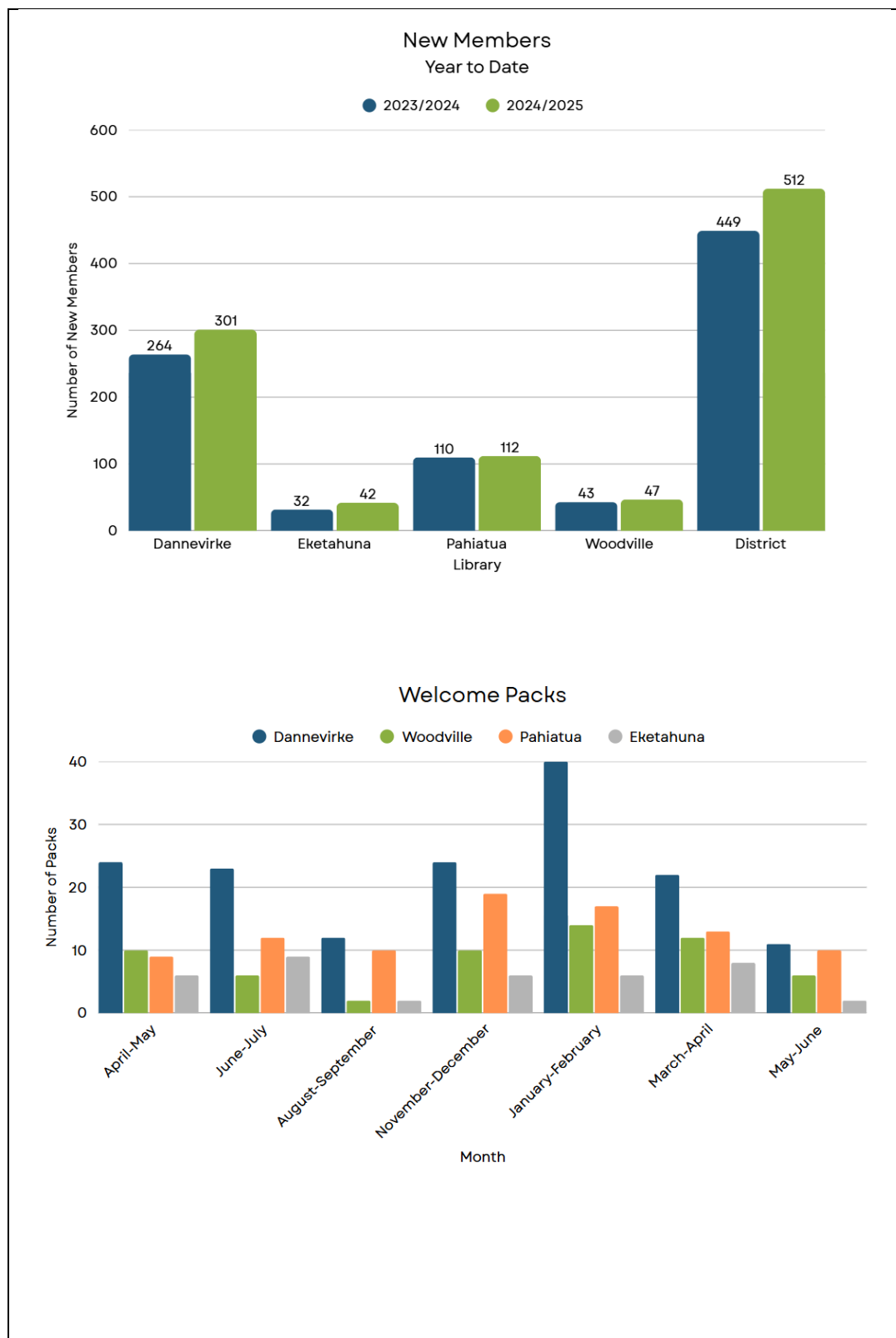
CRM Statistics

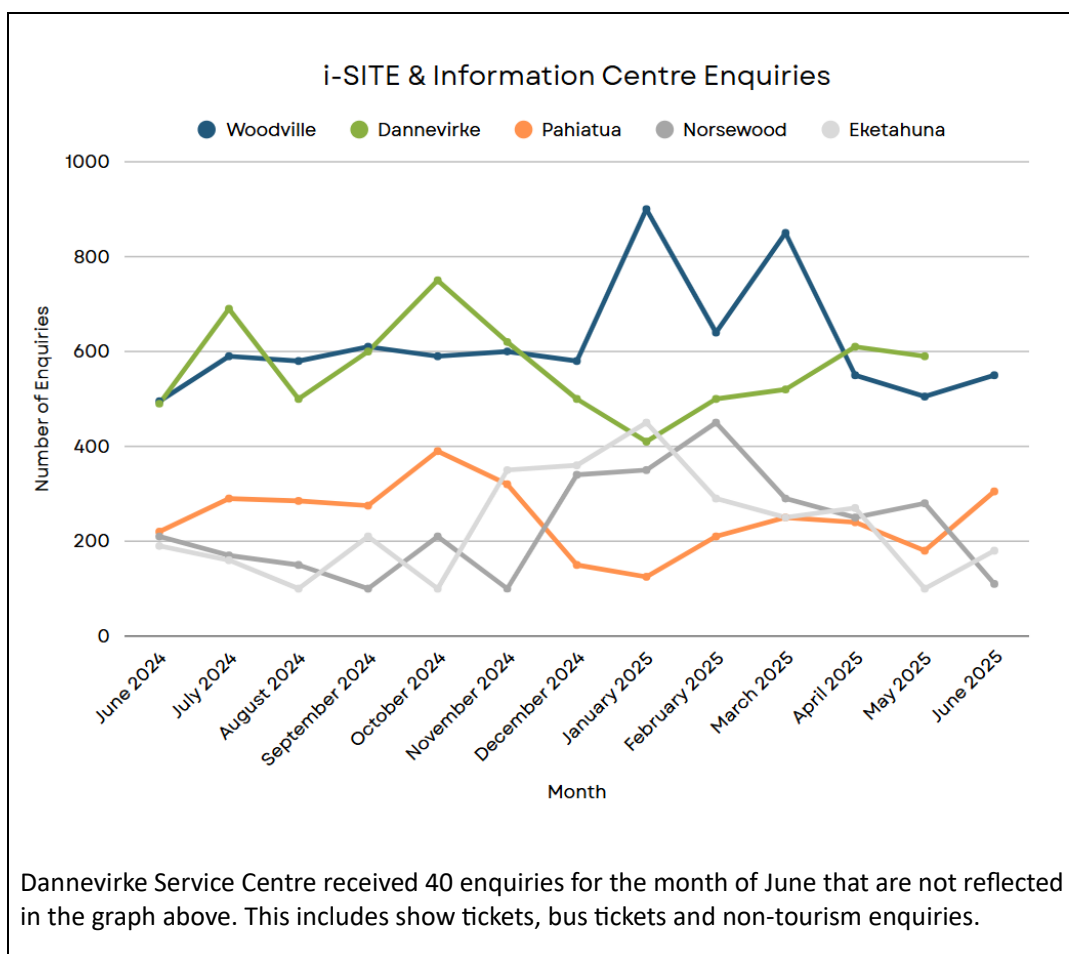


Top CRM Categories









Trends

We have seen a reduction in reported customer numbers following the move of Visitor Information from the Dannevirke Information Centre to the Dannevirke Customer Engagement team. We have been working on improving signage and released communications about this shift.

A reduction in received phone calls observed throughout the year is persisting. This has corresponded with improvement in our handling of abandoned calls and reduced wait times.