



## 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 23 February 2026** commencing at **9:30am**.

Malcolm Alexander  
Chief Executive

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### 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.

- 3.1 Public Forum - Eketahuna Our Town**

Terry Carew, from Eketāhuna Our Town, will be in attendance to provide an update on the Community Plan.

- 4. Presentation - Mike Butterick MP**

Mike Butterick - Member of Parliament, will be in attendance to respond to the Board's request for affordable Traffic Management.

## **5. 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.

## **6. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest in Relation to this Meeting's Items of Business**

## **7. Confirmation of Minutes**

**5**

### ***Recommendation***

*That the minutes of the Eketāhuna Community Board meeting held on 1 December 2025 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.*

## **8. Tararua District Council Report**

### **8.1 Report from Tararua District Council**

**10**

*That the report from the Tararua District Council meeting held 17 December 2025 be received.*

## **9. Reports**

### **9.1 Appointments and Allocation of Portfolios**

**23**

### **9.2 Nominations for Alf Rowden Humanitarian Award 2026**

**29**

### **9.3 Management Report**

**33**

### **9.4 Portfolio Programme Project Report**

**51**

## **10. Reports from Board Representatives Appointed to Organisations and Assigned Responsibilities**

## **11. Correspondence**

### **11.1 Correspondence**

**59**

**Recommendation**

*That the correspondence as listed be received.*

- *Letter to Mike Butterick MP from Eketāhuna Community Board regarding Traffic Management Costs*
- *Letter of response from Mike Butterick MP - Traffic Management Costs*

**12. Discussion Items**

Proposal to run an event at the Eketāhuna Club for new residents to meet the Eketāhuna Community Board and key services (School, etc).

ANZAC Day

**13. Eketahuna Our Town Minutes**

**63**

That the minutes from Eketāhuna Our Town for their December 2025 meeting be received.

**14. Chairperson's Remarks**

**15. Items not on the Agenda**

**16. 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 1 December 2025 commencing at 10:00am.

### **1. Present**

Board Members: S C McGhie (Chairperson), L J Barclay (Deputy Chairperson), M A Corlett, D J Smith, and Cr C L Corlett

#### **In Attendance**

Mayor S M Gilmore

Mr M Alexander – Interim Chief Executive  
Mrs A Dunn – Manager – Democracy Services  
Mrs S Anthony – Democracy Support Officer

### **2. Apologies**

Nil

### **3. Public Forum**

Terry Carew attended the meeting to discuss wreaths for commemorative events such as Anzac Day and Remembrance Day. He advised that a local person makes wreaths and suggested the Board and Council consider engaging this individual for future occasions. Doing so would support local business, provided the person completes the required administrative processes.

### **4. Declarations by Members**

Board members David Smith and Cr Chris Corlett made and attested their declarations pursuant to Schedule 7 Clause 14 of the Local Government Act 2002, with each declaration witnessed by Chairperson Steen McGhie.

## 5. Notification of Items Not on the Agenda

**Eketāhuna Christmas Parade** - The Board wished to thank members of the Eketāhuna Our Town Committee, Okie Dokie Traffic Management, and all attendees and volunteers who assisted with the Eketāhuna Christmas Parade held on Saturday 29 November 2025.

## 6. Declarations of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Meeting's Items of Business

Nil

## 7. Confirmation of Minutes

*That the minutes of the Eketāhuna Community Board meeting held on 10 November 2025 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.*

*McGhie/Barclay*

*Carried*

## 8. Tararua District Council Report

### 8.1 Report from Tararua District Council

*That the report from the Tararua District Council meeting held 12 November 2025 be received.*

*Corlett/McGhie*

*Carried*

## 9. Reports

### 9.1 Adoption of Meeting Schedule for 2026

The Eketāhuna Community Board considered the report of the Manager – Democracy Services dated 19 November 2025 that sought confirmation of the meeting dates for Eketāhuna Community Board meetings to be held during the 2026 calendar year, in accordance with Schedule 7, Clause 19(6) of the Local Government Act 2002.

Members noted the agreed change in start time for formal Eketāhuna Community Board meetings to 9:30am. It was agreed that informal meetings would be held on set dates and times at a local café or public venue, following a similar schedule to the formal meetings during alternate months. The Mayor and Chief Executive indicated they are willing to attend these informal meetings if required, subject to adequate notice and their availability.

*That the report from the Manager Democracy Services dated 19 November 2025*

*concerning the Adoption of Meeting Schedule for 2026 be received.*

*Barclay/Corlett*

*Carried*

*That the Eketāhuna Community Board adopts the following schedule of meetings for the 2026 calendar year, noting the meetings will be held at the War Memorial Hall Cnr Jones Street and State Highway 2 Eketāhuna, and will start at 9:30am:*

*2 March 2026*

*4 May 2026*

*6 July 2026*

*7 September 2026*

*2 November 2026*

*McGhie/Barclay*

*Carried*

*That the Eketāhuna Community Board note that informal sessions of the Board will be held on the months between their formal meetings, being February, April, June, August and October.*

*Smith/Barclay*

*Carried*

## 9.2 Code of Conduct for Elected Members

The Eketāhuna Community Board considered the report of the Democracy Support Officer dated 21 November 2025 that presented an updated Code of Conduct, as adopted by the Tararua District Council at its meeting on 12 November 2025, for consideration and adoption.

*That the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 21 November 2025 concerning the Code of Conduct for Elected Members be received.*

*Corlett/Corlett*

*Carried*

*That the Eketāhuna Community Board adopts the Code of Conduct for Elected Members, as adopted by the Tararua District Council at its meeting held 12 November 2025.*

*McGhie/Barclay*

*Carried*

## 10. Correspondence

Nil

## 11. Discussion Items

**Wreaths for Anzac Day and Armistice Day** – Terry Carew will provide the contact details of the local wreath maker to the Manager – Democracy Services. It was noted that Council’s preference is to engage local suppliers where feasible, subject to compliance with established criteria and cost considerations.

**Horizons Regional Council (HRC) – Mangatainoka River Repair Work** – The Chairperson reported a constructive discussion with HRC Engineer Anthony Mason regarding river management options. While no resolution was reached, HRC is open to alternatives beyond metal removal, which has been limited by Resource Management Act restrictions. Concrete spraying was suggested, and the Engineer will consult with TDC officers to explore further. The Chairperson will maintain contact with HRC and capture photos during the next flood event to assess.

**Priest Road/Nireaha Road Intersection** – It was advised that additional design work, option development, or cost estimates for this intersection will not be pursued at this stage. An initial assessment confirmed a safety risk exists; however, the site ranks low compared to intersections with higher traffic volumes, more incidents, and greater risk exposure. There is also no budget allocated for this type of work, and even the highest-priority sites remain unfunded. Further investigation would divert limited engineering resources from higher-priority projects that deliver greater safety benefits. The intersection has been included for consideration in the next NZ Land Transport Programme funding round, and if NZTA Waka Kotahi’s policy shifts toward safety improvements, it may qualify for co-funded investment. It was advised that if the Board wishes to advance this sooner, it can do so through Council’s Annual Plan or Long-Term Plan submissions. Any locally funded investment will need to be weighed against other higher-priority intersections. Members were encouraged to report near misses or incidents via CRM submissions, as these inform future safety assessments and prioritisation.

## 12. Chairperson’s Remarks

Nil

## 13. Items not on the Agenda

**Eketāhuna Christmas Parade** – It was acknowledged that the Eketāhuna Our Town Committee worked effectively with Traffic Management to minimise costs for the Parade. During discussion, concerns were raised about the high expense of traffic management for community events, and potential solutions were suggested, such as web-based applications that provide event organisers with guidance for managing traffic using volunteers. It was requested that a letter be

sent to the Wairarapa Member of Parliament, with input from the Mayor and Chief Executive. This matter has national interest, as several towns have cancelled long-standing parades due to escalating traffic management costs. Advocating for a risk-based approach was considered an opportunity for Government to deliver a practical solution.

The Mayor also issued an apology regarding the condition of lawns and maintenance prior to the Parade and will seek further information.

There being no further business the Chairperson thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 10:34am.



Minutes of a meeting of the Tararua District Council held in the Council Chamber, 156 High Street, Dannevirke on Wednesday 17 December 2025 commencing at 9:30am.

## 1. Present

Mayor – Mr S M Gilmore, Crs S M Wards (Deputy Mayor), A J Amboy, C L Corlett, P A Johns, E F Kennedy, P M Naylor, E L Peeti-Webber, K E R Te Waaka, and S A Wallace

### In Attendance

Mrs N Phillips - Chairperson – Dannevirke Community Board  
Mr T Hynes - Deputy Chairperson – Dannevirke Community Board

Mr M Alexander - Interim Chief Executive  
Mrs K Tani - Group Manager – Strategy and Information  
Ms S Lowe - Group Manager – People, Capability and Customer Experience

Mr H Featonby - Group Manager - Operations  
Ms T McDonald - Chief Financial Officer  
Ms J Smith - General Counsel  
Mr P Wimsett - Chief Advisor (online via Teams)  
Mr M Guile - Procurement Specialist  
Ms F Chase - Facilities Manager  
Mrs B Kawana - Corporate Planning and Reporting Advisor  
Mr K van der Oord - Communications Team Manager  
Mr J Single - Regulatory Services Manager  
Mrs A Dunn - Manager – Democracy Services

## 2. Council Prayer

Councillor Keshaan Te Waaka commenced the meeting with a karakia timatanga (opening prayer)

## 3. Apologies

There were no apologies.

**4. Public Forum**

There were no requests for public forum.

**5. Notification of Items Not on the Agenda**

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

Recruitment of Chief Executive

The reason this item was not listed on the agenda was due to the interviews of shortlisted candidates being held after the agenda was published.

Consideration of this item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting due to the need to progress the making of an offer to the preferred candidate and delegation of authority for negotiating terms and conditions, noting the impact of the legislative designation of the period from 20 December to 10 January as non-working days on the timeline for the process.

***That the following item be accepted as a late item for consideration with the public excluded:***

***Chief Executive Recruitment***

***Mayor Gilmore/Cr Wards***

***Carried***

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

There were no declarations of interest.

**7. Confirmation of Minutes**

***That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 26 November 2025 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.***

***Crs Wallace/Corlett***

***Carried***

**8. Community Boards and Community Committees Reports**

**8.1 Minutes - Positively Woodville Community Committee**

***That the minutes of the Positively Woodville Community Committee meeting held 4 November 2025 be received.***

***Crs Johns/Peeti-Webber***

***Carried***

8.2 **Minutes - Eketāhuna Community Board**

*That the minutes of the Eketāhuna Community Board meeting held 01 December 2025 be received.*

*Crs Johns/Peeti-Webber*

*Carried*

9. **Minutes Action List**

9.1 **Decision Action Items**

Clarification was sought on the due date of the Plan Stop item. It was noted that this was underway.

The land rationalisation item was discussed, with clarification sought on the length of time taken for this item to progress, and clarification on the expected date of completion.

*That the report providing an update on decision action items be noted.*

*Crs Wards/Naylor*

*Carried*

10. **Reports**

10.1 **Reserve Land Classification**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Facilities Manager dated 3 December 2025 that sought reclassification and declaration and classification of reserves under the Reserves Act 1977 following the close of public submissions on the Tararua Omnibus Reserve Management Plan. It was noted that no submissions had been received, therefore approval was sought to declare, classify and reclassify the parcels of land identified in the report. Clarification was provided on the process specified in the Reserves Act 1977.

*That the report from the Facilities Manager dated 03 December 2025 concerning the Reserve Land Classification be received.*

*That Council approve to declare and classify according to their primary purpose three parcels of land pursuant to section 14 of the Reserve Act 1977 as described in Attachment 1.*

*That Council approve reclassification of three parcels of land to better cater for their primary purpose pursuant to section 24 of the Reserve Act 1977 as described in Attachment 2.*

*Crs Johns/Wards*

*Carried*

10.2 **Regulatory Services Report 1 July 2025 to 31 October 2025**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Regulatory Services Manager dated 4 November 2025, that provided statistical information for the year 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025. It was advised that figures in the table on page 43 of the agenda, outlining noise and abandoned vehicle complaints for 2024-25 and the current year to date, had dropped from the published copy of the agenda. A copy of the table was circulated to members, as below:

8.2 **Other Complaints**

	<b>Total 2022/23</b>	<b>Total 2023/24</b>	<b>Total 2024/25</b>	<b>From 1 July 2025</b>
Noise	635	474	382	72
Abandoned Vehicles	71	97	57	17

It was asked that an information session be held for the community once the Government’s changes to the earthquake-prone buildings legislation is finalised.

In response to questions about the percentage of known dogs registered, it was noted that currently the percentage had increased up to 99%.

***That the report from the Regulatory Services Manager dated 04 November 2025 concerning the Regulatory Services Report 1 July 2025 to 31 October 2025 be received.***

***Crs Wallace/Corlett***

***Carried***

**11. District Merit Award**

The Mayor advised of a District Merit Award that would be made in recognition of many years of service to the community by Vanessa Dorreen.

Mayor Scott Gilmore read the following statement about the lasting contribution to Dannevirke, Norsewood and the wider district made by Vanessa Dorreen.

*“Vanessa Dorreen is an exceptional community volunteer whose dedication, leadership and generosity of spirit have made a lasting contribution to Dannevirke, Norsewood and the wider district. Over many years, she has given countless hours to education, sport, arts and community wellbeing, consistently stepping forward wherever support is needed.*

*Vanessa has been highly active within local schools, serving on both the Norsewood and Ruahine school committees and supporting a wide range of activities including event organisation, fundraising, coaching, gardening and school trips. She has also been a long-standing parent organiser for the*

*Norsewood Playgroup and a strong supporter of local theatre and arts initiatives.*

*Widely known for her positive and encouraging presence, Vanessa is a familiar and enthusiastic supporter at school and sporting events, including the Dannevirke Ross Shield. She has built strong, lasting relationships with young people and continues to support and celebrate them well into adulthood. Her commitment to community wellbeing extends to her involvement with Norsewood Civil Defence and her role in helping secure a defibrillator for the village.*

*For the past eight years, Vanessa has been deeply involved with the Dannevirke Netball Centre, contributing extensively to junior development programmes such as Fun Ferns and Future Ferns. She has coached and coordinated school teams, mentored umpires, supported representative teams, and carried out numerous operational roles including canteen, office, uniforms, game timing and prizegivings. She also established a Summer Business House competition. Her dedication was recognised when she was named Cadbury Volunteer of the Month for Netball Manawatū and Dannevirke Netball Centre Volunteer of the Year in 2023.*

*Vanessa has also served the Norsewood Smallbore Rifle Club for six years, stepping into the scorer role when needed and continuing in this position with professionalism. Her behind-the-scenes contribution was recognised this year with Life Membership.*

*For nine years, Vanessa has been a key contributor to junior hockey at the Dannevirke Sports Club, taking on roles including Health and Safety Representative, Treasurer, Tuck Shop and Referee Coordinator, as well as coaching and refereeing. Always reliable, she ensured each hockey day ran smoothly.*

*In addition, Vanessa has been a valued committee member of the Dannevirke Athletic Club, where she improved club systems, introduced new technology, supported athletes and schools, and volunteered at major events such as the Colgate Games. Her service was recognised when she was named Volunteer of the Year at the club's 2024 prizegiving.*

*Through her selfless service and unwavering commitment, Vanessa Dorreen has had a significant and lasting impact on her community and is a truly deserving recipient of the District Merit Award."*

Michelle Mitchell and Kelly Gillard joined the meeting to thank everyone for coming to celebrate this special award with Vanessa. Michelle Mitchell acknowledged the honour of being here to celebrate this award with Vanessa, who was known as "Mrs DJ" by everyone. She spoke about her time as a teacher at Norsewood School, and how as a teacher, you could not have asked for a better parent than Mrs DJ to be by your side, to help get things done. Following that, she worked closely with Mrs DJ in the Dannevirke Junior Netball Committee for many years. She said there had never been such a more deserving person to receive this award, and it was great to see her selfless, giving nature recognised

by the Mayor and the community. What she has done for so many people and organisations was remarkable and although Vanessa was very humble, she wanted her to know how appreciated her kind heart and many hours of volunteer commitment were. She had touched the lives of so many people and has made Mrs DJ a Dannevirke icon. She is a huge hard worker, and gave an example of fundraising event she ran to pick up woodchips and kindling to help a team get to a National event, and her commitment in travelling to the event to support the team even though her own children were not involved in the event. A truly exceptional individual.

Kelly Gillard gave an example of Mrs DJ's support from the sidelines by playing a recording of her cheering on their team. She spoke about the many times she'd heard Mrs DJ's voice from the sidelines cheering on the team, for so many different sports and how this will always stay with her. She spoke about how Mrs DJ is one of the rare people whose energy lifts everyone around her. Her passion for supporting kids in the wider community is inspiring and her willingness to step in whenever she's needed is nothing short of incredible. She spoke about how Vanessa would do anything for her two children, Pippa and Sean, supporting them wherever they go. She gave examples of this support, highlighting that Vanessa even sat umpiring exams so she could understand netball for her daughter. She spoke about how she learned emergency procedures so that she could support Norsewood Civil Defence, and how she even mastered the art of backing a trailer so she could get hay into sheds. Whenever people needed help, Vanessa would be there, often accompanied by her children. She spoke about how lucky Vanessa's children were to have Vanessa as their role model. If someone didn't have a supporter at a game, Vanessa was their support. She spoke about how Vanessa got her children involved in volunteering as well. Kelly thanked Vanessa's children and partner for lending Vanessa to them for all the sporting events, and reminded the children that Vanessa cheered the loudest for them both. She spoke about how they appreciate everything she does, her heart and commitment and unwavering support of others which has made a real difference in the community. She spoke about how Vanessa deserved this award so very much. She acknowledged Vanessa's mother, noting how she must have been a great role model to bring up this wonderful lady who has been a part of our lives and thanked her for bringing her here so we could show her what she means to the community. She then presented a gift to Vanessa's children that provided a reminder of everything that Vanessa had been involved with. She thanked the Council for allowing them to come and share with everyone how much Vanessa means to them.

Vanessa spoke in thanks, noting her surprise at the award. She said that when she first came to Dannevirke, she felt the best way to get to know people was to get involved, which started with the netball club. She acknowledged her parents who were also great volunteers in the community, noting they had an array of volunteer awards that they had won over the years. On behalf of the groups she has been part of and friends and family here today, thank you all very much.

In closing the Mayor again congratulated Vanessa and invited her, along with her friends, family and supporters to join the Council in a morning tea to celebrate Vanessa together.

*The meeting adjourned at 10:29am and resumed at 10:56am.*

## **10. Reports (continued)**

### **10.3 Council Controlled Organisation Exemption for Manawatu-Whanganui Local Authorities Shared Services**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Chief Advisor dated 4 December 2025 that Council's resolution to grant Manawatu-Whanganui Local Authorities Shared Services Ltd (MWLASS) status as an "exempted organisation" under the provisions of Section 7 of the Local Government Act 2002.

It was noted that future changes through the simplification of local government could see a changed level of utilisation for the CCO, with a view to value for ratepayers. It was suggested that representatives of the MWLASS visit Council in the future to explain the services undertaken through the MWLASS.

***That the report from the Chief Advisor dated 04 December 2025 concerning the Council Controlled Organisation Exemption for Manawatu-Whanganui Local Authorities Shared Services be received.***

***That the Tararua District Council provide an exemption to Manawatu-Whanganui Local Authority Shared Services from being a Council Controlled Organisation granted under Section 7(5) of the Local Government Act 2002 for the period of 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2028.***

*Crs Johns/Amboy*

*Carried*

### **10.4 Adoption of Committee Terms of Reference 2025-28**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Manager – Democracy Services dated 3 December 2025 that sought adoption of the Terms of Reference and delegation of authority for each committee established by the Mayor under section 41A of the Local Government Act 2002. It was noted that the Executive Support member for the Community Connections committee was yet to be decided.

***That the report from the Manager Democracy Services dated 03 December 2025 concerning the Adoption of Committee Terms of Reference 2025-28 be received.***

***That the Tararua District Council adopt the Terms of Reference for the Community Connections Committee, the Infrastructure and Projects Committee, the Performance and Monitoring Committee and the District Growth Committee as established by the Mayor under Section 41A of the Local Government Act***

**2002 and set out in Appendix 1 to the report "Adoption of Committee Terms of Reference 2025-28."**

**Crs Corlett/Wallace**

**Carried**

10.5 **Adoption of Meeting Schedule for 2026**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Manager – Democracy services dated 3 December 2025 that presented the proposed schedule of meetings for the 2026 calendar year.

***That the report from the Manager Democracy Services dated 03 December 2025 concerning the Adoption of Meeting Schedule for 2026 be received.***

***That the Tararua District Council adopt the schedule of meetings for the 2026 calendar year as set out in Appendix 1 to the report of the Manager – Democracy Services dated 03 December 2025.***

**Crs Naylor/Corlett**

**Carried**

10.6 **Delegations to Community Boards**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Manager – Democracy Services dated 3 December 2025 that presented proposed delegation of functions from Council to the Dannevirke and Eketāhuna Community Boards for the 2025-28 triennium.

***That the report from the Manager Democracy Services dated 03 December 2025 concerning the Delegations to Community Boards be received.***

***That the Council delegate the following functions to the Dannevirke and Eketāhuna Community Boards, to:***

- 1. Liaise and communicate with individuals, community organisations and special interest groups within the Board's area of responsibility.***
- 2. Represent and advocate for the community on any issue and make submissions to any organisation relating to a matter of interest to the Board in respect to the Board's geographical area.***
- 3. Facilitate consultation with local residents and community groups on local issues and local aspects of district issues, including input into the District Plan, Long Term Plan and Annual Plan.***
- 4. Make submissions or provide feedback on local issues and local aspects of district issues included in the District Plan, Long Term Plan and Annual Plan.***
- 5. In respect of the Long Term Plan and Annual Plan (where appropriate)***

to:

- (a) Prepare a submission to the budgetary process of Council for expenditure within the community and methods of funding.**
- (b) Identify and make recommendations on priorities for local projects and community issues.**
- 7. Participate in any relevant consultative processes within the Board's geographical area, making submissions on relevant policies that impact on the Board's geographical area.**
- 8. Make submissions to the Council on the levels of service concerning its facilities and activities provided within the Board's geographical area and maintain an oversight of their delivery.**
- 9. Advise the Council on property related matters concerning the acquisition and sale of such assets of local community significance.**
- 10. Promote the community and support its economic development.**
- 11. Fix priorities and expend funds within such budgets allocated by Council for discretionary spending, including assistance towards rates and Council related fees and charges incurred by voluntary community groups.**
- 12. Make annual disbursements to community groups from the Community Board General Assistance Grants Scheme.**
- 13. Facilitate community events and maintaining services in the Board's geographical area, including providing financial assistance to support such initiatives.**
- 14. Consider and report on all matters referred to it by Council or any issue of interest or concern to the Board and speak at Council meetings in such circumstances considered appropriate.**
- 15. Appoint a Board representative to the Road Safety Committee and Emergency Management Committee (Welfare Response).**
- 16. Appoint Board representatives to local community groups.**
- 17. Appoint the Board's Chairperson as a member to the Civic Honours selection panel.**
- 18. Authorise the Board's Chairperson (or their nominee) to be the spokesperson for the Board in all matters within its jurisdiction or of particular interest.**
- 19. Advise the Council in advance of considering any actions resulting from**

*exercising its powers, authorities or functions that may have potential implications for the Council.*

20. *Maintain the development, knowledge and skills of board members through attendance at appropriate conferences, courses and training seminars within the budget funding available for this purpose.*

*Crs Wallace/Corlett*

*Carried*

10.7 **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 2 December 2025 that provided information on the requests for information received under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

*That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 02 December 2025 concerning the Requests for Information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 be received.*

*Crs Wards/Naylor*

*Carried*

12. **Correspondence**

Nil

13. **Portfolio Report - Rural**

*That the report from the Deputy Mayor dated 11 December 2025 concerning the Portfolio Report - Rural be received.*

*Crs Wards/Corlett*

*Carried*

14. **Other Portfolio Reports**

- 14.1 **Communications and Consultation Portfolio** – Councillor Naylor advised that Councillor Amboy and himself had received a report from the Group Manager – Strategy and Information outlining the results of the communications survey undertaken last year. He noted that this provided them with useful insights. He spoke about an event he attended in the weekend, where a ratepayer expressed concern that they hadn't seen any communications or publicity about the recent election. However, the person lived rurally and did not have a letterbox, so was not receiving the local newspaper. Their portfolio will be looking into solutions for the rural area.

- 14.2 **Marae, Kura Kaupapa Māori and Kohanga Reo Portfolio** – Councillor Te Waaka reported that Councillor Peeti-Webber and herself attended Te Maruata, a Local Government New Zealand committee of Māori elected members. She spoke

about the inspiration from meeting with like-minded people in local government, and it was good to have that support. She spoke about her attendance at a kaupapa at Kaitoke Marae, where she met potential candidates for the Ikaroa-Rawhiti Māori seat electorate for the next general election. Her aim was to establish good relationships with all candidates for that seat, and will be organising a youth hui to meet with candidates in the future.

- 14.3 **Youth Portfolio** – Councillor Te Waaka spoke about a hui held with Tararua Community Youth Services. The hui involved community groups and organisations from across the district, and it highlighted the need for the various youth services to come together to network and share with each other. She advised that she had been invited to speak at the Pahiatua school leavers dinner. Councillor Amboy spoke her attendance at the Young Elected Members hui in Wellington, organised by Local Government New Zealand. She spoke about this being an insightful event where she met many young elected members from across the country. They will be seeing what they can do to collaborate in the future.
- 14.4 **Pongaroa** – Councillor Wards spoke about her attendance at a working bee organised by the Pongaroa Way to Go committee at the Four Mile Bush reserve, which is a popular freedom camping area. She noted that the previous Council had received presentations from communities about maintenance of reserves, and this was a good example of a community taking responsibility to maintain and upgrade the space.
- 14.5 **Christmas Parades** – Councillor Wallace spoke about his attendance at the Dannevirke Christmas Parade. He congratulated the Lions Club and the Chamber of Commerce on the arrangements. The Mayor noted he was privileged to attend each of the Christmas parades held throughout the district and it was a great way to celebrate the community.

## 15. **Mayoral Update**

The Mayor provided an update to his written report on events attended. He noted that since providing his report, he attended the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Norsewood Pioneer Museum and also the Woodville school prize giving.

Councillor Wards spoke about the recent citizenship ceremonies held in Dannevirke and Pahiatua which were a fantastic celebration for the new citizens. She acknowledged the work of officers in making the arrangements and the councillors for their support.

***That the report from the Mayor dated 11 December 2025 concerning the Mayoral Update be received.***

***Mayor Gilmore/Cr Wallace***

***Carried***

## 16. Items not on the Agenda

It was noted that the late item of business would be considered in the public excluded session of Council.

## 17. Public Excluded Items of Business

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

*All of Government Electricity Procurement - Delegation to enter contract*

*Amendment to Delegation of Authority to negotiate Memorandum of Agreement for land purchase - 33 York Street, Dannevirke*

*Late item of business – Recruitment of 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>Amendment to Delegation of Authority to negotiate Memorandum of Agreement for land purchase - 33 York Street, Dannevirke</i>	<i>To protect commercial and industrial negotiations</i>	<i>&lt;Section (1)(a)(i)</i>
<i>All of Government Electricity Procurement - Delegation to enter contract</i>	<i>To protect commercial activities</i>	<i>&lt;Section (1)(a)(i)</i>
<i>Recruitment of Chief Executive</i>	<i>To protect the privacy of natural persons</i>	<i>&lt;Section (1)(a)(i)</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)(a) The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the*

*privacy of natural persons, including that of a deceased natural person*

*s7(2)(h) The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.*

*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 Corlett/Peeti-Webber*

*Carried*

The meeting went into public excluded session at 11:36am and resumed open session at 11:57am.

There being no further business the Mayor thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and the meeting closed at 11:57am.



# Report

Date : 18 February 2026  
 To : Chairperson and Board Members  
 Eketahuna Community Board  
 From : Allie Dunn  
 Manager Democracy Services  
 Subject : **Appointments and Allocation of Portfolios**  
 Item No : **9.1**

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## 1. Recommendation

- 1.1 *That the report from the Manager Democracy Services dated 18 February 2026 concerning the Appointments and Allocation of Portfolios be received.*
- 1.2 *That the Eketāhuna Community Board makes appointments of Board representatives as follows:*
- 1.3 *That the Eketāhuna Community Board makes appointments of Board representatives as follows:*
- 1.4 *That ..... be appointed as the Eketāhuna Community Board’s representative on the Road Safety Group.*
- 1.5 *That ..... be appointed as the Eketāhuna Community Board’s representative on the Emergency Management Committee(Welfare Response).*
- 1.6 *That the Eketāhuna Community Board makes the following appointments of liaison representatives to community organisations:*

<i>Organisation:</i>	<i>Liaison Representative:</i>
<i>Nireaha Reserve Board</i>	.....
<i>Hamua Hall and Domain Board</i>	.....
<i>Newman Reserve Board</i>	.....
<i>Eketāhuna Our Town Committee</i>	.....
<i>St John Bush Area Committee</i>	.....

**1.7 That the Eketāhuna Community Board assigns the following portfolio responsibilities:**

<i>Portfolio:</i>	<i>Assigned responsibility:</i>
<i>Community Newsletter writing</i>	.....
<i>Urban community facilities, camping ground and cemeteries</i>	.....
<i>Sports grounds, swimming pool and playground</i>	.....
<i>Anzac Day</i>	.....
<i>Alf Rowden Humanitarian Award</i>	.....

**2. Reason for the Report**

2.1 To make appointments to Council groups.

**3. Background**

3.1 At its meeting held 17 December 2025, the Council agreed to delegate certain functions to the Community Board, and delegated the authority to appoint Board representatives to community groups and to certain specified committees.

A list of the functions and authorities delegated by the Council is detailed in the following section.

**4. Description**

4.1 The following functions and authorities have been delegated by the Tararua District Council to both the Dannevirke Community Board and the Eketāhuna Community Board.

1. Liaise and communicate with individuals, community organisations and special interest groups within the Board’s area of responsibility.
2. Represent and advocate for the community on any issue and make submissions to any organisation relating to a matter of interest to the Board in respect to the Board’s geographical area.

3. Facilitate consultation with local residents and community groups on local issues and local aspects of district issues, including input into the District Plan, Long Term Plan and Annual Plan.
4. Make submissions or provide feedback on local issues and local aspects of district issues included in the District Plan, Long Term Plan and Annual Plan.
5. In respect of the Long Term Plan and Annual Plan (where appropriate) to:
  - (a) Prepare a submission to the budgetary process of Council for expenditure within the community and methods of funding.
  - (b) Identify and make recommendations on priorities for local projects and community issues.
7. Participate in any relevant consultative processes within the Board's geographical area, making submissions on relevant policies that impact on the Board's geographical area.
8. Make submissions to the Council on the levels of service concerning its facilities and activities provided within the Board's geographical area and maintain an oversight of their delivery.
9. Advise the Council on property related matters concerning the acquisition and sale of such assets of local community significance.
10. Promote the community and support its economic development.
11. Fix priorities and expend funds within such budgets allocated by Council for discretionary spending, including assistance towards rates and Council related fees and charges incurred by voluntary community groups.
12. Make annual disbursements to community groups from the Community Board General Assistance Grants Scheme.
13. Facilitate community events and maintaining services in the Board's geographical area, including providing financial assistance to support such initiatives.
14. Consider and report on all matters referred to it by Council or any issue of interest or concern to the Board and speak at Council meetings in such circumstances considered appropriate.
15. Appoint a Board representative to the Road Safety Committee and Emergency Management Committee (Welfare Response).
16. Appoint Board representatives to local community groups.
17. Appoint the Board's Chairperson as a member to the Civic Honours selection panel.

18. Authorise the Board’s Chairperson (or their nominee) to be the spokesperson for the Board in all matters within its jurisdiction or of particular interest.
  19. Advise the Council in advance of considering any actions resulting from exercising its powers, authorities or functions that may have potential implications for the Council.
  20. Maintain the development, knowledge and skills of board members through attendance at appropriate conferences, courses and training seminars within the budget funding available for this purpose.
- 4.2 The Board is now asked to consider the functions and authorities that it has been delegated, and make any appointments to necessary to undertake these responsibilities.

## **5. Significance Assessment**

- 5.1 The Council’s Significance and Engagement Policy is not triggered by any matters discussed in this report.

## **6. Options**

- 6.1 The Eketāhuna Community Board’s role includes representing and acting as an advocate for the interests of its community, and communicating with community organisations and special interest groups within its community.
- 6.2 The community that the Eketāhuna Community Board represents is described as “Eketāhuna and the surrounding rural areas, including Tiraumea, Alfredton, Hamua, Hukanui, Nireaha, Rongomai, Putara, Rongokako, Kaiparoro and Newman.”
- 6.3 Listed below are the organisations that the Community Board made appointments to in the past triennium, and areas of responsibility that members were assigned to.
- Road Safety Group (1 Board representative)
  - Emergency Management Committee (1 Board representative)
  - Nireaha Reserve Board (1 Liaison representative)
  - Hamua Hall and Domain Board (1 Liaison representative)
  - Newman Reserve Board (1 Liaison representative)
  - Hukanui Reserve Board (1 Liaison representative)
  - Eketāhuna Our Town Committee (1 Liaison representative)
  - St John Bush Area Committee (1 Liaison representative)

- Community newsletter reporting (area of responsibility)
- Roading / urban footpaths (area of responsibility)
- Urban community facilities, camping grounds and cemeteries (area of responsibility)
- Sports grounds, swimming pool and playground (area of responsibility)
- Alf Rowden Humanitarian Award (all members assigned)

6.4 The list above was taken from the minutes of the first triennial meeting of the previous Community Board.

6.5 The Board has the option of making similar appointments to those made in the previous triennium.

6.6 The Board could also consider whether there were further community organisations in the wider area that the Board covers, that Board members could be liaising with. Further appointments could be made should there be other organisations or special interest groups that the Board establishes relationships with.

## **7. Financial Considerations**

7.1 There are no financial considerations associated with matters raised within this report.

## **8. Consultation**

8.1 There are no legislated community consultation requirements associated with this matter.

## **9. Conclusion**

9.1 Following on from the Council delegating functions and authority to the Board, members can now consider making formal appointments of liaison representatives to organisations and groups that the Board has relationships with, appointing members to sit on committees or advisory groups where a member of the Board forms part of that committee / group, and assigning areas of responsibility or portfolios.

9.2 The officer recommendation is set out based on appointments made in the previous triennium. The Board is able to include other appointments for decision should there be other community organisations that the Board wishes to establish or maintain a relationship with.

## **Attachments**

Nil.



## Report

Date : 28 January 2026

To : Chairperson and Board Members  
Eketahuna Community Board

From : Simone Anthony  
Democracy Support Officer

Subject : **Nominations for Alf Rowden Humanitarian Award 2026**

Item No : **9.2**

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### 1. Recommendation

- 1.1 *That the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 22 January 2026 concerning the Nominations for Alf Rowden Humanitarian Award 2026 be received.*
- 1.2 *That the Eketāhuna Community Board advertise in the community newsletter that nominations open for the Alf Rowden Humanitarian Award on 2 March 2026, with nominations to close on 10 April 2026.*

### 2. Reason for the Report

- 2.1 To initiate the process for calling for nominations for the Alf Rowden Humanitarian Award for 2026.

### 3. Background

- 3.1 The Eketāhuna Lions Club Alf Rowden Humanitarian Award is named after former Deputy Mayor Alf Rowden and was first awarded in 1985.
- 3.2 Past recipients of the award include: Mark Flynn 1985, Kath Liardet 1986, Lou Finegan 1987, Allie Atkinson 1988, Eileen Lissington 1993, Hendricus Buys 1994, Sue Rowden 1995, Kath Willis 1996, Margaret Hanson 1997, Larrimore Gorden Falkner 1998, Noel Dick 1999, R.W (Jim) Satchwell 2000, Elsie and Wally Fafeita 2001, Monica Sutherland 2002, Margaret Oliver and Margaret Parsons 2013, Max Cooper and John Harman 2014, Olive Stevenson 2016, Anna Christenson 2017,

Ryan Seator 2018, Rena Tyler 2020, Corinna and Terry Carew 2023, and Debbie Paterson 2025.

3.3 A trophy and certificate is awarded to the successful recipient/s.

## **4. Discussion and Options**

4.1 The Eketāhuna Community Board runs the annual award to recognise and acknowledge people that provide exceptional voluntary service or work in the Eketāhuna community.

4.2 The award is usually made annually, however no awards were made during 2021, 2022 and 2024.

4.3 The process followed for nominations in past years is as follows:

- Advertisement calling for nominations is placed in the community newsletter by the Eketāhuna Community Board in February/March, seeking nominations of individuals that have provided exceptional voluntary service or work in the Eketāhuna community.
- Nominations are to be made in writing and delivered to the Eketāhuna Service Centre / Library by Friday 10 April 2026 or lodged via email to [governance@tararua.govt.nz](mailto:governance@tararua.govt.nz)
- Nominations are to be addressed to the Manager – Democracy Services, c/- Eketāhuna Service Centre Library.
- At the close of nominations, the Manager – Democracy Services will collate nominations and include in the agenda for the May formal meeting of the Eketāhuna Community Board, as a public excluded item of business.
- Following consideration by the Board, the successful award recipient will be contacted and the presentation of the Award held at a public ceremony at the Eketāhuna Community Centre.

## **5. Financial Considerations**

5.1 The costs associated with the awards ceremony are funded from the Community Board's discretionary fund. The costs relate to the hire of the Community Centre, and the catering for the event. There is sufficient funding within the Board's discretionary fund to accommodate the costs of the awards ceremony.

## **6. Conclusion**

6.1 The Alf Rowden Humanitarian Award is a long-standing and prestigious award made by the Eketāhuna Community Board to recognise individuals that provide exceptional voluntary service or work in the Eketāhuna community. This report

seeks a resolution of the Board to initiate the process to enable the award to be made in 2026.

**Attachments**

Nil.





## Report

Date : 18 February 2026  
To : Chairperson and Board Members  
Eketahuna Community Board  
From : Simone Anthony  
Democracy Support Officer  
Subject : **Management Report**  
Item No : **9.3**

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### 1. Recommendation

1.1 *That the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 09 February 2026 concerning the Management Report be received.*

### 2. Reason for the Report

2.1 This report is to update the Board on key activities and items of interest over the period 5 September 2025 to 28 January 2026 as reported to the Infrastructure & Projects Committee meeting held 11 February 2026.

### 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**

### **4.1 Alliance Management Overview**

A number of audits of the Alliance were completed before the Christmas break, including the financial audit for the 2024/25 financial year and financial review of the 2025/26 financial year in September. The 2024/25 performance audit was completed in November. The Asset Management Maturity Assessment, which is a Downer internal assessment, was completed in November. The reports from these audits will be presented at the Risk & Assurance Committee in February.

The first stage of the ISO55001 Asset Management Certification audit was completed in December with the second stage booked for late February.

A NZTA Waka Kotahi Procedural Audit is booked for late April. A Procedural Audit is part of NZTA's Investment Audit process where they audit approved organisations such as Tararua District Council that has received funding through the National Land Transport Fund. This is to ensure that the approved organisation has the correct procedures in place to manage the funds NZTA has provided.

Following on from the Alliance winning the Apōpō Asset Management Excellence Supreme Award in May 2025 for the Huarahi Tūhono – Route 52 Upgrade project, Apopo has put the project forward in the Construction category of the International Federation of Municipal Engineering (IFME) Awards, to be judged in Helsinki, Finland in June. The Route 52 project was the only project from New Zealand to be nominated in this category and will be up against entries from about 22 countries.

The Alliance completed an induction with Mayor Scott Gilmore and Councillors on 22 January to provide an overview of the Alliance, its financial and performance frameworks and a snapshot of what is coming up in the roading space with the Activity Management Plan review in preparation for the next national Land Transport Fund application and Long-Term Plan review.

A stakeholder drive-over is being arranged for 19 February, for iwi, Horizons, NZTA stakeholders along with the Mayor and Councillors to view cyclone recovery sites that have been recently completed, are in progress.

The Alliance is progressing through its renewal programme along with the remaining Cyclone Gabrielle recovery work and other projects such as the Targeted Funds for Resilience as detailed in this report. Preparation is also underway for the next financial year, which is the final year of the National Land Transport Programme. The draft renewal programme is being validated by the Network Management team so it can be presented to NZTA for approval in April. This will put the Alliance in a good position next season as the survey and design work can get underway immediately after it is approved.

4.2 **Transportation Network Management Overview**

**Transport Activity Management Plan Update & National Land Transport Fund Submission**

The Transport Activity Management Plan (TAMP) provides Council’s long-term strategic framework for managing its transport assets, investment priorities, risks, and levels of service. Given the scale, complexity, and financial implications of transport decisions over the next 10–30 years, a structured series of councillor workshops is required over the coming months to build shared understanding of the network’s current state, future pressures, and investment trade-offs. These workshops enable informed governance input ahead of key infrastructure, funding, and affordability decisions, and ensure elected members are well-positioned to provide direction on priorities before subsequent planning and funding submissions are progressed.

Below provides the timeline for the development of the TAMP and NLTF submission:



Dates		Status (at time of writing)
January 2026	Introduction to Transport Activity session with Elected Members	Complete
January 2026	TDC Elected Strategic Workshop	
February 2026	Transport AMP Strategic Direction Workshop with Elected Members – Problem and Benefit statements defined along with draft community outcomes.	
March 2026	AMP Levels of Service Workshop with Elected Members	
April/May 2026	AMP Financial / Funding Workshops with Elected Members	
July 2026	Draft AMP submitted to NZTA	
August 2026	Initial submission of continuous programmes submitted to NZTA via NZTA’s Transport Investment Online (TIO)	
Sept 2026	Initial submission of improvement activities due to NZTA	
October 2026	Feedback and discussion with NZTA Senior Investment Advisor to adjust and update submission	
December 2026	Final submissions due to NZTA	
March 2027	Public Consultation for Long Term Plan including AMP	

<b>March 2027</b>	Draft Government Policy Statement issued	
<b>May / April 2027</b>	Post LTP / NLTP Review – Elected Members	
<b>May-June 2027</b>	Final Government Policy Statement issued	
<b>30 June 2027</b>	AMP updated to reflect GPS and NLTP funding outcomes, LTP & AMP adopted	
<b>31 August 2027</b>	NLTP adoption deadline	

### **Transport Strategic Direction Workshop – Review of the 2024/27 Problem and Benefit Statements**

Establishing clear and current priorities remains a key focus for the Transport team. As part of the upcoming Strategic Direction Workshop, the existing 2024–2027 Problem and Benefit Statements will be reviewed to ensure they remain fit for purpose and continue to reflect the current and emerging challenges facing the transport network. These statements form a critical part of the Investment Logic Mapping process that NZTA requires for their funding application bid, by articulating the underlying issues to be addressed and the outcomes Council is seeking to achieve. Reviewing and, where necessary, updating them will ensure the AMP remains outcomes-focused, based on the challenges we face, with investment priorities, levels of service, and funding decisions aligned to agreed benefits rather than legacy settings or individual projects.

Below are the current focus areas and their Problems and Benefit Statements – the focus areas are intended to align with the priorities established through the Government Policy Statement for Transport.

<b>Area of Focus</b>	<b>Problem (What issue needs to be addressed?)</b>	<b>Benefit (What outcome is sought?)</b>
<b>1. Climate and Resilience</b>	Our road network is extremely vulnerable to changing climate and land use activities resulting in poor access, safety and resilience for users.	Reducing road closures and restrictions will improve transport reliability, increasing user confidence and the economic productivity of our district.
<b>2. Safety</b>	Our road network is extremely vulnerable to changing climate and land use activities resulting in poor access, safety and resilience for users.	Investing in improving the consistency of road form and environment will contribute to a safe and well connected network for all users and minimising the risk of serious crashes.
<b>3. Declining Level of Service</b>	Funding constraints associate with a very large road network, small ratepayer base and rising costs is resulting in reduced levels of service compared to our peers, low customer satisfaction and possible asset consumption.	A specific strategy on how freight routes are managed will encourage and support economic activity within the region.
<b>4. Limited Transport Options</b>	Limited options for walking and cycling and low service levels, combined with a lack of public transport is resulting in high vehicle use within the districts urban towns and villages, increasing the risk of accidents for vulnerable users and impacts on the environment.	Innovation, experimentation and adoption of new technologies and processes will help minimise the impact of climate change and make better use of our limited resources

### **Footpath Maintenance & Renewals vs Vehicle Entranceways**

Tararua District Council has a long-standing position that vehicle entranceways are the responsibility of property owners. This position continues to be challenged when responding to Customer Requests for Service related to footpath repairs, as many high-priority faults are located within vehicle entranceways. This approach conflicts with NZTA criteria, which treats the footpath portion across a vehicle entranceway as part of the functional footpath asset and therefore subject to Council maintenance.



During the development of the 2024–27 National Land Transport Programme (NLTP) submission, Council endorsed requesting additional subsidised funding to address the challenges around footpath maintenance and renewals. However, largely due to changes in the Government Policy Statement (GPS) on Transport, NZTA approved significantly less subsidised funding than requested.

NZTA Work Category	Requested 2024-27 NLTP	Approved Funding 2024-27 NLTP (4/09/24)	Variance between Request / Approved	
Footpath maintenance	\$1,156,119.00	\$648,000.00	-\$508,119.00	-44.0%
Footpath renewal	\$2,860,155.00	\$0	-\$2,860,155.00	-100.0%

The \$648,000 approved for the 2024–27 period was less than the funding received in the previous cycle. This effectively reflected Central Government direction, through the GPS, that local authorities would deliver a reduced level of service for footpaths.

As a consequence of the reduced funding, fault intervention levels were revised to focus primarily on high-risk, safety-related defects. Repair methods were similarly adjusted to prioritise making faults safe, rather than undertaking full or permanent repairs.

In response, Council approved an additional \$150,000 of unsubsidised funding through the 2025/26 Annual Plan to enable more robust and durable repairs where possible.

Given the constrained funding environment, the following example of the current directive for footpath repairs reflects existing budget limitations.



Over the coming months, alongside the development of the Transport Asset Management Plan (AMP), councillors will have the opportunity to provide clearer direction on Council's position regarding vehicle entranceways and the associated footpath and drainage assets.

One option is for Council to accept full responsibility for vehicle entranceways and their associated assets. Alternatively, Council may instruct staff to pursue cost recovery from property owners for damage to Council-owned footpath and drainage assets arising from the construction, use, or deterioration of vehicle entranceways. The second approach is expected to generate feedback and concern from affected ratepayers.

### **Roading Policies development**

Over the past year, a number of strategic asset management projects have been initiated in response to issues experienced within the roading space. The initial focus was the expansion of the Road Priority Matrix, which had been developed to support prioritisation of Cyclone Gabrielle response activities. This work has since expanded to include the development of Differential Levels of Service guidelines for the design team, along with an associated Engineering Standards document.

As these projects progressed, it was identified that the documents interact with several other workstreams, including refinement of the One Network Framework road hierarchy categorisation and challenges relating to the management of paper roads and requests to alter speed zones.

Through collaboration with other councils of similar scale via the Road Efficiency Group, an opportunity was identified to connect these various workstreams under an overarching Road Management Policy or set of guidelines. The intent of this work is to provide internal clarity and direction on matters relating to network management.

The objectives of their Policy is to:

- (a) Define the most appropriate maintained Land Transport network for the community and ratepayers of the Waitaki District for the present day.

- (b)** Enable transparent decision making for future inclusions or exclusions of transportation assets to and from Council's maintained roading network.

The goals of the Policy are:

- (a)** To provide a Land Transport network that is accessible for all people within the region. (WDC Land Transport Strategy 2007)
- (b)** To maintain and enhance levels of service that reflects the needs of economic growth and diversity of road users. (WDC Land Transport Strategy 2007)
- (c)** To ensure that the levels of service are delivered reliably, efficiently and economically. (WDC Land Transport Strategy 2007)
- (d)** Maintaining a financially sustainable and efficient Land Transport network
- (e)** Supporting Economic Growth

A review of the existing document highlighted the need for a similar framework.

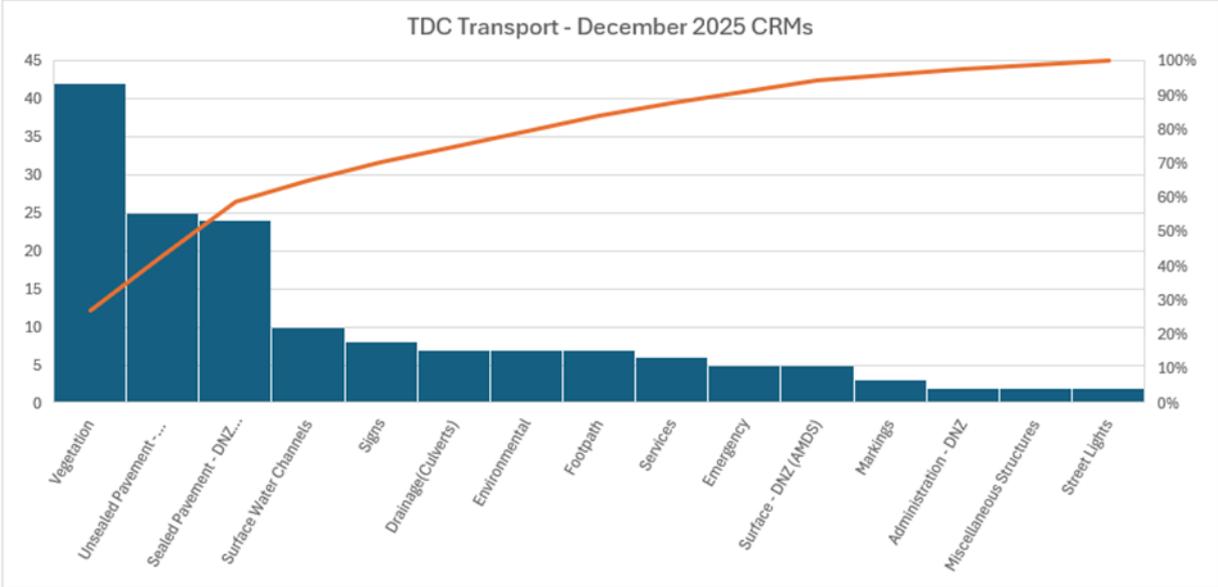
Areas of key interests to the Tararua Alliance network team are;

- How we manage requests to change speed limits.
- A decision making matrix to inform how we manage Uneconomic Road Assets (Very low-use roads and bridges)
- The parameters for development of a paper road.
- The parameters for accepting the Vesting of Roads into Council ownership.
- How requests for seal extensions are assessed.

Work will continue on the drafting of a proposal, aligning with requests from the previous Council to develop the Differential Levels of Service, and various Speed Zone changes requests.

4.3 **Transport Operational Delivery Management Overview**

**Customer Requests**



155 CRMs were received for the month of December. The number of CRMs related to Vegetation has increased due to the humid and wet start to the summer, the road side mowing programme has been completed on sealed roads, and the high reach vegetation mulching is currently working its way around the network trimming back trees and heavy vegetation encroaching onto the road corridor or where there are visibility issues. Some bitumen bleeding has been noted around the network during the intense hot days, this has been monitored and dry chipping where possible. Many of these sites are identified for future planned works to remediate the flushing/bleeding where this is communicated with the community on our planned intervention.

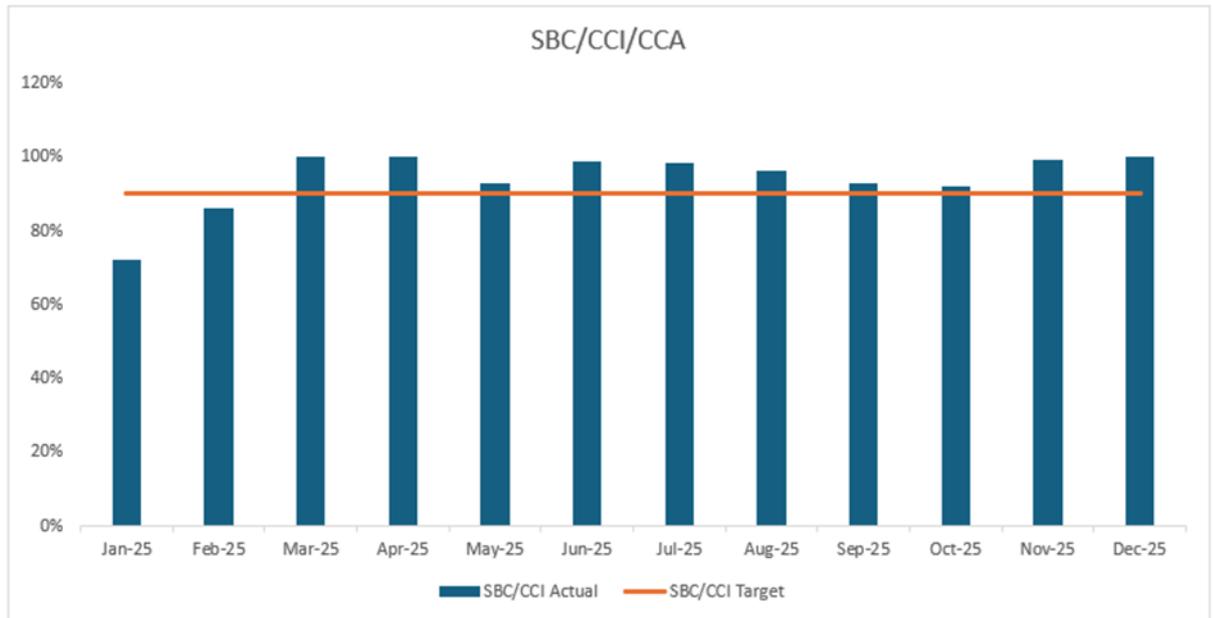
We are currently workshopping how customer requests are responded to. This is to ensure we respond in a timely manner and give a good response that satisfies the customer.

**Tararua Alliance Zero Harm Performance Summary**

Item	December 2025	FYTD
Total Incidents Reported	11	98
Near Misses	8	49
HiPo/Serious Harm	0	0
TRIFR	0	-
Recordable Injuries	0	0
Cardinal Rule Breaches	0	1
Incidents Involving a Critical Risk	4	39
Working Hours	7843	82826

All reported incidents in December had been discussed with the health and safety committee to determine outcomes to prevent harm. Hot topics were working in the heat as we have had some heat related fatigue/incidents. Vehicle and property security where there has been recorded theft of a trailer and diesel. Near misses with other public vehicles and wandering stock continues to be a concern.

There has been one onsite collision in January where the bitumen truck has reversed into a subcontractor's chip spreading truck, this is currently being investigated, and outcome will be communicated once investigation is completed.



In December, the Tararua Alliance achieved 100% of the target Safety Behaviour Conversations (SBCs) and Critical Control Inspection/Audit (CCI/CCAs)

Operation of vehicles and mobile plant are the current focus as we are in the midst's of the construction/sealing season. We are focusing on staff competencies and compliance of both internal and subcontractor's vehicles and plant.

#### 4.4 **Maintenance Overview**

##### Maintenance Delivery Overview

The delivery maintenance teams are working on pre-reseal repairs where most of the work is in cement stabilisation, for the month of December there were 12889 square meters completed, this is in preparation for the sealing crew to waterproof the pavement and to improve roughness and texture of the running surface.

Wheeled excavators undertook removal of high shoulder and cleaning out surface water channels on pre-reseal sites, post this we are working on developing a programme for drainage on areas of the unsealed network where there are drainage deficiencies.

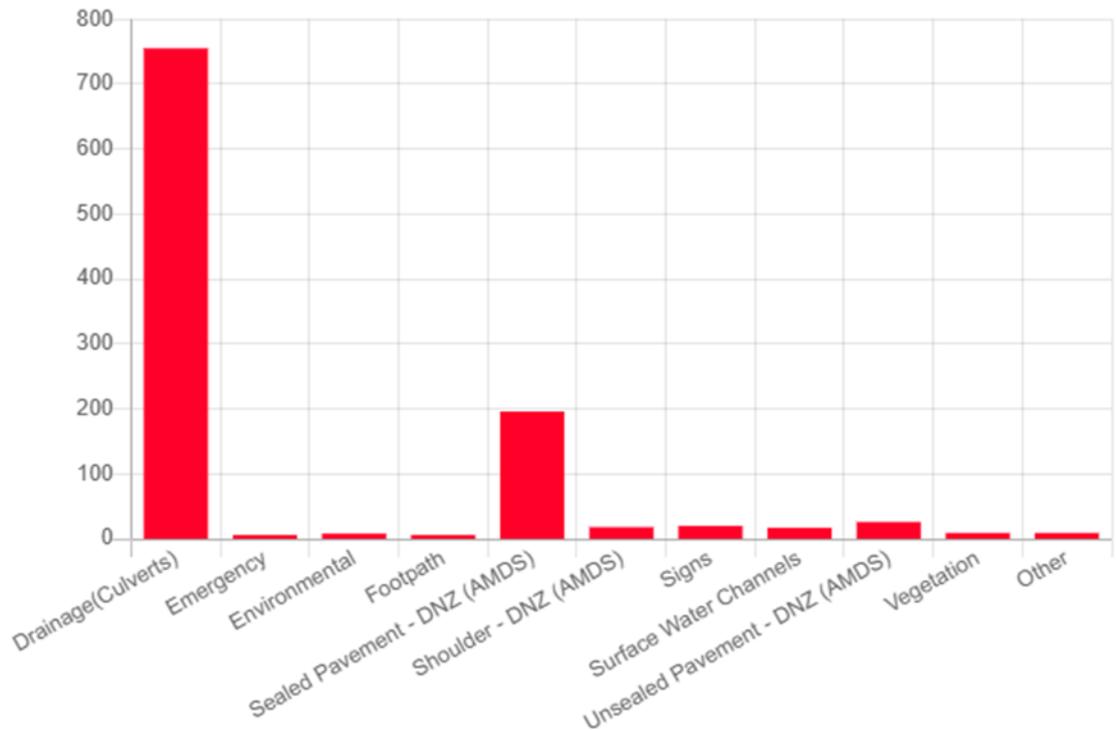
Maintenance graders are working to programme and had completed 129.7km in the month of December, with undertaking some more preventative drainage works on the unsealed network this will hopefully slow down the deterioration and faults seen within these areas.

120 School speed zone safety signs have been installed throughout the network, these are speed advisories to advise traffic to slow during busy times (before and after school)

We have completed 183 square meters of AC footpath repairs, these are selected on level of defect severity through inspection and the CRM process.

The district wide maintenance line marking has occurred, the budget allocation does not cover the entire district, so the areas are based on the revamped level of service document and visually looking at the brightness of marked areas. It was requested that all intersections and safety line markings take priority.

750 catchpits or sumps have been cleaned out within the urban towns as shown on the graph below.



**Routine Maintenance**

- 12899 square meters of cement stabilisation on the sealed pavement network
- 750 catchpits or urban sumps cleaned out
- 129 meters of grading completed
- 183 square meters of footpath repaired
- 317 sealed potholes filled

4.5 **Renewals Overview**

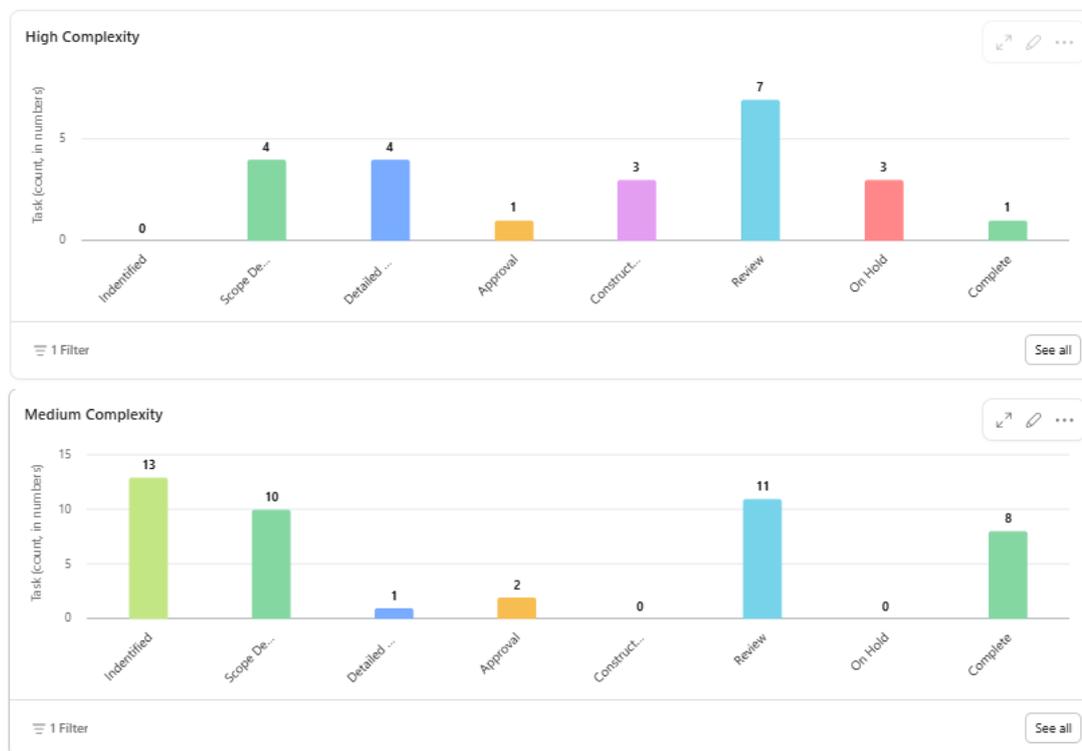
**Reseal Delivery**

The Tararua Alliance sealing crew started re-seals in December, it has been a slow start due to the poor weather in December and now in January. We are currently 17.5% through the programme with expected improvement, as a backup we have the Hastings sealing team ready to assist if required to get through the programme. There is 71.323km lane kilometres of reseals to complete.

Letter drops are happening where there are appropriate alternative routes to provide efficiencies in production rates and to remove the public/worksite interaction as much as possible.

## Emergency Works Recovery

### 2025/26 FY - Emergency Works Forecast Expenditure



We are continuing to make progress towards completion of final Cyclone Gabrielle recovery works and August '24 storm event recovery works, with the bulk of priority works progressing into Design and or Construction phase. We are closely monitoring the expenditure with the view to complete the remaining works within the funding limits currently approved in NZTA's Transport Investment online portal (TIO). There is one High Complexity project (Riverdale Road, Dannevirke), that has the potential to impact the budget. This site requires a complex structural design at road level to reinstate the road formation width, as well as scour protection at the stream level to protect the formation – the scale of this repair will determine whether we need to seek additional NZTA funding (97.5% subsidised).

Total Approved Emergency Works Funding (FY26) (NZTA Work Category 141)	\$8,531,213
FY26 Expenditure to Date (end of December 2025)	\$4,225,095

d

ditional to the currently approved Emergency Works, we still have an outstanding Emergency Works funding request which covers the initial response and recovery from the October '25 Wind Storm event. The cost associated with this storm event is currently coded against the NZTA Minor Event work category, which is subsidised at 73%. If the funding request is accepted by NZTA, these costs will then be subsidised at 93%.

## 5. 3-Waters

### 5.1 Water Shortage Management Committee

The Water Shortage Management Committee met to review current water supply status, preparedness, and communication strategies across Tararua District.

#### Key Points:

- Approximately, this time last year we had to have Pahiatua on Alternative Days and Dannevirke was tracking towards restrictions as well. This year, despite demand increases due to the works we have gotten through and the measures we have put in place and with more help from the weather, we are in a much better position for continuity of supply.
- Public messaging on summer readiness and leak detection is active (Bush Telegraph, Facebook etc).
- Eketahuna seems to have reduced to near expected demand levels. A major Leak has been discounted due to fluctuations and demand returning to normal background levels from time-to-time.
- A structured water conservation and education plan is in development.
- **Risk & Preparedness:**
  - Emergency response plans confirmed
  - NIWA forecast indicates 50% likelihood of below-normal river levels, increasing drought risk.
  - Current weather patterns however are indicating a continued pattern of rain.
- **Operational Status by Location**
  - **Eketahuna: (Boil water) Get Ready (no restrictions)** Demand is still up, however has returned to within expected demand range coincidentally following our targeted media release; no major leaks found at this stage (identified as the likely factor – forced to wait on CRMs or usage to present itself following teams returned from search provided nothing); A boil water notice was issued on Saturday, 24 January, our operator identified a significant risk that raw water turbidity could not be reliably treated within NTU compliance limits. With treated reservoir levels also declining and at that moment below 40%, production was proactively shut down and the notice was issued. Thank you to everyone who assisted on Saturday. Compliance parameters have not been exceeded and we are awaiting the final sample results before lifting the notice (expected tomorrow).

### 5.2 Wastewater

#### 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.

### 5.3 **3 Waters Network Programme**

While we routinely manage renewals across our network, the programme must be balanced against unplanned callouts and operational issues. In general, standard renewal works are less complex than the five key projects outlined below. These five projects have significant integration requirements with the wider network and are critical inputs to both the growth strategy and the District Plan.

Their complexity is further increased by the need to assess plant production capacity and reservoir sizing. As a result, these projects must be coordinated across the full 3 Waters work programme to ensure future works are enabled, renewal activities are correctly aligned and sized, plant and pond performance issues are addressed, and growth requirements are appropriately planned for. The success of these projects are closely connected to the overall programme and planned strategies, ensuring the most efficient and appropriate scale is applied to each respective project.

Priority	Project Name	Comment
1	Dannevirke Southern Sewerage Trunk Main Upgrade	Concept Design February
2	Pahiatua Treated Water Transfer Main Upgrades	Concept Design complete. Detailed design ETA February
3	Woodville Water Supply Trunk Main Upgrades	Concept Design complete. Detailed design ETA February
4	Pahiatua Sewer Trunk Mains Upgrade	Detailed Design complete. Scheduling phased install.
5	Dannevirke Water Trunk Main Upgrade	Detailed Design complete. Scheduling phased install.

### 5.4 **Storm Water**

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

### 5.5 **Consenting and Compliance**

We reported on the below abatement notice, work is well underway to meet this requirement.

- 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. Unfortunately, due to the current levels of the impound we have had to defer this work. Scheduling is being coordinated.

•

The wastewater forum was held in Pahiatua December 2025. The district’s wastewater treatment schemes continue to show strong progress across compliance, operational performance and project delivery. Each of the three treatment plants discussed Dannevirke, Pahiatua, and Eketahuna. Key improvements are underway to support long-term environmental outcomes and meet consent requirements.

• **Water Permits**

The Section 92 information for the Eketahuna (expired 2019), Woodville (expired 2021) and Pahiatua (expired 2022) water permits have been submitted.

**5.6 Administration**

Our recruitment efforts for a qualified Water Treatment Operator are back underway following the withdrawal of the international candidate due to unforeseen complicating factors. The role has been re-advertised and we are actively seeking a suitably experienced operator to strengthen the team.

Our Water Treatment Cadet continues to perform well, demonstrating steady development and contributing meaningfully to the resilience of our operations. His progress has helped maintain service continuity and provided flexibility across the team during a period of sustained workload.

Asset data capture is progressing and the information coming through is beginning to support improved visibility of our treatment assets. As part of preparing for the establishment of the new CCO, we are making measured adjustments to workflows and internal processes. These changes are intended to better posture the team for future organisational shifts. However, it is acknowledged that the uncertainty surrounding the transition does have an impact on staff.

Despite this the team remains focused, and a substantial volume of work is already in progress. With multiple projects advancing and operational demands remaining high, we continue to balance day-to-day service performance with forward planning to ensure readiness for the upcoming changes.

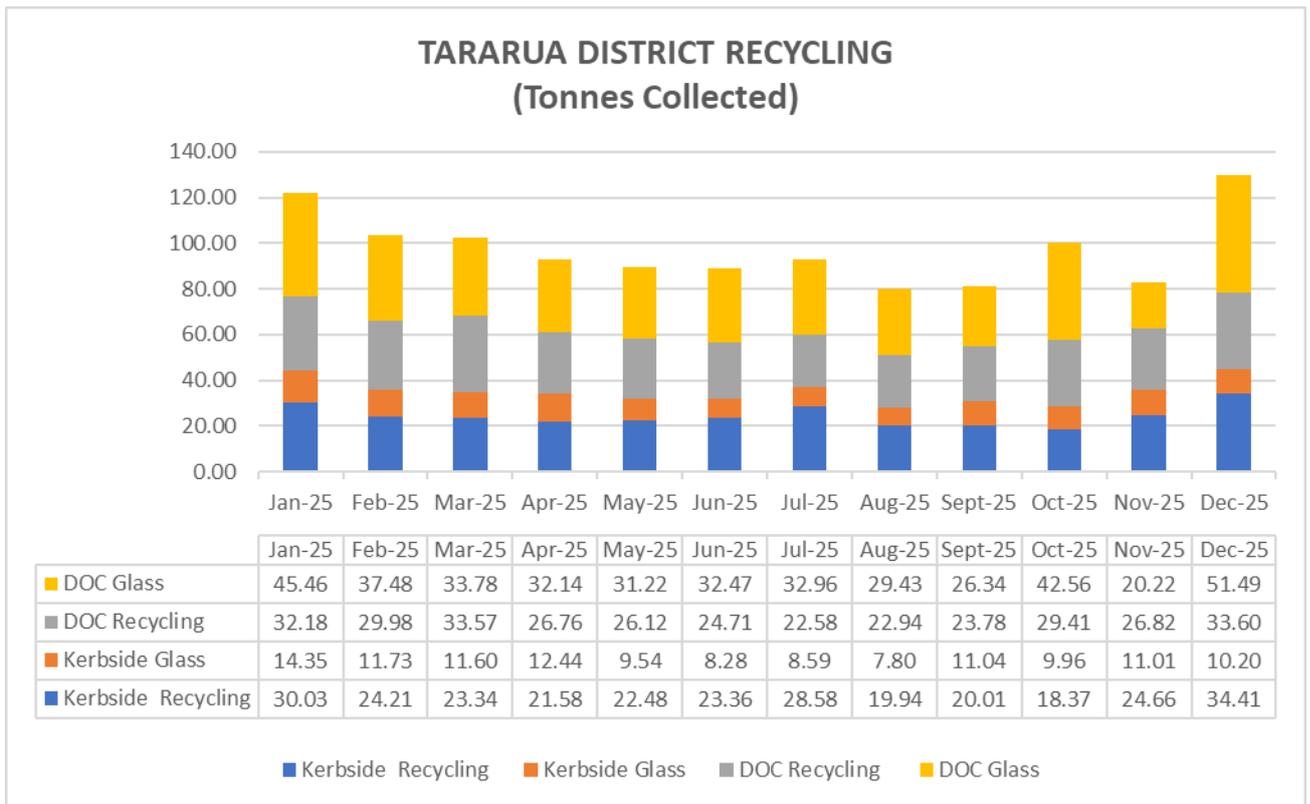
**6. Solid Waste**

**6.1 Operational Activities**

Budget/Activity
-----------------

Budget/Activity									
Refuse Transfer Stations (RTS Sites)	<p>All transfer stations are operating smoothly with no disruptions.</p> <p>Our New Kerbside Collection Truck (Side Loader) has arrived. Packed with safety features, and the latest onboard technology. This truck has been operational, collecting the kerbside recycling since early December 2025. <i>(see pictures below)</i></p> <p><b>November 2025:</b></p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>Waste diverted from landfill</td> <td style="text-align: right;">10.05 Tonne</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Contaminated recycling to Landfill</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2.46 Tonne</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>December 2025:</b></p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>Waste diverted from landfill</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2.24 Tonne</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Contaminated recycling to Landfill</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2.32 Tonne</td> </tr> </table>	Waste diverted from landfill	10.05 Tonne	Contaminated recycling to Landfill	2.46 Tonne	Waste diverted from landfill	2.24 Tonne	Contaminated recycling to Landfill	2.32 Tonne
Waste diverted from landfill	10.05 Tonne								
Contaminated recycling to Landfill	2.46 Tonne								
Waste diverted from landfill	2.24 Tonne								
Contaminated recycling to Landfill	2.32 Tonne								
Recycle Drop-off Centres (DOC Sites)	We are experiencing a moderate amount contamination in the town drop off bins across the district, along with increased volumes typical of this time of the year.								
Kerbside Recycling Services	Kerbside collections are currently going extremely well, and we are experiencing increased volumes of both recycling & glass, typical for this time of the year.								

6.2 Waste Minimisation



**2025 HINO (SIDE LOADER) KERBSIDE RECYCLE COLLECTION TRUCK**





**Attachments**

Nil.



## Report

Date : 18 February 2026

To : Chairperson and Board Members  
Eketahuna Community Board

From : Simone Anthony  
Democracy Support Officer

Subject : **Portfolio Programme Project Report**

Item No : **9.4**

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### 1. Recommendation

1.1 *That the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 04 February 2026 concerning the Portfolio Programme Project Report be received.*

### 2. Reason for the Report

2.1 This report is to provide an update to the Board on the key portfolios, programmes and project statuses reported at the Infrastructure and Projects Committee meeting held on 11 February 2026.

### 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 key portfolios, programmes and project statuses.

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. Capital Portfolio Report

- 4.1 This report has a new focus to bring in all the projects and programmes into one report and will require some additional adjustments.

Portfolio Health Status		Forecast	General Comment
	 Green		Committed projects have maintained momentum into the new calendar year. We have some high value projects moving quickly in delivery, while others are advancing through planning. This year has many significant high value critical infrastructure projects to move forward which requires a sharp eye on resourcing and ensuring capability to deliver versus workload.
<b>Schedule</b>	 Green		Priority will be moved to focus on those projects that require technical assistance to ensure they are moving forward at a pace that aligns with AP forecasts. Weather has affected some civil works but this has been allowed for and will not affect end outcomes.
<b>Budget</b>	 Green		Budgets are currently tracking well. The Reservoirs & Dvk Impound Supply Pre-Treatment projects costs will need confirming so that we ensure we have certainty however can be mitigated within the programme tolerances.
<b>Risk</b>	 Green		Project risks to note are the ongoing concern with the Dannevirke Impounded supply programme, Wastewater programmes and maintaining a strong focus on complex project expenditure. All of these are being effectively mitigated utilising project specific risk registers.
<b>Resourcing</b>	 Amber		We are prioritising our resource limitations, continuity issues, specialised skills and contractor availability against our operational requirements and delivery schedules. However, PMO will have reduced capacity for a period due to one team member leaving and some high value critical projects having to be added to other capable PM's workloads for the time being.

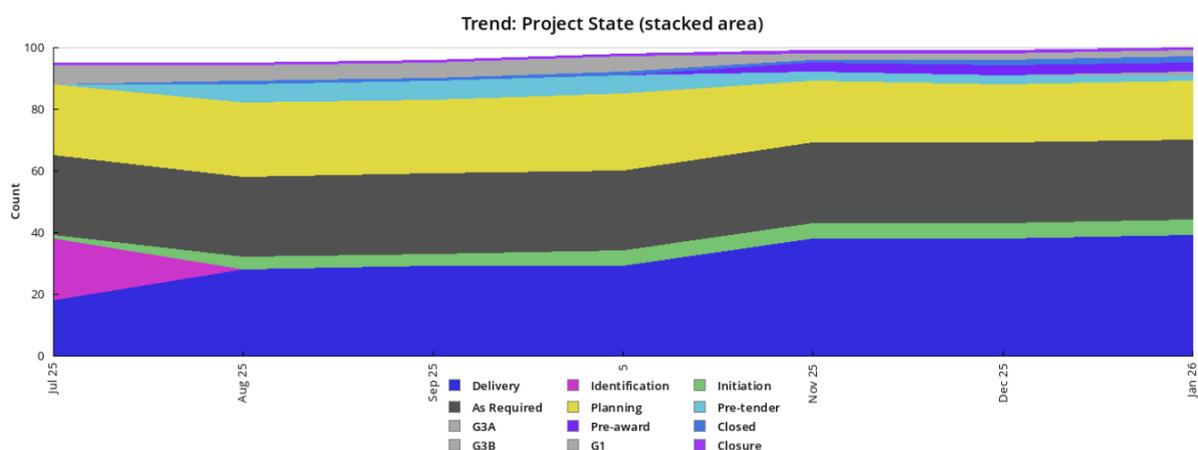
### Legend

Status					
On track against baseline plan	 Green	Corrective action required	 Amber	Critical state - needs urgent attention	 Red

Forecast	
Green - the forecast for the next period is that this area will remain in a positive status or will improve from current reported state.	
Red - the forecast for the next period is that this area will remain in a negative status or will deteriorate from current reported state.	
Amber - the forecast for the next period is that the current status may change.	

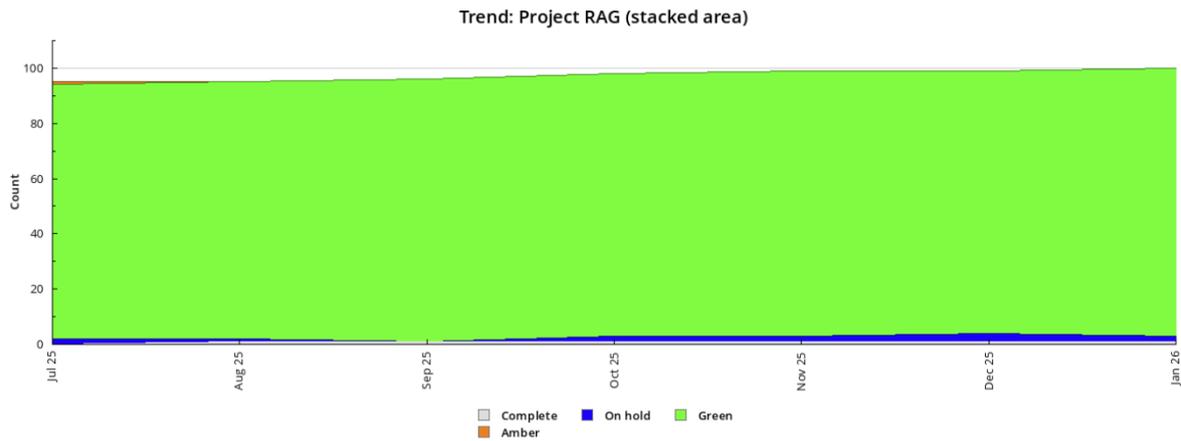
## 5. Capital Project by State

5.1 Our project management framework stipulates Gates for approval processes as depicted by G0, G1 etc. Monitoring the overall inflight project states is crucial as this enables greater oversight and ensures transparency and accountability throughout the project’s lifecycle.



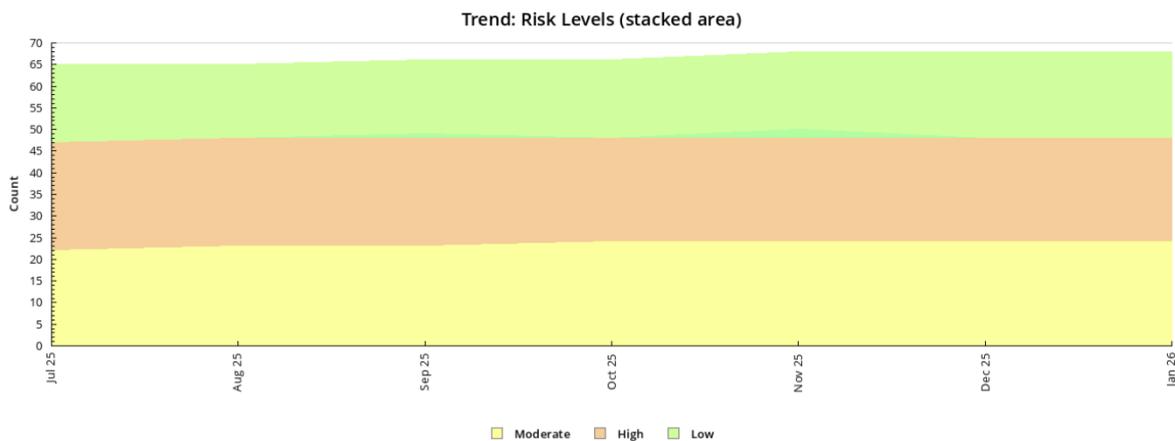
## 6. Capital Project by Status

6.1 By tracking the above project status indicators over time, stakeholders can identify emerging patterns, assess the portfolio, and proactively address potential issues. A consistent green status indicates progress according to plan, while amber signals caution, suggesting potential risks or delays that require attention. Red status indicates critical issues that demand immediate action to mitigate negative impacts. Regular review of RAG status trends enables leaders to make data-driven decisions, allocate resources strategically and optimise project outcomes.



## 7. Portfolio – Projects Risk levels

7.1 The below graph displays our efforts to start compiling project risks into our project management software to better mitigate, manage and report on our risk registers at a portfolio level.



## 8. Project Updates

Complete	On Hold	On Track	Revised but on track	Off Track
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### Facilities and Corporate

Project	Managed by	Comments	Status
Eketahuna Cliff Walk Track Upgrade	Fontayne Chase	One tree that needs to be cleared and then work can start on the track.	

Project	Managed by	Comments	Status
District Campgrounds	Robert Hood	Electrical repairs & re-inspections completed by supplier at EKE, WDVLE & PAH.	
Eketahuna Library	Robert Hood	Temporary repair completed after storm damaged, with permanent repairs being priced.	

### Attachments

1. [Scada Phase II Committee Report January 2026](#)





Project name

# Telemetry and SCADA Upgrade Phase 2

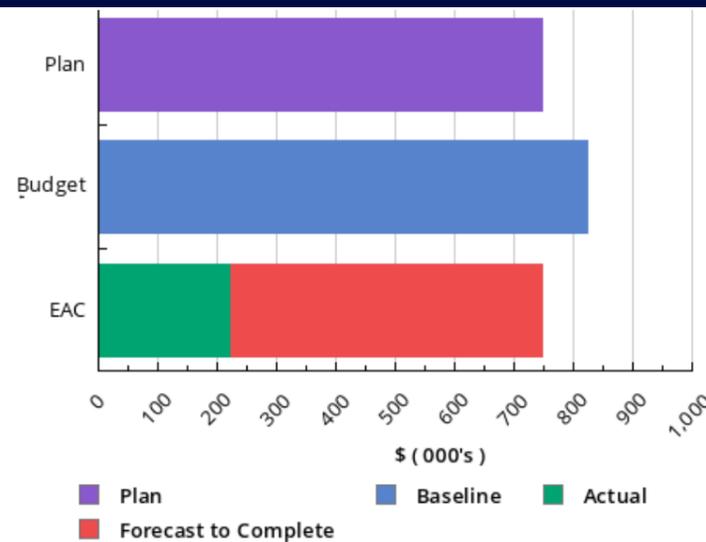
Report date:	Start date:	Approved end date:	Projected end date:
Jan-26	Jul-24	Jun-27	Jun-26

**Purpose:** This project has been initiated to align and comply with new requirements for resource consent monitoring for compliance with NZ water standards. This project will pull the different upgrade funding together to develop and rationalise SCADA and Telemetry framework, architecture, software and dashboarding that provides operational visibility across the entire TDC treatment and network systems. Phase 1 is to determine asset and system Stocktake, Framework, Architecture and system implementation to achieve operational visibility across the network. Phase II is the implementation and delivery of agreed recommendations provided by the investigation and report of the Phase I vendor.

**Project team:** Sponsor: Mike Dunn  
Project Manager: Eugene Priest

**Key stakeholders:** Horizons Regional Council  
TDC 3-Waters Team  
TDC IS Team  
Tararua Alliance

**Project budget:**



**Current Financial Year**

Approved budget:

**\$824,580**

Actuals:

**\$223,345**

Estimate at completion:

**\$748,142**

9%

Under budget

	Status update:		
	PREVIOUS STATUS	CURRENT STATUS	
<b>Overall:</b>	G	G	Agreements have been negotiated and signed by all parties for the main Scada upgrade, VPN & Server Upgrade, Piping & Instrumentation Diagram (P&ID) & asset data collection (Better Off Funding), & Radio Package portions of this project.  VPN/Server upgrade vendor is 95% complete with a few minor pieces of work to complete. Pongaroa & Akitio Water Treatment Plants (WTP) have had their upgrades successfully completed.  A portion of Better Off Funding (BOF) has been allocated to this project to facilitate the necessary work in capturing Asset information, P&ID, plant functional descriptions & asset valuations.
<b>Scope:</b>	G	G	Pre-determined scope to be followed in Tender process with detailed solution provided by successful respondent.  IS added scope of separate servers to add cyber security resilience  Remote site to be prioritised for upgrade to new SCADA for increased remote operator capability, these are Pongaroa WTP & Akitio WTP. Dannevirke WTP is the last upgrade to be completed in this financial year and will be pencilled in for completion late April/May.
<b>Time:</b>	G	G	Long Term Plan budget has allowed for up to 3 years to deliver this project. It has many complexities that are outlined in the Risk Register.  The intention is to aim for full project completion in FY 26/27 (LTP Yr3)
<b>Budget:</b>	A	A	We are currently on schedule to spend all of the Yr 2 budget on completion of Dannevirke WTP. Currently working with 3waters team to allocate resources to ensure funding available for completion of these works in 26/27.
<b>Quality:</b>	G	G	To follow best practice and all NZ Standards that are applicable.
<b>Risks:</b>	A	A	Risk and prioritisation workshop has been held on 11/7 for Phase II of project  Licensing costs have been confirmed and TDC are happy to proceed with project as it outlined.
<b>Opportunities:</b>	G	G	Increased cyber security and redundancy due to physical server separation  Server separation will allow easier CCO (3waters) handover  Increased remote capability = reduced OPEX costs for operator travel/time  Fully integrated wastewater & water visibility will give operators greater control, faster response times and better accuracy. This will lead into better and more accurate reporting to the required regulators.
<b>Health &amp; Safety:</b>	G	G	All vendors are Sitewise accredited
<b>Resources:</b>	G	G	Appropriate resources are available and workloads are currently sufficient.
<b>Comms:</b>	G	G	Communications plan complete

**Next steps:**

- Dannevirke (Dvk) WTP upgrade planning workshop
- Dvk WTP upgrade
- Outstanding sites prioritisation planning meeting

**Project timeline:**

START	Vendor Agreement	Infrastructure Upgrade RFP	Select Infrastructure Vendor	Kick-Off Meeting	VPN/Server Upgrade	Prioritised WTP Site Upgrades	Pongaroa WTP Upgrade	Complete Infrastructure Upgrade	Akitio WTP Upgrade	Dannevirke WTP/WI/Res	FINISH
	Nov-24	Nov-24	Jan-25	Mar-25	Jun-25	Aug-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Dec-25	Apr-26	





9 December 2025

Mike Butterick MP  
Private Bag 18 888  
Parliament Buildings  
WELLINGTON 6160  
[mike.butterick@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:mike.butterick@parliament.govt.nz)

Dear Mr Butterick

**Re: Addressing Traffic Management Costs for Community Events**

On behalf of the Eketāhuna Community Board, I am writing to express our concern regarding the costs of traffic management for community events such as Christmas Parades and other local celebrations. These events are vital for fostering community spirit and supporting local businesses, yet the financial burden of meeting current traffic management requirements is becoming unsustainable for many small towns.

During recent discussions, our Board noted that several communities across New Zealand have already cancelled long-standing parades due to the scale of these costs for meeting current traffic management requirements. Such a trend poses a significant risk to the cultural and social fabric of our regions.

We believe there is an opportunity for Government to deliver a practical, risk-based solution that balances public safety with affordability. Potential approaches discussed include:

- **Developing web-based applications** to guide event organisers in implementing safe traffic management plans using trained volunteers.
- **Adopting a risk-based framework** that considers the scale and nature of events, rather than applying a one-size-fits-all model.

This matter is of national interest, as it affects communities throughout the country. We respectfully request that your office explore options to support local event organisers and ensure that cherished traditions can continue without prohibitive costs.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further and contribute to any consultation or working group on this issue.

---

Tararua District Council · Dannevirke · Woodville · Pahiatua · Eketāhuna

PO Box 115, Dannevirke 4930 | 26 Gordon Street, Dannevirke 4942 | Tel: 06 374 4080 | email: [info@tararua.govt.nz](mailto:info@tararua.govt.nz)

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'PP Steen McGhie'.

Steen McGhie  
**Chairperson**  
**Eketāhuna Community Board**

**From:** [Julie Geange](#) on behalf of [Mike Butterick](#)  
**To:** [Simone Anthony](#)  
**Cc:** [Steen McGhie](#); [Mike Butterick MP](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Letter from Eketāhuna Community Board  
**Date:** Wednesday, 28 January 2026 11:47:26 am  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image006.png](#)  
[image007.png](#)  
[image008.png](#)  
[Outlook-id33i2qf.png](#)

**EXTERNAL EMAIL ALERT:** Caution advised. This message is from an external sender. Verify the sender's identity and use caution with attachments and links.

Hi Simone

Thank you for sending this through and apologies for the very late reply. Mike shares the concerns outlined in the letter from Steve McGhie and notes that this issue is one that many towns across the country experience.

Mike is advocating for change so that events like these are able to continue to add value to rural and provincial communities. He is looking at any and all options that can support a long term solution without unintended consequences.

Mike would be happy to meet with Steve and the Board either in person or online. To set up a time please contact the Wairarapa office on 0800 676 453.

Cheers,  
Julie

**Julie Geange | Senior Research Advisor**

Office of Mike Butterick | Member of Parliament for Wairarapa

DDI: 04 817 6122 | M: 021 1580424 | E: [julie.geange@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:julie.geange@parliament.govt.nz)



**From:** Simone Anthony <Simone.Anthony@Taruadc.govt.nz>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 10, 2025 11:22 AM  
**To:** Mike Butterick <Mike.Butterick@parliament.govt.nz>  
**Cc:** Steen McGhie <steenautoglas@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Letter from Eketāhuna Community Board

Ata mārie Mr Butterick,

Please find attached a letter from the Eketāhuna Community Board for your attention and consideration.

If you have any questions or require further information, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Ngā mihi,



**Simone Anthony | Democracy Support Officer**  
**Democracy Services | Tararua District Council**

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📞 | Mobile: +64 27 3125641

✉️ [Simone.Anthony@Tararua.govt.nz](mailto:Simone.Anthony@Tararua.govt.nz)

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📘 [www.facebook.com/tararua](https://www.facebook.com/tararua)

📷 [www.instagram.com/tararuaDistrictCouncil](https://www.instagram.com/tararuaDistrictCouncil)

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**Minutes of the Eketāhuna Our Town committee meeting, held on  
December 11<sup>th</sup> 2025 @ 7:00 pm, at St John's building, Eketāhuna.**

**Present:** Colin Fraser-Davies, Kerrie Fitzmaurice, Mel Corlett, Margaret Parsons, Terry Carew, Gary Drysdale, Samantha Laing, David Kinzett

**Apologies:** Margaret Drysdale

**Minutes from previous meeting read and confirmed as a true and correct record:**

Moved: Terry Carew    Seconded: Mel Corlett

**Matters Arising:**

Museum opening delayed until January/February next year.

Time Capsule not lifted. Will be done next year.

**Treasurer:**

Due to Everlyne Chase resigning as treasurer, Terry Carew was nominated to replace her.

Nominated: Margaret Parsons

Seconded Mel Corlett

Accepted by Terry.

Financials presented by Terry.

Moved Terry

Seconded Mel Corlett.

Eketahuna Our Towns financial account has been completed from January 1st 2025 thru to November 30th 2025 with November's balance sheet presented for the meeting. There are a few questions regarding some payments but these will be discussed at a meeting at the Information Centre on the 17th December 2025, when the months bills will be paid and application made to BNZ to authorise the new treasurer as Administrator with full access.

The following were discussion points in relation to what has occurred since the last meeting:

Health Centre Financial Request for Equipment - The Health Centre is a registered charity, having the same options as EoT to pursue funding, proposed that the request be denied.

Proposed - Terry    Seconded - Colin

Pickle Ball Request - Advised the meeting that the request for funding be approved, when discussed later in the meeting, with funding coming from the Minor Projects Fund.

Lotteries Grant Application - Application made to Lotteries Community Grant for funding for Flags, Seating, Co Ordinator, Xmas Parade/TMP and the Radio Station. Will be notified of outcome April 2026.

Proposed - Terry      Seconded - Margaret P

TDC Operational Grant - Invoice sent to TDC Accounts to pull down operational grant for information centre. Invoice acknowledged with payment date TBC.

Business Register - Require signed copies of the AGM's from 2024 and 2025, plus reviewed FY balance sheet for 2023 and 2024 to load on NZ business register.

Funding High Street Flags - Request approval for replacement runners for Flagtrax system - \$400 and replacement high street flags \$1150 (Actual cost of flags \$2300 to be shared with TDC)

Proposed - Terry      Seconded - Colin

Waireka Funding replacement Computer - Application to be made for a new laptop to replace the current Information Centre computer to Waireka for \$3500. Two quotes to be provided. A laptop which the treasurer or Coordinator can use either at home or at the information centre gives greater access and flexibility to deal with the daily running of the Information centre, social media, finances and volunteers etc.

Proposed - Kerrie      Seconded - Margaret P

Volunteer Dinner - It was decided to hold a thank you dinner at the Eketahuna Club for the Information centre volunteers - Date and costing to be confirmed.

Proposed - Margaret P      Seconded - Kerrie

Flag/Shade Fund - To be moved to minor projects.

Proposed - Terry      Seconded – Mel

**Coordinators Report:**

Takings up, stock selling well. New kids T-Shirts well received. Calendars selling fast. Great feedback. Full quota of volunteers, thanks to Margaret P.

**Friday Night Opening:**

Local businesses not opening this year. Will diary to get support new Christmas.

**Pickle Ball:**

Samantha Laing sent through proposal regarding funding and 5 year plan.

\$500 to Tararua Pickle Ball for equipment, and further \$100 for balls requested, was approved.

Colin: Moved

Terry Seconded

New venue needed for summer as community hall too hot, and sun strike. Suggestion to

Paint lines on tennis courts to play outside.

**General:**

-Changes to be made to Web page- removal of description below icon.

- Mel gave updater on ½ Basketball court. Raeleen Treader conducted a survey as to what kids want around Eke at the Christmas Parade. But due to weather, many left without her getting feedback. She will do another one. The consensus is that Eketāhuna is being overlooked for Coaching sessions and Sport Tararua activities.

**Constitution:**

Special meeting needed to discuss changes to constitution and updates before February Meeting, to be accepted at March AGM.

Mel will contact Emma regarding content and format.

**Community Plan:**

Terry and Clive working on it. Meeting in March

Civil Defence:

New Generator at Community Centre, and necessary equipment being obtained for emergencies.

Command team to be set up at Memorial Hall.

Next Meeting February 13<sup>th</sup> 2026 at 7pm, St John's Hall, Eketahuna

Meeting closed at 8.04pm.

### Coordinators Report for November/December/January 2026

	November	December	January
Local Visitors	122	105	93
NZ Visitors	158	124	148
Overseas	24	48	44
ATM Usage	510		444
Counter Sales	\$2,195	\$2,222.80	\$1,443.50

Hello Ladies and Gents,

The sooner we get the eftpos changed to take foreign cards the better.

#### Newsletter

Lots of local content, and Christmas wishes from local businesses

#### Window

Valentines Day

#### Stock

Honey is still flying out the door, have had to order more! Thanks to the sign outside luring shoppers in!

New design Eketahuna T-shirts as requested by a few customers. Black with Eketāhuna , same as the singlets.

Calendars have sold out.

Visitors continue to say how great our range of souvenirs' is.

#### Volunteers

Our volunteers are doing a great job. The roster is almost full.

Dinner for volunteers was a nice evening. Thanks to Terry for organising.

Thanks again to Margaret.

Have a great month!

Kerrie Fitzmaurice

Co-ordinator

