



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 4 May 2026** commencing at **9:30am**.

Corin Haines
Chief Executive

Agenda

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

5.	Declarations of Conflicts of Interest in Relation to this Meeting's Items of Business	
6.	Confirmation of Minutes	5
	<i>Recommendation</i>	
	<i>That the minutes of the Eketāhuna Community Board meeting held on 23 February 2026 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.</i>	
7.	Tararua District Council Report	
7.1	Report from Tararua District Council	11
	<i>That the report from the Tararua District Council meetings held 25 February 2026 and 25 March 2026 be received.</i>	
8.	Reports	
8.1	Management Report	37
8.2	Decision Action Items for Eketāhuna Community Board	84
	<i>That the report providing an update on decision action items be noted.</i>	
8.3	Annual Plan 2026-27 and Early Engagement on Long Term Plan	87
8.4	Portfolio Programme Project Report	91
8.5	Eketahuna Community Board Budget Update	99
9.	Reports from Board Representatives Appointed to Organisations and Assigned Responsibilities	
10.	Correspondence	
10.1	Correspondence	102

Recommendation

That the correspondence as listed be received.

- *Letter of response from NZTA regarding speed limit signs on Te Ahu a Turanga*
- *Minutes – Eketāhuna Radio Station meeting 26 March 2026*

11. Discussion Items

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Feedback on Proposed Relocation of Recycling Station

Early Engagement - Long Term Plan

12. Chairperson’s Remarks

13. Items not on the Agenda

14. Public Excluded Items of Business

Recommendation

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

Nominations for Alf Rowden Humanitarian Award

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>Nominations for Alf Rowden Humanitarian Award</i>	<i>To protect the privacy of natural persons</i>	<i><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:

15. 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 23 February 2026 commencing at 9:30am.

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 Butterick – MP for Wairarapa

Mr M Alexander – Chief Executive

Mrs A Dunn – Manager – Democracy Services

Mrs S Fountaine – Community Engagement Officer (via Teams)

2. Apologies

That the apologies for lateness from Board Member Barclay be accepted.

C Corlett/M Corlett

Carried

3. Public Forum - Eketahuna Our Town

Terry Carew and Clive Bickerstaff, from Eketāhuna Our Town Inc, spoke to the Board about ideas collected from the community for the Eketāhuna Community Plan. They showed the poster that recorded all the ideas from people attending the Eketāhuna Market and spoke about the process they'd undertaken to categorise that information, focusing on cost and connection for the community to rank the ideas. They noted their next meeting on 5 March 2026 will have Council's Facilities Manager in attendance and invited Eketāhuna Community Board members to also attend that session.

They then talked about their proposal for a basketball half court, which they would like to put in the area being the Council building, where the community

recycling bins were currently located. They proposed relocating the recycling bins from their current location to an area by the entrance to the Eketāhuna Transfer Station.

Board Member L J Barclay joined the meeting at 9:37am.

Their second proposal was to establish a youth hub for the community, and using the Community Centre for this on four weekdays and two weekends per month. They would like to have the use of the Community Centre at no charge. They noted they were also talking to Wairarapa REAP, Tararua REAP, the Tararua Youth Services and ECCT to seek funding for equipment for the youth hub.

In discussion of this proposal, it was noted that there were consequences of allowing use of a facility at no charge, as the cost of maintaining the facility had to come from somewhere. The funding for community facilities comes from both fees and charges and rates. With proposed rates capping in the future, the funding for maintaining facilities would need to come from fees and charges. There could also be equity issues with other users being required to pay for use of the facility while another group had use at no charge. It was noted that the Council's Contestable Fund was currently open for applications and Eketāhuna Our Town was encouraged to make an application to that fund.

The Board agreed to invite Mr Carew to attend their next informal discussion session to discuss these proposals in more detail.

4. Presentation - Mike Butterick MP

Mr Mike Butterick, MP for Wairarapa was in attendance to speak to the Board regarding their recent approach to him expressing concern about the high cost of compliance with traffic management requirements for community events.

Mr Butterick advised that he has been pursuing this for some time, and noted that it was a challenge across many communities. He advised that he was working on a solution, although he was not able to provide detail at this stage. He observed that the community events had mostly been run in the same way each year for a number of years, therefore the traffic management plans would be easily repeatable.

In discussion the MPs interest in this matter was noted. Mayor Gilmore offered the assistance of the Tararua District Council, for example as a case study.

It was also suggested that with the Government's proposal for rates capping, there should be consideration of a quid pro quo to reduce regulatory impost as much as possible.

5. Notification of Items Not on the Agenda

Chairperson McGhie - Potholes

6. Declarations of Interest

Nil

7. Confirmation of Minutes

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.

C Corlett/M Corlett

Carried

8. Tararua District Council Report

8.1 Report from Tararua District Council

The Eketāhuna Community Board considered the report from the Tararua District Council meeting held 17 December 2026.

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

Barclay/M Corlett

Carried

9. Reports

9.1 Appointments and Allocation of Portfolios

The Eketāhuna Community Board considered the report of the Manager – Democracy Services dated 18 February 2026 that proposed allocating portfolios and making appointments to Council groups.

That the report from the Manager Democracy Services dated 18 February 2026 concerning the Appointments and Allocation of Portfolios be received.

That the Eketāhuna Community Board makes appointments of Board representatives as follows:

That the Eketāhuna Community Board makes appointments of Board representatives as follows:

That Chairperson Steen McGhie be appointed as the Eketāhuna Community Board's representative on the Road Safety Group.

That Deputy Chairperson Larissa Barclay be appointed as the Eketāhuna

Community Board's representative on the Emergency Management Committee(Welfare Response).

That the Eketāhuna Community Board makes the following appointments of liaison representatives to community organisations:

Organisation:	Liaison Representative:
Nireaha Reserve Board	Steen McGhie
Hamua Hall and Domain Board	Larissa Barclay
Newman Reserve Board	Mel Corlett
Eketāhuna Our Town Committee	David Smith

That the Eketāhuna Community Board assigns the following portfolio responsibilities:

Portfolio:	Assigned responsibility:
Community Newsletter writing	Steen McGhie
Urban community facilities, camping ground and cemeteries	Larissa Barclay
Sports grounds, swimming pool and playground	Chris Corlett

Barclay/M Corlett **Carried**

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

The Eketāhuna Community Board considered the report of the Democracy Support Officer dated 22 January 2026 seeking to initiate the process for calling of nominations for the Alf Rowden Humanitarian Award for 2026.

That the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 22 January 2026 concerning the Nominations for Alf Rowden Humanitarian Award 2026 be received.

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.

Barclay/Smith **Carried**

9.3 Management Report

The Eketāhuna Community Board considered the report of the Democracy Support Officer dated 09 February 2026 that provided an update on key activities and items of interest over the period 5 September 2025 to 8 January 2026 as reported to the Infrastructure and Projects Committee meeting held 11 February 2026.

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

M Corlett/Barclay

Carried

9.4 Portfolio Programme Project Report

The Eketāhuna Community Board considered the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 04 February 2026 that provided an update to the Board on the key portfolios, programmes and project statuses reported at the Infrastructure and Projects Committee meeting held 11 February 2026.

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

Smith/C Corlett

Carried

10. Correspondence

10.1 Correspondence

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

Smith/M Corlett

Carried

11. Discussion Items

11.1 New Residents Meeting – the Board noted that previous meetings for new residents had been very well attended, and were a good way for new residents to find out what services and community groups were available in Eketāhuna. It was agreed that Deputy Chairperson Barclay would book a date for this meeting to be held in April, and the Eketāhuna Club would be used as the venue.

Anzac Day – it was noted that Terry Carew from the RSA had contacted Ten Transport, who usually provided support for the service. With regards to Council representatives at local services, Mayor Gilmore noted that he would be in

attendance at the Anzac Bridge service, and the representative for the service at the Memorial Hall would likely be Cr Corlett.

12. Eketahuna Our Town Minutes

That the report from the Eketāhuna Our Town Committee be received.

Smith/Barclay

Carried

13. Chairperson's Remarks

The Chairperson noted the success of Eketāhuna Shearer Hemi Braddick coming second in the try out for the New Zealand worlds team for shearing.

14. Items not on the Agenda

Potholes – the Chairperson advised of a CRM he submitted regarding potholes on South Road Number 2, and noted that although markings had been put around the holes, the repairs had not yet been undertaken. He sought an update on progress with this work.

There being no further business the Chairperson thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 10:35am.



Minutes of a meeting of the Tararua District Council held in the Council Chamber, 156 High Street, Dannevirke on Wednesday 25 February 2026 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
Mr H Featonby - Group Manager - Operations
Ms T McDonald - Chief Financial Officer
Ms J Smith - General Counsel
Mrs S Walshe - Finance Manager
Ms S Lawrence - Project 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

4.1 Public Forum - Angus Maniapoto

Mr Maniapoto, accompanied by Mr Thomas Scott, spoke about his concerns with the painting contract for the Dannevirke Town Hall, where the scaffolding

contractor selected was not a local business. He spoke about his concerns that using businesses from outside of the district would mean a large sum of ratepayers money leaving the district rather than contributing to local economic development. Mr Scott also spoke about his concerns with the contract for scaffolding not going to a local business and asked for clarification of what policies the Council had to look after local businesses in its contracting. He also spoke of a solution for local businesses to strengthen relationships with each other, and advocated for Council to play a leading role in that to support local businesses and contractors.

The Mayor noted that contracts sometimes were let as a master contract. The contract for the Dannevirke Town Hall was a painting contract, with the successful tenderer to provide all associated services for that work. With regards to Council being more involved with all the separate levels in a contract, that could come at a cost for example rates affordability. He noted that any decisions the Council had to make had to take affordability into account. He advised that Council's Procurement Policy had a value first weighting, and within that it looks towards local. In summary he noted that there were learnings that could be taken and had to make sure everyone had a fair go at getting work and getting best value for ratepayers. He thanked Mr Maniapoto and Mr Scott for speaking at the meeting.

5. Notification of Items Not on the Agenda

5.1 Late item of business – Ormondville Viaduct Viewing Area- Licence to Occupy

The following item of late business was notified for consideration:

Ormondville Viaduct Viewing Area- Licence to Occupy

The purpose of the item is to seek approval for issuing a licence to occupy for a section of paper road in Ormondville for the purpose of establishing a viaduct viewing area.

The reason the item was not included on the agenda for the meeting was due to operational assessments not being completed prior to this agenda being published.

The consideration of the item cannot be delayed until a later meeting due to the need for timely approval from Council to enable construction to be completed over the next few weeks.

That the item "Ormondville Viaduct Viewing Area- Licence to Occupy" be accepted as a late item of business.

Mayor Gilmore/ Cr Wards

Carrie

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

Cr E L Peeti-Webber – DMCI Application for Funding

7. Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 17 December 2025 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Crs Corlett/Wallace

Carried

8. Community Boards and Community Committees Reports

8.1 Minutes - Dannevirke Community Board

That the minutes of the Dannevirke Community Board meeting held 15 December 2025 be received.

Crs Amboy/Johns

Carried

8.2 Minutes - Explore Pahiatua Community Committee

It was noted that Councillors Corlett and Naylor were in attendance at the February meeting, however were not recorded in the minutes as being present.

That the minutes of the Explore Pahiatua Community Committee meeting held 3 December 2025, and meeting held 4 February 2026 be received.

Crs Kennedy/Corlett

Carried

9. Minutes Action List

9.1 Decision Action Items

During discussion of this item, an update was provided on the Water Services Organisation advising that the company was likely to be incorporated towards the end of March or early April, at which point the directors would be appointed. The meeting noted that Mayor Scott Gilmore was Tararua District Council's representative on the stakeholders group and was involved in that process.

Clarification was also sought on progress with the Plan Stop application. It was advised that this matter was awaiting decision by the Minister.

Clarification was also sought on the definition of "TBA" which had been noted as the due date for items added to the list from the committee meetings held in the past two weeks.

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

Crs Corlett/Peeti-Webber

Carried

10. Reports

10.1 Request for funding by Dannevirke Multisport Complex

Having declared a conflict of interest, Councillor Peeti-Webber left the meeting at 9:54am.

Lina Castles and Sam Jones, of Dannevirke Multisports Complex gave a presentation outlining their project vision, shared the skate park virtual design, and spoke about the fundraising they had undertaken. They noted that they were keeping the momentum for fundraising going. They outlined the design programme and timeline, and noted the estimated cost was \$460,000. They noted that the basketball court was ready to go, just awaiting receipt of the Geotech report. The next steps were to complete final skatepark design and construction pricing, and then would begin the basketball court earthworks. The community impact would be to have a safe and social recreation space, youth engagement and wellbeing, enhanced use of the upper Domain, and long term benefit for Dannevirke. They spoke about a recent meeting held at the upper Domain with the Friends of the Domain group to show the plans and footprint of the skatepark. They thanked the Council for continued support of their project.

In response to a question about where the remaining funding would come from, it was advised that applications were being made to the Lotteries Foundation and Eastern and Central Community Trust.

That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 13 February 2026 concerning the Request for funding by Dannevirke Multisport Complex be received.

That the Tararua District Council approves the request from Dannevirke Multisport Complex for funding towards the costs associated with constructing a skatepark at the Upper Domain in Dannevirke, and grants the remainder of the balance of the fund, including accrued interest, towards this project.

Crs Wallace/Johns

Carried

Councillor Peeti-Webber returned to the meeting at 10:24am.

10.2 Adoption of the Environmental Scan as Supporting Information for the Long Term Plan 2027- 37

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Group Manager – Strategy and Information dated 16 February 2026 that presented the Environmental Scan for adoption as supporting information for the Long Term Plan 2027-37 (LTP) and consultation document under section 93G of the Local

Government Act 2002. It was noted that the environmental scan is an input to the forecasting assumptions, which is what is used to plan for the Long Term Plan.

That the report from the Group Manager - Strategy and Information dated 16 February 2026 concerning the Adoption of the Environmental Scan as Supporting Information for the Long Term Plan 2027- 37 be received.

That Council adopts the Environmental Scan as supporting information for the consultation document and the Long Term Plan 2027 – 37.

Crs Johns/Wards

Carried

10.3 **Appointment of the Chief Executive**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Mayor dated 2 February 2026 that sought passing of the formal resolution of appointment for the new Chief Executive, in accordance with section 42 of the Local Government Act 2002.

That the report from the Mayor dated 02 February 2026 concerning the Appointment of the Chief Executive be received.

That the Tararua District Council appoints Mr Corin Haines as its Chief Executive effective 1 March 2026, noting the appointment is for a period of up to five years.

Mayor Gilmore/Cr Corlett

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 10:38am and resumed at 10:51am.

10.4 **Submission on Simplifying Local Government**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Manager – Democracy Services dated 19 February 2026 that presented the Council’s submission on Simplifying Local Government proposal, that was submitted to the Department of Internal Affairs by the deadline of 20 February 2026.

That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 19 February 2026 concerning the Submission on Simplifying Local Government be received.

That the Tararua District Council submission on Simplifying Local Government that was lodged with the Department of Internal Affairs be noted.

Crs Naylor/Wallace

Carried

10.5 **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 30 January 2025 that provided information on requests for

information received under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987. The Council noted the multiple requests for information being received from one organisation, and suggested that a record be kept of the time and cost of responding to these requests.

That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 30 January 2026 concerning the Requests for Information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 be received.

Crs Peeti-Webber/Corlett

Carried

11. Portfolio Reports

11.1. Portfolio Report - Youth

It was noted that since submitting their report, Councillors Amboy and Te Waaka had sent letters of introduction out to schools. Their kōrero was targeted at high school aged students, but included years 7 and 8 as well.

That the report from the Councillor dated 19 February 2026 concerning the Portfolio Report - Youth be received.

Crs Te Waaka/Amboy

Carried

11.2. Portfolio Report - Marae, Kōhanga Reo, and Kura Kaupapa Māori

Councillor Te Waaka noted that she attended the Kōhanga Reo whanau day on Saturday.

That the report from the Councillor dated 20 February 2026 concerning the Portfolio Report - Marae, Kōhanga Reo, and Kura Kaupapa Māori be received.

Crs Te Waaka/Peeti-Webber

Carried

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

12. Presentation - Department of Internal Affairs

Rebecca Maplesden, Partnership Director of Department of Internal Affairs, was in attendance and gave a presentation outlining the key thematics of Local Government reform. She talked about the case for change and outlined the Government's preferred option for change.

The Chief Executive noted in Tararua District Council's submission on Simplifying Local Government that there needed to be care taken about the lens being used to frame the arguments, as one person's barrier was another person's local democracy. The presentation talked about "barriers" to reorganisation. He noted that these should be looked at as hurdles, to ensure the affected communities were able to have their say. He gave an example of the proposal for

reorganisation of the Hawkes Bay Councils, which was stopped due to the community voting against the proposal.

The presentation continued, outlining the steps being taken.

Step 1 – unify regional governance through combined territories board to replace the separately elected regional councillors.

Councillor Naylor commented about the voting powers for the new combined territories board, noting the functions of regional councils was to do with land rather than services to people so this needed to be taken into account through voting rights.

Step 2 – enable locally-led reorganisations through the combined territories boards preparing a regional reorganisation plan on to more efficiently and cost-effectively deliver local infrastructure, public services and regulatory functions by all councils within the region.

The Mayor noted that our communities were concerned about having choices and sought clarification as it seemed the direction that Government wanted councils to go in was amalgamation rather than shared services. In response it was clarified that options were from Council Controlled Organisations, shared services and could include amalgamation and that would play out through conversations with the community on what works best for your community.

It was noted the Regional Reorganisation Plan on how to more efficiently and cost-effectively deliver local infrastructure, public services and regulatory functions would need to be consulted on and delivered within two years.

The Chief Executive noted that one of points in the Tararua District Council submission related to the Minister of Local Government being the decision maker regarding the Regional Reorganisation Plan. If the plan did not have unanimous support of all member Councils, there was concern the Minister's decision could be overriding community choice. He asked whether that was a sound base for durable policy making. In response it was noted that this would need to be considered in the next steps in decision making.

Clarification was also sought about whether the Minister would have to take the recommendation from the majority of the members of the Combined Territories Board.

Ms Maplesden spoke about the rapid review of regional council roles and functions which would inform the Regional Reorganisation Proposals. The Mayor expressed concern of the Combined Territories Board having not only the capacity, but also the knowledge to be serving in the governance arm of a regional Council. He asked whether there would be flexibility for allowing the current regional Council to serve out its term, which would allow the members of the Combined Territories Board the time to develop plans and engagement with their respective communities. He noted that being a Mayor was a full time job.

Undertaking the Combined Territories Board on top of that and effectively being a regional councillor could be challenging. He asked how committed the Government were to removing that layer in the short term.

In response Ms Maplesden noted the level of feedback on those concerns and advise they were considering how they could mitigate these.

Mayor Gilmore proposed that one option he would like considered is leaving the regional councillors in place, noting they were democratically elected, and this would leave the Mayors to get on with the Regional Reorganisation Plan.

Ms Maplesden outlined the following points to note:

- engagement document seeking public feedback on the proposals;
- all existing Treaty settlement arrangements relating to regional councils remain unchanged;
- regional council funding to be used to put together the Regional Reorganisation Plans as there would be no separate Government funding accompanying the proposals; and
- Councils would need to determine the arrangements that best meet the needs of their regions.

Councillor Naylor questioned from what budget the Regional Councils would find the funding for the Regional Reorganisation Plans from, as it wouldn't be in their Long Term Plans or Annual Plans.

The next steps and timeline for Simplifying Local Government were outlined, noting legislation was expected to be passed mid 2027 with implementation and transition being undertaken in 2029.

It was noted that the Local Government election in 2028 would potentially change some members of the Combined Territories Board.

A concern was also raised that the Simplifying Local Government would be a dilution of democracy, focusing too much on the cost of democracy at the expense of democracy.

The next part of the presentation was about Rates Capping, noting the targeted consultation closed a few weeks ago. An outline of the model was provided, noting there would be a transition period between 2026 and 2029. The next steps were for Cabinet to consider the feedback received from the consultation and relevant legislation brought to the House this year.

With regards to Resource Management reform, the key system changes and direction of the Planning Bill and Natural Environments Bill were outlined.

An outline of the reform timetable was provided.

The Mayor thanked Ms Maplesden for taking the time to attend the Council meeting noting it was sincerely appreciated.

Councillor Te Waaka left the meeting at 11:58am and returned at 12:00pm.

13. Items not on the Agenda

13.1 Late item of business – Ormondville Viaduct Viewing Area- Licence to Occupy

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Group Manager – Operations dated 24 February 2026 that sought approval in principle for a site-specific exception to Council's standard approach to managing unformed legal roads, enabling a modest community-led viewing area at Ormondville.

That the report from the Error! No document variable supplied. dated Error! No document variable supplied. concerning the Error! No document variable supplied. be received.

That the Tararua District Council approve in principle the establishment of a community-led viewing area on part of the unformed legal road adjacent to the Ormondville Viaduct, with implementation subject to the matters outlined in Section 4 of the report and formalised through a Licence to Occupy.

Crs Johns/Wallace

Carried

14. Portfolio Reports - Continued

14.1. Portfolio Report – Te Apiti Governance Group

Councillor Johns spoke about meeting of the Te Apiti Governance Group held recently at Horizons Regional Council. He advised that he had moved a motion for the Woodville Domain Board to become a member of Te Apiti Governance Group, due to a significant portion of the area Te Apiti Governance Group encompasses being under the management of the Woodville Domain Board for the past 150 years. This motion was passed unanimously.

15. Mayoral Update

In addition to the written update provided, the Mayor spoke about the successful visit by the Polish Deputy Prime Minister on Friday, accompanied by the Polish Ambassador and delegation. He noted that a written update will be provided to the next meeting and thanked everyone involved in the visit.

Councillor Corlett commented on the Mayor's report on the Emergency event and

thanked everyone involved in responding to the event. He noted that the Tararua District had been flagged as an orange alert level, and believed that in a situation where there could be risk to life for example from falling trees, that the alert level should be set at red.

That the report from the Mayor dated 19 February 2026 concerning the Mayoral Update be received.

Mayor Gilmore/Cr Wards

Carried

16. Farewell to Interim Chief Executive

Mayor Gilmore noted that this was the last Council meeting of Interim Chief Executive, Malcolm Alexander. He formally thanked Mr Alexander for his huge service to the Tararua District and the invaluable advice provided. He acknowledged that Malcolm has had the interesting time of a joining a council at the end of one council and the beginning of the next council and has supported the council through a number of challenging situations.

He presented Mr Alexander with a plaque commemorating his time with the Council

Councillors expressed their thanks for his service and sound advice provided, noting he had helped grow Council's knowledge especially with regards to working with central Government.

Mr Alexander thanked everyone for their kind words, noting they meant a lot to him. He said it had been a privilege to work with the Tararua District Council and he had enjoyed it immensely. He acknowledged the staff and executive leadership team, and wished everyone and the district all the best for the future.

17. Public Excluded Items of Business

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

Confirmation of Minutes

Civic Honour Nomination for Community Service

Land and Community Building Disposal Plan (Review of Council-owned Buildings)

Delegation of Authority to Sign Agreement for Purchase of Land and Property - 33 York Street, Dannevirke

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.

General subject matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Delegation of Authority to Sign Agreement for Purchase of Land and Property - 33 York Street, Dannevirke	To protect commercial and industrial negotiations	<Section (1)(a)(i)
Land and Community Building Disposal Plan (Review of Council-owned Buildings)	To protect commercial and industrial negotiations	<Section (1)(a)(i)
Civic Honour Nomination for Community Service	To protect the privacy of natural persons	<Section (1)(a)(i)
Confirmation of Minutes	To protect the privacy of natural persons	<Section (1)(a)(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 person.***
- s7(2)(a) The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of a deceased person.***
- 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).***
- 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/Wallace

Carried

The meeting went into public excluded session at 12:22pm and resumed open business at 2:21pm.

There being no further business the Mayor thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and the meeting closed at 2:21pm.



Minutes of a meeting of the Tararua District Council held in the Council Chamber, 156 High Street, Dannevirke on Wednesday 25 March 2026 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

- Ms K Meerman - Programme Director – Wairarapa+Tararua Local Water Done Well

- Mr C Haines - 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
- Mr K van der Oord - Communications Team Manager
- Ms K Stevens - Communications Engagement and Social Media Lead
- Mr M Dunn - Operations Delivery Manager
- Mr E Priest - Project Management Office Team Leader
- Mrs S Walshe - Finance Manager
- Mrs B Fowler - Senior Financial Accountant
- Ms D Burnett - Customer Engagement Manager
- Mrs S Fountaine - Community Engagement Advisor
- Mrs A Dunn - Manager – Democracy Services

2. Council Prayer

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

 TARARUA DISTRICT COUNCIL

3. Apologies

There were no apologies.

4. Public Forum

There were no requests for public forum.

5. Notification of Items Not on the Agenda

Nil

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

Councillor Johns – Contestable Fund re Woodville Lions Club, Woodville Village Hall and Woodville Arts and History

Councillor Corlett – Contestable Fund re Eketahuna Radio Society

Councillor Wards – Contestable Fund re Dannevirke Sports Club, Dannevirke A&P Society

Councillor Te Waaka – Contestable Fund re Te Kete Hauora o Rangitāne

Councillor Naylor – Contestable Fund re Woodville Lions, Woodville Village Hall

Councillor Wallace – Contestable Fund re RSA and Dannevirke Bowling Club

Mayor Gilmore – Contestable Fund re Dannevirke A&P Society, REAP and Woodville Lions

7. Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 25 February 2026 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Crs Corlett/Peeti-Webber

Carried

8. Community Boards and Community Committees Reports

8.1 Minutes - Dannevirke Community Board

That the minutes of the Dannevirke Community Board meeting held 24 February 2026 be received.

Crs Wallace/Amboy

Carried

8.2 **Minutes - Eketāhuna Community Board**

That the minutes of the Eketāhuna Community Board meeting held 23 February 2026 be received.

Crs Corlett/Johns

Carried

8.3 **Minutes - Positively Woodville Community Committee**

With regard to the general business item in the February minutes regarding the deterioration of the Flagtrax flags, it was asked whether the expected life of the flags was known. In response it was noted that the flags organised by the Dannevirke Community Board were rotated so each set were only flying for a few months at a time. This would extend their lifetime.

It was noted that Cr Kennedy's name had been incorrectly listed as Elizabeth Naylor in the March meeting minutes. It was asked that Positively Woodville's representative raise this at the next meeting for correction.

That the minutes of the Positively Woodville Community Committee meetings held 02 December 2025, 03 February 2026 and 03 March 2026 be received.

Crs Johns/Naylor

Carried

8.4 **Minutes - Explore Pahiatua Community Committee**

That the minutes of the Explore Pahiatua Community Committee meeting held 04 March 2026 be received.

Crs Te Waaka/Naylor

Carried

9. Change to Order of Business

9.1 It was noted that the item "Local Water Done Well – Transition Programme Update" would be taken as the next item of business.

9.2 **Local Water Done Well - Transition Programme Update**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Chief Advisor dated 18 March 2026 that provided an update on the Wairarapa+Tararua water establishment and transition programme.

Katherine Meerman, Programme Director – Wairarapa+Tararua Local Water Done Well was in attendance, and spoke about progress with the Local Water Done Well programme. She noted that she would be attending meetings of the Tararua District Council on a bi-monthly basis to ensure members were kept informed.

She noted the first stage was the legal establishment, to establish the company

with a Board, and second phase would be the operational transition from April to June 2027.

She spoke about the priorities of the first phase, which was nearing its end. Priorities had included establishing the permanent governance structure, noting the Mayor and Deputy Mayor were Tararua District Council's representatives on the Stakeholders Forum. She noted they were in the final stages of recruiting the Board of Directors for the Company.

In response to a question about the appointment of iwi representatives to the Stakeholders Forum, it was noted that this was an iwi process for selection of representatives, with the Stakeholders Forum made up of a representative from each Council and each settlement entity. The Tararua District Council's role would be to work with our local iwi leadership to ensure both iwi in our District were properly informed and consulted.

That the report from the Chief Advisor dated 18 March 2026 concerning the Local Water Done Well - Transition Programme Update be received.

Crs Naylor/Wards

Carried

10. Minutes Action List

10.1 Decision Action Items

It was asked that for items noted as "not started" that some additional information be provided to advise an expected timeline for the matter.

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

Crs Johns/Wallace

Carried

11. Reports

11.1 Six Month Performance Report - Period Ending 31 December 2025

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Senior Finance Business Partner dated 10 March 2026 that presented the performance report for the six months ending 31 December 2025 and provide an indication of the year-end result.

With regard to the capital expenditure report, an update was provided on the figures since the report was written, noting that the Project Management Office predicted 75-80% budget spend with notable multi-year projects being carried forward as going through procurement or tender phase. In response to a concern raised about not meeting 100% of budget spend, it was advised that some major projects had taken longer than anticipated through the planning and delivery phase, and also the impact of the hold and review of the Universal Water Meters project on the forecast spend. The previous year's delivery was over 90%. It was

further noted that capital works were not rate funded.

With regard to a question about the impact of increased fuel prices, it was noted this report was for the period up to 31 December 2026, and any impact would not likely be seen until the year end report. Assurance was provided that any large variances would be reported to the Council.

In discussion of the Treasury Performance Report, it was noted that the Treasury Adviser would be providing a report to the April meeting of the Risk and Assurance Committee. It was noted that a correction needed to be made for reporting the net debt position in the graph on page 71 of the agenda.

In the Self-funded Activities report, the improvement in the overdrawn reserve since the first quarter report was noted.

That the report from the Senior Finance Business Partner dated 10 March 2026 concerning the Six Month Performance Report - Period Ending 31 December 2025 be received.

Crs Wallace/Corlett

Carried

11.2 **Endorsement of 2026/2027 Proposed Annual Plan and Proposed Fees & Charges**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Finance and Revenue Manager dated 14 March 2026 that sought endorsement of the 2026/2027 Annual Plan and its proposed fees and charges for year 3 of the 2024/2034 Long Term Plan. The report also confirmed there were no material or significant changes from year 3 of the Long Term Plan and no public consultation was therefore required.

A resolution was also sought to utilise the general-purpose reserve to offset the rates smoothing repayment required for the roading activity.

Councillor Te Waaka left the meeting at 10:49am and returned at 10:51am.

The Mayor noted the importance of consultation for the proposed Long Term Plan 2027-37. He noted that the annual budget for the 2026-27 financial year would be this Council delivering on year 3 of the Long Term Plan 2024-34 without significant variance, but in a more affordable way. He noted the significant amount of work that was undertaken to reduce the proposed increase to a lower level.

Following endorsement by the Council the next steps were to work with the Communications Team to publish the proposed Annual Plan and Fees and Charges through Council's website for community feedback, with feedback to be focussed on early engagement on the Long Term Plan. There would be some minor changes made for translations and to change it from Annual Plan to Annual Budget. The final version of the Annual Budget and Fees and Charges would be

brought to the May 2026 Tararua District Council meeting for formal adoption. It was noted that although the Annual Budget would not be audited, there would be an audit of the proposed rating resolution resulting from the adoption of the Annual Plan.

That the report from the Finance and Revenue Manager dated 14 March 2026 concerning the Endorsement of 2026/2027 Proposed Annual Plan and Proposed Fees & Charges be received.

That Council endorses the 2026/2027 Annual Plan and its proposed fees and charges.

That Council resolves to go with option 1 in further reducing the average rates increase by reducing the accelerated debt repayment from 2% of rates to 1.5% of rates.

That Council resolves to use \$750,000 from the general purpose reserve to offset the "catch-up" of depreciation costs for the roading activity.

That Council resolves not to consult on the 2026/2027 Annual Plan and encourages the Community to provide feedback in the upcoming early engagement for the 2027/2037 Long Term Plan.

Mayor Gilmore/Johns

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 11:17am and resumed at 11:34am.

11.3 **Adoption of Significance and Engagement Policy**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the General Counsel dated 9 March 2026 that presented the Significance and Engagement Policy to Council for adoption following its review and discussion at the Long-Term Plan Workshop on 18 February 2026.

The report also recommended a further review of the Significance and Engagement Policy be completed in 2027 outside of the Long-Term Plan cycle to ensure compliance and alignment with any new legislative requirements.

That the report from the General Counsel dated 09 March 2026 concerning the Adoption of Significance and Engagement Policy be received.

That Council notes the Significance and Engagement Policy has been reviewed and no changes are proposed.

That the Significance and Engagement Policy be adopted.

That the Chief Executive be delegated authority to approve any final edits to the Significance and Engagement Policy before publication.

That a further review of the Significance and Engagement Policy is completed in

2027 following the introduction of pending legislative reform.

Crs Wards/Johns

Carried

11.4

Delegations for Tararua District Council Representatives on the Wairarapa Tararua Limited Stakeholders' Forum

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the General Counsel dated 12 March 2026 that sought delegation of certain powers and responsibilities under the Shareholders' Agreement to the holders of the office of the Council's representative on the Stakeholders' Forum, to seek approval of proposed amendments to Council's Statutory Delegations Register to enable exercise of the proposed delegations, and to seek ratification of decisions taken to date at the Stakeholders' Forum.

That the report from the General Counsel dated 12 March 2026 concerning the Delegations for Tararua District Council Representatives on the Wairarapa Tararua Limited Stakeholders' Forum be received.

That the Tararua District Council notes that on 26 November 2025 it appointed Mayor Scott Gilmore as primary representative and Deputy Mayor Sharon Wards as alternate to the office of the Council's representative on the Wairarapa Tararua Water Limited Stakeholders' Forum.

That the Tararua District Council delegates the responsibilities and powers to the person for the time being holding the office of the Council's primary representative and alternate on the Wairarapa Tararua Limited Stakeholders' Forum, as listed in Table(s) 1 and 2 in Attachment 1 of this report.

That the Tararua District Council notes that these delegated responsibilities and powers:

Were approved by the Tararua District Council on 24 September 2025 while approving the Wairarapa Tararua Water Draft Constitution and Shareholders' Agreement.

Are required, under the Shareholders' Agreement, to be specifically delegated by the Tararua District Council to its appointed Stakeholders' Forum member and its alternate.

That the Tararua District Council amends Part 2 of the Tararua District Council's Delegations Policy to add information included in Attachment 2 to this report.

That the Tararua District Council ratifies decisions taken by its primary representative or alternate to date in the Stakeholders' Forum as set in 1.6.1 and 1.6.2 below. These are consistent and within responsibilities intended for their roles, as set out in the Shareholders' Agreements, specifically:

The decision to appoint a chair to the Stakeholders' Forum.

Decisions regarding the appointment of directors to Wairarapa Tararua Water Limited.

That following the Tararua District Council's delegation to the primary representative and alternate, Council notes that decisions in the Stakeholders' Forum will be taken by its representative in respect of the powers and responsibilities set out in Table 1 at Appendix 1, with the relevant limitations set out in Table 2 at Appendix 1.

That the Tararua District Council notes this paper and the Council's decision will be shared with the Stakeholders' Forum.

Crs Corlett/Naylor

Carried

11.5 **Approval of the Draft Strategic Framework for Public Feedback**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Group Manager – Strategy and Information dated 12 March 2026 that presented the draft strategic framework for the Long Term Plan for approval.

It was also recommended that feedback be sought from the community on the draft framework as part of its early engagement on the Long Term Plan.

It was noted this document would provide direction for officers in undertaking their roles.

A suggested change was to show the Council's values as overarching all of the strategic priorities.

That the report from the Group Manager - Strategy and Information dated 12 March 2026 concerning the Approval of the Draft Strategic Framework for Public Feedback be received.

That Council approves its draft strategic framework for the Long-term Plan 2027-37 with a minor amendment to separate out the values with delegation given to the Mayor for final approval to be included in the early engagement process for the Long-term Plan.

Mayor Gilmore/Te Waaka

Carried

11.6 **Early Engagement Plan for the 2027-2037 Long Term Plan**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Communications Team Manager dated 18 March 2026 that sought endorsement of the proposed Early Engagement Plan for the 2027-37 Long Term Plan.

The valuable contribution that the Council Portfolio holders made through

discussions of the proposed plan was highlighted.

It was noted that where the plan refers to elected members, the wider view needed to be taken to include community board and community committee members.

That the report from the Communications Team Manager dated 18 March 2026 concerning the Early Engagement Plan for the 2027-2037 Long Term Plan be received.

That the Early Engagement Plan is endorsed for implementation, with minor amendments to be authorised by the Chief Executive.

Crs Naylor/Corlett

Carried

11.7

Notification of District-Wide Contestable fund Round 2 2025/2026

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Community Engagement Officer dated 11 March 2026 that presented the outcome of the assessment and decisions of the Districtwide Contestable Fund applications Round 2 2025-26.

Having declared conflicts of interest, the Mayor and Councillors Corlett, Johns, Naylor, Te Waaka and Wards took no part in the discussion and did not vote.

That the report from the Community Engagement Officer dated 11 March 2026 concerning the Notification of District-Wide Contestable fund Round 2 2025/2026 be received.

That the following District-wide contestable fund round 2 2025/2026 applicants be received and accepted.

<i>Applicant</i>	<i>Amount Requested</i>	<i>Amount Allocated</i>
<i>Eketahuna Rugby Football Club Incorporated</i>	<i>\$7,755</i>	<i>\$4,500</i>
<i>The Dannevirke and Districts Agricultural and Pastoral Association Inc.</i>	<i>\$7,000</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>
<i>Ruahine Ramblerz Leisure Marching Team</i>	<i>\$1,579</i>	<i>\$1,579</i>
<i>Woodville Art and History, Inc</i>	<i>\$9,100</i>	<i>\$4,500</i>
<i>Dannevirke Community Patrol</i>	<i>\$2,000</i>	<i>\$2,000</i>
<i>Friends of Mangatainoka-Pahiatua Cemetery</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>

<i>Ti Tree Point Playgroup Incorporated</i>	\$3,429	\$2,000
<i>Pahiatua Bowling Club Inc</i>	\$372	\$372
<i>Hamua Hall Board</i>	\$1,116	\$1,116
<i>Mr Brodie Bennett</i>	\$1,500	\$750
<i>Te Kete Hauora o Rangitāne</i>	\$4,300	\$2,500
<i>Dannevirke Gallery of History Inc</i>	\$3,798	\$1,000
<i>Dannevirke & Districts RSA</i>	\$600	\$600
<i>Norsewood Promotions Inc.</i>	\$500	\$500
<i>The Village Hall Society</i>	\$3,500	\$1,500
<i>Eketahuna Radio Society</i>	\$5,220.72	\$2,420
<i>Dannevirke Bowling Club</i>	\$5,500	\$1,000
<i>Tararua REAP (Rural Education Activities Programme)</i>	\$9,750	\$3,000
<i>Te Tahua o Rangitane Limited</i>	\$10,000	\$3,000
<i>Herbertville Hall and Community Incorporated</i>	\$6,500	\$4,500
<i>East Coast Rural Support Trust</i>	\$5,000	\$1,300
<i>Bush Junior Hockey Club (Incorporated)</i>	\$500	\$500
<i>Dannevirke Sports Club Incorporated No.551959</i>	\$5,000	\$3,000
<i>Woodville Lions Club</i>	\$10,000	\$4,000
TOTAL FUND ALLOCATED Round 2		\$51,637

Crs Peeti-Webber/Amboy

Carried

11.8 **Triennial Agreement 2025-28**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Manager – Democracy Services dated 2 March 2026 that presented the Triennial Agreement for

endorsement.

It was noted that although originally scheduled to be adopted by Council prior to the 1 March 2026 statutory deadline, following consideration by the Mayoral Forum on 16 February 2026, that timeline was impacted by the Civil Defence Emergency on 15 and 16 February 2026.

The Mayoral Forum subsequently considered the draft Triennial Agreement on 2 March 2026, and endorsed approving the agreement as is, with minor changes to update names and triennium dates. All signatory Councils have been asked to sign the Triennial Agreement by 1 April 2026.

A review by the Mayoral Forum has been set for May 2026, with final approval in June 2026. The agreement contains review provisions, which require that any changes proposed through the review would be brought back to the signatory Councils for adoption.

The Mayor noted the opportunity to use the Triennial Agreement as a vehicle for discussions on shared services, however this would be written into the agreement once the Government direction was confirmed.

That the report from the Manager Democracy Services dated 22 January 2026 concerning the Triennial Agreement 2025-28 be received.

That the Tararua District Council:

- ***notes that all the signatory councils have been asked to sign the new Triennial Agreement;***
- ***endorses the Triennial Agreement attached at Attachment 1;***
- ***agrees to review the agreement annually in regard to its effectiveness;***
- ***supports the establishment of a Manawatū-Whanganui Mayoral Forum and confirms the Mayor of Tararua District as its formal representative on that Forum;***
- ***agrees to adopt the Manawatū-Whanganui Mayoral Forum's Terms of Reference;***
- ***appoints a Joint Committee (with the Region's Territorial Authorities) to be called the Climate Action Joint Committee, pursuant to clause 30(1)(b) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002;***
- ***agrees to adopt the Climate Action Joint Committee's Terms of Reference;***
- ***appoints the Mayor of Tararua District as the Tararua District Council's representative on the Climate Action Joint Committee.***

Crs Wallace/Naylor

Carried

11.9 **Appointment of Directors to Council Organisations and Council Controlled Organisations Policy**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Manager – Democracy Services dated 2 March 2026 that presented a draft Appointment of Directors to Council Organisations and Council Controlled Organisations policy for adoption.

In 2003 the Tararua District Council adopted a policy for the appointment of directors to Council Organisations. However, this policy did not cover the appointment and remuneration of directors Council-Controlled Organisations, Council-Controlled Trading Organisations or the remuneration of directors of Council Organisations. An updated policy was proposed for adoption that had been developed to align with legislative requirements and governance best practice. It was noted that the new Wairarapa-Tararua water company would be legally established by 1 July 2026, and that this company will be deemed to be a Council-Controlled Organisation under section 6(1AAB) of the Local Government Act 2002. The adoption of a policy for appointment of directors to a Council-Controlled Organisation was required prior to appointing directors to the company.

It was asked that the wording in section 9 referring to Trustee be reviewed.

That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 02 March 2026 concerning the Appointment of Directors to Council Organisations and Council Controlled Organisations Policy be received.

That the Appointment of Directors to Council Organisations and Council Controlled Organisations Policy be adopted.

That the Chief Executive be delegated authority to approve any final edits to the Appointment of Directors to Council Organisations and Council-Controlled Organisations Policy, before publication.

Crs Corlett/Johns

Carried

11.10 **Complaints Policy**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Customer Engagement Manager dated 4 March 2026 that sought adoption of the revised Complaints Policy. It was noted that the proposed policy had been discussed at the Community Connections Committee and proposed amendments incorporated into the final version for adoption.

That the report from the Customer Engagement Manager dated 04 March 2026 concerning the Complaints Policy be received.

That the Council adopt the Complaints Policy, as set out in attachment 1 "Tararua District Council - Complaints Policy - 2026".

Crs Amboy/Peeti-Webber

Carried

11.11 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 that provided an update on requests for information received under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 05 March 2026 concerning the Requests for Information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 be received.

Crs Corlett/Naylor

Carried

12. Portfolio Reports

12.1 Portfolio Report - Rural

That the report from the Deputy Mayor dated 19 March 2026 concerning the Portfolio Report - Rural be received.

Crs Johns/Wallace

Carried

12.2 Portfolio Report – Norsewood

Councillor Wallace spoke about his attendance at the 50 Year service commendation for two volunteer firefighters in the Norsewood Fire Brigade, recognising the service of Ian (Tug) O'Brien and Roger Montgomery.

13. Mayoral Matters

13.1 Mayoral Update - March 2026

That the report from the Mayor dated 18 March 2026 concerning the Mayoral Update - March 2026 be received.

Mayor Gilmore/Wards

Carried

14. Items not on the Agenda

Nil

15. Public Excluded Items of Business

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

Confirmation of Minutes

Civic Honour Award Criteria Information

Civic Honour Nomination for Community Service

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>Civic Honour Nomination for Community Service</i>	<i>To protect the privacy of natural persons</i>	<i><Section (1)(a)(i)</i>
<i>Civic Honour Award Criteria Information</i>	<i>To protect the privacy of natural persons</i>	<i><Section (1)(a)(i)</i>
<i>Confirmation of Minutes</i>	<i>To protect the privacy of natural persons</i>	<i><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 person.*
- s7(2)(a) The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of a deceased person.*
- s7(2)(a) The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of a deceased person.*

Crs Corlett/Wards

Carried

The meeting went into public excluded session at 12:29pm and resumed open session at 1:06pm.

There being no further business the Mayor thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and the meeting closed with karakia whakamutunga at 1:07pm.



Report

Date : 29 April 2026
To : Chairperson and Board Members
Eketahuna Community Board
From : Simone Anthony
Democracy Support Officer
Subject : **Management Report**
Item No : **8.1**

1. Recommendation

1.1 *That the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 03 March 2026 concerning the Management Report be received.*

2. Reason for the Report

2.1 This report provides an update to the Board on key activities and items of interest as reported to the Community Connections Committee meeting held on 18 February 2026 and the Infrastructure and Projects Committee meeting held 15 April 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 southern ward area has been removed from the following report.

- 3.4 Reports attached are:
- 3.4.1 Communications Management Report
- 3.4.2 Facilities Management Report
- 3.4.3 Customer Engagement Management Report
- 3.4.4 Community Engagement Management Report

4. Transport

4.1 Alliance Management Overview

We are taking guidance from Council and Downer on the international fuel crisis and have put in place interim measures to protect and conserve diesel and fuel use.

Our teams are taking extra care to prevent diesel theft from vehicles and plant. At the time of writing, we have not paused or reprioritised work and have plans in place should fuel supply be limited in future.

In February we were advised by the independent ISO auditor we have been working with since last year that Tararua Alliance's bid for ISO 55001 accreditation has been successful. This is a significant milestone for the district as the Alliance is the first Road Controlling Authority in New Zealand to achieve ISO 55001 asset management accreditation — earning international recognition for how we plan, maintain, and invest in the Tararua road network.

Accreditation proves our systems, people, and processes meet international best practice. The audit was a two-stage process with an ISO auditor from Adelaide working with the Alliance over several months, going through all our asset management systems and process documentation, and in February visiting Tararua to see how things happen on site.

ISO 55001 is more than compliance—it is a strategic tool for ensuring the right asset management practices are in place for delivering better infrastructure outcomes, improving community trust, and ensuring long-term value from public assets. We expect the benefits of this to flow beyond roading to how we manage all our infrastructure. The accreditation will be communicated to the wider community and media in April.

We have entered the Land Stabilisation Project into two national awards – the Āpōpō Asset Management Excellence Awards and the Taituara Local Government Awards – with project partners the Ministry of Social Development and Horizons

Regional Council. These awards will be announced on 20 May and 18 June respectively.

4.2 **Transportation Network Management Overview**

Footpath maintenance and renewals vs vehicle entranceways

Context and previous Council direction

At the previous Infrastructure Committee meeting, officers presented information outlining the long-running challenges associated with footpath maintenance where it intersects with vehicle entranceways. This included discussion on funding constraints, safety obligations, NZTA expectations, and the practical difficulty of managing responsibility at the individual property level.

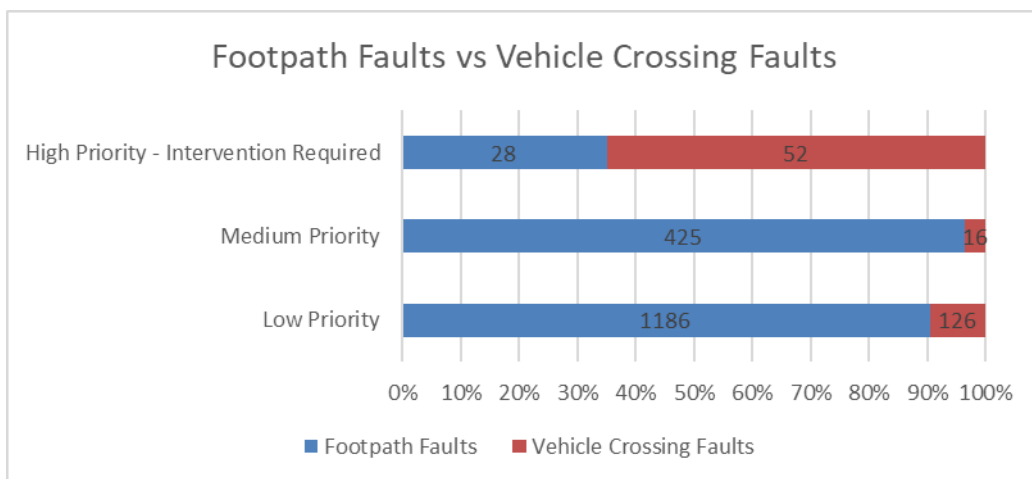
As part of the previous National Land Transport Programme (NLTP) submission, Council recognised that addressing these challenges through targeted action against individual property owners was not feasible or equitable at scale. Council identified vehicle entrance way related footpath defects as a district-wide network issue requiring a consistent and coordinated approach and sought NLTP funding to enable this. That funding request was not approved by NZTA, leaving Council without a funded pathway to implement a network-wide solution.

Subsequently, Council adopted enhanced enforcement provisions under the Traffic and Road Use Bylaw in 2025, providing clearer authority to require the repair, reconstruction, or renewal of vehicle crossings where they are assessed as being in a bad or unsafe state of repair. These powers have not yet been applied in practice, as Council has been mindful of the potential impacts of applying them in the current fiscal environment.

Current position and challenges

Council continues to receive a steady volume of Customer Requests for Service (CRMs) identifying safety-related defects within footpaths and is required to act to meet its duty-of-care obligations and ensure public safety on the roading network.

While individual faults are often reported at specific properties, network fault data demonstrates that vehicle entranceways represent a disproportionate share of the most serious footpath defects. Based on Thinkproject's AWM (Asset & Work Manager) (previously known as RAMM) data, approximately 65% of all high priority footpath faults are located within vehicle entranceways, indicating that this is a systemic, recurring issue rather than isolated instances.



The data highlights the scale of the issue and the ongoing safety and accessibility risks it presents. Defects commonly include uneven surfaces, depressions and pavement failures, which generate repeat customer complaints and present particular challenges for vulnerable users. For example, a recent CRM received in Dannevirke requested repair of deep holes within a footpath, citing repeated tripping incidents and difficulty using the footpath with a mobility scooter.



Image of the Vehicle Entranceway related to a CRM received on the 26th of March 2026

The combination of high fault severity, repeat occurrence, and concentration within vehicle entranceways creates an ongoing operational challenge for Council, particularly in the absence of an approved, funded networkwide solution through the NLTP. While Council maintains the position that vehicle entranceways are the responsibility of the adjoining property owner, the volume and seriousness of these defects require active management to ensure public safety is maintained.

Interim response and next steps

To meet Council’s duty-of-care obligations, and as an interim measure, the Urban team has been instructed to undertake temporary or make-safe repairs where necessary to address immediate safety risks. These works are intended solely to

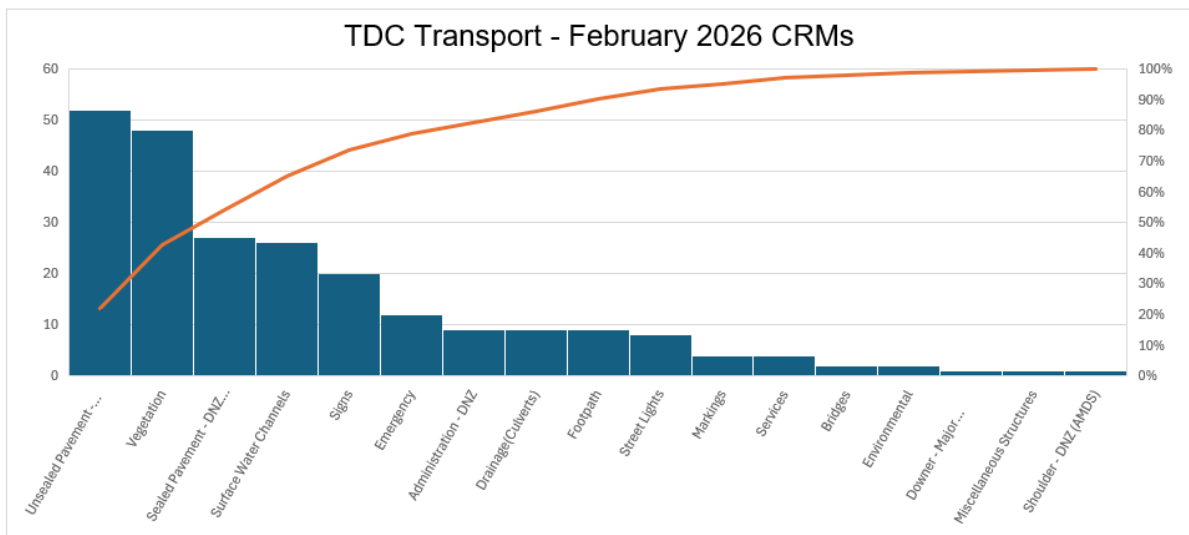
manage risk and maintain pedestrian safety and accessibility and should not be interpreted as Council accepting full or ongoing responsibility for vehicle entranceway assets.

Where a vehicle crossing is assessed as being in a bad or unsafe state of repair, Council may, in accordance with the Traffic and Road Use Bylaw, issue formal notice requiring the owner or occupier of the land to repair, reconstruct, or renew the crossing to Council’s satisfaction. Council will also review remaining vehicle entranceway faults and, where they pose a risk to footpath users, undertake make-safe works and issue notices as appropriate.

While the use of this enforcement mechanism may attract concern from affected ratepayers and involves implementation, communication, equity, and reputational considerations, it provides a clear and lawful pathway for addressing ongoing safety and accessibility issues where interim make-safe works alone are insufficient. Further refinement of this approach will be considered alongside the development of the Transport Activity Management Plan and the broader roading policy framework.

4.3 Transport Operational Delivery Management Overview

Customer Requests



240 CRMs were received in February. There were a high number of CRMs related to unsealed pavement and vegetation making up 42% of the total requests received. The high-reach heavy vegetation programme is progressing with 187km of the network completed and another 460km programmed to be completed by the end of June. With a wetter than normal month in January, it has resulted in a higher number of unsealed network faults during a time where we generally would carry out minimal unsealed road maintenance due to the time of year. To deal with this we are introducing a new activity where we are undertaking an

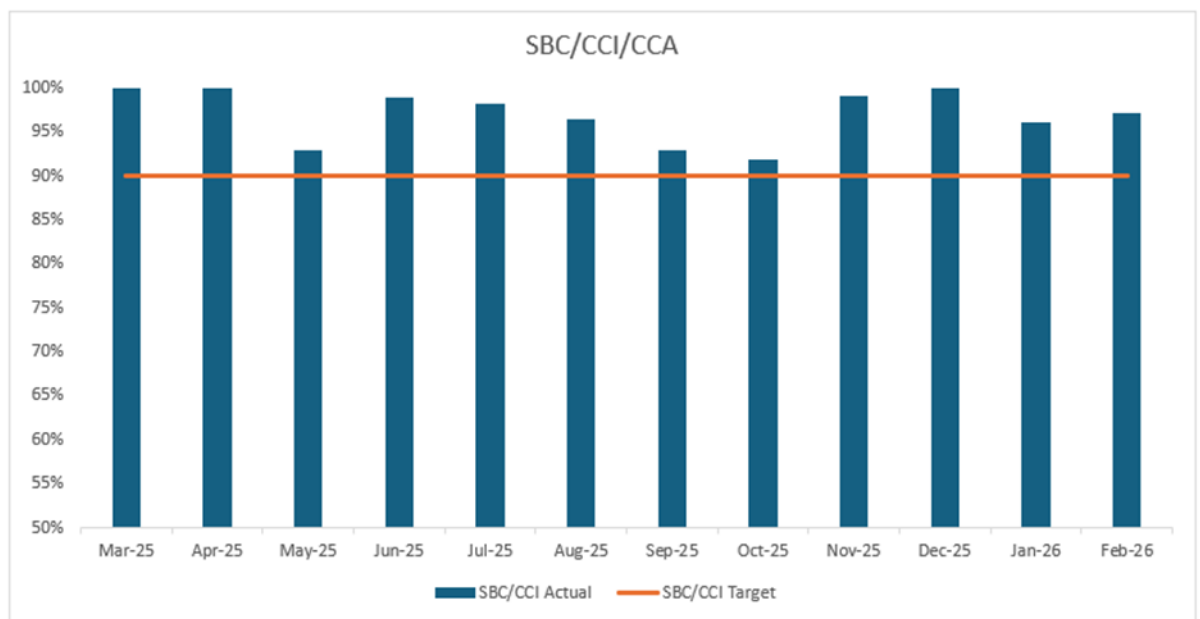
extra pass with the grader to “flank” out the water tables, which both improves drainage and gives better shape to the unsealed road.

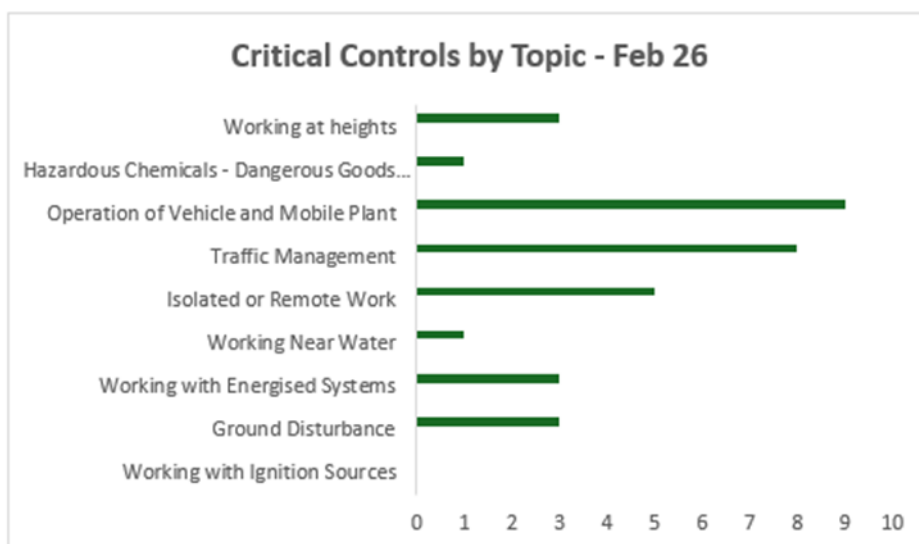
Response times to requests have been reviewed and we are keeping on top of ensuring these are happening in a timely manner, also that responses are dealt with in the correct way.

Tararua Alliance Zero Harm Performance Summary

Item	February 2026	FYTD
Total Incidents Reported	10	114
Near Misses	1	51
HiPo/Serious Harm	0	0
TRIFR	0	-
Recordable Injuries	0	0
Cardinal Rule Breaches	0	1
Incidents Involving a Critical Risk	0	41
Working Hours	13980	122307

There has been a drop in near miss reporting - we are working on getting these numbers back up via different reporting methods. Of the 10 reported incidents, 8 were things that affected plant/property, one a first aid case where a person got stung behind the ear by a bee. We are working on what we can do to prevent plant/property damage by following the Just Culture framework, which includes ensuring the information gets captured in a timely manner, investigated, and the correct outcomes in place to tighten up on any poor behaviours or training deficiencies.





In February, the Tararua Alliance achieved 97% of the target Safety Behaviour Conversations (SBCs) and Critical Control Inspection/Audit (CCI/CCAs).

We have been working through the six-month subcontractor evaluations, which includes performance, health and safety, and communication to ensure we are getting value for money and ensuring high quality.

4.4 Maintenance Delivery Overview

The delivery maintenance teams are working on pre-reseal repairs on the local roads transferred back to council by NZTA where most of the work is in cement stabilisation. For the month of February, there were 12,459 square meters completed in preparation for the sealing crew to waterproof the pavement and to improve roughness and texture of the running surface via reseals.

On 15 February the Tararua District declared a state of emergency due to a high rain and wind event. These events do affect the maintenance programming and depending on the severity can determine the duration of response. The roading teams mobilised on Monday 16 February to assist with keeping the roading network functional safe and operational. The most common closure was from roadside trees falling and blocking access. During that week the field staff were clearing trees and minor slips. There is an investment claim of \$700,000 being presented to NZTA for further clean-up and repairs.

Maintenance wheeled excavators have been closing out the last of the pre-reseal surface water channel cleaning and removal of high shoulders (drainage). There is some targeted investment in the unsealed road drainage in the next three months to close out the year.

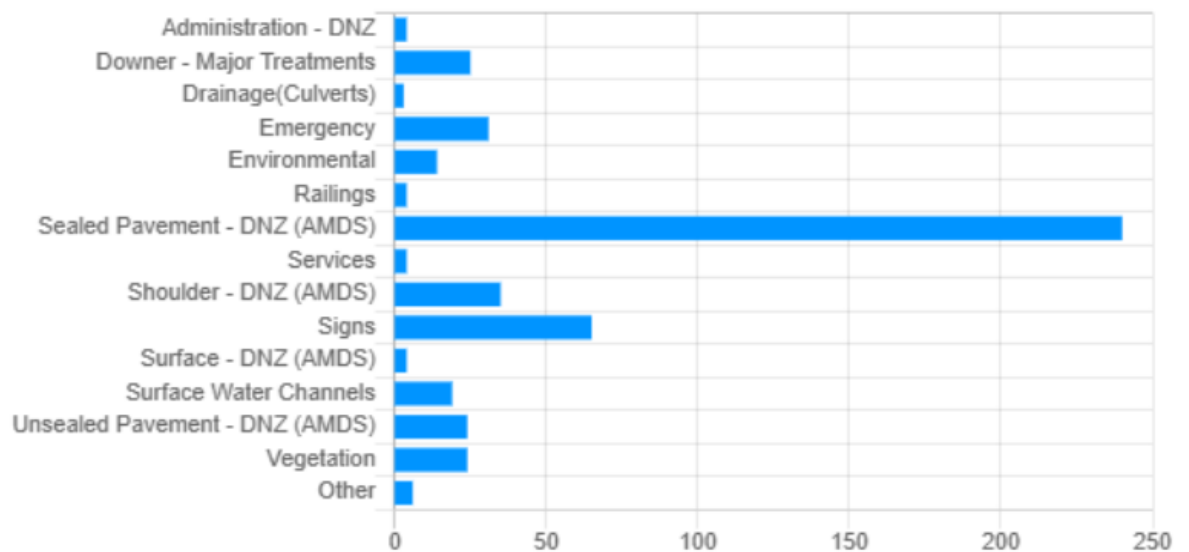
A round of spraying of the unsealed and sealed rural network has been completed, and the urban spraying was also completed in March. There have been some observations and CRMs critical of the overgrowth in the urban setting. It has been

a very warm and wet summer which has contributed to this. We are reviewing the time of year this activity occurs so we can combat the growth sooner.

187km of roadside high-reach vegetation has been completed and another 460km is programmed along with the second sealed network flat mowing.

All Works – Dispatches Completed December – By Asset type.

Completed Dispatches Last Month
By Asset Type (Including CRM's)



Routine Maintenance

- 12,459 square meters of cement stabilisation on the sealed pavement network
- 13 emergency treefall
- 96.55km of unsealed grading
- 66 signs either repaired, replaced or cleaned
- 286 sealed potholes filled

Reseal Delivery

The Tararua Alliance team started reseals in December. February has been a better month regarding weather, and we are 78% through the programme. We are working hard to complete the reseals by the end of March and now have two sealing crews working on the network.

25/26 Reseal Programme	Number of sites	Length (Kms)	Area (m2)	Binder (Litres)
Waiting for design	0	0	0	0
Waiting for pre-reseal repairs	0	0	0	0
Ready to Verify	0	0	0	0
Verified Ready to Seal	32	18.2	104,200	239,660
Complete	87	68	420,167	966,384
TOTAL	119	86.2	524,367	1,206,044

Rehabilitation Planning

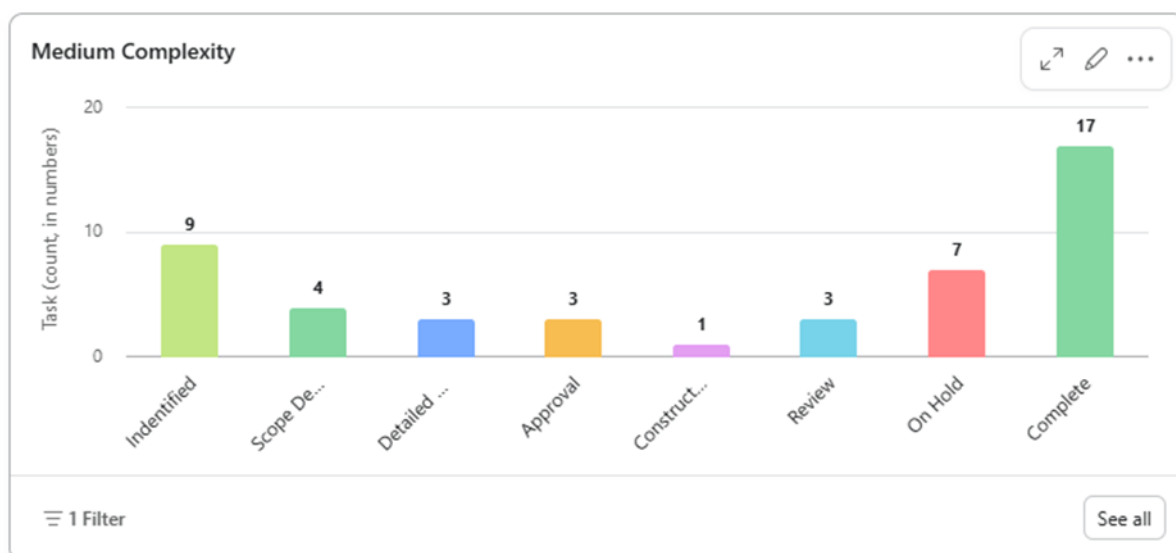
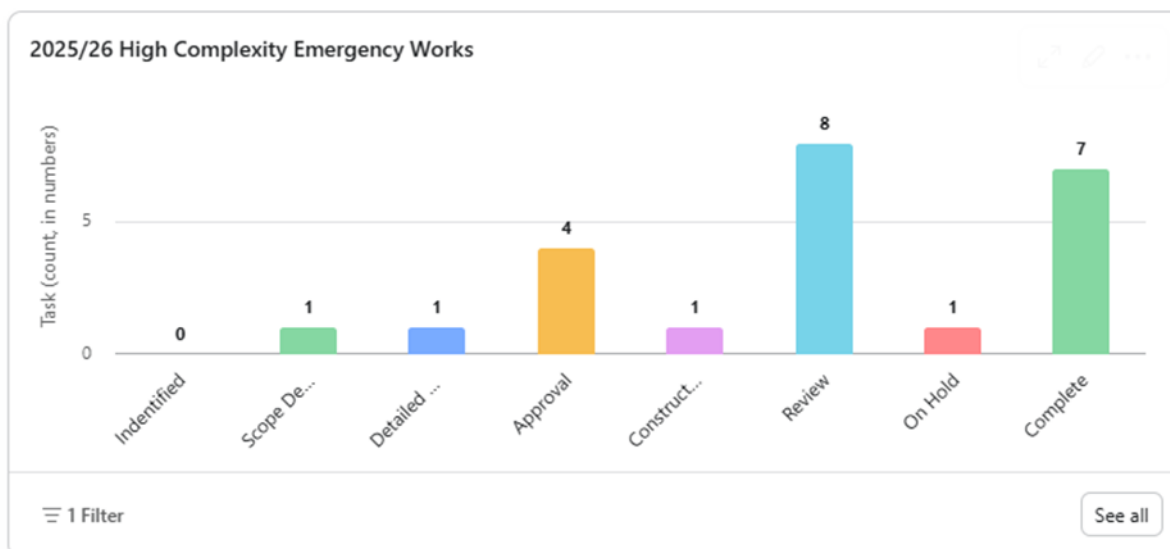
The planned rehabilitation length is 5.028kms of sealed pavement, with all designs now completed, and the Engineering team now working on designs for the next financial year. The 2026-27 rehabilitations sites are identified to validate and determine next seasons sites; we are aiming to have this completed by the end of April 2026 to allow designs to progress over the winter months.

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 2024 storm event recovery works, with the bulk of priority works progressing into Design and or Construction phases. 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 can complete the Cyclone Gabrielle repairs within the approved NZTA budget. We are awaiting a design output from the external consultant, WSP, to allow us to refine the estimate for this project.

The below chart provides a snapshot of progress for work progressing within the current financial year. The High Complexity works are the priority as these are the faults which have the highest impact to the road carriageway. Medium Complexity works are those which have limited impact to the road carriageway and are relatively simple projects to complete. As the High Complexity works progressively enter construction, focus will shift to the Medium complexity works for completion.



Below provides an overview of the Emergency Works budget for the 2025/26 financial year.

Approved Events	25/26 FAR (Funding Assistance Rate)	25/26 Budget	Spend to Date	% complete	Commentary
August 2024 Storm Event	73%	\$245,812.00	\$245,812.00	100%	Complete
Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Works	97.5%	\$8,285,401.00	\$4,833,533.00	58%	Based on the completed works, and completed designs, work is on track to be delivered within the remaining budget. NZTA have pre-approved additional budget if required, however we are seeking to deliver the remaining works within the current approved amount. The only project that may impact this is the Riverdale Road dropout repair.

Events Pending Approval	Expected FAR	Under Review	Spend to Date	% complete	Commentary
October 2025 Wind Event	93%*	\$398,190.00	\$298,092.00	75%	The cost of this is currently coded against the Minor Event budget which has a FAR of 73%. This application has been presented to our Investment Advisor and is under review. Approval will see the FAR lifted to 93%.
February 2026 Storm Event	93%*	\$750,000.00	\$197,408.00	26%	The cost of this is currently coded against the Minor Event budget which has a FAR of 73%. This event has been reviewed by our Investment Advisor and presented to the NZTA Board for approval. Approval will see the FAR lifted to 93%.

5. 3-Waters

5.1 Water Shortages Management Committee

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

With the conditions and mitigations currently in place across the district and taking into account the summer period, we have experienced an extended timeframe with no significant concerns or issues requiring formal tracking or escalation to this committee. On that basis, this committee is recommended for closure at this time. Should any urgent issues arise, the committee will be reconvened as necessary.

Current conditions are forecast to remain stable and readily manageable under existing arrangements.

Key Governance Points:

- **Risk & Preparedness:**
 - Emergency response plans confirmed
 - NIWA forecast indicates 50% likelihood of below-normal river levels, increasing drought risk.

Operational Status:

Eketahuna: Get Ready (no restrictions) 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); River work completed and some rural water issues occurring when plant has to be operating for the treatment of water for the town demand; reservoir levels are holding stable at this stage.

5.2 Website page

Significant work has been undertaken across operations, compliance and communications teams to compile and present accurate, accessible information for the new Drinking Water Quality and Testing webpage. This included consolidating technical water quality information, testing regimes, compliance requirements and operational context into a single, authoritative source suitable for public use. The Communications team played a key role in translating this material into clear, well-designed infographics and plain-language content, ensuring the information is both technically robust and easily understood by the wider community.

The outcome is a high-quality, reusable communications tool that strengthens transparency and consistency and materially improves how we respond to public enquiries. Importantly, this approach means staff can now direct customers to a trusted source rather than repeatedly providing individual explanations across different channels, improving efficiency and reducing the risk of inconsistent messaging. The success of this work provides a strong foundation for future improvements, including the intent to link the latest water quality sampling results directly from each relevant webpage, ensuring information remains current, visible and easy to access as new data becomes available.

<https://www.tararua.govt.nz/services/water-and-wastewater/drinking-water-quality-and-testing>



5.3 3 Waters Network Programme

While renewals are routinely managed across the network, delivery of the programme must be continually balanced against unplanned callouts and emerging operational issues. In general, standard renewal activities are relatively straightforward when compared to the five key projects currently underway.

These projects are inherently more complex due to their significant integration requirements with the wider network and their role as critical enablers for both the growth strategy and the District Plan. Complexity is further increased by the need to assess treatment plant production capacity and reservoir sizing, requiring a coordinated, system-wide approach.

As a result, these projects are being actively coordinated across the full 3 Waters work programme to ensure future works are enabled, renewal activities are appropriately aligned and sized, plant and pond performance issues are addressed and growth demands are planned for in a timely manner. The successful delivery of these projects is closely linked to the broader programme and long-term strategies, ensuring that infrastructure is delivered at the most efficient, resilient, and appropriate scale.

Priority	Project Name	Comment
1	Dannevirke Southern Sewerage Trunk Main Upgrade	Draft Detailed Design – April Scheduling phased delivery. Hand over for delivery to the PMO underway.
2	Pahiatua Treated Water Transfer Main Upgrades	Detailed Design complete. Tender documents and drawings delivered. Scheduling delivery. Hand over for delivery to the PMO underway.
3	Woodville Water Supply Trunk Main Upgrades	Detailed Design complete. Tender documents and drawings delivered.
4	Pahiatua Sewer Trunk Mains Upgrade	Detailed Design complete. Tender documents and drawings delivered.
5	Dannevirke Water Trunk Main Upgrade	Detailed Design complete. Scheduling phased install.

5.4 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.
- Both Pahiatua and Eketahuna flow meters were installed and verified by Q3 2025.
- Referring to the above update on the completion of Dannevirke flow meter installation and verification, all the outstanding regarding the abatement notice has been addressed.

Water Permits

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

Assessments for Woodville and Pahiatua have been returned by Horizons. Woodville requires updates to planning analysis due to allocation limits, which WSP will address. For Pahiatua, clarification is required on conditions relating to combined daily take limits. The Eketahuna permit requires an updated hydrological assessment, additional river flow data from Horizons, updated offtake meter readings, and engagement with farm offtake owners.

5.5 Administration

We are currently progressing a potential candidate for the Water Treatment Plant Operator role and recruitment is continuing with the aim of strengthening operational capability as soon as practicable.

Within the Compliance team, the recent departure of the manager, along with a staff member leaving for other opportunities, has created a temporary compliance capacity gap. With the establishment of the CCO imminent, the preferred approach is to discuss this issue with the CCO transition team before making permanent resourcing decisions noting another of the councils also has a similar situation. In the interim, we will engage contractors and consultants where possible to maintain coverage and manage consenting and compliance requirements, ensuring regulatory obligations continue to be met until the CCO is established and able to assume direction across water services for the four councils.

Notwithstanding these challenges, operations and capital projects are progressing well. Operational expectations and delivery approaches have been increasingly aligned with the future CCO model, and a number of service and process improvements are already underway. Focus remains on maintaining day-to-day performance while preparing the organisation for a smooth transition to the new service delivery arrangements.

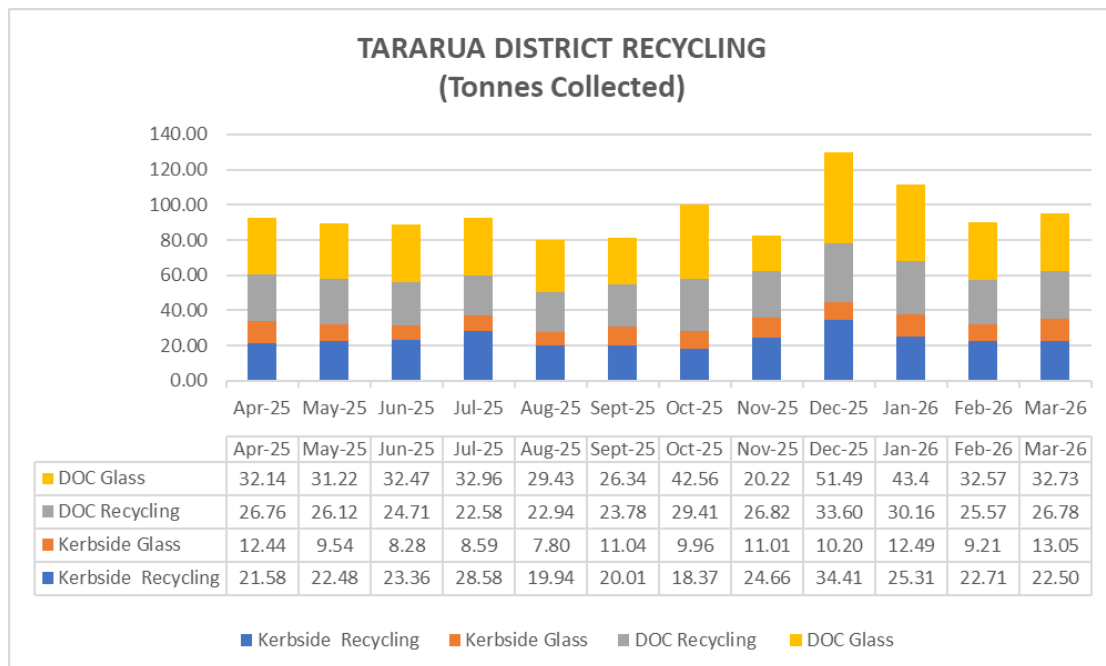
6. Solid Waste

6.1 Operational Activities

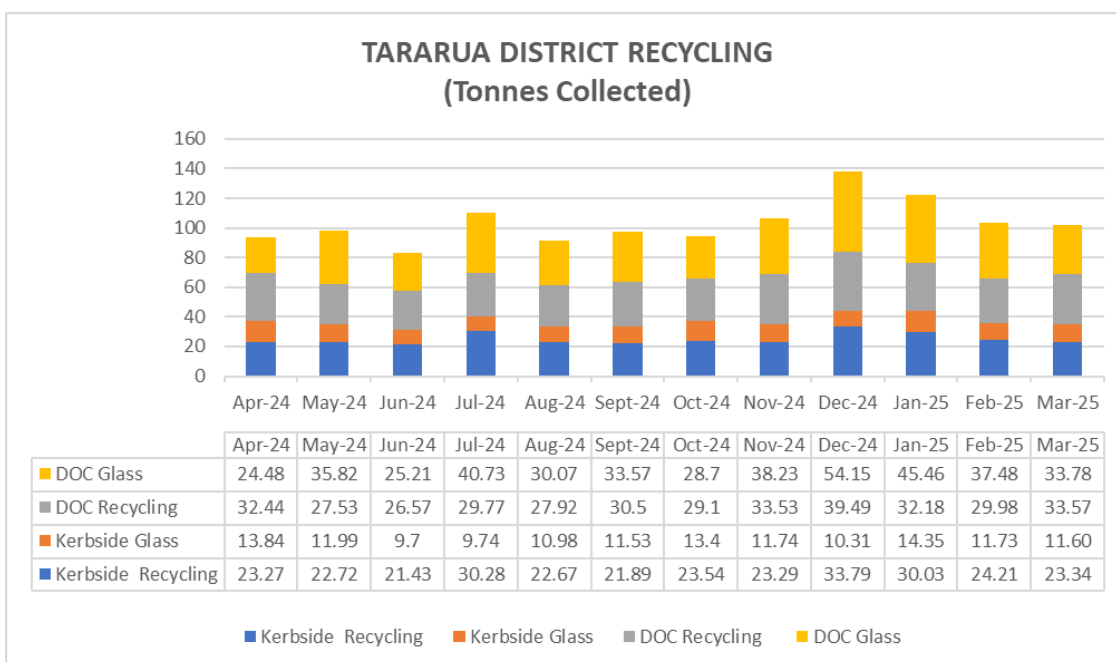
Budget/Activity	
Refuse Transfer Stations(RTS Sites)	<p>All transfer stations are operating smoothly with no disruptions.</p> <p>February 2026:</p> <p>Waste diverted from landfill 3.01 Tonne Contaminated recycling to Landfill 1.48 Tonne</p> <p>March 2026:</p> <p>Waste diverted from landfill 4.37 Tonne Contaminated recycling to Landfill 1.59 Tonne</p>
Recycle Drop-off Centres (DOC Sites)	We continue to experience a moderate amount contamination in the town drop off bins across the district.
Kerbside Recycling Services	<p>Kerbside collections are going well.</p> <p>Contaminated Bins Removed Due to Misuse to Date: Dannevirke 32 – Pahiatua 3 – Woodville 7 – Eketahuna</p>

6.2 Waste Minimisation

April 2025 – March 2026



April 2024 – March 2025



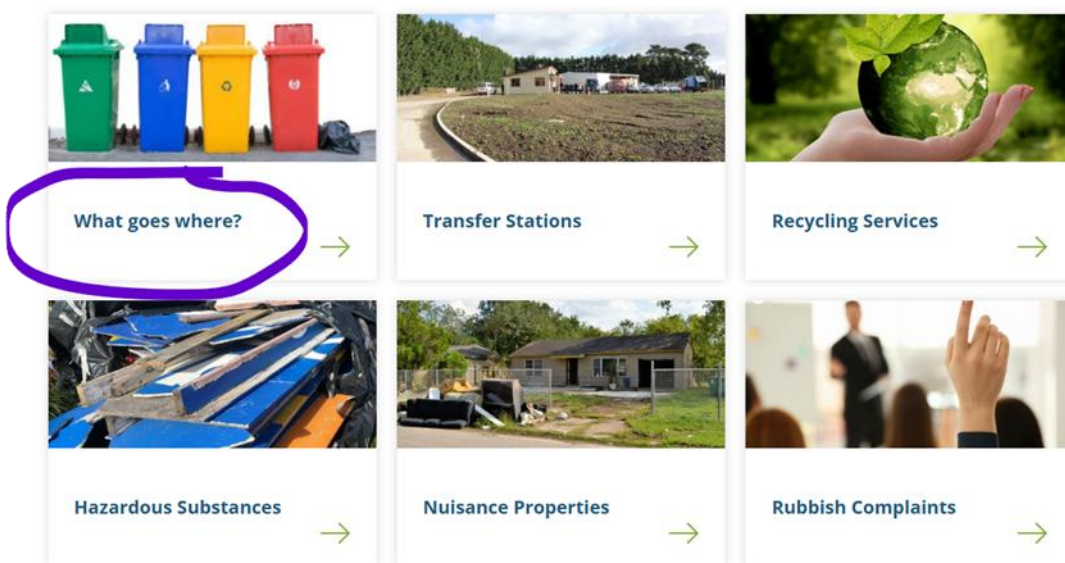
6.3 Chemical Waste

Chemical or Hazardous waste is NOT permitted at any Tararua Refuse Transfer Station or Landfill; we are not licenced to accept this waste. These need to be handled by 3R Group.

We have a link on Tararua District Council website - see below Click on What goes Where? This takes you to an extensive A-Z list of common refuse & recycling items that contain information about the item you are wanting to find out about, and where to dispose of it.

<https://www.tararua.govt.nz/services/rubbish-and-recycling/what-goes-where>

Rubbish & Recycling



Once in A-Z then click on 3R Group, this will take you to their website

		item to any Tararua Refuse Transfer Station.
Chemical Waste	Please protect our waterways. NEVER put this item in the bin or pour it down the drain. Contact 3RGroup for collection.	Chemical or Hazardous waste is NOT accepted at any Tararua Refuse Transfer Station.
Child Car Seat	This item is not currently collected	You can take this item to

Attachments

1. [Communications Management Report](#)
2. [Facilities Management Report - Feb 2026](#)
3. [Customer Engagement Management Report](#)
4. [Community Engagement Management Report](#)

Strategic Priority	Interactive Council	
Status Report	Communications	
	Reporting period	1 August 2025 – 1 February 2026
	Activity Group Manager	Kawtar Tani
	Presented By	Karsten van der Oord

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

Activity progress in reporting period
<p>Consultations / Engagement</p> <p>The following public engagement activities were conducted/are ongoing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed Speed Limit Changes – Makirikiri and Te Rehunga South Roads (Closed 18 Sep) <p>Incoming engagements and consultations the team is planning for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Norsewood/Ormondville Kerbside Recycling Land Rationalisation: A Review of Council-owned Buildings Backflow Prevention Policy Annual Plan 2026/27 Long Term Plan 2027-2037

<p>Campaigns</p> <p>The following campaigns were conducted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Elections 2025 ShakeOut National Earthquake Drill 2025 Animal Control Education and Services Creative Communities

- District-wide Contestable Fund 2025/26 Round 1
- Reserves Management Plan
- Safer Speeds Around Schools Project
- Local Water Done Well / Tararua-Wairarapa waters
- Antenna promotion
- Water Conservation
- TDC 2025 Photography Competition
- Tararua Grant Finder (GrantGuru)
- Rates Rebates (Changes to Direct Debit Payments)
- Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori – Māori Language Week
- Touring Tararua Series
- Fraud Awareness Week

Projects

Communications support is being / has been provided to the following projects:

- Norsewood & Ormondville Recycling
- Dannevirke Dog Pound Improvements
- Pahiatua Swimming Pool
- Inflow and Infiltration
- Universal Water Meters
- SCADA Upgrade Phase 2
- Pahiatua Wastewater Treatment Plant and Wetlands

TDC Website

Maintenance on the www.tararua.govt.nz website included:

- General maintenance of the TDC website
- Ongoing – reviewing website usability based on community feedback
- *NEW* Council 101 page
- *NEW* Planning an event
- *NEW* Active Recreation and Sport Database
- *NEW* Pahiatua Swimming Pool project page
- *NEW* Pahiatua WWTP + Wetlands project page
- *NEW* Dog-friendly Recipes page

Other tasks conducted:

Events

- 2 x Citizenship ceremonies

Film and Design (including community support)

- Community Fundraising Toolkit
- 2026 Recycling calendar
- Armistice Day Notices
- Re-design H&S logo
- Mayoral Column filming and editing
- New signage re Freedom Camping Bylaw
- New signage re Alcohol Ban Areas
- Spring Festival booklet (Dannevirke Community Board)
- Dannevirke Day posters (Dannevirke Community Board)
- Pahiatua Shears posters and programme (Pahiatua Shears)
- Animal control videos
- Water conservation video

Templates and Administration

- Special Alcohol Licence flowchart
- Emergency maps for all TDC facilities
- QR feedback posters for facilities

Public Speaking

- Speaking on behalf of Council as kaikōrero (main speaker), during the pōwhiri for Council inductions at Makirikiri Marae
- Presenter at ALGIM Web, Digital and Communications Workshop
- Presenter and Panellist at the ALGIM National Conference.

Civil Defence / Emergency comms

- Public Information Management (PIM) support at Civil Defence exercise – Te Ara o te Tuarua
- Review and update of Civil Defence PIM templates, maps, contacts list and process
- Review and update of Boil Water Notice process and maps
- Avian Bird Flu comms templates and key messages
- Communications Business Continuity Plan (BCP)

Miscellaneous:

- (Draft) Social Media Strategic Plan
- Launch of TDC Instagram Channel
- Revitalisation of LinkedIn Channel
- TDC 2025 Photography Competition Awards and book launch

Priorities in upcoming reporting period

- Wairarapa + Tararua Waters
- Norsewood/Ormondville Kerbside Recycling
- Water Conservation Messaging
- AP & LTP related communication
- Safer Speeds Around Schools Project
- Dannevirke Town Hall Painting
- Communication on upcoming bylaws and policies
- Dannevirke and Woodville Water Reservoirs
- Land Rationalisation: Review of Council-owned Buildings
(dependent on Feb council meeting outcomes)
- GoGet System Replacement (building consents)
- Communications BCP (Business Continuity Plan)
- Draft Social Media Strategic Plan rollout
- Council meeting wrap up videos

Key risks

None identified

Health and Safety

None identified

Key performance indicators

An increase in Council digital platform traffic

- Facebook Followers: 7,348 (previous reporting period 7,163 - up 185)
- TDC website visitors: 230,348 (previous reporting period 195,674 – up 34,764)*
* increase partially due to Local government elections interest (over 13,000 visitors viewed election pages)

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

- LTP 2024/34 Submissions: 502
- LTP 2021/31 Submissions: 70
- AP 2025/26 Submissions: 45

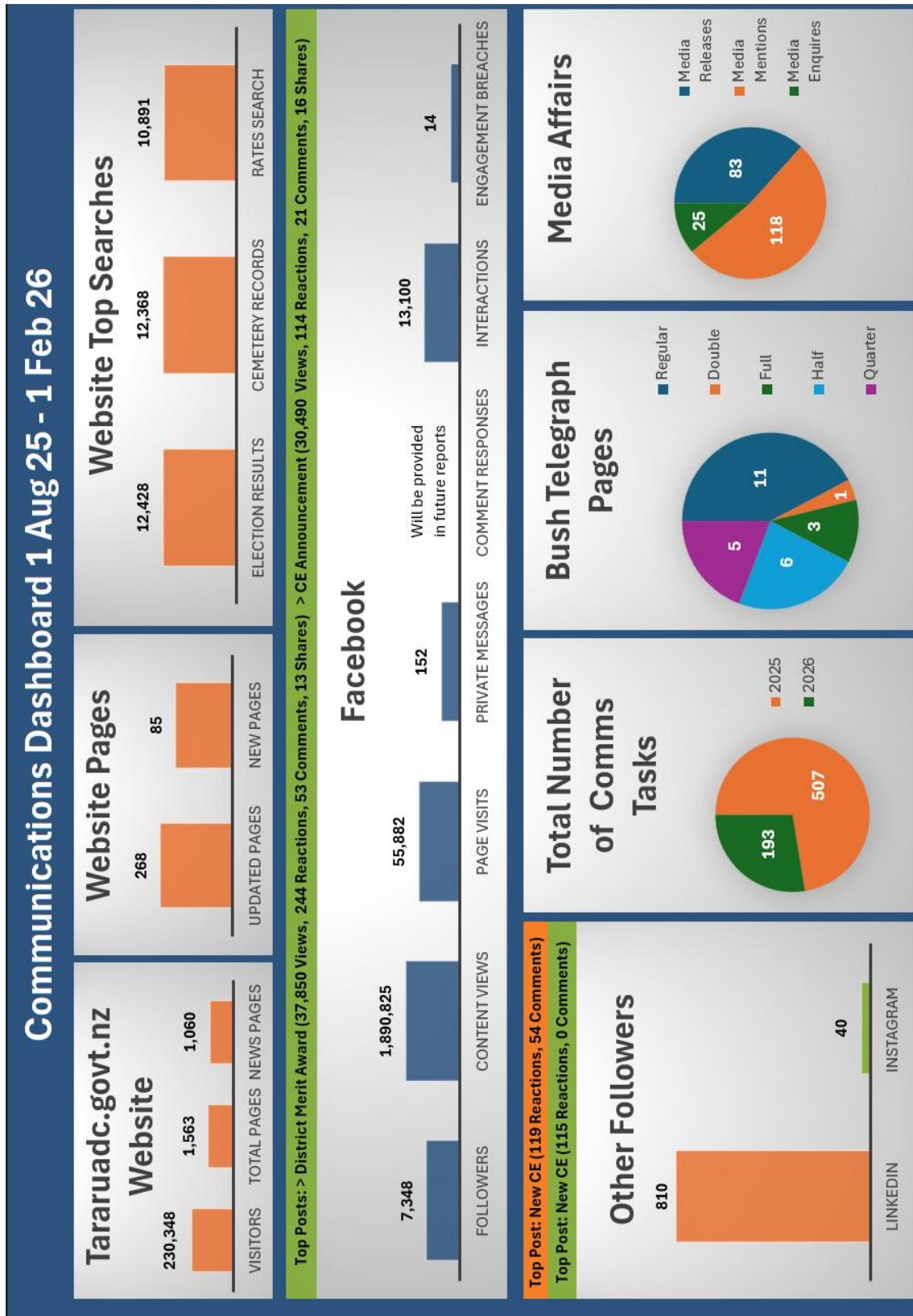
- AP 2023/24 Submissions: 136
- Super Consultation 2022 Round 2 Submissions: 48
- Super Consultation 2022 Round 1 Submissions: 173

An increase in the number of Annual Communication Survey respondents

- 2025 Communications Survey – 154 respondents
- 2024 Communications Survey: 149 respondents

Trends

- Community expectations around “buying local” are increasing, with procurement and supplier choices receiving heightened public scrutiny - particularly online.



Strategic Priority	Connected Communities	
Status Report	Community Facilities	
	Reporting period	August 2025 – Feb 2026
	Activity Group Manager	Hamish Featonby
	Presented By	Fontayne Chase

Activity status	Overall	Staffing	H&S	Levels of service	Budget
Red: Roadblocks present Orange: Potential risks Green: on track					
Cemeteries (N= 23)					*1
Community Buildings (N= 37)					*2
Parks and Reserves (N= 94)					
Pensioner Housing (N= 85)					
Public Conveniences (N= 21)					
Swimming Pools (N= 3)					
Camping Grounds (N=4)					
Commercial Property & Aerodrome					

*1: Note: sale of plots below YTD budget predictions (based on 3-year average)

*2: Note: Spend below budget for the reporting period but expected to be balance after the completion of the Town Hall painting project

Activity progress in reporting period
<p>Cemeteries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Digitalisation of Cemetery Services</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - With support from the Information Services team, work is underway to enhance the Cemeteries LocalMaps layer. This upgrade will deliver significantly sharper, small-scale aerial imagery of individual plots, improving accuracy and usability for both staff and community. - Mapping now linked to Cemetery database and cemetery record search on TDC website - Customer Engagement Staff training taking place at intervals of availability

1

- Online headstone
- Online headstone permit applications have successfully completed a trail with two high-use stakeholder groups, receiving excellent feedback. The service is now ready for implementation and will go live on the Council website in February, enabling a full transition away from paper-based applications.
- Old Gorge Cemetery Work
 - Anderson Memorials to assess, pre winter, to address damaged headstones from tree fall. Monuments to be lifted back to position and reset.
 - Tree work scheduling in accordance with Facilities Tree Register, February work requires crown cleaning and potential Oak removal.

Property:

- Lease/licenses
 - Cello Lease extension at Woodville Domain for satellite base notified with no submissions.
 - Hockey Park Lease open to public notification until February 10, in accordance with LGA.
 - Increase in public requests for small grazing parcels.
- Aerodrome
 - Increased Aviation activity with an increase in student pilots with Dannevirke Flying Club
 - NZGYRO Association annual event, 23rd – 25th January a successful turn out, despite weather.
 - The grass runways were closed for the Wheels with Attitude event on 1 February to accommodate the scale of activity. The event was very successful, with an exceptional turnout of vehicles and attendees. Within 15 minutes of opening to the public, additional space was required to manage the volume of participants and visitors. Congratulations to the organising committee and volunteers for their management of this important local event.

Community Buildings:

- Meter board upgrade delivery progressing in conjunction with network modem upgrade schedules.
- Auditing of compliance schedules in ongoing; however, the process now requires a significant overhaul. Historical errors have been identified and are being addressed as a matter of urgency. To ensure we meet our statutory obligations and reduce future risk, appropriate resourcing for this work is essential.
- Cleaning contracts renewed resulting in a consolidation of three service providers to one, enhancing operational efficiency with long term financial benefit while still maintaining current levels of service.
- Community facilities performed consistently well throughout the reporting period, with minimal service disruptions. Continued focus remains on vandalism prevention, cleanliness monitoring, to ensure facilities remain safe, functional, and well-presented.

- Eketahuna

- Community Hall: Hot Water cylinder replaced, entrance canopy upgrade in progress
- War Memorial: Picnic table installed, gutters replaced and Memorial repair works in progress for completion end March.
- Library external wall, storm damage repaired. Heatpump replaced.
- External wash and gutter clean completed

-Pahiatua

- Stadium internal wall lining repair initiated.
- Culture Centre Roof repair/replacement under investigation one quote received estimated \$60,000
- Town Hall minor roof repairs completed.

-Woodville

- Library Heat pump renewed, skylight replaced.
- Isite balustrade and picnic table refinished
- New chairs for the supper room at the Community Centre added to stock

-Dannevirke

- Town Hall external painting works in progress. Borer damaged flooring in auditorium repaired. Under stage fire exit clearance and push bar installed.
- Sports stadium boxing room heat pump installed.
- External building wash and gutter cleans completed

-Pongaroa – Akitio War Memorial Hall

- Water leak reported in accessible toilet cubicle ceiling, works with plumber and builder for remedial
- Borer treatment completed in supper room
- Roof and gutter repair completed

Parks and Reserves:

-Tree Asset Management

- Tree asset data and risk assessments completed. Maintenance plan initiated with February works scheduling underway to continue with priority works where trees were identified as Urgent or Very High priority works required.
- Significant amount of storm damage clean up in October 25 and Jan 26.
- Split Elm tree removed from Lower domain duck pond area after high winds revealed the extent of trunk rot.

-Pest Plant Management

- Management Plan under development with support from Horizons Regional Council Biodiversity officer. The AMP will contribute to TDC Biosecurity obligations under the Regional Pest Plant Management Plan.

- Engagement with Whakatane District Council Geospatial Analysis provided insights into Arc GIS Field Maps and how this tool would benefit the management of the district pest plant tracking as well as Tree maintenance inspection schedules and maintenance tracking. GIS Manager engaged to assess the resources required to develop and implement this tool for TDC.

-Deer Park

- 3 new fawns arrived before Christmas.
- On two occasions, large fallen tree branches have damaged the deer fencing, creating a hazard and risk to the secure containment of the animals. Further consideration is required regarding the welfare of these animals and the potential risk to the general public if containment is breached.
- Dannevirke Community Board raised concerns regarding the untidy appearance of the lower domain, aviary and lake as well as questioned whether the deer will be removed from the Deer Park.
 - the Aviary is managed by a small group of volunteers who provide and care for birds in this enclosure for the community and visitors to the domain to enjoy.
 - the lower domain requires significant investment to attend to accumulative tree maintenance, pest plant maintenance, road access, walking tracks, clearing debris from both lake and duck pond. The team are actively working towards data collection to inform prioritisation and asset planning.
 - A report to Council will be made seek a decision regarding the future of the deer park
- Dannevirke Board member raised health and safety concerns regarding the work carried out by volunteers on the Umutaoroa Domain. Issue was presented to the Domain committee with recommendation to seek additional guidance and ongoing support from Work Safe. The committee are actively working with Work Safe.

-Grounds Maintenance

- Council awarded a district wide grounds maintenance contract with start date 1 December. The new contract consolidates four contracts into one District Wide contract providing operational efficiency and long-term financial benefit to ratepayers over the term of the contract.
- As we enter the third month of the new contract, we have transitioned to 'team per town' operating model. This approach shifts our work from primarily reactive clean ups to a planned and scheduled maintenance programme, delivering greater consistency and visibility of service across our communities. Auditing of the service agreement is conducted monthly and report provided to the contractor whereby any defects are scheduled for actioning.

-Playground Equipment

- Level 3 Playground inspections completed in September
- 78 assets were recorded across 12 playgrounds which includes surfacing under equipment.

- 18 items were assessed as Very Poor or Poor with a useful life under five years. Renewal action with additional minor maintenance where required, are nearing completion.

Pensioner Housing

Waiting list per township

- Dannevirke
 - 25 on waiting list,
 - 3 are under 65,
 - 4 requesting 2-bedroom units,
 - 8 applicants reside outside the district
- Woodville
 - 6 on the waiting list,
 - 1 is under 65
- Eketahuna
 - 1 on the waiting list,
 - 1 applicant under 65
- Pahiatua
 - 5 on the waiting list,
 - 2 applicants under 65
- Transfer List
 - 1 application to transfer from one bedroom to 2.
 - 1 application to relocate from Eketahuna to Dannevirke.

Renewal and refurbishment work for the Eketahuna units are now complete. A hot water cylinder had been scheduled for replacement; however, following the plumber's assessment, the recommendation is to continue monitoring its condition, as the cylinder remains in good working order. Additional external maintenance was completed including building wash and painting.

Woodville Centennial Flats access path upgraded to eliminate the trip hazards created by uneven and lifter surfaces.

One cleansing order was issued during the reporting period.

Campgrounds:

- Online booking platform due diligence near completion.
- Freedom campground issue regarding overstayers escalated to Regulatory enforcement
- EWOF compliance inspections completed resulting in numerous defects. Defects remedial works completed at Woodville, Pahiatua and Eketahuna with Dannevirke scheduled for completion in February.
- Tree works ongoing. Dannevirke, Pahiatua and Eketahuna suffered damage to trees in the October and January storms.

- External building washes and gutters cleaning completed at Dannevirke and Eketahuna.

Dannevirke:

- Bank protection work behind the campground managers dwelling to be completed in conjunction with Horizons Regional Council River management work in the Mangatera stream adjacent to campground Bank protection work likely to start in March, TBC.
- External building wash and gutter cleans completed

Woodville

- Campground bookings over the shutdown period recorded low visitor numbers

Pahiatua

- Trees damaged in October 2025 and January 2026 storms. Further tree work required at this site with 3 trees identified in the Tree Priority Works report.
- Carnival Park Board of Management progressing storyboard and playground projects. The Board has been connected with the Community Engagement Officer for funding support opportunities.

Eketahuna

- Building wash completed
- Tree priority works scheduled for February after attending to storm damaged trees

Swimming Pools

- All four outside pools opened for the summer season. Opening of the Eketahuna pool was delayed due to the maintenance completion dates.
- Poolsafe assessments completed in January for Woodville and Eketahuna. Each site had a small number of accreditation components graded 'not achieve'. Council will work alongside each operator to assist with achieving accreditation by end of March.

Priorities in upcoming reporting period

Cemeteries:

- Digitalisation progress
 - Move towards reserved plot and Burial Warrant online services.
- Signage
 - Cemetery signage design update and installation to be completed

Pensioner Housing:

- Annual inspections – Scheduled for March 2026

Parks & Reserves:

- Trees Asset and Pest Plant Management tool development
- Pest Plant data collection to inform AMP

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dannevirke Lower Domain assessment planning • Internal condition assessments of walking tracks and foot bridges <p><u>Community facilities:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digitalisation of bookable spaces • Facility signage • Updating building compliance schedules <p><u>Campgrounds:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mangatera Stream bank protection work • Online bookings system progress • Freedom Camping signage installation to be completed in February
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Key risks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited resource to address required tree work in the Priority Works report, careful monitoring of resources. • Pest Plant Management Plan required to meet Biosecurity obligations under regional pest plant management plan • Building compliance of TDC buildings including domain halls require auditing of compliance schedules to address historic errors • Parks and Reserve priority maintenance requirements may exhaust allocated resources due to the high priority tree work identified.

Health and Safety
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reported and monitoring aggressive tenant and/or tenant visitors • Centennial – new concrete pathway was installed to prevent elderly trips/falls • Tenant issued with cleansing order • Health and safety committee requesting review of staff safety when exiting staff carpark via vehicle • Monitoring of town hall painting project closely • Camping Grounds: issues around erosion and trees • Parks and Reserves: Tree & Pest Plant work • Cemeteries: Tree and memorial repairs

Key performance indicators
<p>Cemeteries:</p>

- Plot availability across the district: 100%
- Burial Interments during the reporting period : 24
- Ashes Interments during the reporting period: 24
- Number of Ashes Plots purchased: 3
- Number of Burial Plots purchased: 4

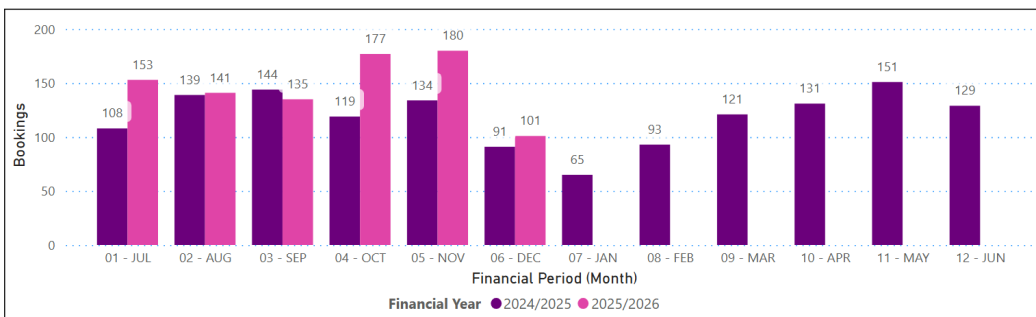
Pensioner Housing:

- Average Occupancy Rate: 98% for this reporting period
- Vacancy Rate: 2%, for this reporting period
- Total loss revenue during the reporting period due to vacancy: \$911.00

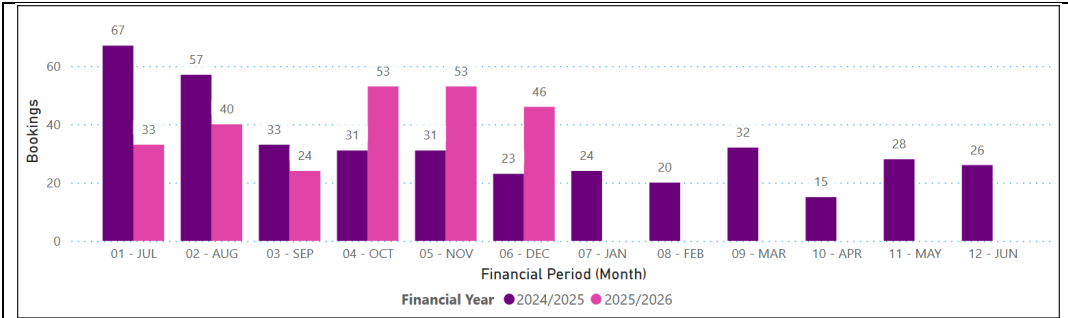
Trends

Cemeteries – Plot sales are 55% below quarter 2 revenue assumption with Interment revenue slight up by 10% for the period.

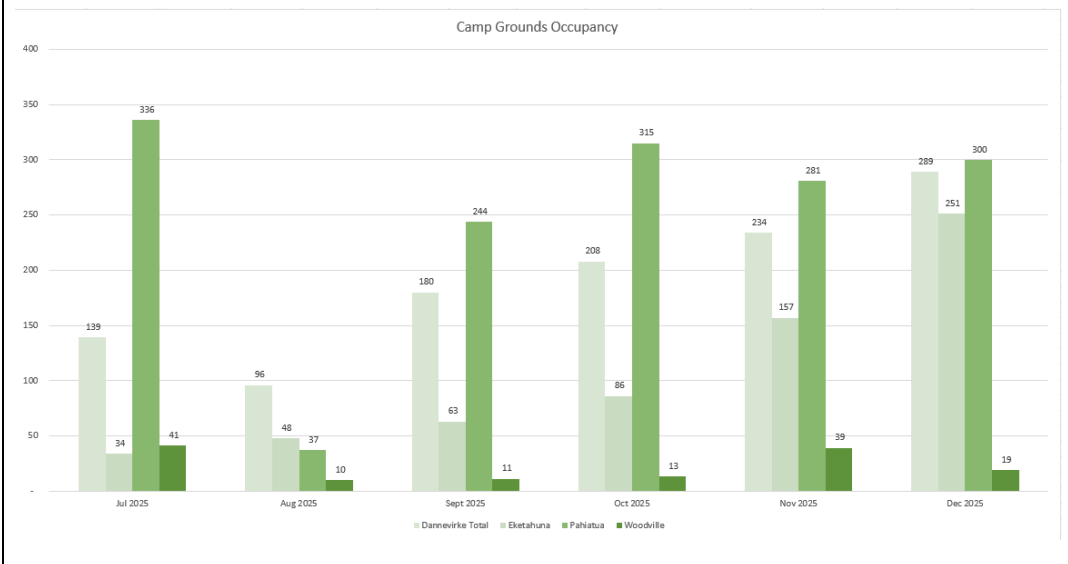
Community Buildings – Overall, district wide bookings of community buildings are trending higher in 2025/2026 than in 2024/2025, with year to date demand up 21% to December. If this pattern continues, it suggests improved facility utilisation and community uptake, and it will be important to ensure operational capacity keeps pace.

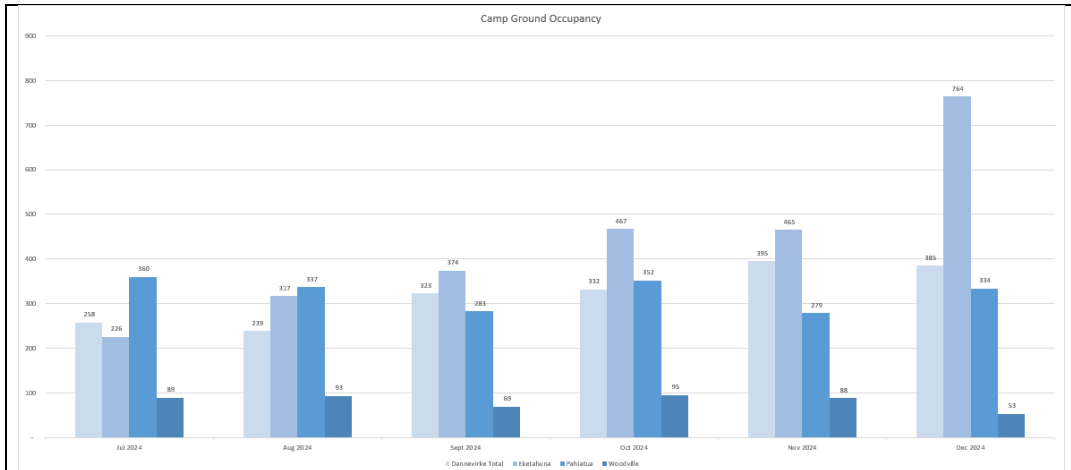


Parks Bookings – Overall, bookings of Parks in Dannevirke, Woodville and Eketahuna are tracking slightly ahead of 2024/2025, up 3%. While July – September remained below the previous year, bookings strengthened significantly from October – December, with October and November each up 71% and December doubling on last year. Ongoing monitoring will confirm whether this lift is sustained and inform operational planning from peak booking months.

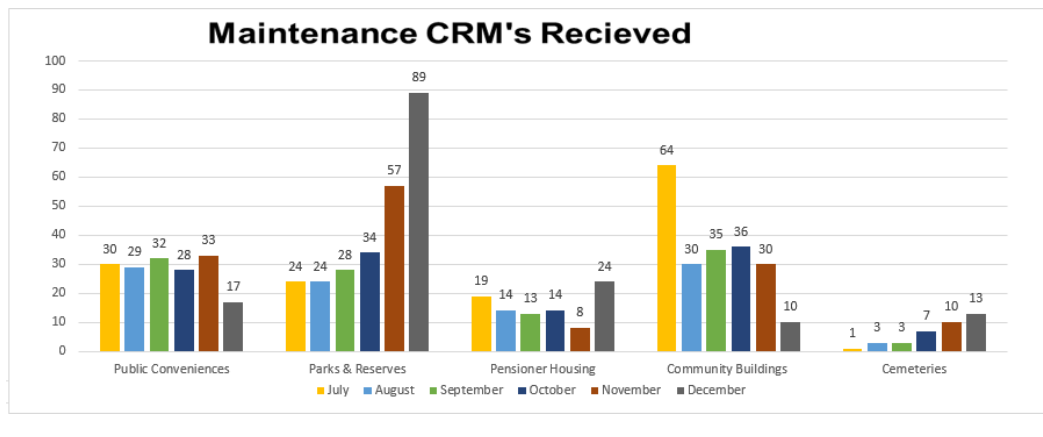


Campgrounds – Campground occupancy for July – December 2025 is recording lower rates than the same period in 2024. Because campground occupancy is currently captured through a manual process, there is an increased risk of error, inconsistent recording practices, and delayed entries, which may result in inaccurate performance reporting. The team identified data collection inconsistencies, a temporary remodelling of how the occupancy data is capture was required; this change will impact the reporting differences. Digitalisation of the bookings will standardise data capture.





Maintenance CRMs received – a higher volume of CRMs was recorded in December, largely attributed to the transition to a new grounds maintenance contractor. Ongoing contractor performance monitoring will support service stabilisation.



S17 a Review Update	
Swimming Pools	
Stage One:	
SLA requirements reviewed – Outdoor Pools	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Service Level Agreements reviewed amended to include additional support from Council to ensure compliance. 	
TDC to introduce an operations check/audit to ensure service remains compliant.	Completed

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

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

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: TDC has engaged PoolSafe to support with compliance. Variation contract now includes an Accountability Schedule for transparency. Update: Poolsafe audit scheduled for January 26. 	
TDC to maintain and monitor the asset management actions and work with the operators for any asset works as required (All Pools)	Ongoing
TDC confirms or not the suitability of continuing aquatic service delivery under Option 1	Complete
TDC confirm or not the suitability of Option 2	Complete
Camping Grounds - Short Term	
Ensure TDC Omnibus Reserve Management Plan allows for camping activity on each of these sites	Complete
Conduct an updated asset data collection and valuation across all sites <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Woodville TDC assets Carnival Park, mix of TDC and Board assets Eketahuna Motor Camp, Infrastructure TDC owned, operational assets contractor owned assets. 	Completed
Reassess three sites (excluding Woodville) against the Camping Ground Regulations 1985	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliant camping ground plan/sites marked and labelled 	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non self-contained site within required proximity of ablutions Action: assessment completed. Non urgent amendments to be made at later date. Ie. Consider relocating Cabin at DHP or alternative solution	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occupancy data is accurately collected and reported as per the regulations Action: The team are investigating an online AIO package.	Monitoring
Develop a policy on the maximum duration of stay and a stand-down period at all TDC owned camping grounds. Ensure all operators are required to comply <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: regulations applied. 	Developing

Develop a more comprehensive financial data collection/reporting system to account for operational and renewal expenditure	Complete
<p>Work with all operators to encourage the development of online bookings and credit card pre-payment/security facilities in alignment with their accommodation inventory.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: investigations are ongoing to determine the most appropriate platform to implement for this activity. The team is considering a platform that will also support online bookings for bookable spaces. 	Completed
<p>Work with all operators to improve websites and online presences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Online platform will address this recommendation in due course. 	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve campground websites 	Online booking system
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update TDC own website 	Online booking system
Pahiatua Carnival Park – not legally incorporated	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enter new operational service deliver agreement/licence for an agreed initial term of 14 months with right of renewal of 2+3 years 	Historical agreement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disclose to TDC daily occupancy and full financial information included in new service delivery agreement/licence. 	Monitoring
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discontinue to pay the management fee in exchange for Board retaining the visitor fee and allowance for the operator to remain in the onsite house under a legal tenancy agreement at peppercorn or low rent. 	<p>Delete. Management fees</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Carnival Park priorities Campground operation
Eketahuna Motor Camp	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TDC to work with the current operators to enter into a new licence agreement where maximum stays are enforced and daily occupancy and full financial information disclosed 	Developing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree an initial term of 14 months with negotiated renewal 	

Dannevirke Holiday Park	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renew contract for a further 14 months with recommended variations 	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relocate the non-compliant basic A-Frame cabin 	Repurpose as needed
Woodville Campground	
<p>a) Council de-register the Woodville site as a camping ground and instead runs this facility in the immediate term as a self-contained overnight campground.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: 	Delete
<p>b) Update advertising and signage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: no changes required 	Complete
<p>c) Continue with iSite for reservations and payments</p> <p>Action: no changes made. Online platform being investigated.</p>	Complete
<p>d) Add rubbish disposal and promote local laundromat services</p>	Completed
<p>e) Engage contractors for daily security and cleaning checks</p> <p>Action:</p>	Completed
<p>f) Operate as self-contained only freedom (free) camping over the Christmas Shutdown period</p>	Pending approval
<p>Each campground operator is agreeable to extending existing contracts. Variation schedules in development.</p>	

Strategic Priority	Interactive Council, Connect Communities & Thriving District	
Status Report	Customer Engagement	
	Reporting period	July 2025 – Dec 2025
	Activity Group Manager	Sandy Lowe
	Presented By	Dana Burnett

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

Activity highlights in reporting period
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the last quarter the team bid farewell to some key staff including Wyn Davidson (Pahiatua Library), Finn Panchaud (Woodville Library) and Hannah Hughes (Pahiatua Service Centre). • Recruitment for vacant roles, along with new casuals, was completed by the end of December 2025 for Pahiatua Library, Woodville Library and Pahiatua Service Centre. We have also engaged 3 new casuals. • While recruitment was occurring, there was some site closures due staff shortages from to vacancies and staff illnesses during November and December. The performance indicator on opening hours is currently being reviewed and will be included in the next report. • Training across services is ongoing with a focus on training new casuals and upskilling the successful permanent replacements. • 193 welcome packs were distributed across the district between July 2025 to January 2026. • A new visitor guide for Tararua District was produced in December 2025. • Information and isite monthly visitors averaged over 500 at Woodville, 185 at Pahiatua, 100 at Norsewood and nearly 300 at Eketahuna. Dannevirke has had consistent bus and show ticket bookings with the community now

becoming more familiar with the Dannevirke Customer Service Centre as a point of contact for these enquiries.

- The average wait time for calls was 17.59 seconds. For the same period in 2024 it was 15.01 seconds. The service performance measure in the LTP is less than 20 seconds.
- After piloting a smaller Raumatī Toa reading programme last year, a new, expanded Programme has more than doubled to 102 participants this year with this year's theme being "birds".

Libraries Tararua partnered with Dannevirke & Pahiatua Regent Theatres, Dannevirke Art Space & Community Garden and Tararua REAP. Through this partnership children were provided with opportunities to discover, explore, and interact with birds while keeping a reading log and collecting all 15 cards for entry in the prize draw. The grand finale on Wednesday 28 January was open to the wider community and included a visit from Zappo the Magician at Dannevirke and Pahiatua. A total of 293 attended. The excitement generated was a joy to see with lots of laughter and smiles.



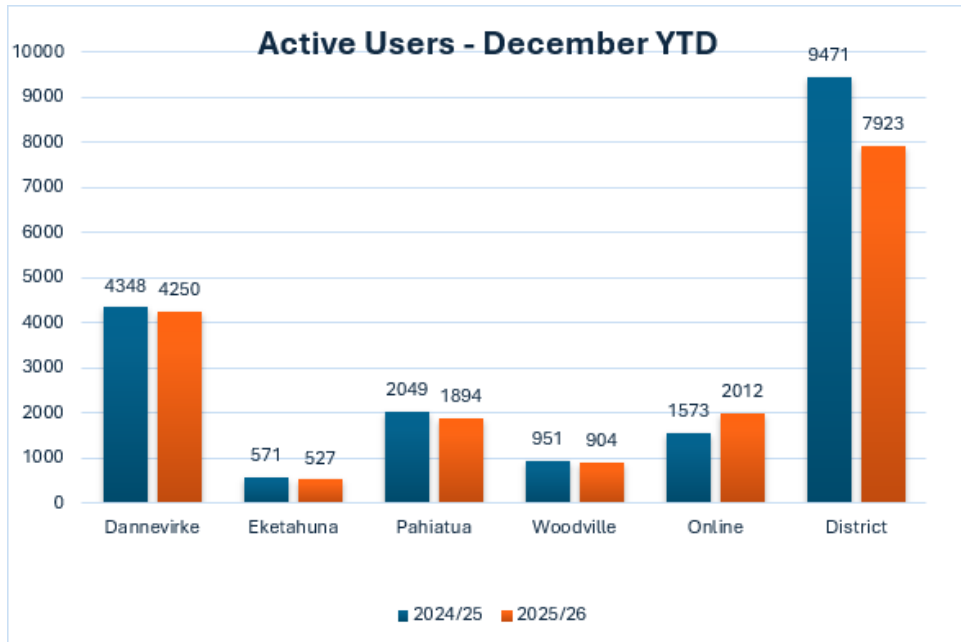
Priorities in upcoming reporting period

- Customer Engagement Team
 - Ensuring new staff including casuals have the skills and confidence to fulfil duties.
 - Upskilling and cross training across all sites
 - Continue to progress site integration at Woodville i-SITE, Library and Service Centre
- Project - Telecommunications and Contact Centre Solution is in the final stages and it is hoped the new system will be rolled out with staff trained by end of March.
- Review and analysis of reporting benchmarks and key performance indicators provided to this Committee to ensure they are useful and accurate.

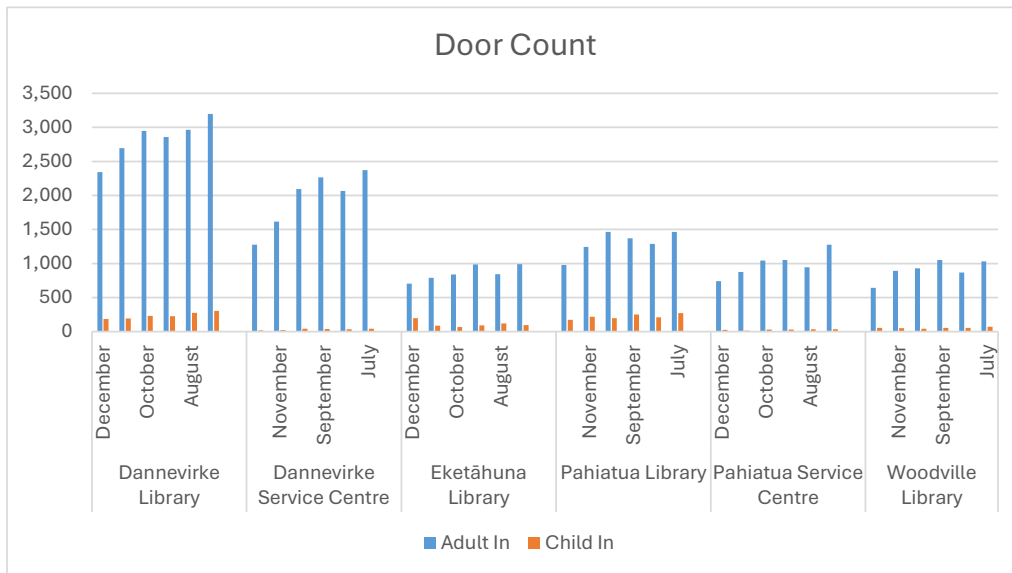
Key Performance Indicators

With the new manager for Customer Engagement commencing in the previous quarter a review of data and associated graphs is currently being undertaken. Below are a few of the basic metrics available:

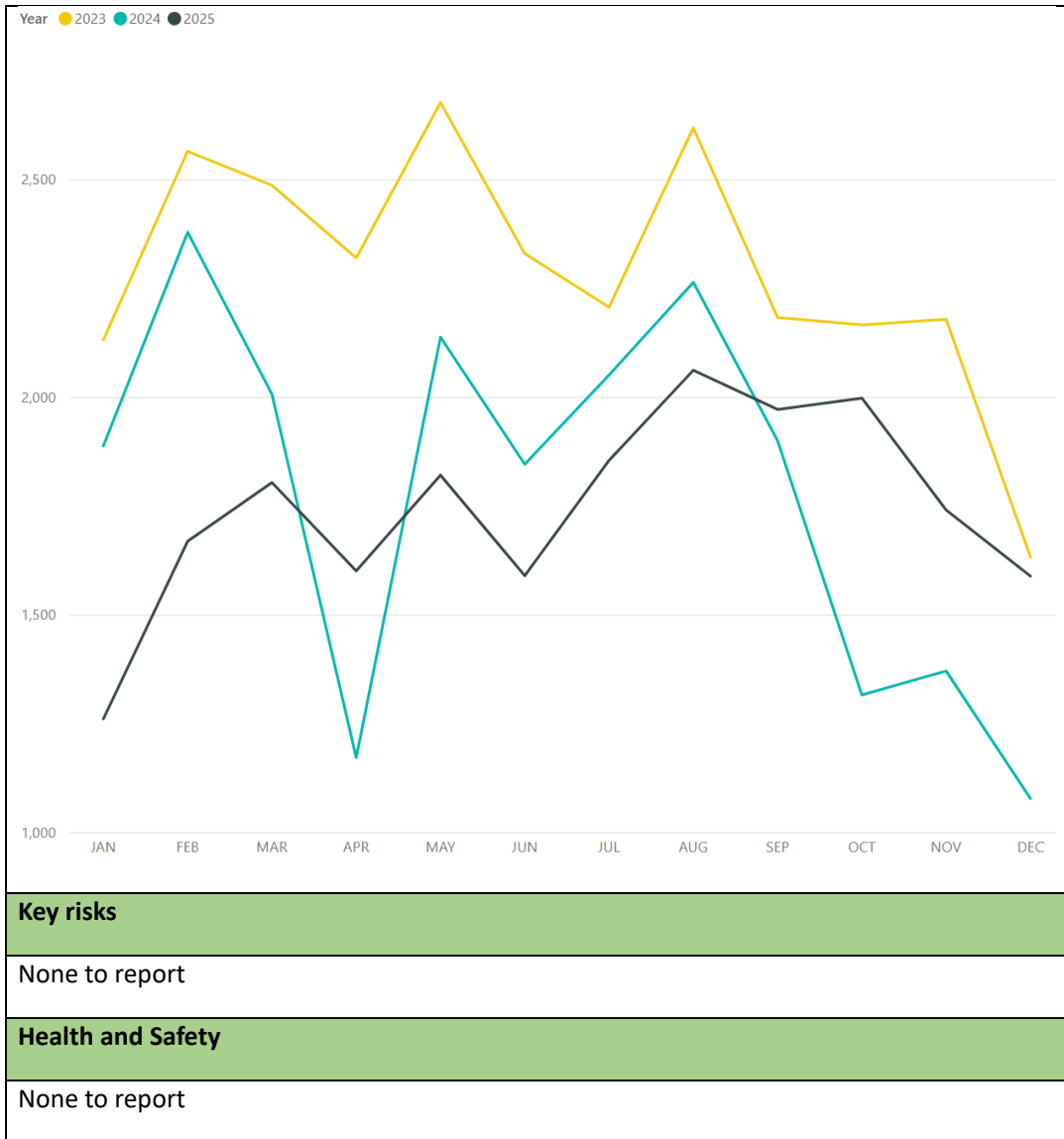
Monthly Active Library Users



Number of Visitors



Calls Over Time



Pahiatua Information Centre – Finances & Statistics

The below information is for the period 1 July to 31 December 2025 and has been provided to Tararua District Council from the Pahiatua Information Centre as per the terms of the funding agreement.

Income -

Opening Bank Balance	\$5,859.73
Tararua District Council	\$14,300.00
COGS	\$2,000.00
Sales	\$735.00
Signs	\$937.00
Sundries	\$15.00
Total Income	\$23,846.73

Expenditure

Rent	\$4,602.00
Power	\$747.48
Comms (phone, computer)	\$554.64
Stationary	\$39.46
New World	\$500.00
Bus bookings	\$277.40
Signs	\$1,730.00
Wages	\$8,981.00
Cleaning	\$1,450.00
Sundries	\$538.55
Total Expenditure	\$19,420.53

Balance as at 31 December 2025 **\$4,426.20**

Statistics

- 1,359 inquiries
- 208 phone
 - 900 Visits to Centre
 - 251 emails.
-
- ✓ 1277 from the local community
 - ✓ 62 domestic tourists
 - ✓ 20 international tourists

Strategic Priority	Interactive Council, Connect Communities & Thriving District	
Status Report	Community Engagement	
	Reporting period	Aug 2025 – Feb 2026
	Activity Group Manager	Sandy Lowe
	Presented By	Sarah Fountaine

Activity status	Overall	Staffing	H&S	Levels of service	Budget
Red: Roadblocks present Orange: Potential risks Green: on track					
District-wide Contestable fund					
Creative Communities funding					
Projects - Solar					

Activity highlights in reporting period
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodville Community Plan - Presented at the Positively Woodville Community meeting in October and formally adopted by the Committee. Printing of the final plan is currently underway. • Eketahuna Community plan – will be going back to the community board meeting 28 February for updates and revisions. • Energy Efficiency and conservation Authority (EECA) partial funding for 5 Sites to install solar panels and batteries, progressing well, 2 sites with Quotes submitted, with the other 3 not far behind, Milestones being meet. – Unable to announce the location and names of sites selected until this has been announced by EECA. • Creating a NEW quarterly funding Newsletter first addition January 2026 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Includes – updates, insights into local funders, practical resources that can strengthen funding applications. • District-wide Contestable fund August 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 33 Applications – 18 successful applications ○ \$41,938 total funding allocated • Urgent district wide Contestable fund applications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2 urgent applications – 1 successful ○ \$395 Total funding allocated

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District-wide Contestable fund next round of applications opens 2 February – 4 March 2026 • Creative Communities functions transitioning to Community Engagement July 2025. • Creative communities funding September 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 11 successful applications ○ \$20,299.12 total funding allocated • Creative Communities next round of applications will open 2 March – 6 April 2026 						
<p>Priorities in upcoming reporting period</p>						
<p>Community Plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalise and present the updated Eketāhuna Community Plan to the Community Board. • Begin early planning for implementation phases of both Woodville and Eketāhuna plans. <p>EECA Solar & Battery Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete quote submissions for the remaining three sites. • Continue meeting project milestones and prepare for public announcement of selected sites once approved by EECA. <p>Funding and Grants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote and administrate the District-wide Contestable Fund round opening 2 February – 4 March 2026. • Prepare for the Creative Communities funding round opening 2 March – 6 April 2026. • Early stages of Panning a Funding Forum for the Tararua District 						
<p>Key risks</p>						
<p>None to report</p>						
<p>Health and Safety</p>						
<p>None to report</p>						
<p>Key performance indicators</p>						
<p>Community Plan - The key outcome for this activity is for every local community within the Tararua District to develop a Community-Led Development Plan (“Community Plan”). Each plan will articulate the community’s key aspirations and identify the priority projects that will help achieve these aspirations.</p>						
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Community</th> <th>Stage/Status</th> <th>Key Date</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Norsewood</td> <td>Adopted</td> <td>September 2024</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Community	Stage/Status	Key Date	Norsewood	Adopted	September 2024
Community	Stage/Status	Key Date				
Norsewood	Adopted	September 2024				

Pahiatua	Adopted	September 2024
Woodville	Adopted Printed	October 2025 January 2026
Eketāhuna	Draft in Preparation	In progress
Dannevirke	Not Started	

District-wide Contestable Fund

The Tararua District Council is committed to supporting the long-term growth and development of our community, the District-Wide Contestable Fund will support requests that contribute to a connected and thriving district.

- Thriving district
- Local culture and traditions
- Improving environment
- Improving facilities and infrastructure
- Enhanced community wellbeing
- Collaborative effort

District-Wide Contestable funding rounds	Type of Request Breakdown	Approved Amount breakdown	Areas supported (excluding sport/travel)	Accountability report completion
February 2025 Round 1 2024/2025	Event – 6 Project – 8 Sport/Travel - 2	Event – \$9,836 Project – \$31,462.70 Sport/Travel - \$3,200	Rural – 1 Northern - 7 Southern - 6	Received – 11 Not yet received - 5
May 2025 Round 2 2024/2025	Event – 5 Project – 14 Sport/Travel - 3	Event – \$4,688.5 Project – \$40,811.50 Sport/Travel - \$7,500	Rural - 2 Northern - 9 Southern - 8	Received – 2 Not yet received - 20
August 2025 Round 2 2025/2026	Event – 6 Project – 9 Sport/Travel - 3	Event – \$7,943 Project – \$29,995 Sport/Travel - \$4,000	Rural - 3 Northern - 9 Southern - 4	Received – 2 Not yet received - 16
Urgent Funding 2024/2025	No Urgent funding requests during this time.			
Urgent Funding 2025/2026	Sport/Travel - 4	Sport/Travel - \$4,395		Received – 2 Not yet received - 2

Creative Communities Tararua

The Creative Communities New Zealand funding scheme supports and encourages local communities to create and present diverse opportunities for accessing and participating in arts activities in their area, or for a defined community of interest.

The scheme supports a wide range of arts projects under the following art forms - craft/object arts, dance, inter-arts, literature, Māori arts, multi-art forms (including film, music, Pacific arts, theatre, and visual arts.

Creative Communities fund	Type of Request Breakdown	Approved amount breakdown	Areas supported
September 2025 Round 1 2025/2026	Event - 5 Project - 6	Event - \$7,573 Project - \$12,726.12	Rural - 1 Northern - 4 Southern - 4 District wide - 2

Decision Action Items from Minutes - Eketāhuna Community Board

Meeting Date	Topic	Decision/Action	Due Date	Assigned to	Status	Progress Notes
23 February 2026	Nominations for Alf Rowden Humanitarian Award 2026	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. Barclay/Smith Carried		Steen McGhie	Complete In progress On hold Overdue Not started	Advert in BT placed, Board to decide on venue and date for awards
23 February 2026	New Residents Meeting	New Residents Meeting - Board member Barclay to book a date for this meeting to be held in April and the Eketāhuna Club would be used as the venue.		Larissa Barclay	Complete	Held at Eketāhuna Club 19 April 2026 @ 3pm
23 February 2026	Notifications of items not on the Agenda	Potholes - the Chairperson advised of a CRM he submitted regarding potholes on South Road Number 2 and noted that although markings had been put around the holes, the repairs had not yet been undertaken. He sought an update on progress with this work		Hamish Featonby/Andrew Desmond	Complete	Repair completed 27/2/2026 - Update provided in attachment

8.2 Decision Action Items for Eketāhuna Community Board
Attachment 2 Smith Road Eketāhuna Pothole Repair

Dispatch Detail - #14/121028 - Complete

Progress Notes

Added On	Note
27/02/2026 13:05	1700 2502 2026 - Completed by Figgy
29/01/2026 13:00	1259 2901 2026 - Programmed for FEB

General

Contract: Taranua Alliance 2017 (14)

Asset: Sealed Pavement - DNZ (AMDS)

Dispatch: 121028

Call Type: Public (CRM)

Priority: 2 - Identified Low

Fault: Pothole - Fill Hole

Assigned To: Paora Rakatau

Programme: 2025-26 08 Feb

Programme Category:

Dayworks: No

Location & Dimensions: SOUTH RD NO 2, EKETĀHUNA, Access

Reference, Multimedia & Customer Details: 1 photo

Analysis:

Response:

Progress Notes: 2 progress notes





Report

Date : 17 April 2026

To : Chairperson and Board Members
Eketahuna Community Board

From : Allie Dunn
Manager - Democracy Services

Subject : **Annual Plan 2026-27 and Early Engagement on Long Term Plan**

Item No : **8.3**

1. Recommendation

- 1.1 *That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 09 April 2026 concerning the Annual Plan 2026-27 and Early Engagement on Long Term Plan be received.*
- 1.2 *That the Eketāhuna Community Board notes that the Tararua District Council resolved not to consult on the 2026-27 Annual Plan and encourages the community to provide feedback in the upcoming early engagement for the 2027-37 Long Term Plan.*

2. Reason for the Report

- 2.1 To inform the Board that the Council resolved not to consult on the 2026-27 Annual Plan and encourages the community to provide feedback in the upcoming early engagement for the 2027-37 Long Term Plan.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Council prepares and consults on a Long Term Plan every three years. The current Long Term Plan came into effect on 1 July 2024. The Long Term Plan is a statutory document that every council must prepare to outline how it will deliver services, manage infrastructure, and fund its activities over at least the next 10 years.

3.2 The Long Term Plan is updated every three years, and the next update is underway for the Long Term Plan that will take effect from 1 July 2027.

3.3 In years two and three of the period for which the Long Term Plan applies, the Council must review the Plan and prepare an Annual Plan to focus on the planned services and funding requirements relating to the coming financial year. If there are any material or significant changes proposed, the Council is required to undertake formal public consultation.

3.4 For year three of the current Long Term Plan, the Council reviewed the planned services and funding requirements and confirmed there were no material or significant changes from year three of the Long Term Plan, and therefore no public consultation was required.

4. Discussion and considerations

4.1 Council staff reviewed the planned services and funding needs and made small adjustments to the timing and costs of some projects, as outlined in the agenda for the 25 March 2026 Council meeting. They also used several financial tools to help reduce the average rates increase, including:

- Partial funding of depreciation for the three waters activities similar to last year. This aligns with the Government's Local Water Done Well framework, which enables asset renewals to be funded through debt rather than rates-funded depreciation;
- Partial un-funding of the community building activity, supported by a healthy depreciation reserve and ongoing land and building rationalisation project;
- Inclusion of operational funding for the new Pahiatua Swimming Pool for only six months of the 2026/2027 financial year (as external funding is still pending);
- A recommendation to utilise the general purpose (Infracon sale proceeds) reserve to reduce the rates smoothing repayment required for the roading activity from year 1 of the 2024/2034 Long Term Plan; and
- Revision of the debt repayment plan from 2% to 1.5%.

4.2 As a result of this focus on affordability and financial prudence, the proposed average rates increase for the 2026-27 financial year is 4.83%, lower than the 11.84% rates increase forecast in the Long Term Plan.

5. Early Engagement for the 2027-37 Long Term Plan

5.1 The following is an extract from the report included in the 25 March 2026 Council agenda, regarding the planned early engagement for the 2027-37 Long Term Plan.

“Early engagement for the 2027-37 Long Term Plan will run from 20 April 2026 to 31 May 2026 and is designed to involve the community at the beginning of the decision-making process.

Local government is facing significant change, alongside increasing cost pressures and community expectations. Council cannot continue to deliver all services at current levels without impacting affordability. As a result, the Long Term Plan will require clear prioritisation and trade-offs.

This phase of engagement focuses on helping the community understand these trade-offs and contribute to decisions about what Council should prioritise, reduce, or stop. The engagement approach is centred on a clear message: when everything matters, what matters most?

A key tool supporting this approach is the Investment Challenge, which allows residents to explore funding trade-offs and indicate their preferences across Council services. This is supported by targeted communications, community outreach, and stakeholder engagement to ensure a broad range of views are captured.

Feedback gathered during this period will directly inform the development of options for consultation later in the Long Term Plan process. It will also help shape Council’s understanding of community priorities, risk appetite, and willingness to pay.

This approach represents a shift from traditional consultation by involving the community earlier, providing clearer information about constraints, and enabling more meaningful input into the choices ahead.”

6. Delegated Responsibilities of the Community Board

6.1 The responsibilities of the Dannevirke Community Board, as delegated to it by the Tararua District Council, include:

- “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.”*

- 6.2 A strong level of community involvement early in the Long Term Plan process brings several benefits. It helps residents understand the issues and provide thoughtful, useful feedback. It also gives people a clear and accessible way to take part in local decision-making. As engagement grows, this can positively affect Council's reputation and trust can be improved. The ideas and concerns shared by the community can then be clearly reflected in the Long Term Plan consultation document. Most importantly, it ensures that feedback is gathered from all key groups across the district.
- 6.3 Community Boards and Community Committees are identified as key stakeholders in the early engagement process.

7. Conclusion

- 7.1 As part of its delegated responsibilities, the Community Board has the responsibility for facilitating input in the Long Term Plan, and preparing a submission to the budgetary process of Council for expenditure within the community.
- 7.2 In this respect the Board is asked to assist with raising awareness within the community about the opportunity for members of the community to participate in the early engagement on the Long Term Plan, and note that as a stakeholder, the Board will be asked to engage in the process itself.
- 7.3 The Board is also asked to help spread awareness of the reasons for not consulting on the 2026-27 Annual Plan as set out in this report.

Attachments

Nil.



Report

Date : 23 April 2026
To : Chairperson and Board Members
Eketahuna Community Board
From : Simone Anthony
Democracy Support Officer
Subject : **Portfolio Programme Project Report**
Item No : **8.4**

1. Recommendation

- 1.1 *That the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 23 April 2026 concerning the Portfolio Programme Project Report be received.*

2. Reason for the Report











- 2.1 This report is an update to the Board on the key portfolios, programmes and project statuses reported at the Infrastructure and Projects Committee meeting held 15 April 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. 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.

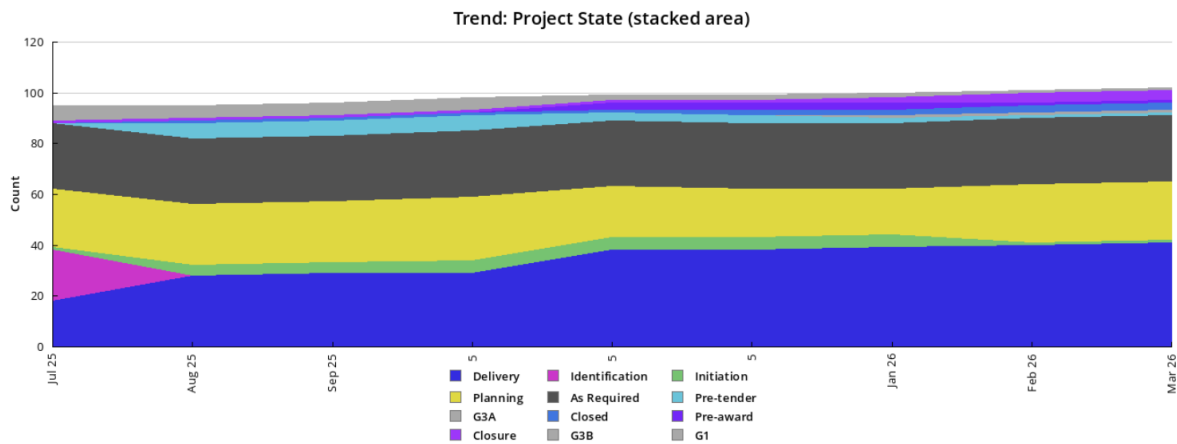
Portfolio Health Status	Forecast	General Comment
 Green		<p>Committed projects have increased delivery momentum during this reporting period with two significant high value projects entering into the delivery phase. This year has many significant high value critical infrastructure projects to move forward which requires a sharp eye on resourcing and ensuring capability to deliver versus workload.</p>
Schedule	 Green	 <p>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. Recent good weather has allowed significant progress at Pahiatua wastewater treatment plant and has meant previous forecast for completion is not compromised.</p>
Budget	 Green	 <p>Budgets are currently tracking well. The Reservoirs project costs will need confirming so that we ensure we have certainty however can be mitigated within the programme tolerances. Impound supply pre-treatment costs have been confirmed and has been allowed for in the Annual Plan for year 3.</p>
Risk	 Green	 <p>Project risks to note are the ongoing concerns 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.</p>
Resourcing	 Amber	 <p>We are prioritising our resource limitations, continuity issues, specialised skills and contractor availability against our operational requirements and delivery schedules. However, PMO (Project Management Office) 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.</p>

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.				

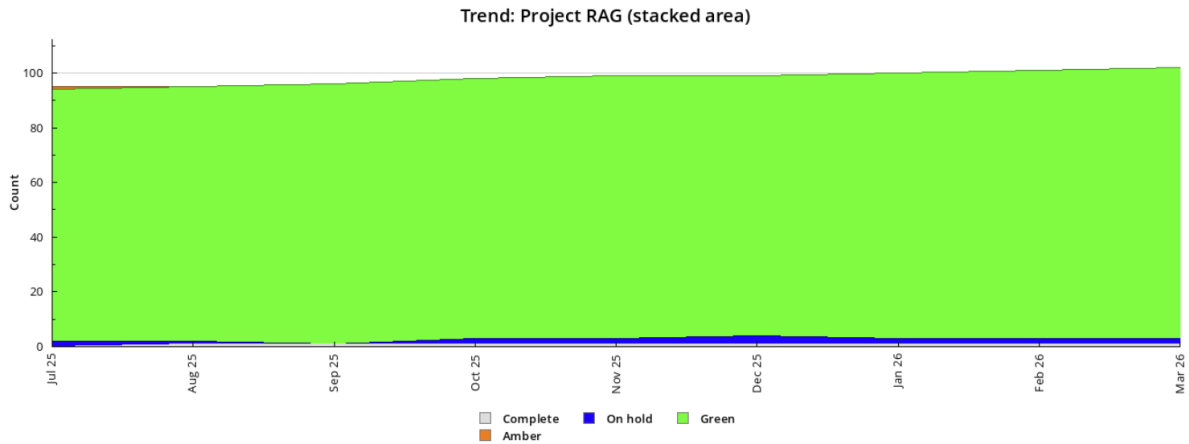
5. Capital Project by State

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.



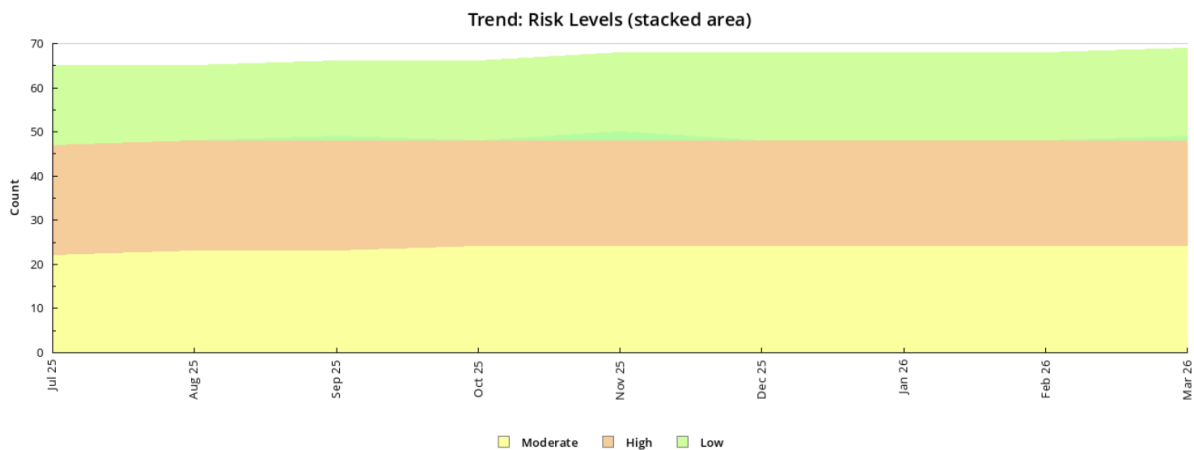
6. Capital Project by Status

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 (Red Amber Green) 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



Infrastructure

Project	Managed by	Comments	Status
Wastewater Ponds Perimeter Safety	Dave Watson	Dannevirke completed. Dave is consulting on next site priority.	On Track

Project	Managed by	Comments	Status
Fencing			
3Waters Infrastructure Enhancement Project	Sue Lawrence	Backflow prevention policy is currently on hold due to new Council and CCO. Looking at new CCO requirements. Project will be completed and all funding spent by end of June.	

Facilities and Corporate

Project	Managed by	Comments	Status
District Parks and Reserves Playground Equipment	Robert Hood	PM's have been doing minor repairs across the district. Shade sails for Eketahuna have been ordered and due for install in 6 weeks. Junior playground for Dannevirke Domain playground has been ordered. Need further funding for the surface at Eketahuna. Awaiting quote for edging work to contain bark placement at various other playgrounds	
Eketahuna Cliff Walk Track Upgrade	Fontayne Chase	Working on an alternative delivery of the Cliff Walk upgrade with the Eke Our Town committee.	
Other significant completed projects	Robert Hood	Dannevirke Library - replacement of façade roof gable cladding completed (in conjunction with neighbours). Painting scheduled for Tues next week. Eketahuna Health Centre - new boundary fence built	

Attachments

1. [SCADA Phase 2 Committee Report March 2026](#)

Project name

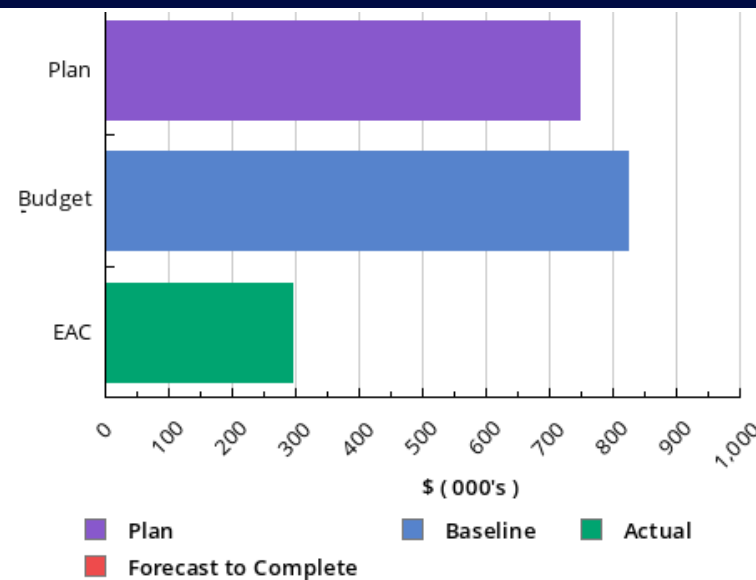
Telemetry and SCADA Upgrade Phase 2



Report date:	Start date:	Approved end date:	Projected end date:
Mar-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:

\$295,515

Estimate at completion:

\$295,515

64% Under budget

	Status update:		
	PREVIOUS STATUS	CURRENT STATUS	
Overall:	G	G	VPN/Server upgrade vendor is 99% complete with only the closing paperwork and manuals to be supplied. Pongaroa & Akitio Water Treatment Plants (WTP) have had their upgrades successfully completed. Dvk WTP upgrade has been planned through a multi-vendor workshop and is due to take place in May. Pahiatua wastewater pumpstations along with repeater stations to be installed in this financial year to lessen the load on next year's push to complete this multi-year project. 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.
Scope:	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.
Time:	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)
Budget:	A	A	We are currently on schedule to spend all of the Yr 2 budget on completion of Dannevirke WTP. Annual Plan has been accepted which had projected completion of these works in 26/27.
Quality:	G	G	To follow best practice and all NZ Standards that are applicable.
Risks:	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.
Opportunities:	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.
Health & Safety:	G	G	All vendors are Sitewise accredited
Resources:	G	G	Appropriate resources are available and workloads are currently sufficient.
Comms:	G	G	Communications plan complete

Next steps:

- Upgrade of Pahiatua wastewater pumpstations and radio repeaters
- 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	Pahiatua WwPS & Radio Repeater Upgrade	Dannevirke WTP/WI/Res	Workshop Planning Meeting for Project Completion Schedule	FINISH
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Report

Date : 28 April 2026
To : Chairperson and Board Members
Eketahuna Community Board
From : Allie Dunn
Manager - Democracy Services
Subject : **Eketahuna Community Board Budget Update**
Item No : **8.5**

1. Recommendation

1.1 *That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 23 April 2026 concerning the Eketahuna Community Board Budget Update be received.*

2. Reason for the Report

2.1 To provide an update to the Board of the status of their discretionary budget.

3. Background

3.1 The Community Board funding is ratepayer funded, and this is budgeted for through the Long Term Plan.

3.2 The Eketahuna Community Board has been provided with discretionary funding of \$3,541.00 for the 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 financial year.

3.3 This funding is the sole source of income for the Community Board's activities. All expenditure the Board commits to is funded from this amount.

3.4 The balance remaining for this current financial year is \$2,476.00.

4. Discussion and Considerations

4.1 At its meeting held 10 March 2025, the Board adopted a new process whereby one-third of the Board's discretionary budget would be set aside to use for grants

funding. It was agreed that up to two formal advertised funding rounds would be held each year, depending on the availability of its funding. These would be advertised, and applications sought, with the Board considering all of the applications at the same meeting. This ensures a fair process where the community benefit of the applications are taken into consideration in the decision-making, and there can be wider awareness in the community of the availability of the fund.

4.2 Following the first round of funding held in July / August 2025, a total of \$852.18 (GST exclusive) was awarded to grant recipients. This left \$147.82 available to the Board to undertake a second funding round.

4.3 However, the agreed amount set aside for funding is mostly expended, and there would be insufficient time to advertise the availability, call for applications, then hold a formal meeting to make decisions on allocation of the funding, and pay those funds out, prior to the end of the financial year on 30 June 2026.

4.4 At the end of the financial year, all expended budget is zeroed off. Only funding for approved capital expenditure can be considered for carry-forward to the next financial year.

Alf Rowden Award

4.5 The Board will be considering nominations for the Alf Rowden Award at this meeting in public excluded session, and making a decision on the successful recipient for this year.

4.6 An awards ceremony will need to be organised, with the costs associated with this being funded from the Board's discretionary fund.

4.7 Costs will include:

- Engraving and polishing of the Trophy;
- Framing of Certificate;
- Bouquet of flowers; and
- Catering for Awards Ceremony.

4.8 Costs for the above are likely to be in the vicinity of \$700 based on previous year's expenditure.

Other Forecast Expenditure

4.9 Anzac Day Wreath: \$150 (not yet invoiced at time of reporting)

4.10 If the Board had other projects planned there is sufficient funding left for expenditure prior to 30 June 2026.

5. Significance Assessment

- 5.1 The Council's Significance and Engagement Policy is not triggered by matters raised in this report.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The Board is asked to note the balance available in its budget for the remainder of this financial year.

Attachments

Nil.

From: [Customer Relations](#)
To: [Simone Anthony](#)
Subject: NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi - 40402256
Date: Wednesday, 11 March 2026 8:50:45 am
Attachments: [Letter to NZTA from Eketahuna Community Board - Speed limit signs on Te Ahu a Turanga.docx](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image005.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.

Kia ora Simone

Thank you for your email.

I have liaised with the Safety Practice Lead and can confirm your letter dated 11 September 2025 has been reviewed, and your concerns have been noted for consideration in future reviews. However, the original decision remains unchanged, and NZTA is not planning to install additional 100km/h signs on this route.

Ngā mihi

Keely Puklowski

Customer Relations Advisor

Te Mahau - Customer Services

NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi

Palmerston North Office

Private Bag 11777, Palmerston North 4442, New Zealand



From: Simone.Anthony@Taruadc.govt.nz
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2026 11:09 AM
To: customer.relations@nzta.govt.nz
Subject: RE: Te Ahu a Turanga Speed Limit signs

You don't often get email from simone.anthony@taruadc.govt.nz. [Learn why this is important](#)

Kia ora,

I am just following up on the email below - the Eketāhuna Community Board have not received a response regarding the attached letter.

This is the second letter regarding this concern, the response in the email

conversation below is in relation to the first letter sent by the Board.

Ngā mihi,



Simone Anthony | Democracy Support Officer

Democracy Services | Tararua District Council

📞 | Mobile: +64 27 3125641

✉️ Simone.Anthony@Tararuadc.govt.nz

📍 26 Gordon Street, Dannevirke 4930, PO Box 115

🌐 www.tararuadc.govt.nz

📘 www.facebook.com/tararuadc

From: Simone Anthony

Sent: Thursday, 11 September 2025 2:44 pm

To: Dan Tate <Dan.Tate@nzta.govt.nz>

Cc: Customer Relations <customer.relations@nzta.govt.nz>

Subject: CM: RE: Te Ahu a Turanga Speed Limit signs

Kia ora Dan,

Please find attached the letter of response from the Eketāhuna Community Board following discussions at their meeting held 8 September 2025.

Ngā mihi,



Simone Anthony | Democracy Support Officer

Democracy Services | Tararua District Council

📞 | Mobile: +64 27 3125641

✉️ Simone.Anthony@Tararuadc.govt.nz

📍 26 Gordon Street, Dannevirke 4930, PO Box 115

🌐 www.tararuadc.govt.nz

📘 www.facebook.com/tararuadc

From: Dan Tate <Dan.Tate@nzta.govt.nz>

Sent: Wednesday, 13 August 2025 4:37 pm

To: Simone Anthony <Simone.Anthony@Tararuadc.govt.nz>

Subject: Te Ahu a Turanga Speed Limit signs

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

Great chatting with you today. As requested, here is the summary of the Agency feedback in writing.

The speed limit over Te Ahu a Turanga is 100km/h. 100km/h is considered one of the two default speed limits in New Zealand, the other being 50km/h. Road Controlling Authorities such as NZTA and TDC generally do not install repeater signs for these default speed limits.

We are not planning to install additional 100km/h signs on this route.

Ngā mihi

Dan Tate (he/him)

Team Leader – Safety Engineer, eMBA (Hons), BE (Hons)

System and Safety Performance, System Design

Te ara ki te ora – kia marutau | Transport Services

Email: dan.tate@nzta.govt.nz

Palmerston North Regional Office

Private Bag 11777, Palmerston North 4442, New Zealand

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www.nzta.govt.nz

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**Minutes of 'Eketahuna Radio Station' meeting held 26th March 2026
@ 7.00pm at St Johns Hall, Eketahuna**

Present: Larissa Barclay, Emma Elliott, Margaret Drysdale, Colin Fraser-Davies, Chris Corlett, Mel Corlett, Dave Smith

Apologies: Peter Pollitt, Eric Bodell, Charlotte Dance, Aaron Montgomery

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

Moved: Larissa Seconded: Chris

Matters arising:

1. PC Replacement: Chris has not managed to get onto sourcing one yet, He has been a bit too busy, but he will get onto it. Seeking a second-hand ex lease PC with new hard drive and he will also see what else might need doing with it.
2. Colin's Community Newsletter entry was great.
3. Logo Poster: Larissa to work with Mel on it, Mel will have a little play and see what she can come up with.
4. Charlotte has handed current printed surveys to the local library for people to fill out, Emma will print more for Charlotte to deliver to other businesses.

Inward Correspondence: Email informing Eketahuna Radio Society that the recent grant application for the Contestable Fund 2025/2026 Round two has been approved. For partial funding of \$2,420.00 to assist with the purchase of Off Grid Solar Panel Kit, Solar Panels and Eaton 5E Gen 2 Tower UPS to support our Emergency Management Infrastructure Project. Payment will be processed on Friday 10 April 2026 and will show in account within 5 business days.

A final report must be submitted after the project is completed, within 12 months of receiving the grant or completing the project (which ever comes first) There are simple process guidelines and requirements to be included in the report, which are documented at the bottom of the email.

Outward correspondence: Nil

General Business: Meeting minutes need to be in and available for the next Community Board meeting, following our meeting.

Next Community Board meeting is May 4th 2026, Email to Allie Dunn by 20th April.

Waireka funding: Apologies from Emma, This did not happen due to her overload of work and other commitments.

Reports: Treasurers report: Presented by Emma E. Discussed and Filed

Moved Larissa **Seconded** Chris

Chris moved the financial report be adopted Seconded: Larissa

General Business:

Additional costs to keep in mind:

1. There is a cost that we need to take into consideration, something to do with copyright, over and above the APRA licence fee.
2. Funding of around 2.5K needed for a new generator. ECCT app?
3. Replacement transmitter for 88.5 will need getting soon

Governance: Colin and Emma had their first governance meeting; Emma was grateful for the support from Colin with this. They have now completed the reregistration of Radio Eketahuna with Incorporated Societies, under the new 2022 act.

Charlotte enquired about the spare key; Chris will sort it for her.

Community Newsletter:

Reminder, please get your community newsletter bits to Colin by the 18th of each month so he can get them together to forward onto Kerrie by the 20th.

Colin will put a notice in the April Community Newsletter, to thank locals for supporting the radio station over the past 12 months through purchasing raffles, buying Tee shirts or through sponsorship etc, with an added mention of how funds have been used or how it has made a difference or contributed to the operation and running of the station, which in turn is supporting and enhancing our/their community.

Meeting closed 8.00 pm

Next meeting April 23rd@ 7.51pm, St John Hall, Eketahuna

Chairperson, Larissa Barclay

Secretary, Margaret Drysdale

Feedback on Proposed Relocation of Recycling Station

As a property owner on Bridge Street I am writing this in support of relocating the public recycling facility.

I struggle to understand and beggar belief how in 2026 this facility has been able to remain at its current location. As pointed out in the Community Board report, there is constantly broken glass in and around the area. With both the playground and swimming pool within close proximity, there is always foot traffic passing through, often of small children who are barefooted. In terms of a Health and Safety perspective this must be of great concern. Not everyone using the facility does the right thing by rinsing items being recycled which does attract wasps and other unwanted insects. Often, rubbish bags are left beside the bins which attacks rodents and feral cats. The entire area is a complete eyesore!

I shudder when seeing the truck arriving for changing over the bins. Manoeuvring around an area which has high foot traffic must be a safety concern!

In July 2022, the Tararua District Council introduced kerbside recycling wheelie bins and glass crates for urban properties in Eketahuna. This was part of a long term plan initiative to improve waste management. I strongly believe this should have been the time to address the current recycling facility which was now not required by urban residents. For the past (coming up) 4 years, the facility has predominantly been used by rural people and therefore travelling to the facility by car, car and trailer, ute or truck. It is not uncommon on a beautiful sunny weekend with many visitors stopping to enjoy our town to have vehicles loaded up (even with trailer) emptying loads of glass bottles and the sound of broken glass echoing out through the town. It is very unpleasant hearing as early at 7am and as late at 9pm (in the summer) the sound of glass bottles being dropped. As pointed out, it is not urban residents using the facility as they have fortnightly kerbside collection.

As the majority of people using the current facility are arriving in a vehicle, they would not be inconvenienced if the facility was moved to a more appropriate location. Infact, I believe if the current users were asked, most would not object and would support a location away from urban residents. Having spoken to a number of urban residents (especially people living on Bridge St) they would be ecstatic if the recycling facility was

moved out of the town. It is noisy, unsightly and has a negative impact to the image we are trying to create for encouraging people to stop, relax and enjoy what our town has to offer.

I have taken the time to research where other councils have their recycling facilities and it is not usual for them to be located in urban areas, and definitely not within spitting distance of the main street. They are often at the towns transfer station. I am therefore suggesting, which was also mentioned at the meeting that a more appropriate location would be at our Merchant Street Transfer Station. It would therefore be a better location in terms of Health and Safety and for the convenience of the users.

Eketahuna is a lovely town where we have seen increased traffic both passing through and stopping to enjoy our café, playground and local walks. Having a recycling facility in amongst this is both unsightly and a safety risk. Together with many others I have spoken to, we are 100 percent backing a move of the current recycling facility.

I support the area to be used as a recreational area especially for our youth. The idea of a basketball court is exciting and it compliments the other existing facilities in the area.

Kind Regards

Kate Skeet

