

MASTERTON DISTRICT COUNCIL

AGENDA

INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 17 NOVEMBER AT 1:00PM

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

Cr B Johnson (Chairperson)

Her Worship

Cr B Gare

Cr G McClymont

Cr T Nelson

Cr C Peterson

Tiraumaera Te Tau

Cr G Caffell

Cr D Holmes

Cr F Mailman

Cr T Nixon

Cr S Ryan

Ra Smith

Quorum: Seven

Notice is given that the meeting of the Masterton District Council Infrastructure and Services Committee will be held on 17 November 2021 at Waiata House, 27 Lincoln Road, Masterton commencing at 1.00pm.

**RECOMMENDATIONS IN REPORTS ARE NOT TO BE CONSTRUED AS COUNCIL
POLICY UNTIL ADOPTED**

12 November 2021



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AGENDA

1. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (Members to declare conflicts, if any)
2. APOLOGIES
3. PUBLIC FORUM
4. LATE ITEMS

FOR DECISION

5. **APPROVAL OF SUBMISSION TO THE MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT:
TE HAU MĀROHI KI ANAMATA: TRANSITIONING TO A LOW-EMISSIONS AND
CLIMATE-RESILIENT FUTURE DISCUSSION DOCUMENT (210/21)** Pages 311-357

FOR RECOMMENDATION

6. **AMENDMENTS TO THE WAIRARAPA CONSOLIDATED BYLAW, PART 10: TRAFFIC
BYLAW SCHEDULE (211/21)** Pages 358-362

FOR INFORMATION

7. **THREE WATERS REFORMS UPDATE (212/21)** Pages 363-375
8. **REGULATORY SERVICES INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES UPDATE (213/21)**
Pages 376-389
9. **COMMUNITY FACILITIES & ACTIVITIES INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES UPDATE
(214/21)** Pages 390-396
10. **INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE (215/21)** Pages 397-407

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|---------------------|--|
| To: | Infrastructure and Services Committee |
| From: | Nerissa Aramakutu, Policy Manager |
| Endorsed by: | David Hopman, Acting Chief Executive |
| Date: | 17 November 2021 |
| Subject: | Approval of submission to the Ministry for the Environment: Te hau mārohi ki anamata: Transitioning to a low-emissions and climate-resilient future Discussion Document |

DECISION

Recommendation:

That the Infrastructure and Services Committee:

1. **notes** that the three Wairarapa District Councils have agreed to make a joint submission in response to the Ministry for the Environment's *Te hau mārohi ki anamata: Transitioning to a low-emissions and climate-resilient future* discussion document, and
2. **approves** the three Wairarapa District Council's draft submission on the *Te hau mārohi ki anamata: Transitioning to a low-emissions and climate-resilient future* discussion document (Refer Attachment 1 to Report 210/21).

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek the Infrastructure and Services Committee's approval of a draft submission developed by the three Wairarapa District Councils in response to the Ministry for the Environment's consultation on the *Te hau mārohi ki anamata: Transitioning to a low-emissions and climate-resilient future* discussion document (Refer Attachment 1).

Context

Te hau mārohi ki anamata: Transitioning to a low-emissions and climate-resilient future

The Ministry for the Environment (MfE) is consulting on what should be included in New Zealand's first emissions reduction plan via the *Te hau mārohi ki anamata: Transitioning to a low-emissions and climate-resilient future* discussion document. Consultation opened 13 October and will close on 24 November 2021.

The Emissions Reduction Plan (Plan) will set out the actions New Zealand will take to meet our first emissions budget, put us on the path to meet our second and third, and transition to a low-emissions future in a way that is achievable and affordable. The first Plan will be published in May 2022. The guiding principles for Government decisions on the Plan are:

1. A fair, equitable and inclusive transition
2. An evidence-based approach

3. Environmental and social benefits beyond emissions reductions
4. Upholding Te Tiriti o Waitangi
5. A clear, ambitious, and affordable path

The discussion document was informed by independent advice from the Climate Change Commission (the Commission) in June 2021. The discussion document can be found on the MfE website: <https://environment.govt.nz/publications/emissions-reduction-plan-discussion-document/>

We have already provided advice to the Climate Change Commission

The three Wairarapa District Councils submitted on the Climate Change Commission's 2021 Draft Advice in March 2021. The joint submission generally supported the Commission's draft advice, but also highlighted parts of the draft advice that from rural/provincial perspective will require Government's particular attention when it comes to policy development. Further detail of this submission is available in Report 031/21.

Three Wairarapa District Councils' Submission: Key Points

This submission is a joint submission of the three Wairarapa District Councils. This was developed in consultation with elected members that are members of the Wairarapa Climate Change Caucus¹.

The submission largely iterates the points that the three Wairarapa District Councils made in response to the Commission's 2021 Draft Advice in March 2021 and reinforces the role of local government in responding to climate change, as well as the resourcing that is required.

The submissions includes general feedback as well as responding to questions relating to the following areas: transition pathways, helping sectors adapt, working with our Tiriti partners, making an equitable transition, government accountability and coordination, funding and financing, emissions pricing, planning, research, science and innovation, behaviour change, moving to a circular economy, transport, energy and industry, building and construction, agriculture, waste, Fluorinated gases (F-gases), and forestry.

General feedback in this submission reflects the need for a Plan with a clear pathway on how the actions will be pursued and funded. It notes that many of the questions asked this consultation round were already asked when the Commission consulted on their Draft Advice and that there is a lack of detail in the discussion document than what was anticipated in terms of getting closer to seeing a draft Plan.

Strategic, Policy and Legislative Implications

The submission aligns with the intent of relevant the Council's policies and strategies.

Significance, Engagement and Consultation

The decision has been assessed against Council's Significance and Engagement Policy and is of low significance.

¹ Councillors Petersen and Ryan are Council's Wairarapa Climate Change Caucus members.

Communications/Engagement

No communication or engagement plan is required as a result of this decision to approve this draft submission.

Financial Considerations

No financial implications have been identified as a result of this decision to approve this draft submission.

Implications for Māori

The draft submission comments that iwi/Māori views should be imbedded in all climate change actions, and that the councils support any initiatives that will empower and adequately resource iwi and hapori Māori to participate in the development of any national climate change plans, including a transition strategy.

Environmental/Climate Change Impact and Considerations

There are no direct implications as a result of this decision to approve this draft submission.

Next Steps

Following approval by all three of the Wairarapa District Councils, the joint response will be submitted to the MfE before consultation closes on 24 November 2021.

Te hau mārohi ki anamata
Transitioning to a low-emissions and climate-resilient future

<https://environment.govt.nz/publications/emissions-reduction-plan-discussion-document/>
<https://consult.environment.govt.nz/climate/emissions-reduction-plan/consultation/>

Consultation 13 October 2021 – 24 November 2021

Your details

1. What is your name

Melanie Barthe – Carterton, Masterton and South Wairarapa District Councils

2. What is your email address?

You will receive an acknowledgment email when you submit your response

melanie@cdc.govt.nz

3. Which region are you in?

Select your region

Wellington

4. Are you submitting as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?

Individual

Organisation

5. If on behalf of an organisation, what type is it?

Iwi / Hapū

Central Government

Local Government

Business

Industry body

NGO

Registered charity

Other

Consent to release your submission

All or part of any written submission the Ministry for the Environment received electronically or in printed form, including your name, may be published on this website. Unless you indicate otherwise, the Ministry will consider that you have consented to website posting of both your submission and your name.

Submissions may also be released to the public under the Official Information Act 1982 following requests to the Ministry for the Environment. Please advise if you object to the release of any information contained in your submission and, in particular, which part(s) you consider should be withheld, together with the reason(s) for withholding the information.

The Privacy Act 2020 applies certain principles about the collection, use and disclosure of information about individuals by various agencies, including the Ministry for the Environment. It governs access by individuals to information about themselves held by agencies. Any personal information you supply to the Ministry in the course of making a submission will be used by agencies working on the emissions reduction plan (the Ministry for the Environment; Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment; Ministry of Transport; Ministry of Primary Industries; Ministry of Housing and Urban Development; Ministry of Social Development; Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet; Te Puni Kōkiri; Treasury; Te Arawhiti; Te Waihanga; Public Service Commission; Waka Kotahi; Energy Efficiency & Conservation Authority) only in relation to developing the emissions reduction plan, including assessing policies within the plan. Please clearly indicate in your submission if you do not wish your name to be included in any summary of submissions that the Ministry for the Environment may publish.

1. Do you consent to your submission being published on this website?

Yes

Yes, but I don't want my name to be published with my submission

No

2. If yes to the above, clearly state if there are parts of your submission that you do not want published

All of the submission can be published

Providing additional information

If you wish to provide additional information or supporting documentation, please add it here.

Any other feedback on the proposals

Add your comments, ideas, and feedback here.

- Lack of details of the consultation document:

The three Wairarapa District Councils were disappointed to see that the document 'Te hau Mārohi ki anamata – Transitioning to a low-emissions and climate-resilient future' is very high level and does not reflect a high level of investment from the Government.

We were expecting to see an action plan following the Climate Change Commission document 'Ināia tonu nei: a low emissions future for Aotearoa' when in fact the consultation document is only here to present options without clear explanations on how to pursue those options. We have many uncertainties, especially the level of financial support the Government will provide to Local Government, businesses, communities, etc.

We also would like to know how those options will be funded.

Most of the questions asked in this document were already answered by the Climate Change Commission consultation (March 2021).

It is disappointing to see that we have now reached a tipping point where action is needed immediately to avoid catastrophic impacts on our environment and our lives, and the New Zealand Government does not seem to realise the urgency of the issue. This is reflected in where we are at with these most recent consultations on climate change documents.

The three Wairarapa District Councils want to see an emissions reduction plan with a clear pathway on how the actions will be pursued. We hope that the Government will be true to its international and national commitments and will reflect its ambition in this emissions reduction plan.

- Central Government / Local Government partnership:

The three Wairarapa District Councils have concerns regarding the involvement of Local Government and communities.

We would like to emphasise the important role of Local Government and communities in the transition towards a low-carbon economy. Not considering these roles ignores some of the major 'cogs' in the wheels that can take action and lead the transition towards a low-carbon economy.

We recommend the Government strongly support Local Government with regard to climate change action. Support can take many shapes (legislative and regulatory support, financial support (to support resourcing that will give effect to the implementation of our national carbon emissions reduction plan, and community driven initiatives), clear direction and frameworks, etc).

Upload supporting documentation

To make sure your response can be read, please upload in a .pdf format.

Navigating this consultation

Meeting the net-zero challenge

This section outlines the key components of our strategy to transition Aotearoa New Zealand to a low-emissions and climate-resilient future. It sets out the pathway to meeting our emissions budgets, how we will work with our Te Tiriti o Waitangi (Treaty of Waitangi) partners and ensure the transition is equitable.

The emissions reduction plan will cover every sector of the economy and society, and will drive the longer term transition.

The first plan will set out the policies and strategies for meeting the first budget for 2022–25 (Section 5ZG of the Climate Change Response Act 2002). It will also set the measures to meet the second and third budgets, including the urgent policies that must be in place before 2025 (Section 5ZG of the Climate Change Response Act 2002).

We seek your feedback on:

- principles guiding the transition
- how the Crown can work better with Māori in responding to climate change
- how to develop an equitable transition strategy.

Aligning systems and tools

Moving to a low-emissions future means transforming all sectors of the economy. All our systems must point towards low emissions.

- Government accountability and coordination is essential for a well-resourced work programme that makes these system-wide changes.
- Funding and financing are a catalyst for significant cuts in emissions.
- Emissions pricing plays an important role in changing investor and consumer behaviour.
- The planning system controls how we use land, and the emissions that flow from those land uses – both urban and rural.
- Research, science and innovation generate knowledge, and new approaches and practices.
- Behaviour change by organisations, businesses and individuals is critical to achieving net zero.
- Move to a circular and bioeconomy to create economic value while restoring the natural systems.

We seek your comments on proposed measures to reduce emissions and align our systems with the transition. We would like to know if you think these are the right types of policies, if they go far enough, and what you think should be changed.

There are consultation questions throughout this section under each of the above headings.

Transitioning key sectors

The emissions reduction plan will include tailored measures to help industries maximise opportunities and transition. This section outlines the work underway and other possible measures for the following sectors:

- Transport – changing the way we travel, improving our passenger vehicles and promoting a more efficient freight system.

- Energy and industry – preparing our highly renewable electricity sector to power the low-emissions economy, moving away from fossil fuels, and speeding up industrial decarbonisation through fuel switching and energy efficiency.
- Agriculture – continuing to develop and adopt the technology and practices that keep this sector on track to meet the biogenic methane targets, and reduce long-lived emissions.
- Waste and HFCs – supporting the waste hierarchy, prioritising the reduction and diversion of waste from landfill (particularly organic), and reducing hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) with high-global warming potential.
- Building and construction – reducing building-related emissions, and realising health or other co-benefits where possible.
- Forestry – establishing forest sinks that remove carbon from the atmosphere and promote biodiversity and wider environmental outcomes where possible.

We invite your feedback on:

- The new policies we are considering, or may consider, to meet emissions reduction targets. We would like to know if you think these are the right types of policies, if they go far enough, how any negative impacts of policies are best managed and what you think should be changed.
- Any other potential policies that we have not considered.

Transition pathway (p.19)

1. Do you agree that the emissions reduction plan should be guided by a set of principles?

The five principles:

- *A fair, equitable and inclusive transition*
- *An evidence-based approach*
- *Environmental and social benefits beyond emissions reductions*
- *Upholding Te Tiriti o Waitangi*
- *A clear, ambitious and affordable path*

Yes

No

If so, are the five principles set out above, the correct ones? Please explain why or why not.

The three Wairarapa District Councils commend the Government for recognising in its guiding principles that the transition, no matter how fast or far, will impact different parts of society, regions and sectors, and that the impacts will not always be distributed equally. It is important that the Government ensures that the policies and direction not only reduce the inequalities but also recognise that not everyone will be able to do as much as they would want to because of their circumstances.

We add that the fifth principle should emphasise flexibility ('A clear, ambitious, affordable and adaptable path'. Indeed, being adaptable is very important for several reasons:

- To be able to adapt the path based on the latest data available (e.g. climate change projection, emissions pathways, etc)
- To be able to adapt the path depending on its results (e.g. unexpected impacts, lack of efficiency, etc)

2. How can we enable further private sector action to reduce emissions and help achieve a productive, sustainable and inclusive economy? In particular, what key barriers could we remove to support decarbonisation?

We think that the key barrier for private sector action is the cost involved in decarbonisation. Several actions can be done to remove this barrier:

- Make climate related risk assessments mandatory for most of the businesses so they can understand what climate change means for them (especially financially). We think that by understanding the price of inaction, private sector may act further and faster to reduce emissions in order to reduce the cost involved. To help private sector, a climate related risk assessment guidance could be released in order to reduce the costs involved in such an assessment.
To do so, businesses will need support. Also, we encourage the Government so set up a threshold id order to avoid unnecessary pressure on small businesses.
- Reduce costs of low carbon goods and/or increase costs of high carbon goods (done through the NZ ETS)

3. In addition to the actions already committed to and the proposed actions in this document, what further measures could be used to help close the gap?

We would like to see more information regarding carbon emissions over the full life cycle of a product. We could also imagine having a tax on all goods that will help manage (recycling, re-use, etc) the good after use.

4. How can the emissions reduction plan promote nature-based solutions that are good for both climate and biodiversity?

We would like the government to see the climate and the biodiversity as one and single issue. Indeed, we cannot expect to solve our climate problem if biodiversity loss keeps rising. In this case, it is very important to shift our occidental view and adopt tikanga Māori based approach: we are part of the nature, and part of the biodiversity. By destroying habitats and species, we are destroying our home and our backyard.

Promoting nature-based solutions has many positive outcomes when the solutions are well designed. Nature must be well known and understood in order to design a good nature-based solution and restore natural ecosystems.

5. Are there any other views you wish to share in relation to the Transition Pathway?

See additional information.

Helping sectors adapt (p.23)

6. Which actions to reduce emissions can also best improve our ability to adapt to the effects of climate change?

- Appropriate land planning:

Land planning is of major importance to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Without a careful planning, we can lock ourselves in a scenario that can lead us to fail our carbon commitments and/or increase the risks linked to climate change (such as flood, droughts, etc). The Government should take the opportunity through the changes to the RMA to provide greater direction in this area.

- Nature-based solutions:

The three Wairarapa District Councils recognise the importance of forestry in climate change mitigation. However, we would also like to see the government work on other nature-based solutions such as wetland restoration. Wetlands are one of the most important ecosystems to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Indeed, wetlands absorb a lot of carbon, for long periods of time (if the ecosystem stays undisturbed) and they create a great buffer between the sea and/or rivers and human infrastructure. They can help mitigate flood risks (due to sea level rise or inland flood). They also serve other purposes such as increased water quality, increased biodiversity, increased cultural activities, etc New Zealand lost most of its wetlands and as many opportunities to restore them. Therefore, they are a valid option in the climate change mitigation and adaptation.

7. Which actions to reduce emissions could increase future risks and impacts of climate change, and therefore need to be avoided?

- All actions that are not carefully planned

To avoid future risks, all actions taken today should be carefully planned. A holistic approach is also necessary with the following consideration (non-exhaustive list):

- The four well-beings
 - Different time frame
 - Climate change mitigation
 - Climate change adaptation
 - Etc.
- Rely too much on future technologies to reduce emissions
- Rely too much on the community if it is not well enough resourced and supported by the Government. The Government should avoid overwhelming the community to reduce the risk of inaction.
- Forestry without meaningful actions to reduce gross emissions in all sectors of the economy
- International offsets

Working with our Tiriti partners (p.25)

8. The Climate Change Commission has recommended that the Government and iwi/Māori partner on a series of national plans and strategies to decarbonise our economy. Which, if any, of the strategies listed are a particular priority for your whānau, hapū or iwi and why is this?

Strategies:

- *a National Energy Strategy*
- *a Circular Economy Strategy*
- *a Bioeconomy Strategy*
- *a National Low-emission Freight Strategy*
- *industry plans and policies to decarbonise the industrial sector*
- *a Building Transformation Plan*

Whānau, hapū, and iwi are best placed to answer this question.

9. What actions should a Māori-led transition strategy prioritise?

Whānau, hapū, and iwi are best placed to answer this question.

The three Wairarapa District Councils strongly recommend that whānau, hapū and iwi views are imbedded in all climate change actions.

We know that Māori and cultural heritage sites are disproportionately impacted by climate change. Therefore, the Government need to ensure that they are one of the main actors of change.

What impact do you think these actions will have for Māori generally or for our emission reduction targets? What impact will these actions have for you?

This action will have a positive outcome on Māori communities.

However, in the past many government policies have strongly called for action to ensure genuine and enduring partnership with iwi/Māori at all levels of government but somehow, all too often, we all fall short of that commitment.

10. What would help your whānau, community, Māori collective or business to participate in the development of the strategy?

Whānau, hapū, and iwi are best placed to answer this question.

The three Wairarapa District Councils support initiatives to empower and adequately resource iwi / hapori Māori to participate in the development of the strategy.

11. What information would your Māori collective, community or business like to capture in an emissions profile?

Whānau, hapū, and iwi are best placed to answer this question.

Could this information support emissions reductions at a whānau level?

Whānau, hapū, and iwi are best placed to answer this question.

12. Reflecting on the Climate Change Commission's recommendation for a mechanism that would build strong Te Tiriti partnerships, what existing models of partnership are you aware of that have resulted in good outcomes for Māori? Why were they effective?

The three Wairarapa District Councils support a genuine, active and enduring partnership with Tiriti Partners.

However, in the past many government policies have strongly called for action to ensure genuine and enduring partnership with iwi/Māori at all levels of government but somehow, all too often, we all fall short of that commitment.

Making an equitable transition (p.26)

Equitable Transitions Strategy

The Climate Change Commission recommends developing an Equitable Transitions Strategy that addresses the following objectives: partnership with iwi/Māori, proactive transition planning, strengthening the responsiveness of the education system, supporting workers in transition, and minimising unequal impacts in all new policies.

13. Do you agree with the objectives for an Equitable Transitions Strategy as set out by the Climate Change Commission?

Yes

No

What additional objectives should be included?

- Supporting all disadvantaged communities (disabled, older people, etc).

Disadvantages communities are already mentioned but we think they should appear in the objectives in order to give them the importance they need.

14. What additional measures are needed to give effect to the objectives noted by the Climate Change Commission, and any other objectives that you think should be included in an Equitable Transitions Strategy?

The three Wairarapa District Councils agree with the measures proposed.

Equitable Transitions Strategy

The Commission suggests that the Equitable Transitions Strategy should be co-designed alongside iwi/Māori, local government, regional economic development agencies, businesses, workers, unions, the disability community and community groups.

15. What models and approaches should be used in developing an Equitable Transitions Strategy to ensure that it incorporates and effectively responds to the perspectives and priorities of different groups?

See question 12. Regarding the relationship with Tiriti partners.

Other actions

16. How can Government further support households (particularly low-income households) to reduce their emissions footprint?

- Work on the housing crisis:

Housing is a real issue for New Zealanders. This is particularly true for low-income and mid income households:

- Affordability (rent price and property price)
- Availability (not enough houses)
- Quality (damp, cold houses)

The buildings' quality has a huge impact on New Zealanders' health and on climate change. Indeed, they release a lot of greenhouse gas (to heat the house, the water, etc). Therefore, we think that:

- New Zealand needs to build many more quality houses and flats
- Introduce and make mandatory scores for each house before it goes to market or before it is rented (greenhouse gas score and energy efficiency score)
- Increase funding available for owners to renovate their home
- Fund renewable energy technologies (solar, wind, etc) and heat pump for homeowners (it would also help people to move away from coal/wood burners which can be a problem for air quality as well)
- Increase building quality and reduce embodied carbon through the Building and Climate Change Programme.

- Spatial planning:

Appropriate spatial planning is also a good way to further support households to reduce their emissions footprint. As an example, urban densification, TOD (Transit Orientated Development) and others help reducing households' carbon footprint (less need for transport, smaller houses with smaller energy needs, etc). The Government should take the opportunity through the changes to the RMA to provide greater direction in this area.

17. How can Government further support workers at threat of displacement to develop new skills and find good jobs with minimal disruption?

We think that the Government can:

- Support and encourage diversity of skills through the education curriculum
- Enable adaptive/ flexible ways of working
- Provide early direction where skills will be needed in the workforce
- Recognise on the job learning and training to support transition
- Incentivise people to move to another industry before they lose their jobs (free training, subsidy to move to another town/region, etc)

18. What additional resources, tools and information are needed to support community transition planning?

- Central Government and Local Government alignment:

Local Government is the perfect partner to support the transition of the community. Local Government knows its community and has a close relationship with it due to proximity. Therefore, Local Government an appropriate and logical link between Central Government and our communities.

Supporting Local Government is one of the key actions to community transition planning.

Alignment of all relevant legislation, regulations and policy is key to enable the envisioned transition to low carbon economy. Any misalignment will present a barrier and add to confusion stifling, in particular, Local Government to efficiently implement policies.

Over the past few years Central and Local Government have been working more closely on several topics. We would like to highlight the need for Local Government capacity to be taken into consideration, particularly at this time of increased complexity, heightened uncertainty and change within our Local Government context. Any partnerships need to take a systems approach and engage in a more holistic collaboration, instead of partnering up on multiple topics putting pressure on already strained resources.

That said, climate change provides an opportunity to look at the whole system in which our society operates given climate change occurs in the context of an interconnected world. The Government's review of Local Government is an opportunity to build Local Government's jurisdiction and capability in this area.

- All-inclusive public forum:

The three Wairarapa District Councils would like to see the views of all New Zealanders incorporated and support an all-inclusive public forum with appropriate resourcing and funding. The resourcing of participatory processes, including the money associated with it, should not be underestimated. Enabling all New Zealanders to participate and be heard, to be part of co-design, requires significant help and support. For example - information, education, language, skills, and the removal of barriers to participation. Mutual trust and understanding must be built.

The funding of these processes must be on top of the funding for the chosen implementation initiatives and incentives that will be needed within the system to change behaviour and achieve the emissions budgets. The funding for a nationwide public forum should be provided by Central Government (i.e. not rates) to ensure it is sustainable over the 30-year period (and beyond).

We encourage the Government to explore and promote digital platforms that will enable easier access and reach a more diverse range of participants. These cannot be the sole channels for a public forum or participation more generally. Face to face will still be needed.

The benefits of involving people early and actively (for example so that they understand what they need to do and are assisted to develop a sense of personal responsibility) will be undermined if others are not acting and vice versa. We would like to stress that the significant resources need to be deployed for education and information sharing for the general public on how we as individuals can play our part in the transition to low carbon.

19. How could the uptake of low-emissions business models and production methods be best encouraged?

The Sustainable Business Network Climate Action Toolbox is a great tool that is very helpful for small businesses.

For most businesses (size to be defined), we recommend the Government to make mandatory the release of Climate Change strategy with a greenhouse gas inventory, targets and action plan.

Finally, the TCFD mandate could be extended and adapted to more businesses (different type of businesses, smaller businesses, etc).

To be effective and make an equitable transition, the businesses will require support. Therefore, we recommend the Government to increase resources available to help businesses in their transition towards a low carbon economy.

20. Is there anything else you wish to share in relation to making an equitable transition?

-

Government accountability and coordination (p.32)

21. In addition to the Climate Change Commission monitoring and reporting on progress, what other measures are needed to ensure government is held accountable?

The Climate Change Commission monitoring and reporting seems to be a good way to hold the Government accountable. However, this monitoring and reporting must be done on a regular basis to ensure measures are being taken if the government is not on track. Also, this monitoring and reporting must be transparent and public.

Also, each government agency should have adequate climate change funding and KPIs as there will always be a need to incentivise the transition at all of Government level, as well as in particular functions held within individual agencies.

22. How can new ways of working together, like mission-oriented innovation, help meet our ambitious goals for a fair and inclusive society and a productive, sustainable and climate-resilient economy?

The three Wairarapa District Councils would like to stress the importance of multi-agency and collaborative governance, as well as collaborative all of Government action. In the last few years Central Government agencies have been much better in working collaboratively. For matters as complex and intertwined as climate change and with its impacts permeating through every aspect of our society, there is an opportunity to seek novel forms of governance.

23. Is there anything else you wish to share in relation to government accountability and coordination?

-

Funding and financing (p.34)

24. What are the main barriers or gaps that affect the flow of private capital into low-emissions investment in Aotearoa?

The main barriers are:

- Costs and lack of investment return:
Low-emissions investments often cost more than other investments. Also, low emissions investments often have a lower investment return.
- Knowledge, Availability and Mindset:
Low-emissions investments are often less known than other investments. When they are known, trust in them can be challenged by mindset (resistance to change)

25. What constraints have Māori and Māori collectives experienced in accessing finance for climate change response activities?

We do not represent Māori.

However, in the past we have seen that iwi/Māori have been unable to secure or access financial support due to lack of resources (time, budget, etc).

26. What else should the Government prioritise in directing public and private finance into low-emissions investment and activity?

Funding and financing are well captured. However, the consultation document states goals and gives little explanation on the how these goals will be achieved.

Also, the three Wairarapa District Council are concerned about how these investments will be built.

27. Is there anything else you wish to share in relation to funding and financing?

Social businesses are created and designed to address a social problem. Therefore, very often, they lead the change in a community. The Government should not under-estimate the benefits of social businesses in the transition to a low-carbon economy. We recommend the Government to support social businesses.

Emissions pricing (p.36)

28. Do you have sufficient information on future emissions price paths to inform your investment decisions?

Yes

No

Knowing that emissions price is increasing means that long term investments must be low-emissions investments in order to be sustainable.

29. What emissions price are you factoring into your investment decisions?

No emission prices are currently factoring our decisions.

30. Do you agree the treatment of forestry in the NZ ETS should not result in a delay, or reduction of effort, in reducing gross emissions in other sectors of the economy?

Yes

No

Forestry should not delay or reduce our efforts to reduce emissions. Reducing our gross emissions is highly important if we want to effectively mitigate climate change.

That is the reason why Carterton and South Wairarapa District Councils set up targets on gross emissions rather than on net emissions. Indeed, it is an illusion to rely carbon sequestration to achieve carbon reduction (and carbon reduction targets).

31. What are your views on the options presented above to constrain forestry inside the NZ ETS?

Several options presented to constrain forestry are good, especially the following:

- Reducing the rate at which units can be earned by exotic forest
- Amending eligibility criteria

The three Wairarapa District Council think that the best way to constrain forester inside the NZ ETS would be to combine all the options presented, as well as increasing the rate at which units can be earned by native forest.

Free industrial allocation should be reviewed in order to reduce emissions leakage. Here again, we would have appreciated to have more information on this review to be able to comment further on it.

What does the Government need to consider when assessing options?

Government should have a holistic approach when assessing those options. Also, considering rural communities (economy mainly based on forestry and farming industries) is of primary importance.

What unintended consequences do we need to consider to ensure we do not unnecessarily restrict forest planting?

Increasing the rate at which units can be earned by native forest and amending eligibility criteria to increase native afforestation should reduce exotic forest planting and increase native planting.

In our view, exotic forest planting is not a sustainable option unless the wood is used as a local construction material (carbon stored in the building). Indeed, if the wood is processed (biofuel, etc) or sent overseas, the carbon stored during the lifetime of the tree should be counted as released back in the atmosphere. Therefore, it becomes a neutral operation.

32. Are there any other views you wish to share in relation to emissions pricing?

-

Planning (p.40)

33. In addition to resource management reform, what changes should we prioritise to ensure our planning system enables emissions reductions across sectors?

This could include partnerships, emissions impact quantification for planning decisions, improving data and evidence, expectations for crown entities, enabling local government to make decisions to reduce emissions.

-

34. What more do we need to do to promote urban intensification, support low-emissions land uses and concentrate intensification around public transport and walkable neighbourhoods?

-

35. Are there any other views you wish to share in relation to planning?

Here are a few thoughts regarding planning:

- Limit rural-residential/lifestyle development which is disconnected from jobs and transport.
- Prioritise Transport Orientated Developments (re-design towns and cities to be TOD).
- Resource Management reform needs to be specific and not dip into elements of building construction. Building Construction should remain within the Building Act but improvements are required to the Building act to address sustainable buildings and building materials.

Research, science and innovation (p.42)

36. What are the big challenges, particularly around technology, that a mission-based approach could help solve?

We do not have the skills and expertise to answer this question.

37. How can the research, science and innovation system better support sectors such as energy, waste or hard-to-abate industries?

We do not have the skills and expertise to answer this question.

38. What opportunities are there in areas where Aotearoa has a unique global advantage in low-emissions abatement?

Due to its high farming industry, New Zealand can be a leader in low-emissions farming.

39. How can Aotearoa grow frontier firms to have an impact on the global green economy?

We do not have the skills and expertise to answer this question.

Are there additional requirements needed to ensure the growth of Māori frontier firms?

We do not have the skills and expertise to answer this question.

How can we best support and learn from mātauranga Māori in the science and innovation systems, to lower emissions?

We do not have the skills and expertise to answer this question.

40. What are the opportunities for innovation that could generate the greatest reduction in emissions? What emissions reduction could we expect from these innovations, and how could we quantify it?

We can expect reduction in emissions from future innovations. However, we recommend not to account on those reductions for several reasons:

- We do not know if they will happen,
- If they happen, we do not know when,
- If they happen, we do not know how to quantify emissions reductions.

Therefore, the Government should only rely on innovations that are already available and known. Obviously, the budgets and action plan will need to be updated to reflect new innovations.

41. Are there any other views you wish to share in relation to research, science and innovation?

-

Behaviour change – empowering others to act (p.46)

42. What information, tools or forums would encourage you to take greater action on climate change?

It has been proven that rangatahi/youth and students are very important in supporting behaviour change in our communities. To inform themselves they rely the information from kura/school, social media and their whānau/families. Therefore, we think that the Government should support kura, schools, colleges, and universities to increase climate change awareness (and more broadly environment).

Information needs to be in accessible formats across all platforms to support the participation of our disabled and elderly communities.

43. What messages and/or sources of information would you trust to inform you on the need and benefits of reducing your individual and/or your businesses emissions?

See above question.

Messages from trusted sources are important, and our communities need to know who they are. Trusted sources are (non-exhaustive list): governmental agencies, Local Government, scientific agencies (NIWA, etc), international agencies (IPCC, etc).

One of the keys is how to relay information. Information channels (newspaper, TV, etc) and social media (YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, TikTok) are the main way to do so in our view. These platforms touch most people in our community.

Consideration also needs to be given to those who are not able to access digital content, we note that rural connection to the internet can be poor. Information needs to be accessible in community hubs, such as libraries and other spaces.

44. Are there other views you wish to share in relation to behaviour change?

Change is already happening in our society. Government does not need to start this change but needs to increase the pace of this change. It could be done with regulatory tools such as:

- Soft plastic and single use plastic ban (done)
- Ban over packaging
- Make mandatory exact location of fruits, vegetables, fish, meat and eggs (country and region if NZ products)
- Make mandatory the display of carbon emissions on goods so people can make an informed decision
- Etc

We also recommend the Government to empower the communities by supporting their initiatives.

Moving Aotearoa to a circular economy (p.48)

45. Recognising our strengths, challenges, and opportunities, what do you think our circular economy could look like in 2030, 2040, and 2050, and what do we need to do to get there?

Our circular economy strategy should be well underway in 2030 and achieved in 2050 in order to achieve our greenhouse gas emissions targets.

The latest IPCC report stated that action cannot wait. Therefore, we must act quickly to have a chance to reduce our emissions and avoid dramatic impacts linked to climate change.

46. How would you define the bioeconomy and what should be in scope of a bioeconomy agenda?

The three Wairarapa District Councils agree with the definition given by the Climate Change Commission.

What opportunities do you see in the bioeconomy for Aotearoa?

- Reduce our dependency to fossil fuels:

Moving to a bioeconomy is a way to reduce our dependency to fossil fuels (petrol, gas, coal). However, the government should be aware of the challenges linked to biofuels:

- biofuels should not compete against human food (and animal food?)
- Exotic forests used for biofuels (or partly used) should not be accounted (or only partly) in the NZ ETS (see question 31.).
Exotic forests locally used for building material are not seen as being an issue because carbon is store in the materials for a long period of time (50 years or more).

- Reduce waste from forestry industry and wood processing industry:

Harvest is currently inefficient. Indeed, losses of fibres are important and should be reduced to a minimum. These losses are usually made of poor-quality wood so cannot be used as building materials. However, they can be transformed in biofuels such as wood pellets. Therefore, we would like to see an increased efficiency in harvesting (and processing).

47. What should a circular economy strategy for Aotearoa include?

A bioeconomy can be done without a circular economy. It seems to us that a bioeconomy is only a way to reduce the use of fossil fuels rather than adopting a circular economy. Therefore, bioeconomy should be part of the energy strategy.

That being said, we acknowledge that all those strategies must be consistent together in order to have a holistic view of our society. Indeed, those strategies should not be seen as separate silos.

Do you agree the bioeconomy should be included within a circular economy strategy?

Yes

No

48. What are your views of the potential proposals we have outlined? What work could we progress or start immediately on a circular economy and/or bioeconomy before drawing up a comprehensive strategy?

The strategy should be the first work in order to have a holistic view of the issues and solutions. Without a strategy, the Government could lock itself in meaningless and ineffective actions.

49. What do you see as the main barriers to taking a circular approach, or expanding the bioeconomy in Aotearoa?

The main barriers are:

- Lack of information, which does not help the consumer in its choices
- People's mindset and resistance to change. As mentioned in the consultation document, people are set in a convenient linear economy
- Industrials' mindset and resistance to change
- Costs and lack of investment return: Low-emissions investments often cost more than other investments. Also, low emissions investments often have a lower investment return.
- Cost for consumer: Low emissions goods and services can be costly. Therefore, consumer will often choose the low-cost and high carbon options.

50. The Climate Change Commission notes the need for cross-sector regulations and investments that would help us move to a more circular economy. Which regulations and investments should we prioritise (and why)?

We tend to think that the change occurs 'bottom-up'. Therefore, we recommend the Government to invest in education and increased transparency.

With more information and more understanding, we believe that consumers can make an informed decision and make the right choice to enter in a circular economy. The cascade effect is that if consumers buy low-emissions goods that are part of a circular economy, industrials will follow the trend and adapt to consumers choices.

51. Are there any other views you wish to share in relation to a circular economy and/or bioeconomy?

-

Transport (p.54)

We are proposing four new transport targets in the emissions reduction plan, and are seeking your feedback.

52. Do you support the target to reduce VKT by cars and light vehicles by 20 per cent by 2035 through providing better travel options, particularly in our largest cities, and associated actions?

Yes

No

In the Wairarapa, our transport emissions increased by 41% since 2000 and are the second biggest source after agriculture.

We agree with the target and associated actions in principle. However, the three Wairarapa District Councils do not have in house expertise to provide technical advice on finer details.

We are concerned that low emissions public and shared transport and walking and cycling infrastructure will be implemented in metropolitan areas in a first place. Rural and provincial areas like our district that are sparsely populated, with longer distances to travel between townships and urban areas, with a large network of unsealed roads, very limited public transport, and often with a low-income and small ratepayer base will find the transition to low carbon transport difficult. We would like the Government to specifically address our low-income and provincial/rural communities to ensure that those more vulnerable are not penalised and/or ostracised.

53. Do you support the target to make 30 per cent of the light vehicle fleet zero-emissions vehicles by 2035, and the associated actions?

Yes

No

We agree with the target and associated actions in principle. However, the three Wairarapa District Councils do not have in house expertise to provide technical advice on finer details.

In rural areas, it is of major importance to increase the EV charging network in order to reduce the 'black spots'. Roll out of adequate infrastructure will present a financial burden even with Central Government support. The three Wairarapa District Councils are concerned that the required infrastructure (such as electric chargers, servicing of EVs etc) may be slower to roll out since the more populated and metropolitan areas will take priority and consume the resources and expertise to meet the timelines, and are economically more justifiable.

Uptake of light EVs will depend on the cost of EVs and infrastructure. The cost of EVs and availability of electric off road and high-performance vehicles is likely to add to somewhat difficult transformation for rural and provincial areas. The government would need to develop a strategy that covers how the transport transformation will play out for both urban and rural/provincial areas, and what is expected of Local Government.

The complexity of climate change is all encompassing and the three Wairarapa District Councils are concerned that the Government (central and local) will struggle with resourcing, alongside already significant RMA and 3 water reforms, just to name a few.

54. Do you support the target to reduce emissions from freight transport by 25 per cent by 2035, and the associated actions?

Yes

No

We agree with the target and associated actions in principle. However, the three Wairarapa District Councils do not have in house expertise to provide technical advice on finer details.

We commend the Government on the implementation of the New Zealand Rail Plan. The transport emissions increased by 41% in the Wairarapa since 2000. Part of this increase is due to increased traffic of log trucks. We would like to see the rail network more efficiently used in order to reduce trucks and increased rail transportation (for logs and other goods).

55. Do you support the target to reduce the emissions intensity of transport fuel by 15 per cent by 2035, and the associated actions?

Yes

No

See question 54.

56. The Climate Change Commission has recommended setting a time limit on light vehicles with internal combustion engines entering, being manufactured, or assembled in Aotearoa as early as 2030. Do you support this change?

Yes

No

If so, when and how do you think it should take effect?

The latest IPCC report stated that action cannot wait. Therefore, we must act quickly to have a chance to reduce our emissions and avoid dramatic impacts linked to climate change.

Therefore, the three Wairarapa District Councils support the Climate Change Commission recommendation.

57. Are there any other views you wish to share in relation to transport?

Here again, the three Wairarapa District Councils recommend the government to have a holistic and inclusive view of the transitioning key sectors.

For example, we cannot increase EV fleet (transport) without updating the charging infrastructure (energy and industry).

Energy and industry (p.81)

Energy strategy

58. In your view, what are the key priorities, challenges and opportunities that an energy strategy must address to enable a successful and equitable transition of the energy system?

We support the development of an energy strategy to provide clear direction for Aotearoa to transition to low carbon living, including ensuring the security and capacity of our national electrical grid and infrastructure.

We have some concern whether there is enough capacity (both central and Local Government, and sectors) to deliver on such a scale and at a pace required for the transformation to occur. It is critical for the Government to ensure reliability and security of electricity supply as we transition into 100% renewable electricity.

The three Wairarapa District Councils support banning coal in general. Burning coal has significant impact on air quality, especially in winter. Currently, councils can ban use of coal through a bylaw however it is more efficient to apply national standard/direction. The proposed Air Quality National Environmental Standard does not go far enough to ban coal.

Consecutive governments have failed to deal with the housing crisis in Aotearoa. The quality of our housing stock is substandard, and energy efficiency even of governmental buildings and property have a way to go. Many funding schemes such as EECA's Warmer Kiwi Homes have been great but nowhere near enough to meet the needs.

The local building sector is concerned that requiring higher efficiency standards (e.g. Green 5 Star rating) will add more cost to already very costly housing stock. There is also opportunity to look into the construction sector and renewable and natural building materials (production forestry could play significant role in a high value timber products). Significant advances, not just for reducing carbon emissions, can be gained by 'greening' the building materials supply chain and addressing construction waste.

We need a concerted effort to accelerate the production and transport of hydrogen for energy requirements in NZ. Incentives and lessons from overseas can be adopted and potentially enable NZ to leapfrog internal substitute technologies. This needs to be looked at in the context of our needs for water resilience too.

To ensure the success of the energy strategy, Government must have an holistic approach of the energy and industry sector. Long term impacts must be identified to reduce the risks and enable a successful and equitable transition of the energy system.

59. What areas require clear signalling to set a pathway for transition?

- Decarbonise the energy production
- Decarbonise the industry
- Prepare for the future and adapt the electricity network to increased demand
- Mandate a certain level of energy production on each new building / dwelling

Obviously these four areas will need much investigation to ensure an equitable and fair transition. This must be done holistically and inclusively.

Setting targets for the energy system

60. What level of ambition would you like to see Government adopt, as we consider the Climate Change Commission's proposal for a renewable energy target?

We do not have the skills and expertise to answer this question.

However, we would like to encourage the Government to be ambitious in order to achieve our international and national commitments regarding our emissions.

Phasing out fossil gas while maintaining consumer wellbeing and security of supply

61. What are your views on the outcomes, scope, measures to manage distributional impacts, timeframes and approach that should be considered to develop a plan for managing the phase out of fossil gas?

- Act quickly:

The latest IPCC report stated that action cannot wait. Therefore, we must act quickly to have a chance to reduce our emissions and avoid dramatic impacts linked to climate change.

- Act equitably:

It is important to make sure that the transition is a smooth transition that does not have a disproportional impact on the population (businesses, communities, etc).

- Consult the population:

In order to ease the resistance from the population to this change, effective communication and consultation is required.

However, we do not have the skills and expertise to answer this question more precisely.

Decarbonising the industry sector

62. How can work underway to decarbonise the industrial sector be brought together, and how would this make it easier to meet emissions budgets and ensure an equitable transition?

We do not have the skills and expertise to answer this question.

63. Are there any issues, challenges and opportunities for decarbonising the industrial sector that the Government should consider, that are not covered by existing work or the Climate Change Commission's recommendations?

We do not have the skills and expertise to answer this question.

Addressing current data gaps on New Zealand's energy use and associated emissions through an Energy and Emissions Reporting scheme

64. In your view, should the definition of a large energy user for the purposes of the proposed Energy and Emissions Reporting scheme include commercial and transport companies that meet a specified threshold?

Yes

No

Except small businesses (threshold to be defined), businesses should have a climate change strategy that includes a yearly greenhouse gas inventory and an action plan. These documents should be publicly available (see question 19.). This requirement

65. We have identified a proposed threshold of 1 kt CO₂e for large stationary energy users including commercial entities. In your view, is this proposed threshold reasonable and aligned with the Government's intention to meet emissions budgets and ensure an equitable transition?

Yes

No

In our view, this threshold is too high and should be lowered in order to capture smaller industries as well as larger ones.

66. In your view, what is an appropriate threshold for other large energy users such as transport companies?

We do not have the skills and expertise to answer this question.

67. Are there other issues, challenges or opportunities arising from including commercial and transport companies in the definition of large energy users for the purposes of the proposed Energy and Emissions Reporting scheme that the Government should consider? Supporting evidence on fleet size and characteristics is welcomed.

We do not have the skills and expertise to answer this question.

Supporting development and use of low-emissions fuels

68. What level of support could or should Government provide for development of low-emissions fuels, including bioenergy and hydrogen resources, to support decarbonisation of industrial heat, electricity and transport?

The Government should provide an appropriate level of support that reflects its ambition on the development and use of low-emissions fuels. This level of support must allow a quick decarbonisation of industrial heat, electricity and transport to achieve our international and national commitments regarding our emissions.

69. Are there any other views you wish to share in relation to energy?

Here again, the three Wairarapa District Councils recommend the government to have a holistic and inclusive view of the transitioning key sectors.

Building and construction (p.90)

70. The Climate Change Commission recommended the Government improve the energy efficiency of buildings by introducing mandatory participation in energy performance programmes for existing commercial and public buildings. What are your views on this?

We think that energy performance programmes are a great way to reduce emissions.

The three Wairarapa District Councils are already taking action to realise energy audits on our buildings and improve their performance. Some actions can be easily done and have a quick investment return. Being small councils, other actions may be out of our reach but every single step in the right direction counts.

If those programmes become mandatory, the overall building emissions can be reduced with limited investments.

71. What could the Government do to help the building and construction sector reduce emissions from other sectors, such as energy, industry, transport and waste?

Policies and regulations must reflect the Government's ambition to reduce the emissions. Also, we recommend that the Government supports the different sectors in their transition.

72. The Building for Climate Change programme proposes capping the total emissions from buildings. The caps are anticipated to reduce demand for fossil fuels over time, while allowing flexibility and time for the possibility of low-emissions alternatives. Subsequently, the Climate Change Commission recommended the Government set a date to end the expansion of fossil gas pipeline infrastructure (recommendation 20.8a).

What are your views on setting a date to end new fossil gas connections in all buildings (for example, by 2025) and for eliminating fossil gas in all buildings (for example, by 2050)?

The three Wairarapa District Councils support this recommendation. This will have a positive effect on emissions but also on buildings' health (and therefore human health) which is a real issue in New Zealand (see question 16.)

We support the views on setting a date to end new fossil gas connections in all buildings by 2025 and for eliminating fossil gas in all buildings. However, this should happen before 2050. Indeed, the latest IPCC report stated that action cannot wait. Therefore, we must act quickly to have a chance to reduce our emissions and avoid dramatic impacts linked to climate change.

How could Government best support people, communities and businesses to reduce demand for fossil fuels in buildings?

Low-income families, disadvantages communities and small businesses will need financial help in order to eliminate fossil gas from their building. We recommend that the government increase its funding options to those most in need to help them in their transition.

Also, policies and regulations could be set up to help / mandate the owners of rentals to reduce demand for fossil fuels in their properties.

73. The Government is developing options for reducing fossil fuel use in industry, as outlined in the Energy and industry section. What are your views on the best way to address the use of fossil fuels (for example, coal, fossil gas and LPG) in boilers used for space and water heating in commercial buildings?

We do not have the skills and expertise to answer this question.

74. Do you believe that the Government's policies and proposed actions to reduce building-related emissions will adversely affect any particular people or groups?

Yes

No

If so, what actions or policies could help reduce any adverse impacts?

Potentially, disadvantaged communities may be adversely affected by the Government's policies and proposed actions. To mitigate this risk, the Government should make sure timeframes are well set up. They need to be fast enough to reduce our overall emissions and slow enough for the population to be able to adapt to the change. Also, subsidies and other financial help will greatly help disadvantaged communities.

Another effect could be that businesses reflect the price of their transition in their products and services. This impact can be mitigated with the NZ ETS. Indeed, the increased carbon price will increase the price of high-emissions goods. Therefore, low-emissions goods should be cheaper.

Also, the construction sector will need to adapt to new ways of building. Therefore, the Government should support this transition with appropriate training.

75. How could the Government ensure the needs and aspirations of Māori and iwi are effectively recognised, understood and considered within the Building for Climate Change programme?

This programme needs to be developed in coordination and partnership with Māori and iwi in order to adopt their thinking and holistic approach and consider their issues and what they wish to achieve. This way will ensure a just, equitable and inclusive transition.

76. Do you support the proposed behaviour change activity focusing on two key groups: consumers and industry (including building product producers and building sector tradespeople)?

Yes

No

What should the Government take into account when seeking to raise awareness of low-emissions buildings in these groups?

- Education and awareness:

Education and awareness should be considered (see question 42.). We think that the change will occur 'bottom-up'. If customers ask for sustainable smaller houses, then the building industry will adapt to the change. Education and awareness also avoid the 'greenwashing' trap.

- Training and mentoring:

Also, it is good to support training in the building industry. Indeed, there are not enough people with the skills required to build sustainable buildings. Finding the skills can be a barrier to customers who want to have a sustainable building.

77. Are there any key areas in the building and construction sector where you think that a contestable fund could help drive low-emissions innovation and encourage, or amplify, emissions reduction opportunities? Examples could include building design, product innovation, building methodologies or other?

We do not have other key areas in mind. However, we do think that low-emissions housing designs are already well known. Therefore, we support innovation in building materials and large building designs. As explained in question 76., we also support training/mentoring.

78. The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) is considering a range of initiatives and incentives to reduce construction waste and increase reuse, repurposing and recycling of materials. Are there any options not specified in this document that you believe should be considered?

All the options seem to be considered and should appear in the Circular Economy Strategy.

79. What should the Government take into account in exploring how to encourage low-emissions buildings and retrofits (including reducing embodied emissions), such as through financial and other incentives?

Financial incentives are very important, especially to mitigate the impact on disadvantaged communities (see above questions).

Training, educating and raising awareness are also very important to educate people so they embrace the change and do not resist against it (see above questions).

80. What should the Government take into account in seeking to coordinate and support workforce transformation, to ensure the sector has the right workforce at the right time?

Adapted training seems to be the right way to ensure that the sector has the right workforce at the right time. This means training current and future workforce to ensure the sector has the right workforce at the right time.

81. Our future vision for Aotearoa includes a place where all New Zealanders have a warm, dry, safe and durable home to live in. How can we ensure that all New Zealanders benefit from improved thermal performance standards for our buildings?

The Government should financially help owners to retrofit their properties by following minimum standards. The current standards are not high enough to ensure warm, dry, safe and durable home.

Also, introducing mandatory scores (see question 16.) are a good way to increase people awareness. This kind of score is well used in other countries and very useful to tenants and/or future owners.

82. Are there any other views you wish to share on the role of the building and construction sector in the first emissions reduction plan?

Here again, the three Wairarapa District Councils recommend the government to have a holistic and inclusive view of the transitioning key sectors.

Agriculture (p.97)

83. How could the Government better support and target farm advisory and extension services to support farmers and growers to reduce their emissions?

The existing sector (particularly the regional councils and CRIs) advisory resources will not be enough to deliver on the transformation required. Current new requirements are already putting pressure on the sector's advisory and farm consultancy services (e.g. compulsory farm planning and freshwater regulatory requirements). The Government should also in partnership with agricultural sectors provide support and advice for farmers to build on the existing environmental image and take the advantage of 'low emissions branding' and promotion to enable greater access to the global market.

Using existing groups seems to be the best short-term option. Indeed, those groups are established in the rural communities and have the trust of the farming community. However, those groups are already under high pressure and under-resourced. Therefore, they will need more support to be able to deliver appropriate support to farmers.

We would like to comment He Waka Eke Noa. This programme will also need more support.

How could the Government support the specific needs of Māori-collective land owners?

Māori are lacking time and resources. Therefore, they will need support to be able to provide support and work collaboratively with the Government. A genuine collaboration and engagement will allow the Government to support the specific needs of Māori-collective land owners.

84. What could the Government do to encourage uptake of on-farm mitigation practices, ahead of implementing a pricing mechanism for agricultural emissions?

The Government could encourage the encourage uptake of on-farm mitigation practices by celebrating successes of farmers, raising awareness, and educating the farming and wider community.

It has been shown that the farmers tend to do what is right. However, to do so, they need to know about the different options available. That is why communication is one of the keys for success.

85. What research and development on mitigations should Government and the sector be supporting?

Several research and development on mitigations should be supported:

- Increase understanding of carbon sequestration in the soil and in wetlands to promote regenerative farming practices and wetland restoration.
- Support the research on low methane emissions livestock (through breeding)
- Support the research for nitrous oxide inhibitors

Also, the government should look into how it funds research in Aotearoa. The competitive nature of research funding takes significant time away from the research itself.

86. How could the Government help industry and Māori agribusinesses show their environmental credentials for low-emissions food and fibre products to international customers?

We think that the environmental credentials for low-emissions food and fibre products should be shown to local and international customers.

A certified label could be created. This label must be easily understood by all and have well designed and controlled specifications to avoid greenwashing.

87. How could the Government help reduce barriers to changing land use to lower emissions farming systems and products? What tools and information would be most useful to support decision-making on land use?

In our views, some of the barriers are:

- Resistance to change
- Fear to financial losses

See question 84. to understand how barriers can be reduced.

88. Are there any other views you wish to share in relation to agriculture?

Here again, the three Wairarapa District Councils recommend the government to have a holistic and inclusive view of the transitioning key sectors.

Waste (p.101)

89. The Climate Change Commission's recommended emissions reduction target for the waste sector significantly increased in its final advice. Do you support the target to reduce waste biogenic methane emissions by 40 per cent by 2035?

Yes

No

We agree with the target and associated actions in principle. However, the three Wairarapa District Councils do not have in house expertise to provide technical advice on finer details.

If we don't support a target towards reduction, it is just going to further increase

90. Do you support more funding for education and behaviour change initiatives to help households, communities and businesses reduce their organic waste (for example, food, cardboard, timber)?

Yes

No

Education is key to behaviour change and not just in schools, communities, and businesses (large and small). They need to be encouraged to reduce waste. To rethink waste towards a circular economy.

91. What other policies would support households, communities and businesses to manage the impacts of higher waste disposal costs?

Waste management site plans need to be supported and implemented in the building industry. They need to contribute by encouraging the building industry to reduce building materials to be reused or recycled instead of landfill disposal which is adding to methane emissions, especially currently in this building and demolition boom. Product Stewardship needs to be implemented more.

92. Would you support a proposal to ban the disposal of food, green and paper waste at landfills for all households and businesses by 1 January 2030, if there were alternative ways to recycle this waste instead?

Yes

No

Methane emissions from landfill are caused by organic waste. Therefore, several options exist to reduce these emissions:

- Promote home composting
- Systematise and make mandatory organic waste collection
- Install landfill gas capture systems to capture methane created by organic waste
- Treat organic waste (compost and/or digestion to create and collect methane) and ban organic materials going to all landfills

In our views, these actions are the three most important ones to reduce emissions from landfills. However, these actions must be done carefully to prevent any adverse effects and ensure an equitable transition. That is why we recommend:

- Promotion of home composting is already done in many districts. More support could be offered to the communities by proposing more workshops and having cheaper composting bins for example.
- Collection of organic waste can be done quickly. It is already done in some districts and is very successful.
- Currently, organic waste is sent to landfill. Therefore, we recommend installing landfill gas capture systems in all suitable sites in order to collect the methane produced. Even if organic waste is banned from all landfill, those systems will still be useful since organic waste release methane for a long period of time after disposal. Those systems must be installed quickly enough to reduce our methane emissions and achieve our targets. Many districts do not have the resources or infrastructure for a commercial composting facility. Strategies and funding must be in place to mandate landfill gas capture and the ban of organic materials going to all landfills. Scale should be considered as well.

New Zealand has very few organic waste treatment plants. These plants are expensive, and it can be challenging to install them (consent processes, etc). Therefore, we recommend the Government to support those plants installation in any way that is suitable. Until New Zealand has enough facilities to properly treat organic waste, we recommend organic waste to only be sent to landfill installing landfill gas capture systems.

93. Would you support a proposal to ban all organic materials going to landfills that are unsuitable for capturing methane gas?

Yes

No

See question 92.

94. Do you support a potential requirement to install landfill gas (LFG) capture systems at landfill sites that are suitable?

Yes

No

See question 92.

95. Would you support a more standardised approach to collection systems for households and businesses, which prioritises separating recyclables such as fibre (paper and cardboard) and food and garden waste?

Yes

No

We support separating recyclables at the source (households and businesses) in order to increase efficiency in waste treatment.

However, to achieve this, three actions must be considered:

- More options for waste collection:

Options for households to separate recyclables (food waste collection, etc) must be available. Without those options available, we cannot expect New Zealanders to be able to separate recyclables.

- Education:

Education is a very effective way to make sure people separate the recyclables effectively.

- Consistency:

To increased consistency and make it easier for New Zealanders, we would also recommend having one standard used in all the districts in New Zealand Aotearoa (e.g. one bin colour per type of waste).

96. Do you think transfer stations should be required to separate and recycle materials, rather than sending them to landfill?

Yes

No

Waste going to landfill must be reduced to a minimum in order to enter in a circular economy.

We recommend separating recyclables at the source (See question 95.) but all the steps of waste treatment should also separate and recycle materials.

97. Do you think the proposals outlined in this document should also extend to farm dumps?

Yes

No

However, the Government must be conscious of the pressure the farmer community is already under. Therefore, those proposals must be adapted to reduce adverse impacts and limit pressure on farmers.

98. Do you have any alternative ideas on how we can manage emissions from farm dumps, and waste production on farms?

- Refuse to bury or burn
- Reduce waste
- Set targets for Farms to reduce waste
- Utilise Agrecovery recycling programmes
- Seek alternative products

99. What other options could significantly reduce landfill waste emissions across Aotearoa?

Education Campaigns that Reduce Food Waste is number 1.

351

We need to put funding into rolling out food waste collections at kerbside at all 68 Councils and have some options of types of food waste commercial composting across the country. That is key to targeting reduction in methane emissions reductions.

F-gases (p.110)

100. Do you think it would be possible to phase down the bulk import of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) more quickly than under the existing Kigali Amendment timetable, or not?

Yes

No

We do not have the skills and expertise to answer this question.

101. One proposal is to extend the import phase down to finished products containing high-global warming potential HFCs. What impact would this have on you or your business?

We do not have the skills and expertise to answer this question.

102. What are your views on restricting the import or sale of finished products that contain high-global warming potential HFCs, where alternatives are available?

We do not have the skills and expertise to answer this question.

103. What are your views on utilising lower global warming potential refrigerants in servicing existing equipment?

We do not have the skills and expertise to answer this question.

104. Do you have any thoughts on alternatives to HFC refrigerants Aotearoa should utilise (eg, hydrofluoroolefins or natural refrigerants)?

We do not have the skills and expertise to answer this question.

105. Can you suggest ways to reduce refrigerant emissions, in combination with other aspects of heating and cooling design, such as energy efficiency and building design?

We do not have the skills and expertise to answer this question.

Forestry (p.115)

106. Do you think we should look to forestry to provide a buffer in case other sectors of the economy under-deliver reductions, or to increase the ambition of our future international commitments?

Yes

No

Forestry should not delay or reduce our efforts to reduce emissions. Reducing our gross emissions is highly important if we want to effectively mitigate climate change.

That is the reason why Carterton and South Wairarapa District Councils set up targets on gross emissions rather than on net emissions. Indeed, it is an illusion to rely on carbon sequestration to achieve carbon reduction (and carbon reduction targets).

107. What do you think the Government could do to support new employment and enable employment transitions in rural communities affected by land-use change into forestry?

Land-use change into forestry must be carefully planned in order to protect rural areas (sheep and beef sector, productive land). This transition must be equitable. To do so, taking a holistic (consider social, cultural environmental and economic impacts) and flexible approach (use feedback received and adapt the strategy based on that feedback) are key to successful outcomes.

To support new employment and enable employment transition, adapted training should be provided to current and future workforce.

108. What's needed to make it more economically viable to establish and maintain native forest through planting or regeneration on private land?

We would like the Government to look into creating a native forest funding scheme for landowners where 50% of funding comes from either regional or Central Government and 50% from significant carbon emitters.

However, careful analysis would need to be undertaken to prevent offsetting by significant emitters to be the only way of reducing their carbon emissions and putting even more pressure on the productive land.

109. What kinds of forests and forestry systems, for example long-rotation alternative exotic species, continuous canopy harvest, exotic to native transition, should the Government encourage and why?

- Native forests:

The three Wairarapa District Councils support permanent native forest planting. We would also like to see not only Government's financial support for increasing permanent native forests to provide a long-term carbon sink but also a strategic plan for a roll out as well as support for co-ordination and implementation at regional level. This would allow for leveraging off and connecting with the existing planting programmes at regional and catchment levels. Current funding schemes and levels of support for native afforestation have not been sufficient to drive the change needed. Incentives should recognise the multiple co-benefits of native forests and indigenous ecosystems in general.

- Exotic forests:

Whilst we are in support of native forests as a long-lived source of carbon removal, we also support the right tree in the right place approach especially where non-native trees perform better e.g. for road stabilisation.

- Forest management:

We strongly encourage the Government to ensure that wider environmental degradation from production forestry is brought to minimum. So far, we have collectively failed to effectively deal with the environmental consequences of forest harvesting.

We also encourage the Government to enable opportunities for raw logs being processed in Aotearoa instead being shipped overseas adding even more to our transport carbon footprint.

We would also like to see the Government incentivise 'multi-purpose' permanent forest e.g. the permanent forest with mountain bike tracks including educational component about the role of permanent forestry sink.

- Careful planning:

We are also concerned that the rural/provincial areas will be picking up too much of the burden, through the ongoing drive to increase plantation forestry, which will come at the expense of the sheep and beef sector. This means we will be replacing relatively low intensity land use (sheep and beef) with a high intensity land use (plantation forestry). This will result in environmental, economic and social costs for rural communities that will be disproportionate to their proportion of the population.

We would like to see clear criteria for what type of land is put into forestry. We do not want to see our productive land being permanently lost to carbon farming. We need to ensure the security and economic stability of our food production, and viability of our rural communities.

a. Do you think limits are needed, for example, on different permanent exotic forest systems, and their location or management? Why or why not?

Limits are needed to protect the sheep and beef sector and productive land. We also think that limits to exotic forest are needed in order to increase native forest planning.

b. What policies are needed to seize the opportunities associated with forestry while managing any negative impacts?

We do not have the skills and expertise to answer this question.

110. If we used more wood and wood residues from our forests to replace high-emitting products and energy sources, would you support more afforestation? Why or why not?

Yes

No

The three Wairarapa District Council support afforestation with the requirements explained in question 109.

However, harvest is currently inefficient. Indeed, losses of fibres are important and should be reduced to a minimum. These losses are usually made of poor-quality wood so cannot be used as building materials. However, they can be transformed in biofuels such as wood pellets. Therefore, we would like to see an increased efficiency in harvesting (and processing).

Why or why not?

See above question.

111. What role do you think should be played by:

Please provide reasons for your answers.

a. Central and local governments in influencing the location and scale of afforestation through policies such as the resource management system, ETS and investment

- Central Government:

Central Government should set up broad policies that will empower the country to achieve its emissions targets. We also encourage Central Government to increase funding and investments to increase native forest planting (see question 108.) and support Local Government, private sector, and communities. We support the Government overseeing the ETS to make sure the scheme is in line with the emissions budgets.

- Local Government:

Local Government, overseeing land planning, should set up policies aligned with the government policies and regulations. Because Local Government has a good understanding of its land, it is the right entity to support the right tree in the right place approach (through policies, resource management and funding).

b. The private sector in influencing the location and scale of afforestation?

- Private sector:

We think that the consultation of private sector is of major importance to understand their views regarding afforestation. Indeed, their knowledge of the land should be considered before making policies to support the right tree in the right place approach.

We would also emphasise that Māori must also be consulted since they own the knowledge and the history of the land.

112. Pests are a risk to carbon sequestration and storage in new, regenerating and existing forest. How could the Government support pest control/management?

Pests are indeed an important risk to forestry and native ecosystems. This risk is very likely to increase in the near future due to Climate Change.

Also, the stakeholders currently in charge of pests control (DoC, Local Government, community groups, etc) are already under huge pressure (lack of resources such as time, budget, etc). Therefore, we would like the government to increase support to these stakeholders in order to support and increase pests control.

113. From an iwi/Māori perspective, which issues and potential policies are a priority and why, and is anything critical missing?

We do not represent an iwi/Māori perspective.

114. Are there any other views you wish to share in relation to forestry?

Here again, the three Wairarapa District Councils recommend the government to have a holistic and inclusive view of the transitioning key sectors.

Taking action

Do you have any examples of your organisation demonstrating leadership and taking action to reduce GHG emissions you could share with us? If so, briefly describe the example.

Note: we intend include case studies in the final ERP. We may be in contact with you to use your example for this purpose. Examples will only be used if permission is given.

The three Wairarapa District Councils are taking action to mitigate and adapt to climate change. More information here:

- <https://cdc.govt.nz/services/sustainability/climatechange/>
- <https://swdc.govt.nz/community/climate-change/>
 - Carterton and South Wairarapa District Councils adopted the Ruamāhanga (climate change) Strategy and action plan in 2020. This strategy aims to mitigate climate change.
- <https://mstn.govt.nz/council-2/climate-change/>
 - Masterton District Council actively supports a community climate change focus group to establish a set of actions for our district. These actions will be adopted in 2022.

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| To: | Infrastructure and Services Committee |
| From: | Twinkle Poulouse, Urban Roding Engineer Kaine Jaquiery, Roding Manager |
| Endorsed by: | David Hopman, Acting Chief Executive |
| Date: | 17 November 2021 |
| Subject: | Amendments to the Wairarapa Consolidated Bylaw, Part 10: Traffic Bylaw Schedule |

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation:

That the Infrastructure and Services Committee:

1. Endorses and recommends that the following proposed amendments to the Wairarapa Consolidated Bylaw, Part 10: Traffic Bylaw Schedule are adopted by Council:
 - a. The addition of Schedule 2F: No Stopping Areas on Streets.

Schedule 2F: No Stopping Areas on Streets.

| Location | | Description | Date of Resolution |
|-------------|-------------|---|--------------------|
| Primary | Secondary | | |
| South Belt | High Street | The eastern side of South Belt, commencing at the point of 11.9 metres northeast of the intersection of South Belt and High Street, extending in a south-eastern direction for a distance of 97 metres. | 8 December 2021 |
| High Street | South Belt | The southern side of High Street, commencing at a point of 9.4 metres east of the intersection of High Street and South Belt, extending in an eastern direction, for a distance of 59 metres. | 8 December 2021 |

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek the Infrastructure and Services Committee's endorsement and recommendation for Council to adopt the proposed amendments to the Wairarapa Consolidated Bylaw, Part 10: Traffic Bylaw Schedule.

Context

Waitomo Energy Limited, lodged a resource consent application in December 2020 for the new Unmanned Fuel Stop in 215 High Street, Solway, Masterton. A consent was granted in February 2021 to construct and operate an unmanned petrol station at the site. The proposal included:

- the storage of 140,000 litres of fuel (split between 70,000L of unleaded 91 petrol, 25,000L of unleaded 95 petrol and 45,000L of diesel) in a below ground fuel tank;
- the creation of three new vehicle crossings, with one onto High Street, and two onto South Belt; and
- the construction and installation of a forecourt area, comprised of four retail lanes which will provide access to four dispensers, and two payment kiosks; two commercial lanes which will provide access to one high-low dispenser, and one payment kiosk.

To allow for the safe movement of vehicles into and out of the site, a condition of consent was created to extend the no stopping line markings around the site to improve the sight distance and therefore safety without impacting the efficiency of the frontage roads.

Analysis and Advice

Stantec, a Traffic Engineering Consultancy, undertook a transportation assessment (TA), as part of the resource consent application, to understand the transportation impacts associated with a proposed fuel stop development along High Street and South Belt, Solway.

The northern frontage driveway position on High Street will meet the minimum sight distance requirements stipulated by Waka Kotahi. However, on-street parking on either side of the driveway will cause a reduction in sight lines for vehicles exiting the site. The introduction of the No Stopping lines in High Street and South Belt, illustrated in Appendix A to this report will prevent this, improving the safety of vehicles turning out of the site.

It is expected that the introduction of this road marking will improve the overall safety and efficiency in this area by preventing parked heavy vehicles from restricting visibility of vehicles coming out from the site.

Although South Belt does not have space to allow on street parking along the proposed site access, the introduction of the access on the western boundary and the access on the southern boundary will introduce the risk of vehicles parking on either side of these accesses.

Whilst this is unlikely as there are no amenities around these driveways, it was recommended that a No Stopping line border the site to prevent any parked vehicles. This will also increase safety around the site and prevent sight distance restrictions at these driveways.

The inclusion of the No Stopping line markings around the site will improve safety without impacting efficiency of these roads.

Recommended Option

The Infrastructure and Services Committee is able to recommend to Council any changes to Bylaws and the adoption of new bylaws (that relate to the Masterton district only and are not part of the Wairarapa Consolidated Bylaw).

It is recommended that there is an addition of Schedule 2F: No Stopping Areas on Streets to the Wairarapa Consolidated Bylaw, Part 10: Traffic Bylaw Schedule as follows:

Schedule 2F: No Stopping Areas on Streets.

| Location | | Description | Date of Resolution |
|-------------|-------------|---|--------------------|
| Primary | Secondary | | |
| South Belt | High Street | The eastern side of South Belt, commencing at the point of 11.9 metres northeast of the intersection of South Belt and High Street, extending in a south-eastern direction for a distance of 97 metres. | 8 December 2021 |
| High Street | South Belt | The southern side of High Street, commencing at a point of 9.4 metres east of the intersection of High Street and South Belt, extending in an eastern direction, for a distance of 59 metres. | 8 December 2021 |

The inclusion of the No Stopping line markings around the site will improve safety without impacting efficiency of these roads.

Summary of Considerations

Strategic, Policy and Legislative Implications

The Wairarapa Consolidated Bylaws include provision to apply parking restrictions by Council resolution publicly notified, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA).

Even though the Part 10: Traffic Bylaw is part of the wider Wairarapa Consolidated Bylaws, each of the three Wairarapa District Councils maintains schedules of the traffic control measures in their respective districts.

Assessment of Significance

The proposed changes have been assessed against the MDC Significance Policy. It is considered to have minor significance in that:

- There is minor community impact;
- It is easily reversible;
- There is no effect on residents' rates or MDC budgets; and
- There is no degree of controversy.

Communications/Engagement

The community will be notified of the changes to the Traffic schedules by public notice as is required under the Local Government Act 2002, section 157.

Financial Considerations

There are no financial implications.

Implications for Māori

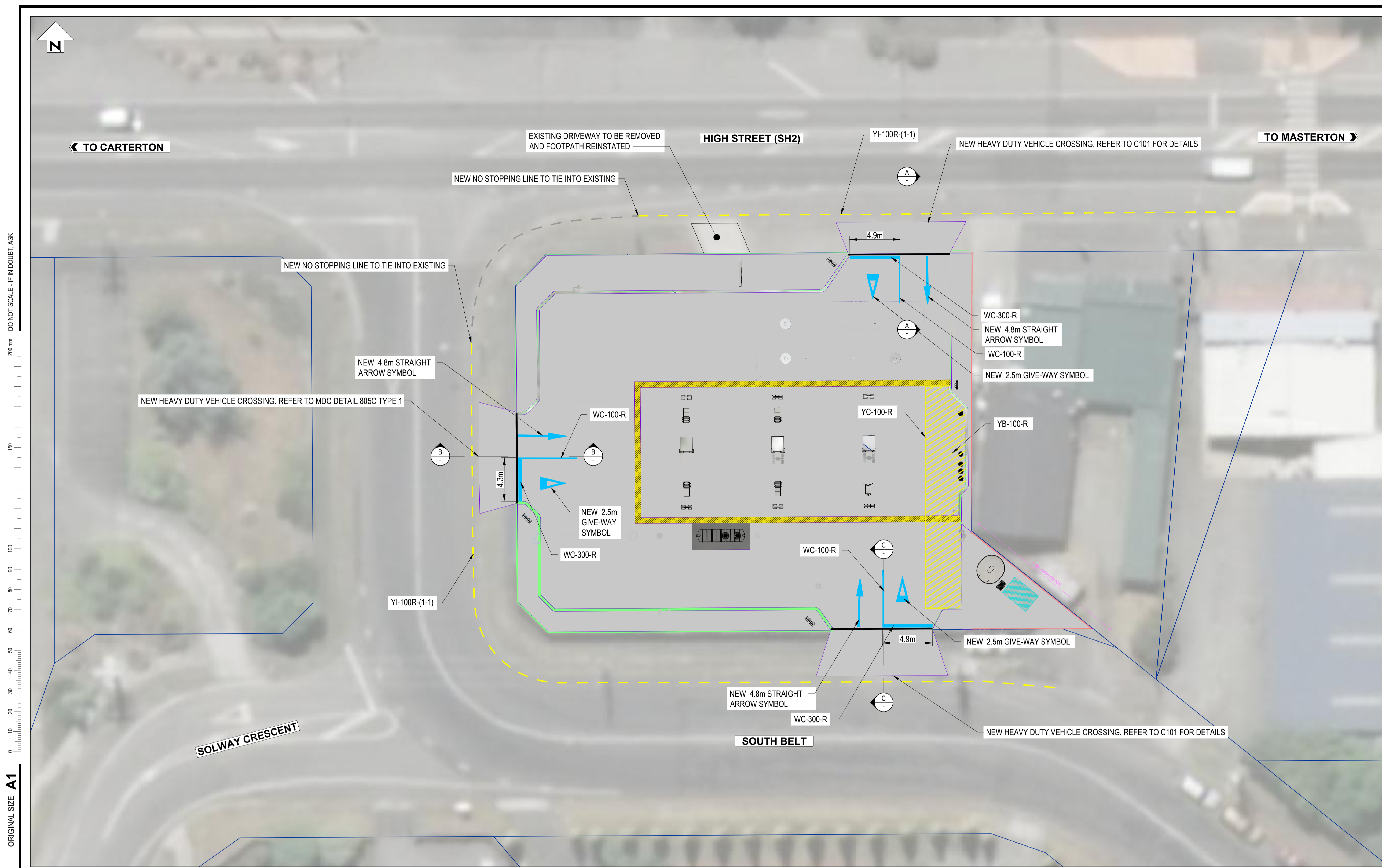
No implications specific to Māori have been identified for this decision.

Environmental/Climate Change Impact and Considerations

No environmental/climate change impacts have been identified in relation to this decision.

Next Steps

Following adoption of Wairarapa Consolidated Bylaw, Part 10: Traffic Bylaw Schedule, the parking restriction will be publicly notified in the local papers and promoted on social media. Waka Kotahi and nearby businesses will be informed about the change.



LEGEND

- NEW NO STOPPING MARKINGS
- NEW ROAD MARKINGS
- EXISTING MARKINGS TO MAINTAIN

- ROADMARKING NOTES**
- ALL ROADMARKING TO COMPLY WITH THE NZTA "MANUAL OF TRAFFIC SIGNS AND MARKINGS - PART 2".
 - ALL SIGN AND PAINT MARKING INSTALLATION IS TO COMPLY WITH WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL'S CODE OF PRACTICE FOR LAND DEVELOPMENT.

LINE MARKING ANNOTATION LEGEND:

W = WHITE
G = GREEN
Y = YELLOW

C = CONTINUOUS
I = INTERMITTENT
B = BAR

LINE WIDTH (mm)

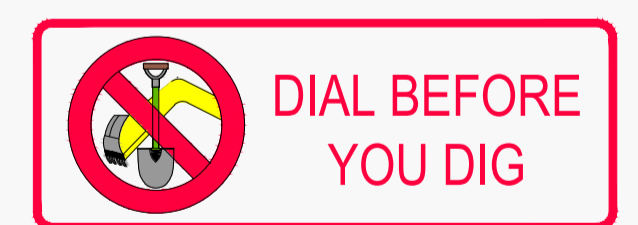
LENGTH OF GAP (m)

LENGTH OF LINE (m)

R = REFLECTORISED

ORIGINAL SIZE A1

ROAD MARKING PLAN
SCALE 1 : 200 @ A1 (1:400 @ A3)



| | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| SURVEYED DESIGNED: JANCO JORDAAN 03.21 DRAWN: SHAY GRAHAM 03.21 CAD REVIEW: Matt Hopkins 29.03.21 DESIGN CHECK: Matt Hopkins 29.03.21 DESIGN REVIEW: Cobus Dekock 31.03.21 APPROVED: Cobus Dekock 31.03.21 | | | Client: WAITOMO SOLWAY ROAD MARKINGS PLAN | Status Stamp: FOR APPROVAL Date Stamp: 25.03.2021 Scales: 1:200 @ A1 Drawing No: 310204290-01-100-C100 Rev: A |
| A FOR APPROVAL REVISIONS | SG DRN MH CHK CDK APP 03.21 DATE | | PROF REGISTRATION: | pw:\stntec-ap-pw.bentley.com:stntec-ap-pw-01\Documents\New Zealand Clients\Wellington Small Projects\Waitomo Energy Ltd\310204290 - Waitomo Solway\01\Civil\310204290-01-100-C100 |

| | |
|---|--|
| To: | Infrastructure and Services Committee |
| From: | David Hopman, Acting Chief Executive |
| Date: | 17 November 2021 |
| Subject: | Three Waters Reforms Update for Wellington Councils |
| INFORMATION | |
| Recommendations: | |
| That Council receives the information in Report 212/21 Three Waters Reforms Update for Wellington Councils. | |

Purpose

This report provides an update from the Wellington Region Three Waters Reforms Project Director on the Government's three Waters reforms programme following announcements on 27 October by the Minister for Local Government and the Minister for Commerce and Consumer Affairs (see Attachment 1).

Background

Over the past four years central and local government have been considering the issues and opportunities facing the system for regulating and managing the three waters (drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater) – Three Waters Reform.

The Government concluded that the [case for change](#) to the three waters service delivery system had been made and during June and July 2021 it released information and made a number of announcements, including allowing an eight-week period for councils to understand the implications of the reform announcements, ask questions and propose solutions and for Government to work with councils and mana whenua on key aspects of the reform (including governance, integrated planning and community voice).

At the conclusion of this eight week period, at its meeting on [29 September 2021](#), Masterton District Council provided feedback and requested the Chief Executive to seek guidance from the Government on a number of areas of concern (please see the Council agenda of [27 October](#) for the minutes of that meeting).

The Government has now confirmed that it will proceed with the establishment of four publicly owned water service entities on a legislated “all in” basis. The attached report provides an update on the decisions made, the process and timeframe for the reforms, the opportunities for influence and the outstanding issues.

Three Waters Reforms

Reforms update for Wellington councils

| | |
|----------------|--|
| From | Dougal List, Three Waters Reforms Project Director Wellington Region |
| Purpose | To provide an update on Government decisions on the Three Waters Reform programme including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part A: Decisions, process and timeframes • Part B: Opportunities for influence and outstanding issues |
| Date | 5 November 2021 |

Purpose of this update

This memorandum provides Wellington councils with an update on the Government's Three Waters reforms programme following announcements on 27 October by Hon Nanaia Mahuta, Minister for Local Government and Hon Dr David Clark, Minister for Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

The memo covers the matters below, current as at time of writing. Significant further information is expected on the reforms during November and December.

Part A – Decisions, process and timeframes

- What decisions has the Government made
- What are the reasons for why the Government mandated the reforms
- What is the timeline and process for the reforms
- What are the implications for engagement and public input
- Pricing and economic regulation

Part B Opportunities for influence and outstanding issues

- What are the key opportunities for input and influence of the reforms
- Areas that remain unclear
- Further information and links

Part A: Decisions, process and timeframes

What decisions has the Government made

Water reforms to proceed

On 27 October 2021 the Hon Nanaia Mahuta, Minister for Local Government confirmed that Cabinet had made decisions on 18 October 2021 to proceed with the establishment of four publicly owned water service entities (WSE) on a legislated 'all-in' basis.

The decision to mandate reforms through legislation follows on from a series of previous decisions that the Government has made on the Three Waters reforms programme. The decisions on 18 October were made following the eight-week period in August and September 2021 where councils and iwi/Māori were asked to provide feedback on the proposed reforms.

Key aspects of the Cabinet decisions on 18 October include:

| Decisions made | Comment |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Mandated change | The Government has decided that the reforms will be mandated through legislation. This means that there would no longer an option for councils to choose to 'opt-out' of the reforms process (see below for detail). |
| Reforms remain largely unchanged | <p>The Cabinet paper reconfirmed reforms package largely unchanged as a result of the eight-week feedback process. Cabinet decisions confirm key aspects previously announced, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirmation of the case for change • Confirmation of four publicly owned WSE. Key aspects of design include protections against privatisation; competency-based boards, partnership with mana whenua, balance sheet separation from councils, economic regulation to protect consumers • Water assets and debt will be transferred from councils to the WSE • Boundaries of WSE to remain unchanged with all Wellington councils in WSE C which stretches from Tairāwhiti / Gisborne down through Hawkes Bay, Wairarapa and lower Manawatū to the top of the South Island and the Chatham Islands. This WSE covers 21 local authorities and Greater Wellington Regional Council • The WSE will take over responsibilities for service delivery and infrastructure from 1 July 2024 • \$2 billion 'better off' / \$0.5 billion 'no worse off' funding package for local government • Two rounds of legislation to enable the reforms. The first 'Water Services Entities Bill' to be introduced to Parliament by December 2021 with Select Committee process in early 2022. The second 'Water Service Entities (Implementation) Bill to be introduced to Parliament from mid-2022 |
| Working Groups | <p>In response to issues raised through the feedback, working groups will be established with local government, experts and iwi/Māori on details of the reforms (see below for more detail):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Representation, governance and accountability ○ RMA interface |

| | |
|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rural / community water |
| Public consultation | The Cabinet paper signals an intent to work with local government on public participation and consultation on the reforms. The Select Committee process in early 2022 will provide “...further opportunity for engagement and public participation...” (see below for further detail). |
| Responding to feedback from the eight-week process | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Cabinet paper contains a summary of feedback received through the eight-week engagement period [DIA, LGNZ and Taituāra have also jointly compiled a summary of feedback received – see links below]. • Some details of the reforms have changed as a result of feedback and the Government has signalled the intend to respond to other issues moving forward through the working groups noted above. • Key areas of response include the following [some of these were signalled prior to the Cabinet paper] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Acknowledgement of the need to refine details of the reforms an establishment of the working groups to advise on these including governance, rural water, RMA interface ○ Acknowledgement of the need for better alignment between water reforms and RMA reforms ○ Clarification of exemptions under the Water Services Act in relation to chlorine free drinking water ○ Extension of the transition time for small unregistered drinking water suppliers to comply with acceptable solutions. This has been extended from five to seven years through an amendment to the Water Services Bill |
| Other matters in the Cabinet paper – pricing and economic regulation | The Cabinet paper also contained updates on other key aspects of the Three Waters reform programme, in particular pricing and transition to economic regulation. |

Consultation on economic regulation

On 27 October 2021, the Hon Dr David Clark, Minister for Commerce and Consumer Affairs also announced Cabinet had made decisions on 6 October 2021 to release a discussion paper titled ‘Economic regulation and consumer protection for three waters services in New Zealand’.

See below for more detail.

What are the reasons for why the Government mandated reforms

The most significant new policy aspect of the Cabinet decisions is to confirm a legislated ‘all-in’ or mandated approach to the reforms. This was the focus of the 18 October Cabinet paper with substantive discussion on the matter. The decision follows on from a fourth Cabinet paper in July which has not yet been released which focused on transition matters.

The decision to legislate the reforms is based on Cabinet reconfirming the case for change and that other options for reform were not considered effective. Key commentary on the decision to mandate the reforms from the Cabinet paper includes¹:

'noted that this decision is being sought following consideration and testing of a number of alternative models and mechanisms for delivering reform, including suggestions made by councils and options such as government subsidies and / or guarantees, and relying on regulation to drive voluntary improvements in service deliver.'

'noted...none of the alternative proposals presented and considered would deliver the comprehensive range of benefits and outcomes sought for all New Zealanders; or do so without significant financial implications for the Crown and taxpayers;

Alternative approaches would not work universally, be more costly for households, be more difficult to regulate effectively, would reduce the potential for efficiencies, would not build the necessary expertise and workforce capability, and/or would perpetuate differences in access to services, cost, and service quality;

Noted that the need to consider the collective interest of all New Zealanders outweigh a desire to accommodate the interests of individual councils and communities through a voluntary process, and there is a conflict between the national interest and decision making based on an opt-out approach;

Noted that taking further time to make decisions risks losing momentum for reform, and is not justified given the unsustainability of the status quo, the lack of viable alternatives, and the lengthy period of policy development and engagement undertaken since the Three Waters Review was initiated in mid-2017.'

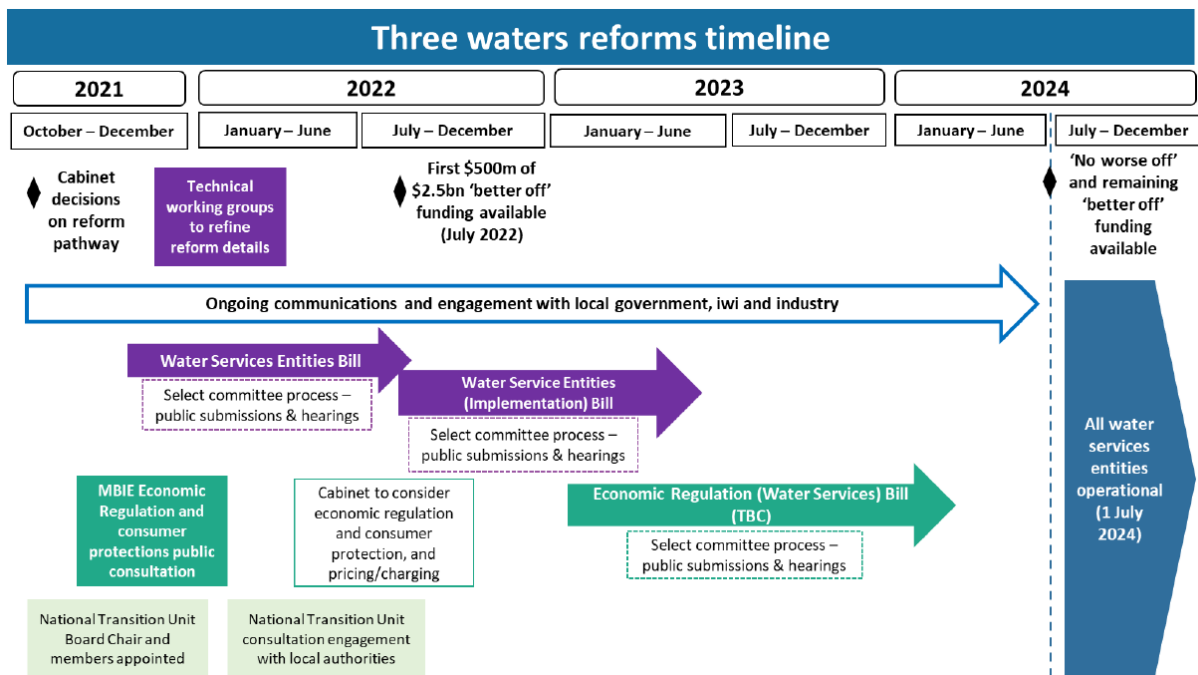
What is the timeline and process for the reforms

The Government announcement included a timeline for the reforms process (see diagram below). Key aspects of this timeline include:

- Late 2021
 - Establishment of the working groups
 - Introduction of Water Services Entities Bill
 - Consultation on economic regulation
 - National Transition Unit – appointment of Board Chair and members
- From 2022:
 - Select Committee process for the Water Services Entities Bill, early 2022
 - Transition process underway from early 2022
 - Report back on economic regulation, April 2022
 - Consideration of pricing and economic regulation, mid-2022
 - Water Service Entities (Implementation) Bill to be introduced to Parliament from mid-2022
- The WSE will take over responsibilities for service delivery and infrastructure from 1 July 2024

¹ Refer: Recs 9-12 CAB-21-MIN-0419, 18 October 2021

Diagram 1: Three Waters reforms timeline, source: DIA October 2021



What are the implications for engagement and public input?

The Cabinet paper acknowledges the need for a comprehensive communications plan on the reforms and transition (draft is attached to the Cabinet paper as Appendix E).

It also signals an intent to work with local government on public participation into the reforms and that this will be a national process. However, there is little detail on how this will occur². Mandating the reforms effectively means the primary opportunities for public / council input will via the legislative process. The key channel for input is via public submissions through the Select Committee process.

This raises the question of what consultation or engagement process (if any), councils choose to undertake with Iwi partners, local communities and other stakeholders to inform positions taken through the Select Committee process or other stages of legislation.

Given there is significant misunderstanding of aspects of the reforms and the complexity of changes proposed, any council-led engagement process would need to be carefully considered once the Government has made the national process for public consultation clearer.

Pricing and economic regulation

As noted above, the Government (MBIE) has released a discussion paper on 'Economic regulation and consumer protection for three waters services in New Zealand'. This paper seeks public feedback on the Government's preliminary positions on the key policy decisions for the economic regulation and consumer protection regulatory regimes in the three waters sector. It provides a

² Refer: Paras 139-141 CAB-21-MIN-0419, 18 October 2021

range of options on these issues without ruling out any options. Feedback is sought by 20 December 2021 and the outcomes of the consultation process will be reported back for April 2022.

Economic regulation is a key part of the water reforms to promote the interests of consumers, provide system wide performance information, drive efficiencies in pricing, investment, procurement and asset management. Feedback on the reforms from councils also highlighted the importance of an economic regulator to support dispute resolutions.

The discussion document proposes a staged introduction of economic regulation from 2022 to 2027. Key aspects of the model include:

- Introduce information disclosure regulation so consumers are able to assess how the performance of their Water Service Entity compares to others
- Introduce economic regulation to control price and quality of services in the long term interest of consumers
- Require economic regulator to set a strong efficiency challenge to ensure that water services are as affordable as possible, and incentivise high quality consumer engagement
- Enable a consumer protection regulator to set minimum service level and provide protections for vulnerable consumers
- Establish a dedicated three waters consumer dispute resolution scheme

This consultation document is currently being reviewed in order to support submissions from councils in relation to potential regulatory models by 20 December 2021. See links below for more details.

Part B Opportunities for influence and outstanding issues

What are the key opportunities for input and influence of the reforms

While the Government has made decisions to proceed with the reforms on a mandated basis, there remain significant design and establishment issues to work through. There are several channels for councils and other stakeholders to influence the final form of the reforms as outlined below.

- Working groups
- Legislative process including Select Committee
- Consultation on economic regulation
- Transition process

Working Group on representation, governance and accountability

As noted above, the Minister is setting up a working group to specifically work through representation, governance and accountability in response to sector concerns about the current governance proposals.

The Cabinet paper noted that the purpose of the group is to consider issues relating to representation, governance and accountability of the WSE and to recommend to the Minister of Local Government an alternative design that:

- Addresses the concerns expressed about the current model by local authorities
- Remains consistent with the government's reform objectives; and
- Is practical to implement and likely to achieve greater buy-in from the local government sector.

An email update from DIA on 5 November stated:

“The purpose of the Working Group is to take a fresh look at the proposals, with a view to developing recommendations on a strengthened set of representation, governance and accountability arrangements for the entities, within the bottom lines of good governance, Treaty partnership, safeguarding public ownership, and achieving operational and financial autonomy for the entities.

Membership of the Group will comprise an independent Chair, local government elected members and iwi/Māori representatives. The Department expects further details, including the Terms of Reference and membership of the Group, to be announced shortly³.”

The bottom lines that the working group need to be consistent with include:

- Good governance
- Partnership with mana whenua
- Public ownership
- Balance sheet separation

This working group (including membership, input and advice to Government) is a key opportunity to shape these issues and work through matters such as:

- what local authority ownership means and how it is reflected in the governance framework
- details of any oversight bodies for the entities
- the process for setting entities direction and performance expectations
- the extent to which each entity could have bespoke governance and accountability mechanisms
- appointment of directors

Other working groups – RMA reforms and rural / community water

DIA officials also plan to establish technical working groups on other key issues raised in relation to the reforms, including:

Effective interface between the three waters reforms and RMA reforms

The Cabinet paper acknowledges that there are areas of concern relating to the interface of water and RMA reforms. The Cabinet paper confirms the intent to proceed with water reforms legislation separately from RMA reforms but also directs DIA and Ministry for the Environment to consider the effective interface between the regimes. In support of this DIA are tasked with establishment of a technical working group (similar to the stormwater working group) to *‘ensure legislative and policy*

³ Email from DIA titled ‘Technical working groups update - 5 November 2021’

settings will support the range of interactions between water services entities and local authorities that area needed to enable housing and urban development.⁴

An email update from DIA on 5 November stated:

“...Government is establishing a technical advisory group to provide advice on the interface with the resource management system and local government planning to ensure the water service entities, councils and other infrastructure providers can work effectively together. This advisory group is expected to have a technical focus and include local authority elected members and officers and iwi representatives with experience in land use and infrastructure planning. This group will be supported by officials from the Department of Internal Affairs and the Ministry for the Environment.”

Rural and community water schemes

The Cabinet paper also acknowledges that there are a range of complex issues relating to rural and community water schemes. These provide a mixture of drinking and stock water and have mixed ownership models. These schemes based around small communities, marae, schools and farm based models.

While water reforms focus on council-owned systems, there are implications for these rural / community schemes including ability to comply with drinking water regulations and relationship with the proposed WSE. A third working group will be established to support a clear pathway for transition of these schemes. This includes ‘...what the future functions, duties and obligations of the new water entities should be in respect of rural / community schemes.⁵’

An email update from DIA on 5 November stated:

“The Department of Internal Affairs and Taumata Arowai have set up a project team to build on existing work focused on ensuring that there is a clear pathway and support for the transition of small, rural suppliers into regulatory system. The intention is that this project team will support a Rural Supplies Technical Advisory Group, that will be convened to provide insights and practical and pragmatic advice into the key challenges, and issues for rural and non-councils suppliers, including informing the approach to regulation, considering which rural schemes transfer to water service entities, potential governance and management structures and arrangements, and the future roles and functions of water service entities to support rural communities served by these non-council owned and community suppliers.

The Department and Taumata Arowai are currently working together to identify potential membership of the rural technical advisory group, which is likely to include elected members and officials from rural councils, iwi, Federated Farmers and other rural representative groups. We expect to be able to confirm the scope and Terms of Reference of the group shortly, with the Steering Committee. The intention is for the first meeting of this group to be held before the end of the year.”

Legislative process and Select Committee

The reforms process will be mandated through two rounds of legislation to enable the reforms. The first ‘Water Services Entities Bill’ to be introduced to Parliament by December 2021 with Select

⁴ Refer: Paras 115-126 CAB-21-MIN-0419, 18 October 2021

⁵ Refer: Paras 127-138 CAB-21-MIN-0419, 18 October 2021

Committee process in early 2022. The second 'Water Service Entities (Implementation) Bill to be introduced to Parliament from mid-2022.

The process for a bill passing into legislation allows for several opportunities for public input and influence (see links below on process). This will be the key process to ensure that the details of the legislative framework for change will enable the right outcomes. This process and opportunities include:

- Introduction and first reading of the bill
- Select Committee process, including public submission process
- Second and third readings of the bill

Given the intent of the Government to introduce the first bill in 2021, the key period of input and influence for the public is likely to be through the Select Committee process in early 2022.

Consultation on economic regulation

As noted above, economic regulation is a key part of the proposed water reforms. Review of the proposed model, submissions on the current consultation process as well as ongoing engagement with MBIE on the details of the proposed model will be an important opportunity to influence detail of the reforms and ensure consumer protections.

Transition process

The process of transitional establishment of the WSE is critical to success of the reforms model and must be carefully planned by DIA working closely with local government. This process needs to establish the new organisations and by 1 July 2025 transfer debt, assets, people, relationships, processes and accountability. This is a very significant change process which will have a major bearing on all councils and water services.

During transition, local government and the water sector will need to plan for and engage with transition and reforms. This will require substantive information and due diligence processes for debt, asset identification and transfer and HR change processes. At the same time the water sector will also need to meet concurrent challenges of:

- Delivery of planned water investment - councils have significantly increased investment relative to previous years. This brings major challenges of sector capacity and capability
- Responding to increased compliance and regulation which again raise challenges of ensuring there is the knowledge, processes and investment to meet these requirements
- Wider local government challenges and change including skills shortages, responding to climate change, RMA reforms, future of local government review and other financial pressures.

It is anticipated that more detail on the establishment of the Transition Unit and work programme will be released later this year. There are multiple areas where it will be important to influence this process and ensure it is co-designed with local government.

Areas that remain unclear

As noted above, significant more information on the reforms is anticipated over the next few months. There are several key questions that remain unclear at this point:

Governance and representation working group

- What are the channels of opportunities to feed thinking and advice into this group to help it succeed?
- How will advice from the group will be used to inform decisions and legislation?
- How will the process and advice of the group be sufficiently transparent to ensure buy-in?

Engagement and public consultation

- How will public engagement / consultation be managed nationally / by Government? What is the role of councils?
- How will further lwi engagement / consultation be managed nationally / by Government. What is the role of councils?

Transition

- Significant more information is required on the proposed timeline, programme and process for transition. This includes debt identification, asset identification and transfer and HR processes . This has significant bearing on resources for councils at what will be a busy time.
- When / how will the Chair and Board be established, how does local government have input to these appointments?
- What role, if any do DIA intend to play in facilitating a coordinated approach across councils in each entity area? This is both for consultation but also for transition issues
- Have DIA developed any updated change messages and process we can use for staff?

Other information and comments

- When will Cabinet paper 4 be released?
- Further detail is required at a Minister and official level of how alignment with RMA reforms and review of local government will be managed. This seems beyond the scope of an external working group
- How will align feedback on the economic regulator be aligned with the drafting of the water services entities bill?

Further information available

Links to more information:

| Information | Links |
|---|---|
| Cabinet Paper 18 October 'Three Waters Reforms further decisions' | https://www.dia.govt.nz/diawebsite.nsf/Files/three-waters-reform-programme-2021/\$file/cabinet-paper-three-waters-reforms-further-decisions-18-october-2021.pdf |
| Summary of council feedback from DIA / LGNZ / Taituāra | https://www.dia.govt.nz/diawebsite.nsf/Files/three-waters-reform-programme-2021/\$file/summary-of-local-government-feedback-on-the-three-waters-reform-proposals.pdf |

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Economic regulator consultation | https://www.mbie.govt.nz/have-your-say/economic-regulation-and-consumer-protection-for-three-waters/ |
| Legislative process | https://www.parliament.nz/en/visit-and-learn/how-parliament-works/fact-sheets/parliament-brief-the-legislative-process/ |

| | |
|---|---|
| To: | Infrastructure and Services Committee |
| From: | Steve May, Manager Regulatory Services |
| Endorsed by: | David Hopman, Acting Chief Executive |
| Date: | 17 November 2021 |
| Subject: | Regulatory Services Infrastructure and Services Update |
| INFORMATION | |
| Recommendation: | |
| That the Infrastructure and Services Committee notes the contents of Report 213/21. | |

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide the Infrastructure and Services Committee with an update from Building Control Services team, Consents and Planning team and Environmental Services team.

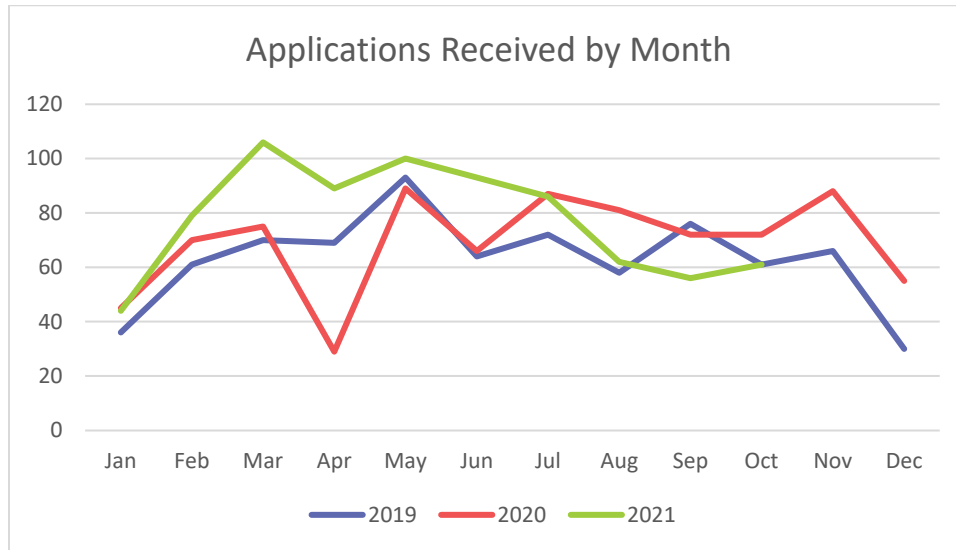
BUILDING CONTROL SERVICES ACTIVITY

Activity Levels, Staff and Service

Since the last ISC update the Building Team has taken on two more officers in the BCA for a total of seven BCO's. We are maintaining acceptable levels of service across processing and inspections and continue to deliver minimum service in compliance.

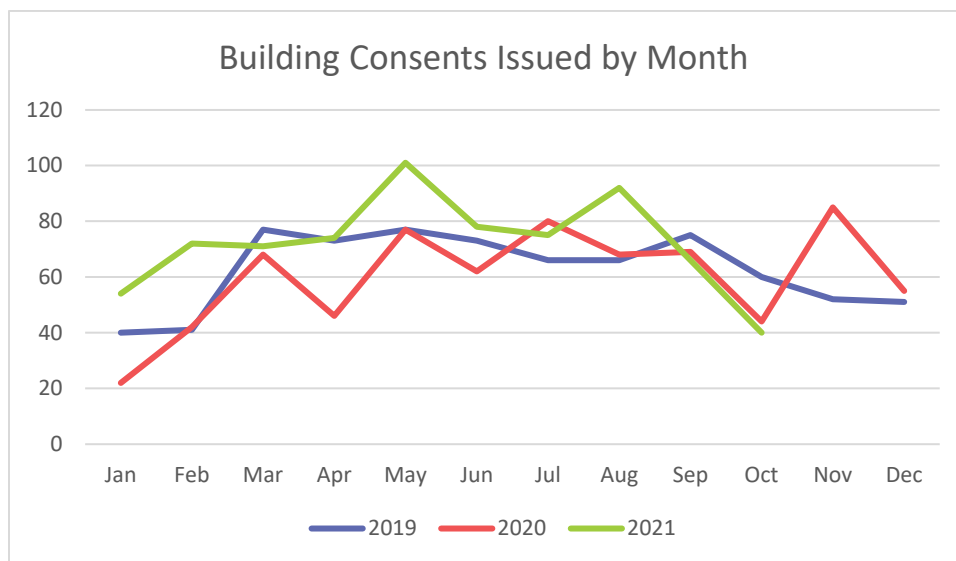
Externally, the lack of availability of designers, tradesmen and building supplies are still governing the progress of building work in the district. Anecdotally the real estate market is cooling with less property enquires than the last period as agents struggle to find listings. There has been moderate increase in commercial activity with large consents in line for a retail complex in Solway, extensive work at Wairarapa College and seismic strengthening projects around the CBD.

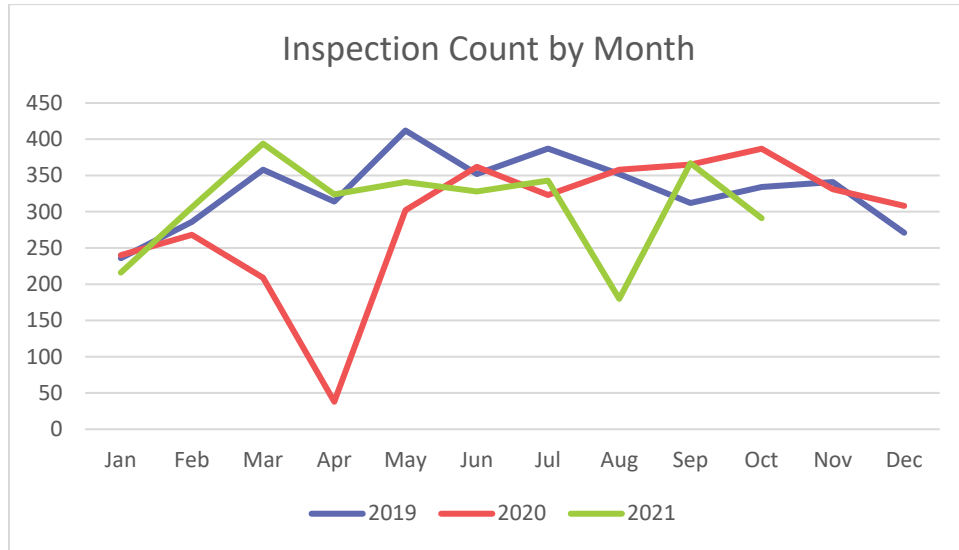
Building Consent Authority Services



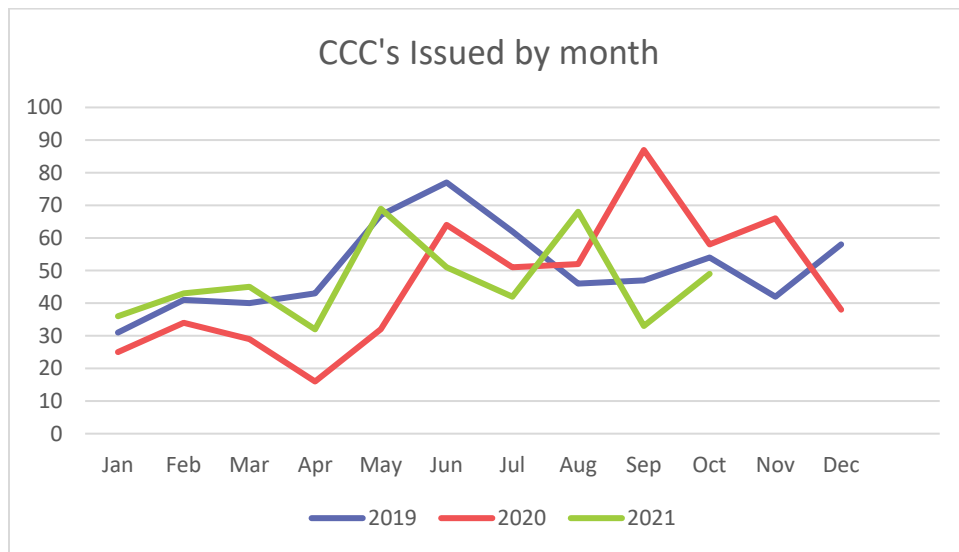
With reference to the green line in the graph above there was an expected dip in building consent applications in August due to the COVID related lock down. However, after the lockdown applications numbers have not recovered to levels seen earlier in the year. Applicants are still waiting for material and builder availability before placing their application. We expect material shortages to affect our regional builders for the next 12 months at least.

We have had some minor challenges meeting the statutory time frame and this is likely to continue while we train new staff. The graph below shows the consents issued up to the end of October. Typically, a month result for issued consents can be compared to the month prior for applications received to judge the flow of consents through the system. (i.e. issuing is down because applications received is down)





Inspections have been running at full capacity throughout May, June and July but dropped off in August due the national lock down. We are still down on the peak of inspections in March as we do not have sufficient resource to maintain office delivery while meeting inspection needs. Overall, our stakeholders have adjusted well to the longer wait time for an inspection (currently a week). The building control team leader is maintaining a consistent service by putting out a third inspector when the wait time creeps out beyond 7 days. Our Zyte remote inspection service has been successfully trailed with waterproofing and fireplace inspections, and we will look to offer this to select contractors.



Code Compliance Certificates were noticeably down in September after the catchup period in August. We maintain compliance with the statutory clock for CCC decisions. Customers want prompt service at this final stage of their work due to financial and insurance implications.

Building Services The TA Building Functions

Building Warrants of Fitness

Annual BWoF renewals continue to track well, we still have 15-20% with issues that we expect to address in the coming months with further enforcement. Once we have current BWOFs above 90% we can look to start an audit program.

Earthquake Prone Buildings

We continue to delay any work on identification as by law the TA has until July 2022 to complete this work. The confirmed earthquake prone buildings can be found on the national register administered by the ministry at <https://epbr.building.govt.nz> There will be additional detail on this area in the next report.

Swimming Pools

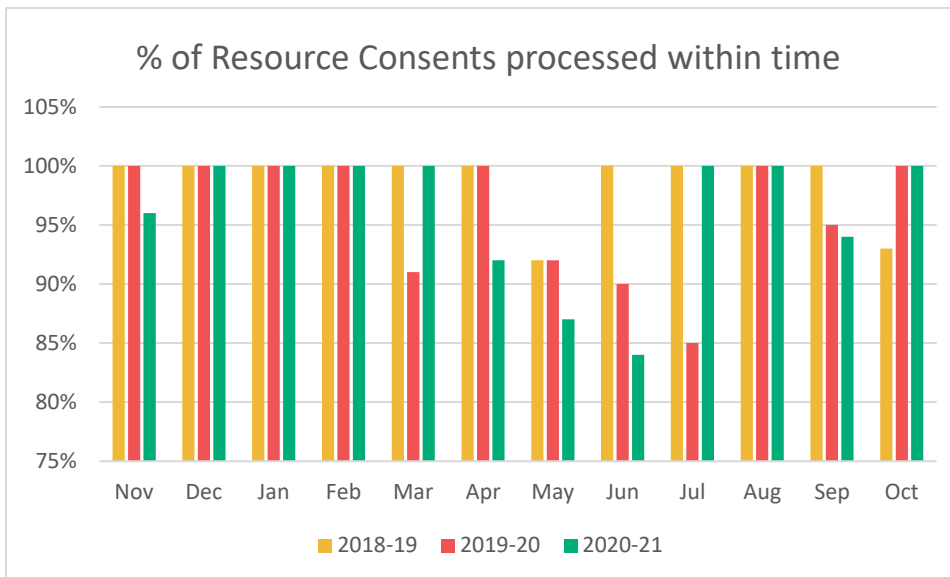
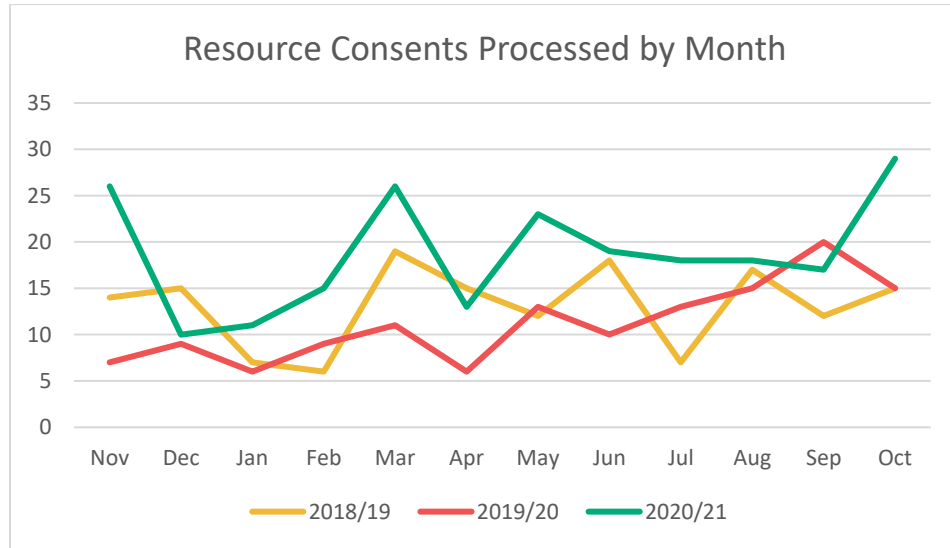
While MDC is still not fully resourced to maintain compliance service while performing pool inspections, we are pushing on with the required software implementation and expect to start some inspections before Christmas. We now have a revised estimate of 1800-2000 pools within the Masterton District. The compliance team will be recruiting for another Building Services Officer (as per the LTP) before Christmas to contribute to these compliance functions.

CONSENTS AND PLANNING ACTIVITY

Planning Activity up to 31 October 2021

Resource Consents processed in 3-yearly period ending 31 October 2021

| Yearly period | Number of Consents Processed | % Within RMA timeframes |
|---------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Nov 2018 – Oct 2019 | 157 | 99% |
| Nov 2019 – Oct 2020 | 134 | 96% |
| Nov 2020 – Oct 2021 | 225 | 96% |



The 2020/21 period has seen a general increase in the number of resource consent applications, with the three months to end September being steady, and bumping up in October leading to the traditional end-of-year rush in applications. The decrease in timeframe compliance in Apr/May/June 2021 is due to seasonal illness disruption (same pattern as in previous year), combined with an increase in the workload. The pattern for 2021 is overall a busier year than the previous 2 years with the team working at full capacity. Covid lockdown disruptions in August had flow-on effects in September's performance with delays getting comments back from other Council teams on subdivision consent applications. This is combined with an increasingly challenging array of issues as development opportunities get into more difficult sites, causing the need for more assessment work per application (on top of the increase in application numbers).

There were 78 LIM applications in the 2-month reporting period up to 29 October 2021 (including 28 urgent LIMs). This is a 6-weekly average of 58 LIMs, higher than the 6-weekly average of 45 LIMs for the 2021/21 financial year, reflecting both a jump in property interest activity following the August covid lockdown and an increase in property activity at this time of year).

Review of the Wairarapa Combined District Plan ('WCDP')

The three Councils' Joint Committee considering the review has considered a range of preliminary issues-scoping reports and has identified a range of stakeholder agencies and groups to engage for consultation. A programme for consultation with these stakeholders is being developed.

The Council, at its meeting of 4 August 2021, has already recommended that the Joint Committee reviewing the Combined District Plan prioritise review of financial contribution provisions along with subdivision provision and urban form provisions. This was discussed and agreed in principle in the combined Chief Executives' Forum on 16 September.

At its meeting on 27 October, the Council adopted a *Masterton Edition* of the Wairarapa Combined District Plan that deletes provisions that have the effect of requiring a minimum number of onsite parking spaces for land use and development – to comply with the requirement in Cl 3.38 of the National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020. This ends regulatory levers on parking under the district plan (except for accessibility parking spaces). This may be likely to have some flow-on effects on parking patterns because of the high reliance on private motor vehicles for travel within Masterton and throughout the Wairarapa.

The production of a new district plan (under the Joint Councils' combined review programme) may need to consider impacts of new development on traffic generation and street-parking, as well as specific methods for enabling off-street parking that do not require a minimum number of on-site parking spaces to be provided. Preparation of the Council's anticipated *Parking Strategy* could potentially usefully consider a range of other tools for managing parking, including non-regulatory tools, depending on how altering the regulatory framework ends up affecting future parking patterns.

Government reforms which may impact on Planning Activity

The Joint Committee and combined Chief Executives have been briefed on the Government's Resource Management Act reform with a view to considering implications of this for the review of the WCDP. On 10 February 2021, the Government (MfE) announced its intention to reform the Resource Management Act and replaced this with three pieces of legislation; a Natural and Built Environment Act (NBA) focussed focused on land use and environmental regulation; a Strategic Planning Act (SPA) pulling together laws around urban development, spatial planning and funding mechanisms; and a Climate Change Adaptation Act (CAA) focused on managed coastal retreat and its funding - based on the recommendations in the Randerson Report. Submissions on the Government's 'Exposure Draft' of the new NBA closed on 4 August (as reported in the Infrastructure Services Committee's 25 August meeting). There were 3,090 submissions, 117 from Māori, iwi, hapu and Māori organisations, 50 from councils. The Select Committee was due report back on 1 November 2021 (announcement delayed as at the deadline for this ISC report).

A key concern around transition to a new regulatory framework is at what point the Council should stop undertaking work on the existing district plan review. As things stand, the Minister for the Environment has emphasised the 'need for councils to continue to fulfil their obligations under the RMA'. New legislation is not expected this year. The combined Councils Technical Advisory Group to the Joint Committee is continuing to monitor this situation in order to ensure advice on the review programme can be kept up to date.

As at September 2021, the Government's conceptual programme for review of the legislation was as follows:

> October 2021

- Inquiry by the Environment Committee on the Natural and Built Environments Bill: Parliamentary Paper. (Public submissions closed on 4 August.)

August– early 2022

- Work continues on remaining NBA policy and SPA policy.

2022

- NBA, SPA introduced to Parliament and follow standard legislative processes.
- CAA will be consulted on alongside The National Adaptation Plan.

By the end of the parliamentary term

- NBA and SPA enacted.
- Work on establishing and implementing the new system will be ongoing throughout (and beyond) this period.

The Government has announced plans to form a 'Steering Group' on RM reform with 'local government'. This group would initially have an advisory function to the Secretary for Environment, and something called the *Interagency RM Reform CE Board*, and Ministers. This role could evolve from 'advisory' to aspects of programme governance as reforms progress. Membership of this Steering Group is comprised of a select group of local government CEs and elected members¹.

The 'Three Waters' reform announced by the Minister for Local Government last week is expected to have a further impact on aspects of the district plan review. These impacts will need to be worked through. It is not clear at this stage how new Three Waters assets for future urban growth will be specified, and the Council may need to maintain some in-house capability to do this moving forward, at least in the short-to-medium term (assuming local government and resource management system reforms take 2-5 years to implement).

General Comments:

Interest in the housing and subdivision market has kept planning staff busy with public enquiries. The number of Planning Enquiries in the 2-month period up to 29 October 2021 was 178 (compared to 125 for the previous reporting period).

¹ Terms of reference for the Steering Group can be found here: <https://environment.govt.nz/assets/LG-RM-Reform-Steering-Group-Terms-of-Reference-FINAL-29-Sep-2021September-2021.pdf>

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ACTIVITY

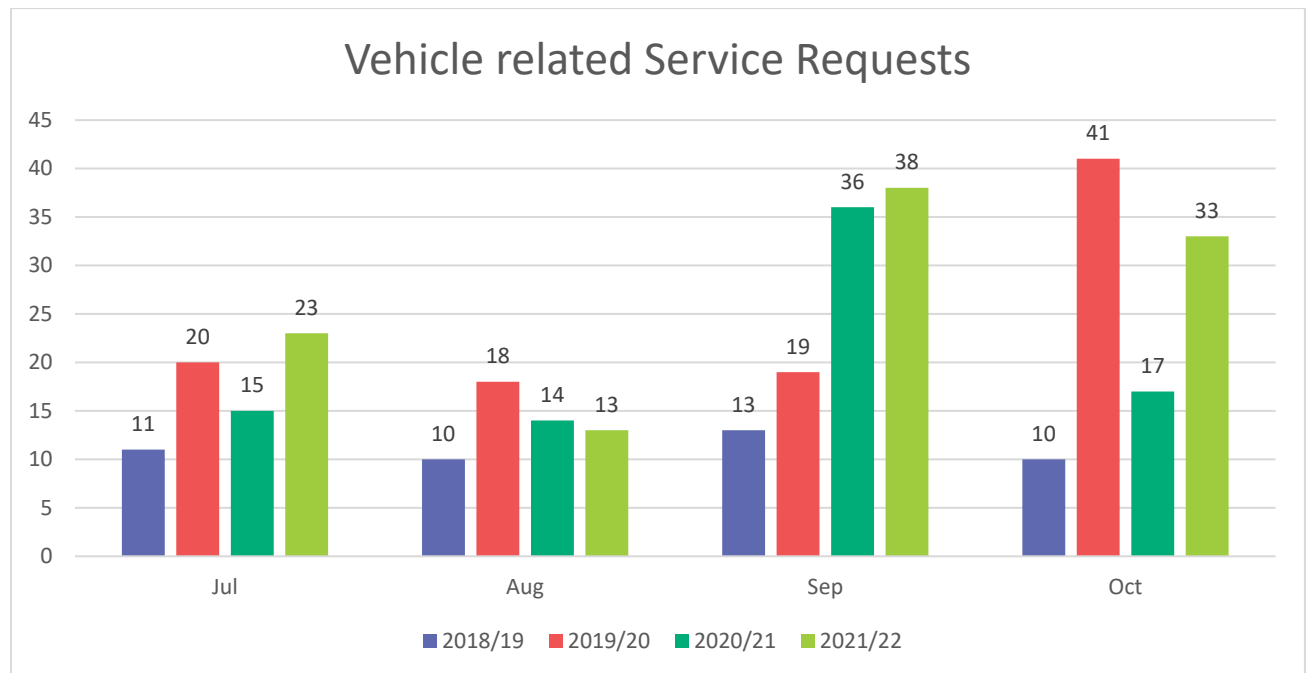
BYLAWS AND PARKING

Stationary vehicles

Most service requests for bylaws relate to stationary vehicles. Either vehicles reported as abandoned or vehicles causing damage, such as parking on the grass verge and damaging the berm. Several follow ups are done as part of the process for abandoned vehicles to confirm the vehicle is abandoned. Education about not parking on the grass berm is continuous. Many of the reports about vehicles causing damage comes from people trying to work in and around footpaths and roadways who are hindered by a vehicle being parked where it should not be.

Parking Control

Parking explanations for parking tickets will now be recorded as part of the service request system. Previously they were recorded in a different system and there were no monthly reports available. There were 18 and 21 explanations for the months of September and October respectively inclusion of parking ticket explanations in the reporting information may see an increase in vehicle related service requests figures.



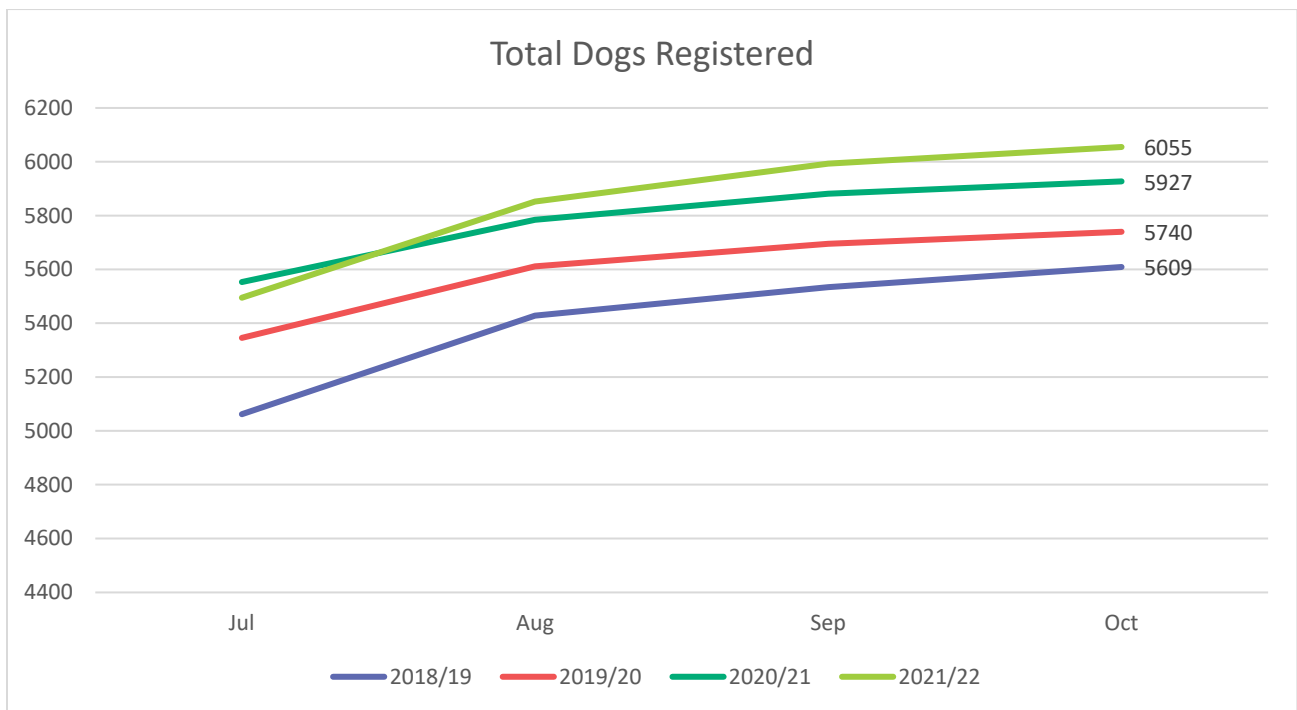
DOG CONTROL

Registration

There are 6055 dogs registered in the Masterton District as of 31 October. This is 128 more dogs registered compared to the same time the previous year.

Animal and Bylaw Services has completed the majority of follow ups and property checks for unregistered dogs in the district. There were 112 infringements issued in the month of October most of the infringements issued where issued for failing to register. These infringements could have been avoided by dog owners if they had registered their dog(s).

The Animal and Bylaw Services team will start reminders again in February about the option to prepay the coming year's dog registration off in instalments, to be completed not later than 31 July. Customers often want to know the annual registration fees when arranging to prepay the registration, staff cannot advise the cost of the fees until the fees are set in May as part of the annual or long-term plan. This does result in some negative feedback and frustration from customers about not having the fees set well in advance.



Attack prevention

In response to dog attacks on couriers and posties this year Animal and Bylaw Services have developed a presentation which covers pre-entry checks to properties, how to approach if there is a dog on the property, correct positioning at the door and how to leave the property. This presentation takes about ten minutes then the presenter will open the meeting to general questions. Contact has been made with several delivery firms and others are encouraged to get in touch if they would like the presentation delivered at their workplace.

Invitations will be sent out to schools in November to offer dog safety training in school for children next year.

Reporting Attacks

Staff are reminding the community that if they are involved in dog attack or rushing the sooner they report the event to Animal and Bylaws Services the better. By delaying reporting for several days can make it more difficult for staff to investigate the complaint. Witnesses sometimes can take time to track down and memories of the event can be less detailed. When a priority one service request is reported Animal and Bylaws Services team endeavour to action the request within the hour. Animal and Bylaws Services are impartial when investigating attacks.

When reporting attacks some people report just to make the Animal and Bylaws Services team aware and refuse to make a witness statement. While the information can be recorded on the file of the dog, staff are hindered and they can be limited in what they are able to investigate and enforce, which can be very frustrating and endanger the community. All service requests at Council are treated as confidential.

Microchipping

At this time of the year Animal and Bylaw Services team are on a higher alert for roaming dogs, with Guy Fawkes falling on 5 November they often let out a sigh of relief if the weather forecast is for rain, as this puts a damper on the fireworks celebrations and is better for the animals in the community.

In order to prepare for Guy Fawkes and the days following it, the Animal and Bylaws staff held a microchipping event at Henley Lake on 26 October. Dog owners were encouraged to have their pooches' microchips scanned and checked to ensure they were still in working order for peace of mind. Owners also brought dogs along to have microchips implanted at a discounted fee of \$10. There were 7 microchips checked and 6 microchips implanted over the hour-long event.

Although some members of the community see the letting off fireworks as great family fun, the effect of this can be very frightening for animals. Dogs and horses are often petrified of the loud noises and bright flashes in the sky and this can cause distress and panic. It is not unusual for normally quiet dogs to jump fences and run, to escape a perceived threat from the bangs and flashes. Masterton District Council advertised in October to remind pet owners to keep their furry friends indoors and safe during the nights coming up to and after Guy Fawkes.

Having dogs microchipped, wearing their MDC registration tags and owners ensuring their contact details are up to date also assists the team in dealing with frightened pooches and getting them safely back home. When going out in the evenings at this time of the year it is advised to leave dogs contained inside a house or garage where they can feel safe, should some celebrating neighbours choose to light up the sky after dark.

KEEP YOUR PETS SAFE FROM FIREWORKS



If your pet goes missing, fill out our online form and upload a photo at: www.mstn.govt.nz/report-a-lost-dog or call 06 370 6300.

It's fireworks season again and even though we humans enjoy watching the celebration, our pets can find it really scary. Luckily, there are lots of things you can do to help your pets cope.

Here are some top tips to make fireworks less frightening for our pets:

- Remember to walk your dog during daylight hours.
- Keep dogs, cats, and other small pets indoors when you think fireworks are likely to go off.
- Make sure your pets are always in a safe, secure environment and can't run away if they hear loud noises. Secure exterior doors and windows to prevent them from escaping.
- Think about staying home to reassure and comfort your pets. They will be much less stressed with someone they trust close by.
- Make sure your dog or cat always has somewhere to hide if they want to. Don't try to tempt them out when they are in their hiding place as it could cause them more stress.
- Make a 'safe den' for your pet in a quiet place in your house where your pet feels safe and in control. Partly cover the den with blankets and pillows to muffle sounds and flashing lights, and provide lots of extra bedding so your pets have something to burrow in to.
- At nightfall, close windows and curtains, and put music on to muffle the sound of fireworks.
- Never punish your pets when they are scared.

Get your pets microchipped and ensure they have a registration tag on their collar with your contact details, just in case they do run away.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Alcohol Licensing

The majority of clubs that hold alcohol licences have had inspections, and there are still some special licenses coming through, however the majority have had to be cancelled or postponed due to Covid restrictions. Staff are still processing and reporting on these applications as usual.

This month saw an application for a large event come through which potentially had 2000+ people at a music event. Staff arranged pre-event meetings with the organisers, between a variety of Council staff from Environmental Health, Building, Roding, Planning and Communities as well as representatives from

Public Health and the Police. Due to alert level changes and gathering restrictions the event was postponed until further notice, however it did highlight the need for Council to improve its procedures and communication of requirements around how large private events go ahead, and who needs to be contacted at Council to get the ball rolling. Many departments at Council will have statutory requirements for large events to go ahead and need time to assess applications and discuss with applicants what procedures they need to have in place.

Training

Health Promotion Agency has offered four free online training under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012, presented by Crown Solicitor's Office. All alcohol licensing staff attending this training.

Environmental Health Team

September is a busy time for staff as workload increases leading up to Christmas. This year was no exception, especially while dealing with shifting Covid alert levels and uncertainty around event planning. Unfortunately, one staff member still remains in the Waikato, and has been working remotely. Until there is a change to Alert levels, the staff member has been unable to return to Masterton.

Verifications and inspection

Generally, staff are busy with continuing to work through Verifications, while working as practical as possible with covid restrictions. There have been no changes to verification procedures by the Ministry of Primary Industries, so staff are still trying to undertake these checks remotely, where practicable. *Attachment 1* shows the Food Act Verification Decision Tree. This can be challenging for both verifier and food operator.

Environmental monitoring

The start of October marks the start of the Summer Resource Consent monitoring period. Henley Lake and Queen Elizabeth Park will be monitored fortnightly, with Cyanobacteria monitoring of Henley Lake and Opaki Water race monitoring starting after Labour weekend. This season staff will also monitor the lake on the Fourth Street Reserve for cyanobacteria, as there is still a risk to dogs and the public in that area with algal blooms occurring throughout the summer – signage will be erected when appropriate for the area.



Figure 1 cyanobacteria bloom

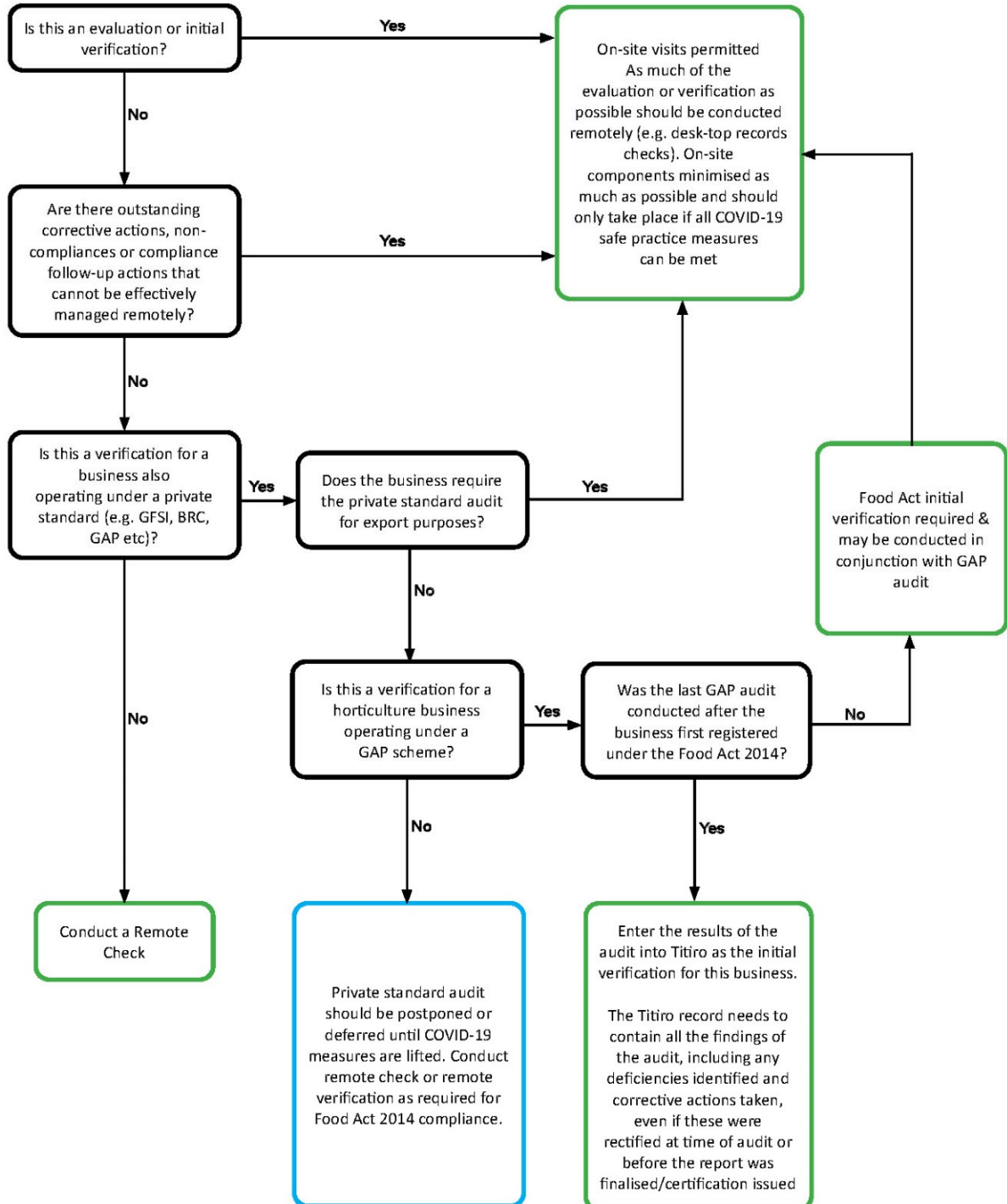
Noise

The volume of noise complaints over the spring period has not increased compared to previous years, however there is usually an increase around Labour Weekend as well as going into the summer. Staff have arranged and advertisement to be put in the paper about “being a good neighbour” – reminding the public about their responsibilities around noise.



Food Act Verification Decision Tree

COVID-19 Alert Level 2



| | |
|---|--|
| To: | Infrastructure and Services Committee |
| From: | Corin Haines, Manager Community Facilities and Activities |
| Endorsed by: | David Hopman, Acting Chief Executive |
| Date: | 17 November 2021 |
| Subject: | Community Facilities and Activities Infrastructure Update |
| INFORMATION | |
| Recommendation: | |
| That the Infrastructure and Services Committee notes the contents of Report 214/21. | |

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Infrastructure and Services Committee with an update on key projects and summary of progress since the last report, including highlights and any new issues.

Key Projects Currently Underway – Summary

Community Facilities and Activities have a capital budget of \$18.2 million for the 2021/22 year. Our larger financial projects will be reported via the Project's Office, Assets and Operation's report:

- Hood Aerodrome; \$17 million
- Skatepark Upgrade; \$1.75 million
- Youth Hub; \$538,000

The team also have operational projects on the go in the following areas:

Properties

Housing

Soffit removal (asbestos) has been completed at Laurent Place and Bodmin Flats. Reinstatement of soffits has started at Laurent Place. Ducting for ventilation systems has been installed to coordinate with the reinstatement programme. Heat Pump installations are well underway; Bodmin is completed, Panama is a third of the way through and Laurent Place has just been started. Completion of all heat pump installations is expected by mid-December 2021.

Facilities

Consent documentation has been prepared for the installation of the automatic doors at the Trust House Recreation Centre.

The car compound at Waiata House is nearly complete, outstanding work is delivery of replacement gate motor due to a fault in the original unit and installation of a locking bracket.

Parks and Reserves

In collaboration with three community groups, Council has prepared 14 applications to MPI for the planting and two year maintenance of native trees on approximately 13.2 hectares of reserve land over a two year period.

Wet conditions have delayed the completion of grassing and repair work at Henley Lake however contractors are now on site and works should be completed by mid-November 2021.

Contractors

Belgravia Leisure - Trust House Recreation Centre Contract

The Trust House Recreation Centre operated under the restrictions of COVID-19 Alert Level 2 during October 2021. All services, classes, trainings, holiday programmes and facility activities were available except the hydro slide, sauna, and toddler pool. Facility visits are down compared with last year by 50% due to cancelled bookings and restrictions on travel. Total facility visits stood at 7,972 for this month compared to 14,091 for the same month last year.

Belgravia Leisure - Mawley Holiday Park Contract

During September 2021 the Mawley Holiday Park lost approximately \$7,000 in cancellations due to the COVID-19 Alert Level restrictions. Whilst revenue was down \$4,000 in comparison to the same month last year, this was still a good result considering those cancellations and September 2020 was exceptional as people enjoyed their freedom following lockdown.

October initially looked to be a quiet month, however there were steady bookings and a busy long weekend. Revenue increased by approximately \$7,000 on the same month last year, which has gone some way towards countering the shortfalls of the last two months. The Holiday Park continues to field cancellations from Auckland area guests, who hold out to the last moment in the hope that they will be free to travel.

Recreational Services - Parks and Open Spaces Maintenance Contract

At COVID-19 Alert Level 2, Recreational Services are fully operational, working within the restrictions. We are currently working on budget planning for the next 2022/23 financial year. The forecast for inflation from 1 July 2022, using the bespoke contract formula, is currently estimated at 8.51%. The formula considers price movements across labour/on site overheads, fuel, consumables, and capital costs. Performance of the formula is usually undertaken at the start of the next financial year, so whilst this is an early estimate and may change, it does provide a useful indication of the current impact of covid on labour availability and delays and availability within supply chains.

Positive Ageing Strategy

October 1 marked the United Nations International Day of Older Persons, and this was celebrated with the announcement of the Age Concern Senior of the Year Awards, judged by Mayor Patterson, Mayor Lang, and Deputy Mayor Emms.

Planning is underway for the inaugural Wairarapa Senior Games in Masterton to be held in March 2022. The Masterton Library has come on board to contribute focussing on “The Brain is a Muscle too”.

Engagement planning is underway for determining the next Implementation Plan (with the extension of the role for another six months). Work will be done to re-engage with the community to gather feedback to form the workplan for the next three years. There was extensive engagement before the strategy was written, however, life in Wairarapa and New Zealand has changed significantly with the advent of COVID-19.

As part of this process, the community can identify the priorities for this work and the actions that will make a difference. Alongside this key purpose the engagement can also include a report back on work done so far and check-in regarding whether the strategy is still fit for purpose. The engagement will involve a workshop with community organisations, public pop-ups, and internal engagement. The new Wairarapa Pasifika Trust has been invited to participate. Mana whenua involvement is key also.

Community Development

Events

Planning is ongoing for Council’s spring, winter, and summer events:

- **Halloween**
Due to COVID-19 Alert Level 2 Delta restrictions, the Halloween Island and HalloWhere events didn’t go ahead. Instead we ran a Jack-o-Lantern and Scarecrow competition which we received 16 entries for. Voting closes on 9 November at midnight.
- **Waifest**
Planning for Wairarapa's largest cultural Waitangi Day event, Waifest is underway. COVID-19 restrictions permitting, Waifest will be held on Sunday 6 February 2022 on the Queen Elizabeth Park cricket oval. The 2022 Waitangi Day event will see Council partnering with local Iwi Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa with the intention that iwi take lead and run all future Waifest events.

Christmas Events

Council is currently assessing the effect of COVID-19 restrictions on our ability to hold our Christmas events and we have already scaled back on some of our ambitious plans. We will make a call on the ability to hold the Christmas parade in mid-November and will be based on public safety. We are also talking with the other local councils to try and be consistent with our approach where possible.

We will be lighting the Queen Elizabeth Park Island in the Lake of Remembrance and the Dixon Street frontage of Queen Elizabeth Park to provide a festive atmosphere for people to enjoy during December. The usual Christmas Street decorations will also be placed in the central business district.

Infrastructure Projects

| Properties and Facilities | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|--|--|---|--|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Project Name | Project Lead | This month | Next milestone | Budget | Risk | Council Decision Points | Completion Date |
| Waiata House Vehicle Compound | Kane Harris | Card readers installed, gate motor fault repaired and final operational checks | Completion | \$50,000 offset by operational savings from fewer vehicle movements (Cost neutral over two years) | Delay in materials for works and contractor availability Impact of COVID-19 response affecting contractors' ability to work | | November 2021 |
| Trust House Recreation Centre – Automatic Door Installation | Audrey Dench | Building consent | Site establishment | \$70,000 provision for interior upgrades | Disruption to public while work is underway | | January 2022 |
| Reserve Lease Review | Audrey Dench | Implementation planning and revisions | Workshop with Elected Members to be held 24 November and 1 December 2021 | Operational cost | Negative publicity from clubs and other leaseholders who have historical or expired agreements that do not comply with current legislation and do not wish to move to new agreements | | June 2022 |

| Properties and Facilities | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|------------|----------------|--|---|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Project Name | Project Lead | This month | Next milestone | Budget | Risk | Council Decision Points | Completion Date |
| Pensioner Housing Heating Upgrade | Paula Beasley | Commenced | Completion | \$341,000 provision for Pensioner Housing upgrades | Disruption to tenants while work is underway and delays due to COVID-19 response and supply chain impacts | | December 2021 |

Services

| Community Wellbeing | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|---|--|--|--|-----------------|
| Project Name | Project Lead | This month | Next milestone | Budget | Risk | Council Decision Points | Completion Date |
| Community Development Framework | Corin Haines | Community Development Team Leader advertised and shortlisted | Appointment of Community Development Team Leader and completion of the Framework | Offer of Service cost \$26,250 | Mixed understanding of community development and community-led development | Include in Chief Executive report for information to Elected Members | February 2022 |
| Shift Wairarapa | Alicia Todd and Kata Ngatai | Term 4 delivery | Secure ongoing contracts as fixed term contracts finish end of December Approach Schools and Colleges for 2022 | Staff salaries covered by external funding and project delivery shared across Wairarapa Councils Funding successfully secured until 31 December 2021 for 2FTE | | | December 2021 |

Community Wellbeing

| Project Name | Project Lead | This month | Next milestone | Budget | Risk | Council Decision Points | Completion Date |
|------------------------------|-----------------|---|---|--|--|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Waka Tākaro/ Play Trailer | Bailey Peterson | Confirmation of use for the trailer to be used for this project | Identify and procure appropriate equipment to be used in the play trailer Secure dates for play days, play breaks and data collection/analysis | \$10,000 Funding received through the Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa Fund | COVID-19 Alert Levels may restrict or limit access to schools and hosting of play days | | December 2021 |

Parks and Open Spaces

| Project Name | Project Lead | This month | Next milestone | Budget | Risk | Council Decision Points | Completion Date |
|---|--------------|--|---|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Parks and Open Space Strategy (POSS) | Corin Haines | Reserves Lease Policy work as part of wider lease policy | Workshops to test lease approach and inform | Internal staffing resources | Failure to complete work will impede asset management planning and property strategy development | | June 2022 |
| Henley Lake overflow carpark | Odell Sugrue | Topsoil supply, seed sowing, install bollards and repairs to carpark | Colombo Road fence and install bollards | \$50,000 | COVID-19 and contractor availability, also weather related issues | | May 2022 |
| Playground renewals | Odell Sugrue | Planning | Community engagement and seeking expressions of interest for installation | \$200,400 | COVID-19 delays for supply or materials and contractor availability | | June 2022 |

Green: On target or low risk

Orange: Slightly off target or some Risk

Red: Significantly off target or Significant Risk

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| To: | Infrastructure and Services Committee |
| From: | David Hopman, Acting Chief Executive |
| Date: | 17 November 2021 |
| Subject: | Infrastructure Update |
| FOR INFORMATION | |
| Recommendation: That the Infrastructure and Services Committee notes the information contained in Report 215/21. | |

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with an update on key infrastructure projects and areas of programme focus.

Corridor Management

Masterton District Council received 116 corridor access requests for the one-month period and invoiced out 40 approved requests. There have been no traffic management audits completed.

There was one non-conformance notice issued.

11 Traffic Management Plans (TMP) for events and other such non-excavation activities were approved. 31 work completions were completed, 5 two-year warranty inspections were completed.

Activity Reports

| | | PROJECTS/PROGRAMME WORKS | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|--|---------------------------|-------------|--------------|---|
| ACTIVITY | PROJECT LEAD | PROGRAMME PROGRESS | COUNCIL DECISION POINTS | BUDGET | COMPLETION | RISK |
| ROADING | | | | | | |
| Roading Maintenance | Kaine Jaquery | Footpaths: 20% of the renewals programmed are underway tracking towards completion by end of year. | No significant decisions. | \$450,000 | June 2022 | Contractor resourcing and equipment availability is a major risk to programme completion. Weather Covid 19 alert levels Resourcing equipment |
| | | Reseals: Engineering preparations and sealing designs underway on 2022 sites. Repairs on 2021 sites programmed and awaiting favourable environmental conditions estimated to start Nov 21. | | \$1,400,000 | April 2022 | |
| | | Road Remarking: Planned for April 2022 | | \$340,000 | May 2022 | |
| | | Drainage and kerb and channel renewals: preparing FWP 2022 (WIP Cornwall Street.) | | \$520,000 | June 2022 | |
| Pavement Rehabilitation | Kaine Jaquery | Two-year contract for sealed and unsealed sites awarded to Higgins in November 2020. 2022 sites are Te Ore Ore Bideford Road, Te Ore Ore Road, Worksop Road, Renall Street and unsealed sections on Ngahape Road. | No significant decisions. | \$1,510,000 | June 2022/23 | Resourcing Weather Covid 19 alert level |

| PROJECTS/PROGRAMME WORKS | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|---|---|--|---|---|
| ACTIVITY | PROJECT LEAD | PROGRAMME PROGRESS | COUNCIL DECISION POINTS | BUDGET | COMPLETION | RISK |
| | | Preparation and planning for 2022-2024 contract underway. | | | | |
| Tauweru Retaining Wall Replacement | Kaine Jaquierey | Contract awarded to 1Geo Ltd for the reconstruction of a 15.1m long retaining wall on Masterton Castlepoint Road. The old existing retaining wall is at the end of its useful life and at the verge of collapse. Project now completed | No significant decisions. Project now completed | \$231,541 On budget | Nov 2021 | Services TMP Covid 19 alert level Geotechnical local site conditions |
| Colombo Road Bridge Renewal | Kaine Jaquierey | Tender prepared: Design and build style contract. Geotech groundworks investigations completed. RLTP variation approval obtained on 24 September 2020. Seeking approval from Waka Kotahi to tender replacement. | Awaiting approval: Design build - Contract award: – 2021/22. | \$2.8 million | Construction in 2022/23 | Availability of resources Covid 19 alert level RLTP funding. Bridge is currently being monitored for significant movement. Structural Engineers risk assessment is to be carried out as soon as possible. |
| Te Ore Ore Road and Blair Street Intersection Improvements | Kaine Jaquierey | Contractor secured: Downer New Zealand. Started in May 2021. Kerbing work and central island completed, followed by pavement then central splitter islands. | Contract awarded: April 2021. | \$746,155.91 Funding bridging 2021/22 financial year and next NLTP. | Completion delays due to COVID restrictions, now Nov 2021 | Roading pavement Weather Public interest and disruption |

| | | PROJECTS/PROGRAMME WORKS | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|--|---|---------------|---|--|
| ACTIVITY | PROJECT LEAD | PROGRAMME PROGRESS | COUNCIL DECISION POINTS | BUDGET | COMPLETION | RISK |
| | | Final roadmarking and hand rail installation remains. | | On budget | | TMP Covid 19 alert level RLTP Funding 2022 |
| Te Mara Road Bridge Renewal | Kaine Jaquery | Tender prepared: Price Quality contract. Geotech groundworks investigations underway to inform design. | Contract award: – 2021/22 Council Funding if RLTP/Waka Kotahi approval is not granted. | \$380,000 | Construction in 2021/22 | Central Govt funding Availability of resources Covid 19 alert level RLTP Waka Kotahi approval for funding |
| Opaki Road Stormwater Upgrade | Kaine Jaquery | Stormwater upgrades to Opaki Road and Oxford Street. Contract awarded to Sierra Delta Civil Ltd. Work finished in Oxford Street commenced work in SH2. | | \$432,341.88. | Estimated Dec 2021. Delays due to COVID restrictions | Weather Public interest and disruption TMP Covid 19 alert level |
| WATER | | | | | | |
| Henley Lake Resource Consent | Phil Evans | Consent renewal: Resource consent application lodged with GWRC for processing. Further information requested and discussions with Iwi ongoing. Inlet automation: Completed. | | \$80,000 | June – Dec 2021 | Non-compliance with existing consent. |

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| PROJECTS/PROGRAMME WORKS | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|--|---|--|---|---|
| ACTIVITY | PROJECT LEAD | PROGRAMME PROGRESS | COUNCIL DECISION POINTS | BUDGET | COMPLETION | RISK |
| Opaki Water Race | Phil Evans | <p>Consent renewal: Amended application lodged in February 21. Discussion with Iwi required. Council decision to close water race in 2026.</p> <p>Abatement Notice: GWRC has served an abatement notice on Council due to excessive water volumes being taken. Council will increase monitoring and manual adjustment of the intake for the duration of the Consent.</p> | December | <p>\$15,663</p> <p>Scope to be confirmed</p> | <p>Amended application lodged February 2021. Application in progress. Further information to be supplied to GWRC.</p> | <p>Non-compliance with resource consent.</p> <p>Prosecution for non-compliance with Abatement Notice.</p> |
| Water Treatment Plant | David Hopman | <p>Sludge disposal project: Additional onsite drying/storage area has been completed. Drying performance is to be reviewed over winter before finalising disposal options.</p> <p>33 hectares of land adjacent to the existing raw water storage ponds was recently purchased by Council as a potential location for the construction of additional water storage ponds as detailed in the Long Term Plan.</p> | <p>Disposal options:</p> <p>To be confirmed</p> | \$251,200 | Option to be reviewed in the Summer 21/22 | Need to dispose sludge to landfill if consent not progressed. |

| PROJECTS/PROGRAMME WORKS | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|---|------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| ACTIVITY | PROJECT LEAD | PROGRAMME PROGRESS | COUNCIL DECISION POINTS | BUDGET | COMPLETION | RISK |
| Homebush WWTP | David Hopman | <p>Old pond decommissioning: Consent application submitted and preparation of a cultural impact assessment is in progress.</p> <p>Irrigation project: Procurement and installation to be completed for summer. Issues with procurement of design components due to supply delays.</p> | Contract award: To be confirmed | <p>\$200,000 On budget</p> <p>\$300,000 On budget</p> | <p>Site preparation, Planting Autumn 2022</p> <p>Irrigation installation: December 21</p> | <p>Decision making Resources Supply of components</p> |
| Water Meters | James Li | <p>Installation delayed due to COVID-19 with the first meters installed in February 2020.</p> <p>Meters installed and properties investigated equates to 87% total required.</p> | Water charges: To be confirmed | \$2,000,000 On budget | Shared meters installed: December 2021 | <p>Contractor resources Public uncertainty of shared supply and cost of water. COVID-19 alert level</p> |
| Three Waters Renewal Projects | James Li | Installation: Planned renewals work now under contract. | | <p>Water: \$1,640,000 Sewer: \$1,126,400 Stormwater: \$337,920 Sewer Laterals: \$500,000 On budget</p> | June 2022 | <p>Potential delay and cost increase to this year's renewal programme. COVID-19 alert level</p> |

| PROJECTS/PROGRAMME WORKS | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|---|--|--|-----------------------|---|
| ACTIVITY | PROJECT LEAD | PROGRAMME PROGRESS | COUNCIL DECISION POINTS | BUDGET | COMPLETION | RISK |
| Water Treatment Plant Upgrades | David Hopman | Includes new pond aerators, control system and electrical upgrades, bulk water tanker supply terminal, fish inlet screens and design work for future water resilience projects. | Contract awarded for all work with the exception of the fish inlet screen. | \$1,000,000 On budget | March 2022 | Availability of resources COVID-19 alert level |
| Rural Water Treatment | David Hopman | Includes point of use filters and UV disinfection on rural halls and upgrades to Council water supply schemes. Specifications are currently in development. | Contract awards: To be confirmed | \$1,300,000 | March 2022 | Availability of resources COVID-19 alert level |
| Treated Water Storage | David Hopman | Provides for 1,000m3 treated water storage in Nikau Heights, Lansdowne. | Contract awarded | \$800,000 On budget Subdivision consent in process | April 2022 | Availability of resources COVID-19 alert level |
| Sediment Removal from Urban Streams | David Hopman | Provides for sediment removal from problematic urban streams to improve their capacity to reticulate stormwater. | Contact awarded | \$200,000 On budget | December – April 2022 | Availability of resources |

| PROJECTS/PROGRAMME WORKS | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|--|---|------------------------------|------------|---|
| ACTIVITY | PROJECT LEAD | PROGRAMME PROGRESS | COUNCIL DECISION POINTS | BUDGET | COMPLETION | RISK |
| PROJECT DELIVERY | | | | | | |
| Civic Centre | Phil Evans | Procurement activities well underway – quantity surveyor followed by architectural services. Capital raising workstream options being explored and planning underway for inaugural Civic Facility Project Committee meeting. Land acquisition process progressing. Procurement process for Quantity Surveyor and Architect being completed. | Approval of procurement recommendations | \$30.8 Million | 2026 | Securing preferred site. Securing lead contractors for QS and Architect. |
| Masterton Revamp | Rose O’Neill | Kuripuni package physical works has been completed – this does not include the roundabout itself (due Winter 2022). Close out of detailed design for Queen Street stage 2 and concept design for Charlies Lane progressing well. | No significant decisions. | \$35.2 million over 13 years | 2034 | Stakeholder and business engagement for close out of Queen Street stage 2 package |
| Animal Shelter | Rose O’Neill | The premises at 79 Ngaumutawa Road is currently being demolished. Cost challenges will require a reconsideration of the options available for providing a long-term solution to sheltering animals in | Options for moving the project forward need further consideration in Oct/Nov. | \$1.46 million | Q2 2022 | Scope Budget provision Delivery timeframe |

| | | PROJECTS/PROGRAMME WORKS | | | | |
|------------------|--------------|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|---|
| ACTIVITY | PROJECT LEAD | PROGRAMME PROGRESS | COUNCIL DECISION POINTS | BUDGET | COMPLETION | RISK |
| | | Masterton and the wider district. Final works at the temporary/future spill over shelter are underway to ensure soundproofing is achieved. Staff and animals are enjoying the temporary accommodation especially in the adverse weather conditions of late. | | | | |
| Skatepark Revamp | Rose O'Neill | Covid has resulted in a loss of three weeks on the final delivery of the park, and additional compensatory costs. This has had a significant impact of the ability of Hunter Civil to complete additional features on the northern ring, within the timeframe they have committed to. Because of this delay, the additional features proposed for the norther ring will be removed from the current project. | No significant decisions. | \$1.75 million On budget | Q1 2022 | Availability of materials impacting ability to complete the works as per programme. COVID-19 alert level 4 closed the work down for 2 weeks. In Alert Level 3 only minimal work was completed. |
| Hood Aerodrome | Martyn Round | Masterplan adopted on 4 August. There are a number of concurrent priorities being progressed including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> close out of the engagement process with key stakeholders, some holdups due to Covid 19 | No significant decisions. | \$17 million | Q1 2026 | Land acquisition negotiations could impact contractual commitments. |

| | | PROJECTS/PROGRAMME WORKS | | | | |
|----------------|--------------|--|---------------------------|--|------------|--|
| ACTIVITY | PROJECT LEAD | PROGRAMME PROGRESS | COUNCIL DECISION POINTS | BUDGET | COMPLETION | RISK |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> land acquisition negotiations which are being managed by an independent consultant (The Property Group), and procurement for engineering design sealing of Moncrieff Drive topographical survey geotechnical survey | | | | |
| Dump Station | Martyn Round | <p>Agreement to move the dump station site away from the Henley Lake proposal was agreed by Council on 4 August. Now in discussion with Solway Showgrounds about the possibility of wider users utilising their new dump station as a 24-hour facility.</p> <p>A draft MoA has been completed and is being reviewed.</p> | No significant decisions. | TBC – no budget provision may be required if negotiations successful | TBC | <p>No significant risks</p> <p>If the area is developed we could potentially be without a dump station again in the future</p> |
| Waipoua Bridge | Martyn Round | Detailed design for bridge completed, following redesign based on feedback from GWRC. Resource consent obtained and building consent exemption to be lodged after receiving the PS. This has resulted in the need to revise the start date for the bridge, | No significant decisions. | \$451,000 On budget | Q4 2021 | <p>Resource consent has been granted</p> <p>Waiting on PS2 for discretionary exemption</p> <p>Start date looking at early January 2022</p> |

| PROJECTS/PROGRAMME WORKS | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|---|---------------------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|
| ACTIVITY | PROJECT LEAD | PROGRAMME PROGRESS | COUNCIL DECISION POINTS | BUDGET | COMPLETION | RISK |
| | | and likely completion now Q1 2022. Artists are being engaged to complete the designs on the 50-totara balustrades and will be CNC'd locally at the Fab Lab. | | | | |
| Queen Elizabeth Park Lake | Phil Evans | <p>Discussing with GWRC option to align requirements under current consent due to expire in 2023. This will require a variation to existing consent.</p> <p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft variation to consent • Scope design and investigate work | No significant decisions. | To be confirmed | 2023 | Decision making |