



BE A GAME CHANGER

AUAHATIA NGĀ RA E TATŪ IHO NEI

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT
ELECTIONS 2022

Pre-Election Report 2022 He Pūrongo Kōwhiriā 2022

Information for voters and potential candidates
He kōrero mā ngā kaipōti me ngā kaitono pōti

whakatane.govt.nz

 **WHAKATĀNE**
District Council
Kia Whakatāne au i ahau

Our Governance Structure

Ā tātou mana whakahaere

Mayor and Councillors

Council consists of a Mayor, elected by the District at large, and 10 Councillors. The Council is elected to govern and set strategy, make decisions, manage key risks, monitor organisational performance, reflect the views of communities and lead on their behalf.

The Mayor and Councillors employ only one person - the Chief Executive.

In May 2021, Councillors voted unanimously to include Māori wards as part of our representation. Māori wards are areas where those who choose to be on the Māori electoral roll vote for Māori ward candidates.

At the next election, Councillors will be drawn from and represent seven general wards and three Māori wards. Please see page 35 for more information about who can stand for election in the Māori wards.

Community Boards

Supporting the elected wing are four Community Boards. Our Community Boards are Murupara, Rangitāiki, Tāneatua and Whakatāne-Ōhope. Each board has six members elected by its community. In addition, each board has one appointed District Councillor from the same area. Community Boards provide a link between Council and the community.

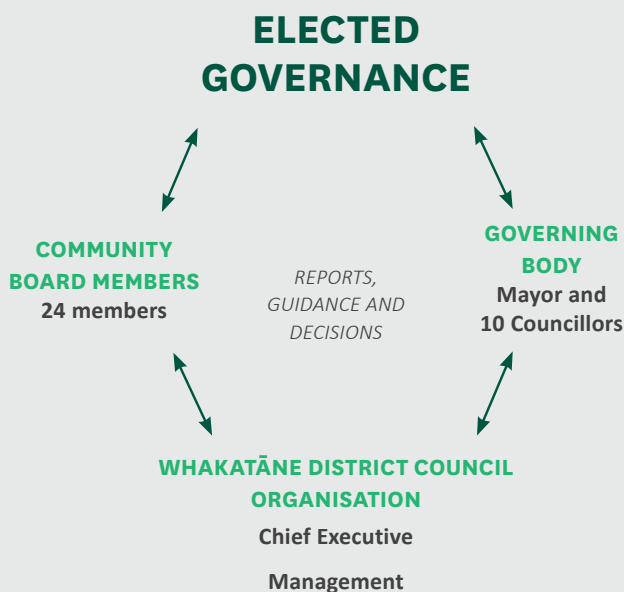
The purpose of a Community Board member is to communicate with community organisations, special interest groups and members of the public in their area and then represent and act as an advocate to Council. Community Boards create meaningful connections to neighbourhoods and bring decision making down to a level where the community can make a real difference.

Chief Executive and staff

The Chief Executive is responsible for developing organisational values of respect and accountability, giving clear direction to Council staff, developing high performing teams, facilitating the provision of well-rounded advice to Elected Members and leading operational delivery. The Chief Executive is responsible for employing all staff.

The organisation is structured to facilitate the delivery of core services including:

- Finance and Business Partnering;
- Infrastructure;
- Development and Environment;
- Community Experience;
- Strategic Māori Partnerships;
- Strategy and Transformation; and
- People and Engagement.



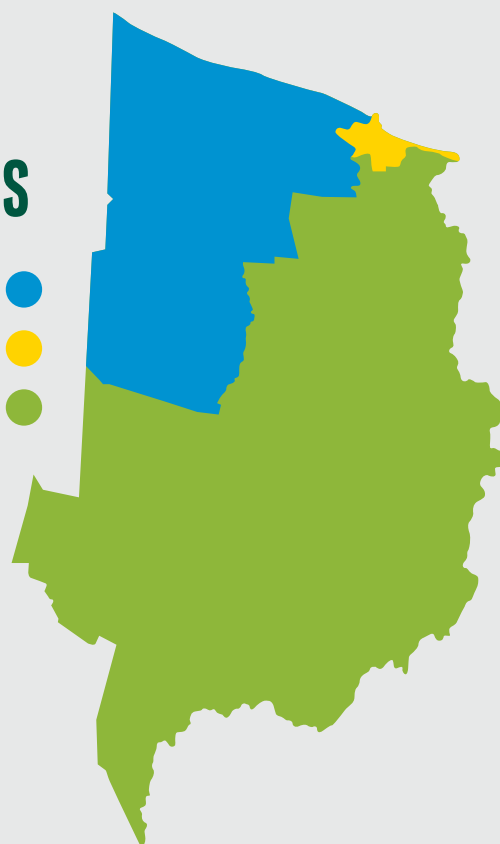


GENERAL WARDS

- Rangitāiki General Ward (two Councillors)
- Whakatāne-Ōhope General Ward (four Councillors)
- Te Urewera General Ward (one Councillor)

MĀORI WARDS

- Rangitāiki Māori Ward (one Councillor)
- Kapu te rangi Māori Ward (one Councillor)
- Toi ki uta Māori Ward (one Councillor)



COMMUNITY BOARDS

SIX MEMBERS EACH

- Rangitāiki
- Whakatāne/Ōhope
- Murupara
- Tāneatua

Visit the elections page on whakatane.govt.nz to view detailed maps.



Purpose of this report Tēnei pūrongo


This Pre-Election Report is a legislative requirement of the Local Government Act 2002. It is a report from the Chief Executive and has been prepared independently of the currently elected Mayor and Councillors.

The purpose of a Pre-Election Report is to provide financial and non-financial information to promote public discussion about the key issues facing Council. It does not cover all the opportunities, issues, and challenges, but highlights the main ones. It demonstrates the range and complexity of the work Council does.

The report covers finances over the past three years before the 2022 Council election plus forecasts for the following three years and major projects currently happening and planned.

A snapshot for candidates

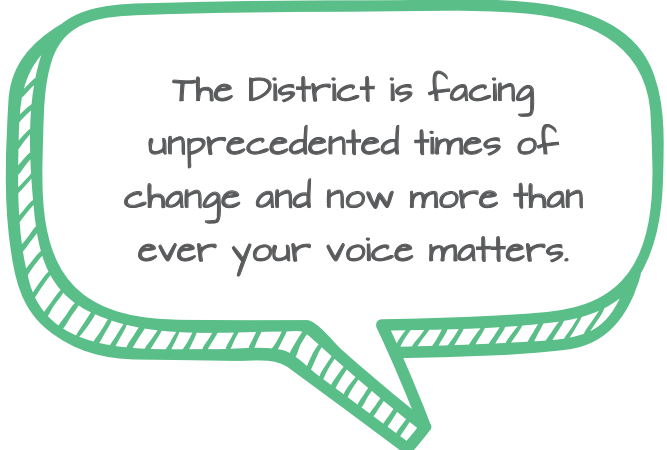
This report is produced to provide information to potential candidates about Council prior to the 2022 local elections. It is intended to inform candidates about the key opportunities, issues and challenges that will require the leadership and decision-making of the District's governors over the short to medium term.



The District is facing unprecedented times of change and requires bold, visionary and collaborative leadership, and pragmatic, decisive action.

A snapshot for voters

Local elections provide residents with the opportunity to vote for the Mayor and Councillors who best represent your values and what you want for the District. The future of Whakatāne District is shaped by the decisions the Mayor and Councillors make today.



The District is facing unprecedented times of change and now more than ever your voice matters.

Contents Rārangi Upoko

OVERVIEW

Purpose of this report	4
A message from our Chief Executive	6
The District at a glance	8
Our work	10

OUR JOURNEY FORWARD TOGETHER

Supporting the aspirations of iwi, hapū and whānau	12
Supporting population growth	14
Building vibrant and inclusive communities	17
Protecting the natural environment and responding to climate change	20
Navigating Central Government reforms	22

PROJECTS

Future major projects	24
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OUR FINANCES

Expenditure and revenue	26
Capital costs and borrowing	28
Indicative funding impact statement	30
Summary statement of financial position	31
Statement of cash flows	32

Our planning cycle	33
Enrol and vote	34
Stand for election	35

**BE A
GAME
CHANGER**

AUAHATIA NGĀ RA E TATŪ IHO NEI

**WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT
ELECTIONS 2022**

A message from our Chief Executive

Kia hiwa ra! Kia hiwa ra!

Whether you are considering standing for Te Kaunihera o Whakatāne – Whakatāne District Council or your Community Board, or preparing to vote, there are some important things to consider ahead of this year’s local government elections.



It won't come as a surprise to you that our great District is attracting people who want to share in everything it has to offer. We are experiencing much higher growth than predicted in census data to date and while it is incredibly positive to see whānau returning home and new people choosing our District, we need to be prepared to provide appropriate housing, facilities and services. How do we make sure everybody in our District has a safe, warm, dry home; is able to get to work, places to play or learn, in safe and alternative modes of transport? How do we create vibrant, safe and resilient communities ready to face the future? These are but a few of the challenges ahead of us at Council that we need to be thinking about in partnership with our communities.

Smart planning, together with our sister councils in Kawerau and Ōpōtiki and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, our Central Government partners and Iwi, along with understanding their respective visions and strategies is going to be vital to how we deal with the 'big picture' issues in the coming years. This high level guidance is important to understand where and how we invest and how we fund and finance that for our District. The role of Councillors is critical in the trade-off decisions between 'the now' and 'the future' as we balance how we afford the services and facilities we want for our District. These are often not easy, or popular choices, but they will be the fundamental decisions Councillors need to make.

The Eastern Bay has had significant co-investment from the Provincial Growth Fund. From this once-in-a-generation investment springboards greater employment, better environmental outcomes, climate change responsiveness and significant contributions to the Māori economy. How we further leverage this advantage is another big question for this triennium. We'll need to look at key infrastructure decisions, how and where people will live, working with our partners in education and health to ensure we can provide the right backbone facilities of strong and resilient communities. All the while ensuring that our community well-beings are achieved and that communities are being heard as the co-designers of a future in which we improve equity and equitable outcomes for all who live here.

We are a unique District with incredible cultural heritage, natural history, Te Reo Māori and taonga tuku iho – treasures passed down to us. Our partnerships with iwi, hapū, whānau, and are incredibly important for Council and as we embrace the three Māori wards this triennium, we know this is but a step along the path to ensuring the voice of Māori is heard. Our recently adopted Te Toi Whakareī – Māori Relationship Strategy is the foundation framework we have developed to ensure we are a trusted and respected partner for the respective Iwi across our District. Additionally, in working with Māori entities involved in land development, education and other endeavours we need to be a responsive organisation and capable and confident in how we walk in Te Ao Māori.

Elected Members will also be needing to understand and help shape leadership decisions as we face the impacts of Government-led reforms including; Three Waters Reform, Resource Management Act Reform, Emergency Management Legislation Reform and the Future for Local Government Review. This is a review framework not seen since 1989 and will significantly shift not only Local Government's focus and roles and responsibilities but also reset the partnerships between Local Government with Central Government, Iwi and the new Three Waters Entities. The global financial situation is another governance challenge that Councillors will need to be mindful of. We have already faced revenue decreases due to the past two years of COVID-19 and we face a very uncertain global economic outlook that is clearly indicating recession or significant downturn. As we need to keep investing in infrastructure and other facilities and services to maintain vibrant communities this will mean the need for very sound evidence-based decisions.

Climate change continues to be a priority with all of our thinking as we build strong, resilient communities for the future. It's not just sea level rise – it is an issue that will impact the environment, communities, the economy, our primary sector, marae and coastal lands. The wide-ranging effect means the need to start planning, shaping and investing into our District in a manner that creates resilience and adaptability. As 'Good Ancestors' we need to ensure that future generations will thank us for the courageous calls that we make now. The complexities of climate change are also multiplied by other environmental challenges that are important to communities, including waste management, protection of high value soils, water quality, and indigenous biodiversity protection.

We need to be able to navigate these complex scenarios while keeping our communities at the heart of all we do, thinking about the future while ensuring that those who currently live, play and work here are confident and proud of their place. The role of Whakatāne District Council in leadership, advocacy, facilitation, and wise decision making only becomes more critical in the next three years. Those people considering putting themselves forward to governance need to be able to understand these issues, but most importantly be ready to learn, to listen, and build a strong team. Governance is strongly supported by the organisational expertise and knowledge of our skilled staff who are passionate and proud. Together, we can continue to do more of what we do well, support those aspects that we need to strengthen and ensure we continue to deliver to the key goals of Council's Long Term Plan.

Over the last three years we have increased the focus on ensuring that our business is fit for purpose; capable of adapting to the new work practices COVID-19 demanded; flexible, thriving and a place where we can attract and retain great staff and provide them with the tools they need to do the job. We will continue to invest in our people so we are best placed to deliver to our communities and thereby support our Councillors to achieve their goals.

We strive to be a diverse, high performing organisation and we would love to see increased inclusivity and diversity reflected around the Council table.

To that end we invite candidates who are open minded, up for open discussions, who can see the big picture, are excited about our District and who understand, or are prepared to learn, the governance role of Elected Members. We invite you to consider the challenge of serving your communities.

*Mahia i runga i te rangimārie me te ngākau māhaki
With a peaceful mind and respectful heart,
we will always get the best results*



Steph O'Sullivan
Chief Executive
Whakatāne District Council

The District at a glance

He tirohanga mo te rohe

The population Stats NZ



38,200

Total estimated population (2020)



Made up of

20,040

Whakatāne/Ōhope and Coastlands

18,160

Other towns and rural communities

Murupara, Edgecumbe, Tāneatua, Matatā, Galatea, Waimana, Te Teko and surrounding rural areas

TOTAL ESTIMATED POPULATION
BY 2033

42,500

Seven Iwi in the
Whakatāne District

- NGĀTI AWA
- NGĀTI MANAWA
- NGĀTI RANGITIHI
- NGĀI TŪHOE
- NGĀTI WHARE
- NGĀTI MĀKINO
- NGĀTI TŪWHARETOA KI KAWERAU

We're diverse

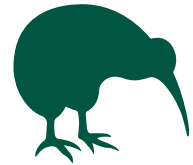
PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICT
IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AS

63.2% EUROPEAN

46.8% MĀORI

3.0% PACIFIC

3.4% ASIAN 2018 census



**KIWI
CAPITAL**
of the world

District
area

433,000ha

91% of the swimming sites
are safe to swim at.

**WHAKATĀNE
DISTRICT**

**ŌHOPE
BEACH**

2 x Voted NZ's
favourite beach

2,332

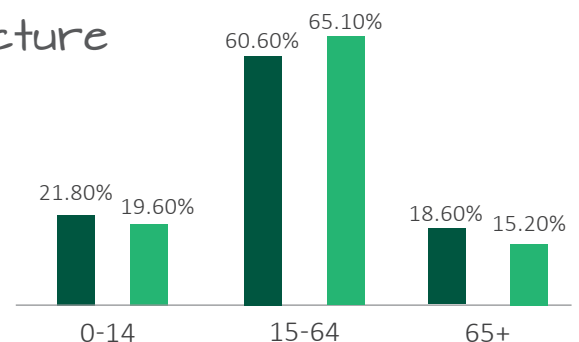
AVERAGE
ANNUAL
SUNSHINE
HOURS

Whakatāne records the highest
temperature in New Zealand
about 55 days each year.

Age structure

2018 Census

**Whakatāne
District**
NZ



WHAKATĀNE TOWNS AND CITIES SUPREME WINNER

BEAUTIFUL AWARDS 2021

For partnership initiatives in:

Litter prevention, waste minimisation, community water bottle refill station and voluntary clean up events. We have also implemented a seed library to promote gardening, adopted a Climate Change Strategy and support sustainable tourism such as Kiwi Night Walks.

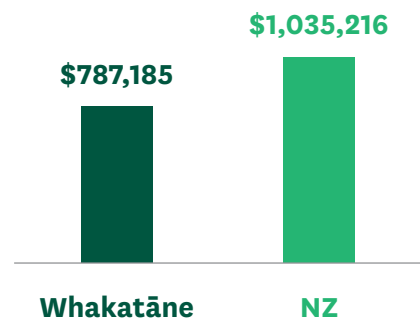
13,827

Total dwellings



Average house value

Infometrics, March 2022



Home ownership

Census 2018

WHAKATĀNE

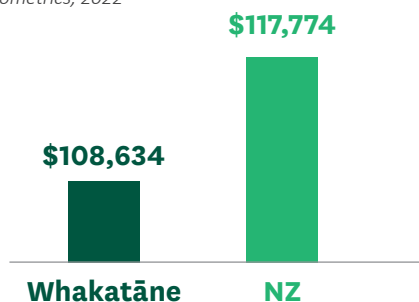
43%

NEW ZEALAND

64.5%

Mean household income

Infometrics, 2022



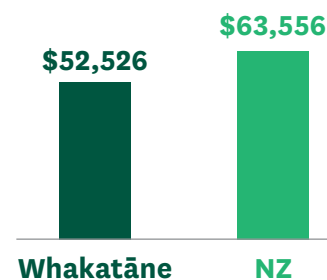
\$1.9 MILLION

Whakatāne District GDP

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in Whakatāne District measured \$1.9 million in the year to March 2021, up 1.1% from a year earlier. New Zealand's GDP decreased by -1.2% over the same period. *Infometrics, 2021*

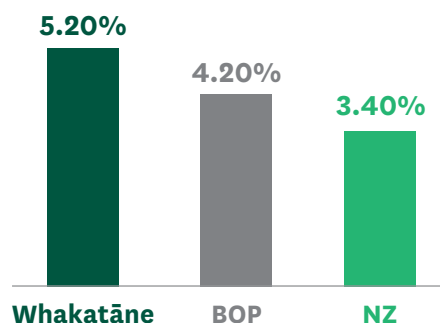
GDP per capita

MBIE, 2020



Unemployment rate

Infometrics, March 2022



TOURISM CONTRIBUTED

\$51.5

million to GDP

in 2021 *Infometrics, 2021*

Key industries:

- DAIRY PRODUCT MANUFACTURING
- FORESTRY AND LOGGING
- MANUFACTURING

Average annual rainfall is

1,207mm



48%

OF THE DISTRICT
IS COVERED BY

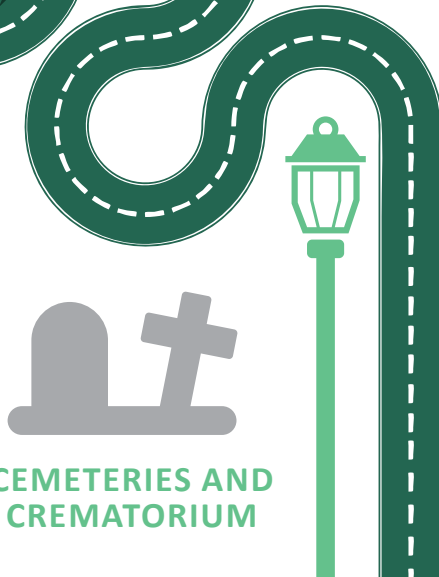
INDIGENOUS FOREST


TE UREWERA COVERS APPROX 41%

Discover the spectacular scenery and pristine lakes of Whirinaki Te Pua-a-Tāne Conservation Park and Te Urewera

Our work

Ā tātau mahi





Our journey forward together

Ā tātau haerenga whakamua

WE ARE

Supporting the aspirations of iwi, hapū and whānau ...

Supporting population growth ...

Building vibrant and inclusive communities while ...

Protecting our environment and responding to climate change ...


All while navigating Central Government reforms





Supporting the aspirations of iwi, hapū and whānau

Te hāpai i ngā wawata o
ngā iwi, hapū me ngā whānau




Why the journey matters?

Iwi

- NGĀTI AWA
- NGĀTI MANAWA
- NGĀTI RANGITIHI
- NGĀI TŪHOE
- NGĀTI WHARE
- NGĀTI MĀKINO
- NGĀTI TŪWHARETOA KI KAWERAU

Within the boundary of the Whakatāne District
there are more than 80 hapū and 69 marae.

Māori comprise 46.8 percent of our population, higher than the national percentage of 16.5 percent (2018 census). Māori hold vast assets in the District, including 203,000 hectares of land (close to half the total land holdings).



Iwi, hapū and whānau have a rich history and a deep wealth of knowledge about the cultural, natural, physical, and social environment. The experiences, perspectives, and aspirations of iwi, hapū and whānau not only enhance the wellbeing of Māori but enhance the wellbeing of us all. Guided by the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, Council is working in partnership with iwi, hapū and whānau to leverage off each other's strengths to drive better outcomes for our people.

Opening up to change

Building meaningful, trusted, enduring relationships with all our partners is crucial. Working collectively will ensure our communities flourish and fulfil their potential, so we can all live life to its fullest.

We need to work together in trusted and respectful partnerships that reflect the individual relationship with each Iwi across our District.

Moving forward

Our goal is to become more responsive and proactive to empower and support iwi, hapū and whānau to achieve their aspirations. Meaningful engagement with iwi, hapū and whānau is fundamental on a wide range of topics. From Iwi Runanga, Post Settlement Governance Entities, Land Trusts and individuals, we are working better together to build our understanding of their aspirations and what they want from our partnership so we can develop an agreed and valued partnership approach. This approach will in turn guide how we implement our work programmes and projects. It is essential we remain committed to meeting our legal and relationship obligations to Māori.

Council's appointment of a Kaihoutu Māori in April 2021 will continue to build on and nurture the relationship between iwi, hapū and whānau and the Council. Kaihoutu Māori and staff have worked with Iwi to develop Te Toi Waka Whareī – our Māori Relationship Responsiveness Framework which Council approved in June 2022. The Framework pulls together the rationale, principles and approach to engaging and partnering with iwi, hapū and whānau. One output of the Framework is a Relationship Work Plan that will assist Council staff on the 'when and how' to engage with Māori effectively. This will strengthen our leadership, empower our organisation, promote Māori identity, and improve decision making, performance and accountability.

Equal representation is essential to democracy and supporting our communities and environment to flourish. To support this in 2021, Council voted unanimously to introduce Māori wards for the next two local election cycles to improve opportunities for Māori and contribute to local government decision making processes.

We continue to seek partnership with iwi, hapū and whānau through multiple forums, projects and programmes. Key forums include the Iwi Chairs Forum, the Chief Executive Leadership Group and representation on the Tarawera Awa Restoration Governance Group. Key projects include the Te Rāhui Herenga Waka (a transformational boat harbour partnership between the Te Rāhui Lands Trust, the Crown, Ngāti Awa Group Holdings Limited and Council). Council is currently using co-design-principles alongside three Iwi on the Matatā Wastewater Project. This project has been a new way of working for Council, and has included a wānanga with staff and Councillor representatives where mana whenua gifted knowledge about the cultural context for the project.

Council also has a programme of work underway to raise internal capability to partner with Māori and Iwi, and we have invested in the development and implementation of a Cultural Competency Framework. This framework provides for a structured training package designed to raise the cultural competency of staff including a greater understanding of Te Ao Māori – the Māori world view. There is a variety of learning initiatives underway, planned, or in development, from weekly waiata practice, noho marae (staying on marae to learn in an immersion environment) and te reo lessons.



Supporting population growth

Te hāpai i ngā mahi whakatipu
i te taupori



Why the journey matters?

At the time of the 2018 census, the Whakatāne District population was



up from approximately 32,700 in 2015.

By 2020, it is estimated there were



people living in the District.


Research undertaken for Council in 2020 has shown since 2013 the population has been growing in line with Tauranga Aotearoa Stats NZ's high growth projection, and this trend is likely to continue long term.

Our current growth estimate is a population of 45,000 by 2050 – representing an increase of approximately 7,000 people from today (July 2022).

The increase in residents wanting to call the Whakatāne District home, then creates a demand for more infrastructure, jobs and places to live.

Over the next 30 years, the District will need an additional 4,000 homes.

That is roughly the same as two-thirds of the current Whakatāne township and we will need to ensure we cater to various housing types, including affordable housing and retirement homes.



With the aging of the ‘baby boom’ era, those aged 65 and over will increase from 18.6 percent, to 30 percent by 2043.

In addition, the existing housing stock in the District is falling behind people’s modern needs and preferences. Traditional housing subdivisions mostly comprise of three and four-bedroom houses on 400 to 600 square metre sections. Future development will need to provide more intensive, affordable housing such as terraced housing, duplexes and townhouses.

Population growth will also require our infrastructure to be up-to-scratch. It will mean we need to prepare and plan well for those things which will further improve the wellbeing of our people. Roading improvements to accommodate more traffic will need to happen. We will need to think about linking existing destinations, facilities, places of work and education with safe walking, cycling and public transport links.

Opening up to change

It is estimated 278 hectares will be required between now and 2050 to accommodate housing growth.

Growth requires available land, zoned appropriately, to allow for residential development and supporting infrastructure including leisure and recreation, health and education facilities and employment opportunities. Currently, the District has 98 hectares of land zoned for residential development (including deferred residential zoned land). Rezoning land requires the District Plan to be changed. Expectation from Central Government is that zoning decisions are based on regional spatial plans developed with neighbouring councils. This means that the outcomes at a regional level are better co-ordinated.

Growth also requires us to find ways to fund other infrastructure (like building roads, parks and playgrounds), which is required with any growing town and District. This cost generally falls to current rate payers and/or developers and the costs can range from the tens to hundreds of millions of dollars. Councils around New Zealand with smaller and/or lower socio-economic populations, are struggling to afford these costs.

The current housing market does not have adequate affordable housing or the types of housing which is needed to meet our diverse communities. Central Government has a significant role in responding to this market failure, and in local markets this is contributing to scarcity of land for dwellings and putting upward pressure on prices.

Housing prices have increased over the last five years, with the average price for a dwelling in Whakatāne increasing from \$310,000 in 2015 to \$878,000 in January 2022.

In addition, the building sector is suffering from a shortage in labour and materials, delaying the building time for an average house from five months to 12 months.

While most houses in the District are considered ‘affordable’ the price of housing relative to other Districts may be a key driver of population growth. At the same time, approximately 44 percent of households in the District have an income of less than \$50,000 per annum. The New Zealand average sits at 34 percent. It is expected, as well as demand for housing, there will be an increase in the demand for public and transitional housing.

As of July 2022, there were 365 applicants on the Kāinga Ora Housing Register for the Whakatāne District.

This number per capita is high compared to other Districts and has grown significantly over the last few years.

Retirement villages are an important part of enabling movement within the housing supply chain. Currently, there is a shortage of retirement villages in the District, and this shortage will grow as the population ages.

Another flow-on effect of growth is our Whakatāne cemetery is expected to reach full capacity in 2028, which is why we are on the lookout for appropriate and substantive land as soon as possible to be able to ensure continuity of this service. Whakatāne District is one of only a few Councils offering a natural burial option.

Moving forward

With infill and rezoning deferred residential land, the District will have the land capacity to provide for just over 950 new dwellings in the short to medium-term. To plan for the longer term, Council has committed to developing the Whakatāne Kawerau Spatial Plan ahead of the Central Government reforms. The creation of the Spatial Plan is a collaborative effort with Kawerau District Council, Bay of Plenty Regional Council and partner agencies including Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, Kāinga Ora, and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development. Iwi leaders have also been invited to be part of a leadership group formed to coordinate collective interests and actions.

The purpose of the Plan is to set out the strategy and actions for where and how we should grow and develop over the next 30 years, while contributing to the District's social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing.

This will help shape our District by considering land use, transport, natural hazards, heritage, and natural environment values. The Whakatāne Kawerau Spatial Plan is one of Council's core priorities and the first stage is expected to be completed in 2023, ahead of the next Long Term Plan.

Council has helped Kāinga Ora identify and purchase a privately owned site in Kopeopeo that has resource consent for 42 units (the old Countdown site).

Council is also working closely with Kāinga Ora, which has recently confirmed that the Eastern Bay of Plenty is a priority region for transitional and affordable housing options. It is supporting the long-term provision of housing through participation in the development of the spatial plan, and in the short-term seeking to purchase surplus land that is close to urban amenities and has infrastructure to support development or redevelopment.

Council is also working alongside Māori landowners to facilitate consent for housing projects. As an example, Council is working with Ngāti Rangitihi, Ngāti Awa and Tūwharetoa ki Kawerau to co-design a reticulated wastewater system for Matatā, which will have the potential to unlock opportunities for housing development.

Council is proactively planning for growth and will remain agile to adjust as the Central Government reforms evolve. The work underway will place Council and partners in a strong position to collaborate and influence the new three waters entity (in relation to infrastructure investment) to accommodate growth across the District.

The District will need an additional
4,000 HOMES

131 New dwelling building consents issued in 2021





Building vibrant and inclusive communities

Te whakatō i te mauri ora
me te whakaaro kotahi
ki ngā hāpori

Why is this journey important?

WHAKATĀNE
TOWNS AND CITIES
SUPREME
WINNER

BEAUTIFUL AWARDS 2021

The Whakatāne District is one of the very best places in the country to live, work, play and visit. We have some of the highest levels of sunshine hours in the country, white sandy beaches, and an abundance of green spaces for people to explore. As we prepare to accommodate population growth through the provision of more residential development, in parallel we must be mindful of the importance of retaining and building communities that are sustainable, vibrant and inclusive.

The District covers a large land area and is a mosaic of interconnected communities. Not only is our population spread out and growing, but it is also becoming increasingly diverse. Yet we know through our engagement with our communities in recent years, that people in the District highly value community cohesion, connectedness and spirit. We also care deeply for and have a sense of pride and ownership in the vast natural environment that surrounds us.



We also value having access to recreational events and activities, high quality public services and facilities, and retail outlets. Council provides several services and facilities for sport, recreation, and leisure such as parks and playgrounds, campsites and coastal reserves, libraries, the exhibition centre, museum and research centre, aquatic centres, wharfs, and jetties.

Encouraging employment opportunities and providing recreational experiences underpins the energy, cohesion and connectedness of our communities.

Opening up to change

Councils in general are funding constrained, with limited opportunities to raise additional funding. Councils face the challenge of balancing the costs of improving safety and amenity and community facilities against the need to maintain roads and other infrastructure. To help balance and manage increasing costs falling to rate payers, Council committed to capping rates increases for its residents at 6.93 percent per annum for the 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24 financial years.

The District suffered significant social, cultural and economic disruption with the eruption of Whakaari in late 2019. The COVID-19 pandemic arrived in New Zealand in early 2020. Our borders have been closed to international visitors for almost two years and while they are now open, it will take some time to attract visitors back to the District. Many sectors, including the tourism and events sector have been disrupted.

Our Residential Satisfaction Survey shows approximately

72%

of residents surveyed feel safe in the Whakatāne District.

Moving forward

We provide roughly

\$600,000

of funding for community programmes

The Long Term Plan includes a budget, consulted on with communities, which balances the costs of improving amenity, recreation areas and placemaking, and the provision of core services. Some of the main projects we are working on, are the improvements to the Whakatāne skatepark, Ngā Tapuwae o Toi Walkway and playgrounds around the District.

In June 2022 the Environmental Protection Authority Te Mana Rauhi Taiao granted resource consent for a boat harbour to be developed in Whakatāne. Te Rāhui Herenga Waka is the result of a transformational partnership between Te Rāhui Lands Trust, the Crown, Ngāti Awa Group Holdings Limited and the Council. It is expected that early stage works will start in September 2022.

Despite the challenges for the local tourism sector the visitor economy continues to perform well. We are the destination of choice for domestic visitors who flock to Ōhope beach in the summer months. To support this work, the Council is working with the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, which has increased its focus and resources for tourism and events recovery over the next two years. Council continues to partner with the community to support events, such as the Soaked in Adventure event supported by the Events Sponsorship Fund. We are currently planning for the development of cycleways, planning for improvements to the CBD with new lighting, holiday park improvements and the Whakatāne War Memorial Hall redevelopment.

Council is supporting the development of Destination Management Plans, which aim to identify economically viable tourism opportunities within the District. There is an increased focus on more micro or localised plans for specific communities within the District in relation to tourism recovery.



Over the summer of 2021/22 the Port Ōhope ‘Wharfside’ venue was opened for the first time as a trial for tourism businesses such as bike, scooter and stand-up paddle board hire and food trucks. Various music and entertainment events, a bar and food trucks has seen the venue continue to be well frequented into the winter months.

Council is supporting Community Boards and working with three local communities (Murupara, Edgecumbe and Awatapu) on place-based community plans. Community plans are led by communities and are effective tools for capturing and prioritising the aspirations of communities and providing a ‘road map’ for how to get there.

To support this work we are working alongside more than 25 social sector agencies across the District to identify the wellbeing issues different communities consider high priority to address through collective action.

Council is also sponsoring research into the extent and causes of homelessness in the District and to identify opportunities for collaborative action to address this. Council is also part of a Rough Sleeping Response (Whare Aroha) Team which is acting on immediate homelessness issues.

This year Council started reviewing a number of its policies which needed updating. Local Government policies are the frameworks which Council follow that set out specific responsibilities for functions and activities. They are in place to achieve desired outcomes and the consistent delivery of services for communities.

Policies that have been reviewed and updated include the Gambling Policy and Dog Control Policy. Reviews that are currently underway include the Community Funding Policy, Community Hall Policy, Smoke Free Public Spaces Policy, Road Naming Policy and the Eastern Bay of Plenty Local Alcohol Policy.

A key policy review underway is the Electronic Surveillance Policy. The operation of CCTV cameras in the District was a key component of the findings of the Whakatāne Central Business District Security and Vulnerability Report, carried out in 2022. The Report was commissioned in response to criminal activity, such as ram raids. It outlined potential risks to safety and security within the CBD and possible solutions for further investigation and implementation.

Most of the policies under review will be publicly consulted on in late 2022 or early 2023. Community consultation is a key process in ensuring the policies reflect the aspirations of the communities we serve. A further suite of reviews will commence in 2023.





Protecting the natural environment and responding to climate change

Te tiaki i te taiao me te aro ki ngā take āhuarangi



Why the journey matters?

WE HAVE...

50 kilometres
of
COASTLINE



AND

48%
of the District
is covered by



INDIGENOUS FOREST

We must be good kaitiaki to protect and preserve a treasured natural environment. It is a key strength of the District and one that attracts many visitors, seeking to experience activities within our forests and on our hills through to our beaches and out into the ocean.

However, we are also exposed to a wide range of natural hazard risks including earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, flooding, tropical cyclones and landslides. These events have caused significant disruption to lives and livelihoods and have been costly to repair.

Annual likelihood of an extreme rainfall event will be three times more likely by

2090

Sea level is expected to rise

0.74M

by 2090

Hot days (>25°C) per year

**WILL MORE THAN
DOUBLE**

by 2090

Opening up to change

Geographically we are vast, the District covers more than 433,000 hectares of land.

Our location makes us vulnerable to natural hazards and the increasing impacts of climate change. We are already experiencing more frequent heat waves and drought conditions, heavier rainfall events and increased flooding and coastal erosion. Natural hazard events will be an increasing threat to people and property, infrastructure, jobs and our economy.

Current policy commitments will lead to 2.4°C - 3.5°C warming by 2,100, which is beyond safe limits.

Like most other local government organisations around the country, we launched our first Climate Change Strategy in 2020. The Strategy had several actions and targets to begin the journey of reducing our carbon footprint and adapting to the impacts of natural hazard events.

However, in just two years ago, so much has already changed. Many substantive reforms and policies led by Central Government, such as the Emissions Reduction Plan, National Adaptation Plan and Resource Management Act reform, are underway to address climate change and will all have a significant impact on the Council as an organisation, and the District and its people. Our current approach through the Climate Change Strategy must pivot to address the increasing risks and Central Government led requirements.

We also need to be proactive with finding opportunities and solutions and balance the need for growth with protecting our natural environment, while working alongside Iwi to do so. With the increased number of weather events that will occur, we need to ensure our communities are prepared.

Moving forward

Our current Climate Change Strategy and Action Plans have allowed us to take early steps towards making a change. Significant strides have been made through Council's Energy Management Programme with the adoption of an Energy Policy, setting up of an energy action group and exceeding the 15 percent reduction target in the organisation's energy emissions.

As a Council, we have saved around 4,750,000 kWh since April 2020 throughout our facilities. We have made around \$250,000 in energy cost savings.

We have adopted our Active Whakatāne Strategy and are creating shared walking and cycling pathways to better enable people to safely move around our District.

As we look to pivot our approach to climate change it will be necessary for Council to collaborate with people on the ground. We'll share the climate change journey with our communities, businesses and iwi and invest in relationships which are essential for designing, prioritising and developing a District-wide work programme.

Following the National Climate Change Risk Assessment, released in 2020, which identifies significant climate-related risks and opportunities, we are currently working with Bay of Plenty Regional Council on a region-wide risk assessment. In 2023 we will commence work on a more localised District risk assessment. This risk assessment will drive our adaptation response – the solutions we need to implement to adapt where, and the way we live, to the impact of the increase in natural hazard risks. There will be some difficult (but necessary) conversations to be had in relation to where and how we build our homes and infrastructure going forward.

We are working in partnership with Bay of Plenty Regional Council on flood mitigation and natural hazards. These projects include updating coastal inundation and coastal erosion modelling for the Whakatāne coastline, flood and tsunami modelling and evacuation mapping, and a regional landslip susceptibility assessment.

Heightened awareness after recent earthquakes around New Zealand has led to Central Government regulations on earth-quake prone buildings. As such, our Civic Centre building is undergoing earthquake strengthening to ensure that it is safe and fit-for-purpose. We are also progressing the Council's Earthquake-prone Building Programme which involves engaging further with owners of buildings that have been identified as being potentially earthquake-prone and offering project management assistance with detailed engineering assessments.

As of 2021, the Council has

**REDUCED ITS
CARBON
FOOTPRINT BY 23%**



Navigating Central Government reforms

Te tohutohu i ngā mahi whakahou

Why the journey matters?

A substantial reform programme led by Central Government is currently taking place. The reforms will touch on or change in some way, almost every significant function of local government.

At the time of elections some of these reforms are already in the implementation phase while others will still be exploring concepts and shaping options. The most significant of the reforms include:

- **THREE WATERS REFORM**
It is proposed that from 2024 four new publicly-owned water service entities will manage three waters supply (drinking, waste, and storm water), with the aim of improving quality and meeting challenges such as infrastructure costs, population growth, climate change and natural disasters.
- **RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT REFORM**
The repeal of the current Resource Management Act, which will be replaced by three new acts: Natural and Built Environment Act, Spatial Planning Act, and Climate Adaptation Act. The Reform aims to strengthen recognition of Te Tiriti and Māori interests, environmental protection, and effective partnership between central and local government.
- **CLIMATE CHANGE REFORM**
Including the Climate Change Response Amendment Act, Emissions Reduction Plan and National Adaptation Plan.
- **FUTURE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW**
Aims to identify how local government needs to evolve over the next 30 years to improve the wellbeing of local communities, the environment, funding, and financing, and to embody Te Tiriti.
- **WASTE REFORM**
Several national initiatives are in progress including the New Zealand Waste Strategy which aims to reduce emissions from waste and embed circular systems that will focus on reusing and reducing waste and litter.

Opening up to change

There is a high degree of uncertainty about what the reforms will mean for local government. These changes are in addition to reform in the health and education sectors which will also impact our communities. One thing we do know is substantive change is happening and this will have an impact on the District, its communities, and Council as an organisation. As well as continuing to run our business-as-usual activities and services, Council will need to continue to invest time and resource into preparing for the changes and maintain strong advocacy to ensure we can influence the best outcomes for our communities.

We will need bold leadership to navigate the changes that face us and we will need to manage any impacts on the rest of Council functions. Coming to grips with the financial implications of the reforms, on Council and our communities will be a key piece of work over the reform period.

Moving forward

The reforms provide an opportunity for Council to adapt and evolve, to ensure that we are well placed to serve our communities in a rapidly changing world.

With Central Government progressing the Three Water Reform, it will change how drinking, waste and storm water is managed and move councils' responsibility into four new regional organisations in 2024. We are getting prepared to facilitate the transfer of our three water assets to the new water entity and we will need to work with Central Government to implement any other changes that need to be made. We have established a work programme to navigate and support Council through its decision making. Key responsibilities for Council are to understand and influence the reforms on behalf of its communities, and to ensure smooth transition to new ways of working dependent on the reform outcomes. Throughout the reform's development, we have provided feedback to Central Government to influence the changes we can to achieve the best outcomes for our communities.

From the Three Waters Reform, Central Government has provided \$21.66 million to Whakatāne District Council over two tranches known as Better Off Funding. \$5.66 million is available now, and a further \$16 million available in July 2024 when it is proposed the new water entities will take over. The criterion for the funding is to support:

- communities to transition to a sustainable and low-emissions economy;
- the delivery of infrastructure and/or service that enable housing development; and
- local place-making and improvements in community well-being.

The project must be new or an already proposed one that will be increased in scope, accelerated or enhanced and must have strong involvement with Iwi, or Iwi support. We are currently working through a process for Council to decide the best uses for that funding.

Council has provided submissions the Natural and Built Environment Act and the Spatial Planning Act. The next step in the process will be the formal legislation phase expected in the third quarter of 2022.

To respond to the new Climate Change Response Act and the Resource Management Reforms, we are looking at reviewing our current Climate Change Strategy to ensure it aligns with Central Government.

Council met with the Future for Local Government Review Panel and made its written submission at the end of June.

We're waiting now to see the draft recommendations of the panel, expected in October 2022. This will provide another opportunity for Council feedback before the final recommendations are made in the middle of 2023.

The solid waste area is currently undergoing many changes as we move towards a circular economy and aim to reduce the related effects on climate change to meet community expectation. There are a number of national initiatives in progress and more on the way.

Council currently diverts about 40 percent of all the District's solid waste from landfill through several waste minimisation initiatives.

As well as these national initiatives driving local change, council will continue to look for local solutions such as local organic waste processing and re-use of construction and demolitions waste.

Future major projects

Ngā kaupapa kaitā ō anamata

The next two pages provide a snapshot of the major projects which are planned for the next three years, running from 1 July 2022 through to 30 June 2025. These projects are to maintain and improve the essential services and infrastructure we need for a good quality of life.

Transport *projects*

Keepa Road Improvements

\$7,504,533

Road sealing programme

\$2,383,242

Community *projects*



Active Whakatāne
\$3,177,656

Te Rāhui – Herenga Waka
Whakatāne (boat harbour)

\$9,588,163



Civic Heart and
Waterfront Promenade

\$2,297,250

Local Organic
Waste Process

\$492,817

Multi Sports
Event Centre

\$4,154,123





Three waters *projects*

Water Resilience
Braemar

\$2,835,924

Whakatāne Stormwater
Western Catchment Upgrade

\$4,156,118

Whakatāne Wastewater
Treatment Upgrade

\$2,099,558



Whakatāne Water
Treatment Plant Upgrade

\$6,079,439

Matatā Wastewater
Scheme

\$11,287,543

Otumahi Water Storage

\$4,630,500



Sludge Treatment

\$2,975,692

Awatapu Lagoon
Wetland Construction

\$2,123,820



Other *projects*

Resource Planning
Replacement

\$4,122,720

Civic Centre Seismic
Strengthening
and Betterment Project

\$6,643,312



**Total budget over three financial years 2019/20 - 2021/22
Some of these projects are funded over more than three years.
Visit whakatane.govt.nz for full details in the Long Term Plan.*



Our finances

Ā tātau pūtea



Expenditure and revenue

Ngā utu me ngā pūtea-ā-tau

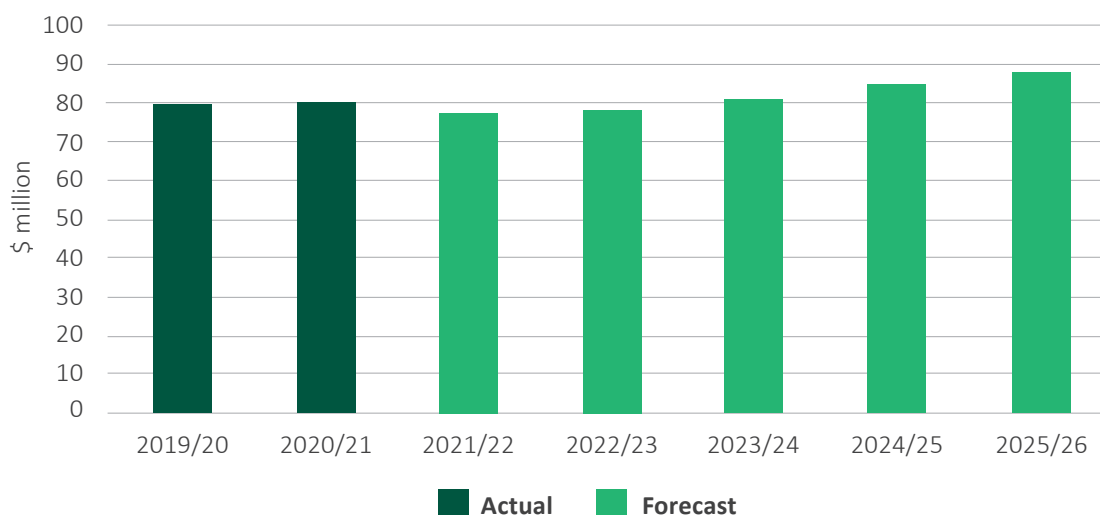
Operating expenditure

Operating expenditure pays for the day-to-day cost of delivering Council services, maintaining existing assets, or other spending which does not buy or build a new asset. It also covers interest repayments on loans (see next page for capital costs and borrowing), depreciation.

The graph below shows Council's operating expenditure over the three years prior to the 2022 local elections and what is currently planned for the three years following the elections, based on Long Term Plan forecasts.

The largest activities in terms of operating expenditure include the four core network infrastructure activities of; roads and footpaths, water supply, stormwater drainage and wastewater treatment and disposal. Together, these account for 31 percent of our operating expenditure for the 10 years of the 2021-31 Long Term Plan.

Operating expenditure 2019/20 to 2025/26



Sources of income

Rates income has been, and will continue to be, the main source of funding for Council for the years between 2019/20 and 2025/26. Rates typically account for between 59 percent and 66 percent of our income in any given year. Other major sources are fees and charges and external subsidies and grants.

Wherever possible, Council seeks funding from external sources like the Ministry of Health, Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, the Lotteries Commission, as well as key partners Bay Trust, Lion Foundation, Trust Horizon, and other funding agencies to help make our services and facilities more affordable.

Detailed information about budgets can be found in the latest Long Term Plan 2021-31.

Year	Rates as a proportion of operating revenue
2018/19	62%
2019/20	59%
2020/21	63%

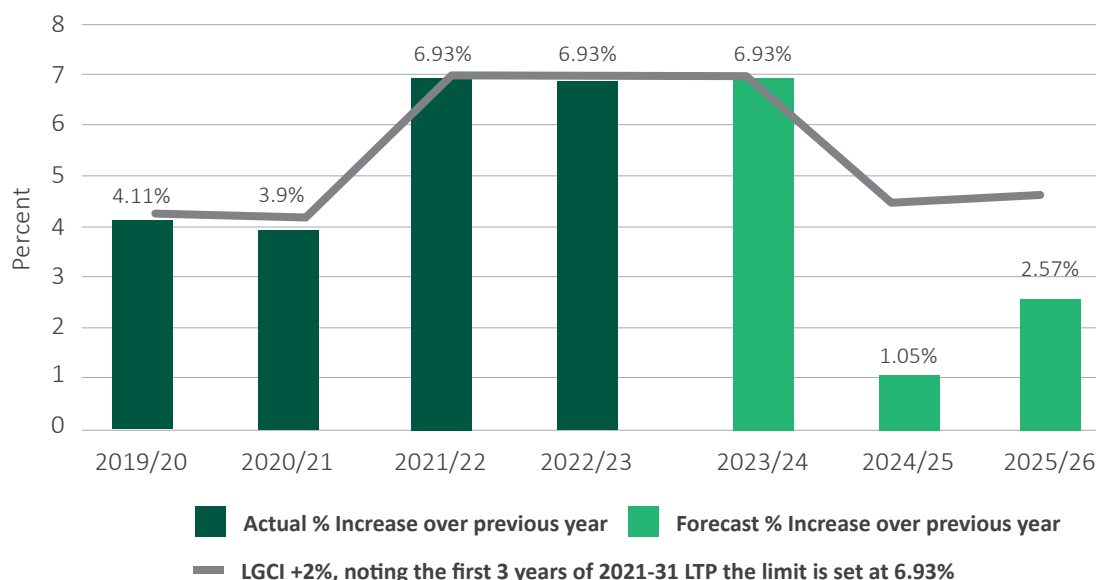
Limit on rates increases

Council has set a limit for rates increases, which states the increase in any year will be no more than the Local Government Cost Index (LGCI), plus 2 percent for all years except the first three years of the 2021-31 Long Term Plan. Council smoothed the rates for the first three years of the 2021-31 Long Term Plan at 6.93 percent, meaning the limit on rates was also set at 6.93 percent. For years four to 10 of the Long Term Plan the limit on rates will be no more than inflation (LGCI plus 2 percent).

It is important to remember the limit applies to the average rates increase across the District and some individual properties are likely to see higher or lower changes in any given year.

The graph below shows the actual limits that apply for the years until 30 June 2023. It also shows the forecast average rates increases over the three financial years following the 2022 local elections, based on Long Term Plan forecasts.

Historic and forecast limits on rates 2020-2026



About the LGCI

Just as the costs of running your household increase every year with inflation, the cost of providing Council services also increases over time. This is because the costs of energy, labour and construction generally increase, which affects how much it costs to deliver services to you. How changes in the price of goods and services affect local government is measured by the LGCI.

An increase in the LGCI means even if Council continues to provide exactly the same services every year, the cost of those services is likely to increase.

Capital costs and borrowing

Ngā utu tōpū me ngā tono pūtea taurewa

Capital expenditure

Capital expenditure pays for buying or building new assets, renewing an existing asset, or improving an existing asset to deliver a better service.

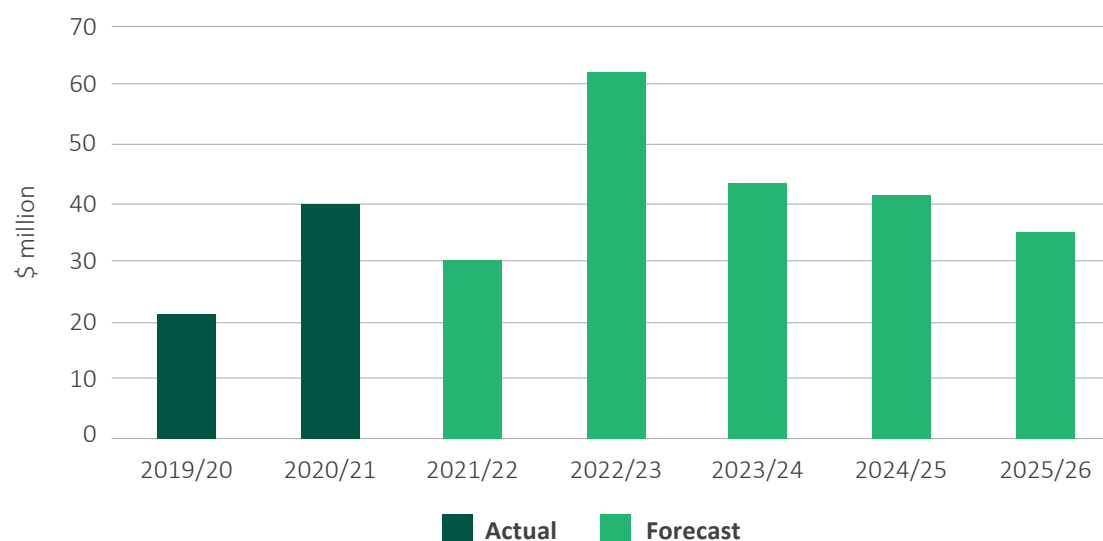
The graph below shows Council's capital expenditure over the three years prior to the 2022 local elections and what is currently planned for the three years following the elections, based on Long Term Plan forecasts.

The largest activities in terms of capital expenditure include the four key network infrastructure activities: Roads and footpaths, wastewater treatment and disposal, stormwater drainage, and water supply.

Funding of capital expenditure

Most of Council's capital expenditure is funded by loans, depreciation reserves, and from Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency partially funding some of the transport projects. In most cases new assets are funded by loans, which spreads the cost over time so future ratepayers are also contributing to the assets they will benefit from. Depreciation reserves are funds that are built up during the life of existing assets, so they can be renewed when necessary.

Capital expenditure 2019/20 to 2025/26



Current debt level

Council’s current total debt at 30 June 2022, is approximately \$84.34 million. This includes external debt from lending institutions, such as banks and the Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA).

Based on borrower schedules listed in the LGFA 2021 Annual Report, our debt levels were relatively mid to low compared to other similar government or commercial organisations.

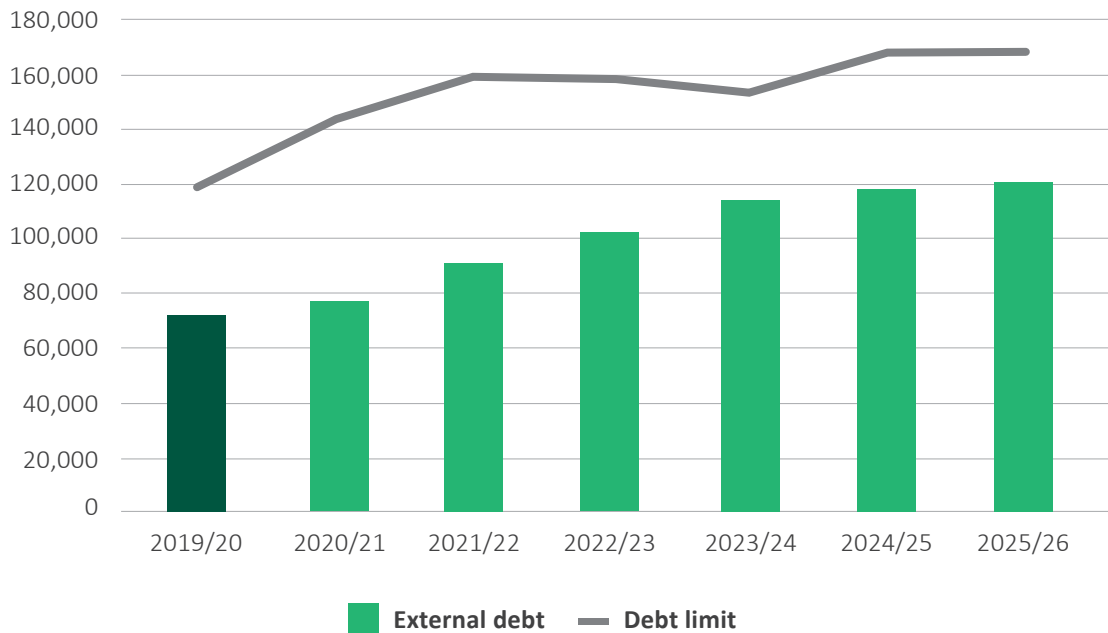
Council has set limits for the total amount of debt, and for the amount of rates income that can be used for interest repayments.

Limits on debt

Through the 2021-31 Long Term Plan, Council agreed to lift its debt level from 150 percent to a new set debt limit of 175 percent of total revenue, which is projected to be around \$159 million in 2022/23 and \$154 million in the following year.

The graph below shows Council’s debt profile over the three years prior to the 2022 local elections and what is currently planned for the three years following the elections, based on Long Term Plan forecasts.

Actual and proposed debt 2019/20 to 2025/26



The Council has also limited the amount of rates that can be used for interest repayments to no more than 12 percent of total rates income. Given that interest rates vary from year to year, this provides ratepayers with certainty about the impact that debt will have on their rates.

Year	Interest repayments as a % of rates income
2018/19	6.42%
2019/20	5.79%
2020/21	4.89%

Indicative funding impact statement

Tauākī tūtohu pūtea

Actual 2020 \$000	Actual 2021 \$000	Estimated 2022 \$000		Annual Plan 2023 \$000	LTP 2024 \$000	LTP 2025 \$000	LTP 2026 \$000
OPERATIONAL							
Sources of operating funding							
23,215	25,421	25,594	General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	27,232	29,584	28,814	29,306
24,318	23,601	26,803	Targeted rates (other than a targeted rate for water supply)	28,364	29,824	31,227	32,273
11,929	13,884	7,458	Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	6,974	5,189	5,325	5,519
8,780	9,767	9,491	Fees, charges, and targeted rates for water supply	10,351	11,379	10,689	10,994
13	79	13	Interest and dividends from investments	46	47	48	49
2,961	2,985	2,785	Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	2,253	2,399	2,462	2,546
71,216	75,738	72,146	Total operating funding (A)	75,220	78,422	78,565	80,687
APPLICATIONS OF OPERATING FUNDING							
59,616	62,412	56,063	Payments to staff and suppliers	57,153	55,615	57,249	59,075
2,674	2,319	3,472	Finance costs	2,606	3,228	3,466	3,679
1,061	1,141	1,088	Other operating funding applications	1,531	1,505	1,532	1,562
63,351	65,872	60,622	Total applications of operating funding (B)	61,290	60,348	62,247	64,315
7,866	9,866	11,523	Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	13,930	18,074	16,318	16,372
CAPITAL							
Sources of capital funding							
8,312	20,010	10,579	Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	15,823	9,966	18,001	16,124
125	278	201	Development and financial contributions	394	405	415	1,400
1,500	5,000	2,628	Increase (decrease) in debt	26,263	12,713	3,866	1,872
565	295	2,025	Gross proceeds from sale of assets	2,225	1,894	-	-
10,502	25,583	15,433	Total sources of capital funding (C)	44,704	24,978	22,282	19,396
Applications of capital funding							
Capital expenditure							
2,582	9,916	3,471	- to meet additional demand	12,811	4,190	4,683	3,239
9,249	13,530	13,723	- to improve level of service	28,009	17,674	19,525	15,321
9,392	16,304	13,013	- to replace existing assets	15,748	17,553	17,121	16,493
(2,855)	-	-	Increase (decrease) of investments	(3,421)	(465)	(2,729)	714
-	(4,301)	(3,251)	Increase (decrease) in reserves	5,488	4,100	-	-
18,368	35,449	26,956	Total applications of capital funding (D)	58,635	43,052	38,600	35,768
(7,866)	(9,866)	(11,523)	Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	(13,930)	(18,074)	(16,318)	(16,372)
-	-	-	Funding Balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	-	-	-	-

Summary statement of financial position

Pūrongo whakarāpopoto mo te nohonga-ā-pūtea

	Actual 2020 \$000	Actual 2021 \$000	Estimated 2022 \$000	Annual Plan 2023 \$000	LTP 2024 \$000	LTP 2025 \$000	LTP 2026 \$000
EQUITY							
Accumulated Funds	431,417	453,492	465,702	477,080	462,396	476,986	487,504
Restricted Equity	15,697	14,853	13,171	10,580	11,410	9,070	9,076
Asset Revaluation Reserves	205,837	310,882	328,953	339,408	249,740	270,611	281,978
TOTAL EQUITY	652,951	779,227	807,826	827,068	723,546	756,667	778,558
ASSETS							
Current Assets							
Cash and Cash Equivalents	12,589	5,304	13,096	4,471	603	100	254
Trade and Other Receivables	17,762	17,940	18,440	12,724	18,156	19,791	29,061
Other Current Assets	3,799	3,025	2,190	1,334	8,080	8,803	283
Total Current Assets	34,150	26,268	33,726	18,528	26,839	28,694	29,598
Non-Current Assets							
Property, Plant and Equipment	676,656	806,546	840,898	872,739	797,132	836,283	860,337
Investment Property	35,344	40,419	41,443	46,144	38,272	39,093	39,906
Derivative Financial Instruments	-	-	1,700	848	-	-	-
Investment in CCOs and other similar entities	7,663	8,461	8,386	13,986	17,196	17,038	16,842
NON-CURRENT ASSETS HELD FOR SALE	6,001	11,528	12,104	12,710	1,272	529	
Total Non-Current Assets	725,664	866,954	904,531	946,426	853,872	892,943	917,085
TOTAL ASSETS	759,814	893,222	938,257	964,955	880,711	921,637	946,683
LIABILITIES							
Current Liabilities							
Trade and Other Payables	25,319	26,598	31,260	25,231	29,252	31,643	31,253
Derivatives Financial Instruments	233	121	-	-	233	233	233
Borrowings and Other Financial Liabilities	13,000	5,000	9,000	10,000	11,000	11,000	9,000
Provisions	2,611	2,632	2,893	3,181	2,706	2,754	2,806
Total Current Liabilities	41,163	34,351	43,154	38,412	43,191	45,630	43,292
Non-Current Liabilities							
Derivative Financial Instruments	5,293	2,997	-	-	9,516	10,555	11,720
Borrowings and Other Financial Liabilities LT	59,000	72,000	82,000	92,000	103,000	107,300	111,600
Provisions LT	1,407	4,647	5,278	7,475	1,458	1,485	1,513
Total Non-Current Liabilities	65,700	79,644	87,277	99,475	113,974	119,340	124,833
TOTAL LIABILITIES	106,863	113,995	130,431	137,887	157,165	164,970	168,125
NET ASSETS (Assets minus Liabilities)	652,951	779,227	807,826	827,068	723,546	756,667	778,558

Statement of cash flows

Pūrongo Toiora Pūtea

	Actual 2020 \$000	Actual 2021 \$000	Estimated 2022 \$000	Annual Plan 2023 \$000	LTP 2024 \$000	LTP 2025 \$000	LTP 2026 \$000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES							
Receipts from Rates	59,594	60,299	63,898	55,036	70,838	71,461	72,987
Government Grants	29,796	24,908	19,039	24,677	15,656	23,842	22,174
Receipts from Customers	2,659	9,868	9,548	8,297	13,682	13,050	14,410
Interest Received	19	82	13	46	47	48	49
Payments to Suppliers and Employees	(53,063)	(59,533)	(52,986)	(58,799)	(56,711)	(58,365)	(60,208)
Movement in Agency Accounts	(9,000)	(9,593)	(12,000)	-	(12,000)	(12,000)	(12,000)
Interest paid	(2,373)	(2,319)	(1,883)	(2,606)	(3,228)	(3,466)	(3,679)
GST (Net)	(241)	(409)	(500)	(500)	-	-	-
Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities	27,391	23,303	25,128	26,151	28,284	34,570	33,733
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES							
Receipts from Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment	805	422	-	-	2,225	2,525	719
Purchase of Property, Plant and Equipment	(22,491)	(35,892)	(31,561)	(39,397)	(42,257)	(42,234)	(37,044)
Purchase of Investments	(160)	(798)	225	(6,379)	(5,968)	(511)	(409)
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	(21,846)	(36,268)	(31,336)	(45,776)	(46,000)	(40,220)	(36,734)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES							
Term Loans Raised	10,814	18,680	19,000	29,000	27,839	16,147	14,155
Term Loan Repayments	(8,500)	(13,000)	(5,000)	(9,000)	(10,000)	(11,000)	(11,000)
Net Cash Flow from Financing Activities	2,314	5,680	14,000	20,000	17,839	5,147	3,155
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash, Cash Equivalents and Bank Overdrafts	7,859	(7,285)	7,792	375	123	(503)	154
Cash, Cash Equivalents and Bank Overdrafts at the Beginning of the year	4,730	12,589	5,304	4,096	480	603	100
Cash, Cash Equivalents and Bank Overdrafts at the End of the Year	12,589	5,304	13,096	4,471	603	100	254
Represented by:							
Cash at Bank	12,589	5,304	13,096	4,471	603	100	254

Our planning cycle

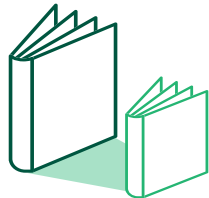
Ā tātau matapae

Long Term Plan 2021-31



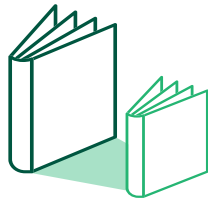
Annual Report

Annual Plan 2022-23



Annual Report

Annual Plan 2023-24



Annual Report

Long Term Plan 2024-34



Annual Report

The Long Term Plan

In July 2021, we adopted our current Long Term Plan after consulting the community and receiving around 430 submissions. The Long Term Plan provides an overview of Council's strategic direction, priorities and work programme for the 10 years ahead. It outlines the services we will provide, the projects we will undertake, the cost of doing this work, how it will be paid for and how we will measure our performance. The Long Term Plan includes a number of key documents that guide the delivery of Council services including;

- Financial Strategy;
- Significance and Engagement Policy; and
- Revenue and Financing Policy.

Annual Plan

In each of the years between a Long Term Plan, we produce an Annual Plan. Through the Annual Plan, we review the budgets and work programme that we planned for the year, according to the Long Term Plan.

Our current Annual Plan was adopted in June 2022.

Annual Report

At the end of each financial year, Council produces an Annual Report. This sets out how we performed for the year compared to what we said we would do. It lets the community know what we delivered and analyses whether we met our budgets and performance targets. The Annual Report also provides the results from our Annual Residents Perception Survey.

All these documents can be found on our website: [whakatane.govt.nz/documents](https://www.whakatane.govt.nz/documents).

Other important documents

Several other strategies, plans and policies outline the Council's position, direction and priorities in relation to specific matters. Some of these include:

- Asset Management Plan;
- District Plan;
- Infrastructure Strategy;
- Waste Management and Minimisation Plan;
- Whakatāne Town Vision Plan; and
- Climate Change Strategy and Action Plans.

Enrol and vote

Me rēhita me pōti

Before you can vote in a local election, you need to enrol. If you do not receive an enrolment pack in the first week of July, it means you are not enrolled to vote, or your details are not up to date. The Electoral Commission will send your voting papers to you in the mail when it is time to vote, so it is important that you're enrolled at the right address.

If you are not enrolled, you can:



Enrol or update your details online:
vote.nz/enrolling/enrol-or-update



Call **0800 36 76 56** and ask for a form to be sent to you.

To be able to enrol, you need to:



Be 18 years or older on election day (8 October 2022).



Be a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident.



Have lived in New Zealand for at least one year continuously at some point.

KEY DATES

Visit whakatane.govt.nz for more election information.

BE A GAME CHANGER

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT ELECTIONS 2022

15 JULY 2022

Candidate nominations open and roll opens for public inspection

15 JULY - 12 AUGUST 2022

Receipt of candidate nominations

12 AUGUST 2022 AT 12 NOON

Candidate nominations close and roll closes

17 AUGUST 2022

Public notice of candidates' names

16 - 21 SEPTEMBER 2022

Voting documents delivered

16 SEPTEMBER - 8 OCTOBER 2022

Progressive roll scrutiny, special voting period, early processing

8 OCTOBER 2022 AT 12 NOON

Election Day - voting closes midday

8 OCTOBER 2022 FROM 12 NOON

Preliminary results

13-19 OCTOBER 2022

Declaration of results

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2022

Elected members' swearing in ceremonies

Stand for election

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Our community succeeds when we have diverse representatives that have a positive vision, great ideas, and a commitment to care for their communities. Representation means to act in the best interests of the District and make decisions that impact our present and our future. As an elected member, you will make decisions that will help define the future of our communities, help the Whakatāne District grow and prosper, and decide how to meet the current and future needs for infrastructure, public services, and regulations. To do this you will need to build relationships with the community, iwi, hapū and whānau, community organisations and groups and make sure that all voices in our District are heard.

Stand for a Māori ward

Māori wards are intended to provide stronger voice for Māori, assurance issues of priority to Māori are brought to the Council table, and promote confidence in local government decision-making processes— particularly where there are implications for our Māori communities.

Who can stand for election in a Māori ward?

To be eligible to stand for election, a candidate must be:

- ✓ A New Zealand citizen (by birth or citizenship ceremony).
- ✓ Enrolled as a parliamentary elector (anywhere in New Zealand).
- ✓ Nominated by two electors whose names appear on the electoral roll within the respective area that a candidate is standing (candidates in Māori wards do not have to be of Māori descent).
- ✓ Candidates cannot stand for general and Māori wards at the same time.

Are you or someone you know up for the challenge to stand and lead our District to a positive future?

Who can vote for Māori ward candidates in an election?

- Voters on the Māori electoral roll will vote for and be represented by candidates contesting a Māori ward seat rather than candidates contesting a general ward seat.
- Voters on the general electoral roll will continue to vote for candidates contesting general wards.
- Everyone will vote for the Mayor, at-large Councillors (if any), and their respective Community Board members.
- Voters on the Māori electoral roll will continue to vote for the Māori constituencies in the Bay of Plenty Regional Council election and the voters on the general electoral roll will continue to vote for the candidates contesting the general Bay of Plenty Regional Council constituencies.

Candidate nominations are open from Friday, 15 July until Friday, 12 August 2022 at 12 noon.

To stand for the election, you must:

- ✓ Complete an official nomination form and send to the Council's electoral officer.
- ✓ Be nominated by two people who are over the age of 18 and are enrolled in the same ward the candidate is planning to stand for.
- ✓ Consent to their nomination.
- ✓ Pay a \$200 deposit, which may be refunded depending on election results.
- ✓ Be a New Zealand citizen.



ELECTORAL OFFICER

Dale Ofsoske | 09 973 5212 | dale.ofsoske@electionservices.co.nz

DEPUTY ELECTORAL OFFICER

Cindy Butt | 027 205 3423 | Cindy.Butt@whakatane.govt.nz

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Civic Centre, Commerce Street, Whakatāne
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Email info@whakatane.govt.nz

Phone 07 306 0500

Website whakatane.govt.nz



MURUPARA LIBRARY AND SERVICE CENTRE

48 Pine Drive, Murupara
Phone 07 366 5896

**BE A
GAME
CHANGER**

**WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT
ELECTIONS 2022**