

Kōrero Mai ***Let's Talk***

Tell us what you think about our
draft climate change strategy and
action plans by 5pm Friday,
4 September 2020.



Climate Change Action Plan: *Land use and the built environment*

Mahere Mahi Huringa Āhuarangi: *Whenua me te Taiao Waihanga*

**This is one of six action plans, which support
our Climate Change Strategy 2020-23.**

*These documents are drafts for community feedback.
To view the other documents, visit koreromai.whakatane.govt.nz*



Why this area is important

He aha tēnei e whakahirahira ai?

The Whakatāne District is already vulnerable to a range of natural hazards including slips, flooding, coastal erosion and inundation. Climate change is likely to exacerbate the consequences of these hazards and the impact they have on our natural and built environment. Climate change will also add to already existing pressures on the natural environment like habitat loss, pollution and intense resource use. This will impact the biodiversity and ecology, freshwater ecosystems, oceans and coasts and other ecosystem services in New Zealand¹. It is crucial that the way in which we interact with the land takes these factors into account.

The built environment provides people with the systems and infrastructure they need for living, their mobility and their well-being. This includes critical infrastructure like reliable electricity, clean drinking water and transport networks.

75% of New Zealanders live within 10km of the coast². Our communities, homes, workplaces, commercial, social and cultural assets are exposed to flooding, sea-level rise, storm surge and inundation from rising groundwater levels.

Climate change projections are showing a likely increase in the amount of hot days (<25°C) and extremely hot days (<30°C) across the Whakatāne District and as such, the risk of associated droughts and forest fires³. The seasonality of rainfall is expected to change with spring and summer generally becoming drier, and winter and autumn becoming wetter. Increasing temperatures are likely to result in higher biosecurity risks through pest incursions of both animal and plant pest species. Scenarios like these will have implications on pasture growth and the viability of crops. Human physical and mental health will be impacted through microbial contamination, algal blooms, disease spread and air quality.

¹ Ministry for the Environment, 2017, [Adapting to climate change in New Zealand](#)

² Statistics New Zealand, 2006, [Are New Zealanders Living closer to the coast](#)

³ Bay of Plenty Regional Council and the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research, 2019, [Climate change projections and impacts for the Bay of Plenty Region](#)

Where we are now

Kei hea tātou ināianei?

The Council has developed specific actions to address some of the challenges that climate change will bring. The Whakatāne District Plan, Chapter 18: Natural Hazards states that the Council will “take into account the effects of climate change when identifying hazards and the locations where those hazards could adversely affect people and property”.

Changes from Central Government are impacting Council’s provisions regarding protection of biodiversity and the Council continues to look at how best to prepare and protect the district from the effects of a changing climate.



What we want this action plan to achieve

Ngā paetae o tēnei mahere mahi

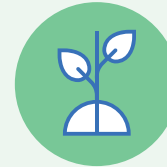
Outcomes

1. Land use is resilient to anticipated climate change impacts.
2. Improve the resilience of community infrastructure.
3. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions as a result of land use and building activities.

Goals

1. Identify, understand and reduce climate change risk to existing building and infrastructure
2. Enhance resilience through land use decisions
3. Recognise cultural heritage and values in land use decisions
4. Promote a built environment which is resilient to climate change impacts
5. Enhance biodiversity and ecology, and protect it from the impacts of climate change
6. Promote low emission and sustainable land use, building practises and day-to-day operations

This action plan primarily contributes to these climate change principles:



We will care for and protect the environment

Ka manaaki, ka tiaki mātou i te taiao



We will think and act long term


Ka whakaaro pae tawhiti, ka mahi pae tawhiti mātou




We will build capacity to recover from difficulties






Ka whakakaha mātou i a tātou

SHORT TERM RESOURCE REQUIREMENT




 = Additional funding requirement






 = Incorporate into business-as-usual (BAU)

 = Additional staff time requirement

Goal	Actions	Short term (2020/21)	Short term resource requirement (\$/BAU/staff time)	Medium term (2022-24)	Long term (2024-31)	Key external stakeholders and partners
1. Identify, understand and reduce climate change risk to existing building and infrastructure	1.1 Identify communities at risk from climate related natural hazards	Determine Council dynamic adaptive pathways planning (DAPP) and risk approach		Monitor ongoing risk to communities Initiate community engagement	Ongoing review of risk status Ongoing community engagement	Bay of Plenty Regional Council Iwi Community
	1.2 Develop strategy to manage associated risks to those communities	Determine Council DAPP approach Community engagement on DAPP approach		Community Action Groups established for high risk communities	Strategies for individual communities developed	Bay of Plenty Regional Council Iwi Community Central Government
	1.3 Identify and manage at risk infrastructure	Determine Council DAPP approach		Stakeholder Action Groups established	Strategies for infrastructure types developed	Bay of Plenty Regional Council Iwi Community Central Government
2. Enhance resilience through land use decisions	2.1 Identify areas most at risk from climate related natural hazards	Progress Future Development Strategy		Monitor ongoing risk from climate related natural hazards Initiate community engagement	Ongoing review of risk status Review Operative District Plan where required	Bay of Plenty Regional Council Iwi Community Central Government
	2.2 Future development avoids areas most at risk	Implement Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement, Natural Resources Policy, New Zealand Coastal Policy and Whakatāne District Plan Give effect to other legislation i.e. Building Act, RMA		Continue to implement relevant plans and legislation	Continue to implement relevant plans and legislation	Bay of Plenty Regional Council Central Government Iwi

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3. Recognise cultural heritage and values in land use decisions	3.1. Take account of cultural values when considering the impact of climate change	Undertake targeted and wider community engagement		Ongoing engagement	Ongoing engagement	Iwi Community Youth
4. Promote a built environment which is resilient to climate change impacts	4.1 Comply with and promote exceedance of minimum building regulations	Develop education and communication material		Identify opportunities to require enhanced and climate resilient building specifications and design	Update education material and specification requirements in line with latest thinking	Central Government Building professionals
5. Enhance biodiversity and ecology, and protect it from the impacts of climate change	5.1 Promote public awareness and support local community groups	Media campaign		Collaborate to produce and circulate education material	TBD	Iwi Department of Conservation Bay of Plenty Regional Council Community Environmental Groups
	5.2. Reduce the impact of human activity on local biodiversity	-		Identify significant indigenous biodiversity sites (SIBS) in line with Bay of Plenty Regional Council Regional Indigenous Biodiversity Plan (RIBP)	Work in partnership to protect the areas of significant indigenous biodiversity most at risk from the impact of climate change	Iwi Department of Conservation Bay of Plenty Regional Council Community Environmental Groups Landowners
6. Promote low emission and sustainable land use, building practises and day-to-day operations	6.1. Encourage the use of sustainable products and practises	Incorporate climate change principles into Council procurement processes Develop Council and community education and communication material		Investigate low emission and sustainable buildings practises for future development Investigate options to plant up Council land to off-set carbon emissions	Infrastructure Development Code requires the use of low emission and sustainable land use, building practises and day-to-day operations	Suppliers and contractors Building professionals

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If you want to learn more about the
climate change project visit
whakatane.govt.nz/climate-change

How to korero mai:

Online: koreromai.whakatane.govt.nz

Email: submissions@whakatane.govt.nz

Post: Whakatāne District Council,
Private Bag 1002, Whakatāne 3158

Contact your elected members:
whakatane.govt.nz/elected-members

WE WILL KEEP YOU IN THE LOOP

Whether or not you choose to make a
submission, we will keep you posted on progress
on our climate change strategy and action plans.
Our website will continue to be updated with
new information and we will also keep you
up-to-date through social media and other
local media channels.