



Annual Report 2024/25

Pūrongo ā-tau 2024/25

For the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025

whakatane.govt.nz

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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Kupu whakataki nā te Koromatua

This Annual Report is part of our obligation to you, the rate payer, to provide a clear and transparent account of what Council does with your money over the past financial year- from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025. It outlines our performance across more than 30 services, our expenditure and the investments we've made, and how we've managed around \$1.6 billion in community assets.

The period has been a difficult one as we continue to deal with the cumulative effects of the inflation that spiked in Q3 2022, and try to continue to give ratepayers value for money.

This report provides an account for how well Council is doing using 69 performance indicators, with 33 of those are required by law. In 2024/25, just over half (58%) of the targets were met, which is down from 72.5% in the previous year. Overall, residents' satisfaction stayed fairly steady, with a few exceptions in some areas. This report breaks down how each part of the organisation performed, explains why some targets weren't met, and includes financial summaries for each activity.

Through the 12 months we continued to deliver services while navigating economic pressures and regulatory reform. I believe Council has remained focused, responsive, and committed to doing what's right for our district. On my watch, Council has done everything it has needed to do and then some.

Critical services account for over 80% of capital expenditure investment in those things that most people in our district need, things like water, transportation, and solid waste.

We've also made significant progress in climate change and resilience. Council approved and began installing solar panels on key facilities including the Civic Centre, dog pound, and water treatment plant - reducing emissions and lowering energy costs. Lower energy costs mean savings for rate payers. Emergency preparedness has also been a priority. We've deployed emergency supplies across the district. I'm very pleased to say that these important investments were largely paid for by revenue other than rates.

We've also supported community-led planning and deepened our partnerships with iwi and hapū, and celebrated te reo Māori through initiatives like Murupara Reorua.

That said, this year's performance results also show where we need to do better. These results help us identify where to focus our efforts and improve delivery or look at other ways to communicate our achievements.

Like most government reforms, Local Water Done Well has consumed considerable staff and councillor time and energy as we worked to agree a Water Services Delivery Plan to meet the September 2025 deadline.

I want to acknowledge the many individuals, teams and organisations who have contributed to this year's outcomes- councillors, the Chief Executive and his senior managers, staff, community groups, iwi partners, volunteers, and residents.

I encourage you to read this report. It's thorough, and I think helps people understand just how much the Council undertakes, and I hope, starts to build an appreciation of the complexities we face as we deliver, daily for our communities and plan for the future. I hope readers appreciate that this Council continues to do the basics well.

Dr Victor Luca

YOUR COUNCILLORS

Ngā Kaikaunihera



Dr Victor Luca
Mayor



Lesley Immink
Deputy Mayor



Toni Boynton
*Councillor, Kāpū-te-rangi
Māori Ward*



Gavin Dennis
*Councillor - Rangitāiki
General Ward*



Andrew Iles
*Councillor - Te Urewera
General Ward*



Wilson James
*Councillor - Rangitāiki
General Ward*



Julie Jukes
*Councillor, Whakatāne-
Ōhope General Ward*



Tu O'Brien
*Councillor
Rangitāiki Māori Ward*



John Pullar
*Councillor, Whakatāne-
Ōhope General Ward*



Ngapera Rangiaho
*Councillor, Toi ki Uta
Māori Ward*



Nándor Tánczos
*Councillor, Whakatāne-
Ōhope General Ward*

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

Ko wai mātau, he aha hoki ā mātau mahi

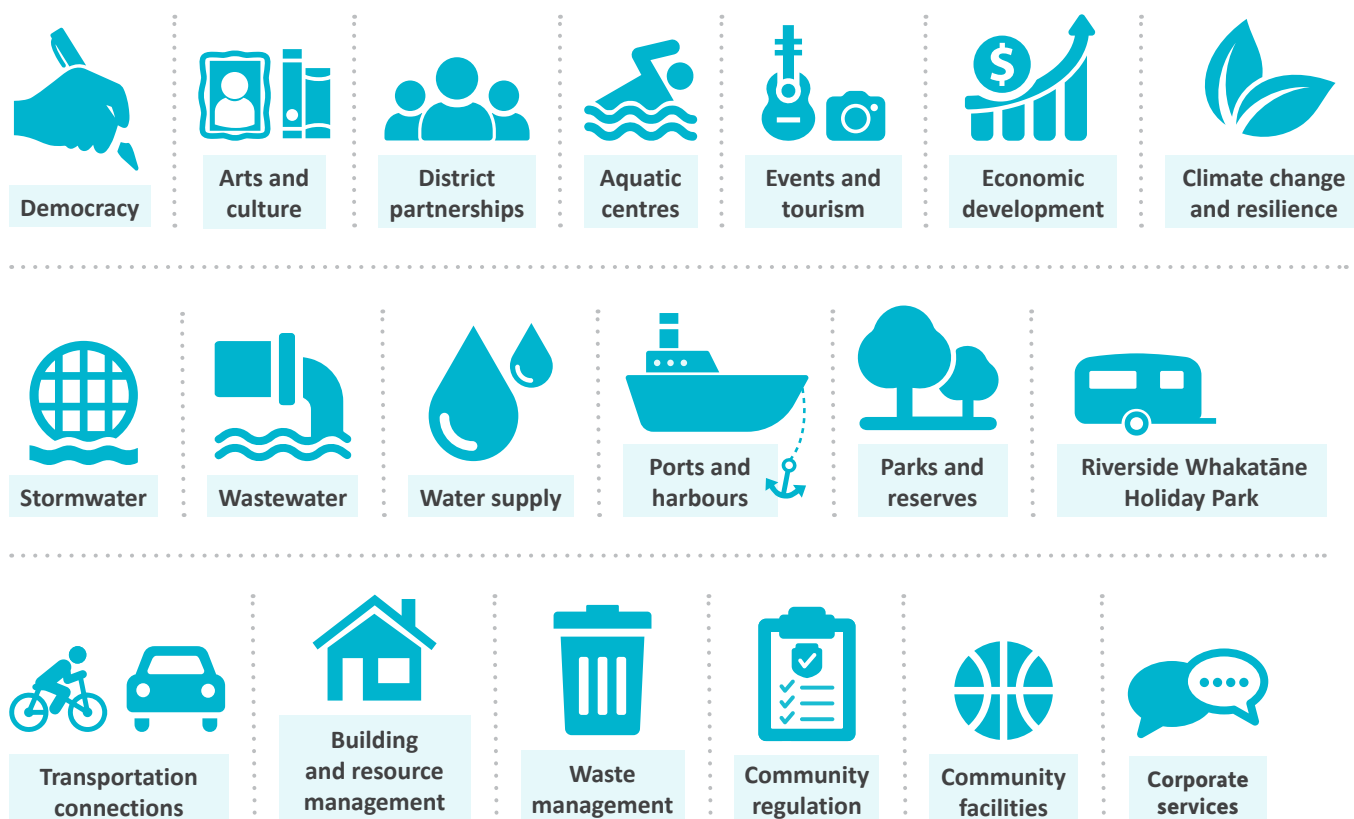
Whakatāne District Council is here to serve our communities. Every day we provide the essential services, facilities, and spaces that make our district a great place to live, work, and play. From parks and libraries to safe roads and clean drinking water, our mahi touches the lives of everyone who calls Whakatāne District home. The district is led by 11 elected representatives (see previous page) who make the big decisions that guide our activities and shape the future of our communities. We deliver more than 30 services and manage around \$1.6 billion worth of community assets.

Our role is set out by the Local Government Act 2002, which gives councils across Aotearoa New Zealand the responsibility to support strong local decision-making and act on behalf of communities. The Act also recognises the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and requires us to provide meaningful opportunities for Māori to take part in shaping local decisions.

We're here to meet the current and future needs of our district by providing good-quality infrastructure, public services, and regulatory functions in a way that is affordable and sustainable. That includes delivering services that ensure the health and safety of our communities, such as clean drinking water, effective wastewater treatment, and safe transport networks. Beyond these, many other council activities contribute to community wellbeing and lifestyle.

To deliver all of this, our work is organised into 19 groups - including the Corporate Services Group, which supports the delivery of our other activities. A council-controlled organisation (CCO) also operates the Whakatāne Airport in a joint venture agreement with the Ministry of Transport- Te Manatū Waka.

The following are our groups of activities:



Everything we do at council, through our different groups of activities - works together to deliver on our shared vision, community outcomes, and strategic priorities.

OUR VISION AND COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

Tō mātau matakitenga me ngā hua hāpori

Our vision and community outcomes were developed through the Long Term Plan 2024-34 and have stayed consistent across two planning cycles. Our vision - 'More life in life' is about supporting communities to flourish, reach their potential, and live life to the fullest. It speaks to the quality of life in the Whakatāne District - a great place to live, work, play, raise a family and do business.

This vision and community outcomes set the high-level direction for the council, helping us focus on community-led progress and making sure we're delivering what matters most for our people.

The four well-beings set out in the Local Government Act 2002 - social, economic, environmental and cultural - sit at the heart of our vision and guide the priorities we focus on for our district.

More life in life

Working together to make living better for our communities, now and in the future



OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Ngā rautaki mātua

Through the Long Term Plan 2024-34, we worked with our communities to identify five strategic priorities. These priorities set the key areas of focus that will help us achieve our vision of 'More life in life'. Each is backed by strategies, programmes of work and key projects that turn vision into action.



To track how well we are delivering for our communities, each group of activities has clear performance measures. The 'Delivering on our outcomes, vision and priorities section' forms our Statement of Service Performance. It shows which outcomes and strategic priorities each activity contributes to, how we performed against our targets, and the costs of delivering those activities and how they were funded in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Financial Reporting Standard 48 (PBE FRS 48).

The Statement of Service Performance within the Annual Report, was prepared according to New Zealand's Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and complies with Public Benefit Entity Accounting Standards (PBE Accounting Standards) for a Tier 1 entity.

DELIVERING ON OUR VISION,
OUTCOMES AND PRIORITIES
*Te whakatutukitanga o te matakītenga,
ngā hua me ngā mahi mātua*



SERVICE PERFORMANCE, JUDGEMENTS AND ASSUMPTIONS

Ngā mahi ratonga, whakataunga me ngā whakaaro

All the activities we carry out contribute to achieving our vision, community outcomes and five strategic priorities. Each activity has performance measures that show how well we're delivering services to the community. The measures and targets are from year one (2024-25) of our Long Term Plan 2024-34, which you can view on our website: **Long Term Plan 2024-34 | Whakatāne District Council**.

Monitoring our non-financial performance helps us to see how we're tracking against the levels of service our communities expect. This means we can identify areas that need extra focus if required. We review our measures every three years when we develop each Long Term Plan.

We have 69 non-financial measures in the Long Term Plan 2024-34, of which 33 are mandatory under the Local Government Act 2002. These mandatory measures follow guidance from the Department of Internal Affairs and are marked with an (M).

Significant judgements in the selection of non-financial performance measures

Our measures are designed to be meaningful for the community. We made the following judgements in the selection of our other non-mandatory service performance measures. We assessed how well our planned levels of service for the community were reflected in the performance measures. We also took into account the feedback received during the Long-Term Plan 2024-34 consultation process. Our measures include assessing timeliness, key project milestones, community perceptions, and satisfaction with services and facilities.

Sixteen of our measures come from our 2024/25 resident survey, which is independently undertaken by SIL Research. This survey gathers feedback from residents on their satisfaction with Council services, communications, and management. Each quarter, 150 responses are collected, giving a total of 600 survey responses for the year. Survey results are reported with margins of error, calculated at a 95% confidence level. Each measure's specific margin of error accounts for the survey design and population. An exception to this is aggregated results, which are average scores of other calculated measures and do not have a margin of error.

In each quarter, multiple data collection methods were utilised to ensure residents were well-represented. The mixed-methods approach included a telephone survey, social media, and postal survey. Surveys were conducted proportional to the population in each of Whakatāne District's community board areas. The 2018 census population information was the key assumption used for ensuring demographic representation throughout the survey. The 2018 Census population benchmarks were used because the 2023 Census figures were not available at the beginning of the 2024/25 year.

While the resident survey remained unchanged in 2024/25, to ensure consistency and comparability with previous years, changes were made to how some service measures were analysed to align with Council's activity groups. Where available, comparative data is provided; however, it should be noted that this data is unaudited.

For our emergency management measures, a survey is conducted every two years by the Bay of Plenty Civil Defence Emergency Management Group. It assesses how well residents are prepared for emergencies by asking about actions such as understanding local risks, household planning, storing emergency supplies, and engaging with community groups.

The activity measures in this report were selected to demonstrate alignment with our strategic priorities and to assess the successful delivery of our intended levels of service. When we report performance, we indicate whether targets were met or not. Where relevant, we include notes to explain why a target was achieved or missed. Satisfaction measures are an exception, as we cannot assume why respondents were satisfied or not satisfied with a service or facility.

Changes to Performance Measures

Twelve measures from the Long Term Plan 2021–31 reported in the 2023/24 Annual Report have been either removed or changed to other measures in the Long Term Plan 2024–34. Examples of removed measures include:

- Council Controlled Organisation (CCO) measures, including Whakatāne Airport, BOPLASS, LGFA, and Toi EDA.
- Measures on website users, the future development programme, district plan changes and overall satisfaction.

Some satisfaction measures in the Long Term Plan 2021–31 such as recreation facilities, and community facilities were previously reported as aggregated measures. These satisfaction measures are no longer aggregated and have been separated to provide more detailed reporting on the activity groups contained in the Long Term Plan 2024–34.

Twelve new measures are reported for the first time in this Annual Report. These new measures are contained within the following activity groups – Democracy, Climate Change and Resilience, District Partnerships, Building and Resource Management, Ports and Harbours, Parks and Reserves, and Community Facilities. Where available, comparative data is provided; however, it should be noted that this data is unaudited.

EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES IN THE FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENTS

Whakamārama o ngā wāhanga i te whakapuakanga pūtea tirohanga whānui

The Funding Impact Statement for each group of activities shows our budgeted costs from our Long Term Plan 2024-34, alongside our actual costs for the 2024/25 year. As our activity groups have changed, some comparatives from our Annual Report 23/24 may appear as zero.

The statements break costs and funding into two categories: operational (OPEX) and capital (CAPEX). Operational costs cover the ongoing investment in delivering and maintaining services for our communities, while capital costs relate to building new assets or renewing or upgrading existing ones. Capital expenditure is generally one-off, whereas operational costs are ongoing. By looking at these statements, we can see how much funding we received, how much we invested, and whether we have ended the year with a surplus or deficit.

Operational

Sources of operating funding (revenue)

General rates, uniform annual general charges (UAGC), rates penalties	Revenue from general rates charged on the capital value of all properties within the district, fixed charges across the whole district (UAGC), and penalties for late payment of rates.
Targeted rates	Rates where the benefit or use of a service can be assigned to specific households or communities, such as water, stormwater or promotion and economic development.
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	Money received from other organisations that contribute to the operational cost of the service.
Fees and charges	Includes admission charges for Council facilities and regulatory fees e.g. permits and dog registration.
Internal charges and overheads recovered	Charges received from other departments of the Council such as overheads and direct costs.
Interest and dividends from investments	Money earned from our savings and investments through interest and dividend payments.
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	Miscellaneous revenue from other sources generally not of a significant nature e.g. local authority petrol tax.
Total operating funding	Total revenue from the day to day operation of this activity

Applications of operating funding (expenditure)

Payments to staff and suppliers	The day to day cost of running this activity. Salaries, wages, consultant charges, materials and services.
Finance costs	Interest payments we make on funds borrowed (loans).
Internal charges and overheads applied	Money paid to other departments of the Council such as overheads and direct costs.
Other operating funding applications	Miscellaneous expenses including bad debt expense, rates remissions and loss on disposal of assets.
Total applications of operating funding	Total operating expenditure for this activity
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding	Total revenue less total expenditure

Capital

Sources of capital funding

Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	Money received from other organisations that contribute to the capital cost of the service.
Development and financial contributions	Money paid by developers towards providing assets or extending existing assets to cater for increased demand due to growth, e.g. extending sewerage systems.
Increase (decrease) in debt	Borrowing money to pay for future and/or new assets, parts of assets or to fund temporary deficits, less loan repayments.
Gross proceeds from the sale of assets	Revenue to be raised from the sale of assets belonging to this activity.
Lump sum contributions	Payments made by an eligible ratepayer for the purposes of contributing to a capital project. However, we do not accept lump sum contributions for targeted rates.
Total sources of capital funding	Total capital funding for this activity

Applications of capital funding

Capital expenditure	Capital expenditure involves creating a completely new asset or extending or renewing an existing asset, to deliver the same or an enhanced level of service e.g. extending a sewer pipe to increase capacity. The expenditure is split to fund level of service improvements versus population growth and/or renewal works. While a lot of our capital projects contribute to more than one of these drivers, legislation requires us to allocate each project to just one driver in the Funding Impact Statements.
Increase (decrease) in reserves	Transferring funds into and from a reserve account held for a special purpose. Includes: transferring development contribution revenue to development contribution reserves; using funds from depreciation reserves, and using funds from operational reserves to provide or to assist with maintaining existing assets or services.
Increase (decrease) of investments	Net movement of investments.
Total applications of capital funding	Total capital expenditure for this activity
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding	Sources of capital funding less applications of capital funding
Funding balance	Net operating funding less net capital funding

Before looking at each activity group in detail, we provide an overall snapshot of our performance.

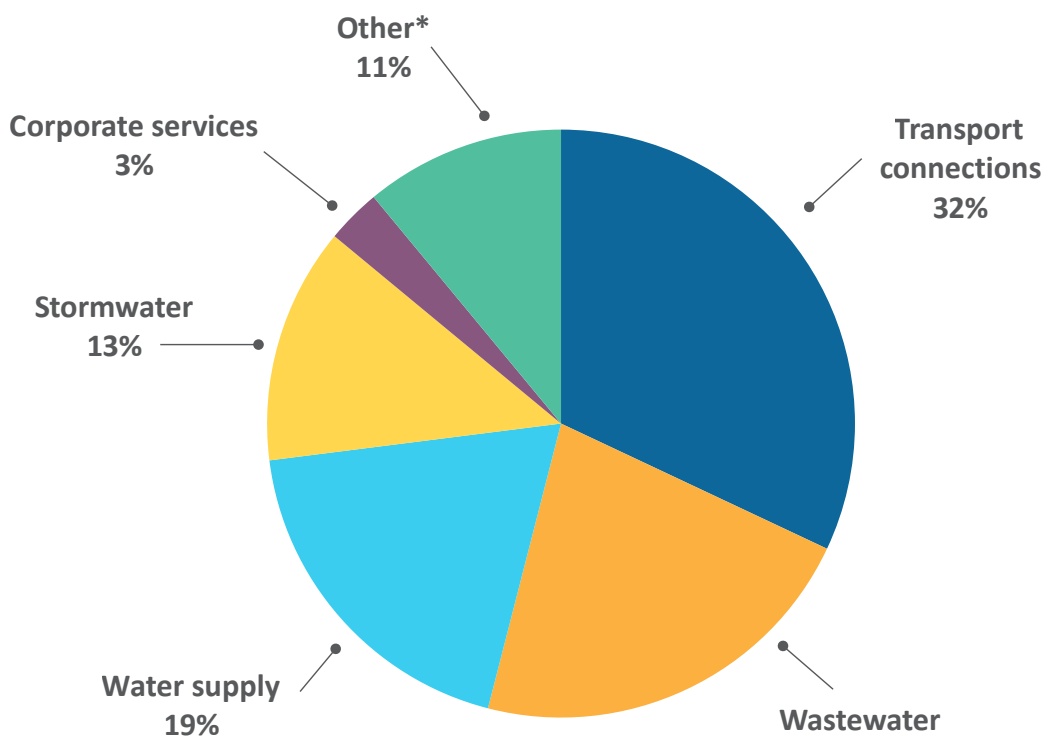
OVERVIEW OF OUR FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Te tirohanga whānui o ngā hua ahumoni me ngā hua kē

We invested \$48.4 million in delivering new or improved assets for our communities

The following graph provides a breakdown of what we invested this money on. Capital expenditure is the money we invest to build or buy something new, renew or upgrade something we already have, or improve services for our communities.

Capital expenditure

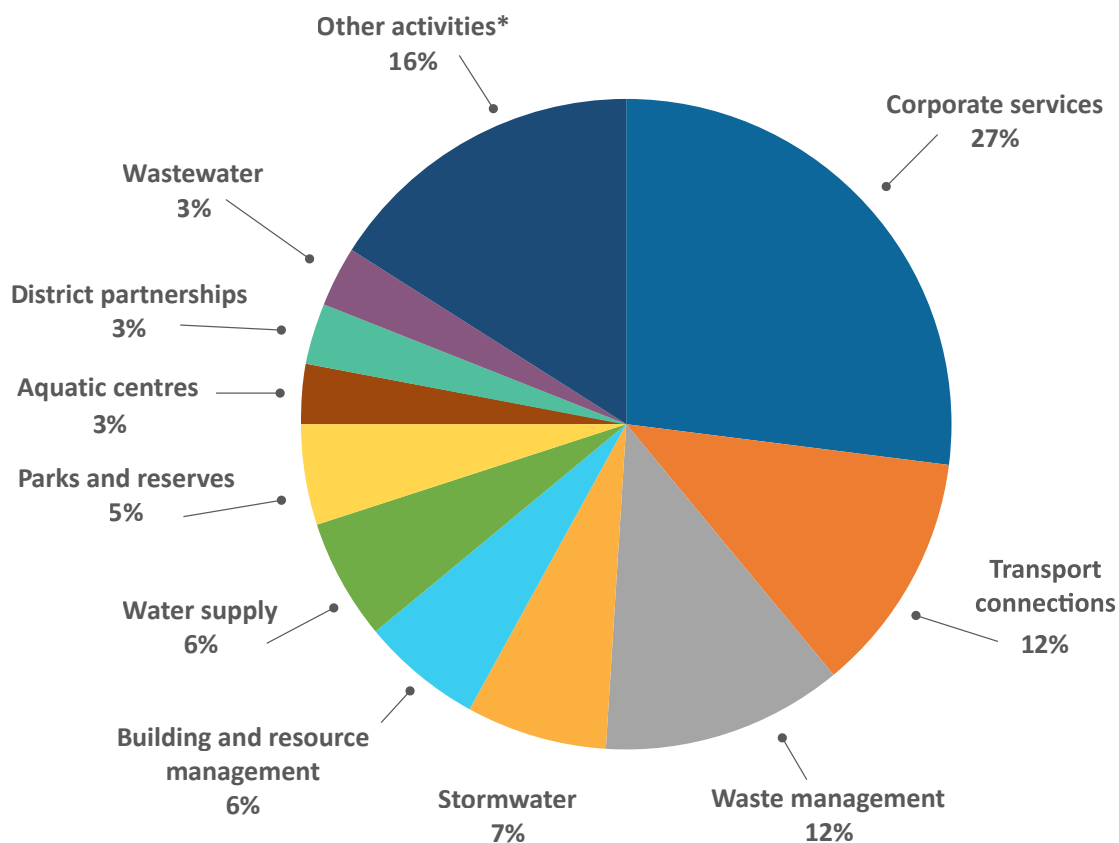


*Note: This category includes multiple activities, each contributing less than 3% individually.

We spent \$85.5 million on operating activities, services, and facilities for our communities

Our operating expenditure funds the day to day running costs of activities, services and facilities. The following graph provides a breakdown of how this funding was allocated.

Operating expenditure



**Note: This category includes multiple activities, each contributing less than 3% individually*

We have continued our focus on shifting to a balanced budget. This is shown later in this report in the Financial Prudence measures section. We have more work to do, but this approach helps ensure we have the right level of revenue to cover our costs, so that we can continue delivering services and investing in our community. Over time, this approach will ensure we deliver services at a lower cost through lower debt levels and lower interest costs.

Our customer services teams took:



34,228
phone calls



13,505
service requests



building
consents
were issued

386

24,916

Riverside
Whakatāne
Holiday Park
stays



392m
of footpaths
were renewed



166,494

Admissions to the Whakatāne
Aquatic and Fitness Centre
and Murupara Aquatic Centre



26,043
tonnes
of waste
managed

33%

diverted from
landfill and either recycled
re-used or re-purposed.



This year brought a number of challenges for local government, including rising financial pressures, shifting community expectations, and the need to respond to complex regulatory and environmental changes. While we remained focused on delivering services and progressing key initiatives, we did not meet all of the performance targets set through the Long Term Plan 2024-34. While Council is responsible for setting the final performance measures and financial parameters, these decisions were informed by the views and values shared by the community throughout the consultation process. This Annual Report provides an opportunity to reflect on our performance, understand the underlying issues, and identify opportunities for improvement as we move forward.

In summary our performance measure results show:

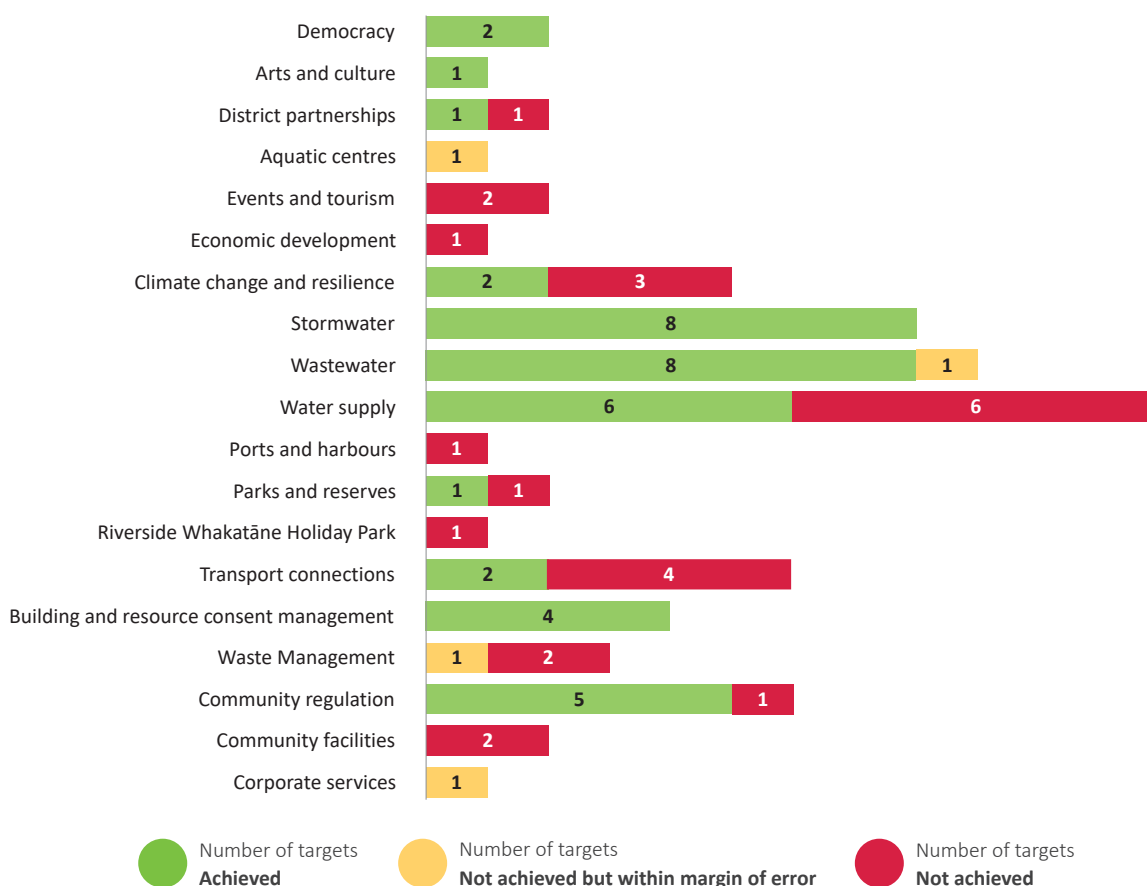
- We met targets for 58% of all performance measures (40 of 69)
- 73% of the mandated measures were met (24 of 33)

The overall percentage of performance targets achieved has declined from 72.5% in 2024 to 58% in 2025. This reflects a mix of factors, including the introduction of new performance measures, changes to target definitions and benchmarking, and the use of the residents' satisfaction survey as a key data source.

Resident satisfaction with services has remained broadly consistent with the previous year, although a longer-term downward trend is evident in several key areas. Sixteen of our performance measures are directly linked to the resident's satisfaction survey, providing insights into community perceptions. While there are areas where satisfaction could improve, this feedback helps us understand community priorities and guides where we can invest to make services even better. Ongoing economic pressures, including the cost of living and rising rates, mean that residents are paying close attention to council performance, which reinforces the importance of our continued focus on delivering value and quality services.

The graph below shows the level of non-financial performance for each activity.

2024/25 Non-Financial Performance Measure results



The Statement of Service Performance has been prepared in line with Tier 1 public sector standards, applied consistently throughout the year. This ensures full compliance with public sector Public Benefit Entity Accounting Standards and other relevant requirements.

HOW TO READ THIS SECTION OF THE REPORT

He whakamāramatanga o tēnei wāhanga

In this section we report how each of the Council's activity groups performed in 2024-25. We report against the performance measures and targets set out in the Long Term Plan 2024-34, so you can see how we're tracking toward our vision and priorities.

For each activity group it will tell you:

I ia rōpū mahi:

SERVICE PERFORMANCE

The community outcomes it contributes to:



Thriving circular economies



Strong, connected, interdependent, diverse communities



Integrating nature into our decision making



Constructively and collaboratively engaging with iwi, hapū and whānau

The strategic priorities it aligns with:



- What's happened this year and key highlights
- How we performed against our performance measures

FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENTS

- What these activities cost and how they were paid for

CAPITAL PROJECTS

- Major capital projects that took place during the year



DEMOCRACY *Manapori*

Activities in this group:

- Local governance
- Community support and grants
- Community boards

This group of activities provides open, effective, and accountable governance for the district and supports connected and inclusive leadership for our communities. We are committed to partnering with, and supporting the aspirations of whānau, hapū and iwi. We acknowledge the value of doing this, and the resulting positive outcomes for all communities.

We also work with local interest groups, stakeholder groups, the public, central government, neighbouring councils and others. This helps us stay connected to the priorities of our communities, and because it creates opportunities to deliver better outcomes for the district.

Contribution to community outcomes



**Strong, connected,
interdependent,
diverse communities**



**Constructively and
collaboratively
engaging with iwi,
hapū and whānau**

Alignment with strategic priorities



**Enhancing the safety, wellbeing,
and vibrancy of communities**
– *Me mātua whakanui i te marutau,
te oranga, me te wana o ngā hapori*

- Support our smaller and remote communities to plan for their future - what changes should occur in the area and when, all across the district, and investing in making sure these changes happen.



**Strengthening relationships with iwi, hapū and
whānau – *Me mātua whakawhanake i ngā
kōtuituinga ā-iwi, ā-hapū, ā-whānau anō hoki***

- Enable iwi participation in planning, decision-making and reflect cultural aspirations through the projects we deliver (e.g. financial support, capability, design).

What's happened this year?

I ahatia i tenei tau?

Local governance - Council and committee meetings

During the year, we held 14 formal Council meetings, supporting transparent decision-making and providing robust oversight of key initiatives and community priorities. In addition, 29 committee meetings were held. All Council and committee meetings were livestreamed and recorded, giving the public both real-time and on-demand access to decision-making, enhancing transparency and enabling greater public participation.

Key highlights for the year include:

- Adoption of the Long Term Plan 2024-34.
- Retention of the three Māori wards for the 2025-28 triennium, following new legislation in 2024 requiring councils with Māori wards established after 2020 to either disestablish them or hold a binding poll.
- The Living Together Committee adopted the Whakatāne District Tree Strategy - Ngā Taonga a Tāne in October 2024.
- Adoption of the Council's first Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy in March 2025.
- The Risk and Assurance Committee endorsed an updated Procurement Policy and continued to monitor the Council's Enterprise Risk Register.
- Launch of the local election campaign 'Stand for Something: Tū Tūturu' in June 2025, encouraging residents from all backgrounds to stand for council or community board roles and to participate in the democratic process.

2025 local government election

The 2025 election runs from 9 September to 11 October 2025 and offers positions across six wards, including three Māori wards, and four community boards. The binding poll on Māori ward representation will also coincide with the election. To support potential candidates, the Council hosted a series of candidate briefing sessions in June and July 2025. These sessions were designed to demystify the process and help people envision themselves in these roles, covering topics such as council operations, Te Tiriti o Waitangi obligations, governance, remuneration, and communication and engagement. The first session, held on 14 June at the Council's Whakatāne office, was livestreamed and made available online for accessibility.



Community funding

The Community Funding Committee manages the Council's grants and funding portfolio according to the Community Grants and Funding Policy. This year, the committee met five times to consider 11 application rounds across seven different funds, some of which have two funding rounds each year. These include:

- Community Lease Rebates Fund
- Creative Communities Scheme
- Multi-Year Grants
- Reorua Contestable Fund
- Rural Travel Fund
- Te Pūaha – Waterways and Marine Environment Fund
- Community Matching Fund

In 2024/25, the committee awarded 126 grants from a total of 176 applications submitted by community organisations across the district. Applicants included sports clubs, schools, marae committees, charitable trusts, arts and culture groups, and health and welfare organisations.

One major change this year was the introduction of the Community Matching Fund, replacing the annual grants fund round. The fund allows organisations to apply for a contribution matching the value of donations and support received from the community. This approach recognises groups with strong volunteer bases and community backing.

The average grant awarded this year was \$2,400, with applications received from across the district, including Coastlands, Poroporo, Thornton, Nukuhou, Ōtakiri, Wainui, Matatā, Awakeri, Edgecumbe, Te Teko, Murupara, and Minginui.

Initiatives funded this year included:



- Community-led arts projects and events
- Activities celebrating te reo Māori
- Water safety programmes
- Environmental initiatives
- School student participation in sports






How we performed

Ā mātau mahi

- 2 out of 2 measures (100%) achieved for democracy.
- All statutory timeframes were met.
- All Council and committee meetings were livestreamed (except publicly excluded meetings).

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (HOW WE WILL MEASURE OUR SERVICE DELIVERY)	2025	2024	2023	MARGIN OF ERROR	TARGET
Percentage of meeting and committee agendas made available to the public within statutory timeframes. (New measure)	100% 	N/A*	N/A	N/A	100%
	<i>Comment: This is a new measure so there is no comparative data. There were a total of 14 council meetings and 29 committee meetings throughout the year. All their associated agendas were made publicly available within the statutory timeframe.</i> <i>* Meetings and agendas can be viewed at Meetings and Agendas Whakatāne District Council</i>				
Percentage of council meetings that are publicly live streamed. (New measure)	100% 	N/A **	N/A	N/A	90%
	<i>Comment: This is a new measure so there is no comparative data. All council and committee meetings were livestreamed with the exception of public excluded meetings.</i> <i>**Live streaming commenced February 2024</i>				

.....

LEGEND  Achieved  Not achieved (but within MOE ±%)  Not achieved

What these activities cost and how they were paid for

Te utu o ēnei ngohe, ā, i pēhea i whakaea

FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENT DEMOCRACY WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025	LONG TERM PLAN 2023/24* \$000	LONG TERM PLAN 2024/25 \$000	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$000
OPERATIONAL			
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	-	3,609	3,464
Targeted rates	-	425	423
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	-
Fees and charges	-	-	-
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other	-	3	145
Sources of operating funding (A)	-	4,038	4,032
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	-	2,100	1,960
Finance costs	-	2	2
Internal charges and overheads applied	-	1,930	1,840
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Applications of operating funding (B)	-	4,032	3,801
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	-	6	230
CAPITAL			
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	-	(6)	(6)
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Sources of capital funding (C)	-	(6)	(6)
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
- to improve level of service	-	-	-
- to replace existing assets	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in reserves	-	-	225
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding (D)	-	-	225
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	-	(6)	(230)
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	-	-	-

* Democracy is a new activity in the Long Term Plan 2024-34



ARTS AND CULTURE *Ngā toi me te ahurea*

Activities in this group:

- Libraries and galleries
- Museums and archives

This group of activities provides and maintains a range of services, spaces and facilities for community use, recreation and amenity. As a district with a deep history of arts and culture, it is important that the Council continues to provide activities and spaces that enhance this. In turn, these efforts improve the quality of life for our residents and visitors through celebrating the beauty of the district and its people, both past and present.

Contribution to community outcomes



**Strong, connected,
interdependent,
diverse communities**



**Constructively and
collaboratively
engaging with iwi,
hapū and whānau**

Alignment with strategic priorities



**Enhancing the safety, wellbeing,
and vibrancy of communities**
– *Me mātua whakanui i te marutau,
te oranga, me te wana o ngā hapori*

- Invest wisely in recreation, events, and the arts to have a broader range of 'things to do' (especially for our youth).



**Strengthening relationships with iwi, hapū and
whānau – *Me mātua whakawhanake i ngā
kōtuituinga ā-iwi, ā-hapū, ā-whānau anō hoki***

- Work with iwi, hapū and whānau, to improve equity and wellbeing outcomes.

What's happened this year?

I ahatia i tenei tau?

As set out in our Long Term Plan 2024-34, we're committed to delivering on our arts, culture, and creativity strategy and enhancing our library collections.

Te Kōputu a te whanga a Toi - Whakatāne Library and Exhibition Centre

Throughout the year, Te Kōputu remained a vibrant hub for locals and visitors, catering to a wide range of public needs - from printing and research to recreational reading, skill development, and community connection. Peak daily foot traffic reached nearly 700 in October, boosted by events such as the Eastern Bay Road Safety Amazing Race.

A rich programme of activities were delivered over the year including Hā Kākano preschool storytime, school holiday programmes, the Raumati Reading Challenge, and Read4Plenty, which supported literacy and learning across different groups.

Over 250 tamariki visited Edgecumbe, Murupara, and Whakatāne libraries during the Easter break, creating a wonderful celebration of creativity and community connection. These activities were well received by participants, caregivers, and regular library patrons. Children transformed the main library spaces into hubs of imagination and discovery through engaging activities such as the Monster Mash Lego session, tote bag workshop, and the Dr. Seuss Escape Room. These activities encouraged problem-solving and teamwork.

Celebrating te ao Māori

Te ao Māori was celebrated and showcased through a diverse programme of events and exhibitions that honour Māori perspectives, stories, and creativity. During the year Te Kōputu celebrated Matariki ki Whakatāne Rohe and Te Wiki o te reo Māori, offering educational resources and providing opportunities for community connection. Three exhibitions - Toka Tū, Kawa Mate, and E Hoki Mai Nei ki Te Ūkaipō- honoured resilience, memory, and the transformative power of Toi Māori.

Other notable events

- The Molly Morpeth Canaday Award 2025, celebrating contemporary visual arts in Aotearoa with a prize pool exceeding \$25,000.
- A performance by senior music students from Trident High School during New Zealand Music Month, showcasing local musical talent.



Facility upgrades

Te Kōputu underwent key upgrades to improve accessibility, safety, and service delivery. Temporary closures in July 2024 and April 2025 enabled the completion of several enhancements, including floor levelling in staff areas, health and safety improvements to public toilets, and the installation of clearer wayfinding signage. A major change was the removal of the large front reception desk, which marked a shift toward a more flexible, customer-focused service model allowing staff to provide more personalised, roaming support across the library. The closure periods provided an opportunity for a full collection stocktake and reorganising of materials to enhance workflow. These changes have enhanced the library experience and allowed staff to provide more personalised support across the space, ensuring Te Kōputu continues to be a welcoming, engaging hub for our communities.

Te Kōputu by the numbers

160,400

items issued

1,755

attendees enjoyed
the weekly
Hā Kākano storytime

157

activities from gallery
openings and kaumātua
workshops to holiday activities
and reading programmes

Constellation Creative Hub

In September 2024, the Council opened registrations of interest to lease 266 The Strand - known locally as the 'Wally Sutherland Building'. This followed a feasibility study recommending a "Constellation Creative Hub" model. Feedback from the Long Term Plan confirmed strong community support for transforming the site into a vibrant space that celebrates the district's unique cultural identity and its arts tourism potential.

In June 2025, the Council announced Ātea, a dynamic creative hub, would be established by Te Ahi Tahutahu Charitable Trust. Led by Tame Iti and supported by a dedicated volunteer base, the trust brings artistic excellence, cultural authenticity, and proven project delivery. Ātea will foster innovation, collaboration, and community connection, working alongside Te Kōputu and Te Whare Taonga o Taketake to position Whakatāne as a nationally significant cultural destination. The hub is set to open next year, promising lasting social, cultural, and economic benefits for the district.




Chorus Cabinet Art Initiative

The Chorus Cabinet Art Initiative continues to bring colour and creativity to the Whakatāne District by transforming plain telecommunications cabinets into vibrant public artworks. This creative partnership between Chorus and the Council provides a platform for local artists to showcase their talents while contributing to the beautification of public spaces. Many designs reflect the stories and character of the neighbourhoods they are in, supporting community identity and pride. The initiative also helps deter vandalism, such as tagging, by turning infrastructure into celebrated art pieces. In 2024, two new cabinets- one in Coastlands and one in Ōhope were selected for artistic transformation. Artists submitted designs, with successful applicants receiving remuneration based on cabinet size. Completed artworks are featured on the Chorus website and may be included in the annual Chorus Cabinet Art Calendar, which is distributed internationally. This initiative continues to support local creativity, foster community pride, and bring storytelling into everyday public spaces.

How we performed

Ā mātau mahi

- 1 out of 1 measure (100%) achieved for arts and culture.
- High satisfaction reported with district libraries and Whakatāne Exhibition Centre.
- Slight decrease in residents visiting arts and culture facilities, providing insights to guide future engagement and programming.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (HOW WE WILL MEASURE OUR SERVICE DELIVERY)	2025	2024	2023	MARGIN OF ERROR	TARGET
User satisfaction with art and culture services in the Whakatāne District (Te Whare Taonga o Taketake - Whakatāne Museum and Research Centre, district libraries, Te Kōputu a te Whanga a toi - Whakatāne Library and Exhibition Centre). (RSS)	83% 	81% 	84% 	N/A	• 78% 2025 • 77% 2024 • 77% 2023
	<p><i>Comment: In 2025, 1-in-5 respondents (22%) reported visiting district libraries (down from 29% in 2024 and 25% in 2023). Among users, satisfaction has remained at a consistently high level in recent years – currently the sixth-highest rated service/facility in 2025 (81%), and just above the national benchmark.</i></p> <p><i>1-in-4 residents (26%) in 2025 reported visiting the Whakatāne Exhibition Centre (down from 31% in 2024), satisfaction remained high among exhibition centre visitors in 2025 (86%) – this was the highest-rated service/facility in 2025.</i></p> <p><i>Note: Aggregated results are average scores of other calculated measures. Unlike other resident satisfaction survey measures in this report, aggregated results are not directly collected from the population and do not have margin of errors.</i></p>				

(RSS) - Result sourced from the residents satisfaction survey.

LEGEND

Achieved

Not achieved
(but within MOE ±%)

Not achieved

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT
 Te Pūrongo ā-tau Te Kaunihera ā-rohe o Whakatāne

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What these activities cost and how they were paid for

Te utu o ēnei ngohe, ā, i pēhea i whakaea

FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENT ARTS AND CULTURE WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025	LONG TERM PLAN 2023/24 \$000*	LONG TERM PLAN 2024/25 \$000	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$000
OPERATIONAL			
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	-	4,213	4,043
Targeted rates	-	-	-
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	13	13
Fees and charges	-	11	9
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other	-	25	173
Sources of operating funding (A)	-	4,261	4,239
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	-	2,216	1,935
Finance costs	-	161	150
Internal charges and overheads applied	-	1,892	1,854
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Applications of operating funding (B)	-	4,269	3,939
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	-	(8)	300
CAPITAL			
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	198
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	-	60	(76)
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Sources of capital funding (C)	-	60	122
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
- to improve level of service	-	42	201
- to replace existing assets	-	116	140
Increase (decrease) in reserves	-	(106)	81
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding (D)	-	52	422
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	-	8	(300)
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	-	-	-

* Arts and Culture is a new activity in the Long Term Plan 2024-34

Capital Expenditure - Arts and Culture

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET 2024/25 \$	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$	VARIANCE \$
Better Off Funding - Hono Hapori community outreach	-	198,221	(198,221)
Arts and culture other projects/renewals consolidated	158,362	142,791	15,571
Total group capital expenditure	158,362	341,012	(182,650)

Comment: District wide capital works took place, and the Hono Hapori project was completed using the Better Off Funding provision through the Department of Internal Affairs.



DISTRICT PARTNERSHIPS *Ngā kōtuituinga i te rohe*

Activities in this group:

- Strategic Māori relationships
- Community development
- Community and road safety

This group of activities helps advance the Whakatāne District towards greater fairness, equity, and inclusivity, ensuring communities are at the heart of decision making.

Māori relationships have a critical role in ensuring the council delivers on our Te Tiriti o Waitangi obligations and responsibilities. Council recognises the huge role iwi and hapū play in the social, environmental, cultural and economic future of the district. This activity fosters pride, preserves traditions, and supports community-led initiatives, whilst progressing opportunities for iwi and hapū to have greater input into council decision making. Council's commitment and resourcing is a step to reflect the important role iwi and hapū play in unlocking the Māori economy.

Community development ensures we fulfil our social wellbeing obligations while empowering communities to articulate and achieve their aspirations. Community and road safety initiatives foster participation and responsible behaviours. They help to protect pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists, ensuring safer journeys for everyone.

Contribution to community outcomes



**Strong, connected,
interdependent,
diverse communities**



**Constructively and
collaboratively
engaging with iwi,
hapū and whānau**

Alignment with strategic priorities



**Enhancing the safety, wellbeing,
and vibrancy of communities**
– *Me mātua whakanui i te marutau,
te oranga, me te wana o ngā hapori*

- Support our smaller and remote communities to plan for their future – what changes should occur in the area and when, all across the district. And invest in making these changes happen.
- Work with other agencies and community organisations to focus on social wellbeing outcomes (such as health, homelessness, and safety).
- Increase safety for people moving around the district (e.g. Community Safety Cameras, good lighting, multi-modal transport, accessibility for people with disabilities).

What's happened this year?

I ahatia i tenei tau?

Strategic Māori relationships

We are committed to working alongside iwi, hapū and whānau to achieve better outcomes for our communities. With Māori comprising 48.6 % of the district's population, many based in some of Aotearoa New Zealand's most remote communities, we take an inclusive, equitable approach that ensures Māori voices are heard and embedded into decision-making.

STATISTICS – NGĀ TATAURANGA



48.6 percent* of the population in the Whakatāne District is Māori.



There are eight settled iwi and 81 hapū in the district.

*Source: 2023 New Zealand Census, Stats NZ

Te Toi Waka Whakarei (Māori Relationship Strategy)

Implementation of Te Toi Waka Whakarei (the Council's Māori relationship strategy), is strengthening relationships with iwi, hapū, and whānau. The strategy focuses on:

- Building trusted relationships
- Upholding Te Tiriti o Waitangi commitments
- Partnering on key initiatives
- Growing our cultural capability

These principles are becoming embedded across our policies and culture, helping foster trust and meaningful participation in decision-making.

Murupara Reorua

During the year, we partnered with Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Manawa to establish Murupara as an official reorua/bilingual township. Murupara Reorua acknowledges Ngāti Manawa as mana whenua of Murupara, and the importance of their language, protocols, and history. The initiative encourages te reo Māori to be seen, spoken and celebrated daily through bilingual signage, storytelling, public spaces, and workshops. It is supported by the national Aotearoa Reorua programme.

Noho Marae

In May, around 30 staff had the privilege of staying at Ruaihona Marae in Te Teko, generously hosted by Ngāi Tamaoki and Ngāti Awa. Staff were welcomed with warmth and manaakitanga, and the opportunity to engage with the marae, its people, and its stories left a lasting impression. This immersive experience deepened staff awareness of te ao Māori and tikanga, strengthened connections to local communities, and built greater cultural confidence across the organisation.

Iwi engagement wānanga

The Toi Kōtuia team and staff participated in a wānanga with the Principal Advisor of Te Aro Pū, a strategic advice and critical analysis consultancy. The wānanga encouraged reflection on past work, identified what's working well, and explored how to improve practice. These learnings are helping to strengthen the quality and depth of iwi engagement going forward.

Community development

Keeping communities connected: Matatā Community Plan

This year, the Matatā Collective, with our support, completed a community plan for their area. The plan represents a significant amount of mahi by the collective, made up of local groups and residents, and sets out the actions the community will begin delivering over the coming year. Community plans also progressed in Edgumbe, Awatapu-Ōtamakaokao, Coastlands-Piripai and Murupara, with a pre-planning exercise underway in Tāneatua.

Celebrating and acknowledging diversity equity and inclusion

On 6 March 2025, the Living Together Committee adopted a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Policy. The policy aims to strengthen social cohesion by embedding DEI into our work and daily interactions. It affirms our commitment to fostering a sense of belonging, ensuring marginalised and minority communities are represented in decision-making, and building relationships grounded in empathy, compassion and respect.



Community and road safety

Eastern Bay of Plenty road safety programme

The Road Safety Programme is overseen by the Eastern Bay of Plenty Road Safety Operations Group, a joint committee of the Council. Meeting bi-monthly, its membership includes councillors and staff from the three district councils, NZ Police, and other organisations passionate about road safety. The programme focuses on five key areas aimed at reducing deaths and serious injuries on our roads; young drivers, cycling, motorcycling, restraints, and fatigue. A range of activities, education and practical training were delivered this year, each targeting these focus areas. Despite reduced funding this year, the programme delivered a full calendar of education, activities, and practical training in partnership with multiple agencies, sponsors, volunteers, and supporters.

New Year's Day fatigue stops

The annual New Year's Day fatigue stops in Matatā and Ōpōtiki once again encouraged (mainly) young drivers returning from Rhythm and Vines to pull over for a rest. More than 1,000 sausages and drinks were given away by volunteers, alongside kōrero with travellers. The event featured on One News and contributed to a safe start to the year, with no major crashes or injuries reported in the district that day.

Revved Up motorcycle safety event

Motorcyclists remain significantly over-represented in road fatalities, and the Revved Up event provided riders with hands-on opportunities to improve their skills. Run in partnership with Underwood and Wilkins Motorcycles, highlights included live demonstrations, a skills race with certified trainers and opportunities to sign up for the ACC-supported Ride Forever programme.

Rangatahi Road Safety Roadshow

Across three days, 254 rural students from Murupara Area School, Te Wharekura o Rūātōki, and Rangitāiki High School engaged in interactive activities covering distractions, restraints, impaired driving, and motorcycle awareness. Delivered in partnership with NZ Police, iwi groups, and safety organisations, the roadshow was well received by students and teachers.

Summer Road Safety Roadshow

Over summer, the Community Partnerships team visited seven smaller communities across the Eastern Bay. Dressed in their signature orange vests, the team used interactive games and giveaways to spark kōrero on drink and drug driving, seatbelt use, and speed. Standout moments included a warm welcome from hapū in Ruatāhuna and strong engagement with Tūhoe Hauora in Tāneatua. The debut of the Ki Uta – Honoa Hapori van also strengthened connections between the Council and communities.

Edgecumbe's Amazing Race





On the first day of the April 2025 school holidays, around 100 whānau across 24 teams took part in Edgecumbe's Amazing Race. The event, hosted by the Edgecumbe Collective with support from the Eastern Bay Road Safety Group and the Council, featured safety-themed challenges and community-focused activities. Alongside prizes and kai, locals were surveyed on their views of the community, with feedback feeding into the upcoming update of the Edgecumbe Community Plan.


How we performed

Ā mātau mahi

- 1 out of 2 measures (50%) achieved for district partnerships.
- Cultural training delivered to improve staff cultural competency.
- Increase in the number in fatalities or serious injuries on our roads despite a robust road safety programme.

Performance measure for

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (HOW WE WILL MEASURE OUR SERVICE DELIVERY)	2025	2024	2023	MARGIN OF ERROR	TARGET
Strategic Māori Relationships activity Progress on the Māori Relationship Strategy (New measure)	Achieved 	N/A*	N/A	N/A	Deliver Te Kahupapa annual training. Deliver health check of iwi relationships survey.
<i>Comment: Te Kahupapa was delivered through noho marae and te reo classes for staff. The Council received the health check of the iwi relationships survey in June 2025.</i> <i>*This strategy was not reported on prior to the Long Term Plan 2024-34</i>					
Performance measure for community and road safety The change from the previous year in the number of fatalities and serious injury crashes on the local road network, expressed as a number (M)	33 crashes  10 more than the previous year	23 crashes  2 Less than the previous year	25 crashes  2 more than the previous year	N/A	Fewer crashes than the previous year
<i>Comment: Despite a significant drop in funding for road safety awareness events, activities and advertising this year, we continued to facilitate a robust road safety programme throughout the sub-region, partly though increasing partnerships and sponsorships. The rise in serious injury crashes is disappointing. The immediate causal factors of serious crashes are relatively easy to define; however, the underlying determinants are more complex and include societal factors beyond the scope of this programme.</i>					

LEGEND  **Achieved**  **Not achieved**
(but within MOE ±%)  **Not achieved**

(M) - This performance measure is mandatory for all councils to report on, set under the ‘non-financial performance measures rules 2024’ in accordance with section 261b of the Local Government Act 2002.

What these activities cost and how they were paid for

Te utu o ēnei ngohe, ā, i pēhea i whakaea

FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENT DISTRICT PARTNERSHIPS WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025	LONG TERM PLAN 2023/24* \$000	LONG TERM PLAN 2024/25 \$000	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$000
OPERATIONAL			
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	-	3,098	2,973
Targeted rates	-	-	-
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	939	765
Fees and charges	-	-	-
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	140	24
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other	-	26	148
Sources of operating funding (A)	-	4,203	3,909
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	-	2,970	2,381
Finance costs	-	-	-
Internal charges and overheads applied	-	1,232	1,158
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Applications of operating funding (B)	-	4,203	3,539
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	-	-	371
CAPITAL			
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	-	-	-
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Sources of capital funding (C)	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
- to improve level of service	-	-	-
- to replace existing assets	-	42	-
Increase (decrease) in reserves	-	(42)	371
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding (D)	-	-	371
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	-	-	(371)
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	-	-	-

* District Partnerships is a new activity in the Long Term Plan 2024-34

Capital Expenditure - District Partnerships

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET 2024/25 \$	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$	VARIANCE \$
CCTV phase 2	42,230	-	42,230
Total group capital expenditure	42,230	-	42,230

Comment: The CCTV Phase 2 project was superceded by other CTV work.

AQUATIC CENTRES *Ngā puna kauhoe*

Activities in this group:

- Aquatic centres

Providing safe, affordable, and accessible places to swim and exercise is an important way we support community wellbeing. Our aquatic centres give people opportunities to focus on their health, build swimming skills, and take part in a range of recreational programmes across the Whakatāne District.



Contribution to community outcomes



**Strong, connected,
interdependent,
diverse communities**

Alignment with strategic priorities



**Enhancing the safety, wellbeing and
vibrancy of communities**

**– *Me mātua whakanui i te marutau, te oranga,
me te wana o ngā hapori***

- Invest wisely in recreation, events, and the arts to have a broader range of ‘things to do’ (especially for our youth).



What's happened this year?

I ahatia i tenei tau?

Whakatāne Aquatic Centre

Whakatāne Aquatic and Fitness Centre annual shutdown

In May, the Whakatāne Aquatic and Fitness Centre closed for three weeks for scheduled maintenance and improvement works. This planned closure delivered essential upgrades to ensure the long-term safety, functionality, and enjoyment of the popular community facility.

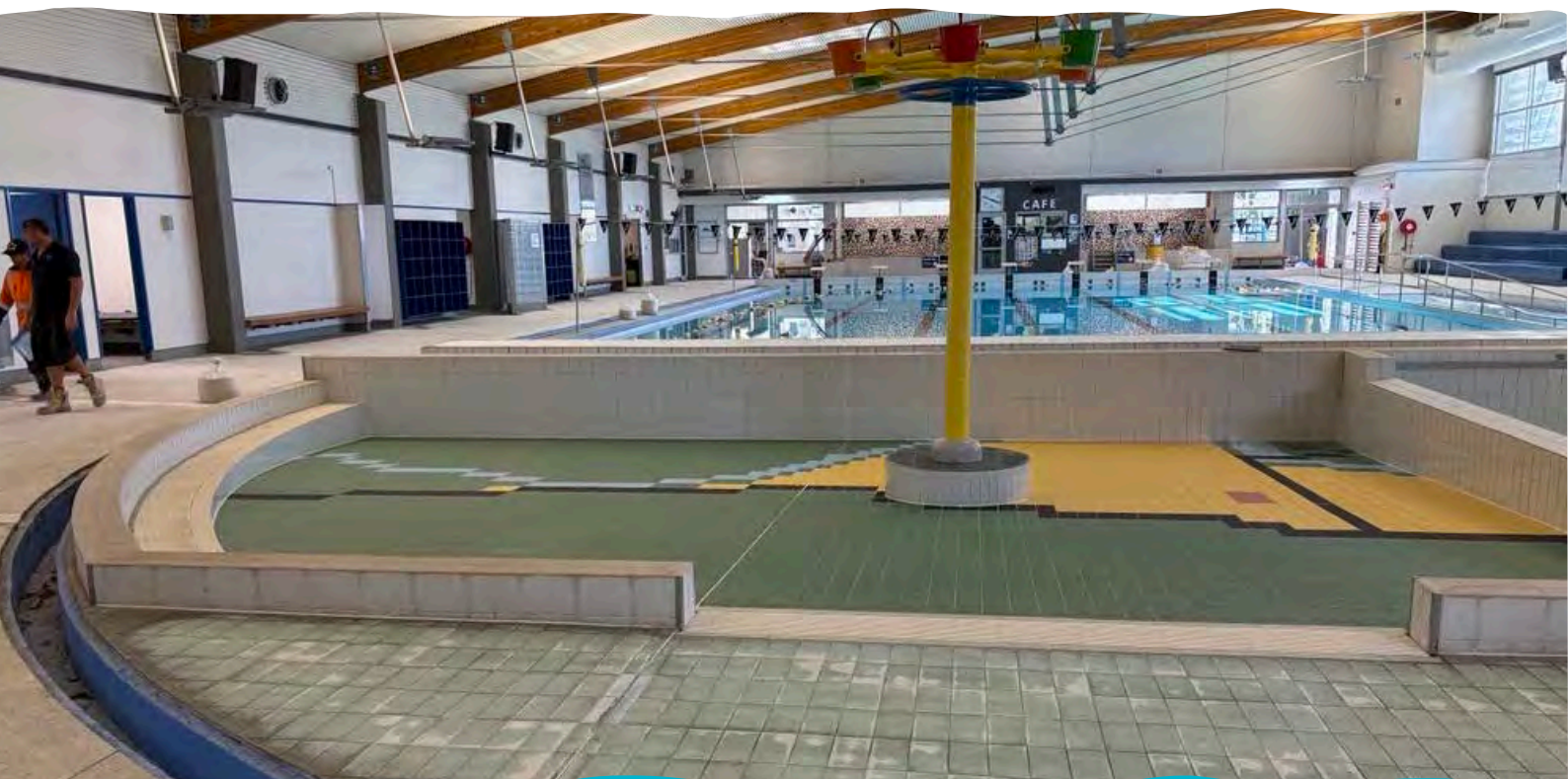
The comprehensive work programme included resurfacing the main hall flooring, repainting internal spaces, structural maintenance in the outdoor pool area, rebuilding all main circulating pumps, replacing the chlorine storage system, servicing UV and dosing systems, upgrading air handling units, and installing energy-efficient outdoor pool covers. The outdoor pool cover was fully funded by a grant from Trust Horizon, leading to significant energy savings and contributing to our climate change targets.

Wet n Wild Waiōtahe

For six weeks in Term 1, our swim school team delivered water safety lessons at Waiōtahe Valley School. This outreach programme highlights our commitment to ensuring tamariki across the wider district have access to quality water safety education, no matter their location.

Poolsafe certification - excellence recognised




Both the Murupara and Whakatāne facilities successfully renewed their Poolsafe certifications following annual audits. This achievement reflects the dedication of our aquatic teams and confirms our commitment to the highest standards of safety, supervision, and water quality.



How we performed

Ā mātau mahi

- 0 out of 1 measure (0%) achieved.
- The result was within the margin of error for aquatic centres.
- High satisfaction with the district pools, although a slight decline in the number of visits reported.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (HOW WE WILL MEASURE OUR SERVICE DELIVERY)	2025	2024	2023	MARGIN OF ERROR	TARGET
User satisfaction with public swimming pools in the Whakatāne District. (RSS)	76% 	77% 	81% 	+6%	77%
	<p><i>Comment: 1-in-5 residents (22%) reported visiting a district swimming pool in 2025 (down from 32% in 2024, but similar to 26% in 2023 and 25% in 2022).</i></p> <p><i>Satisfaction among pool users in 2025 (76%) remained high and consistent with recent years – and now 20%-points above the national benchmark.</i></p>				

(RSS) - Result sourced from the residents satisfaction survey.

LEGEND  Achieved  Not achieved (but within MOE ±%)  Not achieved



What these activities cost and how they were paid for *Te utu o ēnei ngohe, ā, i pēhea i whakaea*

FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENT AQUATIC CENTRES WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025	LONG TERM PLAN 2023/24* \$000	LONG TERM PLAN 2024/25 \$000	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$000
OPERATIONAL			
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	-	2,782	2,670
Targeted rates	-	-	-
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	-
Fees and charges	-	1,105	1,005
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other	-	-	108
Sources of operating funding (A)	-	3,887	3,783
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	-	2,480	2,672
Finance costs	-	324	257
Internal charges and overheads applied	-	1,179	1,176
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Applications of operating funding (B)	-	3,983	4,105
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	-	(96)	(322)
CAPITAL			
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	-	954	792
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Sources of capital funding (C)	-	954	792
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	-	-	200
- to improve level of service	-	569	113
- to replace existing assets	-	327	315
Increase (decrease) in reserves	-	(38)	(159)
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding (D)	-	858	469
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	-	96	322
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	-	-	-

* Aquatic Centres is a new activity in the Long Term Plan 2024-34

Capital Expenditure - Aquatic Centres

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET 2024/25 \$	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$	VARIANCE \$
Whakatāne aquatics new office and training space	-	32,968	(32,968)
Whakatāne AHU 1,2,3	526,845	69,585	457,260
Whakatāne ablutions	42,148	10,824	31,324
Aquatic centres other projects/renewals consolidated	326,644	515,216	(188,572)
Total group capital expenditure	895,637	628,594	267,043

Comment: Major maintenance works were completed this year including the installation of Degadur flooring within the aquatic centre. The air handling unit install is partially completed with the remainder due to be completed in the 25/26 year, dependent on supply chain.

EVENTS AND TOURISM

Ngā pāpono me te ahumahi tāpoi

Activities in this group:

- Visitor information
- Marketing and events

This group of activities provides an important link between visitors and local businesses to improve experiences for visitors to the district. It encourages our visitors to experience the whole district and to stay longer, enjoying what the district has to offer. Marketing and events aim to foster and enhance community vibrancy and social wellbeing and help create a place where people want to live, work and play.



Contribution to community outcomes



**Strong, connected,
interdependent,
diverse communities**



**Thriving circular
economies**

Alignment with strategic priorities



**Enhancing the safety, wellbeing and
vibrancy of communities**

**– Me mātua whakanui i te marutau, te oranga, me
te wana o ngā hapori**

- Invest wisely in recreation, events, and the arts to have a broader range of ‘things to do’ (especially for our youth).



**Facilitating economic regeneration and
responding to development pressures**

**– Me mātua whakahaere i te tipuranga o te
taiōhanga me ngā tonotono whare**

- Back our economy, in particular the tourism and events sectors, to enable economic and employment growth and attract new business and investment into the District.

What's happened this year?

I ahatia i tenei tau?

Throughout the 2024/25 year, our events team supported and delivered a diverse calendar of activities that brought people together, supported local business, and celebrated the unique spirit of our district.

Light Up Whakatāne

Held from 26 July to 4 August 2024, the Light Up Whakatāne festival transformed the town centre into a vibrant hub of creativity and community connection. Over ten nights, local and regional artists showcased light-based installations and digital displays, encouraging winter visitation to the town centre. Around 10,000 visitors attended. Delivered in partnership with Arts Whakatāne, EPIC Whakatāne Town Centre, and the Council, the event received generous support from sponsors, particularly Trust Horizon.

Eastern Bay Olympians Civic Parade

Eastern Bay Olympians were honoured at an event held on 26 November 2024 at Rex Morpeth Park. The event drew an estimated 1,000 spectators, including school children and sports groups, who gathered to celebrate Dame Lisa Carrington, Stacey Waaka, and Hayden Wilde who arrived in open top vehicles. The athletes shared inspiring stories, reflecting on their journeys and motivating the next generation of sportspeople. The parade was praised for its strong community spirit and seamless delivery.

Local Wild Food Festival

Held on 22 February 2025 at Mahy Reserve, Ōhope, over 2,500 people enjoyed live entertainment, cooking demonstrations and more than 20 food vendors offering exclusive local wild menu items.







The Local Wild Food Challenge was once again a finalist in the New Zealand Event Awards, nominated in two categories: Best Local Government Event and Best Event or Not-for-Profit Event. Winners will be revealed on 2 September 2025. Other highlights from the year include:

- 37th annual Whakatāne Touch Tournament - thousands of participants and spectators enjoyed a high-quality weekend competition.
- Te Urewera Heartland Ride - 50 cyclists rode Nature's Road over Anniversary Weekend, hosted by Tūhoe and the Te Urewera community, celebrating the area's designation as a Great Ride of the New Zealand Cycle Trail.
- Farming Like Grandad (Te Teko) - a unique gathering drawing motorhome enthusiasts from across the country, offering a nostalgic glimpse into traditional farming practices and a fun family day out.
- West End Wiggle (Ōhope) - the fourth year of this surf and arts festival brought competitors and spectators from across the country to ride the waves at West End.
- Flavours of Plenty - part of the Bay of Plenty Regional Food Festival, this event served up a feast of experiences, from markets and workshops to one-of-a-kind dining events. A highlight was the Tamariki Foodie Fair at Wharfside Port Ōhope.

How we performed

Ā mātau mahi

- 0 out of 2 measures (0%) were achieved for events and tourism.
- Uncertainty was high within the community about the Council’s role in events and tourism and a downward trend in resident satisfaction has been identified.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (HOW WE WILL MEASURE OUR SERVICE DELIVERY)	2025	2024	2023	MARGIN OF ERROR	TARGET
Satisfaction with efforts to promote tourism. (RSS)	47% 	52% 	60% 	±5%	63%
	Comment: In 2025, 2-in-3 respondents (67%) were able to rate the Council’s support of tourism promotion. Just under half (47%) of these residents were satisfied with this service (5.4 average rating). There has been an ongoing downward trend measured since 2021.				
Satisfaction with efforts to enable and promote events. (RSS)	45% 	56% 	60% 	±5%	61%
	Comment: In 2025, 3-in-4 residents (75%) rated council’s efforts to enable and promote events; with uncertainty still high within the community (25% unsure, 28% in 2024). Under half (45%) of residents who provided a rating were satisfied with event promotion (average rating 5.3). There has been an ongoing downward trend since 2023, and this result is below the national benchmark.				

(RSS) - Result sourced from the residents satisfaction survey.

LEGEND
  Achieved
  Not achieved (but within MOE ±%)
  Not achieved

What these activities cost and how they were paid for *Te utu o ēnei ngohe, ā, i pēhea i whakaea*

FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENT EVENTS AND TOURISM WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025	LONG TERM PLAN 2023/24* \$000	LONG TERM PLAN 2024/25 \$000	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$000
OPERATIONAL			
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	-	933	895
Targeted rates	-	1,307	1,304
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	65
Fees and charges	-	23	11
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other	-	21	181
Sources of operating funding (A)	-	2,284	2,456
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	-	1,763	1,683
Finance costs	-	-	-
Internal charges and overheads applied	-	697	695
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Applications of operating funding (B)	-	2,460	2,378
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	-	(177)	79
CAPITAL			
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	17
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	-	-	-
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Sources of capital funding (C)	-	-	17
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
- to improve level of service	-	-	21
- to replace existing assets	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in reserves	-	(177)	74
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding (D)	-	(177)	95
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	-	177	(79)
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	-	-	-

* Events and Tourism is a new activity in the Long Term Plan 2024-34

Capital Expenditure - Events and Tourism

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET 2024/25 \$	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$	VARIANCE \$
isite refurbishment - 144 The Strand	-	20,869	(20,869)
Total group capital expenditure	-	20,869	(20,869)

Comment: 144 The Strand was refurbished to house the isite. This was unbudgeted and was funded from the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment (MBIE) tourism grant.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Te whakawhanake taiōhanga

Activities in this group:

- Economic development
- Strategic property

This group of activities contributes to a thriving district. The economic development team aims to stimulate growth and create employment and business opportunities in the Whakatāne district. It focuses on leveraging existing relationships and procurement approaches to attract new business and investment, with particular attention to development opportunities, the Māori economy, and key sectors like tourism, aquaculture, boat building, and agriculture. The strategic property team looks after all of the Council's commercial and harbour board property and leases, and manages property regeneration and strategic development projects.



Contribution to community outcomes



Strong, connected, interdependent, diverse communities



Integrating nature into our decision making



Thriving circular economies



Constructively and collaboratively engaging with iwi, hapū and whānau

Alignment with strategic priorities



Enhancing the safety, wellbeing, and vibrancy of communities

– *Me mātua whakanui i te marutau, te oranga, me te wana o ngā hapori*

- Support our smaller and remote communities to plan for their future- what changes should occur in the area and when, all across the district. And invest in making these changes happen.



Facilitating economic regeneration and responding to development pressures

– *Me mātua whakahaere i te tipuranga o te taiōhanga me ngā tonotono whare*

- Back our economy, in particular the tourism and events sectors, to enable economic and employment growth and attract new business and investment into the district.



Strengthening relationships with iwi, hapū and whānau

– *Me mātua whakawhanake i ngā kōtuituinga ā-iwi, ā-hapū, ā-whānau anō hoki*

- Work with iwi, hapū and whānau, to improve equity and wellbeing outcomes.



Building climate change and natural hazard resilience, including our infrastructure

– *Me mātua whakakaha i te aumangea ki te huringa āhuarangi me ngā matepā taiao tae ana ki te hangaroto*

- Partner with at-risk communities about climate change adaptation and what this might mean for them (e.g. those communities which may be impacted by rising sea-levels, flooding).

What's happened this year?

I ahatia i tenei tau?

Strategic property

The strategic property team continues to manage over 150 council-owned leases, ensuring the community receives fair returns from council assets. In 2024/25, this included completing 11 harbour lease renewals and rent reviews, finalising nine new leases for council-owned buildings (including setting market rent), and finalising six new lease agreements for property at Whakatāne Airport. The team also reviewed all council-owned land to identify parcels suitable for potential future disposal and continued to provide expert advice to the Council on property, leases and potential property acquisitions.

Floodwall integration programme

Flooding is the most common natural hazard in Aotearoa New Zealand, with major flood events occurring on average every eight months. In response to climate change, communities across New Zealand need to adapt to meet the challenges of rising sea levels and more frequent, more significant heavy rainfall.

Project Future Proof, led by Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BOPRC) is a significant, multi-stage initiative to upgrade flood defences (stopbanks and floodwalls) in the Whakatāne town centre. Due to the floodwall upgrades, it was necessary to enhance public access and amenities along the riverfront. The Floodwall Integration Programme works alongside this project to achieve these improvements. Over the past year, all parties have collaborated to develop programme plans, project teams, and reporting structures to support successful delivery. Stage 1 works are complete, stages 2a and 2b are near completion, and planning for integration works in 2026 is underway. Floodwall design for Stage 3 (The Strand) is being developed by BOPRC with input from our strategic property and infrastructure teams.

Wharfside

The refurbished tourism and events hub at Port Ōhope proved popular with both visitors and the local community over the busy summer period. Several tourism businesses, food trucks and Mata Beer operated from the hub and reported a successful season. The refurbishment has also sparked interest in regular night markets, concerts and private bookings.



How we performed

Ā mātau mahi

- 0 out of 1 measure (0%) achieved for economic development.
- Low satisfaction with the Council’s efforts to attract and expand businesses.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (HOW WE WILL MEASURE OUR SERVICE DELIVERY)	2025	2024	2023	MARGIN OF ERROR	TARGET
Satisfaction with efforts to attract and expand business. (RSS)	33%	52%	53%	±6%	56%
	<p>Comment: Satisfaction with the Council’s efforts to attract and expand businesses took a knock in 2025, falling to a new historic low of 33% among residents providing a rating; significantly below 52% in 2024 and previous years’ levels.</p>				

(RSS) - Result sourced from the residents satisfaction survey.

LEGEND

Achieved

Not achieved
(but within MOE ±%)

Not achieved



What these activities cost and how they were paid for *Te utu o ēnei ngohe, ā, i pēhea i whakaea*

FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025	LONG TERM PLAN 2023/24* \$000	LONG TERM PLAN 2024/25 \$000	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$000
OPERATIONAL			
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	-	944	905
Targeted rates	-	224	214
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	19
Fees and charges	-	2,534	2,795
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	323	319
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other	-	26	61
Sources of operating funding (A)	-	4,050	4,314
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	-	1,518	1,662
Finance costs	-	55	44
Internal charges and overheads applied	-	1,138	1,114
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Applications of operating funding (B)	-	2,710	2,821
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	-	1,340	1,493
CAPITAL			
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	120
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	-	1,709	526
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	1,015	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Sources of capital funding (C)	-	2,724	646
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	-	-	192
- to improve level of service	-	1,300	275
- to replace existing assets	-	185	94
Increase (decrease) in reserves	-	2,579	1,577
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding (D)	-	4,064	2,139
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	-	(1,340)	(1,493)
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	-	-	-

* Economic Development is a new activity in the Long Term Plan 2024-34

Capital Expenditure - Economic Development

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET 2024/25 \$	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$	VARIANCE \$
Integration floodwall and building	1,300,055	275,487	1,024,567
Economic development other projects/renewals consolidated	185,066	285,902	(100,836)
Total group capital expenditure	1,485,120	561,389	923,731

Comment: The 'Integration floodwall and building' project faced some delays due to time taken to engage with multiple stakeholders. The project is now well underway and will continue into 2027. District wide capital works and renewals also progressed.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND RESILIENCE

Te huringa āhuarangi me te aumangea ki ngā take taiao

Activities in this group:

- Climate change
- Emergency management

This group of activities focuses on responding to and providing leadership in climate change mitigation and adaption. It also prepares our communities for natural events such as flooding, landslides, coastal erosion and inundation, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. With the district exposed to a range of natural hazards and having experienced a number of natural hazard events in recent history, this group plays a critical role in ensuring communities are resilient and well-prepared.



Contribution to community outcomes



**Strong, connected,
interdependent,
diverse communities**



**Integrating nature
into our decision
making**

Alignment with strategic priorities



Enhancing the safety, wellbeing, and vibrancy of communities
– *Me mātua whakanui i te marutau, te oranga,
me te wana o ngā hapori*

- Work with other agencies and community organisations to focus on social wellbeing outcomes (such as health, homelessness, and safety).



**Building climate change and natural hazard resilience,
including our infrastructure**
– *Me mātua whakakaha i te aumangea ki te huringa
āhuarangi me ngā matepā taiao tae ana ki te hangaroto*

- Ensure our key infrastructure (roads and pipes) are resilient to the effects of natural hazards and climate change.
- Partner with at-risk communities about climate change adaptation and what this might mean for them (e.g. those communities which may be impacted by rising sea-levels and flooding).
- Work with communities to ensure the district is well prepared for emergency management.



Shaping a green District – *Kia toitū te rohe*

- Be actively involved in reducing the district's carbon footprint and enabling alternative energies (e.g. solar farms).
- Advocate to central government on environmental issues on behalf of the community (e.g. apply for government funding and represent our local views).
- Ensure Council's decision making and operations reflect our environmental priorities.

What's happened this year?

I ahatia i tenei tau?

Solar panel project

In March 2025, funding was approved for the installation of solar panels on council facilities as part of our sustainability efforts. Installations began in June 2025 and were completed by October 2025. The dog pound, resource recovery centre, Whakatāne Water Treatment Plant and Civic Centre are the first council buildings to transition to grid-tied solar energy.

This project is funded through a Trust Horizon loan at 3.5% interest over 10 years, with projected energy savings expected to cover the cost. It supports our goals to reduce carbon emissions, lower energy costs, and build a more sustainable future.

New carbon accounting system

In February 2025, after a competitive tender process, Generate Zero was selected as our new carbon accounting system. This software enables more effective measurement and monitoring of carbon emissions, including at a business unit level. Additionally, Toitū was reconfirmed as our carbon auditor.

Forestry block plan

Also in February 2025, a forestry block plan was adopted. This plan outlines the management plan for the Council's four forestry blocks – Valley Road, Onepū, Mangamate and Eagle Hill. In 2024, the Valley Road trees were harvested, resulting in a one-off emissions increase of 2,917tco2e. The block is now being converted to indigenous forest. The plan supports biodiversity, increasing resilience, and helps protect our natural environment.

Natural hazard resilience










Preparing our communities for an emergency remained a key priority for the Council during the year. Continued engagement occurred with community teams, marae, iwi and hapū throughout the year to support training and familiarisation with new resources. Through the help of Better Off Funding emergency resources and supplies have been purchased. Approximately 95% of emergency resource caches have been received and deployed across communities. Resources and supplies include multi kai cookers, a mobile 60kva generator, and containers holding additional emergency supplies.

The establishment of an alternative Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), to be used by council staff if the Council Civic Centre building becomes inaccessible, was progressed during the year.



How we performed

Ā mātau mahi

- 2 out of 5 measures (40%) achieved for climate change and resilience.
- Council is well prepared, but more residents need to take action to prepare for an emergency.
- Targets were not met for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, with forest felling at Valley Road a contributing factor.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (HOW WE WILL MEASURE OUR SERVICE DELIVERY)	2025	2024	2023	TARGET
The Council will be prepared for and able to effectively respond to an emergency.	84% 	Advancing 	Advancing 	2025: 80% of EOC staff trained at an intermediate level 2024 and 2023: advancing
Comment: at the end of the financial year, 76 council staff were trained to an intermediate level. To get to 100%, the Council would need to train 90 staff.				
Percentage of residents that have an understanding of what consequences would be if a disaster struck in their area.	80.8% 	Results are provided every second year	87.5% 	80%
Percentage of residents that have taken any action to prepare for an emergency.	78.8% 	Results are provided every second year	87.5% 	80%
Comment: The Bay of Plenty disaster preparedness survey results suggest most respondents have a reasonable understanding of the types of disasters that could occur and its subsequent effects. However, the results highlight areas for improvement, particularly around households being more prepared.				
Reduction in gross greenhouse gas emissions for Whakatāne District Council organisation (excluding wastewater) compared to 2022/23 year** (New measure)	281% Increase 	38% increase	N/A	8% reduction 2022/23 result: 1,183.16tc02e (unaudited)
Comment: The total greenhouse gas emissions for the organisation came to 4,512.46tc02e. The forest felling at Valley Road contributed significantly to this total with a one-off increase in emissions (2917.92tc02e). The forest felling was carried out for health and safety and climate resilience reasons (reduce slip risk). This is considered a one-off event, and mitigation has been taken to offset this carbon source in the future by replanting in native vegetation which will commence in late 2025. Other factors that have contributed to not meeting target include the increase in the Ministry for the Environment imported electricity emission factor increase (we used a similar amount of kwh hours (7,030,320kwh) in the previous year, compared to the base year (7,057,037kwh). A full list of climate related disclosures is provided below.				
Reduction in gross greenhouse gas emissions for Whakatāne District Council wastewater treatment plant compared to 2022/23 year** (New measure)	1% reduction 	2% increase	N/A	2% reduction 2022/23 result: 2,219.00tc02e (unaudited)
Wastewater treatment data fluctuates depending on the year. The previous two years reflect lower rainfall years and therefore the 1% decrease could be considered a natural reduction.				

** The Council is committed to reducing its carbon emissions and has actions set within the Whakatāne Climate Pathway to achieve this. The emission sources included in this measure are selected based on the Council's ability to influence any emission reductions and what information is available to the Council to measure the emissions. We have chosen to measure our scope 1 and 2 emission sources and a selection of scope 3 sources. The scope 3 sources selected include air travel, waste sent to landfill from council facilities, and electricity and gas transmission and distribution losses. This means potentially significant emission sources such as carbon embodied in capital goods (e.g. roading material) are not measured. This is a Council only measure and does not include emissions generated from the wider group such as the Whakatāne Airport. This is a gross emission reduction measure and therefore does not take into consideration absorption of carbon through forestry nor the use of offsets. Over time the Council will continue to explore expanding the range of emission sources measures.

LEGEND  Achieved  Not achieved (but within MOE ±%)  Not achieved

Inventory summary July 2024 - June 2025

CATEGORY	SCOPE	FY 2025
Category 1: Direct emissions	Scope 1	2967.23
Category 1: Direct emissions- LULUCF	Scope 1	2917.92
Category 2: Indirect GHG emissions from imported energy	Scope 2	687.11
Category 3: Indirect GHG emissions from transportation	Scope 3	56.58
Category 4: Indirect GHG emission from products used by organisation	Scope 3	69.55
Category 5: Indirect emissions associated with the use of products from the organisation	Scope 3	0
Category 6: Indirect GHG emissions from other sources	Scope 3	0
Total direct emissions (tCO₂e)		5885.15
Total indirect emissions (tCO₂e)		813.24
Total gross emissions (tCO₂e)		6698.39
Category 1 direct removals		
Purchased emission reductions		
Total net emissions (tCO₂e)		6698.39

Standards used as a basis for measuring GHG emissions

Generate Zero is used as the carbon accounting system to record and manage the Council's emissions inventory.

These greenhouse gas emissions are audited by Toitū and recorded in an annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory report for the Council. The inventory is a complete and accurate quantification of the amount of GHG emissions that can be directly attributed to the organisation's operations within the declared boundary and scope for the specified reporting period. The inventory has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the ISO 14064-1:2018 specification with guidance at the organisation level for quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and removals.

Consolidation approach

An operational control consolidation approach was used to account for emissions. This means that the Council consolidated its GHG emissions from all sites and assets over which it has the authority to introduce and implement its operating policies.

The Council is involved in a broad range of services within the district. To facilitate best practice and efficiency, it is not always practical to have full authority over operational policies and procedures; rather it is best to have relevant industry experts to control these. In these circumstances, facilities may be provided while the services are contracted out to relevant experts. These experts are also best placed to reduce emissions themselves, as they have in-depth knowledge of their industry. As such, an operational control consolidation approach has been used to account for emissions.

Inclusions

Significance of emissions sources within the organisational boundaries has been considered in the design of this inventory. The significance criteria used comprise all direct emissions sources that contribute more than 1% of total category 1 and 2 emissions.

Exclusions

The below are the emissions sources which have been excluded from the Council's greenhouse gas inventory:

BUSINESS UNIT	GHG EMISSIONS SOURCE OR SINK	GHG EMISSIONS CATEGORY	REASON FOR EXCLUSION
Procurement	Emission source	Category 3	The Council does not collect data on this emission source. This data is outside of operational control. Some of the products purchased, particularly roading materials, will be significant emission sources.
Staff travel to work and work from home	Emission source	Category 3	The Council does not collect data on this emission source. A survey was completed in 2025 to estimate this data. Many assumptions were used within it. The data collected will not be able to inform decision making.
Airport Landings	Emission source	Category 3	Whakatāne District Council provides facilities for flights, including maintenance of the runway and terminal building. Council also ensures that the airport is compliant with Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand requirements. The scheduling of flights is determined solely by airline operators and is not influenced by Council. As such, Council does not have operational control over the emissions created from airport-flight activities.
Council Lease Land	Emission source	Category 3	Council currently owns several leasehold titles within the district. These titles are leased to various stakeholders, which are used for different purposes (commercial shops, farm/grazing land etc.). As such, Council does not have authority to control what tenants do with the land or property.
Waste (District)	Emission source		The waste management services are contracted to Waste Management – who collect waste and recycling material on behalf of Council for processing. Waste Management are experts and they are part of Toitū's Carbon reduce certification programme; as such, emissions from Waste Management's services in our district are not included by the Council. To avoid double counting of emissions, the council excludes waste management services for the district from this inventory.
Forest – Indigenous	Emission sink	Category 1	The forestry is pre-1990 and therefore cannot be included due to current guidelines.
Waste – Landfilled	Emission source	Category 1	Some facilities waste is excluded from this inventory such as the holiday parks or reserves. These are too hard to collect data on or used by the public and therefore it is outside of the organisation's boundary.

Methodologies

The sources of emissions factors and activity data are detailed in the Whakatāne District Council Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory 2024/25, section 8.3 on Page 24 of the report. Quantifying GHG emissions is subject to inherent uncertainty because the scientific knowledge and the methodologies to determine the emissions factors and processes to calculate or estimate quantities of GHG sources are still evolving, as are GHG reporting and assurance standards.



What these activities cost and how they were paid for *Te utu o ēnei ngohe, ā, i pēhea i whakaea*

FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENT CLIMATE CHANGE AND RESILIENCE WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025	LONG TERM PLAN 2023/24* \$000	LONG TERM PLAN 2024/25 \$000	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$000
OPERATIONAL			
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	-	774	743
Targeted rates	-	-	-
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	28
Fees and charges	-	-	-
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other	-	-	31
Sources of operating funding (A)	-	774	802
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	-	428	352
Finance costs	-	139	84
Internal charges and overheads applied	-	222	222
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Applications of operating funding (B)	-	790	658
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	-	(15)	143
CAPITAL			
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	145
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	-	15	(68)
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Sources of capital funding (C)	-	15	77
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
- to improve level of service	-	-	145
- to replace existing assets	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in reserves	-	-	75
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding (D)	-	-	221
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	-	15	(143)
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	-	-	-

* Climate Change and Resilience is a new activity in the Long Term Plan 2024-34

Capital Expenditure - Climate Change and Resilience

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET 2024/25 \$	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$	VARIANCE \$
Better Off Funding - emergency community resilience	-	145,344	(145,344)
Total group capital expenditure	-	145,344	(145,344)

Comment: This project will be completed in 2026; works are funded by the Better Off Funding provision through the Department of Internal Affairs.

LOCAL WATER DONE WELL REFORMS

Te whakahounga o ngā Wai ā-rohe

The Council continues to work through the local water done well (LWDW) suite of reforms set out by central government. New legislation applies to all water service delivery, including water supply, wastewater, and stormwater – with the aim to ensure every community has access to fully-funded safe, reliable, and sustainable water services. It also keeps assets in public ownership and lets each council decide the best option to deliver water for its community and being financially sustainable. LWDW is being implemented in three stages, each with its own piece of legislation – an overview is available on the Department of Internal Affairs [website](#).

As part of the LWDW reform, councils must review how water services are delivered. The reform sets new regulatory standards that all councils must meet and introduces mandatory planning and accountability requirements for new water organisations. The Council was required by the Local Government (water services preliminary arrangements) Act 2024 to consider and consult on at least two options for the future delivery model for water services.

Ahead of consultation, the Council ran an education campaign in March 2025 called **‘wai it matters’**. This campaign was designed to help the community better understand the essential work required to deliver clean drinking water, manage wastewater, and future-proof stormwater systems.

The Council consulted on two options for future water service delivery. These were joining a new water services organisation (multi-council CCO) and a standalone business unit. The formal consultation period for submissions opened on 17 April 2025 and closed 18 May 2025. The consultation process returned 84 submissions from a variety of organisations, iwi entities, groups, and individuals. Hearings were held on 5 June 2025.

On 26 June 2025 the Council decided that water services should be delivered by a stand-alone ring-fenced business unit, while continuing to work collaboratively with neighbouring councils to further investigate the benefits of a multi-council CCO. This aligned with the majority of the submissions received. Preliminary discussions are underway with Kawerau District Council, Ōpōtiki District Council, and Rotorua Lakes Council to explore the creation of a new water service delivery entity in the future.

In preparation for upcoming legislative changes, we will begin ring-fencing our water services business unit. Further investigation into the benefits of an eastern multi-council CCO, and potential establishment of an entity, is expected to take three years. Further consultation will occur through the 2027 Draft Long Term Plan, with establishment by 1 July 2028.

A water services delivery plan was adopted by the Council on the 14 August 2025 and was submitted to the Department of Internal Affairs on 1 September 2025. It was approved by the Department of Internal Affairs on 30 October 2025, with transition planning and implementation to follow. The new delivery model is required to be fully implemented and operational by 1 July 2028.



STORMWATER *Wai āwhā*

Activities in this group:

- Waters management
- Stormwater drainage

This group of activities helps protect people and property from flooding impacts and safeguards public health from the adverse effects of stormwater run-off. Since stormwater is discharged into streams, rivers, and coastal waters, ensuring it is as clean as possible is crucial. Although we do not treat stormwater run-off, we actively monitor stormwater discharge to ensure it meets required standards. Stopbanks are managed by Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Regional Council with the similar objective of preventing the impacts of flooding.

Contribution to community outcomes



**Integrating
nature into our
decision making**



**Constructively and
collaboratively
engaging with iwi,
hapū and whānau**

Alignment with strategic priorities



**Building climate change and natural hazard resilience,
including our infrastructure**

**– Me mātua whakakaha i te aumangea ki te huringa
āhuarangi me ngā matepā taiao tae ana ki te hangaroto**

- Ensure our key infrastructure (roads and pipes) are resilient to the effects of natural hazards and climate change.
- Partner with at-risk communities about climate change adaptation and what this might mean for them (e.g. those communities which may be impacted by rising sea-levels, flooding).



Shaping a green District

Kia toitū te rohe

- Ensure Council's decision-making and operations reflect our environmental priorities.



Strengthening relationships with iwi, hapū and whānau

**– Me mātua whakawhanake i ngā kōtuituinga ā-iwi,
ā-hapū, ā-whānau anō hoki**

- Enable iwi participation in planning, decision-making and reflect cultural aspirations through the projects we deliver (e.g. financial support, capability and design).

What's happened this year?

I ahatia i tenei tau?

Whakatāne consolidated stormwater consent

We applied to Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Regional Council for a comprehensive stormwater consent for Whakatāne township. This consent will consolidate multiple individual stormwater consents, allowing stormwater management to be coordinated on a catchment-wide basis. Six submissions were received, and the application is being prepared for hearing and decision by an independent commissioner appointed by Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Regional Council. This process will pave the way for similar comprehensive stormwater consents for other urban townships across the district.

Major stormwater projects

Key stormwater projects completed or underway included the Peace Street Sponge Reserve wetland and the Hinemoa stormwater pump station. The total investment in stormwater projects for the year was \$6.3 million.

Hinemoa stormwater pump station relocation and upgrade

Construction of the new Hinemoa pump station, with a discharge capacity of 6,500 litres per second, progressed well during the year, with completion expected in 2026. Horizon Energy completed the electrical connection and installation of the 300kva transformer. Stainless steel air vents were installed on the rising main, with filler collars placed around the rising main on the landward side of the stopbank and around the gravity outlet pipe. The pumice access track to the pump station was completed in June 2025, and the reinstatement of the James Street School field, including top soiling and hydroseeding, commenced, with completion expected in the following financial year.



How we performed

Ā mātau mahi

- 8 out of 8 measures (100%) achieved for stormwater.
- There were no flooding events for the year, and the Council met targets for median response times and number of complaints received.
- The Council complied with all resource consents for discharge from our stormwater system.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (HOW WE WILL MEASURE OUR SERVICE DELIVERY)	2025	2024	2023	MARGIN OF ERROR	TARGET
The number of flooding events that occur in the district. (M)	No flooding event 	No flooding event 	No flooding event 	N/A	Less than 3
<i>Note: The Department of Internal Affairs requires results for these measures to be presented according to the following definitions: 'flooding event' - an overflow of stormwater from a territorial authority's stormwater system that enters a habitable floor. 'Stormwater system' - the pipes and infrastructure (excluding roads) that collect and manage rainwater run-off, from the point of connection to the point of discharge.</i>					
For each flooding event, the number of habitable floors affected (expressed per 1,000 properties connected to the Council's stormwater system). (M)	No flooding event 	No flooding event 	No flooding event 	N/A	Less than 10
<i>Note: The Department of Internal Affairs requires results for these measures to be presented according to the following definitions: 'flooding event' - an overflow of stormwater from a territorial authority's stormwater system that enters a habitable floor. 'Stormwater system' - the pipes and infrastructure (excluding roads) that collect and manage rainwater run-off, from the point of connection to the point of discharge.</i>					
The median response time to attend a flooding event, measured from the time that the Council receives notification to the time that service personnel reach the site. (M)	Zero 	Zero 	Zero 	N/A	Less than 3 hours
The number of complaints received about the performance of the stormwater system, expressed per 1,000 properties connected to the council's stormwater system. (M)	9.63 	6.02 	8.50 	N/A	Less than 10
<i>The number of complaints recorded has increased compared to previous years, as the Council is now recording complaints in accordance with Department of Internal Affairs guidance. This means multiple complaints about the same issue will be counted individually rather than grouped.</i>					
Number of abatement notices received by the Council in relation to the resource consents for discharge from our stormwater system. (M)	Zero 	Zero 	Zero 	N/A	Zero
Number of infringement notices received by the Council in relation to the resource consents for discharge from our stormwater system. (M)	Zero 	Zero 	Zero 	N/A	Zero
Number of enforcement orders received by the Council in relation to the resource consents for discharge from our stormwater system. (M)	Zero 	Zero 	Zero 	N/A	Zero
Number of convictions received by the Council in relation to the resource consents for discharge from our stormwater system. (M)	Zero 	Zero 	Zero 	N/A	Zero

(M) - This performance measure is mandatory for all councils to report on, set under the 'non-financial performance measures rules 2024' in accordance with section 261b of the Local Government Act 2002.

LEGEND  Achieved  Not achieved (but within MOE ±%)  Not achieved

What these activities cost and how they were paid for *Te utu o ēnei ngohe, ā, i pēhea i whakaea*

FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENT STORMWATER WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025	LONG TERM PLAN 2023/24 \$000	LONG TERM PLAN 2024/25 \$000	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$000
OPERATIONAL			
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	320	342	328
Targeted rates	4,213	4,982	4,938
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	290
Fees and charges	-	-	-
Internal charges and overheads recovered	2,637	3,273	3,689
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other	-	-	85
Sources of operating funding (A)	7,170	8,597	9,330
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	3,706	4,359	5,052
Finance costs	627	1,199	955
Internal charges and overheads applied	1,036	1,939	2,126
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Applications of operating funding (B)	5,369	7,497	8,133
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	1,800	1,100	1,197
CAPITAL			
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
Development and financial contributions	18	4	2
Increase (decrease) in debt	3,171	2,324	3,383
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Sources of capital funding (C)	3,189	2,329	3,385
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	32	75	97
- to improve level of service	4,609	529	1,698
- to replace existing assets	3,584	4,249	4,515
Increase (decrease) in reserves	(3,235)	(1,424)	(1,729)
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding (D)	4,990	3,429	4,582
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	(1,800)	(1,100)	(1,197)
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	-	-	-

Capital Expenditure - Stormwater

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET 2024/25 \$	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$	VARIANCE \$
Whakatāne western catchment upgrade/renewal	2,304,899	3,048,122	(743,223)
Apanui linear park	-	217,543	(217,543)
Whakatāne stormwater- pipe upgrades	-	782,806	(782,806)
Whakatāne stormwater pump replacements	2,173,499	1,685,246	488,254
Ōhope stormwater - Maraetotara Stream	-	179,886	(179,886)
Ōhope stormwater upgrades	-	105,923	(105,923)
Ōhope comprehensive consents and upgrade	-	-	-
Ōhope capital upgrade comprehensive management plan	-	-	-
Edgecumbe comprehensive consent and upgrade	-	1,933	(1,933)
Tāneatua comprehensive consent and upgrade	-	5,491	(5,491)
Stormwater other projects/renewals combined	374,203	283,865	90,339
Total group capital expenditure	4,852,602	6,310,814	(1,458,212)

Comment: The Hinemoa Stormwater Upgrade has been delayed but will be completed in 2026. The comprehensive stormwater resource consents for Ōhope, Edgecumbe and Tāneatua has been delayed while the Whakatāne stormwater consent is decided by the Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Regional Council.



WASTEWATER

Te parakaingaki

Activities in this group:

- Trade waste
- Wastewater

This group of activities provides the district with safe, efficient and well-managed wastewater systems which are critical to managing public health and environmental risks in urban environments. We aim to provide services to collect, treat, and dispose of wastewater in a safe and sustainable way that protects public health and does not compromise ecosystems.

Contribution to community outcomes



Integrating nature into our decision making

Alignment with strategic priorities



Building climate change and natural hazard resilience, including our infrastructure
– Me mātua whakakaha i te aumangea ki te huringa āhuarangi me ngā matepā taiao tae ana ki te hangaroto

- Ensure our key infrastructure (roads and pipes) are resilient to the effects of natural hazards and climate change.
- Partner with at-risk communities about climate change adaptation and what this might mean for them (e.g. those communities which may be impacted by rising sea-levels, flooding).



Shaping a green District
Kia toitū te rohe

- Ensure Council's decision-making and operations reflect our environmental priorities.

What's happened this year?

I ahatia i tenei tau?

Matatā wastewater project

Finding a sustainable and effective wastewater solution for Matatā has been a key project over the past three years. The town does not have a reticulated wastewater system, with most properties relying on on-site septic tanks. High groundwater levels and proximity to waterways make many septic tank systems less effective and often unsuitable for the local environment. Following extensive technical investigation, research and community collaboration, work remains ongoing to identify a preferred solution for Matatā and the wider district. Effluent from ageing systems has been seeping into the land and waterways, posing risks to public health, the environment, and the cultural connection mana whenua has with their rohe. The project is guided by a genuine co-design approach, supported by Te Niaotanga o Mataatua o Te Arawa Co-Design Group and project technical team. In September 2024, the Council secured a 56-hectare property at 138 Caverhill Road for a future centralised wastewater treatment system on this site. This moves the project closer to the resource consent phase and a sustainable, community-wide solution.

Ferry Road wastewater pump station replacement and associated pipe network

The Ferry Road wastewater pump station, in operation for more than 60 years, was replaced during the year with work completed at the end of September 2024. Upgrades included:

- New chambers and pumps to handle higher wastewater flows and improve efficiency.
- A carbon filter to reduce odours.
- 1.3 kilometres of new piping to transport wastewater more effectively.

These improvements help manage heavy rainfall, reducing the risk of overflows in areas such as James Street.

Sewer pipeline refurbishments




























We continue to refurbish sewer pipes using a relining method. After cleaning, a flexible lining material is inserted into existing pipes, expanded internally, and cured using infrared technology. Lateral connections are reinstated, creating a renewed pipe with a service life exceeding 50 years - stronger, more durable, and cost-effective compared with traditional open excavation methods. Over the past year the following lengths of pipe were refurbished at a total investment of \$1.31 million:

- Whakatāne: 415 metres
- Edgecumbe: 1,532 metres
- Murupara: 2,064 metres

How we performed

Ā mātau mahi

- 8 out of 9 measures (89%) achieved for wastewater.
- Targets achieved for median response times and number of complaints received for sewerage overflows.
- Complied with all resource consents for discharge from our sewerage systems.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (HOW WE WILL MEASURE OUR SERVICE DELIVERY)	2025	2024	2023	MARGIN OF ERROR	TARGET
Satisfaction with the sewerage system for areas supplied by the Council.	74% 	75% 	77% 	±4%	75%
Comment: Although we missed our target by 1%, 3-in-4 (74%) residents who reported being connected to the Council's sewerage systems expressed satisfaction with the sewerage system (with an average rating of 7.3). This result has stayed stable in recent years.					
The total number of complaints received by the Council about any of the following: • sewage odour • sewerage system faults • sewerage system blockages, and • the Council's response to issues with its sewerage system, expressed per 1,000 connections to the Council's sewerage system. (M)	7.41 	8 	10.88 	N/A	Less than 40
Median response time to attend sewerage overflows resulting from a blockage or other fault in the Council's sewerage system, from the time the Council receives notification to the time that service personnel reach the site. (M)	0.62 hours 	0.51 hours 	0.67 hours 	N/A	Less than 2 hours
Median response time to resolve sewerage overflows resulting from a blockage or other fault in the Council's sewerage system, from the time the Council receives notification to the time that service personnel confirm resolution of the blockage or other fault. (M)	4.22 hours 	4.26 hours 	3.75 hours 	N/A	Less than 8 hours
Number of dry weather sewerage overflows from the Council's sewerage system, expressed per 1,000 sewerage connections to that sewerage system. (M)	1.15 	1.24 	0.86 	N/A	Less than 3 overflows
Number of abatement notices received by the Council in relation to the resource consents for discharge from our sewerage systems. (M)	Zero 	Zero 	Zero 	N/A	Zero
Number of infringement notices received by the Council in relation to the resource consents for discharge from our sewerage systems. (M)	Zero 	Zero 	Zero 	N/A	Zero
Number of enforcement orders received by the Council in relation to the resource consents for discharge from our sewerage systems. (M)	Zero 	Zero 	Zero 	N/A	Zero
Number of convictions received by the Council in relation to the resource consents for discharge from our sewerage systems. (M)	Zero 	Zero 	Zero 	N/A	Zero

(M) - This performance measure is mandatory for all councils to report on, set under the 'non-financial performance measures rules 2024' in accordance with section 261b of the Local Government Act 2002

LEGEND  Achieved  Not achieved (but within MOE ±%)  Not achieved

What these activities cost and how they were paid for *Te utu o ēnei ngohe, ā, i pēhea i whakaea*

FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENT WASTEWATER WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025	LONG TERM PLAN 2023/24 \$000	LONG TERM PLAN 2024/25 \$000	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$000
OPERATIONAL			
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	471	175	168
Targeted rates	5,457	6,428	6,385
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	-
Fees and charges	214	276	427
Internal charges and overheads recovered	149	27	83
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other	-	-	7
Sources of operating funding (A)	6,291	6,906	7,070
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	1,270	1,407	1,589
Finance costs	337	848	733
Internal charges and overheads applied	2,127	2,896	2,925
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Applications of operating funding (B)	3,734	5,151	5,247
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	2,557	1,755	1,823
CAPITAL			
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	2,347	-	-
Development and financial contributions	92	191	8
Increase (decrease) in debt	526	3,930	7,823
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Sources of capital funding (C)	2,965	4,120	7,831
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	14	34	77
- to improve level of service	3,433	1,488	6,036
- to replace existing assets	1,806	4,085	4,395
Increase (decrease) in reserves	267	268	(854)
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding (D)	5,521	5,875	9,654
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	(2,557)	(1,755)	(1,823)
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	-	-	-

Capital Expenditure - Wastewater

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET 2024/25 \$	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$	VARIANCE \$
Equalised sewer network renewals	1,446,774	1,477,156	(30,382)
Whakatāne wastewater discharge resource consent	750,000	401,273	348,727
Upgrade Whakatāne wastewater treatment plant	257,288	438,339	(181,052)
Edgecumbe wastewater relining	398,890	552,181	(153,291)
Matatā waste water scheme	1,133,255	5,347,932	(4,214,677)
Murupara wastewater discharge resource consents	650,000	18,132	631,868
Wastewater other projects/renewals consolidated	971,311	2,273,229	(1,301,918)
Total group capital expenditure	5,607,517	10,508,243	(4,900,726)

Comment: Most renewal and asset improvement projects were completed across Whakatāne and Edgecumbe. The Council purchased Tahi Hills Farm for the Matatā wastewater project (\$4.6M) which was unbudgeted. New resource consents for Whakatāne and Murupara were delayed due to uncertainty around the wastewater standards.





WATER SUPPLY

Te mātāpuna wai

Activities in this group:

- Water supply

This activity provides safe, reliable and sustainable water supply to the district. We currently supply more than 12,500 properties for domestic, industrial, commercial and agricultural use. With much of the district being rural, and in some cases isolated, many households rely on their own independent water systems. In addition to household and business needs, the Council water supply also provides for urban firefighting requirements.

Contribution to community outcomes



Integrating nature into our decision making



Constructively and collaboratively engaging with iwi, hapū and whānau

Alignment with strategic priorities



Building climate change and natural hazard resilience, including our infrastructure

– Me mātua whakakaha i te aumangea ki te huringa āhuarangi me ngā matepā taiao tae ana ki te hangaroto

- Ensure our key infrastructure (roads and pipes) are resilient to the effects of natural hazards and climate change.
- Partner with at-risk communities about climate change adaptation and what this might mean for them (e.g. those communities which may be impacted by rising sea-levels, flooding).



Shaping a green district

Kia toitū te rohe

- Ensure the Council's decision-making and operations reflect our environmental priorities.



Strengthening relationships with iwi, hapū and whānau

– Me mātua whakawhanake i ngā kōtuituinga ā-iwi, ā-hapū, ā-whānau anō hoki

- Enable iwi participation in planning, decision-making and reflect cultural aspirations through the projects we deliver (e.g. financial support, capability and design).

What's happened this year?

I ahatia i tenei tau?

Major water renewals and upgrades

In Whakatāne township, 3,300 metres of ageing water mains were renewed, along with hydrants, valves, service lines, and meters. We invested \$1.91 million to ensure a safer, more reliable water supply.

To improve service to the Edgecumbe and Te Teko areas, and to strengthen resilience and growth potential across the wider network, 3,800 metres of bulk water pipes were laid and the new 4,200 cubic metre Ōtūmahi reservoir was constructed. Commissioning is expected to occur in late 2025, with \$6 million invested in these works during the 2024-2025 year.







Our programme to upgrade and install new boundary backflow prevention devices has also commenced. These protect the water network by preventing potentially contaminated water from flowing back into the system if pressure drops in the main line. Following initial investigations, 180 devices were installed at a cost of \$750,000. This is an ongoing project prioritising high and medium risk properties, with many more installations planned.





How we performed

Ā mātau mahi

- 6 out of 12 measures (50%) achieved for water supply.
- Non-compliance with some parts of the new mandatory drinking water standards.
- Targets achieved for median response times for responding/attending callouts.
- Average consumption of drinking water targets were met for metered areas, but not for unmetered areas supplied by the Council.
- Targets for real water loss from council-networked reticulation system were not met for metered schemes, but were met for un-metered schemes.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (HOW WE WILL MEASURE OUR SERVICE DELIVERY)	2025	2024	2023	MARGIN OF ERROR	TARGET
The extent to which the Council’s drinking water supplies complies with part 4 of the drinking water standards (bacteria compliance criteria). (M)**	2 schemes compliant 	2 schemes compliant 	3 schemes compliant 	N/A	All schemes compliant of 9
	Comment: please refer to the assessment summary table for a breakdown of compliance by scheme.				
The extent to which the Council’s drinking water supplies complies with Part 5 of the drinking water standards (protozoal compliance criteria). (M)**	1 scheme compliant 	1 scheme compliant 	1 scheme compliant 	N/A	8 schemes compliant of 9
	Comment: Please refer to the assessment summary table for a breakdown of compliance by scheme.				

Disclosure: ** The Department of Internal Affairs updated this mandatory performance measure after Council had published the Long Term Plan 2024-34, which sets our Statement of Service. The updated measure still covers the bacterial and protozoal compliance of water supplies but now is directly referenced to the relevant rules in the Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules 2022 (DWQAR). Our reporting is, therefore, against the DWQAR rules. Drinking water quality assurance rules

LEGEND  Achieved  Not achieved (but within MOE ±%)  Not achieved

WATER SUPPLY (POPULATION)	CATEGORY	COMPLIANCE RATE (%)	PERFORMANCE RATING 2025
Whakatāne Water Supply (21,020)	T3 Bacteriological	100%	All met
	T3 Protozoal	100%	All met
	D3 Microbiological Monitoring Rules	100%	All met
Matatā Water Supply (690)	T3 Bacteriological	100%	All met
	T3 Protozoal	100%	All met
	D3 Microbiological Monitoring Rules	91.66%	Partially met
Murupara Supply (1,674)	T3 Bacteriological	99.80%	Almost met
	T3 Protozoal	0%	None met
	D3 Microbiological Monitoring Rules	100%	All met
Ōtūmahi Water Supply (2,841)	T3 Bacteriological	99.77%	Almost met
	T3 Protozoal	50%	Partially met
	D3 Microbiological Monitoring Rules	100%	All met
Rangitāiki Plains Supply (2,897)	T3 Bacteriological	52.63%	Partially met
	T3 Protozoal	50%	Partially met
	D3 Microbiological Monitoring Rules	100%	All met
Rūātoki Supply (650)	T3 Bacteriological	99.28%	Almost met
	T3 Protozoal	100%	All met
	D3 Microbiological Monitoring Rules	100%	All met
Tāneatua Supply (790)	T3 Bacteriological	94.05%	Partially met
	T3 Protozoal	100%	All met
	D3 Microbiological Monitoring Rules	91.66%	Partially met
Te Mahoe Supply (120)	T3 Bacteriological	95.73%	Almost met
	T3 Protozoal	100%	All met
	D2.1 Distribution System Rule	100%	All met
Waimana Supply (160)	T3 Bacteriological	99.92%	Almost met
	T3 Protozoal	100%	All met
	D2.1 Distribution System Rule	100%	All met

Legend: 'All met' (100%), 'Almost met' (95-99%), 'Partially met' (1-94%), and 'None met' (0%).

The following tables provide summarised information relating to findings where the categories were assessed as 'Almost met', 'Partially met', or 'None met'.

MATATĀ WATER SUPPLY

Matatā zone	Whakatāne District Council reported missing a micro sample in the first week of January 2025 due to a sampling error. The minimum requirement is one sample per week.
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MURUPARA WATER SUPPLY

Murupara Water Treatment Plant	A protozoa barrier meeting the DWQAR was not in place for the annual assessment period. During three days of the annual period chlorine disinfection was below the minimum requirement.
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ŌTŪMAHI WATER SUPPLY

Paul Road Water Treatment Plant	A protozoa barrier meeting the DWQAR was not in place for the annual assessment period. During eight days of the annual period the C.T value was less than 15 min.mg/l for more than 5% of the production time
Te Teko Water Treatment Plant	During four days of the annual period the reported UV dose was below the minimum requirement. Events included; electrical faults that required the UV disinfection to be bypassed for up to 150 minutes, high turbidity in the source water, and data outages. Whakatāne District Council reported that chlorine dosing continued during times when the reported UV dose was below the minimum requirement. DWQAR T3 requirements for drinking water disinfected with chlorine require continuous monitoring of FAC, PH, and turbidity "at a point after the prescribed disinfection contact time has elapsed." Contact time is provided in a reservoir. Fac, PH, and turbidity are continuously monitored post treatment plant, rather than after sufficient contact time has elapsed.

RANGITĀIKI PLAINS WATER SUPPLY

	A protozoa barrier meeting the DWQAR was not in place for the annual assessment period.
Johnson Road Water Treatment Plant	DWQAR T3 requirements for drinking water disinfected with chlorine require continuous monitoring of FAC, PH, and turbidity 'at a point after the prescribed disinfection contact time has elapsed.' There is no chlorine contact tank at Johnson Road Water Treatment Plant. Contact time is provided in the rising main. FAC, PH, and turbidity are continuously monitored at the treatment plant, rather than after sufficient contact time has elapsed.
Rangitāiki Plains zone	Whakatāne District Council reported missing a micro sample in the first week of January 2025 due to a sampling error. The minimum requirement is one sample per week.

RŪĀTOKI WATER SUPPLY

Rūātoki Water Treatment Plant	During 16 days of the annual period the reported UV dose was below the minimum requirement. Events included; high turbidity in the source water, power disruptions, and low UVT periods. Whakatāne District Council reported that chlorine dosing continued during times when the reported UV dose was below the minimum requirement. DWQAR T3 requirements for drinking water disinfected with chlorine require continuous monitoring of FAC, PH, and turbidity "at a point after the prescribed disinfection contact time has elapsed." Contact time is provided in a reservoir. FAC, PH, and turbidity are continuously monitored at the treatment plant, rather than after sufficient contact time has elapsed.
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TĀNEATUA WATER SUPPLY

Tāneatua Water Treatment Plant	<p>The Tāneatua WTP flow meter malfunctioned affecting the reported UV dose for 51 days during the annual period. Whakatāne District Council reported that UV disinfection was working as expected but DWQAR performance could not be measured due to a lack of flow data. Whakatāne District Council reported that chlorine dosing continued during times when the reported UV dose was below the minimum requirement.</p>
	<p>DWQAR T3 requirements for drinking water disinfected with chlorine require continuous monitoring of FAC, PH, and turbidity "at a point after the prescribed disinfection contact time has elapsed." Contact time is provided in a reservoir. FAC, PH, and turbidity are continuously monitored at the treatment plant, rather than after sufficient contact time has elapsed.</p>
Tāneatua zone	<p>Whakatāne District Council reported missing a micro sample in the first week of January 2025 due to a sampling error. The minimum requirement is one sample per week.</p>

TE MAHOE WATER SUPPLY

Te Mahoe Water Treatment Plant	<p>Whakatāne District Council reported that, due to an electrical fault or incorrect setup preventing the UV disinfection from operating correctly, the reported UV dose was below the minimum requirement for 57 days during the annual period.</p>
	<p>DWQAR T3 requirements for drinking water disinfected with chlorine require continuous monitoring of FAC, PH, and turbidity "at a point after the prescribed disinfection contact time has elapsed." Contact time is provided in a reservoir. FAC, PH, and turbidity are continuously monitored at the treatment plant, rather than after sufficient contact time has elapsed.</p>













WAIMANA WATER SUPPLY

Waimana Water Treatment Plant	<p>During one day of the annual period the reported UV dose was below the minimum requirement as the UV disinfection needed to be bypassed for 25 minutes in order investigate an electrical fault. Whakatāne District Council reported that chlorine dosing was occurring at the time and turbidity was within specification across this time.</p>
	<p>DWQAR T3 requirements for drinking water disinfected with chlorine require continuous monitoring of FAC, PH, and turbidity "at a point after the prescribed disinfection contact time has elapsed." Contact time is provided in a reservoir. FAC, PH, and turbidity are continuously monitored at the treatment plant, rather than after sufficient contact time has elapsed.</p>



Comparative information



The DWQAR aggregate compliance methodology was introduced in June 2025 and was therefore not included in our previous annual report. The following section provides comparative data for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024. Outcomes are reported as either 'Met' (100% compliance) or 'Not Met' (less than 100% compliance).

WATER SUPPLY	COMPONENT	DWQAR RULE	RULE SET(S)	OUTCOME 2024
Whakatāne Water Supply	Whakatāne Water Treatment Plant	T3 Bacterial	Chlorine OR UV Disinfection, General Rules	Met
		T3 Protozoa	Protozoal Rules, Conventional Filtration 4.0 log OR Conventional Filtration 3.0 log and UV Disinfection, and General Rules	Met
	Whakatāne Zone	D3	Residual Disinfection	Met
			Microbiological	Met
	Ōhope Zone	D3	Residual Disinfection	Met
			Microbiological	Met
Matatā Water Supply	Awakaponga Water Treatment Plant	T3 Bacterial	Chlorine OR UV Disinfection, General Rules	Not met
		T3 Protozoa	Protozoal Rules, UV Disinfection, and General Rules	Not met
	Matatā Zone	D3	Residual Disinfection	Met
			Microbiological	Met
Murupara Water Supply	Murupara Water Treatment Plant	T3 Bacterial	Chlorine, General Rules	Not met
		T3 Protozoa	Protozoal Rules and General Rules	Not met
	Murupara Zone	D3	Residual Disinfection	Not met
			Microbiological	Met
Ōtūmahi Water Supply	Paul Rd Water Treatment Plant	T3 Bacterial	Chlorine, General Rules	Met
		T3 Protozoa	Protozoal Rules, General Rules	Not met
	Te Teko Water Treatment Plant	T3 Bacterial	Chlorine OR UV Disinfection, General Rules	Not met
		T3 Protozoa	Protozoal Rules, UV Disinfection, and General Rules	Not met
	Ōtūmahi Zone	D3	Residual Disinfection	Met
			Microbiological	Met
Rangitāiki Plains Water Supply	Braemar WTP	T3 Bacterial	Chlorine OR UV Disinfection, General Rules	Not met
		T3 Protozoa	Protozoal Rules, UV Disinfection, and General Rules	Not met
	Johnson Rd Water Treatment Plant	T3 Bacterial	Chlorine, General Rules	Not met
		T3 Protozoa	Protozoal Rules and General Rules	Not met
	Rangitāiki Plains Zone	D3	Residual Disinfection	Met
			Microbiological	Met
Rūātoki Water Supply	Rūātoki Water Treatment Plant	T3 Bacterial	Chlorine OR UV Disinfection, General Rules	Not met
		T3 Protozoa	Protozoal Rules, UV Disinfection, and General Rules	Not met
	Rūātoki Zone	D3	Residual Disinfection	Met
			Microbiological	Met
Tāneatua Water Supply	Tāneatua Water Treatment Plant	T3 Bacterial	UV Disinfection, General Rules	Not met
		T3 Protozoa	Protozoal Rules, UV Disinfection, and General Rules	Not met
	Tāneatua Zone	D3	Residual Disinfection	Met
			Microbiological	Met
Te Mahoe Water Supply	Te Mahoe Water Treatment Plant	T3 Bacterial	Chlorine OR UV Disinfection, General Rules	Not met
		T3 Protozoa	Protozoal Rules and General Rules	Not met
	Te Mahoe Zone	D2	Residual Disinfection	Met
			Microbiological	Met
Waimana Water Supply	Waimana Water Treatment Plant	T3 Bacterial	Chlorine OR UV Disinfection, General Rules	Not met
		T3 Protozoa	Protozoal Rules, UV Disinfection and General Rules	Not met
	Waimana Zone	D2	Residual Disinfection	Met
			Microbiological	Met

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (HOW WE WILL MEASURE OUR SERVICE DELIVERY)	2025	2024	2023	MARGIN OF ERROR	TARGET
<p>Total number of complaints received by the Council about any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • drinking water clarity • drinking water taste • drinking water odour • drinking water pressure or flow • continuity of supply • The Council's response to any of these issues. <p>Expressed per 1,000 connections to the council's networked reticulation system. (M)</p>	35.76 	14.18 	16.3 	N/A	Less than 30
	<p><i>Comment: The number of complaints recorded has increased compared to previous years, as the Council is now recording complaints in accordance with Department of Internal Affairs guidance. This means multiple complaints about the same issue will be counted individually rather than grouped. The Council and its afterhours call centre provider had not been recording, counting and classifying complaints in accordance with the Department of Internal Affairs guidance and the method of recording was likely to have understated the actual number of complaints received for the prior years.</i></p>				
	60% 	63% 	72% 	±4%	70%
<p>Satisfaction with the water supply and quality of drinking water (supplied by the Council). (RSS)</p>	<p><i>The results above are an aggregated average rating for water supply and quality. Of residents on the Council's water reticulated network, 2-in-3 (65%) were satisfied with the overall supply (6.5 average rating). While similar to 2024, this has trended downwards since the recent peak of 2023 (76%).</i></p> <p><i>Over half (54%) of residents on the Council's water supply in 2025 were satisfied with the quality of their drinking water (5.8 average rating). However, this represented a notable decrease in satisfaction since 2023 (68%) and previous years. This was also below the national benchmark average (62%).</i></p>				
<p>Median response time to attend urgent call-outs for a fault or unplanned interruption to the Council's networked reticulation system, from the time that the Council receives notification to the time that the service personnel reach the site. (M)</p>	0.44 hours 	0.47 hours 	0.6 hours 	N/A	Less than 1 hour
<p>Median response time to resolve urgent call-outs for a fault or unplanned interruption to the Council's networked reticulation system, from the time that the Council receives notification to the time that the service personnel confirm resolution of the fault or interruption. (M)</p>	2.93 hours 	2.55 hours 	2.92 hours 	N/A	Less than 8 hours
<p>Median response time to attend non-urgent call-outs for a fault or unplanned interruption to the Council's networked reticulation system, from the time the Council receives notification to the time that the service personnel reach the site. (M)</p>	23.58 hours 	15.65 hours 	16.73 hours 	N/A	Less than 24 hours
	<p><i>Although we met our target for the year, response times were longer compared to previous years. This was due to factors such as the location of call-outs and an increase in urgent calls, which were prioritised.</i></p>				

(M) - This performance measure is mandatory for all councils to report on, set under the 'Non-financial performance measures rules 2024' in accordance with section 261b of the Local Government Act 2002.

LEGEND  **Achieved**  **Not achieved (but within MOE ±%)**  **Not achieved**

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (HOW WE WILL MEASURE OUR SERVICE DELIVERY)	2025	2024	2023	MARGIN OF ERROR	TARGET
Median response time to resolve non-urgent call-outs for a fault or unplanned Interruption to the Council's networked reticulation system, from the time the Council receives notification to the time that the service personnel confirm resolution of the fault or interruption. (M)	26.02 hours 	18.83 hours 	20.28 hours 	N/A	Less than 48 hours
	<i>Although we met our target for the year, response times were longer than previous years. This was due to factors such as the location of call-outs and the work required to resolve the situation.</i>				
Average consumption of drinking water per day per resident in the district for metered areas supplied by the Council. (M)	360.2 litres 	419.6 litres 	430.8 litres 	N/A	Less than 450 litres (2025) Less than 260 litres (2024 and 2023)
	<i>Average daily water use per person has decreased. This is likely due to a combination of factors, including:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Faster leak repairs thanks to quicker notifications to residents</i> <i>Wetter weather reducing the need for extra water use</i> <i>Cooler temperatures leading to lower overall water consumption</i> 				
Average consumption of drinking water per day per resident in the district for unmetered areas supplied by the Council. (M)	385.6 litres 	344.9 litres 	345 litres 	N/A	Less than 350 litres
	<i>During the year, a number of previously unmetered properties across the district were fitted with water meters for demand management purposes (not billing). In previous years, water consumption for these properties was estimated using a standard rate of 320 litres per person per day, based on international water association (IWA) guidelines. This year, actual meter readings were used instead of the standard assumption. As a result, reported consumption increased, reflecting more accurate and reliable data. These readings provide a stronger foundation for water balance reporting and highlight the limitations of relying on estimated consumption. The data also suggests that fixed-rate billing may contribute to inefficient water use, as some customers show little regard for their actual consumption. This reinforces the case for introducing volumetric charging across all connections in the district. As we progress toward universal metering at the point of connection whether for billing or demand management, our ability to accurately calculate unmetered water loss will improve. However, this may also result in reported losses exceeding current targets due to the improved accuracy of the data.</i>				
Percentage of real water loss from council-networked reticulation system for metered schemes based on the standard international water association (IWA) water balance. (M)	27.80% 	13.6% 	20.7% 	N/A	Less than 20%
	<i>Water loss is defined as the difference between water supplied and water consumed. This year, consumption is lower than last year, while supply remained largely unchanged. Given the factors behind the drop in average metered consumption, we believe this year's figures provide more accurate reflection of actual water use. Factors which might add to this high percentage are:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>We have experienced several water leaks within our networks, either detected or yet to be detected</i> <i>Greater than expected un-authorised access and use of water from a metered network.</i> 				
Percentage of real water loss from council-networked reticulation system for unmetered schemes based on the standard international water association (IWA) methodology assessing water loss. (M)	33.9% 	55.2% 	38.3% 	N/A	Target 2025: less than 40% Target 2024: less than 60% Target 2023: less than 60%

(M) - This performance measure is mandatory for all councils to report on, set under the 'Non-financial performance measures rules 2024' in accordance with section 261b of the Local Government Act 2002.

LEGEND  **Achieved**  **Not achieved (but within MOE ±%)**  **Not achieved**

What these activities cost and how they were paid for *Te utu o ēnei ngohe, ā, i pēhea i whakaea*

FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENT WATER SUPPLY WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025	LONG TERM PLAN 2023/24 \$000	LONG TERM PLAN 2024/25 \$000	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$000
OPERATIONAL			
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	-	-	-
Targeted rates	8,261	9,856	10,008
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	-
Fees and charges	1,156	61	181
Internal charges and overheads recovered	259	101	181
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other	4	8	2
Sources of operating funding (A)	9,680	10,025	10,372
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	2,476	2,739	3,517
Finance costs	733	1,832	1,224
Internal charges and overheads applied	2,748	3,882	3,911
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Applications of operating funding (B)	5,957	8,453	8,652
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	3,723	1,572	1,721
CAPITAL			
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
Development and financial contributions	76	227	21
Increase (decrease) in debt	4,701	14,946	9,153
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Sources of capital funding (C)	4,777	15,174	9,174
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	17	1,042	830
- to improve level of service	4,669	11,079	6,384
- to replace existing assets	3,030	3,279	2,143
Increase (decrease) in reserves	785	1,345	1,537
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding (D)	8,500	16,746	10,895
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	(3,723)	(1,572)	(1,721)
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	-	-	-

Capital Expenditure - Water supply

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET 2024/25 \$	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$	VARIANCE \$
Equalised water network renewals	2,322,341	1,768,856	553,485
Whakatāne water treatment plant upgrade	271,950	211,756	60,194
Whakatāne water backflow preventors	189,520	71,291	118,229
Ōtūmahi water storage - pipe	3,880,000	2,595,086	1,284,914
Ōtūmahi water storage	3,000,000	2,906,963	93,037
Murupara treatment upgrades	2,372,527	1,803	2,370,724
Tāneatua water treatment plant access track	-	31,320	(31,320)
Rūātoki water treatment	1,355,005	147,668	1,207,337
Plains water backflow preventors	574,153	717,645	(143,492)
Water supply other projects/renewals consolidated	1,435,266	905,022	530,245
Total group capital expenditure	15,400,761	9,357,410	6,043,352

Comment: There were a number of large-scale projects started that either were not completed within the year (Ōtūmahi Reservoirs) or that were planned to be two-year projects (Backflow Prevention Devices, Rūātoki Bore and Treatment Plant, and Murupara Water Treatment upgrade).



PORTS AND HARBOURS

Ngā tumu herenga waka me ngā wahapū

Activities in this group:

- Ports and harbours

This activity covers the development of strategy, planning, and management of harbour assets, as well as maintenance to ensure all facilities and assets are safe for public use. Our harbours are in Whakatāne, Thornton and Ōhope.

Contribution to community outcomes



Strong, connected, interdependent, diverse communities



Thriving circular economies

Alignment with strategic priorities



Enhancing the safety, wellbeing, and vibrancy of communities

– *Me mātua whakanui i te marutau, te oranga, me te wana o ngā hapori*

- Support our smaller and remote communities to plan for their future- what changes should occur in the area and when, all across the district. And invest in making these changes happen.



Facilitating economic regeneration and responding to development pressures

– *Me mātua whakahaere i te tipuranga o te taiōhanga me ngā tonotono whare*

- Back our economy, in particular the tourism and events sectors, to enable economic and employment growth and attract new business and investment into the district.

What’s happened this year?

I ahatia i tenei tau?

For the 2024/25 financial year, ports and harbours activities were largely business as usual. With the decision to not proceed with Te Rāhui Boat Harbour, focus shifted to managing existing assets and planning for the future. This work included attention to the commercial wharf, which was originally intended for removal under the consent conditions for the boat harbour development.


In May 2024, a paywave system was introduced at the Whakatāne boat wash facility. Since it’s installation, usage has increased, and we expect this trend to continue as awareness grows within the boating community.

Work also began on reviews of the Ports and Wharves Bylaw and the Ports Operational Plan. Both reviews are progressing well and are expected to be adopted in early 2026.




How we performed

Ā mātau mahi

- 0 out of 1 measure (0%) achieved for ports and harbours
- Awareness and user satisfaction with boat ramps and wharf facilities remained low for the year

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (HOW WE WILL MEASURE OUR SERVICE DELIVERY)	2025	2024	2023	MARGIN OF ERROR	TARGET
User satisfaction with boat ramps and wharf facilities (RSS).	72% 	72%	79%	±4%	77%
(New measure)	Comment: Awareness of harbour and wharf facilities remained low in 2025, with 2-in-5 residents (42%) unsure about these, and 57% providing a rating (similar to 2024). 72% of residents who were generally aware of these facilities were satisfied, similar to 2024 but below 2022-23 levels.				

(RSS) - Result sourced from the residents satisfaction survey.

LEGEND  Achieved  Not achieved (but within MOE ±%)  Not achieved

What these activities cost and how they were paid for

Te utu o ēnei ngohe, ā, i pēhea i whakaea

FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENT PORTS AND HARBOURS WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025	LONG TERM PLAN 2023/24* \$000	LONG TERM PLAN 2024/25 \$000	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$000
OPERATIONAL			
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	-	-	-
Targeted rates	-	-	-
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	104
Fees and charges	-	297	284
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other	-	-	-
Sources of operating funding (A)	-	297	388
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	-	1,212	1,568
Finance costs	-	517	263
Internal charges and overheads applied	-	413	394
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Applications of operating funding (B)	-	2,142	2,225
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	-	(1,844)	(1,837)
CAPITAL			
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	111
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	-	(226)	228
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Sources of capital funding (C)	-	(226)	339
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
- to improve level of service	-	-	816
- to replace existing assets	-	493	11
Increase (decrease) in reserves	-	(2,564)	(2,324)
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding (D)	-	(2,070)	(1,497)
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	-	1,844	1,837
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	-	-	-

* Ports and Harbours is a new activity in the Long Term Plan 2024-34

Capital Expenditure - Ports and harbours

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET 2024/25 \$	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$	VARIANCE \$
Tidal pool remediation	-	171,286	(171,286)
Wharfside fire and safety upgrade	-	17,521	(17,521)
Wharfside landscaping and shade	-	188,060	(188,060)
Wharfside toilets	-	438,637	(438,637)
Ports and harbour other projects/renewals consolidated	493,127	10,837	482,290
Total group capital expenditure	493,127	826,340	(333,213)

Comment: Tidal pool remediation and Wharfside upgrades completed, with toilets on track to be completed by end of this year. Low actual spend on 'other projects' relates to pontoon replacements, due to be completed H1 2026.





PARKS AND RESERVES

Ngā papa rēhia me ngā whenua tāpui

Activities in this group:

- Parks, reserves and gardens
- Cemeteries

This group of activities provides and maintains spaces and facilities for community use, recreation, and amenities. Through these efforts, we aim to enhance the quality of life and wellbeing for both residents and visitors. Additionally, it manages the planning, operation, and upkeep of five council-owned cemeteries and one crematorium.

Contribution to community outcomes



Strong, connected, interdependent, diverse communities



Integrating nature into our decision making



Constructively and collaboratively engaging with iwi, hapū and whānau

Alignment with strategic priorities



Enhancing the safety, wellbeing, and vibrancy of communities

– Me mātua whakanui i te marutau, te oranga, me te wana o ngā hapori

- Invest wisely in recreation, events, and the arts to have a broader range of ‘things to do’ (especially for our youth).



Shaping a green District – Kia toitū te rohe

- Ensure Council’s decision-making and operations reflect our environmental priorities.



Strengthening relationships with iwi, hapū and whānau – Me mātua whakawhanake i ngā kōtuituinga ā-iwi, ā-hapū, ā-whānau anō hoki

- Work with iwi, hapū and whānau, to improve equity and wellbeing outcomes.

What's happened this year?

I ahatia i tenei tau?

Maintaining our parks and reserves

The Parks and Reserves team continued to deliver core services that keep the district's open spaces and recreational facilities in top shape, this included maintaining a wide network of reserves and sports fields. Mowing was carried out on a nine-day roster (weather permitting), helping ensure our green spaces remain well-presented and accessible.

The team also managed approximately 6,500 trees (street and reserve), maintained town gardens tailored to each area, and looked after 37 playgrounds, picnic tables, bench seating, and litter bins- all supporting the amenity and usability of public spaces.

Whakatāne District Tree Strategy - Ngā Taonga a Tāne

In October 2024, the Whakatāne District Tree Strategy – Ngā Taonga a Tāne was adopted. This strategy is a 20-year plan for the proactive planning, planting, and management of the district's urban trees. The strategy responds to the challenges of maintaining and growing our leafy assets, which provide environmental, recreational, and aesthetic value across our communities. Public consultation in August 2024 showed strong community passion for a thriving treescape and emphasised the need to plant the right trees in the right places for long-term benefits.

Maraetōtara flying fox



On 14 April, the upgraded flying fox at Maraetōtara Reserve was officially reopened. Now featuring dual cables and repositioned parallel to the skate bowl, the new design improves safety and accessibility while preserving the fun and vibrancy of this much-loved facility.



How we performed

Ā mātau mahi

- 1 out of 2 measures (50%) achieved for parks and reserves.
- Cemetery visitation remained low but satisfaction from those that visited was high.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (HOW WE WILL MEASURE OUR SERVICE DELIVERY)	2025	2024	2023	MARGIN OF ERROR	TARGET
User satisfaction with cemeteries and crematorium facilities. (RSS) (New measure)	82% 	77%	85%	N/A	77%
	Comment: Visits to cemeteries remained low in 2025, just 1-in-4 residents (23%) reporting this (similar to previous years). 4-in-5 (80%) of these residents were satisfied with cemeteries overall –rebounding back from the historical low of 2024. Visitation of the Whakatāne Crematorium has remained low historically; in 2025, just 1-in-10 (9%) residents reported visiting this facility (similar to recent years). As a result, knowledge of the facility remains low, with over half (58%) of residents unfamiliar with this in 2024 (62% in 2024). Note: Aggregated results are average scores of other calculated measures. Unlike other measures in this report, aggregated results are not directly collected from the population and do not have margin of errors.				
User satisfaction with recreation facilities in the Whakatāne District (sports fields, park and reserves, playgrounds). (RSS) (New measure)	76% 	77%	78%	N/A	77%

(RSS) - Result sourced from the residents satisfaction survey.

LEGEND

Achieved

Not achieved
(but within MOE ±%)

Not achieved

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT
 Te Pūrongo ā-tau Te Kaunihera ā-rohe o Whakatāne

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What these activities cost and how they were paid for *Te utu o ēnei ngohe, ā, i pēhea i whakaea*

FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENT PARKS AND RESERVES WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025	LONG TERM PLAN 2023/24* \$000	LONG TERM PLAN 2024/25 \$000	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$000
OPERATIONAL			
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	-	5,011	4,809
Targeted rates	-	-	-
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	8	57
Fees and charges	-	521	550
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	1,841	1,654
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other	-	102	307
Sources of operating funding (A)	-	7,482	7,377
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	-	3,334	3,972
Finance costs	-	346	170
Internal charges and overheads applied	-	3,008	2,809
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Applications of operating funding (B)	-	6,687	6,951
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	-	795	426
CAPITAL			
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	350	-
Development and financial contributions	-	30	85
Increase (decrease) in debt	-	1,431	1,107
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Sources of capital funding (C)	-	1,811	1,192
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	-	1	2
- to improve level of service	-	2,021	355
- to replace existing assets	-	902	696
Increase (decrease) in reserves	-	(319)	565
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding (D)	-	2,606	1,618
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	-	(795)	(426)
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	-	-	-

* Parks and Reserves is a new activity in the Long Term Plan 2024-34

Capital Expenditure - Parks and Reserves

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET 2024/25 \$	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$	VARIANCE \$
Playground shade sails	42,148	32,718	9,429
Awatapu lagoon wetland construction	500,912	49,696	451,215
Mitchell Park market space drainage	-	20,662	(20,662)
Mitchell Park market space landscape and shade	-	28,322	(28,322)
Mitchell Park market space toilets	-	100,019	(100,019)
Accessible play spaces	105,369	18,079	87,290
Sullivan Lake footpaths and retaining walls	12,644	13,704	(1,060)
Better Off Funding - southern Districts regeneration - Minginui	149,998	-	149,998
Better Off Funding - southern districts regeneration - Murupara	199,998	-	199,998
Whakatāne new cemetery	526,845	-	526,845
Parks and reserves other projects/renewals combined	1,386,965	789,369	597,596
Total group capital expenditure	2,924,879	1,052,570	1,872,309

Comment: A number of projects have commenced or been completed this year alongside maintenance and renewals. Some projects were delayed due to dependencies on other workstreams (e.g. southern district regeneration), and we have not yet identified land for a new cemetery, so this project will continue in 2026.





RIVERSIDE WHAKATĀNE HOLIDAY PARK *Tūnga hararei o Whakatāne*

Activities in this group:

- Riverside Whakatāne Holiday Park

This activity provides quality accommodation and services at Riverside Whakatāne Holiday Park, ensuring visitors have clean and presentable accommodation to explore the district. This activity also has an important role to play in resilience support and planning and can provide emergency accommodation in the event of a disaster.

Contribution to community outcomes



**Thriving circular
economies**

Alignment with strategic priorities



Facilitating economic regeneration and responding to development pressures

– *Me mātua whakahaere i te tipuranga o te taiōhanga me ngā tonotono whare*

- Back our economy, in particular the tourism and events sectors, to enable economic and employment growth and attract new business and investment into the district.



What’s happened this year?

I ahatia i tenei tau?

Riverside Whakatāne Holiday Park

In October 2024, we hosted a community open day to celebrate the revitalisation of Riverside Whakatāne Holiday Park. The event highlighted the park’s new studio cabins and premium units, which form part of a wider programme to enhance Riverside’s appeal and functionality. The open day drew strong community engagement and positive feedback, reinforcing Riverside’s role as a central, family-friendly destination. These improvements reflect our commitment to providing high-quality, accessible recreational spaces that contributes to our district’s vibrancy and visitor experience.

How we performed

Ā mātau mahi

- 0 out of 1 measure (0%) achieved for Riverside Whakatāne Holiday Park.
- Visitation remained low for the 2025 year.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (HOW WE WILL MEASURE OUR SERVICE DELIVERY)	2025	2024	2023	MARGIN OF ERROR	TARGET
Total guest-nights in Riverside Whakatāne Holiday Park.	23,214 ●	25,472 ●	25,115 ●	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Above 25,000 (2025)• Above 29,000 (2024)• Above 29,000 (2023)
	Comment: Park attendance was lower than usual over the last financial year, reflecting the tougher economic climate. However, we expect an improvement in the current year, with July already trending well above last year’s results.				

LEGEND

Achieved

Not achieved
(but within MOE ±%)

Not achieved



What these activities cost and how they were paid for *Te utu o ēnei ngohe, ā, i pēhea i whakaea*

FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENT RIVERSIDE HOLIDAY PARK WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025	LONG TERM PLAN 2023/24* \$000	LONG TERM PLAN 2024/25 \$000	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$000
OPERATIONAL			
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	-	-	-
Targeted rates	-	-	-
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	-
Fees and charges	-	1,138	970
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other	-	-	-
Sources of operating funding (A)	-	1,138	970
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	-	857	846
Finance costs	-	101	99
Internal charges and overheads applied	-	516	516
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Applications of operating funding (B)	-	1,473	1,461
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	-	(335)	(491)
CAPITAL			
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	-	154	135
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Sources of capital funding (C)	-	154	135
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
- to improve level of service	-	215	16
- to replace existing assets	-	105	64
Increase (decrease) in reserves	-	(502)	(436)
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding (D)	-	(181)	(355)
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	-	335	491
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	-	-	-

* Riverside Holiday Park is a new activity in the Long Term Plan 2024-34

Capital Expenditure - Riverside Holiday Park

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET 2024/25 \$	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$	VARIANCE \$
Riverside Holiday Park renewals	105,369	64,322	41,047
Riverside Holiday Park upgrades	214,998	16,070	198,928
Total group capital expenditure	320,367	80,392	239,975

Comment: Ongoing renewals and upgrades

TRANSPORT CONNECTIONS *Ngā hononga waka*

Activities in this group:

- Transport network connections
- Parking enforcement
- Shared use pathways

This group of activities aims to provide a safe, reliable and sustainable transport system that is accessible to everyone and caters to a variety of transport choices. This includes providing safer and more accessible options for pedestrians, cyclists, and people using mobility devices, alongside motorised vehicles. The Council aims to create and maintain a well-functioning transport system that keeps people and places connected, supports a vibrant economy, and allows for the efficient day-to-day running of our communities.



Contribution to community outcomes



**Strong, connected,
interdependent,
diverse communities**



**Integrating nature
into our decision
making**

Alignment with strategic priorities



Enhancing the safety, wellbeing, and vibrancy of communities

– Me mātua whakanui i te marutau, te oranga, me te wana o ngā hapori

- Increase safety for people moving around the district (e.g. Community safety cameras, good lighting, multi-modal transport, accessibility for people with disabilities).



Shaping a green District – Kia toitū te rohe

- Ensure our key infrastructure (roads and pipes) are resilient to the effects of natural hazards and climate change.



Facilitating economic regeneration and responding to development pressures

– Me mātua whakahaere i te tipuranga o te taiōhanga me ngā tonotono whare

- Setting direction for where and what type of development should occur using spatial planning, district planning, and strategic planning processes for infrastructure, suburban development, and economic growth.

What's happened this year?

I ahatia i tenei tau?

Mimiha Stream Bridge

Mimiha Stream Bridge on Ruatāhuna Road was due for replacement. The renewal included widening the bridge and upgrading it to meet current structural and environmental standards. Works were carried out in partnership with Te Uru Taumatua and Manawarū Tribal, ensuring alignment with the 'Natures Road' philosophy that has been established along the Ruatāhuna- Waikaremoana route. Works occurred across the 2023/24 and 2024/25 financial years and are now complete.

Herepuru Road retaining wall

The Herepuru Road retaining wall was replaced to ensure structural integrity. A new timber pile wall was constructed, with works successfully carried out from March-June 2025.

Thornton Road and Westbank Road pavement renewal













Thornton Road, a key western entrance to the district, was prioritised for renewal to improve safety and resilience. Works began in October 2024, accompanied by a robust communications campaign, and were completed ahead of schedule, with the road reopening on 10 November 2024. Phase two focused on Westbank Road between Thornton Road and Greig Road, commencing 11 November 2024. Full road closures during construction and favourable weather allowed early completion, with both projects delivered under budget.



How we performed

Ā mātau mahi

- 2 out of 6 measures (33%) achieved for transport connections.
- Satisfaction with Council roads remained stable for the year but did not meet target.
- The average quality of ride for sealed roads was just within target but the percentage of resurfaced sealed roads did not meet its ambitious target of 10%.
- The condition of footpaths continued to meet target.
- Response times to customer service requests did not achieve targets.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (HOW WE WILL MEASURE OUR SERVICE DELIVERY)	2025	2024	2023	MARGIN OF ERROR	TARGET
Satisfaction with Council roads. (RSS)	48% 	48% 	48% 	±4%	57%
<p><i>Comment: Satisfaction with roads remained stable in 2025, with satisfaction at 48% for the third consecutive year – after the previous gradual decline from 2020.</i></p> <p><i>Note: Satisfaction with roads has been declining nationwide, reportedly due in part to the increased frequency of extreme weather events and the reported presence of potholes across New Zealand. This is reflected in the low national benchmark figure of 43% in 2025. Variations in satisfaction were also noted across the district, with lower ratings outside Whakatāne-Ōhope.</i></p>					
The average quality of ride on a sealed local road network, measured by percentage of smooth travel exposure. (M)	92.7% 	94% 	94% 	N/A	Above 90%
<p><i>Comment: This result is just within the target. The declining trend over recent years reflects past approaches to road maintenance. To manage costs, resurfacing quantities were kept unsustainably low over the last decade, while the pavement condition was sufficient to ‘sweat the asset’. The intervention point has been reached, meaning further investment is required to maintain this measure within target. The increased budget and resurfacing programme outlined in the Long Term Plan 2024-34 is expected to ensure this result continues to meet target in the coming years.</i></p>					
Percentage of sealed local road network that is resurfaced. (M)	7.4% 	7% 	5% 	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10% (2025) • 6 - 7% (2024) • 6 -7% (2023)
<p><i>Comment: As part of the Long Term Plan 2024-34, an increased budget for road resurfacing was approved to support a larger programme. Previous resurfacing quantities had been unsustainably low at 6-7%. Council staff set an overly ambitious target of 10%, but in hindsight a target of 8-10% would have been more appropriate. This year's result of 7.4% is slightly lower due to the high-proportion of high-volume, higher cost roads requiring resurfacing. The result is forecast to increase in years 2 and 3 as the programme progresses to lower-class roads, allowing for more kilometres of resurfacing to be delivered within the budget.</i></p>					
Percentage of footpaths within the district that fall within the level of service or service standard for the condition of footpaths that is set out in the Council's activity management plan. (M)	97% 	97% 	100% 	N/A	95% of all qualifying footpaths achieve a grade of three or less as measured through the three yearly footpath inspections.
<p><i>Comment: This result is based on the footpath condition rating survey completed every three years (completed in 2023).</i></p>					

(RSS) - Result sourced from the residents satisfaction survey.

(M) - This performance measure is mandatory for all councils to report on, set under the 'Non-financial performance measures rules 2024' in accordance with section 261b of the Local Government Act 2002.

LEGEND



Achieved



Not achieved
(but within MOE ±%)



Not achieved

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (HOW WE WILL MEASURE OUR SERVICE DELIVERY)	2025	2024	2023	MARGIN OF ERROR	TARGET
Percentage of emergency customer service requests relating to roads and footpaths responded to within 2 hours. (M)	85.15% ●	84.40% ●	90.5% ●	N/A	90%
Percentage of all other customer service requests relating to roads and footpaths responded to within 7 days. (M)	87.17% ●	90.63% ●	95.7% ●	N/A	95%
<i>Comment: Our in-house transport team had a significant number of vacancies through the year. With limited staff, system administration of service requests lagged behind the team's actual efforts to prioritise and respond to customer needs. This lag in system administration is the primary reason for not meeting our performance measure, rather than the timeliness of responses to customer requests. We anticipate we will be achieving our target in 2025/26, now the key vacancies have been filled.</i>					

(M) - This performance measure is mandatory for all councils to report on, set under the 'Non-financial performance measures rules 2024' in accordance with section 261b of the Local Government Act 2002.

LEGEND ● Achieved ● Not achieved (but within MOE ±%) ● Not achieved



What these activities cost and how they were paid for

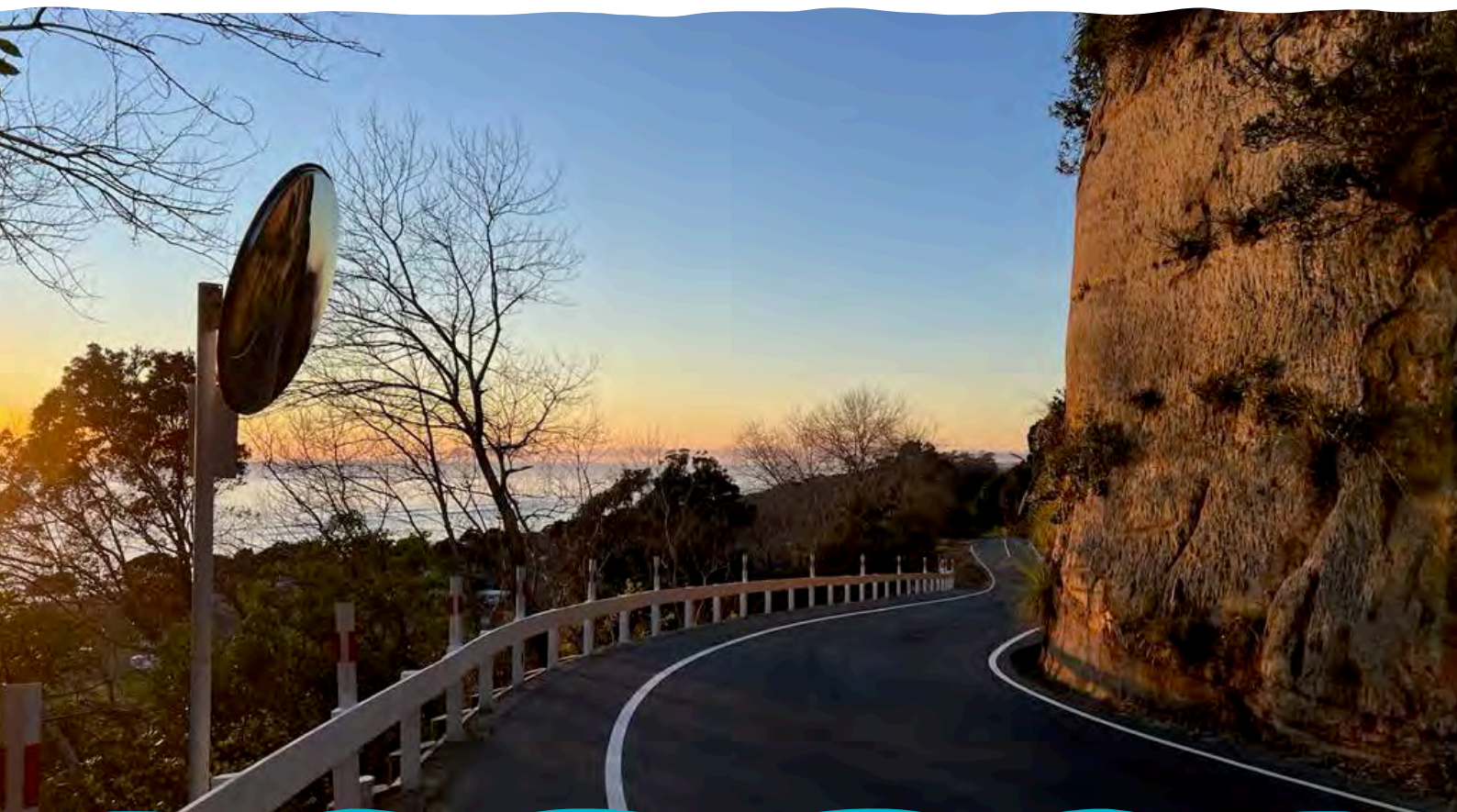
Te utu o ēnei ngohe, ā, i pēhea i whakaea

FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENT TRANSPORT CONNECTIONS WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025	LONG TERM PLAN 2023/24 \$000	LONG TERM PLAN 2024/25 \$000	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$000
OPERATIONAL			
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	(32)	(43)	(41)
Targeted rates	6,695	8,463	8,459
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	4,683	6,216	6,561
Fees and charges	36	128	147
Internal charges and overheads recovered	2,217	2,113	2,779
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other	904	912	872
Sources of operating funding (A)	14,502	17,789	18,776
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	7,423	9,541	9,813
Finance costs	478	1,051	823
Internal charges and overheads applied	3,263	5,274	5,026
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Applications of operating funding (B)	11,163	15,866	15,662
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	3,339	1,923	3,114
CAPITAL			
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	7,547	12,640	11,317
Development and financial contributions	96	248	78
Increase (decrease) in debt	1,239	2,648	(568)
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Sources of capital funding (C)	8,882	15,536	10,827
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	1,870	905	77
- to improve level of service	3,986	5,870	3,025
- to replace existing assets	5,967	11,103	12,309
Increase (decrease) in reserves	397	(419)	(1,470)
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding (D)	12,221	17,459	13,941
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	(3,339)	(1,923)	(3,114)
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	-	-	-

Capital Expenditure - Transport Connections

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET 2024/25 \$	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$	VARIANCE \$
Local roads - pavement rehabilitation - West Bank Road/Thornton Road	1,975,989	1,673,211	302,778
Local roads - structures renewals Herepuru retaining wall renewal	-	691,244	(691,244)
Special purpose roads - carriageway improvements - Ruatāhuna Road	2,428,864	1,977,589	451,275
Special purpose roads - retaining wall renewal - Te Whāiti Road	53,405	148,050	(94,645)
Non financial assisted - Smith Road new bridge (joint BOPRC)	299,069	227,340	71,729
Transport connections other projects/renewals combined	13,120,682	10,693,251	2,427,431
Total group capital expenditure	17,878,009	15,410,684	2,467,325

Comment: The reduced NZTA budget meant some projects were downscaled or delayed. Overall, the transport team delivered 86% of projects based on available funding.



BUILDING AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT *Whakahaere whare me ngā rawa*

Activities in this group:

- Building services
- Resource consents
- Resource management policy

This group of activities delivers a range of functions that contribute towards the district being a place where people feel safe and are protected from a range of risks to their health and wellbeing. It ensures that buildings and public places are safe and that legal standards are met. It also helps the Council plan for growth in the district through spatial planning, supporting natural hazard resilience and adaptation to climate change, and managing land use development.



Contribution to community outcomes



**Strong, connected,
interdependent,
diverse communities**



**Integrating nature
into our decision
making**

Alignment with strategic priorities



Strengthening relationships with iwi, hapū and whānau
– *Me mātua whakawhanake i ngā kōtuituinga ā-iwi,
ā-hapū, ā-whānau anō hoki*

- Work alongside Māori land owners to support and enable development of Māori land.



**Building climate change and natural hazard
resilience, including our infrastructure**
– *Me mātua whakakaha i te aumangea ki te
huringa āhuarangi me ngā matepā taiao tae
ana ki te hangaroto*

- Ensure the Whakatāne District Plan (rules for how people can build on and develop their land) recognises, manages and mitigates the effects of natural hazards because of climate change. Working around supporting people to navigate these rules.
- Support people to navigate Whakatāne District Plan rules and requirements.



**Facilitating economic regeneration and responding
to development pressures**
– *Me mātua whakahaere i te tipuranga o te
taiōhanga me ngā tonotono whare*

- Setting direction for where and what type of development should occur using spatial planning, district planning, and strategic planning processes for infrastructure, suburban development, and economic growth.

What's happened this year?

I ahatia i tenei tau?

Building Consent Authority (BCA) – IANZ audit

To maintain accreditation as a building consent authority in New Zealand, we must comply with the Building Act 2004 and associated regulations. This includes demonstrating competency in processing building consents, maintaining quality assurance systems, and ensuring staff are suitably qualified. Regular audits by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) are also required.

During the year our building consent authority underwent an audit by IANZ, on behalf of MBIE. The audit identified 10 general non-compliances and made seven recommendations. In comparison, the previous 2023 audit found five serious non-compliances, 18 general non-compliances, and 16 recommendations.

In response, we proposed a corrective action plan, accepted in early August, with deadlines for evidence submissions set for 27 September 2024, and all non-compliances to be resolved by 11 October 2024. On 1 October 2024, IANZ confirmed that all general non-compliances had been addressed and reclassified our building consent authority from medium risk to low risk, indicating substantial compliance is likely over the next two years. Another audit was carried out at the end of June 2025, with results expected in the following financial year.

Review of the Dangerous, Affected and Insanitary Buildings Policy

In May 2025, we began reviewing our Dangerous, Affected and Insanitary Buildings Policy to ensure alignment with current legislation, community expectations, and best practice in building safety. The updated policy strengthens our ability to respond to buildings that pose risks to public health and safety, particularly in the context of natural hazards and climate resilience. MBIE's recommendations following the IANZ audit have been incorporated. The revised policy was formally adopted in August 2025, following public consultation.

Our Places – Eastern Bay Spatial Plan adopted

In a landmark achievement for regional collaboration, in June 2025 councils across the Eastern Bay officially adopted the Our Places – Eastern Bay Spatial Plan. The plan establishes a long-term, coordinated approach to managing growth, infrastructure, and development across the sub-region.













Developed jointly by Whakatāne, Ōpōtiki, and Kawerau District Councils, alongside Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Regional Council, iwi partners, and central government, the plan sets a shared vision for growth over the next 30 years. It focuses on housing, infrastructure, employment, land use, and climate resilience, while protecting the region's unique qualities. To find out more visit ourplacesbop.org.nz

How we performed




Ā mātau mahi

Performance targets

- 4 out of 4 measures (100%) achieved for building and resource management.
- User satisfaction and timeframes for building consent processing were reasonably strong for the year, all meeting targets.
- The percentage of non-notified resource consents processed within timeframes just met the new measure's target.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (HOW WE WILL MEASURE OUR SERVICE DELIVERY)	2025	2024	2023	TARGET
User satisfaction with the Council's resource consent process.	66.7% 	66.5% 	65% 	60%
Comment: The result meets target. There was an extremely low number of returns at 9 (6% of number granted).				
User satisfaction with the Council's building consent process.	73% 	69.69% 	69% 	60%
Comment: Customer satisfaction remained steady, indicating continued confidence in our service delivery.				
Percentage of building consent applications processed in accordance with statutory timeframes. (New measure)	94% 	91% 	N/A 	90%
Comment: Performance against our Annual Plan measures, specifically building consent processing timeframes and customer satisfaction, was strong throughout the year. In three out of four quarters, we exceeded the year one target of 90% compliance with building consent statutory timeframes, finishing the year at 94% overall. Notably, we achieved 100% compliance in four of the six months across quarters 3 and 4. This improvement reflects the effectiveness of increased daily oversight of the statutory clock.				
Percentage of non-notified resource consents processed within statutory timeframes. (New measure)	90% 	72% 	N/A 	90%
Comment: The improvement reflects process changes following the appointment of a new development engineer in November. Results since then have significantly improved.				

(RSS) - Result sourced from the residents satisfaction survey.

LEGEND  Achieved  Not achieved (but within MOE ±%)  Not achieved

What these activities cost and how they were paid for

Te utu o ēnei ngohe, ā, i pēhea i whakaea

FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENT BUILDING AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025	LONG TERM PLAN 2023/24* \$000	LONG TERM PLAN 2024/25 \$000	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$000
OPERATIONAL			
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	-	4,495	4,314
Targeted rates	-	-	-
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	556
Fees and charges	-	1,791	1,303
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other	-	920	1,198
Sources of operating funding (A)	-	7,207	7,372
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	-	4,822	4,682
Finance costs	-	501	283
Internal charges and overheads applied	-	2,800	2,787
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Applications of operating funding (B)	-	8,123	7,753
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	-	(917)	(381)
CAPITAL			
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	-	917	296
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Sources of capital funding (C)	-	917	296
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
- to improve level of service	-	-	-
- to replace existing assets	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in reserves	-	-	(85)
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding (D)	-	-	(85)
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	-	917	381
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	-	-	-

* Building and Resource Management is a new activity in the Long Term Plan 2024-34.



WASTE MANAGEMENT

Whakahaere para

Activities in this group:

- Waste disposal
- Waste minimisation

This group of activities is about protecting the health of people and the environment, by providing a reliable kerbside rubbish and recycling collection service and promoting waste minimisation and resource recovery. It helps the Council encourage and support the community to reduce, reuse, and recycle through education programmes that support the waste hierarchy. It also does this by providing the right infrastructure and services. Waste management must meet the requirements of several pieces of legislation, including the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 and the Local Government Act 2002.

Contribution to community outcomes



Integrating nature into our decision making



Thriving circular economies

Alignment with strategic priorities



Shaping a green District – *Kia toitū te rohe*

- Ensure Council's decision-making and operations reflect our environmental priorities.
- Provide active leadership to minimise and manage waste to develop a more circular economy.

What's happened this year?

I ahatia i tenei tau?

Battery recycling initiative

In May 2025, a new district-wide battery recycling initiative was launched, providing a free and safe way for residents to dispose of household batteries. A dedicated battery recycling unit was installed at the Whakatāne Resource Recovery Centre with drop-off points also available at Murupara Resource Recovery Centre. Residents can safely recycle individual batteries up to 5kg, including AA, AAA, button cells, and vape batteries. The Whakatāne unit, provided by Phoenix Recycling Group and funded through the Waste Levy Fund, is monitored 24/7 with a heat sensor to ensure safe storage. This initiative addresses the growing risk of battery-related fires in trucks, recycling facilities, and landfills, protecting contractors, facilities, and the wider community.

Growing composting solutions

Our third subsidised home composting scheme (SHCS) was launched in September 2024 with strong uptake. Composting units- including compost bins, bokashi units, and worm farms- were distributed from the Whakatāne Resource Recovery Centre and Murupara Service Centre for just \$15 each. A total of 768 units were sold in just three days, helping households reduce organic waste and support sustainable practices.

Murupara Resource Recovery Centre upgrades

This year, charges were introduced at the Murupara Resource Recovery Centre to align with those at Whakatāne. Before implementing charges, significant upgrades were completed, including new traffic management, a concrete rubbish drop-off area, fencing, and a new offal hole area with dedicated parking.

Waste minimisation initiatives

A wide range of waste minimisation initiatives continued to be delivered over the last year including:










- Providing recycling bins at public events.
- Delivering waste education programmes to 15 schools.
- Exchanging 541 native plants to schools in return for paper and cardboard recycling.
- Supporting Community Resources Whakatāne to divert construction and demolition waste from landfill and enable reuse.
- Running multi-media campaigns to raise awareness and encourage waste reduction across the district.

How we performed

Ā mātau mahi

Performance targets

- 0 out of 3 measures (0%) achieved for waste management.
- The amount of waste sent to landfill per person was higher than the 70% national target - potentially due to unmeasured waste from out of district and a large amount of contaminated greenwaste being directed to landfill.
- User satisfaction with both refuse disposal and kerb side collection targets were not met.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (HOW WE WILL MEASURE OUR SERVICE DELIVERY)	2025	2024	2023	MARGIN OF ERROR	TARGET
Amount of waste sent to landfill per person each year.	74.12% 	57.80% 	52.8% 	N/A	Below 70% of the national average amount.
<p><i>Comment: This target was set as part of the council's waste management and minimisation plan in 2021. At the time the national average was 740kg per person, per annum (Ministry for the Environment). The latest national average is currently 615kg per person, per annum. Therefore, our target for this year needs to be below 430.5kg (70% of 615kg) per person, per annum.</i></p> <p><i>The reduction in the national average is due to changes in reporting. With new reporting regulations implemented over the past few years, there is more data flowing into central government. The national amount per person, per annum has decreased due to these changes in reporting and more granularity in waste data.</i></p> <p><i>We have recently been made aware that six waste operators are using Whakatāne Resource Recovery Centre to dump waste that originates from outside our district. As we have not measured the amount of waste involved, it is contributing to the above result. We have asked these operators to identify such loads at the weighbridge so that we can measure this for the next financial year.</i></p> <p><i>During the current year, we also landfilled a backlog of 745 tonnes of contaminated greenwaste. This has also contributed to this result by adding a further 3%.</i></p>					
User satisfaction with refuse disposal (transfer station facilities). (RSS)	76% 	78% 	82% 	+5%	82%
<p><i>In 2025, over half (55%) of residents reported using the district's refuse transfer station facilities through the year (similar to 51% in 2024, up from 45% in 2023).</i></p> <p><i>3-in-4 users (76%) were satisfied with these facilities (average rating 7.1) – however, this continued a gradual decline from 2022 (86%) despite remaining highly positive – and above the New Zealand benchmark – in absolute terms.</i></p>					
User satisfaction with the kerbside waste collection service. (RSS)	83% 	89% 	88% 	+3%	85%
<p><i>Most surveyed residents (89%) reported regular kerbside waste collection at their property in 2025 (consistent with previous years).</i></p> <p><i>Satisfaction was generally consistent across community segments in 2025.</i></p> <p><i>High satisfaction levels were again reflected in the high proportion (80%) of residents preferring the same level of spending for waste collection services (77% in 2024), with the current service funding considered appropriate.</i></p>					

(RSS) - Result sourced from the residents satisfaction survey

LEGEND



Achieved



Not achieved
(but within MOE ±%)



Not achieved

What these activities cost and how they were paid for

Te utu o ēnei ngohe, ā, i pēhea i whakaea

FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENT WASTE MANAGEMENT WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025	LONG TERM PLAN 2023/24 \$000	LONG TERM PLAN 2024/25 \$000	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$000
OPERATIONAL			
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	1,701	2,779	2,667
Targeted rates	3,751	5,717	5,704
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	146	440	738
Fees and charges	2,016	2,201	2,378
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other	-	-	110
Sources of operating funding (A)	7,613	11,137	11,596
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	6,620	10,017	9,884
Finance costs	51	411	140
Internal charges and overheads applied	561	1,251	1,211
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Applications of operating funding (B)	7,232	11,680	11,235
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	381	(542)	362
CAPITAL			
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
Development and financial contributions	-	-	(1)
Increase (decrease) in debt	(237)	1,089	1,075
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Sources of capital funding (C)	(237)	1,089	1,075
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	5	5	-
- to improve level of service	9	203	140
- to replace existing assets	46	31	70
Increase (decrease) in reserves	85	307	1,227
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding (D)	145	546	1,436
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	(382)	542	(362)
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	-	-	-

Capital Expenditure - Waste Management

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET 2024/25	ACTUAL 2024/25	VARIANCE
Murupara Transfer Station improvements	12,898	5,650	7,248
Recycling park minor improvements	5,279	-	5,279
Local organic waste processing plant	5,279	-	5,279
Keepa Road Greenwaste composting site	-	58,308	(58,308)
Waste management other projects/renewals consolidated	216,085	145,129	70,956
Total group capital expenditure	239,541	209,087	30,454

Comment: Core focus on district wide asset upgrades, including Murupara Resource Recovery Centre and Keepa Road Greenwaste composting site.





COMMUNITY REGULATION *Ngā waeture hāpori*

Activities in this group:

- Animal control
- Environmental health
- Liquor licensing
- Regulation monitoring

Ensuring animal control is in place, enforcing traffic regulations, preventing alcohol-related harm through liquor licensing, and maintaining environmental and public health standards are key to making the Whakatāne District a safe place to live, work and play.

Contribution to community outcomes



**Strong, connected,
interdependent,
diverse communities**

Alignment with strategic priorities



Enhancing the safety, wellbeing, and vibrancy of communities

– *Me mātua whakanui i te marutau, te oranga, me te wana o ngā hāpori*

- Work with other agencies and community organisations to focus on social wellbeing outcomes (such as health, homelessness, and safety).

What's happened this year?

I ahatia i tenei tau?

Animal control – School holiday education programme

Animal control officers actively engaged with tamaraiki at the Edgecumbe and Tāneatua road show events, delivering fun and educational activities. Children learned to identify dog behaviours ('Should I approach this dog?'), practiced attaching a collar and lead, and were taught the proper way to pick up dog waste. These sessions promoted responsible pet ownership and safety around animals in an interactive and memorable way.

Environmental health – excellence in food safety

Our environmental health officers were recognised by New Zealand Food Safe (MPI) for outstanding performance over the past year. The team verified all 231 registered food businesses, with only two verifications delayed due to unforeseen circumstances. This reflects our commitment to ensuring safe and suitable food for our communities.

Liquor licensing – compliance and enforcement success

A controlled purchase operation, conducted in collaboration with Police, targeted a range of licensed premises including bottle stores, restaurants, and clubs. The operation confirmed high levels of compliance, with only one venue failing to meet requirements. Additionally, all but one licensed premise was inspected this year, reinforcing our dedication to responsible alcohol management.

Regulation monitoring – LPR trial delivers results

The recent trial of license plate recognition (LPR) technology proved highly effective. The parking enforcement vehicle, equipped with a camera and GPS, allowed staff to monitor parking turnover efficiently and safely. Staff feedback highlighted increased coverage and improved safety, demonstrating the potential of this tool for future enforcement.





















How we performed

Ā mātau mahi

Performance targets

- 5 out of 6 measures (83%) achieved for community regulation.
- Premise availability constraints resulted in the licensed premises inspection target of 100% not being achieved.
- Response to complaints relating to abandoned cars, litter, excessive noise, environmental health, dogs, and other animals met timeframe targets.



PERFORMANCE MEASURES (HOW WE WILL MEASURE OUR SERVICE DELIVERY)	2025	2024	2023	TARGET
Percentage of licensed premises inspected at least once per year, excluding special licenses.	98.90% 	100% 	88% 	100%
The target of 100% was unable to be achieved due to availability constraints of a premise.				
Percentage of complaints relating to abandoned cars, litter, and general bylaw offences responded to within two working days.	92.86% 	92.71% 	96.4% 	90%
No significant change to last year.				
Percentage of after-hours excessive noise complaints responded to promptly*.	91.4% 	95% 	98% 	90%
There were multiple complaints that were ongoing and or anonymous. Jobs that we do not attend within set timeframe.				
Percentage of environmental health complaints (excluding noise) responded to within two working days.	94% 	86% 	93% 	90%
-				
Percentage of aggressive/threatening dogs and roaming stock complaints responded to within one hour.	92.19% 	90.37% 	89.70% 	90%
This is core function of the Council, to deliver public safety. The target was met for the year, no significant change to the year prior.				
Percentage of all other animal control complaints responded to within two working days.	94.05% 	97.24% 	98.90% 	90%
No significant change.				

* Promptly is defined as responding to excessive noise complaints within the following timeframes:

Area 1 (Ōhope, Whakatāne, Tāneatua, Coastlands, Awakeri, Thornton Road to Golf Links Road): less than 60 minutes

Area 2 (Edgecumbe, Matatā, Otamarakau, Otakiri, Onepū, Te Teko, Te Mahoe and Wainui to the Ōpōtiki intersection): less than 100 minutes

Area 3 (Murupara, Galatea, and environs): less than 120 minutes.

LEGEND  Achieved  Not achieved (but within MOE ±%)  Not achieved

What these activities cost and how they were paid for

Te utu o ēnei ngohe, ā, i pēhea i whakaea

FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENT COMMUNITY REGULATION WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025	LONG TERM PLAN 2023/24* \$000	LONG TERM PLAN 2024/25 \$000	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$000
OPERATIONAL			
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	-	1,822	1,748
Targeted rates	-	-	-
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	-
Fees and charges	-	941	863
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other	-	124	79
Sources of operating funding (A)	-	2,887	2,690
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	-	1,578	1,468
Finance costs	-	1	-
Internal charges and overheads applied	-	1,307	1,295
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Applications of operating funding (B)	-	2,887	2,762
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	-	-	(72)
CAPITAL			
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	-	48	13
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Sources of capital funding (C)	-	48	13
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
- to improve level of service	-	-	-
- to replace existing assets	-	48	13
Increase (decrease) in reserves	-	-	(72)
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding (D)	-	48	(59)
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	-	-	72
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	-	-	-

* Community Regulation is a new activity in the Long Term Plan 2024-34.

Capital Expenditure - Community Regulation

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET 2024/25 \$	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$	VARIANCE \$
Edgecumbe stockyards	47,508	13,115	34,394
Total group capital expenditure	47,508	13,115	34,394

Comment: Project completed within budget.



COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Ngā rawa hāpori

Activities in this group:

- Halls
- Public conveniences

This group of activities provides the community with access to great venues and ensures public conveniences are always available and well maintained.

Contribution to community outcomes



Strong, connected, interdependent, diverse communities

Alignment with strategic priorities



Enhancing the safety, wellbeing, and vibrancy of communities

– *Me mātua whakanui i te marutau, te oranga, me te wana o ngā hāpori*

- Invest wisely in recreation, events, and the arts to have a broader range of 'things to do' (especially for our youth)



Strengthening relationships with iwi, hapū and whānau

– *Me mātua whakawhanake i ngā kōtuituinga ā-iwi, ā-hapū, ā-whānau anō hoki*

- Work with iwi, hapū and whānau, to improve equity and wellbeing outcomes.
- Enable iwi participation in planning, decision-making and reflect cultural aspirations through the projects we deliver (e.g. financial support, capability, design).

What's happened this year?

I ahatia i tenei tau?

Manawahē Hall refurbishment

Manawahē Hall is a valued community asset and is in good condition. A series of upgrades completed in April 2025 enhanced both its functionality and appearance. Exterior improvements included replacing aged cladding with new coloursteel, updating weatherboards, installing timber baseboards, and repainting the exterior. Safety and accessibility were improved through a new concrete path, porch decking, and stairs.

Interior enhancements modernised the kitchen with new cabinetry, benchtops, and appliances, significantly improving usability. Additional upgrades included a new toilet vanity and improved stage access through newly constructed steps.

Whakatāne War Memorial Stadium Hall upgrades

The indoor stadium at Whakatāne War Memorial Hall was temporarily closed for three weeks (18 July – 9 August 2024) for scheduled maintenance and facility improvements. This enabled the installation of energy-efficient LED lighting, supported by a generous grant from Trust Horizon. The upgrade enhanced lighting quality for all sporting codes while reducing energy use and operational costs. The new system is also designed for future reuse in any redevelopment.

During the closure, asbestos was removed from bathroom ceilings, and regular user groups were supported in securing alternative venues. The reception lounge, foyer, and Little Theatre remained open throughout. Planning is underway to repair the roof above the reception area and Little Theatre, with no expected impact on access to the wider facility.





How we performed

Ā mātau mahi

Performance targets

- 0 out of 2 measures (0%) achieved for community facilities.
- User satisfaction with both public toilets and public halls did not meet targets.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (HOW WE WILL MEASURE OUR SERVICE DELIVERY)	2025	2024	2023	MARGIN OF ERROR	TARGET
User satisfaction with public toilets. (RSS) (New measure)	55% 	50%	59%	±5%	68%
	<p><i>Comment: In 2025, half of residents (51%) reported using a public toilet in the district (similar to 61% in 2024).</i></p> <p><i>Among public toilet users, satisfaction recovered slightly in 2025 (55%) from the historical low in 2024 (50%) after several years of stability (down from 59% in 2023) – just below the national benchmark average (60%).</i></p>				
User satisfaction with public halls. (RSS) (New measure)	63% 	67%	87%	±6%	77%
	<p><i>Comment: Many residents could not rate public halls in the district. Visitation of halls remained low in 2025 (20%), down from 2024 (27%) but similar to 2023 (also 20%).</i></p> <p><i>Despite low usage, satisfaction among public hall users (63%) fell to an historic low; down from 2024 (67%) and previous years (even accounting for the atypical peak of 2023).</i></p> <p><i>Public halls remained a low spending priority - 59% of residents preferring the same level of Council funds spent on these facilities, with 1-in-4 (23%) wanting less spent.</i></p>				

(RSS) - Result sourced from the residents satisfaction survey.

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LEGEND  **Achieved**  **Not achieved**
(but within MOE ±%)  **Not achieved**

What these activities cost and how they were paid for

Te utu o ēnei ngohe, ā, i pēhea i whakaea

FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENT COMMUNITY FACILITIES WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025	LONG TERM PLAN 2023/24* \$000	LONG TERM PLAN 2024/25 \$000	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$000
OPERATIONAL			
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	-	1,379	1,323
Targeted rates	-	-	-
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	-
Fees and charges	-	122	134
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other	-	1	57
Sources of operating funding (A)	-	1,501	1,515
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	-	1,206	1,158
Finance costs	-	134	77
Internal charges and overheads applied	-	563	529
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Applications of operating funding (B)	-	1,903	1,764
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	-	(402)	(249)
CAPITAL			
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	63	60
Development and financial contributions	-	731	6
Increase (decrease) in debt	-	1,891	1,159
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Sources of capital funding (C)	-	2,685	1,225
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
- to improve level of service	-	1,304	455
- to replace existing assets	-	510	574
Increase (decrease) in reserves	-	469	(54)
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding (D)	-	2,283	975
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	-	402	249
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	-	-	-

* Community Facilities is a new activity in the Long Term Plan 2024-34.

Capital Expenditure - Community Facilities

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET 2024/25 \$	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$	VARIANCE \$
James Street refurbish/relocate	249,998	145,823	104,174
Rex Morpeth Hub - stage one preliminary works	1,053,690	303,450	750,240
Whakatāne War Memorial Hall stadium lights	126,443	73,426	53,017
Better Off Funding - earthquake strengthening halls - enhance resilience	-	6,067	(6,067)
Community facilities other projects/renewals consolidated	383,901	500,410	(116,509)
Total group capital expenditure	1,814,032	1,029,176	784,855

Comment: The Whakatāne War Memorial stadium energy efficient lights were completed using Trust Horizon Grant funding. Other projects and district wide capital works continued.





CORPORATE SERVICES

Ngā ratonga rangatōpū

Activities in this group:

- Corporate fleet
- Corporate project management
- Corporate property
- Customer services
- Communications and engagement
- Executive support admin and executive team
- Financial services
- People and capability
- Health safety and wellbeing
- Information management
- Digital services
- Procurement and risk management
- Strategy and policy
- Group elimination/district activities

This group of activities delivers a range of functions and services that support all activities of Council. These are often referred to as our 'internal activities' and include functions such as financial services, information management, human resources, technology and systems. Being a strong, resilient council organisation focused on continuous improvement is critical to deliver our activities and services.

Enterprise resource planning (ERP) system renewal

Implementation of a new enterprise resource planning (ERP) system was approved to modernise and streamline core operations. ERP systems are essential for integrating and managing key functions such as finance, customer services, rating, and regulatory processes.

The new system will replace 'Ozone', which has served the organisation for 18 years and is now at the end of its operational life. Following a comprehensive procurement process, a business case was endorsed in December 2024 to transition to 'Datascope', a modern ERP platform designed to meet the evolving needs of the organisation and community.

The rollout of Datascope will be staged over two years to minimise disruption and ensure a smooth transition. Once fully implemented, the new system will:

- Support more efficient and integrated operations
- Enhance data reporting to inform decision-making
- Provide a secure and stable platform for core functions
- Reduce organisational risk
- Improve the customer experience for our communities

This investment reflects our commitment to continuous improvement, digital transformation, and delivering high-quality services to the district.

Communications and engagement

This year, we reimagined how we connect with our communities, reaching further and engaging more actively and effectively than ever before. Through a mix of interactive pop-in sessions, in-person events, and a strong digital presence, we made it easier for residents across our large district to have their say, stay informed and feel fully heard.

We delivered major communication and engagement campaigns across a wide range of projects and initiatives, alongside a large number of smaller, targeted initiatives. We leveraged multiple channels ensuring that every community voice could find a way to be part of the conversation. Channels used included social media, newsletters, flyers, public notices, signage, Variable Message Signs (VMS), QR codes, emails, website updates, media releases, radio and newspaper adverts, and consultation documents.

Key campaigns included (but were not limited to):

- Diversity Equity and Inclusion Policy
- Wai it Matters (Local Water Done Well)
- Battery recycling

Our social media following grew to more than 17,500, while 107 media stories were released. Numerous media/interview requests were addressed promptly through-out the year, the majority within 24 hours. Across the district, 20 newsletters were produced, including five for Murupara, six for Rangitāiki, and nine for Ōhope/Whakatāne (Ko Konei). During the year, 10 formal consultation processes were undertaken using our online engagement platform Kōrero Mai, providing residents the opportunity to provide meaningful input on the decisions that affect them.




These initiatives reflect our ongoing commitment to accessible, transparent, and responsive communications and engagement, ensuring that every resident has the opportunity to participate in shaping the future of the Whakatāne District.

How we performed

Ā mātau mahi

Performance targets

- 0 out of 1 measure (0%) achieved for corporate services (although this was within the margin of error).
- Despite high use by residents, user satisfaction with the customer services front desk remained stable at 73%, just under target of 76%.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (HOW WE WILL MEASURE OUR SERVICE DELIVERY)	2025	2024	2023	MARGIN OF ERROR	TARGET
User satisfaction with the Council's customer service front desk.	73% 	73% 	75% 	±6%	76%
	<p>Overall, half (50%) of all residents in 2025 stated they had contacted the Council throughout the year (46% in 2024) – the highest rate since 2021.</p> <p>Telephone remained the primary contact method (58%, 52% in 2024), with email (33%, 34% in 2024) and personal contact also important.</p> <p>In 2025, half (48%) of residents who contacted the Council directly were satisfied with this contact (generally consistent with previous years).</p> <p>There were no significant differences across community segments in this regard. Satisfaction with customer service contact in 2025 (73%) was consistent with 2024. The gradual downward trend over the last five years has not been statistically significant.</p>				

(RSS) - Result sourced from the residents satisfaction survey.

LEGEND  Achieved  Not achieved (but within MOE ±%)  Not achieved

What these activities cost and how they were paid for *Te utu o ēnei ngohe, ā, i pēhea i whakaea*

FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENT CORPORATE SERVICES WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025	LONG TERM PLAN 2023/24 \$000	LONG TERM PLAN 2024/25 \$000	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$000
OPERATIONAL			
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	2,542	985	1,950
Targeted rates	-	-	(616)
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	136	217
Fees and charges	29	30	(250)
Internal charges and overheads recovered	15,551	24,781	23,330
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other	361	492	639
Sources of operating funding (A)	18,483	26,423	25,268
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	13,169	22,706	18,623
Finance costs	65	284	3,854
Internal charges and overheads applied	1,593	459	1,055
Other operating funding applications	1,505	2,288	1,523
Applications of operating funding (B)	16,332	25,737	25,054
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	2,151	686	214
CAPITAL			
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	67
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	(90)	117	(673)
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Sources of capital funding (C)	(90)	117	(607)
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	2,079	-	-
- to improve level of service	91	1,106	402
- to replace existing assets	1,257	1,728	1,251
Increase (decrease) in reserves	(1,365)	(2,031)	(2,046)
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding (D)	2,062	802	(392)
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	(2,151)	(686)	(214)
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	-	-	-

The Funding Impact Statement for Corporate Services included in this report varies to the published Long Term Plan 2024/25 figures. This Funding Impact Statement now includes Group Eliminations/District Activities.

Capital Expenditure - Corporate Services

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET 2024/25 \$	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$	VARIANCE \$
Enterprise Resource Planning system replacement	52,634	32,978	19,655
Better Off Funding - CCTV upgrade enhancement	-	66,691	(66,691)
Whakatāne Library reception upgrades	31,580	20,093	11,487
Library HVAC - upgrade	394,990	-	394,990
Museum HVAC - upgrade	374,990	-	374,990
Corporate services other projects/renewals consolidated	1,979,281	1,534,020	445,261
Total group capital expenditure	2,833,475	1,653,782	1,179,693

Comment: Library reception upgrades were completed under budget. The Library and Museum heating ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) upgrades were deferred to the following calendar year due to supply chain issues. The Enterprise Resource Planning system continues as a multi-year project. District wide capital renewals programmes have largely been completed.



Council Controlled Organisations

Ngā Rōpū e whakahaerehia ana e te Kaunihera

A Council Controlled Organisation (CCO) is a company or organisation in which the Council, or a number of councils, hold 50 percent or more of the voting rights, or can appoint 50 percent or more of the trustees, directors or managers. Councils engage in CCOs where it provides a more effective, efficient and financially-viable way of delivering services.

We have an interest in the following CCO's:

- Whakatāne Airport (joint venture)
- Toi-Economic Development Agency (Toi-EDA)
- Bay of Plenty Local Authority Shared Services Limited (BOPLASS) (company)
- New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA) (company)

Each CCO is required to agree to a statement of intent with its stakeholders (including the Council) which is made publicly available. The statement of intent sets out the CCO's nature and scope of activities, key performance targets, reporting requirements, and other matters. At the end of each financial year, each CCO reports on its performance against its statement of intent. We manage and monitor our investment in CCOs through regular reviews of statements of intent and annual reports via our Revenue and Finance Committee. Copies of the statements of intent and annual reports are available on our website. This framework ensures transparency, accountability, and alignment between council objectives and the activities of each CCO, supporting the effective delivery of services for the district. The following explains what these organisations do, our objectives in regard to ownership, nature and scope of activities, key performance targets and outcomes.

WHAKATĀNE AIRPORT

Te Papa Rererangi o Whakatāne

About this organisation

Mō tēnei rōpū

Whakatāne Airport is a CCO under the Local Government Act 2002. It was established as a CCO in 2006 and operates as a joint venture partnership between the Council and the Ministry of Transport Te Manatū Waka, with each party owning a 50 percent share.

The airport is a valued community asset, connecting Whakatāne and the wider Eastern Bay of Plenty to the rest of the country. It plays a vital role in regional economic infrastructure, supporting trade, tourism, and overall economic growth. The airport has historical ties to Ngāi Taiwhakaea and Ngāti Awa, with opportunities to develop partnerships. Continuous investment and upgrades are required to maintain and enhance this critical infrastructure in line with Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) requirements.

Our policies and objectives regarding ownership in this organisation

Ā mātau kaupapa here me ngā whāinga ki tēnei rōpū

The Council's objective for this organisation is to see the maintenance of an active regional airport. The airport is a vital economic resource for the district and an essential part of the regional transport infrastructure.



Nature and scope of activities

Te hōkaitanga o ēnei mahi

Aviation services

The airport is maintained as a non-certified aerodrome in accordance with CAA requirements. It provides commercial passenger and freight services through third parties, as well as aviation services to clubs and private members.

Leases

Land surplus to the airport's present operational requirements is leased for grazing. Lease of the airport land is also available to ancillary commercial operators and associated industries. The objectives of Whakatāne Airport include:

- Providing high-quality facilities and services in proportion with existing level of aviation activity, and in accordance with all the appropriate acts, regulations and rules pertaining to airport and aviation operations in line with the size of Whakatāne Airport.
- Operating the airport in a sound, environmentally-sustainable and business like manner.
- Ensuring that the airport is administered efficiently, effectively and safely to the benefit of scheduled flight operations, commercial operators and recreational users.
- Improving the long-term value and financial performance of the airport.
- Promoting a safe, accessible, affordable and reliable air transport system for the Eastern Bay of Plenty region.

It makes a social contribution rather than a financial return, and as such is considered a public benefit entity.

Key performance indicators

Functional performance

The airport is maintained to CAA requirements and continues to comply under CAR Part 139. The safety management system (SMS) has been updated to OneReg, including a fit-for-purpose asset management plan (AMP) to meet the requirements of a standalone CCO.

Financial performance

The airport operates and maintains its assets within operational expenditure budgets (excluding corporate overheads and depreciation). Some increases in costs, particularly for contracts (airport management and SMS) and property valuation, have exceeded budget estimates, though other budgets were underutilised, resulting in an overall underspend. Improved asset management will enable more accurate forecasting, forward works programmes, and budget planning in future Long Term Plan cycles.

Capital Expenditure - Airport

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET 2024/25 \$	ACTUAL 2024/25 \$	VARIANCE \$
Airport Land Redevelopment	350,033	98,038	251,995
CCO- Airports Other Projects /Renewals Consolidated	601,602	183,700	417,902
Total group capital expenditure	951,635	281,739	669,896

Comment: Focus has been on land use feasibility work and airport (runway, lighting, fencing, terminal) renewals.

TOI-EDA

About this organisation

Mō tēnei rōpū

Until December 2024 Toi-EDA operated as the economic development agency for the Eastern Bay of Plenty based in Whakatāne. It was a partnership between Kawerau, Ōpōtiki and Whakatāne District Councils, alongside Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Regional Council, working in collaboration with local iwi.

Toi-EDA's purpose and vision was to grow the Eastern Bay of Plenty: Tini o Toi – Kia Tipu, Kia Puawai – to create, grow, and blossom the myriad of Toi.

Following similar decisions by Ōpōtiki and Kawerau District Councils, we decided in December 2024 to discontinue funding for Toi-EDA. The organisation is now undergoing a reset following reductions in operational funding.

Our policies and objectives regarding ownership in this organisation

Ā mātau kaupapa here me ngā whāinga ki tēnei rōpū

Our objective for this organisation is to recognise the strength of a coordinated approach to economic development in the Eastern Bay of Plenty. We aim to support major economic development opportunities that will deliver benefits to the communities of the Whakatāne District and Eastern Bay of Plenty.

Nature and scope of activities

Te hōkaitanga o ēnei mahi

Toi-EDA's activities focused on attracting people to work, live, and play in the Eastern Bay of Plenty, including:

- Encouraging alignment between Māori economic development activities and Toi-EDA initiatives
- Supporting and developing local industry
- Advocating for improved infrastructure and transportation
- Fostering communication with communities and partners
- Securing and diversifying Toi-EDA's funding base

BAY OF PLENTY LOCAL AUTHORITY SHARED SERVICES

About this organisation Mō tēnei rōpū

Bay of Plenty Local Authority Shared Services Limited (BOPLASS) is a company owned by nine councils: Whakatāne District Council, Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Rotorua Lakes Council, Western Bay of Plenty District Council, Kawerau District Council, Tauranga City Council, Ōpōtiki District Council, Taupō District Council, and Gisborne District Council. BOPLASS investigates, develops, and delivers shared services, joint procurement, and communications initiatives for its member councils. Over the past year, we have benefited from cost savings in areas such as insurance, postal services, software, and aerial photography. BOPLASS has also led several procurement projects across large council collectives.

Our objectives for being involved in this organisation

Ā mātau whāinga ki tēnei rōpū

Our objective for participating in BOPLASS is to promote shared services between local authorities in the Bay of Plenty, Gisborne, and other regions, enhancing efficiency, value, and service outcomes.

Nature and scope of activities

Te hōkaitanga o ēnei mahi

BOPLASS provides benefit to councils and their stakeholders through improved levels of service, reduced costs, improved efficiencies and increased value through innovation. The principal nature and scope of the activities of BOPLASS is to:

- Use joint procurement to add value to goods and services sourced for member councils.
- Establish the underlying technology, framework, platform and policies to enable and support collaboration.
- Pursue best practice in the management of all activities to obtain best value and minimise risk.
- Demonstrate financial responsibility by ensuring that its activities are adequately funded from savings achieved, levies, council contributions, or government funding where available.
- Allow other councils or organisations to participate in its activities where this will benefit its member councils directly or indirectly.
- Actively monitor and engage with shared service developments across the public sector to identify opportunities for further development and establishing best practice.
- Represent the collective views of its shareholders in matters with which it is associated.

BOPLASS set six performance measures through its Statement of Intent 2023-26. Their 2024/25 Annual Report will be made available. For more information visit **BOPLASS | Whakatāne District Council**.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING AGENCY (LGFA)

Te Pūtea Kāwanatanga ā-rohe

About this organisation

Mō tēnei rōpū

The New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA) is a company owned by the New Zealand Government (20%) and 30 local councils (80%), with Whakatāne District Council holding a 0.44% share. LGFA specialises in financing the New Zealand local government sector.

LGFA was established to raise debt on behalf of councils on terms that are more favourable than if councils borrowed directly. As a majority council-owned entity, LGFA is classified as a council-controlled organisation (CCO) under the Local Government Act 2002.

Our objectives for being involved in this organisation

Ā mātau whāinga ki tēnei rōpū

Our main objective for ownership in LGFA is to access shared funding at better rates and for more flexible terms.

The local government funding agency allows councils to borrow funds at lower interest margins than would be otherwise possible. In the past year, this has provided the Council with access to a broader range of borrowing options, so less ratepayer funds are spent on interest repayments. Find out more about the LGFA in our long term plan or on the LGFA website.

Nature and scope of activities

Te hōkaitanga o ēnei mahi

- Raises debt funding for the purpose of providing debt financing to New Zealand local authorities and CCO's (participating borrowers).
- May raise debt funding either domestically and/or offshore in either New Zealand dollars or foreign currency.
- Only lends to participating borrowers that have entered into required relevant legal and operational arrangements, and comply with the LGFA's lending policies.
- May undertake any other activities considered by the LGFA board to be reasonably related, incidentally to, or in connection with, that business.

LGFA set 17 performance measures through its Statement of Intent 2023-26. Their Annual Report for the 2024/25 year will be uploaded to the Council website once available. **Annual Reports | Whakatāne District Council.**

OUR INVOLVEMENT IN OTHER ACTIVITIES

Te mahi a te kaunihera i ētahi atu ngohe

This section highlights additional initiatives we have been involved in throughout the year. It includes work on securing external funding, partnerships, and other projects that support the delivery of services and benefits to the Whakatāne District community.

Better Off Funding projects

The Better Off Funding programme has been active since the funding agreement with the Department of Internal Affairs was signed in January 2023. We received a funding allocation of \$5.66 million in December 2022. As at 30 June 2025, a total of \$4.1 million has been invested to fast-track key projects that benefit the community. All funding must be utilised by 30 June 2027.

Key achievements over the year include:

Collective Iwi Policy Hub

Since January 2025, the Iwi Policy Hub has delivered several key outcomes, including successful collaboration on the Local Water Done Well consultation, ensuring iwi perspectives are incorporated across council activities. Significant progress has been made in supporting the development of the Our Places - Eastern Bay Spatial Plan, the Long Term Plan, the District Plan and other important council policies and plans.

Natural hazard resilience

The funding for natural hazard resilience has been used to deploy emergency supplies across the district as well as prepare for a new Emergency Operations Centre (EOC).

Honoa Hapori – community outreach

This project was completed on 31 December 2024 and the Honoa Hapori service is now incorporated into 'business-as-usual' functions. While the project is formally completed, data and community feedback will continue to be gathered to inform ongoing improvements.



Community safety camera project upgrade

This project was completed during the 2024/25 financial year. Ongoing monitoring has now transitioned into business-as-usual council functions, enabling real-time police response to incidents and enhancing community safety.

Edgecumbe to Thornton shared pathway

Sections one and four of the Edgecumbe-Thornton shared use pathway are largely complete, with minor access improvements remaining. In 2024/25 there has been significant community engagement around sections two and three and some delays have been experienced particularly where private land is required. Section three is likely to be completed in 2026 and section two in 2027, following upgrades to the stopbanks by Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Regional Council.

Southern district towns regeneration

Master plans for Minginui and Murupara have reached final draft stage. Approvals from Ngāti Whare and Ngāti Manawa are expected in August 2025. Following these approvals, the plans will be finalised, and the Council will provide high-level costings and implementation processes. Initial public engagement is complete, with a final round scheduled for July 2025. Next steps include determining costs for completing the master plans and implementing associated outdoor projects.

Te Rāhui Herenga Waka (Whakatāne Boat Harbour Development)

Te Rāhui Herenga Waka was a collaborative project between Whakatāne District Council, Te Rāhui Lands Limited Partnership, and the Crown via Crown Regional Holdings Limited (the 'limited partners') to construct a commercial boat harbour on land leased from Te Rāhui Lands Trust at 2 Keepa Road, Whakatāne.

We committed \$9.8 million to the project in our Long Term Plan 2021-31, and have contributed \$5.7 million to date, funded through a loan against the Harbour Endowment Fund.

In May 2025, the limited partners instructed the Te Rāhui Herenga Waka Whakatāne board to wind down the project and dissolve the associated legal entities. The decision not to proceed was based on changes arising from the project rescope. These included a significant reduction in the land remediation component and substantial alterations to the broader project scope, which diminished the economic and community benefits underpinning the original business case.

The board is now working to determine expenditure to date and what funds may be available for redistribution to the council and other partners.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Ngā matapae whakapuakanga pūtea

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for financial statements

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Introduction to the financial section

The financial section encompasses the essential financial details mandated by the Local Government Act 2002 and the Financial Reporting and Prudence Regulations 2014 for Whakatāne District Council (Council).

This section includes:

- Financial Prudence Benchmarks
- Whole of Council Funding Impact Statement (FIS)
- Financial Statements
- Notes to the Financial Statements

The Financial Prudence Benchmarks are prepared in compliance with the Financial Reporting and Prudence Regulations 2014. Their aim is to reveal the Council's financial performance against various benchmarks that are also used by other councils.

Rating Base Information outlines the basis on which rates are determined and trends observed over recent years.

The Whole of Council Funding Impact Statement (FIS) is compiled in line with the Financial Reporting and Prudence Regulations 2014. It presents the full year's results compared to the budget and the previous year, categorising revenue and expenditure as either operational or capital sources and applications of funds. Depreciation expense is excluded from the operational application of funds. In the Funding Impact Statement, depreciation is included in the movement of reserves as a source of capital funding.

Following the Whole of Council Funding Impact Statement, the Council's Financial Statements are

presented in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002 and are prepared in line with New Zealand Generally Accepted Accounting Practice and the new Public Benefit Entity requirements.

The Financial Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense present operational and capital revenue and expenditure differently from the Funding Impact Statement.

Operating expenditure includes depreciation and some non-cash expenses such as provisions for doubtful debts. Depreciation is a non-cash operating expense that acknowledges the use of an asset over the year. Since assets will eventually wear out and need replacement, the cost of asset depreciation should be considered an operational cost. However, the Council does not always fully fund the costs of depreciation through rates and user fees and charges, such as for the replacement of road assets which are partly funded by NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi.

The Statement of Financial Position displays what the Council owns (its assets) and what it owes (its liabilities) at the end of the financial year. This statement provides a snapshot of the Council's net worth (assets less liabilities) at a specific point in time. It is supported by a Statement of Movements in Equity, which illustrates how the net worth of the organisation has changed over the year, and a Statement of Cashflows, which records the Council's transactions involving cash movements and explains the year-end cash balance.

The notes to the accounts offer a more detailed explanation of the items in the financial statements.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE REVENUE AND EXPENSE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	Note	Actual 2025 \$000	Budget 2025 \$000	Actual 2024 \$000
Operating revenue				
Rates	2(i)	69,123	70,044	59,048
Subsidies and grants	2(ii)	22,021	21,308	27,983
Development contributions		199	1,431	198
Fees and charges	2(iii)	8,960	9,493	8,969
Finance revenue	2(iv)	1,569	51	1,127
Other operating revenue	2(v)	3,838	3,791	3,780
Gains	2(vi)	636	-	272
Total operating revenue		106,345	106,117	101,377
Operating expenditure				
Personnel costs	3	29,346	29,359	26,885
Depreciation and amortisation expense	6	26,231	26,616	26,392
Finance costs	4	9,159	7,906	7,798
Other operating expenses	5	45,900	49,527	43,375
Revaluation losses	5(i)	5,680		1,974
Total operating expenditure		116,316	113,408	106,423
Operating surplus/(deficit) before tax and share of equity accounted investments		(9,971)	(7,291)	(5,047)
Share of limited partnership and joint venture surplus/(deficit)	14	(375)	(766)	(213)
Surplus/(deficit) Before Tax		(10,347)	(8,057)	(5,260)
Income Tax benefit (expense)	7	(59)	-	(17)
Surplus/(Deficit) After Tax		(10,406)	(8,057)	(5,277)
Other comprehensive revenue and expenses				
Other comprehensive revenue and expense of joint venture	14	-	-	-
Revaluation of property, plant, and equipment gains /(losses)	24	225,743	39,785	12,320
Tax on other comprehensive revenue	7	59	-	17
Total other comprehensive revenue and expense		225,802	39,785	12,337
Total comprehensive revenue and expense		215,396	31,728	7,060

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	Note	Actual 2025 \$000	Budget 2025 \$000	Actual 2024 \$000
Balance at 1 July		1,200,467	1,238,486	1,193,442
Total comprehensive revenue and expense for the year		215,396	31,728	7,060
Other Movements		19	-	(35)
Balance at 30 June	24	1,415,882	1,270,214	1,200,467

The summary of accounting policies and the accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2025

	Note	Actual 2025 \$000	Budget 2025 \$000	Actual 2024 \$000
Assets				
Current assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	8	9,739	5,074	17,623
Receivables	9	21,407	19,369	20,296
Inventory	10	443	303	427
Derivative financial instruments	11	-	-	35
Other financial assets	13	-	-	-
Total current assets		31,589	24,746	38,381
Non-current assets				
Non-current assets held for sale	12	9,554	10,051	9,551
Derivative financial instruments	11	919	1,692	1,652
Investment in CCOs and other similar entities	14	12,996	14,820	10,108
Investment in Limited Partnership (Boat Harbour)	14	4,036	-	5,857
Property, plant, and equipment	15	1,499,553	1,363,554	1,257,654
Work in progress	15	23,444	12,222	18,080
Intangible assets	16	680	2,903	860
Forestry assets	17	285	333	286
Investment property	18	42,390	50,908	43,226
Other financial assets	13	350	-	350
Total non-current assets		1,594,207	1,456,483	1,347,622
Total assets		1,625,796	1,481,229	1,386,003
Liabilities				
Current liabilities				
Payables and deferred revenue	19	18,970	27,961	20,499
Derivative financial instruments	11	11	-	-
Borrowings and other financial liabilities	20	32,000	32,000	22,000
Employee entitlements	21	4,077	3,064	3,755
Provisions	22	442	722	1,245
Total current liabilities		55,500	63,747	47,499
Non-current liabilities				
Borrowings and other financial liabilities	20	146,800	141,800	132,500
Derivative financial instruments	11	2,242	-	-
Employee entitlements	21	584	573	570
Provisions	22	4,788	4,895	4,968
Total non-current liabilities		154,414	147,268	138,038
Total liabilities		209,914	211,015	185,537
Net assets (assets minus liabilities)		1,415,882	1,270,214	1,200,467
Equity				
Accumulated funds	24	433,865	427,311	442,241
Council created operating reserves	24	291	11,695	2,172
Restricted reserves	24	15,117	14,839	15,188
Asset revaluation reserve	24	966,609	816,369	740,866
Total equity		1,415,882	1,270,214	1,200,467

The summary of accounting policies and the accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	Note	Actual 2025 \$000	Budget 2025 \$000	Actual 2024 \$000
Cash flows from operating activities				
Receipts from rates revenue		66,628	68,467	56,782
Subsidies and grants received		20,916	21,636	26,202
Development and financial contributions received		199	-	198
Fees and charges received		8,627	9,732	12,718
Interest and dividends received		1,576	51	1,176
Receipts from other revenue		3,753	6,442	-
Total operating cash provided		101,699	106,327	97,076
Payments to suppliers and employees		(76,062)	(76,619)	(67,363)
Paid to agencies		(143)	-	(132)
Interest paid		(9,159)	(7,906)	(7,518)
GST (net)		1,581	-	(580)
Total operating cash applied		(83,783)	(84,525)	(75,593)
Net cash flow from operating activities		17,916	21,802	21,483
Cash flows from investing activities				
Receipts from sale of property, plant, and equipment		404	1,015	1,270
Receipts from Investments		329	-	-
Total investing cash provided		733	1,015	1,270
Purchase of property, plant, and equipment		(48,336)	(54,797)	(45,257)
Purchase of investment property		-	-	(447)
Acquisition of investments		(2,300)	(780)	(941)
Total investing cash applied		(50,636)	(55,577)	(46,645)
Net cash flow from investing activities		(50,100)	(54,562)	(45,375)
Cash flows from financing activities				
Proceeds from borrowings		46,300	49,000	50,000
Repayment of borrowings		(22,000)	(17,000)	(12,300)
Net cash flow from financing activities		24,300	32,000	37,700
Net (decrease)/increase in cash, cash equivalents, and bank overdrafts		(7,884)	(760)	13,808
Cash, cash equivalents, and bank overdrafts at the beginning of the year		17,623	5,834	3,815
Cash, cash equivalents, and bank overdrafts at the end of the year	8	9,739	5,074	17,623

	2024	Cashflows 2025 \$000	Non cash changes 2025 \$000	Actual 2025 \$000
Reconciliation of Liabilities Arising from Financing Activities-Note 20				
Long term borrowings	153,500	24,300	-	177,800
Other term liabilities – deposits held	1,000	-	-	1,000
Long Term Debt	154,500	24,300	-	178,800

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL

RECONCILIATION OF NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT) AFTER TAX TO NET CASHFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	Actual 2025 \$000	Actual 2024 \$000
Surplus/deficit after tax	(10,406)	(5,277)
Add/(less) non-cash items	-	-
Share of Limited Partnership's surplus/(deficit)	375	213
Depreciation and amortisation expense	26,045	26,392
Property, plant and equipment impairment	187	-
Boat harbour impairment	1,821	-
Vested assets revenue	(85)	(98)
(Gains)/losses property intended for sale	(3)	500
(Gains)/losses in fair value of forestry assets	1	(6)
(Gains)/losses in fair value of investment property	836	864
(Gains)/losses on derivative financial instruments	3,021	611
(Gains)/Losses in fair value of borrower notes	(436)	-
Tax	59	17
Total non-cash items	31,821	28,493
Add/(less) items classified as investing or financing activities	-	-
(Gains)/losses on disposal of property, plant and equipment	(197)	(266)
Total items classified as investing or financing activities	(197)	(266)
Add/(less) movement in working capital items	-	-
(Increase)/decrease in receivables and prepayments	(1,111)	(2,852)
(Increase)/decrease in inventory	(16)	(114)
Increase/(decrease) in payables	(1,529)	32
Increase/(decrease) in income tax payables	-	-
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	(983)	1,017
Increase/(decrease) in employee entitlements	336	450
Net movement in working capital items	(3,303)	(1,467)
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	17,916	21,483

Funding Impact Statement – Whole of Council

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL

FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE WHOLE OF COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	Annual Plan 2023/24 \$000	Annual Report 2023/24 \$000	Long Term Plan 2024/25 \$000	Actual 2024/25 \$000
Sources of operating funding				
General rates, uniform annual general charge, rates penalties	31,016	30,013	33,296	32,959
Targeted rates	29,824	29,036	37,402	36,818
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	7,606	9,448	7,751	9,413
Fees and charges	10,863	8,969	11,181	10,807
Interest and dividends from investments	48	1,134	60	1,576
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees and other receipts	2,531	3,675	2,599	2,626
Total operating funding (A)	81,889	82,275	92,288	94,200
Applications of operating funding				
Payments to staff and suppliers	67,645	67,551	77,252	75,399
Finance costs	8,281	7,798	7,906	9,159
Other operating funding applications	1,531	801	2,288	1,523
Total applications of operating funding (B)	77,457	76,149	87,446	86,801
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A – B)	4,432	6,126	4,842	8,119
Sources of capital funding				
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	26,841	18,534	13,053	12,034
Development and financial contributions	426	198	1,431	199
Increase (decrease) in debt	53,500	37,700	32,000	24,300
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	1,015	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-	-
Total sources of capital funding (C)	80,767	56,432	47,499	36,534
Application of capital funding				
Capital expenditure				
- to meet additional demand	8,654	766	2,053	1,474
- to improve the level of service	42,001	22,852	25,728	20,084
- to replace existing assets	27,240	21,858	27,212	26,591
Increase (decrease) in reserves	3,204	17,082	(2,652)	(3,496)
Increase (decrease) of investments	4,100	-	-	-
Total applications of capital funding (D)	85,199	62,558	52,341	44,653
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C – D)	(4,432)	(6,126)	(4,842)	(8,119)
Funding balance ((A – B) + (C – D))	-	-	-	-

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL

RECONCILIATION FROM SURPLUS OF OPERATING FUNDING TO OPERATING SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

The following reconciliation identifies the differences between the funding impact statement and the statement of comprehensive revenue and expenditure.

	ACTUAL 2025 \$000	ACTUAL 2024 \$000
Total Comprehensive Revenue wholly attributed to Whakatāne District Council	215,979	7,060
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding per Whole of Council Funding Impact Statement	(8,119)	(6,126)
Difference	207,277	934
The difference comprises:		
Depreciation and amortisation	(26,231)	(26,392)
Capital Income	12,233	18,732
Revaluation of Assets	225,743	12,320
Vested Assets	85	98
Other Gains	636	272
Increase (decrease) in provisions	267	(1,908)
Income Tax Expense	-	-
Other Losses	(5,680)	(1,974)
Other revenue and expense items	224	(214)
	207,277	934

Notes to the financial statements

Note 1: Statement of accounting policies

Reporting entity

Whakatāne District Council (the Council) is a territorial local authority established under the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) and is domiciled in New Zealand and operates in New Zealand. The relevant legislation governing the Council's operations includes the LGA and the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.

The financial statements have been prepared for the Council and exclude the Whakatāne Airport, which is a 50/50 joint equity venture between the Council and the Ministry of Transport.

The Council provides local infrastructure, local public services, and performs regulatory functions to the community. The Council does not operate to make a financial return. The Council has designated itself and the group as public benefit entities (PBE's) for the purposes of complying with generally accepted accounting practice (GAAP).

The financial statements of the Council are for the year ended 30 June 2025. The financial statements were authorised for issue by Council on 19 November 2025.

Section 98 of the Local Government Act 2002 requires that Council adopts the annual report within four months after the end of the financial year.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis, and the accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the period.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements of the Council have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the LGA and the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014 (LG(FRP)R), which includes the requirement to comply with NZ GAAP.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Tier 1 PBE accounting standards. These financial statements comply with PBE standards.

We have not met the requirements to have the annual report adopted by resolution within four months after

the end of the financial year to which it relates per section 98(3).

Presentation currency and rounding

The financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars, and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$000).

Other than the remuneration and the severance payment disclosures in Note 29, and the related party transactions disclosures in Note 25, the remuneration, severance payment, and related party transaction disclosures are rounded to the nearest dollar.

New or amended standards adopted

Disclosure of Fees for Audit Firms' Services (Amendments to PBE IPSAS 1)

Disclosure of Fees for Audit Firms' Services (Amendments to PBE IPSAS 1) has been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements. The amendment changes the required disclosures for fees for services provided by the audit or review provider, including a requirement to disaggregate the fees into specified categories. This new disclosure is included in Note 5.

Other changes in accounting policies

There have been no other changes in accounting policies.

Standards issued and not yet effective, and not early adopted

Standards and amendments issued but not yet effective that have not been early adopted and that are relevant to the Council and group are:

2024 Omnibus Amendments to PBE Standards (amendments to PBE IPSAS 1)

This amendment clarifies the principles for classifying a liability as current or noncurrent, particularly in relation to loan covenants. The amendment is effective for the year ended 30 June 2027.

The Council has not yet assessed in detail the impact of these amendments/These amendments are not expected to have a significant impact.

Note 1: Statement of accounting policies (continued)

PBE IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts

PBE IFRS 17 establishes principles for the recognition, measurement, presentation, and disclosure of insurance contracts and will replace PBE IFRS 4. This standard is effective for the year ended 30 June 2027.

The Council has not yet assessed in detail the impact of this standard. This standard is not expected to have a significant impact.

Summary of significant accounting policies

Significant accounting policies that do not relate to a specific note are outlined below.

Foreign currency transactions

Foreign currency transactions are translated into New Zealand Dollars (NZD) using the spot exchange rate at the date of the transactions. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions are recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Goods and services tax (GST)

Items in the financial statements are stated exclusive of GST, except for receivables and payables, which are presented on a GST-inclusive basis. Where GST is not recoverable as input tax, it is recognised as part of the related asset or expense.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the IRD is included as part of receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

The net GST paid to, or received from, the IRD, including the GST relating to investing and financing activities, is classified as an operating cash flow in the statement of cash flows. Commitments and contingencies are disclosed exclusive of GST.

Budget figures

The budget figures are those approved by the Council in Year One of its 2024-2034 Long Term Plan. The budget figures have been prepared in accordance with GAAP, using accounting policies that are consistent with those adopted by the Council in preparing these financial statements.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

In preparing these financial statements, estimates and assumptions have been made concerning the future. These estimates and assumptions may differ from the subsequent actual results. Estimates and assumptions

are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations or future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the financial performance or the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities as disclosed within the next financial year are:

- Estimating the fair value of land, building, and infrastructure assets – see Note 15
- Estimating the fair value of forestry assets - see Note 17
- Estimating the retirement and long service leave obligations – see Note 21
- Estimating the landfill aftercare provision – see Note 22

Critical judgements in applying accounting policies

Management has exercised the following critical judgements in applying accounting policies:

- Suspensory loan from the Crown
- Donated or vested land and buildings with use or return conditions
- Classification of property
- Classification of unoccupied land

Revenue (Note 2)

Revenue is measured at fair value. The specific accounting policies for significant revenue items are explained below:

Rates revenue

The following policies for rates have been applied:

- General rates, targeted rates (excluding water-by-meter), and uniform annual general charges are recognised at the start of the financial year to which the rates resolution relates. They are recognised at the amounts due. The Council considers that the effect of payment of rates by instalments is not sufficient to require discounting of rates receivable and subsequent recognition of interest revenue.
- Rates arising from late payment penalties are recognised as revenue when rates become overdue.
- Revenue from water-by-meter rates is recognised on an accrual basis based on usage. Unbilled usage, as a result of unread meters at year-end, is accrued on an average usage basis.

Note 1: Statement of accounting policies (continued)

- Rates remissions are recognised as a reduction of rates revenue when the Council has received an application that satisfies its Rates Remission Policy. Non-rateable land results under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 as certain properties cannot be rated for general rates. These properties include schools, places of religious worship, public gardens, and reserves. These non-rateable properties may be subject to targeted rates in respect of sewerage, water, refuse and sanitation. Non-rateable land does not constitute a remission under the Council's Rates Remission Policy.
- Rates collected on behalf of Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BOPRC) are not recognised in the financial statements, as the Council previously acted as an agent for BOPRC.

Development and financial contributions

Development and financial contributions are recognised as revenue when the Council provides, or is able to provide, the service for which the contribution was charged. Otherwise, development and financial contributions are recognised as liabilities until such time as the Council provides, or is able to provide, the service.

NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi roading subsidies

The Council receives funding assistance from NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi, which subsidises part of the costs of maintenance and capital expenditure on the local roading infrastructure. The subsidies are recognised as revenue upon entitlement, as conditions pertaining to eligible expenditure have been fulfilled.

Other grants received

Other grants are recognised as revenue when they become receivable, unless there is an obligation in substance to return the funds if conditions of the grant are not met. If there is such an obligation, the grants are initially recorded as grants received in advance and recognised as revenue when conditions of the grant are satisfied.

Building and resource consent revenue

Fees and charges for building and resource consent services are recognised on a percentage completion

basis with reference to the recoverable costs incurred at balance date.

Entrance fees

Entrance fees are fees charged to users of the Council's local facilities, such as pools, museum and gallery. Revenue from entrance fees is recognised upon entry to such facilities.

Landfill fees

Fees for disposal of waste are recognised upon waste being disposed by users.

Provision of commercially based services

Revenue derived through the provision of services to third parties in a commercial manner, with the exception of development contributions, is recognised in proportion to the stage of completion at balance date.

Sales of goods

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when a product is sold to the customer.

Infringement fees and fines

Infringement fees and fines mostly relate to traffic and parking infringements and are recognised when the infringement notice is issued.

Vested or donated physical assets

For assets received for no or nominal consideration, the asset is recognised at its fair value when the Council obtains control of the asset. The fair value of the asset is recognised as revenue, unless there is a use or return condition attached to the asset. The fair value of vested or donated assets is usually determined by reference to the cost of constructing the asset. For assets received from property developments, the fair value is based on construction price information provided by the property developer.

However, where there is evidence that cost information provided by developers may materially differ from fair value at the point of transfer, the Council will recognise vested assets at assessed fair value.

Note 1: Statement of accounting policies (continued)

For long-lived assets that must be used for a specific use (for example, land that must be used as a recreation reserve), the Council immediately recognises the fair value of the asset as revenue. A liability is recognised only if the Council expects that it will need to return or pass the asset to another party.

Donated and bequeathed financial assets

Donated and bequeathed financial assets are recognised as revenue unless there are substantive use or return conditions. A liability is recorded if there are substantive use or return conditions and the liability is released to revenue as the conditions are met (for example, as the funds are spent for the nominated purpose).

that are awarded if the grant application meets the specified criteria and are recognised as an expense when an application that meets the specified criteria for the grant, has been received. Discretionary grants are those that the Council has no obligation to award on receipt of the grant application.

Salaries and Wages (Note 3)

Salaries and Wages are recognised as an expense as employees provide services.

Superannuation scheme

Defined contribution superannuation schemes

Employer contributions to KiwiSaver, the Government Superannuation Fund, State Sector Retirement Savings Scheme are accounted for as defined contribution superannuation schemes and are expensed in the surplus or deficit as they are incurred.

Defined benefit schemes

Defined benefit schemes The Council makes employer contributions to the Defined Benefit Plan Contributors Scheme (the scheme), which is managed by the Board of Trustees of the National Provident Fund (NPF). The scheme is a multi-employer defined benefit scheme.

Insufficient information is available to use defined benefit plan accounting – because it is not possible to determine from the terms of the scheme the extent that the surplus or deficit in the plan will affect future contributions by individual employers because there is

Crown suspensory loan

The council considers that the suspensory loan from the Crown is in substance a grant with conditions, so it has recognised the funds received as a liability and releases the liability to revenue on a straight-line basis over the 20-year term if the agreement.

Interest and dividends

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method. Interest revenue on an impaired financial asset is recognised using the original effective interest rate.

Dividends are recognised when the right to receive payment has been established. Dividends are recognised no prescribed basis for allocation. Therefore, the scheme is accounted for as a defined contribution scheme.

Finance Costs (Note 4)

Borrowing costs are recognised as an expense in the financial year in which they are incurred.

Other Expenses (Note 5)

Grant expenditure

The Council's grants awarded have no substantive conditions attached.

Non-discretionary grants are those grants that are awarded if the grant application meets the specified criteria and are recognised as an expense when an application that meets the specified criteria for the grant has been received.

Discretionary grants are those grants where the Council has no obligation to award on receiving the grant application and are recognised as an expense when approved by the Council and the approval has been communicated to the applicant.

Operating leases

An operating lease is a lease that does not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of an asset. Lease payments under an operating lease are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Lease incentives received, if any, are recognised in the surplus or deficit as a reduction of rental expense over the lease term.

Note 1: Statement of accounting policies (continued)

Tax (Note 7)

Income tax expense includes components relating to both current tax and deferred tax.

Current tax is the amount of income tax payable based on the taxable profit for the current year, plus any adjustments to income tax payable in respect of prior years. Current tax is calculated using tax rates (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted at balance date.

Deferred tax is the amount of income tax payable or recoverable in future periods in respect of temporary differences and unused tax losses. Temporary differences are differences between the carrying amount of assets and liabilities in the financial statements and the corresponding tax bases used in the computation of taxable profit. Deferred tax is measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply when the asset is realised or the liability is settled, based on tax rates (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted at balance date. The measurement of deferred tax reflects the tax consequences that would follow from the manner in which the entity expects to recover or settle the carrying amount of its assets and liabilities.

Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognised for all taxable temporary differences. Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that taxable profits will be available against which the deductible temporary differences or tax losses can be utilised.

Deferred tax is not recognised if the temporary difference arises from the initial recognition of goodwill or from the initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction that is not a business combination, and at the time of the transaction, affects neither accounting profit nor taxable profit.

Current tax and deferred tax are measured using the tax rates (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted at balance date.

Current and deferred tax is recognised against the surplus or deficit for the period, except to the extent that it relates to a business combination, or items recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense or directly in equity.

Cash and cash equivalents (Note 8)

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly

liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities in the statement of financial position.

Receivables (Note 9)

Short-term receivables are recorded at the amount due, less an allowance for expected credit losses (ECL).

The Council apply the simplified ECL model of recognising lifetime ECL for short-term receivables.

In measuring ECLs, receivables have been grouped into rates receivables, and other receivables, and assessed on a collective basis as they possess shared credit risk characteristics. They have then been grouped based on the days past due. A provision matrix is then established based on historical credit loss experience, adjusted for forward-looking factors specific to the debtors and the economic environment.

Rates are 'written off':

- when remitted in accordance with the Council's rates remission policy; and
- in accordance with the write-off criteria of sections 90A (where rates cannot be reasonably recovered) and 90B (in relation to Māori freehold land) of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.

Other receivables are written off when there is no reasonable expectation of recovery. Indicators that there is no reasonable expectation of recovery include the debtor being in liquidation or the receivable being more than one year overdue.

Inventory (Note 10)

Inventories held for distribution or consumption in the provision of services that are not supplied on a commercial basis are measured at cost (using the FIFO method), adjusted when applicable, for any loss of service potential.

Inventories acquired through non-exchange transactions are measured at fair value at the date of acquisition. Inventories held for use in the provision of goods and services on a commercial basis are valued at the lower of cost (using the FIFO method) and net realisable value. The amount of any write-down for the loss of service potential or from cost to net realisable value is recognised in the surplus or deficit in the period of the write-down.

Note 1: Statement of accounting policies (continued)

When land held for development and future resale is transferred from investment property/property, plant and equipment to inventory, the fair value of the land at the date of the transfer is its deemed cost. Costs directly attributable to the developed land are capitalised to inventory, except for infrastructural asset costs, which are capitalised to property, plant and equipment.

Derivative financial instruments (Note 11)

Derivative financial instruments are used to manage exposure to interest rate risks arising from the Council's financing activities. In accordance with its Treasury Management Policy, the Council does not hold or issue derivative financial instruments for trading purposes.

Derivatives are initially recognised at fair value on the date a derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently remeasured to their fair value at each balance date. The associated gains or losses on derivatives that are not hedge accounted are recognised in surplus or deficit.

Non-current assets held for sale (Note 12)

Non-current assets are classified as held for sale if their carrying amount will be recovered principally through a sale transaction, rather than through continuing use. They are measured at the lower of their carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell. Any impairment losses for write-downs are recognised in surplus or deficit. Any increases in fair value (less costs to sell) are recognised up to the level of any impairment losses that have been previously recognised. Non-current assets are not depreciated or amortised while they are classified as held for sale (including those that are part of a disposal group).

Other financial assets (Note 13)

Other financial assets (other than shares in subsidiaries) are initially recognised at fair value. They are then classified as, and subsequently measured under, the following categories:

- amortised cost;
- fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense (FVTOCRE); and
- fair value through surplus and deficit (FVTSD).

Transaction costs are included in the value of the financial asset at initial recognition unless it has been designated at FVTSD, in which case it is recognised in surplus or deficit.

Debt Instruments

The classification of a financial asset depends on its cash flow characteristics and the Council's management model for managing them.

A financial asset is classified and subsequently measured at amortised cost if it gives rise to cash flows that are 'solely payments of principal and interest (SPPI)' on the principal outstanding. It must also be held within a management model where the objective is to collect the contractual cash flows of the asset.

A financial asset is classified and subsequently measured at FVTOCRE if it gives rise to cash flows that are SPPI and held within a management model where the objective is achieved by both collecting contractual cash flows and selling financial assets.

Financial assets that do not meet the criteria to be measured at amortised cost or FVTOCRE are subsequently measured at FVTSD. However, the Council may elect at initial recognition to designate an equity investment not held for trading as subsequently measured at FVTOCRE.

Equity Instruments

A financial asset that is an equity instrument is classified at FVTSD, unless the Council and group elects at initial recognition to designate an equity investment not held for trading as subsequently measured at FVTOCRE.

Initial recognition of concessionary loans

Loans made at nil or below market interest rates are initially recognised at the present value of their expected future cash flow, discounted at the current market rate of return for a similar financial instrument. For loans to community organisations, the difference between the loan amount and the present value of the expected future cash flows of the loan is recognised in the surplus or deficit as a grant expense.

Subsequent measurement of financial assets at amortised cost

Financial assets classified at amortised cost are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any expected credit losses (ECL). Where applicable, interest accrued is added to the investment balance. Instruments in this category include term deposits, community loans and loans to subsidiaries and associates.

Note 1: Statement of accounting policies (continued)

Subsequent measurement of financial assets at FVTOCRE

Financial assets in this category that are equity instruments designated as FVTOCRE are subsequently measured at fair value with fair value gains and losses recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense. There is no assessment for impairment when fair value falls below the cost of the investment. When sold, the cumulative gain or loss previously recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense is transferred to accumulated funds within equity. The Council designate into this category all equity investments that are not held for trading as they are strategic investments that are intended to be held for the medium to long-term.

Subsequent measurement of financial assets at FVTSD

Financial assets in this category are subsequently measured at fair value with fair value gains and losses recognised in surplus or deficit.

A financial asset is classified in this category if acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the short-term and such an asset is classified as a current asset. The Council's derivatives are categorised as held for trading unless they are designated into a hedge accounting relationship for which hedge accounting is applied. The current/non-current classification of derivatives is explained in the derivatives accounting policy in note 22. After initial recognition, financial assets in this category are measured at their fair values with gains or losses on re-measurement recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Interest revenue and dividends recognised from these financial assets are separately presented within revenue.

Other than for derivatives, the Council has no instruments in this category.

Expected credit loss allowance (ECL)

The Council recognises an allowance for ECLs for all debt instruments not classified as FVTSD. ECLs are the probability-weighted estimate of credit losses, measured at the present value of cash shortfalls, which is the difference between the cash flows due to the Council in accordance with the contract and the cash flows it expects to receive. ECLs are discounted at the effective interest rate of the financial asset.

ECLs are recognised in two stages. ECLs are provided for credit losses that result from default events that are

possible within the next 12 months (a 12-month ECL). However, if there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, the loss allowance is based on losses possible for the remaining life of the financial asset (Lifetime ECL).

When determining whether the credit risk of a financial asset has increased significantly since initial recognition, the Council considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis based on the Council historical experience and informed credit assessment and including forward-looking information.

The Council considers a financial asset to be in default when the financial asset is more than 90 days past due. The Council may determine a default occurs prior to this if internal or external information indicates the entity is unlikely to pay its credit obligations in full.

The Council measure ECLs on loan commitments at the date the commitment becomes irrevocable. If the ECL measured exceeds the gross carrying amount of the financial asset, the ECL is recognised as a provision.

Investment in joint operations (Note 14)

A joint arrangement is a binding arrangement that confers enforceable rights and obligations on the parties to the arrangement and that is subject to joint control. Joint control is the agreed sharing of control where decisions about the relevant activities require the unanimous consent of the parties sharing control.

A joint arrangement is classified either as a joint operation or joint venture. The classification depends on the rights and obligations of each party under the joint arrangement. The Council reviews the legal form, terms of the binding agreement, and other facts and circumstances relevant to its interest in determining the classification of the joint arrangement.

For joint operations, the Council and group recognises its direct right to the assets, liabilities, revenue, and expenses. Assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses relating to Council's interest in a joint operation are accounted for in line with Council's accounting policies and included in the relevant line items of the Council's group's financial statements.

Note 1: Statement of accounting policies (continued)

Property, plant and equipment (Note 15)

Property, plant and equipment consist of:

- **Operational assets** – these include land, buildings, library and museum collections, plant and equipment, furniture and fittings and motor vehicles.
- **Infrastructure assets** – infrastructure assets are the fixed utility systems owned by the Council. Each asset class includes all items that are required for the network to function. For example, sewer reticulation includes reticulation piping and sewer pump stations.
- **Restricted assets** – restricted assets are mainly parks and reserves owned by the Council that provide a benefit or service to the community and cannot be disposed of because of legal or other restrictions.
- **Land** (operational and restricted) is measured at fair value, and buildings (operational and restricted), library collections, and infrastructural assets (except land under roads) are measured at fair value, less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. All other asset classes are measured at cost, less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Revaluation

Land and buildings (operational and restricted), library collections and infrastructural assets (except land under roads) are revalued with sufficient regularity to ensure that their carrying amount does not differ materially from fair value and at least every three years.

The Council assesses the carrying values of land, buildings, restricted and infrastructural assets annually to ensure that they do not differ materially from the assets' fair values. A fair value increase or decrease is assigned as a result of this annual assessment. If there is a material difference, then the off-cycle asset classes will be fully re-valued.

Revaluation movements in property, plant and equipment are accounted for on a class-of-asset basis.

The net revaluation results are credited or debited to other comprehensive revenue and expense and are accumulated to an asset revaluation reserve in equity for that class-of-asset. Where this would result in a debit balance in the asset revaluation reserve, this balance is not recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense but is recognised in surplus or deficit. Any subsequent increase on revaluation that reverses a previous decrease in value recognised in surplus or deficit will be recognised first in surplus or deficit up to the amount previously expensed and then recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense.

Additions

The cost of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised as an asset only when it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

Work in progress is recognised at cost less impairment and is not depreciated.

In most instances, an item of property, plant and equipment is initially recognised at its cost. Where an asset is acquired through a non-exchange transaction, it is recognised at its fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Costs incurred subsequent to initial acquisition are capitalised only when it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Council and group, and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

The costs of the day-to-day servicing of property, plant, and equipment are recognised in surplus or deficit as they are returned.

Disposals

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the disposal proceeds with the carrying amount of the asset. Gains and losses on disposals are reported net in surplus or deficit. When revalued assets are sold, the amounts included in asset revaluation reserves in respect of those assets are transferred to accumulated funds.

Note 1: Statement of accounting policies (continued)

Depreciation (Note 6)

Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis on all property, plant and equipment other than land, at rates that will write-off the cost (or valuation) of the assets to their estimated residual values over their useful lives.

Roading assets within property, plant and equipment is valued on a regular basis, and each asset is assigned a base life (estimate of total useful life), which is converted to a preliminary estimate of physical life by adjusting for age. An initial assessment of remaining life is then calculated as the difference between expected life and age of asset. Where information is available further adjustments are then made to the useful life estimate to take into account condition and use of the asset.

The Three Water assets within property, plant and equipment are regularly valued with the economic life of an asset being the period it is economically worthwhile to replace rather than to continue to repair or maintain. The economic life varies for each asset. Asset lives are modified if local knowledge and experience suggests this is appropriate.

The useful lives and associated depreciation rates of major classes of assets have been estimated, based on the approximate average over all assets in that category, as follows:

INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS (approx. average over all assets in that category)		Years
Roading		
Land – road reserve		Not depreciated
Road formation		Not depreciated
Sealed pavement		36
Sealed pavement surface		7
Unsealed pavement		Not depreciated
Unsealed wearing course		1
Bridge railings		2
Signs		15
Drainage (incl headwalls)		19
Large culverts		44
Retaining walls		6
Surface water channel		Not depreciated
Railings		54
Traffic islands		9
Street lighting		23
Footpaths		26
Bridges		44
Car parks		33
Water		
Linear Assets		8-69
Other Assets		1-42
Harbour assets		
Harbour assets		15-30
Stormwater		
Linear Assets		32-76
Other Assets		14-62
Wastewater		
Linear Asset		30-89
Other Assets		1-93
Parks		
Land		Not depreciated
Park assets		11
Operational assets		
Museum assets		Not depreciated
Land		Not depreciated
Buildings		8-60
Vehicles		3-10
Plant and equipment		3-33
Furniture and fittings		5-50
Library collections		2-10
Office equipment		3-12

The Three Water assets within property, plant and equipment are regularly valued with the economic life of an asset being the period it is economically worthwhile to replace rather than to continue to repair or maintain. The economic life varies for each asset. Asset lives are modified if local knowledge and experience suggests this is appropriate.

Impairment of property, plant and equipment

Property, plant, and equipment subsequently measured at cost that have a finite useful life are reviewed for impairment at each balance date and whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable.

An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and its value in use.

If an asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount, the asset is regarded as impaired and the

carrying amount is written down to the recoverable amount. For revalued assets, the impairment loss is recognised against the revaluation reserve for that class of asset. Where that results in a debit balance in the revaluation reserve, the balance is recognised in surplus or deficit.

For assets not carried at a revalued amount, the total impairment loss is recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Note 1: Statement of accounting policies (continued)

The reversal of an impairment loss on a revalued asset is credited to other comprehensive revenue and expense and increases the asset revaluation reserve for that class of asset. However, to the extent that an impairment loss for that class of asset was previously recognised in surplus or deficit, a reversal of the impairment loss is also recognised in surplus or deficit.

For assets not carried at a revalued amount, the reversal of an impairment loss is recognised in surplus or deficit.

Value in use for non-cash-generating assets

Non-cash-generating assets are those assets that are not held with the primary objective of generating a commercial return.

For non-cash-generating assets, value in use is determined using an approach based on either a depreciated replacement cost approach, a restoration cost approach or a service units approach. The most appropriate approach used to measure value in use depends on the nature of the impairment and availability of information.

Value in use for cash-generating assets

Cash-generating assets are those assets that are held with the primary objective of generating a commercial return.

The value in use for cash-generating assets and cash-generating units is the present value of expected future cash flows.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

Land (operational, restricted and infrastructural)

The most recent full valuation was performed by an independent Certified Practicing Valuer, P Erceg of Aon Risk Solutions at 30 June 2023. A fair value assessment was carried out as at 30 June 2025.

Land is valued at fair value using market-based evidence based on its highest and best use with reference to comparable land values. Where there is a designation against the land or the use of the land is restricted because of reserve or endowment status, the valuation approach reflects the restriction in use. These adjustments are intended to reflect the negative effect on the value of the land where an owner is unable to use the land more intensely. Such land is valued based on rural land value plus a location adjustment to reflect

different zoning, which are based on the valuer's judgement.

Buildings (operational and restricted)

The most recent full valuation was performed by an independent Certified Practicing Valuer, P Erceg of Aon Risk Solutions at 30 June 2023. A fair value assessment was carried out as at 30 June 2025.

Specialised buildings are valued at fair value using depreciated replacement cost because no reliable market data is available for such buildings.

Depreciated replacement cost is determined using a number of significant assumptions. Significant assumptions used in the valuation include:

- The replacement asset is based on the replacement with modern, equivalent assets with adjustments where appropriate for obsolescence due to over-design or surplus capacity.
- The replacement cost is derived from recent construction contracts of similar assets.
- The remaining useful life of assets is estimated.
- Straight-line depreciation has been applied in determining the depreciated replacement cost value of the asset.
- Non-specialised buildings (for example, residential buildings) are valued at fair value using market-based evidence. Market rents and capitalisation rates were applied to reflect market value.

Infrastructural asset classes: wastewater, water, drainage and roads

Wastewater, water, drainage and roading infrastructure assets are valued using the depreciated replacement cost method. There are a number of estimates and assumptions exercised when valuing infrastructural assets using the depreciated replacement cost method. These include:

- Estimating any obsolescence or surplus capacity of the asset.
- Estimating the replacement cost of the asset. The replacement cost is derived from recent construction contracts in the region for similar assets.

Note 1: Statement of accounting policies (continued)

- Estimates of the remaining useful life over which the asset will be depreciated. These estimates can be affected by the local conditions, for example, weather patterns and traffic growth. If useful lives do not reflect the actual consumption of the benefits of the asset, then the Council could be over-or under-estimating the annual depreciation charge recognised as an expense in the statement of comprehensive revenue and expense. To minimise the risk, infrastructural asset useful lives have been determined with reference to the New Zealand Infrastructural Asset Valuation and Depreciation Guidelines published by the National Asset Management Steering Group and have been adjusted for local conditions based on past experience. Asset inspections, deterioration, and condition-modelling are also carried out regularly as part of asset management planning activities, which provides further assurance over useful life estimates.

Intangible Assets (Note 16)

Software acquisition and development

Licences to use computer software for periods in excess of 12 months are capitalised on the basis of the costs incurred to acquire and bring to use the specific software.

Costs that are directly attributable to the development of software for internal use are recognised as an intangible asset. Direct costs include the software development employee costs and an appropriate portion of relevant overheads.

Where software is provided under a software-as-a-service (SaaS) arrangement, costs of configuration and customisation are recognised as an intangible asset only if the activities create an intangible asset that the Council controls and asset recognition criteria are met. Costs, including ongoing fees for use of software, which do not result in an intangible asset or software finance lease are expensed as a service contract incurred. However, where fees represent payment for future services to be received, the Council recognises these as a prepayment for future services to be received, the Council recognises these as a prepayment and expenses these as subsequent services are received.

Staff training costs are recognised in the surplus or deficit when incurred.

Costs associated with maintaining computer software are recognised as an expense when incurred.

Costs associated with development and maintenance of the Council's website are recognised as an expense when incurred.

Easements

Easements are recognised at cost, being the costs directly attributable to bringing the asset to its intended use. Easements have an indefinite useful life and are not amortised but are instead tested for impairment annually.

Carbon credits

Purchased carbon credits are recognised at cost on acquisition. Free carbon credits received from the Crown are recognised at fair value on receipt. They are subsequently measured at cost and not amortised but are instead tested for impairment annually. They are derecognised when they are used to satisfy carbon emission obligations.

Carbon units have been assessed as having an indefinite useful life because they have no expiry date and will continue to have economic benefit for as long as the Emissions Trading Scheme is in place.

Amortisation

The carrying value of an intangible asset with a finite life is amortised on a straight-line basis over its useful life. Amortisation begins when the asset is available for use and ceases at the date that the asset is derecognised. The amortisation charge for each financial year is recognised in surplus or deficit.

The useful lives and associated amortisation rates of major classes of intangible assets have been estimated as follows:

- Computer software –four to five years 20% to 25%

Impairment of intangible assets

Intangible assets subsequently measured at cost that have an indefinite useful life, or are not yet available for use, and goodwill, are not subject to amortisation and are tested annually for impairment. For further details, refer to the policy for impairment of property, plant and equipment in Note 15. The same approach applies to the impairment of intangible assets.

Note 1: Statement of accounting policies (continued)

Forestry Assets (Note 17)

Standing forestry assets are independently revalued annually at fair value less estimated costs to sell for one growth cycle.

Gains or losses arising on initial recognition of forestry assets at fair value less costs to sell and from a change in fair value less costs to sell are recognised in surplus or deficit.

Forestry maintenance costs are recognised in surplus or deficit when incurred.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

Fair value of forestry assets

Independent registered valuers, PF Olsen and Co, have valued forestry assets as at 30 June 2025. The valuation was based on arm's length market transaction of current market evidence as at 30 June 2025.

Fair value is determined based on the present value of expected future cash flows discounted at a current market determined rate. The following significant valuation assumptions have been adopted in determining the fair value of forestry assets:

- a discount rate of 7.8% (2024: 7.8%) has been used in discounting the present value of expected future cash flows.
- notional land rental costs have been included for freehold land.
- the forest has been valued on a going concern basis and includes only the value of the existing crops on a single rotation basis.
- costs are current industry standard costs. No allowance has been made for cost improvements in future operations; and
- log prices are based on a five-year historical rolling average (2024: five-year historical rolling average).

Investment property (Note 18)

Properties leased to third parties under operating leases are classified as investment property unless the property is held to meet service delivery objectives, rather than to earn rentals or for capital appreciation. Investment property is measured initially at its cost, including transaction costs. After initial recognition, all investment property is measured at fair value at each reporting date. Gains or losses arising from a change in the fair

value of investment property are recognised in surplus or deficit.

Payables and deferred revenue (Note 19)

Short-term creditors and other payables are measured at the amount payable.

Borrowings and other financial liabilities (Note 20)

Borrowings on normal commercial terms are initially recognised at the amount borrowed plus transaction costs. Interest due on the borrowings is subsequently accrued and added to the borrowings balance (Note - Borrowing).

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the Council or group has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after balance date.

Finance leases

A finance lease is a lease that transfers to the lessee substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to the ownership of an asset, whether or not the title is eventually transferred. At the commencement of the lease term, the Council recognises finance leases as asset and liabilities in the statement of financial position at the lower of the fair value of the minimum lease payments. The finance charge is charged to the surplus or deficit over the lease period so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability. The amount recognised as an asset is depreciated over its useful life. If there is certainty as to whether the Council will obtain ownership at the end of the lease term, the asset is fully depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and its useful life.

Employee entitlements (Note 21)

Short-term employee entitlements

Employee benefits that are expected to be settled wholly within twelve months after the end of the year in which the employee provides the related service are measured based on accrued entitlements at current rates of pay. These include salaries and wages accrued up to balance date, annual leave earned to, but not yet taken at balance date, and sick leave.

Note 1: Statement of accounting policies (continued)

A liability for sick leave is recognised to the extent that absences in the coming year are expected to be greater than the sick leave entitlements earned in the coming year. The amount is calculated based on the unused sick leave entitlement that can be carried forward at balance date; to the extent it will be used by staff to cover those future absences.

A liability and an expense are recognised for bonuses where the Council has a contractual obligation or where there is a past practice that has created a constructive obligation, and a reliable estimate of the obligation can be made.

Long-term employee entitlements

Employee benefits that are not expected to be settled wholly before twelve months after the end of the reporting period in which the employee provides the related service, such as long service leave and retirement gratuities, have been calculated on an actuarial basis. The calculations are based on:

- likely future entitlements accruing to employees, based on years of service, years to entitlement, the likelihood that employees will reach the point of entitlement, and contractual entitlement information; and
- the present value of the estimated future cash flows.

Presentation of employee entitlements

Sick leave, annual leave and vested long service leave are classified as a current liability. Non-vested retirement and long service leave expected to be settled within 12 months of balance date are also classified as a current liability. All other employee entitlements are classified as a non-current liability.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

Estimating retirement and long service leave obligations

The present value of retirement and long service leave obligations depend on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis. Two key assumptions used in calculating this liability include the discount rate and the salary inflation factor. Any changes in these assumptions will affect the carrying amount of the liability.

Expected future payments are discounted using forward discount rates derived from the yield curve of New

Zealand Government bonds. The discount rates used have maturities that match as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows. The salary inflation factor has been determined after considering historical salary inflation patterns and after obtaining advice from an independent actuary. A weighted average discount rate of 5.8% (2024: 5.4%) and an inflation factor of 2.5% (2024:2.5%) were used.

Provisions (Note 22)

A provision is recognised for future expenditure of uncertain amount or timing when:

- there is a present obligation (either legal or constructive) as a result of a past event.
- it is probable that an outflow of future economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation; and
- a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

Provisions are measured at the present value of the expenditures expected to be required to settle the obligation and discounted using New Zealand Treasury risk-free rate with terms to maturity that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash flows.

ACC Accredited Employers Programme

The Council belongs to the ACC Accredited Employers Programme (the "Full Self Cover Plan"), under which the Council accepts the management and financial responsibility for employee work-related illnesses and accidents. Under the programme, the Council is liable for all its claims costs for a period of two years after the end of the cover period in which the injury occurred. At the end of the two-year period, the Council pays a premium to ACC for the value of residual claims, and from that point the liability for ongoing claims passes to ACC.

The liability for the ACC Accredited Employers Programme is measured using the actuarial techniques at the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of the employee injuries and claims up to balance date. Consideration is given to anticipated future wages and salary levels, and experience of employee claims and injuries. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields on government bonds at balance date, in terms to maturity that match, as closely to possible, the estimated future cash flows.

Note 1: Statement of accounting policies (continued)

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

Estimating the landfill aftercare costs

The Council engaged an independent engineer to review the calculations set by Council for provisions for the Landfill provision.

The cash outflows for landfill post-closure costs are expected to occur in nine to 30 years' time (that is, between 2025 and 2054). The long-term nature of the liability means that there are inherent uncertainties in estimating costs that will be incurred. The future cash outflows have been estimated taking into account existing technology and known changes to legal requirements. The gross provision before discounting is \$4.86million (2024: \$5.23million).

Discount rates ranging from 3.20 percent to 5.62 percent (2024: 4.57 percent to 5.30 percent) have been used to discount the estimated future cash outflows. These rates have been determined using the Treasury Risk Free Rates.

Equity (Note 24)

Equity is the community's interest in the Council and is measured as the difference between total assets and total liabilities. Equity is disaggregated and classified into the following components.

- accumulated funds.
- restricted reserves.
- property revaluation reserve.
- Fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense reserve.

Restricted reserves

Restricted reserves are a component of equity generally representing a particular use to which various parts of equity have been assigned. Reserves may be legally restricted or created by the Council.

Restricted reserves include those subject to specific conditions accepted as binding by the Council and which may not be revised by the Council without reference to

the Courts or a third party. Transfers from these reserves may be made only for certain specified purposes or when certain specified conditions are met.

Also included in restricted reserves are reserves restricted by the Council decision. The Council may alter them without reference to any third party or the Courts. Transfers to and from these reserves are at the discretion of the Council.

Property revaluation reserve

This reserve relates to the revaluation of property, plant, and equipment to fair value.

Fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense reserve

This reserve comprises the cumulative net change in the fair value of assets classified as fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense.

Cost of goods and services

The cost of service for each significant activity of the Council has been derived using the cost allocation system outlined as follows.

Direct costs are those costs directly attributable to a significant activity. Indirect costs are those costs that cannot be identified in an economically feasible manner with a specific significant activity.

Direct costs are charged directly to significant activities. Indirect costs are charged to significant activities using appropriate cost drivers such as actual usage, staff numbers and other underlying activity drivers.

Unlisted shares in council -controlled organisations

Unlisted shares in council-controlled organisations are measured at fair value.

Borrower notes

The carrying amount of borrower notes are measured at fair value.

Note 2: Revenue

(i) Breakdown of rates and further information

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
General rates	31,630	29,412
Targeted rates attributable to activities:		
- Democracy	421	378
- Economic Development	214	(216)
- Events and Tourism	1,283	1,242
- Stormwater	4,766	4,004
- Transportation Connections	8,454	6,653
- Waste Management	5,672	3,705
- Wastewater	6,234	5,276
- Water Supply	4,371	3,666
Volumetric charges for water	5,404	4,328
Rates penalties	1,329	1,179
Rates remissions	(655)	(579)
Total rates	69,123	59,048

Rating base information disclosure

The following rating base information is disclosed based on the rating base information at the end of the preceding financial year:

	2024 \$000
The number of rating units within the district	17,166
The total capital value of rating units within the district	16,813,952,000
The total land value of rating units within the district	9,116,113,750

LGFA annual rates income disclosure

The Council is required by the LGFA Guarantee and Indemnity Deed to disclose in its financial statements (or notes) its annual rates income. The Multi-Issuer Deed defines annual rates income as an amount equal to the total revenue from any funding mechanism authorised by the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, together with any revenue received by the Council from other local authorities for services provided by the Council for which those other local authorities rate. The annual rates income of the Council for the year ended 30 June 2025 for the purposes of the LGFA Guarantee and Indemnity Deed disclosure is shown below:

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Rates	69,123	59,048
Lump sum contributions	-	-
Total rates per LGFA disclosure	69,123	59,048

Note 2: Revenue (continued)

(ii) Breakdown of subsidies and grants

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Government grants and subsidies	1,240	1,501
Department of Internal Affairs	2,124	2,214
New Zealand Transport Agency Subsidies	18,154	24,268
Other	503	-
Total subsidies and grants	22,021	27,983

(iii) Breakdown of fees and charges

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Aquatic Centre fees	1,000	1,005
User Pays Fees and Charges - Waste	2,725	2,806
User Pays Fees and Charges – Community Safety	1,743	1,544
User Pays Fees and Charges - Recreation	1,047	1,074
User Pays Fees and Charges - Environmental	432	503
User Pays Fees and Charges - Other	603	727
Expense recoveries - Recreation	16	115
Expense recoveries - Environmental	385	413
Expense recoveries - Other	173	118
BCA development levy	329	295
Licences	254	216
Parking fees	51	45
Berthage	202	109
Total fees and charges	8,960	8,969

(iv) Breakdown of finance revenue

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Interest earned from financial assets measured at amortised cost		
- Term deposits and cash equivalents	1,569	1,127
Total finance revenue	1,569	1,127

(v) Breakdown of other revenue

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Other Operating Revenue		
Vested Assets	85	98
Infringements and fines	209	245
Insurance recoveries	46	97
Petrol tax	253	281
Rental revenue from investment properties	2,391	2,343
Rental revenue other	491	507
Dividends	7	7
Other services	356	202
Total other operating revenue	3,838	3,780

(vi) Breakdown of gains

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Gain on property intended for sale	3	-
Gain on revaluation of forestry	-	6
Gain on disposal of assets	197	266
Gain on fair value of borrower notes	436	-
Total asset development revenue and other gains	636	272

Operating leases as a lessor

Investment property is leased as a lessor under operating leases. Amounts for the future aggregate minimum lease payments to be collected under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Not later than one year	2,021	2,036
Later than one year and not later than five years	6,641	7,163
Later than five years	6,658	7,818
Total non-cancellable operating leases as lessor	15,320	17,017

No contingent rents have been recognised during the year, (2024: \$nil).

Note 3: Personnel costs

Breakdown of personnel costs and further information

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Salaries and wages	28,200	25,707
Defined contribution plan employer contributions	810	729
Increase/(decrease) in employee entitlements	336	449
Total personnel costs	29,346	26,885

Employer contributions to defined contribution plans include contributions to KiwiSaver.

Note 4: Finance costs

Breakdown of finance costs

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Interest on borrowings (at amortised cost)	9,159	7,798
Total finance costs	9,159	7,798

Note 5: Other expenses

Breakdown of other expenses

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Fee incurred for services provided by Audit New Zealand		
Audit of the financial report for the current year	278	247
Audit of the financial report for the prior year	158	75
Audit or review related services		
Assurance engagement in relation to debenture trust deed	9	8
Audit of Long Term Plan 2024-34	-	221
Total fees incurred for services provided by Audit New Zealand	445	551
Grants	636	553
Insurance premium	1,957	1,867
Investment property expenses	362	806
Loss on disposal of assets	7	-
Movement in doubtful debt impairment	716	391
Operating leases	181	192
Other operating expenses	42,474	37,998
Movement in provisions	(878)	1,017
Total other expenses	45,900	43,375

Other operating expenses included items such as contract payments \$22.038 million (2024: \$18.36 million) and Consultants payments \$4.675 million (2024: \$5.008 million)

(i) Breakdown of losses

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Loss on revaluation of non-current assets held for sale	-	500
Loss on revaluation of investment property	836	864
Loss on revaluation of derivatives	3,020	611
Loss on revaluation of forestry	1	-
Impairment of investment in joint venture (boat harbour)	1,823	-
Total losses	5,680	1,975

Operating leases as lessee

The Council leases buildings, and plant and equipment in the normal course of its business. Most of these leases have a non-cancellable term of 36 months. There are no restrictions placed on the Council by any of the leasing arrangements. The future aggregate minimum lease payments payable under non-cancellable operating leases as lessee are as follows:

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Not later than one year	36	26
Later than one year and not later than five years	50	75
Later than five years	-	-
Total non-cancellable operating leases as lessee	86	101

Note 6: Depreciation and amortisation expense by group of activities

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Directly attributable depreciation and amortisation expense by group of activity		
Aquatic Centres	458	420
Arts and Culture	523	451
Climate Change and Resilience	13	8
Community Facilities	629	584
Community Regulation	5	4
Corporate Services	2,280	2,066
District Partnerships	8	11
Economic Development	100	137
Events and Tourism	38	29
Holiday Park	117	110
Other	187	17
Parks and Reserves	1,384	1,292
Ports and Harbours	483	459
Stormwater	1,863	1,881
Transportation Connections	10,551	11,453
Waste Management	70	61
Wastewater	2,874	2,812
Water Supply	4,650	4,597
Total depreciation and amortisation expense	26,231	26,392

Note 7: Tax

Breakdown of income tax expense / (benefit)

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Components of income tax expense/(benefit)		
Current tax	-	-
Adjustments to current tax in prior years	-	-
Deferred tax	59	17
Total Income tax expense/(benefit)	59	17
Relationship between tax expense and accounting surplus		
Surplus/(deficit) before tax	(10,347)	(5,260)
Tax at 28%	(2,897)	(1,473)
Plus/(less) tax effect of:		
Non-deductible expenditure	2,446	1,125
Non-taxable revenue	-	-
Tax loss not recognised	510	365
Deferred tax adjustment	-	-
Prior year adjustment	-	-
Total Income tax expense/(benefit)	59	17

Breakdown of deferred tax asset / (liability)

	PROPERTY PLANT AND EQUIPMENT \$000	EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS \$000	TAX LOSSES \$000	TOTAL \$000
Deferred tax asset (liability)	-	-	-	-
Balance at 1 July 2023	(197)	1	196	-
Charged to surplus or deficit	53	2	(72)	(17)
Charged to other comprehensive revenue and expense	17	-	-	17
Balance at 30 June 2024	(127)	3	124	-
Charged to surplus or deficit	66	(3)	(122)	(59)
Charged to other comprehensive revenue and expense	59	-	-	59
Balance at 30 June 2025	(3)	-	3	-

A deferred tax asset has not been recognised in relation to unused tax losses of \$13,371,576 (2024: \$ 11,549,081) and deductible temporary differences of \$33,590 (2024: nil).

Note 8: Cash and cash equivalents

Breakdown of cash and cash equivalents and further information

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Cash at bank and on hand	9,739	17,623
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	9,739	17,623

Although cash and cash equivalents at 30 June 2025 are subject to the expected credit loss requirements of PBE IPSAS 41, no loss allowance has been recognised because the estimated allowance is trivial. The carrying value of cash at bank and term deposits with maturities less than three months approximate their fair value.

The weighted average effective interest rate on cash and cash equivalents during the year was 2.71% (2024: 3.75%).

Note 9: Receivables

Breakdown of receivables and further information

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Receivables from non-exchange transactions		
Rates receivable	8,941	13,825
Other receivables from non-exchange transactions	4,918	1,223
Total receivables from non-exchange transactions	13,859	15,048
Receivables from exchange transactions		
Other receivables from exchange transactions- including prepayments	13,740	10,721
Total receivables from exchange transactions	13,740	10,721
Less:		
- provision for impairment of rates receivables	(6,163)	(5,439)
- estimated credit loss on other receivables	(30)	(34)
Total receivables	21,407	20,296

Rates receivable

The Council has various powers under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 (LG(R)A 2002) to recover any outstanding debts. These powers allow the Council to commence legal proceedings to recover any rates that remain unpaid four months after the due date for payment. If payment has not been made within three months of the Court's judgement, then the Council can apply to the Registrar of the High Court to have the judgement enforced by sale or lease of the rating unit. In addition to LG(R)A 2002, there are a number of other acts, and the Council Rates Remission and

Postponement policies provided for within these Acts, which impact on the Council's ability to collect rates including:

- Local Government Act 2002
- Local Government (Rating of Whenua Māori) Amendment Act 2021
- Māori Land Act 1993
- Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993
- Limitation Act 2010

The Council has provided for an impairment of rates receivable grouped into general land rates, Māori land rates and metered water rates. Impairment has been provided for each group based on the payment profile of revenue on credit over the prior six years and the corresponding historical rates write-offs experienced for that period.

Ratepayers can apply for payment plan options in special circumstances. Where such repayment plans are in place, debts are discounted to their present value of future payments if the effect of discounting is material.

Rates receivable includes rates receivable on behalf of Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BOPRC) for rating to properties within the Whakatāne District territorial authority boundaries for BOPRC related rates through 30 June 2022. BOPRC took over responsibility for invoicing directly for BOPRC rates from 1 July 2022.

The Chief Executive approved the write-off of rates receivable (exclusive of GST) during the year under the LG(R)A 2002 as follows:

- Section 90A: \$827,121 (2024: \$732,792)
- Section 90B: \$Nil (2024: \$Nil)

Note 9: Receivables (continued)

Movement in the provision for impairment of rates receivable are as follows:

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Balance at 1 July	5,439	5,070
Additional provisions made during the year	1,551	1,140
Receivables written off during the year	(827)	(771)
Balance at 30 June	6,163	5,439

Other receivables

The expected credit loss rates for other receivables are based on the payment profile of revenue on credit over the prior two years at the measurement date and the corresponding historical credit losses experienced for that period. The historical loss rates are adjusted for current and forward-looking macroeconomic factors that might affect the expected recoverability of receivables. Given the short period of credit risk exposure, the effects of macroeconomic factors are not considered significant. From 1 July 2023, the estimation techniques were refined with more emphasis on past performance and historical collection when measuring and calculating the loss allowance. The Council holds no collateral as security or other credit enhancements over receivables that are either past due or impaired.

The aging profile of other receivables and associated allowance for credit losses based on the Council's credit loss matrix is as follows:

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Gross receivable amount		
Not past due	1,455	1,557
Past due 30 days	134	(181)
Past due 60 days	3	273
Past due 90+ days	1,979	2,325
Balance at 30 June	3,571	3,974
Lifetime expected credit loss		
Not past due	-	-
Past due 30 days	-	-
Past due 60 days	-	-
Past due 90+ days	30	34
Balance at 30 June	30	34
	%	%
Expected credit loss rate	0%	0%
Not past due	0%	0%
Past due 30 days	0%	0%
Past due 60 days	0%	0%
Past due 90+ days	1.53%	1%

Movements in estimated credit losses on other receivables are as follows:

ESTIMATED CREDIT LOSSES ON OTHER RECEIVABLES	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Opening balance for credit losses at 1 July	34	12
Additional provisions made during the year	37	52
Provisions reversed during the year	-	-
Receivables written off during the year	(41)	(30)
Balance at 30 June	30	34

Note 10: Inventories

Breakdown of inventory and further information

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Inventories held for distribution:		
Water and sewerage spare parts	428	412
Road safety vouchers	15	15
Others	-	-
Total inventory	443	427

No inventories are pledged as security for liabilities (2024: \$Nil). However, some inventories are subject to retention of title clauses.

The carrying amount of inventories held for distribution that are measured at a current replacement cost as at 30 June 2025 amounted to \$Nil (2024: \$Nil). The loss in service potential of inventories held for distribution is determined based on obsolescence.

Note 11: Derivative financial instruments

Breakdown of derivative financial instruments and further information

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Current asset portion		
Interest rate swaps	-	35
Total current asset portion of derivative financial instruments	-	35
Non-current asset portion		
Interest rate swaps	919	1,652
Total non-current asset portion of derivative financial instruments	919	1,652
Current liability portion		
Interest rate swaps	11	-
Total current liability portion of derivative financial instruments	11	-
Non-current liability portion		
Interest rate swaps – cash flow hedges	2,242	-
Total non-current liability portion of derivative financial instruments	2,242	-
Total derivative financial instruments	1,334	1,687

Timing of nominal principal amounts and average fixed rates of interest rate swaps

	Less than 1 year	1-2 years	3-5 years	5+ years	Total
Interest rate swaps – not hedge accounted					
Nominal amount (in \$000)	3,000	7,200	46,500	81,000	137,700
Average fixed rate (%)	4.80%	3.49%	3.43%	3.86%	3.83%
Fair Value	(11)	(42)	(488)	(792)	(1,334)

The notional principal amounts of the outstanding interest rate swap contracts for the Council were \$137.7 million (2024: \$85.7 million). At 30 June 2025 the average fixed interest rates of cash flow hedge interest rate swaps were 3.83% (2024: 3.75%)

No interest rate swaps were due to mature at 30 June 2025. At 30 June 2025, the fixed interest rates of cash flow hedge interest rate swaps varied from 1.84% to 5.06% (2024 1.84% to 5.06%).

Fair value

The fair values of interest rate swaps have been determined using a discounted cash flows technique based on quoted market prices. The valuation was performed using Hedgebook software and then checked to independent ANZ and BNZ confirmations. Most market parameters are implied from instrument prices.

Note 12: Non-current assets held for sale

Breakdown of non-current assets held for sale and further information

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Non-current assets held for sale are:		
Balance as at 1 July	9,551	10,051
Fair value gains (losses) on valuation	3	(500)
Balance at 30 June	9,554	9,551

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Non-current assets held for sale are split between:		
Assets where proceeds are expected after one year	9,554	9,551
Balance at 30 June	9,554	9,551

No further Council-owned property has been presented as held for sale since 2023. The change in value denotes an increase in valuation on the two properties currently classified as held for sale.

The council owned property at 77 Bunyan Road has been presented as held for sale following the approval by the Council on 26 May 2016 to sell the property. The council has approved the sale of the property as it will provide no future use to the council. A deposit was received on 23 November 2017.

Note 13: Other financial assets

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Other Financial Assets		
Term loan - Air Chathams Ltd	350	350
Total other financial assets	350	350

Fair value disclosures

Term loan - Air Chathams Ltd

A loan of \$350,000 was drawn down by Air Chathams Ltd on 17 December 2020. It is due for payment in November 2025. However, council have not yet decided when the airline will be asked to commence repayments.

Expected credit loss allowance (ECL)

The Council recognises an allowance for ECLs for all debt instruments not classified as FVTSD. ECLs are the probability weighted estimate of credit losses, measured at the present value of cash shortfalls, which is the difference between the cash flows due to the Council in accordance with the contract and the cash flows it expects to receive. ECLs are discounted at the effective interest rate of the financial asset.

ECLs are recognised in two stages. ECLs are provided for credit losses that result from default events that are possible within the next 12 months (a 12-month ECL). However, if there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, the loss allowance is based on losses possible for the remaining life of the financial asset (Lifetime ECL).

When determining whether the credit risk of a financial asset has increased significantly since initial recognition, the Council considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis based on the Council historical experience and informed credit assessment and including forward-looking information.

The Council considers a financial asset to be in default when the financial asset is more than 90 days past due. The Council may determine a default occurs prior to this if internal or external information indicates the entity is unlikely to pay its credit obligations in full.

The Council measure ECLs on loan commitments at the date the commitment becomes irrevocable. If the ECL measured exceeds the gross carrying amount of the financial asset, the ECL is recognised as a provision.

Impairment of financial assets

Financial assets are assessed for evidence of impairment at each balance date. Impairment losses are recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Note 14: Investment in Council Controlled Organisations and Other Entities

Limited Partnerships

A limited partnership (LP) is a type of partnership with general partners who have a right to manage the business, and limited partners (Council and others) who have no right to manage the business but have only limited liability for its debts.

Limited partnerships are distinct from limited liability partnerships, in which all partners have limited liability.

The general partners (GPs) are, in all major respects, in the same legal position as partners in a conventional firm: they have management control, share the right to use partnership property, share the profits of the firm in predefined proportions, and have joint and several liability for the debts of the partnership.

Investment in joint ventures and limited partnerships

Investments in associates and joint ventures are accounted for in the financial statements using the equity method of accounting. The Council has designated all its equity investments in joint ventures and associates at FVTOCRE. This measurement basis is considered more appropriate than through surplus or deficit because the investments have been made for long-term strategic purposes, rather than to generate a financial return through trading.

Under the equity method of accounting, the investment is initially recognised at cost and the carrying amount is increased or decreased to recognise the groups share of the change in net assets of the entity after the date of acquisition. The Council's share of the surplus / deficit is recognised in the council surplus or deficit. Distributions received from the investee reduce the carrying amount of the investment in the Council statements.

If the share of deficits in the entity equals or exceeds the interest in the entity, the Council discontinues recognising its share of further deficits. After the Council's interest is reduced to zero, additional deficits are provided for, and a liability is recognised, only to the extent that the Council has incurred legal or constructive obligations or made payments on behalf of the entity. If the entity subsequently reports surpluses, the Council will resume recognising its share of those surpluses only after its share of the surpluses equals the share of deficits not recognised.

Impairment

There were no impairment provisions for other financial assets. None of the financial assets are either past due or impaired.

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Investment in Limited Partnership		
Te Rāhui Herenga Waka 2021 Whakatāne	4,036	5,857
Investment in CCO's and other similar entities	4,036	5,857

Te Rāhui Herenga Waka 2021 Whakatāne

The Council has an interest in a limited partnership, Te Rāhui Herenga Waka 2021 Whakatāne, which was formed to facilitate the construction of the new boat harbour. The other two equal partners are Te Rāhui Lands Trust and Ngāti Awa in this venture. The Council, in accordance with the limited partnership agreement, has committed capital of \$9,800,000 of the total committed capital of \$29,400,000 reflecting an intended closing equity of 33.3 percent in the limited partnership.

In accordance with the limited partnership agreement clause 10.2, the entitlement to income and capital arising and losses accruing shall be allocated to the limited partners on a pro rata basis on the aggregate amount of paid-up capital. At 30 June 2025 the Council's paid-up capital in the limited partnership was \$5,700,000 (2024: \$5,700,000) of the total paid-up capital of \$12,400,000. Therefore, the Council's share to be applied to the equity accounting method at 30 June 2025 is 46 percent (2024: 46 percent).

A decision has been made to discontinue this project. The investment has been impaired as what is best considered by the council as the recoverable amount.

Note 14: Investment in CCOs and other similar entities (continued)

Summarised Statement of Financial Position of the limited partnership	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Investment		
Current assets	12,591	12,949
Non-current assets	551	5,541
Current liabilities	(4,361)	(781)
Non-current liabilities	-	(4,967)
Net assets	8,781	12,742

Summarised Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses of the limited partnership	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Revenue	687	876
Expense	4,453	268
Total comprehensive revenue and expense	(3,765)	608
Reconciliation to equity accounted carrying amount	-	-
Limited partnerships net assets	8,781	12,742
Council's share	46%	46%
Council's share of equity accounted in limited partnership	4,036	5,857

Summarised financial information relating to Te Rāhui Herenga Waka 2021 Whakatāne is provided above.

The Board of the Te Rāhui Herenga Waka Limited Partnership had been asked to develop a cost escalation report that also outlines the options available to the project to move forward, noting that there was no further funding available from the partners to meet the cost escalations faced.

This report was received in 2025 and as such the shareholders have agreed to wind up the special partnership due to costs being prohibitive.

Council is one of three shareholders on this project, together with Te Rāhui Lands Trust and the Crown via Crown Regional Holdings Limited.

Council-controlled organisations

A council-controlled organisation (CCO) is defined in section 6 of the Local Government Act 2002 as summarised below:

- A council organisation is the broadest category. It is an entity in which a local authority has any ownership interest whatsoever.
- A council-controlled organisation is an entity in which one or more local authorities control 50% or more of the voting rights or appoint 50% or more of the members of the governing body. A CCO can be a company, trust, partnership, incorporated society, joint venture, or other similar profit-sharing arrangement.
- A council-controlled organisation that operates a trading undertaking for the purpose of making a profit is referred to as a council-controlled trading organisation. Not-for-profit entities are CCOs.
- The definition of CCO excludes port companies, energy companies, electricity lines businesses and their parent trusts, and several other named entities.

Note 14: Investment in CCOs and other similar entities (continued)

Joint ventures

A joint arrangement is a binding arrangement that confers enforceable rights and obligations on the parties to the arrangement that is subject to joint control. Joint control is the agreed sharing of control where decisions about the relevant activities require the unanimous consent of the parties sharing control.

A joint arrangement is classified either as a joint operation or a joint venture. The classification depends on the rights and obligations of each party under the joint arrangement. The Council reviews the legal form, terms of the binding agreement, and other facts and circumstances relevant to its interest in determining the classification of the joint arrangement.

Associates

An associate is an entity over which the Council has significant influence and that is neither a subsidiary nor an interest in a joint arrangement.

Where the Council transacts with an associate, surpluses or deficits are eliminated to the extent of the Council's interest in the associate.

Breakdown of investment in council-controlled organisation and other similar entities and further information

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Unlisted shares in council-controlled organisations		
Civic Financial Services Ltd	50	50
Bay of Plenty Local Authority Shared Services Limited	9	9
NZ Local Government Funding Agency	100	100
Investments in joint ventures		
Whakatāne Airport	7,057	6,576
NZ LGFA – borrower notes	5,780	3,373
Total investment in CCOs and other similar entities	12,996	10,108

Note 14: Investment in CCOs and other similar entities (continued)

Whakatane Airport

The Council has a 50 percent interest in a joint venture, the Whakatāne Airport, which facilitates air services to Whakatāne and the surrounding district. The Ministry of Transport hold the other 50 percent interest in this venture

Summarised financial information relating to the Council's Whakatane Airport is provided below:

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Investment		
Current assets	2,341	1,861
Non-current assets at revaluation	12,206	12,058
Work in progress	15	19
Whakatāne District Council loan account	(343)	(326)
Current liabilities	(106)	(460)
Non-current liabilities	-	-
Net assets	14,113	13,152
Reconciliation to equity accounted carrying amount		
Joint venture's net assets	14,113	13,152
Council's share	50%	50%
Council's share of equity accounted carrying amount	7,057	6,576
Revenue and expenditure		
Total revenue	227	161
Operating expenses including personnel costs	841	703
Income tax expense	136	120
Surplus / (deficit)	(750)	(662)
Other comprehensive revenue and expense	-	-
Total comprehensive revenue and expense	(750)	(662)
Reconciliation to joint venture surplus / (deficit)		
Joint venture's surplus / (deficit)	(750)	(662)
Council's share	50%	50%
Council's share of joint venture surplus/(deficit)	(375)	(331)

Note 15: Property, plant, and equipment

Valuations of water and roading assets

The most recent valuation of water, wastewater and stormwater assets was performed by Roger Khoo and Peter Erceg of Aon Valuation Services, and the valuation was effective as at 30 June 2023. The assets that were fair valued during FY 2025 and the fair value movement has also been recorded in addition to the revaluation gain on roading assets for FY 2025.

The most recent valuation for road assets was performed by Whakatane District Council and peer reviewed by WSP Limited, and the valuation was effective as at 30 June 2025.

Breakdown of property, plant and equipment and other information

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Closing net book value of capitalised assets		
Operational assets		
Land and buildings	95,351	92,150
Museum and library collections	10,341	10,401
Other operational assets (equipment / furniture / vehicles)	11,984	11,909
Infrastructural assets		
Parks and reserves	10,371	11,113
Harbour	9,634	9,591
Refuse	-	-
Wastewater system	88,358	85,564
Water supply system	140,220	140,804
Stormwater network	88,546	87,667
Road network	893,654	654,216
Land under roads	91,363	91,363
Restricted assets		
Harbour Land (not leased)	4,361	4,591
Recreational reserves	55,370	58,284
Total property, plant and equipment	1,499,553	1,257,653

Note 15: Property, plant, and equipment (continued)

	Cost/ valuation 1.7.24	Accumulated depreciation and impairment 1.7.24	Carrying amount 1.7.24	Additions	Disposals	Vested	Impairment	Depreciation reversed on disposal	Depreciation	Revaluation surplus	Cost/ valuation 30.6.25	Accumulated depreciation and impairment 30.6.25	Carrying amount 30.6.25
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
2025													
Operational assets													
Land	32,057	-	32,057	3,543	-	-	-	-	-	1,026	36,626	-	36,626
Buildings	62,044	(1,952)	60,092	2,459	-	-	-	-	(1,809)	(2,017)	62,484	(3,761)	58,725
Library collections	951	(147)	804	114	-	-	-	-	(174)	-	1,065	(320)	745
Museum collections	9,597	-	9,597	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,597	-	9,597
Plant and equipment	10,610	(5,055)	5,555	768	(55)	-	-	14	(759)	-	11,323	(5,801)	5,522
Furniture and fittings	4,729	(2,850)	1,879	143	(13)	-	-	-	(272)	-	4,859	(3,121)	1,739
Office equipment	8,397	(6,589)	1,808	519	-	-	-	-	(599)	-	8,916	(7,188)	1,729
Motor vehicles	5,015	(2,347)	2,668	1,210	(601)	-	-	449	(730)	-	5,624	(2,628)	2,996
Harbour vessels	32	(32)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32	(32)	-
Total Operational assets	133,433	(18,972)	114,461	8,757	(670)	-	-	463	(4,342)	(991)	140,529	(22,850)	117,678
Infrastructural assets													
Parks and reserves	12,144	(1,031)	11,113	596	-	-	-	-	(1,109)	(229)	12,511	(2,140)	10,371
Harbour	9,999	(409)	9,591	682	-	-	-	-	(429)	(210)	10,472	(838)	9,634
Refuse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wastewater – Treatment plants and facilities	26,893	(1,780)	25,113	-	-	-	-	-	(851)	(161)	26,732	(2,631)	24,101
Wastewater – Other	66,089	(5,639)	60,450	6,137	-	33	-	-	(1,987)	(376)	71,882	(7,625)	64,257
Water – Treatment plants and facilities	1,965	(211)	1,754	-	-	-	-	-	(46)	(9)	1,956	(257)	1,699
Water - other	151,316	(12,266)	139,050	5,086	-	52	(187)	-	(4,603)	(876)	155,577	(17,056)	138,522
Stormwater network	92,668	(5,001)	87,667	3,298	-	-	-	-	(1,863)	(556)	95,410	(6,864)	88,546
Roading network	674,943	(20,727)	654,216	17,689	-	-	-	-	(10,551)	232,299	924,931	(31,278)	893,654
Land under roads	91,363	-	91,363	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	91,363	-	91,363
Total Infrastructural assets	1,127,381	(47,063)	1,080,317	33,488	-	85	(187)	-	(21,440)	229,881	1,390,835	(68,690)	1,322,145
Restricted Assets													
Harbour Land (not leased)	4,591	-	4,591	-	-	-	-	-	-	(230)	4,361	-	4,361
Recreational reserves	58,284	-	58,284	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2,914)	55,370	-	55,370
Total Restricted assets	62,875	-	62,875	-	-	-	-	-	-	(3,144)	59,731	-	59,731
Total	1,323,689	(66,036)	1,257,653	42,245	(670)	85	(187)	463	(25,782)	225,746	1,591,095	(91,541)	1,499,553

Note 15: Property, plant and equipment (continued)

	Cost/ valuation 1.7.23	Accumulated depreciation and impairment 1.7.23	Carrying amount 1.7.23	Additions	Disposals	Transfers	Depreciation reversed on disposal	Depreciation	Revaluation surplus	Cost/ valuation 30.6.24	Accumulated depreciation and impairment 30.6.24	Carrying amount 30.6.24
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
2024												
Operational assets												
Land	30,397	-	30,397	-		140	-	-	1,520	32,057	-	32,057
Buildings	61,290	(305)	60,984	1,609	(180)	-	180	(1,827)	(674)	62,044	(1,952)	60,092
Library collections	809	(1)	810	142	-	-	-	(147)	-	951	(147)	804
Museum collections	9,597	-	9,597	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,597	-	9,597
Plant and equipment	8,698	(4,629)	4,070	2,051	(139)	-	132	(559)	-	10,610	(5,055)	5,555
Furniture and fittings	4,271	(2,604)	1,667	459	-	-	-	(246)	-	4,729	(2,850)	1,879
Office equipment	8,049	(6,004)	2,046	349	-	-	-	(585)	-	8,397	(6,589)	1,808
Motor vehicles	4,906	(2,247)	2,659	806	(697)	-	577	(676)	-	5,015	(2,347)	2,667
Harbour vessels	32	(32)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32	(32)	-
Total Operational assets	128,049	(15,820)	112,229	5,415	(1,016)	140	889	(4,041)	846	133,433	(18,972)	114,461
Infrastructural assets												
Parks and reserves	11,327	-	11,327	886	-	-	-	(1,032)	(69)	12,144	(1,031)	11,113
Harbour	9,662	-	9,662	397	-	-	-	(409)	(59)	9,999	(409)	9,591
Refuse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wastewater – Treatment plant and facilities	27,399	(940)	26,459	-	-	-	-	(840)	(505)	26,893	(1,780)	25,113
Wastewater - other	64,660	(3,678)	60,982	2,608	-	-	-	(1,960)	(1,179)	66,089	(5,639)	60,450
Water – Treatment plants and facilities	1,993	(165)	1,828	-	-	-	-	(46)	(28)	1,965	(211)	1,754
Water - other	150,557	(7,716)	142,841	3,523	-	-	-	(4,550)	(2,764)	151,316	(12,266)	139,050
Stormwater network	93,990	(3,119)	90,871	399	-	-	-	(1,881)	(1,720)	92,668	(5,001)	87,667
Road network	635,829	(9,319)	626,510	22,844	-	-	-	(11,408)	16,270	674,943	(20,727)	654,216
Land under roads	91,363	-	91,363	-	-	-	-	-	-	91,363	-	91,363
Total infrastructural assets	1,086,779	(24,937)	1,061,843	30,657	-	-	-	(22,126)	9,946	1,127,381	(47,063)	1,080,318
Restricted Assets												
Harbour Land (not leased)	4,479	-	4,479	-	-	-	-	-	112	4,591	-	4,591
Recreational reserves	56,609	-	56,609	-	-	260	-	-	1,415	58,284	-	58,284
Total Restricted Assets	61,088	-	61,088	-	-	260	-	-	1,527	62,875	-	62,875
Total	1,275,916	(40,757)	1,235,159	36,072	(1,016)	400	889	(26,167)	12,318	1,323,689	(66,036)	1,257,653

Note 15: Property, plant and equipment (continued)

No property, plant and equipment is pledged as security.

Council has easements giving right to access to private property where infrastructure assets are located. It has not been feasible to value at this stage and when valued are not expected to be material.

Core infrastructure asset disclosure

Included within the Council infrastructure assets above are the following core Council assets:

	CLOSING BOOK VALUE \$000	ADDITIONS \$000	VESTED ASSETS \$000	MOST RECENT REPLACEMENT COST ESTIMATE FOR REVALUED ASSETS \$000	DATE OF ESTIMATE \$000
2025					
Water supply:					
- treatment plants and facilities	1,699	-	-	3,429	30 June 2025
- other assets (such as reticulation systems)	138,522	5,086	52	339,475	30 June 2025
Sewerage:					
- treatment plants and facilities	24,101	-	-	72,271	30 June 2025
- other assets (such as reticulation systems)	64,257	6,137	33	168,632	30 June 2025
Stormwater drainage	88,546	3,298	-	185,545	30 June 2025
Roads and footpaths	893,654	17,689	-	1,286,251	30 June 2025
2024					
Water supply:					
- treatment plants and facilities	1,754	-	-	2,980	30 June 2024
- other assets (such as reticulation systems)	139,050	3,523	-	295,026	30 June 2024
Sewerage:					
- treatment plants and facilities	25,113	-	-	63,883	30 June 2024
- other assets (such as reticulation systems)	60,450	2,608	-	149,059	30 June 2024
Stormwater drainage	87,667	399	-	164,474	30 June 2024
Roads and footpaths	654,216	22,844	98	839,010	30 June 2024

Restricted assets

Land and buildings in the 'Restricted Asset' category are subject to restrictions on either use or disposal, or both. This includes restrictions from legislation (such as land declared as a reserve under the Reserves Act 1977), or other restrictions (such as land or buildings acquired under a bequest or donation that restricts the purpose for which the assets can be used).

Note 15: Property, plant and equipment (continued)

Land under roads

The road reserve land for formed roads only has been valued as at 1 July 2006. Road reserves have been valued on the average land valued by urban rating areas and rural ward, reduced by a factor of 30% to account for the restricted use of the land. On transition to New Zealand equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards on 1 July 2006, the Council elected to use the fair value of land under roads as at 1 July 2006. Land under roads is no longer revalued.

Vested infrastructural assets

Vested infrastructural assets are valued based on the actual quantities of infrastructural components vested and the current in-ground cost of providing identical services. Assets vested to Whakatāne District Council are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense as revenue and in the Statement of Financial Position as property, plant and equipment.

Library collections

Library collections are valued at depreciated replacement cost in accordance with the International Valuation Standards 2017 and the relevant Accounting Standards and Policy. The most recent valuation of the library collection was performed by J Munroe, Certified Practicing Valuer of AON, and the valuation was effective as at 30 June 2023.

Museum collection

Museum collections are valued at fair value determined on a variety of valuation methods including market values, book value, replacement value, comparative value and values used by other institutions. The most recent valuation was performed by Dunbar Sloane and the valuation was effective as at 30 June 2023.

Harbour assets

The most recent valuation of harbour assets was performed by an independent Certified Practicing Valuer, P Erceg of Aon Risk Solutions. The valuation was effective as at 30 June 2023. Subsequent fair value assessments were carried out as at 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2025.

Capital commitments

The amount of contractual commitments for acquisition of property, plant and equipment is:

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Infrastructural assets		
Harbour	-	4,100
Wastewater system	-	1,115
Water supply system	2,028	4,074
Stormwater network	532	5,077
Roading network	11,097	15,840
Community Assets	104	-
Total capital commitments	13,761	30,206

Note 15: Property, plant and equipment (continued)

Insurance of assets disclosure

Information relating to the insurance of the Council assets at 30 June 2025 is as follows.

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
The total net book value of all Council assets covered by insurance contracts	474,608	472,212
The maximum amount to which insured assets are insured	744,009	690,805
The total net book value of all council assets covered by financial risk sharing arrangements	-	-
Maximum amount available to the Council under financial risk sharing arrangements	-	-
The value of assets that are self-insured	1,101,299	861,175
The value of funds maintained for self-insurance *	245	235

*Funds withdrawn to support costs incurred following 2017 floods. The payments continued for the next two years, and it is intended that the funds will be built back up.

In the event of natural disaster, central government may contribute up to 60% towards the restoration of water, drainage and sewerage assets, and provide a subsidy towards the restoration of roads.

All infrastructural assets are constructed on behalf of Whakatāne District Council by contractors.

Insurance Coverage

Information relating to the insurance coverage of the Council assets at 30 June 2025 is as follows.

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Infrastructure	120,000	120,000
Material damage (fire only)	63,000	38,000
Material damage (excl. fire)	517,822	492,807
Vehicles	5,444	5,500
Machinery Breakdown	24,340	23,137
Forestry	318	311
Fine Arts	13,067	11,037
Marine Hull	17	12

Uninsured assets

Council does not insure:

- Land - operating land, park land, reserve land, land under roads
- The Roding network including bridges

Note 15: Property, plant and equipment (continued)

Work in progress

Property, plant and equipment in the course of construction by class of asset is detailed below:

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Water, Stormwater and Wastewater Systems	16,674	12,480
Roading Network	1,660	3,938
Buildings	2,832	-
Parks and Reserves	307	58
Ports and Harbour	467	553
Intangible Assets	1	14
Plant and Equipment	1,504	1,037
Total work in progress	23,444	18,080

Note 16: Intangible assets

Breakdown of intangible assets and further information

Movements in the carrying value for the computer software class of intangible assets are as follows:

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Cost		
Balance at 1 July	6,291	5,806
Additions	85	485
Disposals	-	-
Balance at 30 June	6,376	6,291
Accumulated amortisation and impairment		
Balance at 1 July	(5,431)	(5,203)
Amortisation charge	(264)	(228)
Disposals	-	-
Balance at 30 June	(5,695)	(5,431)
Total intangible assets at 30 June	681	860

There are no intangible assets in any other classes.

Restrictions

There are no restrictions over the title of intangible assets. No intangible assets are pledged as security for liabilities.

Capital commitments

There are no capital commitments for intangible assets at 30 June 2025 (2024: \$nil).

Note 17: Forestry assets

Breakdown of forestry assets and further information

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Balance at 1 July	286	280
Increases due to purchases	-	-
Gains/(losses) arising from changes attributable to physical changes	-	-
Gains/(losses) arising from changes attributable to price changes	-	-
Gains/(losses) arising from revaluation of forestry assets	(1)	6
Decreases due to sales	-	-
Decreases due to harvest	-	-
Total forestry assets	285	286

Financial risk management strategies

The Council is exposed to financial risks arising from changes in timber prices. The Council is a long-term forestry investor and does not expect timber prices to decline significantly in the foreseeable future. Therefore, no measures have been taken to manage the risks of a decline in timber prices. The Council revalues its forestry assets annually to ensure current market prices are taken into account.

Note 18: Investment property

Breakdown of investment property and further information

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Balance at 1 July	43,226	44,043
Additions	-	447
Sales and disposals	-	-
Transfer (to) from non-current assets held for sale	-	-
Transfer (to) from restricted assets	-	(260)
Transfer (to) from operational land	-	(140)
Transfer (to) from operational buildings	-	-
Fair value gains/(losses) on valuation	(836)	(864)
Total investment property	42,390	43,226

Information about the revenue and expenses in relation to investment property as detailed below:

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Rental Revenue	2,391	2,343
Direct Operating Expenses from Investment Property Generating Revenue	394	806

Fair value of investment property

The valuation of investment property was performed by Jeremy Tucker, an independent valuer of Preston Rowe Paterson (Tauranga) Ltd. They are experienced valuers with extensive market knowledge in the types and location of investment properties owned by the Council.

Valuations for freehold investment properties relate to the market value in comparison to comparable sales evidence for similar properties in the surrounding area. Restricted land within the investment category: \$nil (2024: \$nil).

The valuation includes lessors' interests in freehold land holdings held by the Council. The majority of these leases are perpetually renewable of 14-year terms. Lessor's interest was valued using Discounted Cashflow method.

Note 19: Payables and deferred revenue

Breakdown of payables and deferred revenue and further information

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Payables and deferred revenue under exchange transactions:		
Trade payables and accrued expenses	11,828	13,595
Income in advance	4,289	4,588
Deposits held	986	1,128
Amounts due to customers for contract work	600	715
Amounts due to Bay of Plenty Regional Council for rates collected on their behalf	330	473
Payables and deferred revenue under non-exchange transactions:		
Other taxes payable (e.g. GST and FBT)	937	-
Other grants and bequests received subject to substantive conditions not yet met	-	-
Total payables and deferred revenue	18,970	20,499

Payables are generally non-interest bearing and are normally settled on 30-day terms. Therefore, the carrying value of payables approximates their fair value.

Note 20: Borrowings and other financial liabilities

Breakdown of borrowings and other financial liabilities and further information

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Current portion		
Secured loans	32,000	22,000
Deposits	-	-
Total current portion	32,000	22,000
Non-current portion		
Secured loans	145,800	131,500
Other financial liabilities	1,000	1,000
Total non-current portion	146,800	132,500
Total borrowings and other financial liabilities	178,800	154,500

Interest terms for secured loans

The Council's secured loans are mostly issued at floating rates of interest. For floating rate debt, the interest rate is reset quarterly based on the 90-day bank bill rate plus a margin for credit risk. External interest rates at 30 June 2025 range from 1.06% to 5.74% (2024: 1.06% to 6.83%) with a weighted average rate of 4.33% (2024: 5.76%). Interest expense for 2025 was \$9.159 million (2024: \$7.798 million).

Other secured loan facilities

The Council has an interchangeable loan facility with ANZ of \$20 million. As at 30 June 2025, Nil (2024: Nil) of this facility was being utilised.

Security

The Council's secured loans are secured over the future rating revenue of the Council.

Internal borrowings

Internal borrowings are eliminated on consolidation of activities in the Council's financial statements.

Fair values

Due to interest rates on debt resetting to a market rate every three months, the carrying amounts of secured loans approximates their fair value.

Information about the maturity profile of borrowings and other financial liabilities is detailed below:

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Maturing in under one year	32,000	22,000
Maturing in 1-2 years	33,500	32,000
Maturing in 2-3 years	41,000	33,500
Maturing in 3-4 years	44,000	41,000
Maturing in 4-5 years	28,000	26,000
Maturing in 5 years+	300	-
Total borrowings	178,800	154,500

Note 20: Borrowings and other financial liabilities (continued)

Internal Borrowings

Information on internal borrowings per activity group is provided in the tables below. Internal borrowings are eliminated on consolidation of activities in Council's financial statements

YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025	BALANCE AT 1 JULY \$000	BORROWINGS \$000	REPAYMENTS \$000	BALANCE AT 30 JUNE \$000	INTEREST \$000
Groups of activities					
Democracy	44	-	6	39	2
Arts and Culture	3,715	104	180	3,639	150
Aquatic Centres	6,300	1,071	280	7,092	257
Economic Development	1,019	539	13	1,546	44
Climate Change and Resilience	2,084	-	68	2,016	84
Stormwater	21,812	4,421	1,038	25,195	955
Wastewater	13,861	8,609	786	21,683	733
Water Supply	25,330	10,084	930	34,483	1,224
Ports and Harbour	6,247	533	305	6,457	263
Parks and Reserves	3,560	1,351	244	4,667	170
Whakatane Holiday Park	2,350	197	61	2,486	99
Transport Connections	20,151	498	1,066	19,583	823
Building and Resource Management	6,845	1,023	728	7,141	283
Waste Management	2,698	1,551	475	3,773	140
Community Regulation	-	13	-	13	-
Community Facilities	1,309	1,236	78	2,468	77
Corporate Services *	15,892	756	648	16,000	657
Total	133,218	31,987	6,906	158,281	5,962

* Corporate Services FIS increase/decrease debt line includes elimination of internal borrowings/interest.

Note 20: Borrowings and other financial liabilities (continued)

YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024	BALANCE AT 1 JULY \$000	BORROWINGS \$000	REPAYMENTS \$000	BALANCE AT 30 JUNE \$000	INTEREST \$000
Groups of activities					
Democracy	50	-	6	44	3
Arts and Culture	3,094	791	170	3,715	164
Aquatic Centres	4,989	1,567	256	6,300	276
Economic Development	292	747	19	1,019	29
Climate Change and Resilience	2,215	120	251	2,084	117
Stormwater	19,152	3,604	944	21,812	1,066
Wastewater	11,283	3,081	503	13,861	634
Water Supply	20,726	5,511	907	25,330	1,166
Ports and Harbour	6,254	128	135	6,247	333
Parks and Reserves	2,429	1,314	183	3,560	131
Whakatane Holiday Park	1,899	514	63	2,350	102
Transport Connections	14,731	5,420	-	20,151	887
Building and Resource Management	7,490	14	659	6,845	397
Waste Management	2,234	790	326	2,698	118
Community Regulation	-	-	-	-	-
Community Facilities	1,006	362	59	1,309	53
Corporate Services*	16,237	424	769	15,892	2,320
Total	114,080	24,387	5,249	133,218	7,797

* Corporate Services FIS increase/decrease debt line includes elimination of internal borrowings/interest.

Note 21: Employee entitlements

Breakdown of employee entitlements

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Current portion		
Accrued pay	1,388	1,157
Annual and long service leave	2,513	2,449
Long service leave	122	118
Sick leave	55	31
Total current portion	4,077	3,755
Non-current portion		
Long service leave	487	456
Sick Leave	97	114
Total non-current portion	584	570
Total employee entitlements	4,661	4,325

Note 22: Provisions

Breakdown of provisions and further information

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Current portion		
Landfill aftercare provision	118	1,189
Weathertightness and other claims provision	324	56
Future loss on sale of investment property provision	-	-
Total current portion	442	1,245
Non-current portion		
Landfill aftercare provision	3,552	3,687
Weathertightness and other claims provision	15	60
Future loss on sale of investment property provision	1,221	1,221
Total non-current portion	4,788	4,968
Total provisions	5,230	6,213

Landfill aftercare provision

The Council's responsibilities include all post-closure costs such as lease costs, leachate monitoring, recapping, track maintenance, bores, fencing, consents, risk assessment, monitoring, maintenance and emergency works.

Estimating the landfill aftercare provision

The Council engaged an independent engineer in 2023 to review the provisions for the Landfill provision. Peter Askey, Technical Principal Solid Waste of WSP confirmed that Council had "taken a reasonable approach to setting the budget allocations".

The cash outflows for landfill post-closure costs are expected to occur between 2025 and 2054. The long-term nature of the liability means that there are inherent uncertainties in estimating costs that will be incurred. The future cash outflows have been estimated taking into account existing technology and known changes to legal requirements. The gross provision before discounting is \$7.49 million (2024: \$6.07 million).

Discount rates ranging from 3.20% to 5.62% (2024: 4.57% to 5.30%) have been used to discount the estimated future cash outflows. These rates have been determined using the Treasury Risk Free Rates.

Weathertightness and other building related claims provision

The Weathertight Homes Resolution Service (WHRS), a central government service established under the Weathertight Homes Resolution Services Act 2006, no longer accepts claims. The Council has no historical claims outstanding with this service. The Council has continued to provide for potential liability in the 2025 financial statements of \$339,000 (2024: \$116,000) based on the expected outcome of known weathertight and other building related claims.

Future loss on sale of investment property provision

A provision has been made to take account of the difference between the current fair value of Property Intended for Sale and the sale price as stated in the Sale and Purchase Agreement in September 2017. See also note on Non-current asset held for sale.

Note 22: Provisions (continued)

Other claims

There are no other claims known at 30 June 2025 other than those provided for. Further details on potential liabilities are explained in Note 23: Contingencies.

Movements for each class of provision are as follows:

	Landfill aftercare provision \$000	Weathertightness and other claims provision \$000	Future loss on sale of investment property provision \$000	Total \$000
Balance at 1 July 2023	3,400	75	1,721	5,196
Additional provisions	2,207	41	-	2,248
Amounts used	(731)	-	(500)	(1,231)
Unused amounts reversed	-	-	-	-
Discount unwind (Note 4: Finance costs)	-	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2024	4,876	116	1,221	6,213
2024 Movement in provisions	1,476	41	(500)	1,017
Balance at 1 July 2024	4,876	116	1,221	6,213
Additional provisions	505	223	-	728
Amounts used	(1,711)	-	-	(1,711)
Unused amounts reversed	-	-	-	-
Discount unwind (Note 4: Finance costs)	-	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2025	3,670	339	1,221	5,230
2025 Movement in provisions	(1,206)	223	-	(983)

Note 23: Contingencies

The Council has contingent liabilities for indemnity claims, but the only claims that might be estimated are related to building defects (see below and Provisions note) and a provision has been made in the financial statements to anticipate this liability.

Building Act claims including weathertightness claims

The Building Act 2004 imposes certain obligations and liabilities on local authorities relating to the issue of building consents and inspection of work done. At the date of these financial statements, there are three matters indicating potential liabilities that have been estimated for the provision. These are Langbien and Ridley vs Flowerday Homes Ltd; and Watkins, Goldsmith and Pullar and Cooper Trust. The calculation is based on a forecast percentage estimate of the total claim.

The amount of any potential future claims cannot be reliably estimated and is therefore unquantifiable.

Local Government Funding Agency

The Council is a guarantor of the New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency Limited (LGFA).

The LGFA was incorporated in December 2011 with the purpose of providing debt funding to local authorities in New Zealand. LGFA has a current credit rating from Standard and Poor's of AAA for local currency and a foreign currency rating of AA+ as at 30 June 2025.

As at 30 June 2025, the Council is one of 30 local authority shareholders and 72 local authority guarantors of the LGFA. The New Zealand Government also has a 20% shareholding in the LGFA. When aggregated with the uncalled capital of other shareholders, \$20.0 million is available in the event that an imminent default is identified. Also, together with the other shareholders and guarantors, the Council is a guarantor of all the LGFA's borrowings.

At 30 June 2025, the LGFA had borrowings totalling \$25.53 billion (2024: \$23 billion).

Financial reporting standards require the Council to recognise the guaranteed liability at fair value. However, the Council has been unable to determine a sufficiently reliable fair value for the guarantee and therefore has not recognised a liability.

The Council considers the risk of the LGFA defaulting on repayment of interest or capital to be very low on the basis that:

- it is not aware of any local authority debt default events in New Zealand; and
- local government legislation would enable local authorities to levy a rate to raise sufficient funds to meet any debt obligations if further funds were required.

Engineering report on subdivision

Representatives of the owners of properties within the Kokako Heights subdivision have filed High Court proceedings in relation to issues arising around slips and stormwater management in and around the accessway of the subdivision. Formal legal proceedings were issued against the Council as third defendant in July 2025. The claim has been notified to council insurers, but it is too early to ascertain potential liability.

Resource consent on water bottling plant

The Supreme Court heard appeals challenging the Court of Appeal I decision that led to the granting of resource consents for an expanded water bottling plant for Otakiri Springs Ltd. The Supreme Court heard the appeals in November 2023, and we are awaiting the Courts decision. The Council may be asked to consider an application for a costs award should it be successful in the Supreme Court.

Note 23: Contingencies (continued)

Edgecumbe stop bank breach 2017

In August 2023, a class action claim (Jill Payne and IAG New Zealand Ltd) was raised against the Council, together with the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, related to alleged duty of care in relation to monitoring and maintaining a flood wall located at 54-64 College Road, Edgecumbe. The appellant is now G Rangiaho and IAG NZ Ltd. The Council is contesting the claims based on the claim relating to the breach of a stop bank which is the responsibility of the Bay of Plenty Regional Council. The quantity of the claim is \$47 million. There is a further claim (known as the Shine proceedings) and there are other insurers with claims against the Bay of Plenty Regional Council only. It is difficult to quantify Councils liability due to the nature of the issues, the uncertainty of the outcome and/or the extent to which the Council have a responsibility to the claimant.

New Zealand Mutual Liability Riskpool Scheme

Whakatane District Council was previously a member of the New Zealand Mutual Liability Riskpool scheme ('Riskpool'). The Scheme is in wind down, however the Council has an ongoing obligation to contribute to the Riskpool scheme should a call be made in respect of any historical claims (to the extent those claims are not covered by reinsurance or where reinsurance is delayed), and to fund the ongoing operation of the scheme.

The likelihood of any call in respect of historical claims diminishes with each year as limitation periods expire. However, following the Supreme Court decision on 1 August 2023 in *Napier City Council v Local Government Mutual Funds Trustee Limited*, which addressed the treatment of claims against Riskpool that involved a mixture of non- weathertightness and weathertightness defects (mixed claims), a number of proceedings against Riskpool, which were stayed pending the Supreme Court's decision in 2023, have since recommenced.

Several member Councils have brought proceedings against Riskpool related to mixed claims. Two of these claims are currently listed for trial in September 2025. These cases are important in clarifying the scope of Riskpool's historical obligations and the interpretation of past Scheme terms. At this point the total potential liability of the outstanding claims against Riskpool is unable to be quantified

Council made payments in January 2024 of \$134,319, March 2025 of \$27,434 and a subsequent payment in September 2025 of \$59,152.36.

Employment disputes

There were no employment disputes at 30 June 2025. (2024: \$10,000).

Note 24: Equity

Breakdown of equity and further information

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Accumulated funds		
Balance at 1 July	442,241	447,519
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	(10,406)	(5,277)
Other reserve movements	19	(33)
Changes in Equity – tax	59	17
Transfers to restricted reserves	(2,916)	(3,096)
Transfers to Council Created Reserves	(24,121)	(31,361)
Transfers from restricted reserves	2,987	2,983
Transfer from Council Created Reserves	26,002	31,489
Total accumulated funds	433,865	442,241
Council created reserves		
Balance at 1 July	2,172	2,300
Transfers to accumulated funds	24,121	31,361
Transfers from accumulated funds	(26,002)	(31,489)
Balance at 30 June	291	2,172
Restricted reserves		
Balance at 1 July	15,188	15,075
Transfers to accumulated funds	2,916	3,096
Transfers from accumulated funds	(2,987)	(2,983)
Balance at 30 June	15,117	15,188
Asset revaluation reserve		
Balance at 1 July	740,866	728,547
Revaluation of operational assets	(992)	846
Revaluation of restricted assets	(3,144)	1,527
Revaluation of roading	232,299	16,271
Revaluation of water	(885)	(2,792)
Revaluation of sewerage	(538)	(1,685)
Revaluation of land drainage	(558)	(1,720)
Revaluation of other infrastructural assets	(439)	(128)
Deferred tax on revaluation	-	-
Balance at 30 June	966,609	740,866

Note 24: Equity (continued)

Operating reserves

Information about operating reserves funds provided for within accumulated funds held for a general or specific purpose is provided below:

Description	Activity group	Balance at 30.6.23 / 1.7.23 \$000	Transfers into funds \$000	Transfer out of funds \$000	Balance at 30.6.24 \$000	Transfers into funds \$000	Transfer out of funds \$000	Balance at 30.6.25 \$000
General Operating Reserves								
General Rates and Revenues	General Council	(1,436)	7,640	(9,499)	(3,294)	5,763	(5,301)	(2,832)
Fixed Assets	General Council	2,500	-	-	2,500	-	-	2,500
Roading Rate	Transport Connections	642	1,917	(532)	2,027	1,358	(2,623)	762
Parking Enforcement	Transport Connections	(60)	-	(119)	(180)	9	(158)	(329)
District Growth Rate Reserve	District Growth	128	122	(98)	152	86	(211)	27
Water Supply – Equalised schemes	Equalised Water Supply	701	1,178	(1,094)	785	(475)	(434)	(124)
Water Supply - Murupara	Murupara Water Supply	71	46	(43)	74	7	-	81
Water Supply - Plains	Plains Water Supply	(937)	2,180	(1,268)	(25)	52	-	27
Wastewater – Equalised schemes	Equalised Sewage Treatment and Disposal	(142)	1,993	(1,262)	589	118	(548)	160
Wastewater - Murupara	Murupara Sewage Treatment and Disposal	(10)	200	(2)	188	79	-	268
Wastewater - Matata	Matata Sewage Treatment and Disposal	(198)	93	(10)	(115)	6	(577)	(686)
Stormwater - Whakatāne	Stormwater	(295)	1,031	(9)	727	79	(504)	302
Stormwater – Ohope	Stormwater	137	11	(2)	146	49	-	195
Stormwater - Edgecumbe	Stormwater	45	82	(1)	126	41	-	167
Stormwater - Matatā	Stormwater	(108)	-	(7)	(115)	2	(35)	(148)
Stormwater - Murupara	Stormwater	3	1	(1)	3	5	-	8
Stormwater - Taneatua	Stormwater	(9)	-	(1)	(10)	14	-	4
Stormwater - Te Teko	Stormwater	-	1	(1)	-	1	-	1
Stormwater - Te Mahoe	Stormwater	(2)	-	-	(2)	1	-	(1)
Refuse Collection Rate	Waste Management and Minimisation	(234)	43	(462)	(654)	603	(207)	(258)
Dog Control	Community Safety	(289)	-	(423)	(711)	227	(140)	(625)
Pensioner Housing	Community Experience	649	34	-	682	28	-	710
Total General Operating Reserves		1,156	16,571	(14,832)	2,895	8,052	(10,738)	209

Note 24: Equity (continued)

Operating reserves (continued)

Information about operating reserves funds provided for within accumulated funds held for a general or specific purpose is provided below:

Description	Activity group	Balance at 30.6.23 / 1.7.23 \$000	Transfers into funds \$000	Transfer out of funds \$000	Balance at 30.6.24 \$000	Transfers into funds \$000	Transfer out of funds \$000	Balance at 30.6.25 \$000
Renewal / depreciation operating reserves								
Strategic and Investment Properties	Strategy and Futures	3	-	-	3	-	-	3
Roading	Transportation Connections	162	2,722	(3,587)	(703)	3,329	(3,633)	(1,008)
Water Supply – Equalised schemes	Water Supply	(906)	1,474	(2,371)	(1,803)	4,115	(2,216)	98
Water Supply - Murupara	Water Supply	319	109	(376)	52	209	(25)	236
Water Supply - Plains	Water Supply	(747)	325	(265)	(687)	427	(181)	(443)
Wastewater – Equalised schemes	Sewage Treatment and Disposal	3,968	2,305	(2,404)	3,869	2,307	(2,129)	4,048
Wastewater - Matata	Sewage Treatment and Disposal	123	6	-	130	5	-	135
Wastewater - Murupara	Sewage Treatment and Disposal	825	204	(435)	594	39	-	634
Stormwater - Edgecumbe	Stormwater	78	53	-	131	78	-	209
Stormwater - Matata	Stormwater	52	17	-	69	20	-	89
Stormwater - Murupara	Stormwater	193	50	-	243	25	-	267
Stormwater - Ohope	Stormwater	(38)	53	(1)	14	83	-	97
Stormwater - Taneatua	Stormwater	14	12	-	26	11	-	37
Stormwater - Te Mahoe	Stormwater	32	7	-	39	8	-	47
Stormwater - Te Teko	Stormwater	13	4	-	17	6	-	23
Stormwater - Whakatane	Stormwater	(3,225)	532	(1,819)	(4,512)	900	(2,652)	(6,264)
Refuse Disposal	Waste Management and Minimisation	56	38	(97)	(3)	33	(70)	(40)
Parks Reserves and Gardens	Community Experience	16	659	(490)	185	647	(515)	317
Recreation	Community Experience	181	10	-	191	20	-	210
Cemeteries	Community Experience	203	122	(12)	314	141	(27)	428
Aquatic Centres	Community Experience	(97)	255	(474)	(316)	289	(494)	(521)
Libraries and Galleries	Community Experience	16	120	(134)	2	114	(137)	(21)

Note 24: Equity (continued)

Operating reserves (continued)

Information about operating reserves funds provided for within accumulated funds held for a general or specific purpose is provided below:

Description	Activity group	Balance at 30.6.23 / 1.7.23 \$000	Transfers into funds \$000	Transfer out of funds \$000	Balance at 30.6.24 \$000	Transfers into funds \$000	Transfer out of funds \$000	Balance at 30.6.25 \$000
Renewal / Depreciation Reserves								
Museums and Archives	Community Experience	172	9	-	181	7	-	188
Halls	Community Experience	47	398	(341)	104	403	(305)	202
Public Conveniences	Community Experience	13	92	(64)	41	57	(216)	(118)
Ports and Harbours	Community Experience	(430)	227	(420)	(623)	142	(33)	(515)
Pensioner Housing	Community Experience	448	23	-	471	19	-	490
Holiday Park	Community Experience	9	44	(96)	(42)	87	(66)	(20)
Dog Control	Community Safety	(4)	-	-	(4)	-	-	(4)
Corporate Property	Corporate Services	331	392	(261)	463	398	(128)	733
Information Management	Corporate Services	48	861	(1,148)	(239)	534	(1,237)	(941)
Vehicle and Plant Reserve	Corporate Services	561	568	(207)	922	594	(44)	1,471
Airport Whakatāne	General Council	(471)	111	(23)	(383)	127	(64)	(320)
Total Renewal/Depreciation Reserves		1,966	11,803	(15,024)	(1,254)	15,174	(14,172)	(254)
Other Operating Reserves								
Community Board - Whakatāne-Ōhope	Leadership and Community	107	5	(14)	98	10	(3)	105
Community Board - Rangitaiki	Leadership and Community	50	7	-	58	14	-	72
Community Board - Taneatua	Leadership and Community	23	1	(1)	23	13	-	36
Community Board - Murupara	Leadership and Community	25	1	(2)	24	6	-	30
Iwi Liaison Community Projects	Leadership and Community	9	-	-	9	-	-	9
Roading Storm Damage Reserve	Transport Connections	446	214	(424)	236	196	-	432
Te Mahoe Water - special	Water Supply	25	1	-	26	1	-	27
Waste Minimisation Reserve	Waste Minimisation	475	638	(127)	987	548	-	1,535
Disaster Mitigation	Stormwater	(14)	57	(67)	(25)	27	(11)	(8)
Car Parks Development	Community Experience	18	1	-	19	1	-	20

Note 24: Equity (continued)

Operating reserves (continued)

Information about operating reserves funds provided for within accumulated funds held for a general or specific purpose is provided below:

Description	Activity group	Balance at 30.6.23 / 1.7.23 \$000	Transfers into funds \$000	Transfer out of funds \$000	Balance at 30.6.24 \$000	Transfers into funds \$000	Transfer out of funds \$000	Balance at 30.6.25 \$000
Other Operating Reserves (continued)								
Museum Collections	Community Experience	1	-	-	1	-	-	1
Galatea Reserve Development	Community Experience	2	-	-	2	-	-	2
Disabled Facilities	Community Experience	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whakatane Holiday Park	Community Experience	(1,264)	460	(471)	(1,275)	33	(553)	(1,795)
Leaky Homes Reserve	Community Safety	322	177	-	499	20	-	519
Whakaari 2019 Eruption	Community Safety	(229)	-	(12)	(241)	-	(10)	(251)
General Disaster Reserve	General Council	224	12	-	235	9	-	245
Asset Divestment	General Council	825	42	(40)	827	(93)	(12)	721
Sale of Bennett Block	General Council	(119)	-	(6)	(125)	-	(5)	(130)
Parks and Reserves Financial Contribution	Parks and Reserves	241	13	-	253	10	-	264
Airport Whakatāne	General Council	(1,988)	1,357	(469)	(1,100)	99	(498)	(1,500)
Total Other Operating Reserves		(822)	2,986	(1,633)	532	895	(1,092)	335
Total Council Created Operating Reserves		2,300	31,360	(31,489)	2,172	24,121	(26,002)	291

Purpose of each operating reserve fund

General operating reserves - These are set aside by the Council to fund short-term operational matters, such as some loan repayments, or to hold short-term surpluses arising from operations.

Renewal / depreciation operating reserves - These are set aside by the Council to fund short- to medium-term timing variations in the future capital expenditure associated renewal of assets from Council activities, such as water, wastewater, stormwater, roads and footpath, facilities, property plant and equipment.

Other operating reserves - These are set aside by the Council to fund specific future or potential operating activities of the Council associated with the nature of the reserve.

If not required, the Council can elect to transfer these to other operating reserves or transferred to unreserved accumulated funds.

Note 24: Equity (continued)

Restricted reserves

Information about restricted reserves is provided below:

Description	Activity group	Balance at 30.6.23 / 1.7.23 \$000	Transfers into funds \$000	Transfer out of funds \$000	Balance at 30.6.24 \$000	Transfers into funds \$000	Transfer out of funds \$000	Balance at 30.6.25 \$000
Development Contribution Reserves								
Roading	Transportation Connections	664	62	(10)	716	108	-	824
Water Supply - Edgecumbe	Water Supply	9	-	-	10	-	-	10
Water Supply – Matatā	Water Supply	85	4	-	89	4	-	93
Water Supply - Ōhope	Water Supply	150	12	-	162	17	-	179
Water Supply - Plains	Water Supply	(68)	-	(4)	(72)	-	(3)	(74)
Water Supply - Whakatāne	Water Supply	(203)	9	(35)	(228)	12	(20)	(236)
Wastewater - Coastlands	Sewage Treatment and Disposal	(702)	-	(74)	(776)	-	(31)	(807)
Wastewater - Edgecumbe	Sewage Treatment and Disposal	(4)	-	-	(4)	-	-	(4)
Wastewater - Ōhope	Sewage Treatment and Disposal	308	17	-	325	13	-	338
Wastewater - Whakatāne	Sewage Treatment and Disposal	(2,280)	8	(119)	(2,391)	8	(96)	(2,479)
Stormwater – Matatā	Stormwater	1	-	-	1	-	-	1
Stormwater - Ōhope	Stormwater	147	8	-	155	6	-	161
Stormwater - Whakatāne	Stormwater	109	10	(87)	32	4	(66)	(29)
Solid Waste	Waste Management and Minimisation	346	18	-	364	15	(1)	378
Parks, Gardens and Reserves	Community Experience	124	8	(2)	131	70	(2)	199
Whakatane Carparks	Community Safety	(10)	-	(1)	(11)	-	-	(11)
Community Infrastructure	General Council	543	70	(5)	607	55	-	662
Total Development Contribution Restricted Reserves		(781)	227	(336)	(889)	312	(219)	(796)

Note 24: Equity (continued)

Restricted reserves (continued)

Description	Activity group	Balance at 30.6.23 / 1.7.23 \$000	Transfers into funds \$000	Transfer out of funds \$000	Balance at 30.6.24 \$000	Transfers into funds \$000	Transfer out of funds \$000	Balance at 30.6.25 \$000
Other restricted reserves								
Harbour Land Sales Fund	Community Experience	14,266	744	-	15,010	605	-	15,615
Harbour Capital Fund	Community Experience	1,386	2,115	(2,647)	854	1,991	(2,768)	76
Capital Contributions Rooding	Transportation Connections	72	4	-	76	3	-	79
Total other restricted reserves		130	7	-	137	6	-	142
Total Other Restricted Reserves		15,855	2,869	(2,647)	16,076	2,604	(2,768)	15,912
Total Restricted Reserves		15,074	3,096	(2,983)	15,187	2,916	(2,987)	15,116

Note 24: Equity (continued)

Restricted reserves

Development contribution reserves - These include development and financial contributions levied by Whakatāne District Council for capital works and are intended to contribute to the growth-related capital expenditure in the infrastructural asset activities of Roads, Water Supply, Wastewater Management, Stormwater Drainage, Waste Management and Disposal, Parks and Reserves, Facilities, Carparks and Subdivisions within communities.

Other restricted reserves - These are funds subject to specific conditions accepted as binding by Whakatāne District Council, such as bequests or operations in trust under specific Acts, and which may not be revised by the Council without reference to the Courts or third party. Harbour reserves within this group are recorded to give effect to clause 21 of the 1976 Order in Council for the Union of Whakatāne County and Whakatāne Borough and dissolution of Whakatāne Harbour Board.

Capital management

The Council's capital is its equity (or ratepayers' funds), which comprise accumulated funds and reserves. Equity is represented by net assets.

The LGA requires the Council to manage its revenues, expenses, assets, liabilities, investments and general financial dealings prudently and in a manner that promotes the current and future interests of the community. Ratepayers' funds are largely managed as a by-product of managing revenues, expenses, assets, liabilities, investments and general financial dealings.

The objective of managing these items is to achieve intergenerational equity, which is a principle promoted in the LGA and applied by the Council. Intergenerational equity requires today's ratepayers to meet the costs of utilising the Council's assets and not expecting them to meet the full cost of long-term assets that will benefit ratepayers in future generations. Additionally, the Council has in place asset management plans for major classes of assets detailing renewal and maintenance programmes, to ensure that ratepayers in future generations are not required to meet the costs of deferred renewals and maintenance.

The LGA requires the Council to make adequate and effective provision in its Long Term Plan (LTP) and in its Annual Plan (where applicable) to meet the expenditure needs identified in those plans. The LGA also sets out the factors that the Council is required to consider when determining the most appropriate sources of funding for each of its activities. The sources and levels of funding are set out in the funding and financial policies in the Council's Long Term Plan.

Note 25: Related party transactions

Related parties include subsidiaries, associates, joint ventures, key management personnel, elected representatives of the Council, their close family members, and entities controlled by them. Close family members include spouses or domestic partners, children and dependents.

Apart from the disclosures provided below, no disclosures have been made with related parties for transactions that are:

- within a normal supplier or client/recipient relationship; and
- on terms and conditions no more or less favourable than those that it is reasonable to expect the Council would have adopted in dealing with the party at arm's length in the same circumstances.

Further, no disclosure has been made for transactions with entities within the Council group (such as funding and financing flows), where the transactions are consistent with the normal operating relationships between the entities and are on normal terms and conditions for such group transactions.

No provision has been required, nor any expense recognised, for impairment of receivables, for any loans or other receivables to related parties (2024: nil).

Related party transactions required to be disclosed

Bay of Plenty Local Authority Shared Services Limited

The Council has a one-ninth share in BOPLASS Limited. BOPLASS Limited was established to foster collaboration between councils in the delivery of services particularly back office or support services. During the year, the Council contracted BOPLASS Limited for services costing \$153,289 (2024: \$177,881.87).

Whakatāne Airport

Council has a 50:50 joint equity venture with the Ministry of Transport (Air Transport Division) in the Whakatāne Airport and both entities are considered to be related parties. Administrative and maintenance transactions totalling \$165,967 (2024: \$62,669) were carried out with the Joint Venture. Funds held by Council on behalf of the Airport total \$3,072,566 deficit (2024: \$2,734,237 deficit).

Note 26: Events after balance date

Local Water Done Well (LWDW)

Whakatāne District Council formally adopted its Water Services Delivery Plan on the 14 August 2025, confirming that water, wastewater and stormwater services will be delivered through a stand-alone, ring-fenced business unit within the Council.

The decision follows extensive community engagement through the Local Water Done Well project and aligns with new national legislation requiring councils to outline how they will manage water services locally.

The Water Services Delivery Plan was submitted to the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) on 1 September 2025. This was approved by the DIA on 30 October 2025. The Council will begin transition planning to ensure the new delivery model is fully operational by the statutory deadline of 1 July 2028.

An estimate of the financial effect of the decision to deliver water services differently, or a statement such an estimate cannot be reliably made.

Exploring regional partnership

While the Council has committed to a local delivery model, it is also keeping the door open to a regional partnership approach in the future. Whakatāne District Council is continuing discussions with Kawerau District Council, Ōpōtiki District Council and Rotorua Lakes Council about the potential to form a Multi-Council-Controlled Organisation in future. The Water Services Delivery Plan indicates that this will be explored and decided by early 2027 to enable it to be set up by 1 July 2028.

This model would involve transferring water-related assets, revenue and debt to a jointly owned company, while retaining local influence through shared governance and oversight.

The adopted plan ensures Whakatāne District Council is well-positioned to meet future regulatory requirements while continuing to deliver safe, reliable and affordable water services for the community.

(2024: Water Services Reforms)

Note 27A: Financial Instruments

The Council adopted PBE IPSAS 41 from 1 July 2022.

PBE IPSAS 41 requires debt instruments to be subsequently measured at fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense (FVTSD), amortised cost, or fair value through surplus or deficit (FVTOCRE). This classification is based on the business model for managing the debt instruments, and whether the payments are for solely payments of principal or interest on the principal amount outstanding.

The Council assessed the business model for its classes of financial assets at the date of initial application.

The Council's debt instruments are solely comprised of contractual cash flows solely for payments of principal and interest, in line with basic lending arrangements. This assessment was based on the facts and circumstances as at the initial recognition of the assets.

PBE IPSAS 41 requires equity instruments to be classified at FVTSD. However, it permits entities to make an irrevocable election on transition to PBE IPSAS 41 to subsequently measure at FVTOCRE if the shares are not held for trading. The Council has elected to subsequently measure all its shares at FVTOCRE.

Note 27B: Financial instrument categories

The following tables compare carrying amounts of the Council's financial assets and liabilities in each of the financial instrument categories:

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Financial assets		
Fair value through surplus or deficit		
<i>Financial instruments</i>		
Derivative financial assets	919	1,686
NZ LGFA – borrower notes	5,780	3,373
Total at FVTSD	6,699	5,059
Amortised cost		
Cash and cash equivalents	9,739	17,623
Receivables	15,474	7,180
Total at Amortised cost	25,213	24,803
Fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense		
Unlisted shares	59	59
NZ Local Government Funding Agency	100	100
Term loan - Air Chathams Ltd	350	350
Total at FVTOCRE	509	509
FINANCIAL LIABILITIES		
Fair value through surplus or deficit		
<i>Financial Instruments</i>		
Derivative financial liabilities	2,253	-
Total at FVTSD	2,253	-
Amortised cost		
<i>Other financial liabilities</i>		
Payables	12,761	14,783
Borrowings - secured loans	177,800	153,500
Total at amortised cost	190,560	168,283

Note 27C: Fair value hierarchy

For those instruments recognised at fair value in the statement of financial position, fair values are determined according to the following hierarchy:

- Level 1 – Quoted market price – Financial instruments with quoted prices for identical instruments in active markets.
- Level 2 – Valuation technique using observable inputs – Financial instruments with quoted prices for similar instruments in active markets or quoted prices for identical or similar instruments in inactive markets and financial instruments valued using models where all significant inputs are observable.
- Level 3 – Valuation techniques with significant non-observable inputs – Financial instruments valued using models where one or more significant inputs are not observable.

The following table analyses the basis of the valuation of classes of financial instruments measured at fair value in the statement of financial position:

	Level	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Financial assets			
Derivative financial assets	2	919	1,686
Local authority stock	2	9	9
Unlisted shares	2	150	150
Borrower notes	2	5,780	3,473
Term loan - Air Chathams Ltd	2	350	350
Financial liabilities			
Derivative financial liabilities	2	2,253	-

There were no transfers between the different levels of the fair value hierarchy.

Note 27D: Financial instrument risks

The Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial instrument risks, including market risk, credit risk and liquidity risk. The Council has a series of policies to manage the risks associated with financial instruments and seeks to minimise exposure from its treasury activities. The Council has established the Council-approved Liability Management and Investment policies. These policies do not allow any transactions that are speculative in nature to be entered into.

Market risk

Price risk

Price risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices. Equity securities price risk arises on listed share investments, which are classified as financial assets held at fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense. This price risk arises due to market movements in listed shares. The price risk is managed by diversification of the Council's investment portfolio in accordance with the limits set out in the Council's Treasury Management Policy.

Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in foreign exchange rates.

The Council is exposed to currency risk on imported capital expenditure, operational expensed items and services transactions denominated in foreign currencies. As a result of these activities, exposure to currency risk arises.

Note 27D: Financial instrument risks (continued)

Fair value interest rate risk

Fair value interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. Borrowings and investments issued at fixed rates of interest expose the Council to fair value interest rate risk. The Council's Treasury Management Policy is to maintain approximately 50-90% of its borrowings in fixed rate instruments. Fixed to floating interest rate swaps are entered into to hedge the fair value interest rate risk arising where the Council has borrowed at fixed rates in excess of the target above.

Cash flow interest rate risk

Cash flow interest rate risk is the risk that the cash flows from a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. Borrowings and investments issued at variable interest rates expose the Council to cash flow interest rate risk.

Generally, the Council raises long-term borrowings at floating rates and swaps them into fixed rates using interest rate swaps to manage the cash flow interest rate risk. Such interest rate swaps have the economic effect of converting borrowings at floating rates into fixed rates that are generally lower than those available if the Council borrowed at fixed rates directly. Under the interest rate swaps, the Council agrees with other parties to exchange, at specified intervals, the difference between fixed contract rates and floating-rate interest amounts calculated by reference to the agreed notional principal amounts.

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a third party will default on its obligation to the Council, causing it to incur a loss. Due to the timing of its cash inflows and outflows, surplus cash is invested into term deposits and listed bonds, which gives rise to credit risk. The Council also provides financial guarantees to LGFA, which gives rise to credit risk.

Receivables arise mainly from the Council's statutory functions. There are no procedures in place to monitor or report the credit quality of receivables. The Council has no significant concentrations of credit risk in relation to receivables as it has a large number of credit customers, mainly ratepayers, and the Council has powers under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 to recover outstanding rates from ratepayers.

The Council's Treasury Management Policy limits the amount of credit exposure to any one financial institution or organisation. Investments in other Local Authorities are secured by charges over rates. Other than other local authorities, the Council invests funds only with entities that have a Standard and Poor's credit rating of A- or above for long-term investments.

The Council holds no collateral or credit enhancements for financial instruments that give rise to credit risk.

Note 27D: Financial instrument risks (continued)

Maximum exposure to credit risk

The Council's maximum credit risk exposure for each class of financial instrument is as follows:

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Cash at bank and term deposits	9,739	17,623
Trade and other receivables	15,474	7,180
Local Government Funding Agency Borrower Notes	5,780	3,373
Local Government Funding Agency Stock	100	100
Civic Financial Services Ltd (formerly NZ Local Govt Insurance Corp Ltd) stock	50	50
Bay of Plenty Local Authority Shared Services Limited stock	9	9
Term loan - Air Chathams Ltd	350	350
Derivatives	(1,334)	1,686
Total credit risk	30,168	30,371

The Council is exposed to credit risk as a guarantor of all the LGFA's borrowing. Information about this exposure is explained in the Contingencies note.

Credit risk exposure by credit risk rating grades, excluding receivables

The gross carrying amount of financial assets, excluding receivables, by reference to Standard and Poor's credit ratings are provided below. / or

The credit quality of financial assets that are neither past due nor impaired can be assessed by reference to Standard and Poor's credit ratings (if available) or to historical information about counterparty default rates:

	Rating	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
COUNTERPARTIES WITH CREDIT RATINGS			
Cash at bank and term deposits	AA-	9,739	17,623
NZ Local Government Funding Agency	AA+	5,880	3,473
COUNTERPARTIES WITHOUT CREDIT RATINGS			
Civic Financial Services Ltd (formerly NZ Local Govt Insurance Corp Ltd) stock		50	50
Bay of Plenty Local Authority Shared Services Limited stock		9	9
Air Chathams Ltd		350	350

Liquidity risk

Management of liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Council will encounter difficulty raising liquid funds to meet commitments as they fall due. Prudent liquidity risk management implies maintaining sufficient cash, the availability of funding through an adequate amount of committed credit facilities, and the ability to close out market positions. The Council aims to maintain flexibility in funding by keeping committed credit lines available.

The Council manages its borrowings in accordance with its funding and financial policies, which include a Treasury Management Policy. As part of meeting its liquidity requirements, the Council maintains a target level of investments that must mature within the next 12 months and other corridors or maturity. The Council manages its borrowings in accordance with its funding and financial policies, which include a Treasury Management Policy.

The Council has a maximum amount that can be drawn down against its overdraft facility of \$20 million (2024: \$20 million). There are no restrictions on the use of this facility.

Note 27D: Financial instrument risks (continued)

Contractual maturity analysis of financial liabilities

The table below analyses the Council's financial liabilities into relevant maturity groupings based on the remaining period at balance date to the contractual maturity date. Future interest payments on floating rate debt are based on the floating rate on the instrument at balance date. The amounts disclosed are the contractual undiscounted cash flows and include interest payments.

	Liability carrying amount \$000	Contractual cash flows \$000	Less than 1 year \$000	1-2 years \$000	3-5 years \$000	More than 5 years \$000
2025						
Trade and other payables	12,761	12,761	12,761	-	-	-
Secured loans	177,800	177,800	32,000	32,500	113,000	-
Derivative liabilities	2,253	2,253	11	42	727	1,473
Total	192,814	192,814	44,772	32,542	114,027	1,473
2024						
Trade and other payables	14,783	14,783	14,783	-	-	-
Secured loans	153,500	153,500	22,000	32,000	99,500	-
Derivative liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	168,283	168,283	36,783	32,000	99,500	-

The Council is exposed to liquidity risk as a guarantor of the LGFA's borrowings. This guarantee becomes callable in the event the LGFA fails to pay its borrowings when they fall due. Information about this exposure is explained in Note 23: Contingencies.

Contractual maturity analysis of financial assets

The table below analyses the Council's financial assets into relevant maturity groupings based on the remaining period at balance date to the contractual maturity date. The amounts disclosed are the contractual undiscounted cash flows and include interest receipts.

	Asset carrying amount \$000	Contractual cash flows \$000	Less than 1 year \$000	1-2 years \$000	3-5 years \$000	More than 5 years \$000
2025						
Cash and cash equivalents	9,739	9,739	9,739	-	-	-
Receivables	15,474	15,474	15,474	-	-	-
Other financial assets:						
Local authority and government stock	59	59	-	-	-	59
NZ LGFA Stock	100	100	-	-	-	100
NZ LGFA Borrower notes	5,780	5,780	832	836	4,112	-
Loan to Air Chathams Ltd	350	350	350	-	-	-
Derivative assets	919	919	-	-	238	681
Total	32,421	32,421	26,395	836	4,350	840
2024						
Cash and cash equivalents	17,623	17,623	17,623	-	-	-
Receivables	7,180	7,180	7,180	-	-	-
Other financial assets:						
Local authority and government stock	3,373	3,373	328	728	2,317	-
Loan to Air Chathams Ltd	350	350	350	-	-	-
Derivative assets	1,687	1,687	35	15	886	750
Total	30,212	30,212	25,516	743	3,203	750

Note 27D: Financial instrument risks (continued)

Sensitivity analysis

The tables below illustrate the potential effect on the surplus or deficit and equity (excluding accumulated funds) for reasonably possible market movements, with all other variables held constant, based on the Council financial instrument market risk exposures at balance date.

	Surplus \$000	-100BPS Other equity \$000	Surplus \$000	+100BPS Other equity \$000
2025				
Financial assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	(97)	-	97	-
Derivative assets – interest rate swaps	-	-	-	-
Other financial assets:				
Local authority and government stock	(0.59)	-	0.59	-
Financial liabilities:				
Derivative liabilities – interest rate swaps	(7,251)	-	4,207	-
Borrowings:				
Bank overdraft	-	-	-	-
Debt	1,405	-	(1,405)	-
Total	(5,944)	-	2,900	-
2024				
Financial assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	(176)	-	176	-
Derivative assets – interest rate swaps	-	-	-	-
Other financial assets:				
Local authority and government stock	(35)	-	35	-
Financial liabilities:				
Derivative liabilities – interest rate swaps	(1,747)	-	4,885	-
Borrowings:				
Bank overdraft	-	-	-	-
Debt	1,535	-	(1,535)	-
Total	(423)	-	3,561	-

Explanation of interest rate risk sensitivity

The interest rate sensitivity is based on a reasonable possible movement in interest rates, with all other variables held constant, measured as a basis points (bps) movement. For example, a decrease in 100 bps is equivalent to a decrease in interest rates of 1.0%.

The sensitivity for derivatives (interest rate swaps) has been calculated using a derivative valuation model based on a parallel shift in interest rates of -100bps/+100bps (2024: -100bps/+100bps).

Note 27D: Financial instrument risks (continued)

Sensitivity analysis

Explanation of derivatives sensitivity

The sensitivity for derivatives (interest rate swaps) has been calculated using a derivative valuation model based on a parallel shift in interest rates of -100bps/+100bps (2024: -100bps/+100bps). Derivative financial liabilities not hedge-accounted include interest rate swaps with a fair value totalling \$1,334,000 (2024: \$1,687,000).

A movement in interest rates of plus or minus 1.0% has an effect on the swap value of \$7,251,000 (2024: \$1,747,000) and \$4,207,000 (2024: \$4,885,000).

Explanation of local authority and government stock sensitivity

A total of \$59,000 (2024: \$59,000) of investments in local authority stock are classified at fair value through equity. A movement in interest rates of plus or minus 1.0% has an effect on interest expense of \$590 (2024: \$590) on the fair value through equity reserve.

Explanation of floating secured loans sensitivity

The Council has floating rate debt with a principal amount totalling \$140.5 million (2024: \$116.5 million). A movement in interest rates of plus or minus 1.0% has an effect on interest expense of \$1,405,000 (2024: \$1,165,000). A movement in market interest rates on fixed rate debt does not have any impact because secured loans are accounted for at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Explanation of creditors and other payables sensitivity

Trade payables do not include any foreign currency denominated payables in relation to plant and equipment purchases. Therefore, there is no currency price risk and no movement under sensitivity analysis.

Note 28: Explanations of major variances against budget

Explanations for major variations from the Council's budget and prior year results are as follows:

Variance Against Budget		Variance Against Prior Year Results
Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense		
Rates	Rates income were within 1.3% of budget. This was due to careful forecasting and no unexpected changes.	Rates rose by 17.1% in comparison to last year as signalled in the long term plan. This was to "fund the gap" that emerged due to rates not increasing in previous years to match the cost increases of operations.
Subsidies and Grants	Subsidies and Grants were within 3.3% of budget with no significant changes to the forecast assumptions.	Subsidies and grants were down \$6M compared to last year. This was mainly due to cuts in roading grants.
Interest Revenue	Interest revenue was budgeted to achieve \$51K but actually achieved \$1.6M due to prefunding of loans. This is seen to be a prudent measure to ensure future loans are secured at the right rate.	Interest revenue was 39% above last year due to more loans being prefunded than the previously
Finance costs	Finance costs were \$1.3M above budget due to prefunding loans. However, this was more than offset by the \$1.6M extra earned in interest revenue	Finance costs were \$1.4M higher than the previous year due to an increase in net loans of \$24.3M over the year and more prefunding carried out than the previous year
Variance Against Budget		Variance Against Prior Year Results
Statement of Financial Position		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	The year ended with Council holding \$4.7M more than budgeted. This is due to the expenditure patterns and ensuring that there are enough funds on hand to cover expenses as they fall due	Cash and cash equivalents were \$7.9M down from last year. The balances at year end largely depend on the timing of claims and expenses coming in.
Receivables	Receivables exceeded budget by \$2M. Council is currently owed \$2M by Ministry of Transport for Airport expenses due to financial statements having to be re-cast. This is expected to be fully paid once the statements have been re-audited.	Receivables were \$1.2M higher than last year with an increase in metered water receivables of \$1.4M and an increase in roading receivables of \$1.5M. This has been partially offset by GST timing and an increase in provision for doubtful debts.
Infrastructural Assets	Infrastructural assets were above budget by \$134.6M. This was from a combination of an increase in roading valuations of \$232M and a partial offset of capitalising less projects than originally budgeted.	Infrastructural assets were \$242M more than last year. This was from a combination of an increase in roading valuations of \$232M and capitalisations of new projects.
Investment Property	Investment property was \$8.5M less than budget. This was due to the assumption that investment property valuations would continue to rise over the previous two years, but the values fell in both years. There was also a transfer of \$400K of assets to operations.	Investment property was \$836K less than the previous year due to a drop in values from the annual valuation.
Work in Progress	Work in progress was \$11M above budget due to delays in completion of capital projects than originally forecast	Work in progress was \$5.4 more than the previous year due to delays in starting and completing capital projects
Payables and deferred revenue	There was a variance of \$9M less than budget at year end due to timing differences of payments	Payables finished the year \$1.5M lower than the previous year due to timing differences of payments
Borrowings	Borrowings were within 3.5% of budget at year end.	Borrowings increased by \$24.3M from the previous year. This was largely in line with the liquidity needs budgeted.

Note 29: Remuneration

Key management personnel compensation

	2025	2024
Councillors, including the Mayor		
Number of elected officials	11	11
Remuneration	742,490	722,416
Senior management team, including the Chief Executive		
Full-time equivalent members	7	8
Remuneration	1,958,763	2,006,711
Total full-time equivalent personnel	18	19
Total key management personnel remuneration	2,701,253	2,729,127

Due to the difficulty in determining the full-time equivalent for Councillors, the full-time equivalent figure is taken as the number of Councillors. Total remuneration includes the value of any non-financial benefits. An analysis of Councillor remuneration and further information on Chief Executive remuneration is provided below.

Chief Executive remuneration

The total remuneration (including any non-financial benefits) paid or payable for the year to the Chief Executive appointed under section 42(1) of the Local Government Act 2002 was \$329,995.88 (2024: \$337,242.44)

Elected representatives' remuneration

Elected representatives received the following remuneration:

	2025				2024			
	Salaries	Hearings	Allow and Exp Reimb.	Vehicle	Salaries	Hearings	Allow and Exp Reimb.	Vehicle
MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS								
Current								
Luca, Victor (Mayor)	142,650	-	2,285	5,617	137,360	-	2,718	5,617
Boynton, Toni	45,628	-	1,750	-	44,000	-	1,750	-
Dennis, Gavin	57,346	-	8,327	-	55,300	-	8,455	-
Iles, Andrew	47,832	-	10,770	-	46,125	-	11,539	-
Immink, Lesley (Deputy Mayor)	74,615	-	2,739	-	71,953	-	2,607	-
James, Wilson	57,346	-	3,949	-	55,300	-	6,866	-
Jukes, Julie	57,346	-	1,750	-	55,300	-	1,750	-
O'Brien, Thomas (Tu)	45,628	605	1,750	-	44,000	-	1,750	-
Pullar, John	57,346	-	1,750	-	55,300	-	1,750	-
Rangiaho, Bella (Ngapera)	45,628	-	10,133	-	44,000	-	9,895	-
Tánczos, Nándor	57,346	605	1,750	-	55,300	5,627	1,750	-

Note 29: Remuneration (continued)

Council employee remuneration by band

	2025	2024
Total annual remuneration by band for employees at 30 June:		
\$0 - \$59,999	95	113
\$60,000 - \$79,999	87	75
\$80,000 - \$99,999	78	68
\$100,000 - \$119,999	49	36
\$120,000 - \$139,999	25	23
\$140,000 - \$159,999	19	14
\$160,000 - \$239,999	7	6
\$240,000 - \$340,000	4	4
Total employees	364	339

Total remuneration includes any non-financial benefits provided to employees. At balance date, the Council employed 246 (2024:226) full time employees, with the balance of staff representing 62 (2024:57.1) full time equivalent employees. A full-time employee is determined on the basis of a 40-hour working week.

Retention payments

For the year ended 30 June 2025 the Council made no retention payments (2024: Nil).

Severance payments

For the year ended 30 June 2025 the Council made five severance payments of the following amounts: \$66,303.25, \$34,439.90, \$74,042, \$10,000, \$40,000 totalling \$224,785.35.

(2024: two payments totalling \$28,028.67)

Financial prudence

Annual Report disclosure statement for the year ending 30 June 2025

The purpose of this statement is to disclose the Council's financial performance in relation to various benchmarks to enable the assessment of whether the Council is prudently managing its revenues, expenses, assets, liabilities and general financial dealings.

The Council is required to include this statement in its annual report in accordance with the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014 (the regulations). Refer to the regulations for more information, including definitions of some of the terms used in this statement.

Rates affordability benchmarks

Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014 S.17

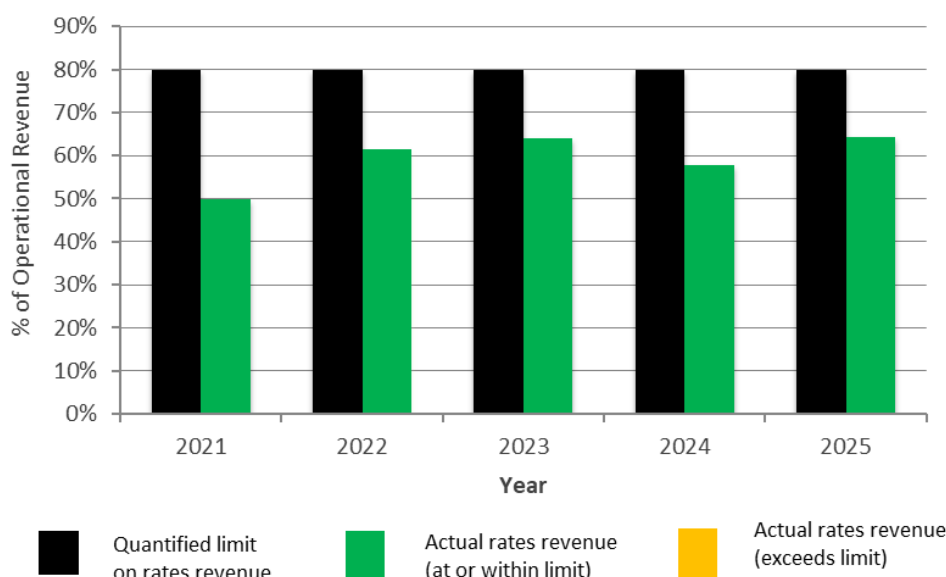
The Council meets this benchmark if:

- Its actual rates income for the year equals, or is less than, each quantified limit on rates; and
- Its actual rates increase for the year equal, or are less than, each quantified limit on rates increases.

Rates (income) affordability

The following graph compares the Council's actual rates income with a quantified limit on rates contained in the financial strategy included in the Council's 2024-34 Long Term Plan. The quantified limit on rates revenue for each year of the 2024-34 Long Term Plan period of 10 years is 80% of total revenue.

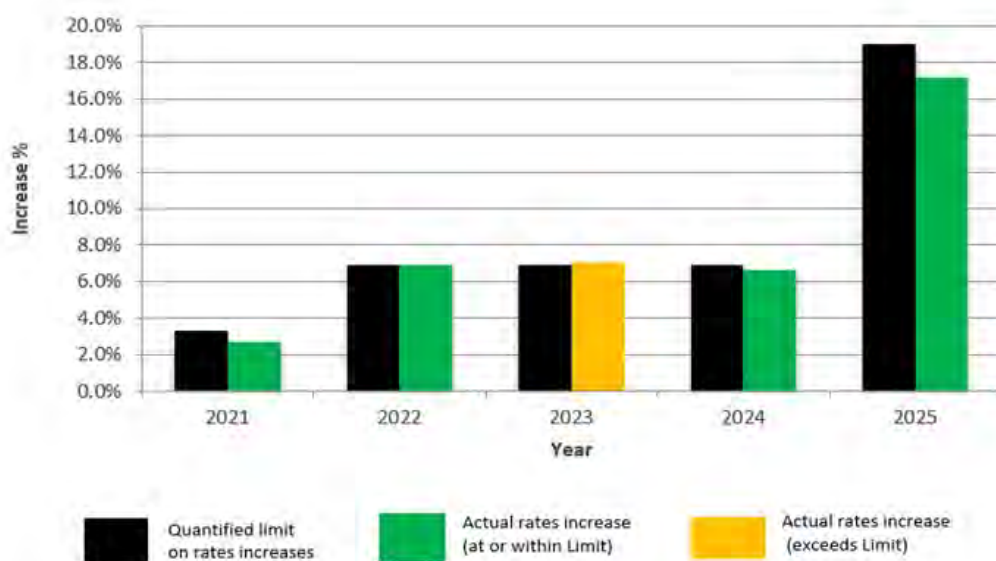
The actual percentage of rates to total revenue for the current year is 64% (2024: 58%).



Rates (increases) affordability

The following graph compares the Council's actual rates increases with a quantified limit on rates contained in the financial strategy included in the Council's 2024-34 Long-Term Plan. The quantified limit has been assessed and set by Council in its Financial Strategy on an annual basis taking into account factors such as the balancing of Council's financial position, together with assumed annual inflation as per the Local Government Cost Index provided for in the Business and Economic Research Ltd (BERL) Local Government Cost Adjustor Forecasts, plus a margin for uncertainty and risk of up to three percent per annum .

The performance against the limit for 2025 of 19.0% reflects the higher rates resolution adopted by the Council at 17.1%. This was in response to previous years inflationary impacted costs exceeding annual rates increases. The higher limits are set down in the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan.



Debt affordability benchmarks

Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014 S.18

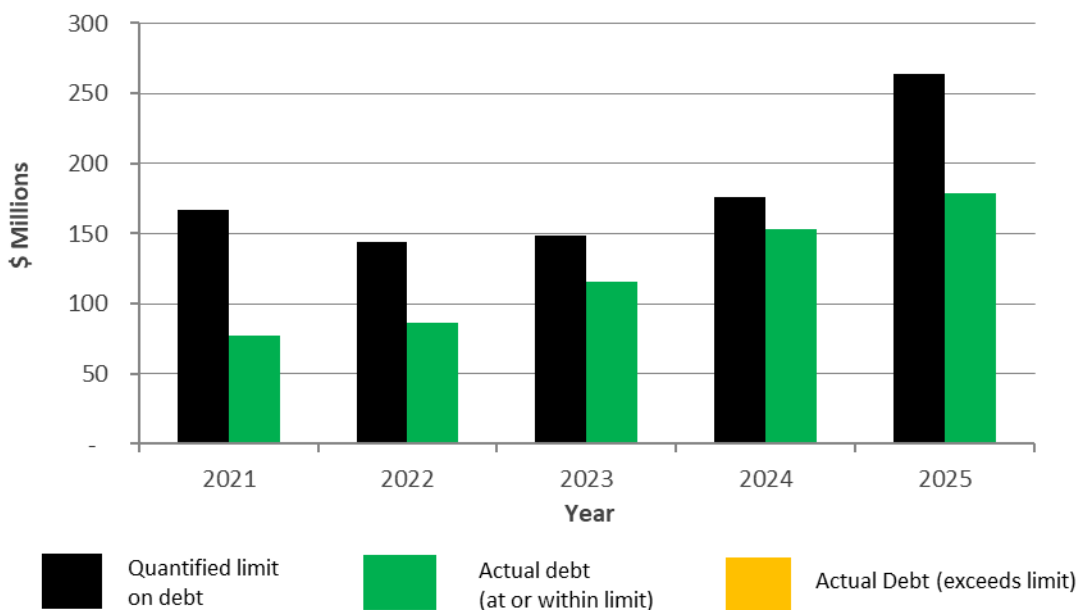
The Council meets the debt affordability benchmark if its actual borrowing is within each quantified limit on borrowing. The Council has two quantified limits on borrowing:

- Its actual borrowing amount at the end of each year equals, or is less than, each quantified limit on borrowing amount; and
- Its actual borrowing cost for the year equals, or is less than, each quantified limit on borrowing cost.

Borrowing amount

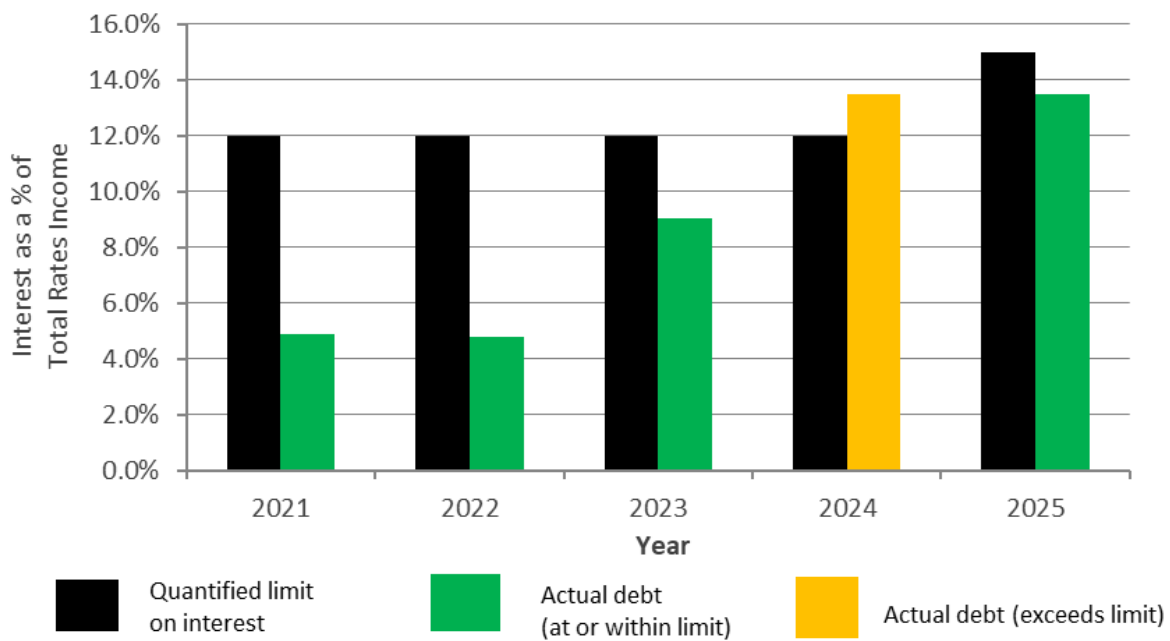
The following graph compares the Council’s actual amount of borrowing with a quantified limit on borrowing stated in the financial strategy in the Council’s Long Term Plan and within its Treasury Management Policy. The quantified limit on the amount of borrowing with effect from the 2024-34 Long Term Plan is for actual net debt to be equal to, or less than, 250% of total revenue.

Total actual debt for the current year is \$178.8 million with a quantified limit of \$263.6 million.



Borrowing cost

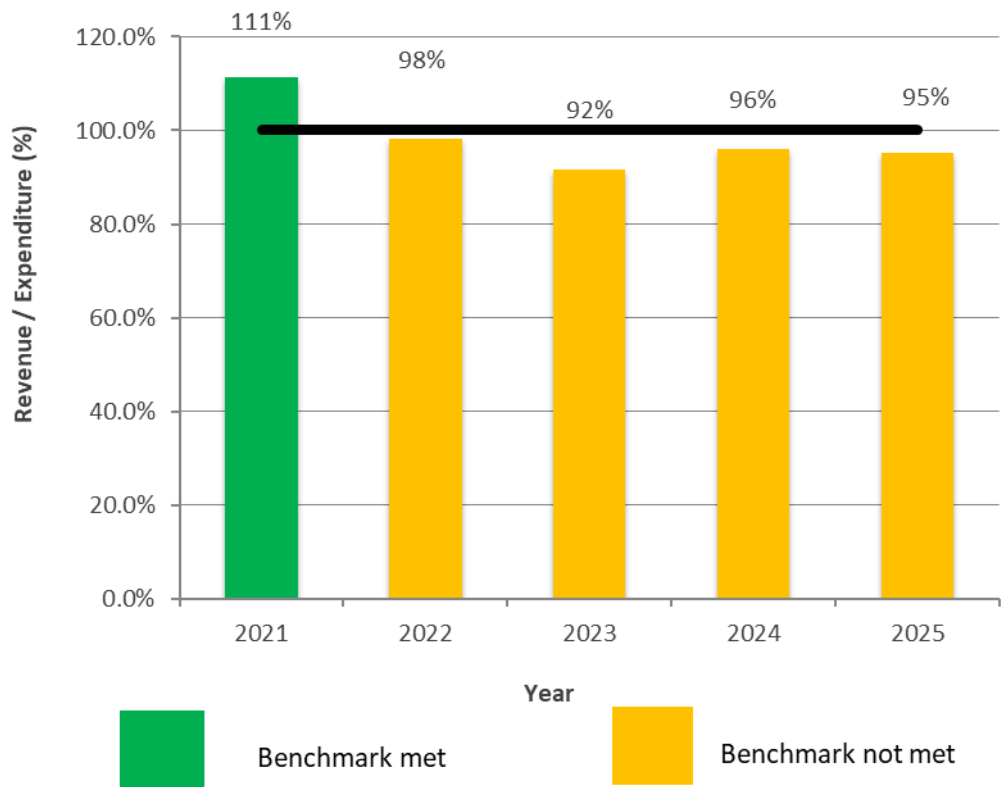
The following graph compares the Council's actual net cost of borrowing with a quantified limit on borrowing stated in the financial strategy included in the Council's Long Term Plan and within its Treasury Management Policy. The quantified limit on the amount of borrowing costs with effect from the 2024-34 Long Term Plan is for net borrowing costs to be equal to, or less than, 15% of actual rates. The current year actual at 13.51% is below the quantified limit of 15%.



Balanced budget benchmark

Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014 S.19

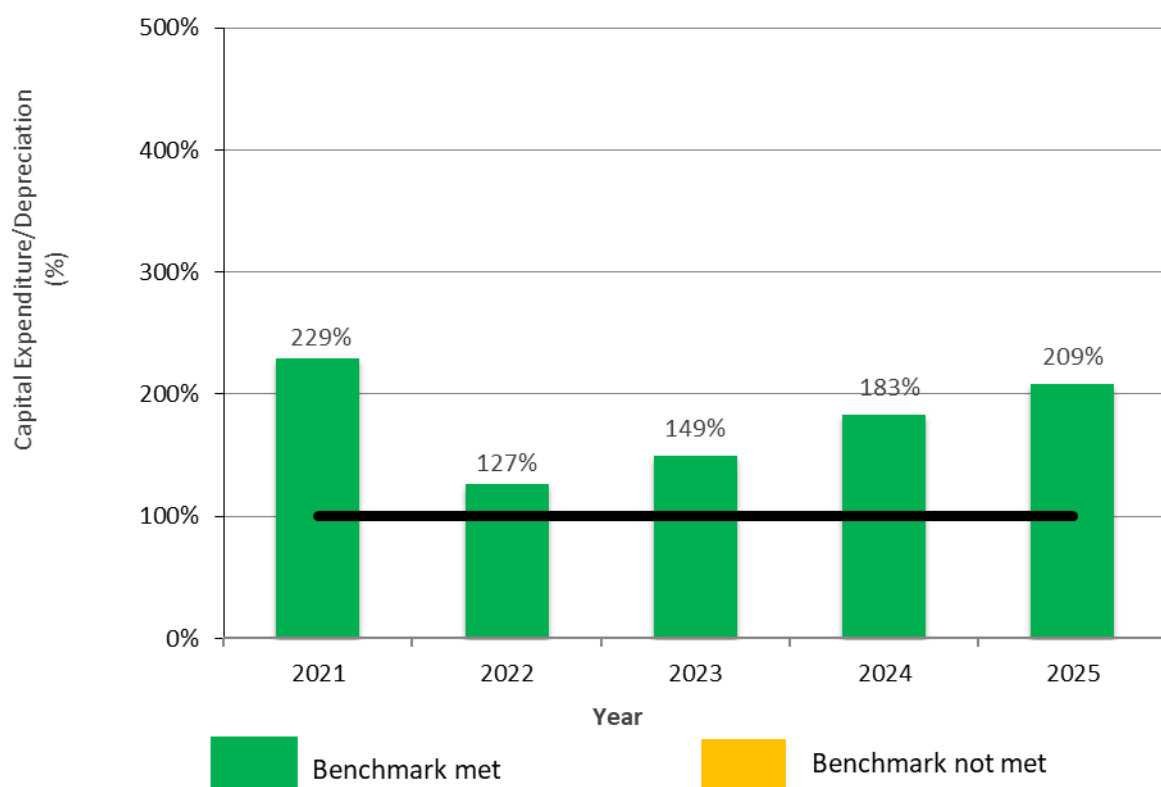
The following graph displays the Council's revenue (excluding development contributions, financial contributions, vested assets, gains on derivative financial instruments, and revaluations of property, plant or equipment) as a proportion of operating expenses (excluding losses on derivative financial instruments and revaluations of property, plant or equipment). The Council meets this benchmark if its revenue equals, or is greater than, its operating expenses.



Essential services benchmark

Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014 S.20

The following graph displays the Council's capital expenditure on network services as a proportion of depreciation on network services. The Council meets this benchmark if its capital expenditure on network services equals, or is greater than, depreciation on network services.

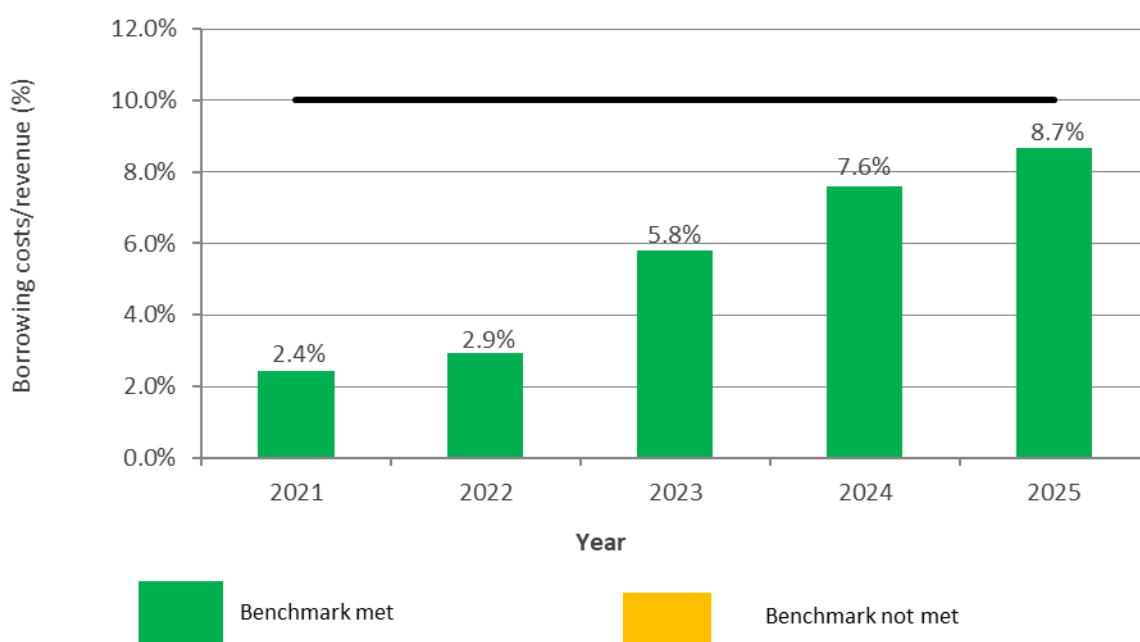


Debt servicing benchmark

Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014 S.21

The following graph displays the Council's borrowing costs as a proportion of revenue (excluding development contributions, financial contributions, vested assets, gains on derivative financial instruments, and revaluations of property, plant or equipment).

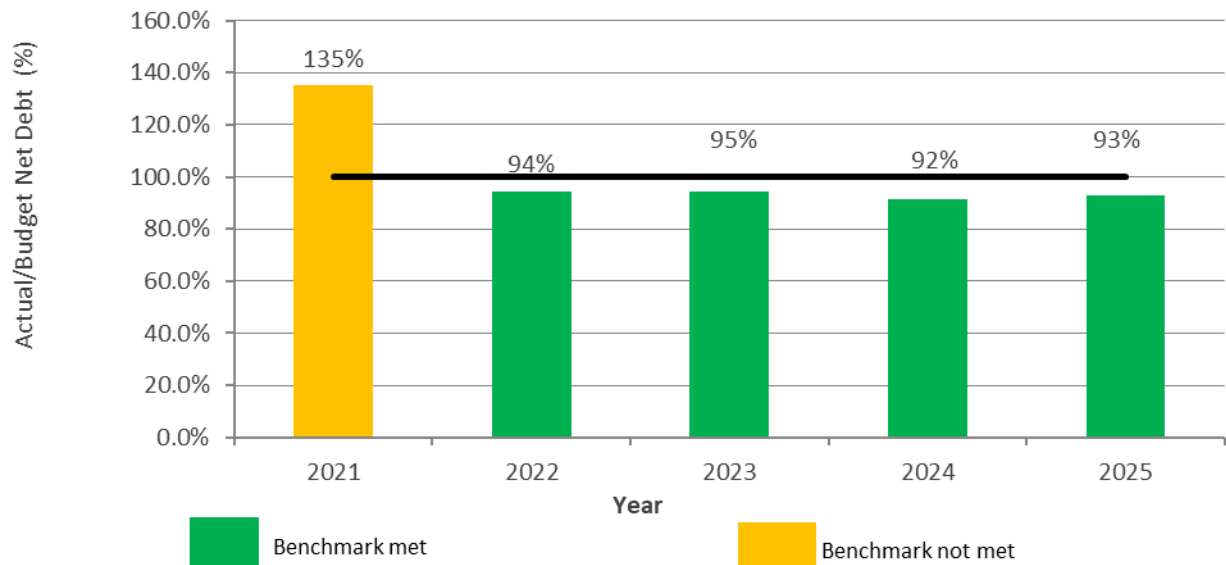
Because Statistics New Zealand projects the Council's population will grow more slowly than the national population growth rate, it meets the debt servicing benchmark if its borrowing costs equal, or are less than, 10% of its revenue.



Debt control benchmark

Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014 S.22

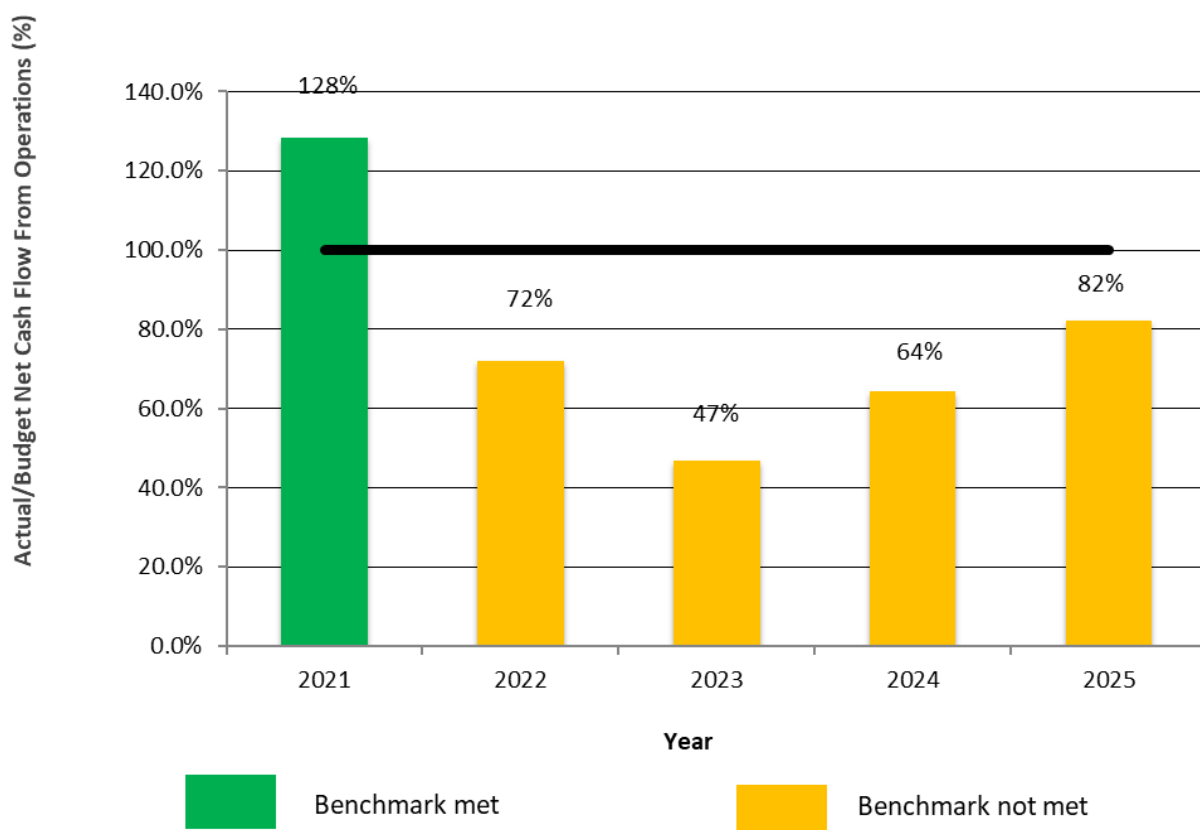
The following graph displays the Council’s actual net debt as a proportion of planned net debt. In this statement, net debt means financial liabilities less financial assets (excluding trade and other receivables). The Council meets the debt control benchmark if its actual net debt equals, or is less than, its planned net debt.



Operations control benchmark

Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014 S.23

This graph displays the Council's actual net cash flow from operations as a proportion of its planned net cash flow from operations. The Council meets the operations control benchmark if its actual net cash flow from operations equals, or is greater than, its planned net cash flow from operations.



Supplementary information

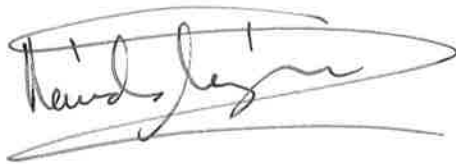
Community Board Remuneration

	2025				2024			
	Salaries	Hearings	Allow and Exp Reimb.	Vehicle	Salaries	Hearings	Allow and Exp Reimb.	Vehicle
COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBERS								
Murupara								
Bannan, Kenneth	-	-	-	-	2,896	-	1,013	-
Barnett, Tina	-	-	-	-	207	-	39	-
Edmonds, Memory	2,526	-	462	-	3,408	-	718	-
Goldsmith, James	-	-	-	-	713	-	133	-
Jones, Sheena	4,433	-	1,427	-	3,408	-	807	-
Kereopa, Mansahn	1,251	-	226	-	-	-	-	-
McLean, Mere (C)	8,866	-	-	-	8,549	-	1,013	-
Morgan-Ranui, Jesse	4,730	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prentice, Irma	4,433	-	800	-	4,275	-	800	-
Silcock, Alison	4,433	-	1,433	-	4,275	-	1,406	-
Te Amo, Jackie	-	-	-	-	135	-	-	-
Tuwairua, Michael -John	1,034	-	187	-	-	-	-	-
Rangitāiki								
Brown, Heemi	5,750	-	800	-	5,545	-	800	-
Falwasser, Peter	5,750	-	800	-	5,545	-	800	-
Flowerday, Peter	5,750	-	993	-	5,545	-	977	-
Gardiner, Ross	5,750	-	800	-	5,545	-	972	-
McIndoe, Clive	5,750	-	800	-	5,545	-	800	-
Waaka, Leeann (C)	11,500	-	933	-	11,089	-	800	-
Tāneatua								
Bryant, Talei	4,433	-	800	-	4,275	-	800	-
Faulkner, Mary	-	-	-	-	8,549	-	800	-
George, Natasha	4,433	-	800	-	4,275	-	910	-
Ruiterman, Luke	4,433	-	800	-	4,275	-	800	-
Stensness, Moana	5,977	-	800	-	4,275	-	800	-
Thrupp, Honey	4,433	-	800	-	4,275	-	800	-
Yalden, Diane (C)	3,399	-	307	-	-	-	-	-
Whakatāne / Ōhope								
Bonne, Linda	9,613	-	800	-	9,270	-	800	-
Hamill, Carolyn (C)	19,226	-	1,084	-	18,540	6,417	1,378	-
Howard, Christopher	9,613	-	800	-	9,270	-	800	-
Inman, Mark	9,613	-	800	-	9,270	-	800	-
Iseri, Ozgur	9,613	-	800	-	9,270	-	800	-
McLean, Douglas	9,613	-	800	-	9,270	-	800	-
Total Community Board Members remuneration	166,355	-	21,115	-	161,494	6,417	21,366	-

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

Te whakapuakanga whakaū ki ngā ture

The Council of Whakatāne District Council hereby confirms that all statutory requirements in relation to the annual report, as outlined in the Local Government Act 2002, have been complied with, with the exception of section 98(3) which requires the adoption of the annual report by resolution within four months after the end of the financial year to which it relates.



Nándor Tánczos
Mayor
Koromatua



Steven Perdia
Chief Executive
Toihautū

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Arotake pūtea

AUDIT NEW ZEALAND
Mana Arotake Aotearoa

Independent Auditor's Report

To the readers of Whakatāne District Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025

The Auditor-General is the auditor of Whakatāne District Council (the Council). The Auditor-General has appointed me, Anton Labuschagne, using the staff and resources of Audit New Zealand, to carry out the audit on his behalf.

We have audited the information in the annual report of the Council that we are required to audit in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002 (the Act). We refer to this information as "the audited information" in our report.

We are also required to report on:

- whether the Council has complied with the requirements of Schedule 10 of the Act that apply to the annual report; and
- the completeness and accuracy of the Council's disclosures about its performance against benchmarks that are required by the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014 (the Regulations).

We refer to this information as "the disclosure requirements" in our report.

Opinion on the audited information

Unmodified opinion on the audited information, excluding the statement of service performance

In our opinion:

- the financial statements of the Council on pages 126 to 130 and 133 to 206
 - present fairly, in all material respects:
 - its financial position as at 30 June 2025;
 - the results of its operations and cash flows for the year ended on that date; and
 - comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Reporting Standards;

- the statement comparing actual capital expenditure to budgeted capital expenditure for each group of activities of the Council for the year ended 30 June 2025 on pages 17 to 114 has been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with clause 24 of Schedule 10 to the Act;
- the funding impact statement for each group of activities of the Council for the year ended 30 June 2025 on pages 22 to 113 has been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with clause 26 of Schedule 10 to the Act; and
- the funding impact statement of the Council for the year ended 30 June 2025 on page 131, has been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with clause 30 of Schedule 10 to the Act.

Qualified opinion on the statement of service performance

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the *Basis for our opinion on the audited information* section of our report, the statement of service performance for the year ended 30 June 2025 on pages 9 to 10 and 16 to 114:

- provides an appropriate and meaningful basis to enable readers to assess the Council's actual service provision for each group of activities; determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand;
- fairly presents, in all material respects, the Council's actual levels of service for each group of activities, including:
 - the levels of service achieved compared with the intended levels of service and whether any intended changes to levels of service were achieved; and
 - the reasons for any significant variation between the levels of service achieved and the intended levels of service; and
- complies with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Reporting Standards.

Report on the disclosure requirements

We report that:

- the Council has complied with the information disclosure requirements of Part 3 of Schedule 10 to the Act for the year ended 30 June 2025; and
- the Council's disclosures about its performance against benchmarks required by Part 2 of the Regulations for the year ended 30 June 2025 are complete and accurate.

Date

We completed our work on 19 November 2025. This is the date on which we give our opinion on the audited information and our report on the disclosure requirements.

Basis for our opinion on the audited information and the disclosure requirements

Statement of service performance: Our work was limited in respect of the number of complaints received about water supply, wastewater and stormwater in the prior year only

The District Council is required to report against the performance measures set out in the Non-Financial Performance Measures Rules 2024 (the Rules) made by the Secretary for Local Government. These include mandatory performance measures relating to the number of complaints received for water supply, wastewater, and stormwater.

The Department of Internal Affairs has issued guidance to assist local authorities in applying the Rules, including how to count complaints. In the prior year, the District Council and its afterhours call centre provider were not recording and classifying complaints in accordance with this guidance, and the method of recording was likely to have understated the actual number of complaints received.

As a result, our work was limited and there were no practicable audit procedures we could apply to obtain assurance over the result for these performance measures for the year ended 30 June 2024, reported as comparative information.

These issues have been resolved for the 30 June 2025 financial year. As the issues cannot be resolved for the 30 June 2024 year, the reported performance for these performance measures for the 30 June 2025 year may not be directly comparable with the 30 June 2024 performance information.

We carried out our audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Professional and Ethical Standards, the International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand), and New Zealand Auditing Standard 1 (Revised): The Audit of Service Performance Information issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Responsibilities of the auditor for the audited information and the disclosure requirements section of our report.

We have fulfilled our responsibilities in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on the audited information and our report on the disclosure requirements.

Emphasis of matter

Without further modifying our opinion, we draw attention to the following disclosures.

Future of water delivery

Page 52 and Note 26 on page 196 outlines that in response to the Government's Local Water Done Well reforms, the Council has at this stage decided to continue to deliver water, wastewater and stormwater services itself directly through an inhouse business unit.

The financial impact of this decision is unknown because details of the exact arrangements are still being considered and a reliable estimate cannot be made.

Inherent uncertainties in the measurement of greenhouse gas emissions

The Council has chosen to include a measure of its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in its performance information. Considering the public interest in climate change related information, we draw attention to Climate Change and Resilience group of activity on pages 46 to 50 of the annual report, which outlines the uncertainty in the reported GHG emissions. Quantifying GHG emissions is subject to inherent uncertainty because the scientific knowledge and methodologies to determine the emissions factors and processes to calculate or estimate quantities of GHG sources are still evolving, as are GHG reporting and assurance standards.

Responsibilities of the Council for the audited information and the disclosure requirements

The Council is responsible for preparing the audited information and the disclosure requirements in accordance with the Act.

The Council is responsible for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable it to prepare the audited information and the disclosure requirements that are free from misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the audited information and the disclosure requirements the Council is responsible for assessing its ability to continue as a going concern.

Responsibilities of the auditor for the audited information and the disclosure requirements

Responsibilities for the audited information

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the audited information, as a whole, is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit carried out in accordance with the Auditor General's Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements are differences or omissions of amounts or disclosures, and can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of readers taken on the basis of this audited information.

For the budget information reported in the audited information, our procedures were limited to checking that the budget information agreed to the Council's long-term plan.

We did not evaluate the security and controls over the electronic publication of the audited information.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. Also:

- We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the audited information, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- We obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control.
- We evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Council.
- We evaluate whether the statement of service performance includes all groups of activities that we consider are likely to be material to the readers of the annual report.
- We evaluate whether the measures selected and included in the statement of service performance for groups of activities present an appropriate and meaningful basis that will enable readers to assess the Council's actual performance. We make our evaluation by reference to generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand.
- We conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the Council.
- We evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the audited information, including the disclosures, and whether the audited information represents, where applicable, the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Council regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Responsibilities for the disclosure requirements

Our objective is to provide reasonable assurance about whether the Council has complied with the disclosure requirements. To assess whether the Council has met the disclosure requirements we undertake work to confirm that:

- the Council has made all of the disclosures required by Part 3 of Schedule 10 to the Act and Part 2 of the Regulations; and
- the disclosures required by Part 2 of the Regulations accurately reflect information drawn from the Council's audited information and, where applicable, the Council's long-term plan and annual plans.

Our responsibilities for the audited information and for the disclosure requirements arise from the Public Audit Act 2001.

Other information

The Council is responsible for the other information included in the annual report. The other information comprises all the information included in the annual report other than the audited information and the disclosure requirements, and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the audited information and our report on the disclosure requirements do not cover the other information, and we do not express any form of audit opinion or assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the audited information and our report on the disclosure requirements, our responsibility is to read the other information. In doing so, we consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the audited information and the disclosure requirements, or our knowledge obtained during our work, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on our work, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Independence

We are independent of the Council in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the independence requirements of Professional and Ethical Standard 1: International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (including International Independence Standards) (New Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

Other than the audit and our report on the disclosure requirements, we have no relationship with, or interests in, the Council.



Anton Labuschagne
Audit New Zealand
On behalf of the Auditor-General
Tauranga, New Zealand

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Whakatāne District Council

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whakatane.govt.nz