



Notice of Meeting:

I hereby give notice that an ordinary Meeting of the Council will be held on:

Date: Thursday 14 December 2023
Time: 9.30am
Meeting Room: Council Chamber and Audio Visual Link
Venue: Municipal Building, Garden Place, Hamilton

Lance Vervoort
Chief Executive

Council *Kaunihera* OPEN AGENDA

Membership

Chairperson Mayor Paula Southgate
Heamana

Deputy Chairperson Deputy Mayor Angela O'Leary
Heamana Tuarua

Members	Cr Maxine van Oosten	Cr Geoff Taylor
	Cr Moko Tauariki	Cr Sarah Thomson
	Cr Ewan Wilson	Cr Emma Pike
	Cr Mark Donovan	Cr Melaina Huaki
	Cr Louise Hutt	Cr Anna Casey-Cox
	Cr Andrew Bydder	Cr Kesh Naidoo-Rauf
	Vacancy	

Quorum: A majority of members (including vacancies)

Meeting Frequency: Monthly – or as required

Amy Viggers
Mana Whakahaere
Governance Lead

6 December 2023

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Purpose

The Council is responsible for:

1. Providing leadership to, and advocacy on behalf of, the people of Hamilton.
2. Ensuring that all functions and powers required of a local authority under legislation, and all decisions required by legislation to be made by local authority resolution, are carried out effectively and efficiently, either by the Council or through delegation.

Terms of Reference

1. To exercise those powers and responsibilities which cannot legally be delegated by Council¹:
 - a) The power to make a rate.
 - b) The power to make a bylaw.
 - c) The power to borrow money, or purchase or dispose of assets, other than in accordance with the Long Term Plan.
 - d) The power to adopt a Long Term Plan or Annual Plan, or Annual Report.
 - e) The power to appoint a Chief Executive.
 - f) The power to adopt policies required to be adopted and consulted on under the Local Government Act 2002 in association with the Long Term Plan or developed for the purpose of the Council's Governance Statement.
 - g) The power to adopt a remuneration and employment policy.
 - h) The power to approve or change the District Plan, or any part of that Plan, in accordance with the Resource Management Act 1991.
 - i) The power to approve or amend the Council's Standing Orders.
 - j) The power to approve or amend the Code of Conduct for Elected Members.
 - k) The power to appoint and discharge members of committees.
 - l) The power to establish a joint committee with another local authority or other public body.
 - m) The power to make the final decision on a recommendation from the Parliamentary Ombudsman, where it is proposed that Council does not accept the recommendation.
 - n) The power to amend or replace the delegations in Council's *Delegations to Positions Policy*.
2. To exercise the following powers and responsibilities of Council, which the Council chooses to retain:
 - a) Resolutions required to be made by a local authority under the Local Electoral Act 2001, including the appointment of an electoral officer and reviewing representation arrangements.
 - b) Approval of any changes to Council's vision, and oversight of that vision by providing direction on strategic priorities and receiving regular reports on its overall achievement.
 - c) Approval of any changes to city boundaries under the Resource Management Act 1991.
 - d) Adoption of governance level strategies plans and policies which advance Council's vision and strategic goals.

¹ [Clause 32, Schedule 7, Local Government Act 2002](#)

- e) Approval of the Triennial Agreement.
- f) Approval of the local governance statement required under the Local Government Act 2002.
- g) Approval of a proposal to the Remuneration Authority for the remuneration of Elected Members.
- h) Approval of any changes to the nature and delegations of the Committees.
- i) Approval or otherwise of any proposal to establish, wind-up or dispose of any holding in, a CCO, CCTO or CO.
- j) Approval of city boundary changes, including in respect of Strategic Boundary Land Use Agreements.
- k) Approval of Activity Management Plans.
- l) Sister City relationships.

Oversight of Strategies, Plans and Reports:

- Long Term Plan
- Annual Plan
- Annual Report
- Shaping Hamilton Kirikiriroa Together
- Our Climate Future
- He Pou Manawa Ora

Oversight of Policies and Bylaws:

- *Corporate Hospitality and Entertainment Policy*
- *Delegations to officers specific to the Resource Management Act 1991*
- *Delegations to Positions Policy*
- *Elected Members Support Policy*
- *Significance and Engagement Policy*
- *Climate Change Policy*
- *Any Community Engagement Policies*

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1 Apologies – *Tono aroha*

2 Confirmation of Agenda – *Whakatau raarangi take*

The Council to confirm the agenda.

3 Declaration of Interest – *Tauaakii whaipanga*

Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as an elected representative and any private or other external interest they might have.

4 Public Forum – *Aatea koorero*

As per Hamilton City Council's Standing Orders, a period of up to 30 minutes has been set aside for a public forum. Each speaker during the public forum section of this meeting may speak for five minutes or longer at the discretion of the Mayor.

Please note that the public forum is to be confined to those items falling within the terms of the reference of this meeting.

Speakers will be put on a Public Forum speaking list on a first come first served basis in the Council Chamber prior to the start of the Meeting. A member of the Governance Team will be available to co-ordinate this. As many speakers as possible will be heard within the allocated time.

If you have any questions regarding Public Forum please contact Governance by telephoning 07 838 6727.

Item 5

Council Report

Committee: Council

Date: 14 December 2023

Author: Nicholas Hawtin

Authoriser: Michelle Hawthorne

Position: Governance Advisor

Position: Governance and Assurance
Manager

Report Name: Confirmation of the Council Open Minutes - 31 October 2023

Report Status	<i>Open</i>
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Staff Recommendation - *Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi*

That the Council confirm the Open Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 31 October 2023 as a true and correct record.

Attachments - *Ngaa taapirihanga*

Attachment 1 - Council Unconfirmed Open Minutes - 31 October 2023

Council 31 OCTOBER 2023 - OPEN



Item 5

Council Kaunihera OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held in the Council Chamber and via Audio-Visual Link, Municipal Building, Garden Place, Hamilton on Tuesday 31 October 2023 at 1:10 pm.

PRESENT

Chairperson Mayor Paula Southgate
Heamana

Members: Cr Maxine van Oosten
Cr Moko Tauariki
Cr Ewan Wilson
Cr Louise Hutt
Cr Andrew Bydder
Cr Geoff Taylor (via Audio visual Link)
Cr Sarah Thomson
Cr Emma Pike
Cr Kesh Naidoo-Rauf (via Audio visual Link)
Cr Mark Donovan

In Attendance: Lance Vervoort – Chief Executive
David Bryant – General Manager Business Services
Blair Bowcott – General Manager Strategy, Growth and Planning
Sean Murray – General Manager, Tourism & Events
Katy Nudd – Group Business Manager
Charlotte Catmur – Sustainability and Climate Change Manager

Governance Staff: Amy Viggers – Governance Lead
Arnold Andrews – Governance Advisor

1. Apologies – *Tono aroha*

Resolved: (Mayor Southgate/Cr Wilson)
That the apologies for absence from Cr Huaki and Cr Casey-Cox, for lateness from Deputy Mayor O’Leary and Cr Donovan and for early departure from Cr van Oosten are accepted.

2. Confirmation of Agenda – *Whakatau raarangi take*

Resolved: (Mayor Southgate/Cr Wilson)
That the agenda is confirmed noting:
a) that the late Item C7 Council Shareholding Discussion is accepted. This matter has been added as a late item to ensure members are informed in a timely manner; and
b) the order of the agenda will be flexible to accommodate availability.

3. Declarations of Interest – *Tauaakii whaipanga*

No members of the Council declared a Conflict of Interest.

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Attachment 1

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4. Public Forum – Aatea koorero

Andrew King spoke to Item 10 (Recommendations from Open Committee Meetings) in particular the External Funding Policy Review and requested that the Council not approve the recommendation from the Community and Natural environment Committee.

Item 10 (Recommendations from Open Committee Meetings) was taken after Item 4 (Public Forum – Aatea koorero) to accommodate availability.

5. Recommendations from Open Committee Meetings

The Chair of the Strategic Risk and Assurance Committee provided an update to the Council noting that verbal clearance had been received.

2022/23 Annual Report, Summary Annual Report and Representation Letter

Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Cr van Oosten)

That the Council:

- a) adopts the Annual Report 2022/23 and the Summary Annual Report 2022/23; and
- b) approves the letter of representations to Audit New Zealand be signed by the Chief Executive and the Mayor on behalf of Council.

Cr Donovan joined the meeting (1.20pm) during the discussion of the above matter. He was present when the matter was voted on.

6. Confirmation of the Council Open Minutes - 12 October 2023

Resolved: (Mayor Southgate/Cr van Oosten)

That the Council confirm the Open Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 12 October 2023 as a true and correct record.

7. Confirmation of the Elected Member Open Briefing Notes - 30 August 2023

Resolved: (Mayor Southgate/Cr Wilson)

That the Council confirm the Open Briefing Notes of the Elected Member Briefing held on 30 August 2023 as a true and correct record.

8. Confirmation of the Elected Member Open Briefing Notes - 18 October 2023

Resolved: (Cr van Oosten/Cr Wilson)

That the Council confirm the Open Briefing Notes of the Elected Member Briefing held on 18 October 2023 as a true and correct record.

9. Chair's report

Mayor Southgate spoke to the report and she thanked former Councillor Hamilton for his services as he now took on his new position as the Hamilton East MP. She responded to questions from Members concerning future involvement of Elected Members in future Sister City events.

Resolved: (Mayor Southgate/Cr Wilson)

That the Council:

- a) receives the report; and
- b) approves the changes to the Governance Structure 2022-2025 outlines in the Chair's report; and
- c) approves the appointment of Cr Wilson to the Sister City portfolio in consultation with the Mayor.

Cr Taylor Dissenting.

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10. Submission to the Inquiry into Climate Adaptation by Parliament's Environment Committee

The Sustainability and Climate Change Manager took the report as read.

Resolved: (Cr Hutt/ Cr Tauariki)

That the Council:

- a) receives the report;
- b) approves the **Draft 2** submission to the Inquiry into Climate Adaptation (**Attachment 1**);
- c) approves Council representatives to speak at the hearings in support of the final approved submission;
- d) notes that **Draft 1** of the submission was circulated to Elected Members and Maangai Maaori for feedback on 3 October 2023; and
- e) notes that the approved final submission will be submitted by the 1 November 2023 closing date.

11. Recommendations from Open Committee Meetings (Continued)

Community Assistance Policy Review

Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Cr Bydder)

That the Council:

- a) adopts the draft Community Grants Policy;
- b) delegates authority to:
 - i. The Community Grant Allocation Sub-committee to make the final grant allocation decisions for Community Partnership Agreement Grants and Community Services Grants;
 - ii. approves staff to make the final grant allocation decisions for Community Initiatives Grants;
- c) notes that the approval of this report will replace the cooperative Community Assistance Policy with the Community Grants Policy; and
- d) notes that all Elected Members will be invited to future Community Grants Allocation Sub-committee meetings and that staff will report to the Community and Natural Environment Committee on the outcome of all Community Grant allocations.

Financial Performance & Strategy Report to 30 September 2023

Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Cr Bydder)

That the Council:

- a) approves the capital movement as identified in paragraph 29 of the 30 September 2023 Capital Portfolio Monitoring Report;
- b) approves the significant forecast adjustments and revised Financial Strategy position for Debt to Revenue, Net Debt and Balancing the Books as set out in paragraphs 46 to 51 of the staff report; and
- c) approves unbudgeted operational costs of \$192,500 for a by-election following the resignation of Ryan Hamilton.

Class 4 Gambling and TAB Venues Policies - Deliberations and Approval

Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Cr Bydder)

That the Council:

- a) approves the TAB Venues Policy with **Option 1**: the continuation of the sinking-lid approach (status quo);
- b) approves the Class 4 Gambling Venues Policy with:
 - i. **Option 1**: the continuation of the sinking-lid approach (status quo); and
 - ii. **Option A**: the continuation of the current Relocation and Merger provisions in the

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Item 5

Attachment 1

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Policy.

Cr Taylor and Cr Donovan Dissenting.**External Funding Policy Review****Resolved:** (Cr Wilson/Cr Bydder)

That the Council:

- a) approves **Option 2** of the staff report for the revised External Funding Policy;
- b) notes that the staff will review the Policy in three years or when Council balances its books (whichever occurs earlier); and
- c) notes that any applications to gaming funds are to be considered through an 'equity and community benefit' lens.

11. Resolution to Exclude the Public**Resolved:** (Mayor Southgate/Cr van Oosten)**Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987**

The following motion is submitted for consideration:

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely consideration of the public excluded agenda.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution follows.

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reasons for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
C1. Confirmation of the Council Public Excluded Minutes 12 October 2023) Good reason to withhold information exists under Section 7 Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987	Section 48(1)(a)
C2. Confirmation of the Elected Member Briefing Public Excluded Notes - 30 August 2023		
C3. Confirmation of the Elected Member Briefing Public Excluded Notes - 13 September 2023		
C4. Confirmation of the Council (Recommendation from the CE Review Committee) Public Excluded Minutes 15 June 2023		
C5. Recommendation from the CE Review Committee - Chief Executive's End of Year Review 2022-23		
C6. Recommendation from the CE Review Committee		

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- Consultant's Report to
the CE's End of Year
review 2022-23

C7. Council Shareholding
Discussion

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, as follows:

Item C1.	to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	Section 7 (2) (j)
Item C2.	to enable Council to carry out negotiations to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	Section 7 (2) (i) Section 7 (2) (j)
Item C3.	to enable Council to carry out negotiations to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	Section 7 (2) (i) Section 7 (2) (j)
Item C4.	to protect the privacy of natural persons	Section 7 (2) (a)
Item C5.	to protect the privacy of natural persons	Section 7 (2) (a)
Item C6.	to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	Section 7 (2) (j)
Item C7.	to enable Council to carry out commercial activities without disadvantage to enable Council to carry out negotiations	Section 7 (2) (h) Section 7 (2) (i)

The meeting was moved into public excluded session at 2.12pm.

The meeting was declared closed at 3.23pm.

Item 5

Attachment 1

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Item 6

Council Report

Committee: Council
Author: Amy Viggers
Position: Governance Lead
Report Name: Chair's Report

Date: 14 December 2023
Authoriser: Amy Viggers
Position: Governance Lead

Report Status	<i>Open</i>
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Recommendation - *Tuutohu*

That the Council receives the report.

Attachments - *Ngaa taapirihanga*

Attachment 1 - Chair's Report

Chair's Report



14 December 2023

After another challenging but successful year we come to our last Council meeting of 2023.

We've achieved a lot this year – and I want to thank Councillors, Maangai Maori and staff for all their work to get to this point.

Our city is thriving, people are choosing Hamilton as a place to live, and we're growing fast. This year we have maintained a focus on looking after critical infrastructure and delivering core services. We have built infrastructure to support growth – including water and wastewater pipes, roading connections, the bridge to Peacockes. And we've added some impressive community facilities – including the award-winning Te Kete Aronui, Te Kaaroro Nature Precinct upgrades, the Magical Bridge Playground.

In recent months we have been focused on the Long-Term Plan. Our priority – responding to unprecedented financial pressures while ensuring that we can continue to deliver core services to the city. After deep discussion and debate, Council proposed rates rise of 25.5 percent, to more quickly reach a situation where everyday revenue pays for the everyday cost. This has significant impact on the community who are also facing increasing costs. As we go into the new year it will be important to listen closely to what the community has to say about the plan, and what they expect from this Council.

There is significant work ahead of us. Affordable housing remains a challenge, and I remain concerned about the number of people still living in emergency housing. Building resilience to extreme weather – particularly after seeing the devastation from flooding and cyclones in some parts of the country – and costs to clean up must remain a focus. There is the significant question looming about the future of water. At the time of writing this report the steps the newly formed Government might take to repeal and replace current legislation are unknown.

We must continue to engage on how we can work together and get win-win outcomes for Hamilton and our wider region through a strong and well-funded partnership.

National Council

As you are aware, I sit as a Metro Sector representative on National Council. Recently, I attended the final National Council meeting for the year in Wellington. This was a useful opportunity to do some strategic planning with other representatives of the zones and sectors to focus on priorities for local government in the new year, with the new Government.

Attachment 1

Wishing you and your families a Merry Christmas, happy holidays, and some well-deserved rest head of another busy year next year.

Chair's Recommendation

That the Council receives the report.

Paula Southgate

Mayor of Hamilton

Item 6

Council Report

Item 7

Committee: Council **Date:** 14 December 2023
Author: Aimee Haycock **Authoriser:** Helen Paki
Position: Parks Planner **Position:** General Manager Customer and Community
Report Name: Ashurst Park Reclassification - Decision Report

Report Status	<i>Open</i>
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Purpose - *Take*

1. To inform the Council on information requested by the Community and Natural Environment Committee on 26 October 2023.
2. To seek a decision from the Council on the proposed reclassification of the portion of Ashurst Park adjoining Ashurst Avenue, from Recreation Reserve to Local Purpose (Community Facilities) Reserve.

Staff Recommendation - *Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi*

3. That the Council:
 - a) receives the report;
 - b) declines the reclassification of the portion of Ashurst Avenue adjoining Ashurst Avenue; and
 - c) directs staff to progress Option 2A (Te Rapa Sportsdrome standalone) and approves the commencement of the legislative process to change the classification of that part of Ashurst Park.

Executive Summary - *Whakaraapopototanga matua*

4. Council has been undertaking a process to reclassify a portion of Ashurst Park to enable the development of a new community centre for Pukete Neighbourhood House (PNH), in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977.
5. Following the public consultation undertaken as part of the reclassification and at the request of Elected Members, staff have investigated additional options for this project.
6. Staff recommend Elected Members decline the reclassification and direct staff to undertake a reclassification of an alternative location on Ashurst Park.
7. Staff consider the recommendation has medium significance due to level of public interest, the statutory requirements relating to the process, and that the recommendations comply with the Council's legal requirements.

Item 7

Background - *Koorero whaimaarama*

8. At the 18 April 2023 meeting, the Community and Natural Environment Committee approved a community facility build on Ashurst Park, and commencement of reclassification for a section of the park.
9. A total of 282 [submissions](#) were received through the public consultation period between 20 June – 21 July 2023, and following a Hearing on 22 August 2023, staff brought a deliberations report to the 26 October 2023 Community and Natural Environment Committee ([Agenda, minutes](#)).
10. The deliberations report summarised the submissions and outlined 6 options for the development of a new facility for the Pukete Neighbourhood House on Ashurst Park.
11. The Committee requested that staff further investigate Option 2 (an extension to the Te Rapa Sportsdrome or the construction of a new building alongside the Sportsdrome) and that costing, accessibility features, green spaces assessment and comparisons with Option 1 be incorporated into a final report. The committee also requested that a meeting with the community be organised by staff to discuss the options for Ashurst Park before the December Council meeting.
12. An approved reclassification from Recreation Reserve to Local Purpose (Community Facilities) Reserve is required before the development of the community centre at this site and the granting of the lease to PNH could be progressed.

Discussion - *Matapaki*

13. Staff have developed a detailed assessment of Option 1, 2A and 2B, included as **Attachment 2**.
14. **Option 1** would be located at the site adjoining Ashurst Avenue, as proposed through the public consultation. This option provides many benefits including freeing up 200m2 of community space in the Sportsdrome, provides fit for purpose community space, a café and increases the street presence of Pukete Neighbourhood House (PNH). The proposed site is flat, providing accessibility for people with disabilities or special requirements.
15. There is clear support for Pukete Neighbourhood House and the services they provide, however, there are concerns relating to the proposed building at the Ashurst Ave site. Concerns include loss of informal green space, loss of trees, the relocation of the playground, increased traffic on Ashurst Ave, and possible antisocial behaviour.
16. **Option 2A** includes the construction of a stand-alone community centre alongside the existing Te Rapa Sportsdrome. This option provides a fit-for-purpose community space that would not impact the Ashurst Ave play area. However, it would not have the benefit of increased street presence or be as accessible as the Ashurst Ave site. This option had greater support from the local community.
17. **Option 2B** includes the refurbishment and addition to the existing Sportsdrome building. This option has similar advantages to Option 2A, but additional disadvantages include significant disruption to Sportsdrome and PNH users and additional costs relating to seismic strengthening.
18. Responses to enquiries from Elected Members at the 26 October Committee meeting are included as **Attachment 3**.
19. Staff held a community drop-in session on Monday 13 November 2023 where members of the public could learn about the options and discuss their thoughts with Council staff and Elected Members.

20. As part of this information session, attendees were invited to comment on information about options and give feedback. An insights report on community perceptions is included as **Attachment 4**.
21. A reclassification for part of Ashurst Park from Recreation Reserve to Local Purpose (Community Facilities) Reserve is required, for all options, to ensure the proposed new activity will align with its reserve classification, and for a lease to be granted to PNH.
22. Declining the reclassification of the portion of the park adjoining the Ashurst Ave entrance, would mean a new reclassification process from Recreation Reserve to Local Purpose (Community Facilities) Reserve would need to be undertaken for the project to be progressed at the Te Rapa Sportsdrome location.

Options

23. Staff have assessed that there are two reasonable and viable options for the Council to consider Option 1 – Ashurst Ave Site and Option 2A – Stand alone centre at Te Rapa Sportsdrome. This assessment reflects the level of significance (see paragraph 44).
24. Both options have a range of advantages and disadvantages and will provide fit for purpose space for Pukete Neighbourhood House and the wider community. Staff recommend progressing the standalone Te Rapa Sportsdrome Option (Option 2A), including a new reclassification process. This option is well supported by the Community and would provide a fit for purpose community space while minimising disruption to other facility users.
25. This option is also feasible from a budget and delivery perspective.

Financial Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro Puutea*

26. The reclassification is a regular operating activity funded through the Long-Term Plan.
27. Costs relating to the proposed change of classification will be met by the Parks and Recreation operational budgets.
28. Staff time costs to carry out the reclassification have been estimated at \$2,500. A new reclassification would cost approximately \$2,500.
29. Funding of \$8.3 million was allocated for this project at the 18 April 2023 Community and Natural Environment Committee meeting.
30. The table below compares costs between the options.

Option	Estimated Cost	Inclusions
Option 1 – Ashurst Avenue	\$8,375,000	Site preparation (tree removal, playground removal etc) Design & Construction costs External works and carparking Consenting costs and developer contributions Professional fees and internal project costs
Option 2A – Standalone Te Rapa Sportsdrome	\$8,000,000	Site preparation Design & Construction costs External works Consenting costs and developer contributions Professional fees and internal project costs
Option 2B – Extension to Te Rapa Sportsdrome	\$9,600,000	Site preparation Design & Construction costs Renovation of existing PNH space within the Sportsdrome Seismic strengthening works to bring Sportsdrome up to relevant design code External works Consenting costs and developer contributions Professional fees and internal project costs

Legal and Policy Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro-aa-ture*

31. Staff confirm that the staff recommendations comply with Council's legal and policy requirements.

Climate Change Impact Statement

32. Staff have assessed this option against the Climate Change Policy for both emissions and climate change adaptation. Staff have determined no adaptation or emissions assessment is required.

Wellbeing Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro-aa-oranga tonutanga*

33. The purpose of Local Government changed on the 14 May 2019 to include promotion of the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future ('the 4 wellbeings').
34. The subject matter of this report has been evaluated in terms of the 4 wellbeings during the process of developing this report as outlined below.
35. The recommendations set out in this report are consistent with that purpose.

Social

36. The partial reclassification of Ashurst Park provides an opportunity for increased social interaction and participation within the community through the provision of more purposeful and accessible community facilities, and the provision of programmes that promote social wellbeing. It is noted that PNH already provides a wide range of community services from their current location within the Te Rapa Sportsdrome, however operating out of a purpose-built facility that is easily accessible by those residents who need to access them, will allow PNH to better serve their community.

Economic

37. Having the new community facility within the surrounding residential community would increase social vibrancy and amenity to the space. The community centre has the potential to create greater economic activity and employment opportunity through the establishment of a social enterprise café. It is noted that, should the decision be to decline the reclassification of the portion of Ashurst Park adjoining Ashurst Avenue, the café may not be a viable inclusion within a community centre at the other location options.

Environmental

38. There are no environmental wellbeing considerations identified.

Cultural

39. The hearing provided individuals and communities with an opportunity to discuss how the reclassification has an impact on their ability to retain, interpret and express their cultural values. Community houses bring cultural benefits to the users by allowing an opportunity for cultural expression, and by providing a meeting space for members of the community to gather.
40. Waikato Tainui, Ngaati Wairere and Te Haa o te whenua o Kirikiriroa (THaWK) have been consulted on the proposal. No submissions have been received, however email correspondence has confirmed their general support for the proposal. All parties seek the opportunity to be further involved in the design process with the project team.

Risks - *Tuuraru*

41. There are no known risks associated with the reclassification itself, however there is a political risk with the decision in that there is a high level of interest amongst a group of residents who are opposed to the proposed location for the new community facility.

Significance & Engagement Policy - *Kaupapa here whakahira/anganui*

42. Staff have considered the key considerations under the Significance and Engagement Policy and have assessed that the recommendation(s) in this report has/have a medium level of significance.
43. Community views and preferences are already known to the Council through the submissions received as part of the public notification of the reclassification proposal. An additional community drop-in session was also held in November, from which an insights report has been prepared to collate the feedback gathered during the session (**Attachment 4**).
44. There is a statutory requirement to consult as per legislation outlined below.
45. The public notification of the proposal to reclassify a portion of Ashurst Park has been undertaken in accordance with Sections 24 and 119 of the Reserves Act 1977.

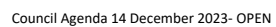
Attachments - *Ngaa taapirihanga*

Attachment 1 - Ashurst Park Reclassification map

Attachment 2 - Pukete Neighbourhood House Options Document

Attachment 3 - Q&A following 26 October 2023 Community & Natural Environment Committee Deliberations

Attachment 4 - Community perceptions on proposed locations of Pukete Neighbourhood House



Pukete Neighbourhood House: Locations Options Analysis

The following options have been considered following direction from Elected Members during the deliberations held at the Community and Natural Environment Committee on 26 October 2023. The options include:

Option 1: *Ashurst Avenue*

Option 2A: *A standalone building, alongside Te Rapa Sportsdrome*

Option 2B: *Extension to Te Rapa Sportsdrome*

If progressed, options 2A and 2B would trigger further assessment and consultation through a reclassification process.

OPTION 1 – Ashurst Avenue

A new purpose-built facility on the Ashurst Avenue side of Ashurst Park. This option was used for engagement with the public through the reclassification process. The proposed building would include two activity spaces, a community lounge/reception, training/social enterprise café and kitchen, bookable meeting rooms, bathrooms and office space, with an outside courtyard creating a connection with the park. A new carpark and access for back of house services would also be included.

The playground would shift near to the main entrance to the proposed building, in order to create connection between the community centre, café, playground, and park.

Costs: (reduced floor plan and paired back aesthetic) and Quarter 3 2024 construction date - \$8,375,000.

Attachment 2

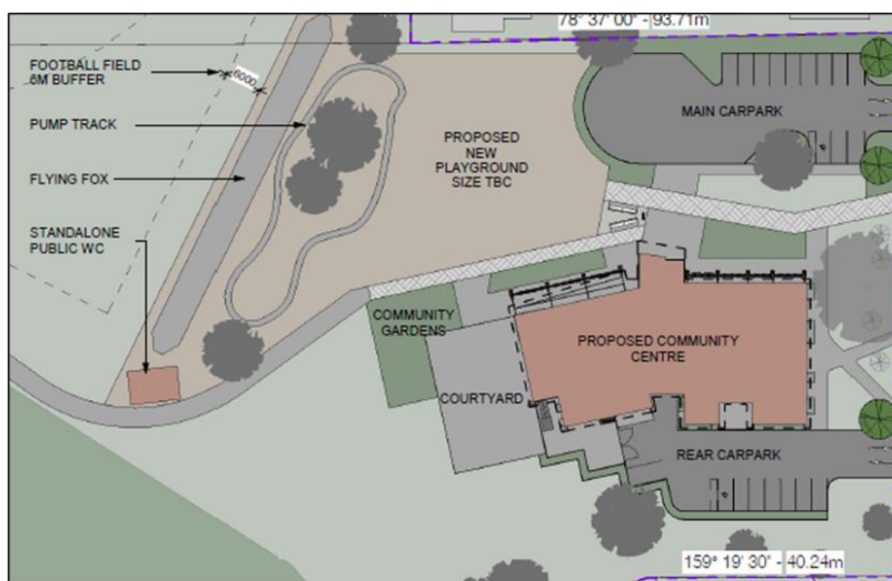


Figure 1- Option 1

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Option 1: Advantages and Disadvantages

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This option would put the community centre within in the community it serves. The proposed site is flat, and accessible for people with disabilities or special requirements. This option would be easily accessed by all modes of transport, including public transport. Moving Pukete Neighbourhood House out of Te Rapa Sportsdrome would free up over 200m² of space and maximise the building's potential as a sporting facility. This site could be a 'hub' for the community, with a new community centre, cafe and new playground. Street presence and proximity to the playground could make a cafe more financially viable. A new build would provide flexibility to design a space that is fit for purpose for all user groups. A building that faces Ashurst Avenue could provide passive surveillance (CPTED) in the and increase awareness of Pukete Neighbourhood House and their services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is significant concern from members of the neighbourhood. A petition in opposition to this option was presented to Council on 26 October 2023. The existing playground would need to be repositioned and would be unavailable to the community during construction. (Note the current playground is due for renewal in year 1 of in the upcoming 2024-2034 Long Term Plan). A number of established exotic trees would need to be removed. The building would reduce the area of community green/recreation space. Additional funds would be needed to connect services such as power and water to the site. A purpose-built carpark would be required. Some sightlines into the park and playground could be reduced or obscured by the building.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pukete Neighbourhood House would be able to continue operating at their current premises during the construction of this option, and other Sportdrome users would not be disrupted by construction. • A social enterprise café would be viable in this location. 	
At an information session on 13 November, community members added the following advantages and disadvantages:	
Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The playground gets a refresh. • Perception that it would be positive if invasive and exotic trees were removed. • Perception that the park would be safer. • Perception from some that the impacts on nearby residents could be less than feared. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns about increased traffic in the area. • Perception that security would decrease, and anti-social behaviour would increase. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Belief that there are additional costs that Council hasn't considered. This includes damage costs to nearby houses from construction, depreciation on nearby houses, costs for noise proofing for residents, costs of playground movement, cost of funding new facilities such as power, cost of construction delays. • Concerns about noise and light pollution from the community centre affecting nearby residents. • Perception that the design has insufficient parking spaces for the expected volume of traffic. • Loss of shade provided by trees. • There is no bus service on Ashurst Ave. • Belief that a commercial venture (such as the café) in park is undesirable/likely unprofitable. • Perception that Ashurst Ave is not a thoroughfare and would see limited benefit from having street frontage. • Concern for PNH building closing late and the impacts that could have on nearby residents. • Concern that the community resistance to this option would make it difficult for Pukete Neighbourhood House to thrive here. • Concern that there would be no indoor sports facility nearby. • Concern that the Sportsdrome would still have accessibility issues. • Concern that the Sportsdrome is a long walk from this proposed site.

OPTION 2A – Standalone building alongside Te Rapa Sportsdrome

This would include a standalone building (approximately 800m² plus a courtyard of 300m²) next to Te Rapa Sportsdrome. It shares many of the considerations associated with Option 2B (Sportsdrome extension).

Costs: \$8,000,000 based on a Q1 2025 construction start date.

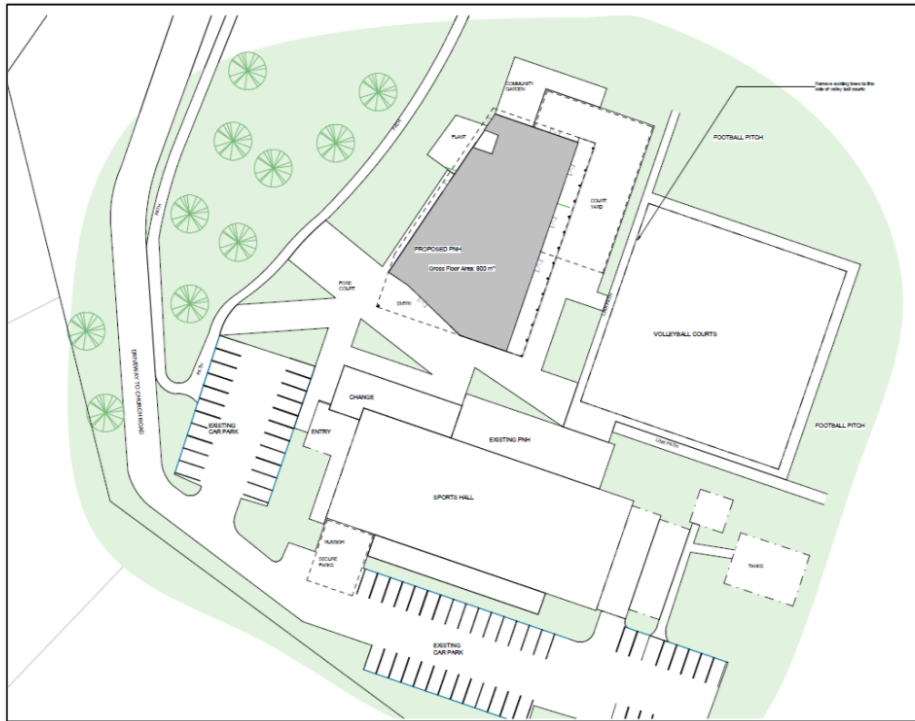


Figure 2 - Option 2A, site of standalone building next to Te Rapa Sportsdrome

Option 2A: Advantages and Disadvantages

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no immediate residential neighbours that would be affected by the new build. A new build would provide flexibility to design a space that is fit for purpose for all user groups. The new facility could utilise the existing community garden, which would be adjacent to the new building. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access from Church Road is steep and not easily accessible for people with disabilities or special requirements. A new access road with more gentle slopes to meet accessibility standards would add significant cost. There would be fewer opportunities for passive surveillance in this location as it would be hidden from the road.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This option would not impact the available park space at Ashurst Avenue. • Many site services such as power, water, etc. are already on site. The design team would need to confirm if there is sufficient capacity for each. • The Pukete Neighbourhood House team would be close to the sports hall in Te Rapa Sportsdrome. • This option would enable Pukete Neighbourhood House to grow, with opportunities to expand their services. • The existing playground would remain unaffected in its current location. (Note the current playground is due for renewal in the upcoming 2024-2034 Long-Term Plan). • Moving Pukete Neighbourhood House out of Te Rapa Sportsdrome would free up over 200m² of space and maximise the building's potential as a sporting facility. • Visitors and staff could utilise the existing carpark. • Overall, less landscaping and paving would be required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pukete Neighbourhood House would be located further away from the residential side of the park and the community it serves. • The lack of street presence could reduce the financial viability of the proposed cafe. • Lack of street presence may also reduce opportunities for other community initiatives that rely on foot traffic. • The building may not be very visible to the rest of the park, should the existing trees and fencing around the volleyball court remain. • Nearby terrain to the west would limit the amount of sunshine available.
At an information session on 13 November, community members added the following advantages and disadvantages:	
<p>Advantages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is accessible entry via Minnie Place • Perception that access should be improved to the Sportsdrome from Church Road anyway. • Perception that this option is cheaper than others. • Belief that people with accessibility issues don't use the Church Rd entrance to access Te Rapa Sportsdrome, therefore accessibility should not be a concern. • This option is close to public transport. • Perception that this option allows for better surveillance measures. • Belief that this option would be less disruptive to PNH. • Belief that increased traffic and need for parking will not disrupt residents. • Belief that the area is already well serviced for cafes. 	<p>Disadvantages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belief that better road signage is needed to make this a viable option. • Concern that the Church Road entrance is already very busy. • Perception that the proposed kitchen layout is poor. • Belief that the noise from the Sportsdrome would disrupt PNH.

OPTION 2B – Extension to Te Rapa Sportsdrome

This would include refurbishing part of the existing Te Rapa Sportsdrome building and adding an approximately 650m² extension. This would include a new entry and reception, two large multi-use spaces, small meeting/consultation rooms, and kitchen and community meeting spaces.

An external courtyard overlooking the park would be included. The existing volleyball courts would need to be modified.



Figure 3 - Option 2B – Extension of Te Rapa Sportsdrome

Costs: \$9,600,000 based on a Quarter 1 2025 construction start date. It has also assumed the Sportsdrome requires significant seismic strengthening.

Option 2B: Advantages and Disadvantages

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By retrofitting an existing building, less materials overall are required, which could result in lower carbon emissions, and extend the lifespan of the existing building. PNH could use the existing community garden, which would be adjacent to the new building. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adapting the existing building may not result in an ideal layout for Pukete Neighbourhood House or the community. The street presence of Pukete Neighbourhood House would not increase. Access from Church Road is steep and not easily accessible for people with disabilities

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no immediate residential neighbours that would be affected. • Compared with the Ashurst Avenue option, it minimises the amount of park space that is taken up by the new build and relocated volleyball courts. • Many site services such as power, water, etc. are already on site. The design team will need to confirm if there is sufficient capacity for each. • The Pukete Neighbourhood House team would be close to the sports hall in Te Rapa Sportsdrome • This option would enable Pukete Neighbourhood House to grow, with opportunities to expand their services. • The existing playground would remain unaffected in its current location. (Note the current playground is due for renewal in the upcoming 2024-2034 Long-Term Plan). 	<p>or special requirements. A new access road with more gentle slopes to meet accessibility standards would add significant cost.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This option would require additional costs for site works (e.g., relocating the volleyball courts) and disruptions to other users (e.g., groups who lease the volleyball courts). • 200m² of space currently occupied by Pukete Neighbourhood House would not be freed up for sporting use. • Pukete Neighbourhood House may not be able to operate from their current premises during the construction period. • Additional design would be required to create a 'back of house' area where services, waste management etc would be located. • The lack of visibility of this location may mean the proposed café is less likely to be financially viable. • Lack of street presence may also reduce opportunities for other community initiatives that rely on foot traffic. • The building may not be very visible to the rest of the park, should the existing trees and fencing around the volleyball court remain. • This option will likely trigger the need to do seismic strengthening of the Sportsdrome building. There may be similar requirements for Fire Protection and Accessibility.
At an information session on 13 November, community members added the following advantages and disadvantages:	
<p>Advantages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Street frontage is not required and therefore not an issue here. • There is accessible entry via Minnie Place • PNH can use the Sportsdrome facilities. • Belief that this option is cost-effective. • Perception that having one large building, instead of two free-standing facilities, will create a community hub. • Belief that the café would be more profitable if it serves those using sports facilities. • Perception that there is more space for parking than other options. • Belief that the expansion can be purpose-built. 	<p>Disadvantages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belief that we should build up, rather than out. • Concern that lack of parking is already an issue. • Belief that a café is unnecessary here. • Concern there is no visibility to Ashurst Park with this option. • Belief that the facilities should be separate to maintain a clear boundary for equipment, space, etc.

Attachment 2

- Perception that no trees would need to be removed.
- Perception that the current entrance is large and welcoming.

A significant challenge for both options 2A and 2B at the Te Rapa Sportsdrome site is a lack of accessibility and visibility from Church Road.

To make the gradient of the road accessible for wheelchair and pram users would require significant engineering works and incur major additional costs. It would also require a large section of mature trees to be removed and trigger a complicated consenting process.

The costs estimate to install a 2metre accessible path as per Figure 4 below is \$1.75m.

Minnie Place has been suggested as an alternative access option for this site. However, a transport assessment has not been completed for this site. There is an existing pathway across the park, however this would require some accessibility improvements if relied upon for pedestrian access. The nearest bus stop on Moreland Avenue is approximately 650m from the Te Rapa Sportsdrome site.

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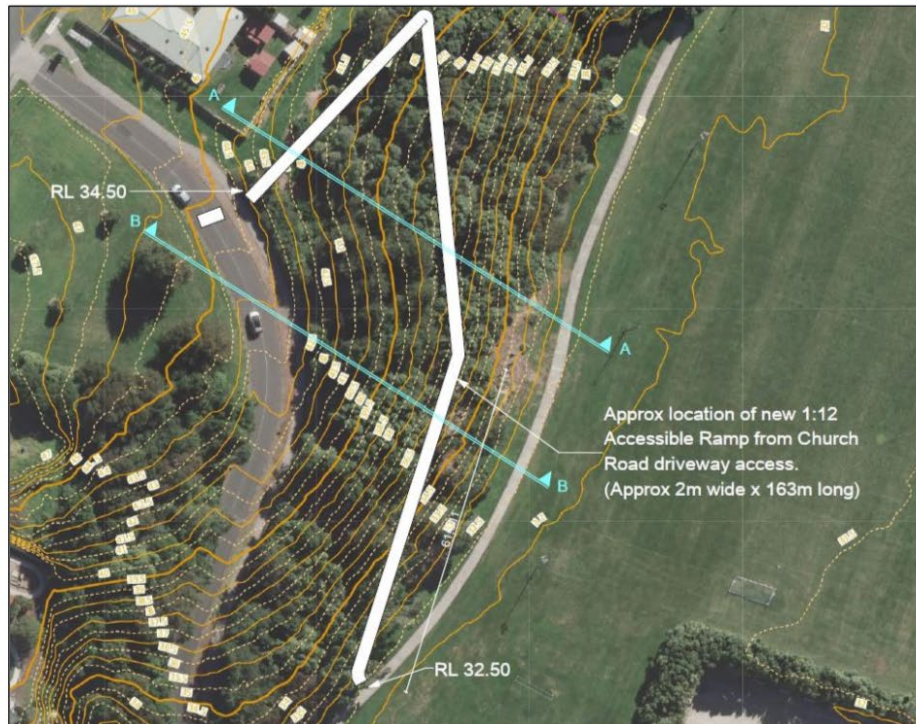


Figure 4 – Potential New Access off Church Road for Te Rapa Sportsdrome site options (2A and 2B)

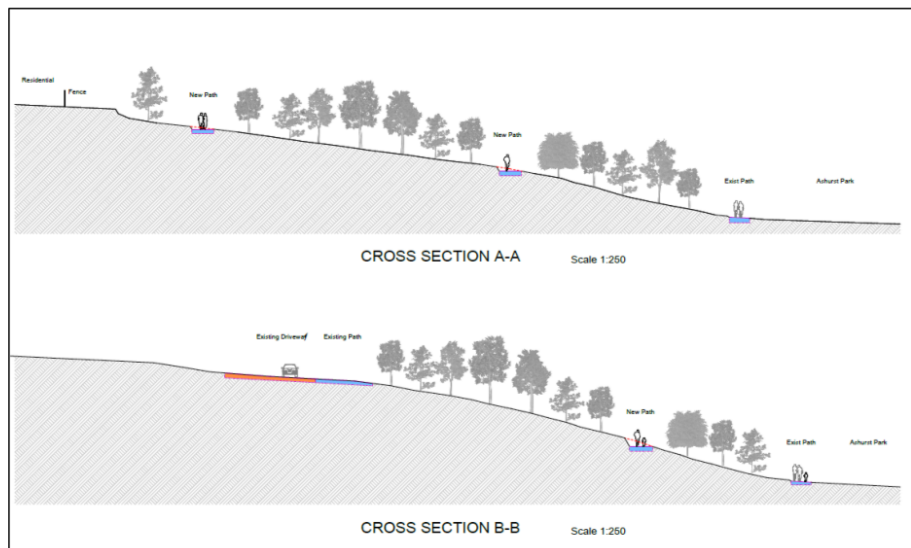


Figure 5 – Cross Section for Potential New Access off Church Road for Te Rapa Sportsdrome site options (2A and 2B)

Options Comparison Summary

	Option 1: Ashurst Ave	Option 2A: Standalone at Sportsdrome	Option 2B: Extension at Sportsdrome
Total cost estimation	\$8,375,000	\$8,000,000	\$9,600,000
Accessibility	Good accessibility from Ashurst Ave road frontage and carpark. 700m walking distance from nearest bus stop.	Access from Church Road requires new path to be constructed to improve accessibility options. Pedestrian access could be obtained following completion of the development at 46 Karewa Place, however timing for this is unknown. Existing paths from Minnie Place or Ashurst Ave could be used if minor	Access from Church Road requires new path to be constructed to improve accessibility options. Pedestrian access could be obtained following completion of the development at 46 Karewa Place, however timing for this is unknown. Existing paths from Minnie Place or Ashurst Ave could be used if minor

Attachment 2

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		accessibility improvements made.	accessibility improvements made.
Distance from Te Rapa School	Approximately 300m	Approximately 300m across the park, or 750m via the Ashurst Ave entrance and path.	Approximately 300m across the park, or 750m via the Ashurst Ave entrance and path.
Distance to nearest residential neighbours	Approximately 20m from adjoining residential properties.	Approximately 120m from future residential neighbours within the Karewa Place development, and approximately 120m to the nearest residential properties on Church Road.	Approximately 120m from future residential neighbours within the Karewa Place development, and approximately 120m to the nearest residential properties on Church Road.
Distance from community	Location is within the neighbourhood.	Location is approximately 400m across the park, or approximately 1km by car.	Location is approximately 400m across the park, or approximately 1km by car.


Questions raised by Elected Members as part of Deliberations

Question	Staff Response																								
Questions relating to Ashurst Avenue site (Option 1)																									
Full costs of Ashurst Avenue option, including all works, trees, and the playground.	<table><tr><th>Description</th><th>Costs</th><th>Funding Source</th></tr><tr><td>Direct Project Costs<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Site Preparation – tree removal, playground removal, etc- New building Costs- External Works and Carparking- Consenting costs and developer contributions- Professional fees and internal project costs</td><td>\$8,375,000</td><td>Community Facilities Programme</td></tr><tr><td>Other costs at Ashurst Park/Te Rapa Sportsdrome</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Upgrade of Ashurst Avenue Playground.<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Renewal of playground.- Level of service increase to large neighbourhood playground.- Design- Shade sail.</td><td>\$699,000</td><td>Playground Renewal Budget (LTP 2024-2034)</td></tr><tr><td>Upgrade of flooring in the Te Rapa Sportsdrome Hall</td><td>\$770,000</td><td>Building Renewal and Compliance Programme (Current LTP)</td></tr><tr><td>Te Rapa Sportsdrome indoor toilet and changing room upgrades.</td><td>\$1,000,000</td><td>Building Renewal and Compliance Programme (Current LTP)</td></tr><tr><td>Renewal of space currently occupied by PNH for new sports tenant.</td><td>\$1,299,000</td><td>Building Renewal and Compliance Programme (LTP 2024-2034)</td></tr><tr><td>Accessible path</td><td>\$1,750,000</td><td>Currently not funded</td></tr></table>	Description	Costs	Funding Source	Direct Project Costs <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Site Preparation – tree removal, playground removal, etc- New building Costs- External Works and Carparking- Consenting costs and developer contributions- Professional fees and internal project costs	\$8,375,000	Community Facilities Programme	Other costs at Ashurst Park/Te Rapa Sportsdrome			Upgrade of Ashurst Avenue Playground. <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Renewal of playground.- Level of service increase to large neighbourhood playground.- Design- Shade sail.	\$699,000	Playground Renewal Budget (LTP 2024-2034)	Upgrade of flooring in the Te Rapa Sportsdrome Hall	\$770,000	Building Renewal and Compliance Programme (Current LTP)	Te Rapa Sportsdrome indoor toilet and changing room upgrades.	\$1,000,000	Building Renewal and Compliance Programme (Current LTP)	Renewal of space currently occupied by PNH for new sports tenant.	\$1,299,000	Building Renewal and Compliance Programme (LTP 2024-2034)	Accessible path	\$1,750,000	Currently not funded
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	Renewal of space currently occupied by PNH for new sports tenant.	\$1,299,000	Building Renewal and Compliance Programme (LTP 2024-2034)																						
	Accessible path	\$1,750,000	Currently not funded																						
Could the building be moved away from the road without removing a sports field?	It is possible to move the building further away from the road without moving the sports field however this option has not been fully explored at this stage. It has been assumed the suggested location would be approximately in the area shown below or similar.																								

Attachment 3

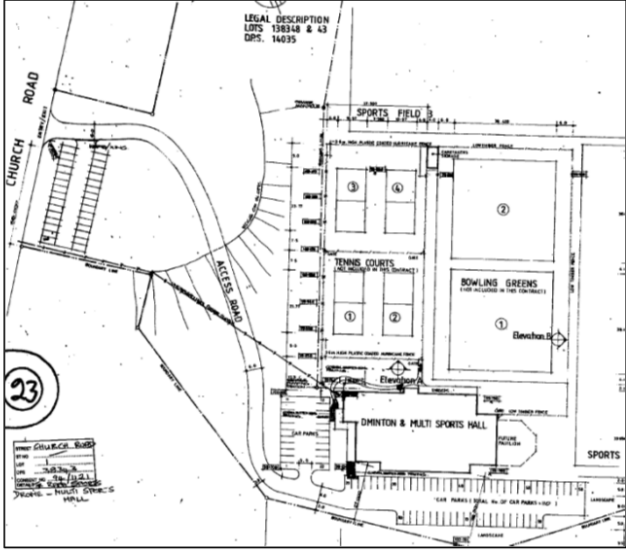
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	 <p>Proposed building location</p> <p>Key issues with this location would include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional costs in providing an access road to the proposed location. - Additional costs in running services from the connection points in the road to the location. - Poor location from a CPTED principles perspective. - Potential impact on properties to the South of the building. - Reduced visibility from the street.
<p>Cost of the original playground and the relocation.</p>	<p>Staff have been unable to locate records that show the original cost of the playground. The playground currently has a book value of \$331,020.50. Funding of \$699,000 has been allocated in the upcoming Long-Term Plan (LTP) with the work projected to happen in Year 1 (2024/25). It is expected this funding is sufficient to cover the proposed relocation of the playground.</p>
<p>Would all trees need to be removed for the original option 1A?</p>	<p>It is expected that a number of established trees would need to be removed from the site to make room for the new building.</p> <p>The drawing below identifies the trees the design team would aim to maintain. However, until the tree root structures are known, it is not possible to confirm which trees could be retained.</p> 

							
<p>Would any of these trees need to be removed due to storm or wind risks and ongoing reactive maintenance?</p>	<p>Arborist advice is that assessments cannot be made for adverse weather conditions and trees must be assessed for normal conditions. Trees that are considered a hazard may be removed under normal maintenance.</p>						
<p>Questions relating to Te Rapa Sportsdrome sites (Options 2A or 2B)</p>							
<p>Costs of upgrading Te Rapa Sportsdrome, should the Ashurst Ave option be progressed.</p>	<p>There are planned renewals for the Te Rapa Sportsdrome as part of the current LTP. These renewals are unrelated to the Pukete Neighbourhood House project and are due to be completed prior to the end of the current financial year (30 June 2024).</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="602 1125 1224 1283"> <thead> <tr> <th>Description</th><th>Costs</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Upgrade of Flooring in the sports hall - Work due to commence 4 December 2023.</td><td>\$770,000.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Renewal of existing indoor changing rooms and toilet - Work due to commence mid-January 2024.</td><td>\$1,000,000.00</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Further renewals plans for the Sportsdrome are included in the upcoming LTP with a proposed budget of \$1.229m. These funds are allocated to refurbish and reconfigure the area of the Te Rapa Sportsdrome currently occupied by PNH in preparation for a new sports team tenant.</p>	Description	Costs	Upgrade of Flooring in the sports hall - Work due to commence 4 December 2023.	\$770,000.00	Renewal of existing indoor changing rooms and toilet - Work due to commence mid-January 2024.	\$1,000,000.00
Description	Costs						
Upgrade of Flooring in the sports hall - Work due to commence 4 December 2023.	\$770,000.00						
Renewal of existing indoor changing rooms and toilet - Work due to commence mid-January 2024.	\$1,000,000.00						
<p>Costs for making the Sportsdrome site accessible</p>	<p>A high-level cost estimate to install a 2m wide, accessible pedestrian path from near the Church Road entrance to the Sportsdrome site is \$1,750,000. There is a low level of confidence in this cost estimate. Further detailed engineering would be required to provide a more accurate costing. A resource consent would also be required.</p>						
<p>Is lack of visibility from the road a deal breaker for PNH and are the volleyball courts a requirement?</p>	<p>While the road visibility is preferable to PNH, it is not a matter that should stop the project from proceeding. The existing volleyball courts are required to be provided and therefore they need to be retained at the park.</p>						
<p>The original Te Rapa Sportsdrome development</p>	<p>Original plans for the Te Rapa Sportsdrome show a carpark on Church Road alongside the access road.</p>						

Attachment 3

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was planned to have a carpark immediate left of entry. Could this be added?	<p>While this could be considered, it is not clear whether this would benefit the accessibility of the site due to the grade difference between the road and the site.</p> 
Accessibility for Sportsdrome from Karewa option – what would be needed.	<p>As detailed further below, pedestrian access will be available through this development once it is completed. However the timing of the development is a matter to be decided by the consent holder.</p> <p>Public road access is not part of the consented development, and therefore if the developer were to agree to this, a variation to the consent would be required</p>
Other questions	
Costs for Karewa Place option, as concern around land value calculation	The land valuation costings were provided by Council's Strategic Property Team, and the midpoint was used for the cost estimation provided in the options document at the Community and Natural Environment Committee.
Did the developer of 46 Karewa Place wish to vest the road to Council.	<p>The existing resource consent involves the vesting to Council of the road at the entrance to the development, however the "ring road" within the development is to remain in private ownership. At this point, staff are not aware of an intention to alter this arrangement.</p> <p>There is however an easement over the pedestrian access through the development, and this will allow pedestrian access through to the Te Rapa Sportsdrome site by the completion of the development. It should be noted however that the developer is responsible for when they choose to implement their consent (the consent has a 5 year lapse period).</p>
Will there be transport access through Karewa Place?	As above, on completion of the development there will be pedestrian access available to the public to Ashurst Park through the development. However vehicle access will not be available.
Could bus routes be added?	HCC would need to discuss with Waikato Regional Council (bus service providers), and if they were to agree, any proposed changes would need to go through a consultation process and then to a committee for approval. Staff would need to be able to make a case to WRC for any redirection, and operational cost implications are a key consideration for this discussion.

Visibility of cost escalations from delays and longer construction timings.	<p>The revised costings have assumed a Q1 2025 construction start date for the Te Rapa Sportsdrome options. This allows the design work for the preferred option to be undertaken in the first half of 2024, complete a competitive tender process in Q3 2024 before seeking approval from Council to award a contract in late 2024.</p> <p>Some initial design work has already been completed on the Ashurst Avenue option and therefore the cost estimates have assumed a Q3 2024 construction start date for the Ashurst Avenue option.</p> <p>Any further delays would incur a cost escalation of approximately 4-6% per annum. This is subject the market conditions remaining stable. Any significant change in demand of resources (labour and materials) will affect this rate of change.</p> <p>The cost estimates provided have assumed a 12-month construction period.</p>
Cost of the previous PNH fit-out within the Te Rapa Sportsdrome.	It has not been possible to confirm the costs of the original fit-out of the existing Pukete Neighbourhood House. While a budget of \$320,000 was approved at the March 2006 Community Committee meeting, it is estimated the actual funds spent were approximately \$80-90k.
Will the simpler matters identified through the accessibility report eg bollards and gradient of the pathway, be addressed?	The minor changes identified in the Barrier Free accessibility report will be completed under the Parks Renewal and Compliance Budget.
Is the soil type across the park the same?	<p>The ground conditions within the Ashurst Park area are not of "Good Ground" and therefore significant earthworks will be required to establish the foundation for the new building. Based on the information available the ground conditions at are similar at both sites (Ashurst Avenue site and the Te Rapa Sportsdrome site).</p> <p>As part of the detailed design a geotechnical investigation will be required to determine the actual soil composition and therefore the extent of earthworks required. This has already been completed for the Ashurst Avenue site and have informed the latest cost estimates.</p>
Face-to-face meeting with community	An information session was held by staff and Elected Members for members of the public on 13 November 2023, to allow residents to express their thoughts on the pros and cons of the options. An insights report detailing this is available in Attachment 4 .
Indication of how a delay may impact external funding	<p>It is expected that short delays to the project (up to 6 months) will have minimal impact on the available funding from external funding partners provided there are not significant changes to the project scope or overall outcomes, as these delays will be managed through the existing relationships between key HCC City Investment Programme team personnel and key funding partners.</p> <p>Any longer delays or significant changes to the project scope or outcomes would require further discussions with the key funding partners.</p>

Attachment 4

COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS ON PROPOSED LOCATIONS OF PUKETE NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

Item 7

Report prepared by:
Piper Shields, Research and Insights Advisor

Report reviewed by:
Tegan Andrews; Senior Research and Insights Advisor; Partnerships, Communication and Maaori
Dan Silverton; Communication and Engagement Manager; Partnerships, Communication and Maaori
November 2023

ANALYSIS OF COMMUNITY FEEDBACK FROM PUKETE NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE INFORMATION SESSION

INTRODUCTION

Funding for a new, a single-story community centre (location TBC) has been approved for Pukete Neighbourhood House (PNH). We've consulted with the community on our initial proposal to build the community centre in Ashurst Park, by Ashurst Avenue. We heard a range of feedback from 282 written submissions, and we are now exploring options for the building location.

Council has created a list of pros and cons for three potential locations of the Pukete Neighbourhood House.

- Option 1: Ashurst Ave
- Option 2a: Standalone, Te Rapa Sportsdrome
- Option 2b: Extension, Te Rapa Sportsdrome

The full list of pros and cons for each option can be found [here](#).

On 13 November, Council held an information session at Ashurst Park. Here, attendees could learn about each of the three options, and discuss their thoughts with Council staff and the present Elected Members. As a part of this information session, we invited attendees to read our list of pro and cons, and to let us know if they thought we were missing anything.

In total, we received 198 comments. Of these, 188 comments were made at the information session, and 10 were made over the phone. These comments reflect individual views of the perceived positive and negative impacts of each proposed location.

From these 198 comments:

- 92 related to Option 1
- 47 related to Option 2a
- 35 related to Option 2b
- 10 were not about a specific option, but were instead more general
- 14 were not relevant to the aims of this information session

OPTION 1: ASHURST AVE

We received 92 comments about Option 1. Of these, 20 were suggestions for pros, and 72 were suggestions for cons.

Note that suggestions which align with a pro or con already on Council's list have been marked in [blue](#); unique suggestions have remained in black.

Suggested pros

- [It has the best accessibility](#) (6 comments)
- [This location means the PNH building will be more connected/closer to the community it serves](#) (4 comments)
- The playground gets a refresh (3 comments)
- [The building will be purpose-built](#) (2 comments)
- Invasive and exotic trees will be removed (2 comments)
- The park will be safer (1 comment)
- [The sportsdrome has more room](#) (1 comment)

- The downsides for nearby residents have been exaggerated (1 comment).

Suggested cons

- Increased traffic in the area (14 comments)
- Concerns for security/increase in anti-social behaviour (10 comments)
- Unconsidered costs (9 comments)
 - This includes damage costs to resident houses from construction, depreciation on resident houses, costs for noise proofing for resident houses, costs of playground movement, cost of funding new facilities such as power, cost of construction delays
- [Loss of green space](#) (8 comments)
- Noise and light pollution for residents (5 comments)
- Insufficient parking spaces (5 comments)
- [Reduced access to park for residents](#) (3 comments)
- [The number of residents who oppose this option \(numbers differ, referencing petition\)](#) (3 comments)
- Loss of shade provided by trees (3 comments)
- No bus service on Ashurst Ave (3 comments)
- Commercial venture in park is undesirable/likely unprofitable (2 comments)
- Ashurst Ave is not a thoroughfare/limited benefit from street frontage (1 comment)
- Concern for PNH building closing late (1 comment)
- Upset residents would make it difficult for PNH to help the community (1 comment)
- No indoor sports facility nearby PNH (1 comment)
- Sportsdrome still has accessibility issues (1 comment)
- Sportsdrome is a long walk from PNH building (1 comment)

OPTION 2A: STANDALONE, TE RAPA SPORTSDROME

We received 47 comments about Option 2a. Of these, 37 were suggestions for pros, and 10 were suggestions for cons.

Note that suggestions which align with a pro or con already on Council's list have been marked in [blue](#); unique suggestions have remained in black.

Suggested pros

- There is accessibility via Minnie Place (11 comments)
- [Less impact on the community/residents](#) (5 comments)
- [Connects PNH and the Sportsdrome](#) (4 comments)
- Access should be improved to the Sportsdrome from Church Road anyway (4 comments)
- [Can use existing connections with Sportsdrome staff](#) (3 comments)
- [Allows space to grow the PNH building](#) (3 comments)
- Cheaper/reduced costs (2 comments)
- Those with accessibility issues do not use the driveway to access Te Rapa Sportsdrome, therefore accessibility should not be a concern (1 comment)
- Close to public transport (1 comment)
- Allows for better surveillance measures (1 comment)
- Construction will not disrupt PNH (1 comment)
- Increased traffic/need for parking will not disrupt residents (1 comment).

Suggested cons

- [Accessibility issues](#) (4 comments)

- Better road signage is needed (4 comments)
- The Church Road entrance is busy (2 comments)
- The proposed kitchen layout is poor (2 comments)
- The noise from the Sportsdrome would disrupt PNH (2 comments)
- The area is already well-serviced with cafés (1 comment).

OPTION 2B: EXTENSION, TE RAPA SPORTSDROME

We received 35 comments about Option 2b. Of these, 26 were suggestions for pros, and 9 were suggestions for cons.

Note that suggestions which align with a pro or con already on Council's list have been marked in blue; unique suggestions have remained in black.

Suggested pros

- Street frontage is not an issue here (4 comments)
- There is accessibility via Minnie Place (4 comments)
- PNH can use the Sportsdrome (3 comments)
- This option is cost-effective (3 comment)
- [Can use/extend upon existing services, such as the vegetable garden](#) (3 comments)
- Having one large building, as opposed to two free-standing facilities, will create a community hub (2 comments)
- Café will be more profitable if it serves those using sports facilities (2 comments)
- There is more space for parking than other options (1 comment)
- The expansion can be purpose-built (1 comment)
- [There is space for expansion in the future](#) (1 comment)
- No loss of trees (1 comment)
- The entrance is large and welcoming (1 comment).

Suggested cons

- [There is poor accessibility to this site](#) (3 comments)
- We should build up, rather than out (2 comments)
- Lack of parking is already an issue (1 comment)
- A café is unnecessary here (1 comment)
- There is no visibility to Ashurst Park (1 comment)
- The facilities should be separate to maintain a clear boundary for equipment, space, etc. (1 comment).

GENERAL COMMENTS

We received 10 comments which were not specific to any particular option. Note that each theme has only one comment unless otherwise specified.

- Concern that there would be a "budget blowout" for all three options (2 comments)
- Desire for accessible parking for all options (2 comments)
- All the exotic trees should be removed regardless of site decision
- Support for using sustainable materials and construction techniques
- None of the options have easy access to public transport
- Desire for 24/7 toilets to be included

Attachment 4

- Suggestion for using the vacant early learning centre on Church Road as a temporary home for PNH during construction

Item 7

LOCATION-SPECIFIC COMMENTS FROM THE ASHURST PARK PARTIAL RECLASSIFICATION ENGAGEMENT

INTRODUCTION

Council is considering whether to change the classification of a portion of Ashurst Park from Recreation Reserve to Local Purpose (Community Facility) Reserve. This would be to allow for a new purpose-built facility community space to be established on the southeast corner of Ashurst Park. While this would be a multifunctional space for the whole community, its primary purpose is to be a home to Pukete Neighbourhood House - Te Whare Takiwa o Pukete ('PNH').

As a part of the reclassification process, Council engaged with the community via an online survey. This survey ran from 21 June – 21 July 2023, and received 282 responses. The full report from this previous engagement can be found [here](#).

This report re-evaluates the qualitative data from this previous engagement around the proposed Ashurst Park reclassification, this time with a location-specific lens. Comments made by respondents during this previous engagement have been organised and analysed based on their relevance to the potential locations of the new PNH building.

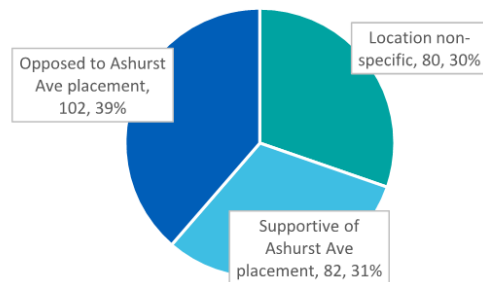
OVERVIEW OF COMMENTS

The Ashurst Park reclassification engagement asked respondents whether they supported the proposed partial reclassification of Ashurst Park. Respondents were able to indicate whether they supported the reclassification, were opposed to the reclassification, or were unsure of their stance. Overall, 166 of 282 respondents (59%) supported the partial reclassification of Ashurst Park, and 106 (38%) opposed it.

Following this, we asked respondents provide a reason for their stance on the reclassification. From the 282 respondents, 264 explained the reason for their views. These 264 comments are the focus of this report.

Across the 264 comments, 82 were supportive of the proposed Ashurst Ave placement of PNH. 102 comments were opposed to it. 80 comments did not refer to any specific location.

Sentiment of comments



COMMENTS OPPOSING THE ASHURST AVE PLACEMENT / SUPPORTING THE TE RAPA SPORTSDROME PLACEMENT

Of the 264 responses explaining respondents' views on the reclassification, 102 comments directly opposed the proposed Ashurst Ave location of the PNH building. Of these 102 respondents, 37 suggested expanding PNH's current facility in the Te Rapa Sportsdrome.

The themes from these comments were:

- **Concern for the loss of green space caused by the Ashurst Ave placement** (70 comments)
 - *[Example comment] There are very few large green spaces in this suburb. I do not want a new building on my doorstep. It will take away from the natural green space that we have. It is not necessary and can be built (if even required) near to the existing building. Or at an alternate location altogether. There are other options.*
- **Concern for increased traffic along Ashurst Ave due to the Ashurst Ave placement** (44 comments)
 - *[Example comment] I believe that the Residents of the Street should be listened to. The residential street is way too busy already with a School and Playcentre. It is already chaos. I think it is better built over where it is and traffic comes from Church Road.*
- **Concern for the loss of the playground due to the Ashurst Ave placement** (37 comments)
 - *[Example comment] I love what the neighbourhood house does, however, where the proposed location for the new development is I don't see as the best location. The playground is great as is and is such a waste to take it down. My girls love it. Having all that green space there is part of the appeal of living where we do. Having a monstrosity of a building there isn't great. Does it really need to be that big? Why so many toilets and why do staff need their own toilets?*
- **Expanding the current facility in the sportsdrome will save costs** (30 comments)
 - *[Example comment] I believe the same result can be achieved by adding onto / renovating the current building (entrance off Church Road). This would ultimately cost the rate payer less money without compromising the desired result.*
- **The Ashurst Ave placement will increase antisocial behaviour in the area** (24 comments)
 - *[Example comment] A community centre on Ashurst Ave will encourage loiterers, trouble-makers and crime in our quiet street. It will become a local "hangout" for unemployed and those who want to cause trouble. This will, in turn, create a place that local residents won't feel safe around and so will eventually not want to use what's left of the park or playground area. It will encourage loiterers to hang around the proposed building site at night causing residents in the immediate area to feel unsafe.*
- **The Ashurst Ave placement will be noisier for residents** (16 comments)
 - *[Example comment] When purchasing my house some 26 years ago the park provided a great buying incentive. It provided me a reassurance that nobody could build behind me. Now thanks to your stupidity you propose to move the playground directly behind me. I am a night shift worker who sleeps during the day. The noise created by children using it will severely impact my sleep and therefore my mental health.*
- **Expanding the sportsdrome facility will impact/disrupt the local community less than the Ashurst Ave placement** (15 comments)

- *[Example comment] The park is a huge part of our community. This is a big part of our community and it will be so disappointing to see this removed. I also work from home and the thought of construction happening for the next x amount of months/years to create this establishment is a very frustrating option, this is a very residential area and I believe this reclassification could happen elsewhere within our neighbourhood and provide less disruption.*
- **Concern for increased usage of Ashurst Park caused by the Ashurst Ave placement** (8 comments)
 - *[Example comment] I like the green space. That area is very busy now without adding another busy activity to it. Why not build it in the industrial area further over?*
- **General opposition to the Ashurst Ave placement / general support for expanding the current sportsdrome facility** (4 comments)
 - *[Example comment] I'm not against the new community house expansion, but I would like to see it added to the existing buildings and grounds at the Church Road entrance area.*

COMMENTS SUPPORTING THE ASHURST AVE PLACEMENT

Of the 264 responses to why respondents supported or opposed the reclassification, 82 specifically mentioned their support for the proposed Ashurst Ave placement of the new PNH building.

The themes from these comments were:

- **The Ashurst Ave placement has better accessibility** (40 comments)
 - *[Example comment] Brilliant! Wonderful for our older community or those with disabilities, no longer having to worry about walking up that big hill. So exciting!!!*
- **The Ashurst Ave placement will decrease antisocial behaviour in Ashurst Park** (21 comments)
 - *[Example comment] Of all the proposed locations this is by far the best option. This will mean there is a constant presence in this space, and will protect our community. Many parents refuse to send their children to this playground because of the terrible behaviour of others here, having the community centre here will change this. It means our children can safely play. In the future Ashurst park is going to be AMAZING!! Can't wait for this to be built!!*
- **Excitement for the playground being upgraded/replaced** (16 comments)
 - *[Example comment] The playground area has become outdated. It would be great to have a new facility there and it would work well with the fields for weekend sport events.*
- **There will be better visibility of PNH on Ashurst Ave** (15 comments)
 - *[Example comment] People often get lost trying to find PNH. The street view will be much better.*
- **The Ashurst Ave placement frees up more space in the sportsdrome** (15 comments)
 - *[Example comment] The Pukete Neighbourhood House (PNH) will be far better enabled to serve the community, especially those who may be disadvantaged, in this new expanded facility. This will also free up space in the sports dome which could then be utilised for sports activities not requiring the large area with the existing courts.*

Attachment 4

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- **The Ashurst Ave placement is a better use of the park area** (14 comments)
 - *[Example comment] The entire park is currently under-utilized from a community and sporting point of view. I have spoken to other sports club members who would love to use Ashurst Park for sporting or practice but the facilities aren't there to do so...yet.*
- **General support for the Ashurst Ave placement** (14 comments)
 - *[Example comment] Pukete neighbourhood house is an amazing place they deserve a bigger better space. And I think the proposed new site will be great for the community.*
- **Increased usage of Ashurst Park from the Ashurst Ave placement** (11 comments)
 - *[Example comment] In terms of the park, a Community House, such as that proposed would only increase foot traffic to the park, would make the area more connected and likely have an increase in events being held. More organisations would come into the area through connections with Te Whare Takiwa o Pukete and that would have a knock on effect for their volunteering teams and others in the community.*
- **Ashurst Ave is quieter/safer from traffic than the sportsdrome** (5 comments)
 - *[Example comment] As a weekly volunteer at the Freestore, I see the great work of the community house team, making the best of facilities which are built for sports groups rather than the community support they do so well. A building easily accessible, and from a quieter street than busy Church Road, would be more convenient and safer for those who benefit from their services.*
- **PNH being next to a green space is a great benefit** (4 comments)
 - *[Example comment] Having a useful building alongside a green space would be an added bonus. All ages could come together in this area and it has been proven that young and older members being able to mix has a massive bonus for health and well-being.*
- **There is better parking along Ashurst Ave than at the sportsdrome** (4 comments)
 - *[Example comment] I attend three events each week at the centre and have noticed that the centre is heaving with activity. It is hard to find parks and I do not feel safe getting from the car park to the venue after dark. It seems very successful (lots of people from different groups), lots of different activities, great atmosphere. But it is a cold venue and lots of traffic through the different spaces. The plumbing in the toilets is not always working.*

LOCATION NON-SPECIFIC COMMENTS

Of the 264 responses to why respondents supported or opposed the reclassification, 80 did not refer to a specific location.

71 of these 80 comments (89%) indicated that they supported the partial reclassification of Ashurst Park. These supportive comments were generally excited for a new facility for the community and PNH, without any further elaboration on location.

Council Report

Committee: Council **Date:** 14 December 2023
Author: Stafford Hodgson **Authoriser:** Blair Bowcott
Position: Project Manager - Growth Programmes Unit **Position:** General Manager Strategy, Growth and Planning
Report Name: 2024-54 Infrastructure Strategy - Direction

Report Status	<i>Open</i>
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Purpose - *Take*

1. To seek approval from the Council on the proposed approach to develop the draft 2024-54 Infrastructure Strategy.

Staff Recommendation - *Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi*

2. That the Council:
 - a) receives the report;
 - b) approves the proposed approach to develop the Draft 2024-54 Infrastructure Strategy as set out in the staff report;
 - c) requests that staff work in consultation with Mayor Southgate, Deputy Mayor O’Leary and Crs Hutt, van Oosten, Wilson and Tauariki on the Draft 2024-54 Infrastructure Strategy; and
 - d) notes that the Draft 2024-54 Infrastructure Strategy will be reported to the 14 March 2024 Long-Term Plan Council meeting for approval as a supporting document for inclusion as part of the Long-Term Plan consultation.

Executive Summary - *Whakaraapopototanga matua*

3. The Infrastructure Strategy identifies significant infrastructure issues over the 30 years and looks at options for managing those issues.
4. Developing the Draft 2024-54 Infrastructure Strategy is largely an exercise in summarising and rationalising information from our existing plans, strategies, priorities and legislative requirements.
5. To draft the Infrastructure Strategy, staff request to work in consultation with the same subset of Elected Members as on the LTP Consultation Document (Mayor Southgate, Deputy Mayor O’Leary and Crs Hutt, van Oosten, Wilson and Tauariki). This will enable a ‘no surprises’ approach and ensure that the story crafting elements of the Infrastructure Strategy are guided by Elected Members.
6. The Infrastructure Strategy timeline aligns with the Long-Term Plan timeline. Staff will report a Draft 2024-54 Infrastructure Strategy to the 14 March 2024 Long-Term Plan Council meeting for approval as a supporting document as part of the Long-Term Plan consultation.

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7. Staff consider the matters in this report have low significance and that the recommendations comply with the Council's legal requirements.

Background - *Koorero whaimaarama*

8. As part of a Long-Term Plan process, Council must prepare an Infrastructure Strategy. The Infrastructure Strategy identifies significant infrastructure issues over the 30 years and looks at options for managing those issues. The current 2021-51 Infrastructure Strategy can be found on our [website](#).

9. An excerpt from the [Local Government Act 2002](#) (101B 1-3) is as follows (bolding added by the report author).

*(1) A local authority must, as part of its long-term plan, prepare and adopt an infrastructure strategy for a period of at least **30 consecutive financial years**.*

(2) The purpose of the infrastructure strategy is to—

- a) identify **significant infrastructure issues** for the local authority over the period covered by the strategy; and*
- b) identify the principal **options for managing those issues** and the implications of those options.*

(3) The infrastructure strategy must outline how the local authority intends to manage its infrastructure assets, taking into account the need to—

- a) **renew** or replace existing assets; and*
- b) respond to **growth** or decline in the demand for services reliant on those assets; and*
- c) allow for planned increases or decreases in **levels of service** provided through those assets; and*
- d) maintain or improve **public health and environmental outcomes** or mitigate adverse effects on them; and*
- e) provide for the **resilience** of infrastructure assets by identifying and managing risks relating to natural hazards and by making appropriate financial provision for those risks.*

Discussion - *Matapaki*

Basis for drafting the Infrastructure Strategy: Building on and summarising of existing information

10. The 30-year strategy is reviewed every three years as part of the Long-Term Plan cycle, which means we have a really good starting position in the 2021-2051 Infrastructure Strategy. A lot of the infrastructure issues that will be contemplated in the Infrastructure Strategy are consistent across years and are amended to include the latest information and options for resolving those issues.
11. Earlier this year, the Council reaffirmed [the five priorities](#) it developed ahead of the 2021-31 Long-Term Plan as the Community Outcomes that will drive the 2024-34 Long-Term Plan. These are the used in the 2021-51 Infrastructure Strategy and will also be used for the 2024-54 Infrastructure Strategy.
12. Over recent months, Elected Members and staff have had many discussions about infrastructure and the significant infrastructure issues through Long-Term Plan workshops. These discussions, alongside the draft Long-Term Plan budget, ensure staff have a good platform to prepare the Draft Infrastructure Strategy consistent with Elected Member guidance.

13. Council has a suite of adopted strategies that will be used to inform parts of the draft Infrastructure Strategy. A non-exhaustive list includes:
 - i. [Access Hamilton](#),
 - ii. [Aquatics Strategy](#),
 - iii. [Hamilton Urban Growth Strategy](#),
 - iv. [Nature in the City Strategy](#),
 - v. [Open Space Strategy](#) and
 - vi. [Our Climate Future Strategy](#).
14. The [Future Proof Strategy](#) and the [Metro Spatial Plan](#) are a large part of the boundaryless way we plan our subregion. These documents are excellent resources articulating challenges and opportunities for the wider Hamilton subregion and influence the infrastructure we plan.
15. Central Government direction also informs what goes into our draft Infrastructure Strategy. Central Government Policy Statements and National Policy Statements alongside legislation informs how Council plans its infrastructure.
16. Asset Management Plans are prepared and maintained for all activities with significant assets from Aquatic Facilities to Water Supply. Council's asset management plans form a basis of significant portions of the Infrastructure Strategy and help us meet our legislative requirements to document the management of our assets.
17. Stormwater, Water and Wastewater Master Plans and Detailed Business Cases and the Nature in the City programme planning also feed into the Infrastructure Strategy alongside other planning and documentation.
18. Drafting the Infrastructure Strategy is largely an exercise in summarising and rationalising our existing information. An overarching lens needs to be applied when drafting or reviewing an Infrastructure Strategy. Does this Infrastructure Strategy help Council articulate the challenges and opportunities we face? Does the Infrastructure Strategy tell a story about where Council currently is, where we are trying to get to, and how we intend to get there?
19. There is a story telling element to the Infrastructure Strategy. We have an opportunity to document the overarching challenges which infrastructure can help us address. For example, drivers such as housing affordability, climate change and environmental limits, and the cost of providing and maintaining infrastructure will be included.

Policy changes of a new Government

20. Similar to the Long-Term Plan, there is a high level of uncertainty with the change in Central Government. At the time of writing this report, the coalition agreements have just been signed and staff are continuing to monitor Central Government announcements and changes that affect Local Government. We continue to advocate for local government funding reform and seek to be willing partners in City Deals and other new and innovative ways to fund infrastructure.
21. Fortunately for the Infrastructure Strategy, we can choose to include three waters assets. Irrespective of the outcome of waters reform, including three waters in our Infrastructure Strategy helps Council anchor its Development Contributions Policy and prepares us well for a future, with or without three waters.
22. Staff will continue to inform Elected Members of changes in and implications of Central Government direction and adjust our approach when more information is known. Additionally, the Infrastructure Strategy can inform for further conversations with the new Central Government on the infrastructure challenges facing metro Hamilton over 30 years. It will help us articulate the solutions we need to agree together in partnership with Central Government to deliver the infrastructure required.

Item 8

What's next and timelines

23. To draft the Infrastructure Strategy, staff request to work in consultation with the same subset of Elected Members as on the LTP Consultation Document (Mayor Southgate, Deputy Mayor O'Leary and Crs Hutt, van Oosten, Wilson and Tauariki). This will enable a 'no surprises' approach and ensure that the story crafting elements of the Infrastructure Strategy are guided by Elected Members.
24. The Infrastructure Strategy timeline aligns with the Long-Term Plan timeline. Staff will report a Draft 2024-54 Infrastructure Strategy to the 14 March 2024 Long-Term Plan Council meeting for approval as a supporting document as part of the Long-Term Plan consultation.

Financial Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro Puutea*

25. The development of the Infrastructure Strategy uses existing staff time and resourcing except for document design and printing. Document design and printing will be completed alongside the Long-Term Plan and is included within the existing Long-Term Plan budget.
26. The financial implications of options will be documented in the draft Infrastructure Strategy. Infrastructure options are not necessarily funded through inclusion in the Infrastructure Strategy.
27. In the current 2021-51 Infrastructure Strategy there is about \$1B of unfunded infrastructure within the first 10 years. Due to the financially constrained environment Council is currently in, we will likely be documenting an increased level of unfunded infrastructure in our draft Infrastructure Strategy. This is further complicated by the uncertainty of who delivers three waters infrastructure after year 2 of the Long-Term Plan.

Legal and Policy Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro-aa-ture*

28. Staff confirm that the staff recommendation complies with the Council's legal and policy requirements. The Infrastructure Strategy will be part of the Long-Term Plan audit.

Climate Change Impact Statement

29. Climate change is a fundamental significant infrastructure issue. Climate change considerations and implications are being incorporated from the beginning of the Infrastructure Strategy. As such, staff have determined no adaptation or emissions assessment is required for this report.

Wellbeing Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro-aa-oranga tonutanga*

30. The purpose of Local Government changed on the 14 May 2019 to include promotion of the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future ('the 4 wellbeings').
31. The recommendations set out in this report seek to directly comply with that same legislation and this work will holistically be consistent with that purpose.

Risks - *Tuuraru*

32. There are no known risks associated with the recommendation of this report; however, any decisions leading to the Infrastructure Strategy not being ready for audit risks a qualified audit decision.

Significance & Engagement Policy - *Kaupapa here whakahira/anganui*

Significance

33. Given the statutory requirement to consult, staff have not considered the key considerations under the Significance and Engagement Policy to assess the significance of the matter(s) in this report.

Engagement

34. In the guiding documents that will be used to inform the Infrastructure Strategy, community views and preferences are already known to the Council. There is a statutory requirement to consult as per legislation.

Attachments - *Ngaa taapirihanga*

There are no attachments for this report.

Item 9

Council Report

Committee: Council **Date:** 14 December 2023

Author: Dan Silverton **Authoriser:** Nicole Nooyen

Position: Communication and Engagement Advisor **Position:** Unit Manager
Communication & Engagement

Report Name: Significance and Engagement Policy Review

Report Status	<i>Open</i>
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Purpose - *Take*

1. To seek the Council's approval of the draft Significance and Engagement Policy.

Staff Recommendation - *Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi*

2. That the Council:
 - a) receives the report;
 - b) approves the draft Significance and Engagement Policy; and
 - c) notes that consultation is not required, as Council has sufficient information concerning community interests and preferences to enable the purpose of the policy to be achieved.

Executive Summary - *Whakaraapopototanga matua*

3. The Local Government Act 2002 (the Act) requires Council to have a Significance and Engagement Policy ([s76AA](#) of the Act).
4. The review of the Significance and Engagement Policy has been undertaken in advance of the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan being adopted as the policy provides a foundation for assessing the impact of Council decisions. A summary of the policy resides in the Long-Term Plan.
5. Staff consider the decision sought in this report have low significance and that the recommendations comply with the Council's legal requirements.

Discussion – *Matapaki*

6. The Local Government Act 2002 (the Act) requires Council to have a Significance and Engagement Policy ([s76AA](#) of the Act).
7. A Significance and Engagement Policy (policy) provides transparent guidance to the public and Council staff about:
 - i. how the Council determines if a decision or proposal is significant; and
 - ii. when the community can expect to be engaged on a decision or proposal.
8. The Council approved the existing policy in August 2020 with a scheduled review date for the policy three (3) years from the date of approval.

9. The review of the Significance and Engagement Policy has been undertaken in advance of the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan being adopted as the policy provides a foundation for assessing the impact of Council decisions. A summary of the policy resides in the Long-Term Plan.
10. The 'clean' copy of the proposed Draft Significance and Engagement Policy is attached in **Attachment 1**.
11. The Significance and Engagement Policy 2020 with track changes to highlight the proposed changes is attached in **Attachment 2**.

Financial Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro Puutea*

12. The cost for the review of the Significance and Engagement Policy has been budgeted as part of the 2024-34 Long-Term Plan programme.

Legal and Policy Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro-aa-ture*

13. Staff confirm that the staff recommendation complies with the Council's legal and policy requirements.

Wellbeing Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro-aa-oranga tonutanga*

14. The purpose of Local Government Act 2002 changed on the 14 May 2019 to include promotion of the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future ('the 4 wellbeings').
15. The subject matter of this report has been evaluated in terms of the four wellbeings during the process of developing this report and the recommendations set out in this report are consistent with that purpose.

Risks - *Tuuraru*

16. There are no known risks associated with the decisions required for this matter.

Significance & Engagement Policy - *Kaupapa here whakahira/anganui* Significance

17. Staff have considered the key considerations under the Significance and Engagement Policy and have assessed that the recommendations in this report has a low level of significance.

Engagement

18. Community views and preferences are already known to the Council hence no engagement is required.

Attachments - *Ngaa taapirihanga*

Attachment 1 - Significance and Engagement Policy Clean Version

Attachment 2 - Significance and Engagement Policy Track Change Version

First Adopted:	27 November 2014
Revision dates / versions:	XX November 2023 Version 4
Next review date:	YY November 2026
Engagement required:	
Document number / reference:	
Associated legislation / documents:	Local Government Act 2002
Sponsor / Group	General Manager Partnerships, Communication and Maaori

Significance and Engagement Policy

Te Puutake Purpose

1. To clarify the degree of significance for proposals and decisions.
2. To clarify when and how communities can expect to be engaged.
3. To clarify council decision making on consultation and engagement.

Whaanuitanga Scope

4. This Policy applies to Council Elected Members and staff.
5. This policy applies to any proposal presented to the Council and its Committees for a decision.
6. This policy does not affect any statutory requirement to undertake any specific consultation and decision-making processes (e.g. under the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) or resource management legislation).

Ngaa Tikanga Whakahaere Principles

7. The Council will be consistent and transparent in how it engages the public.
8. The Council will commit to genuine and authentic community engagement.
9. The Council acknowledges the unique status of Maaori and will utilise a range of different mechanisms to ensure their views are appropriately represented and considered in the decision-making process.
10. The Council will recognise the following when engaging with Maaori:
 - a. Te Tiriti o Waitangi settlements, particularly specific identified mechanisms including, but not limited to, co-governance agreements, and joint management agreements.
 - b. He Pou Manawa Ora – Pillars of Wellbeing Strategy; and
 - c. The status of Te Ture Whaimana as the primary direction setting document for proposals or decisions that impact on Waikato te Awa, the Waikato River.
11. The Council will consider language, accessibility and cultural needs in any engagement.
12. The Council will endeavour to treat engagement approaches and responses in an equitable manner.

13. The Council will act honestly and openly when analysing and presenting any engagement results.
14. The Council will provide appropriate information to help people understand what is being proposed.
15. The Council will prominently outline a proposal's or decision's cost in any engagement.

He Whakamaarama Definitions

Definition	Detail
Community	A group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common. Includes interested parties, affected people, and key stakeholders.
Consultation	A subset of engagement; a formal process to gain input or feedback from the community about an identified Council option(s) or proposal subject to a decision.
Decision	A decision made by or on behalf of the Council, including those made by its Committees, the Chief Executive or officers under delegated authority. Decision implies that a proposal has been considered if required, that the views of the community have been considered in the decision-making process.
Engagement	The process of seeking views from the community to inform and assist Council decision making.
LGA 2002	Local Government Act 2002 .
Maaori	Includes Maaori who have tribal links to Kirikiriroa, Hamilton (i.e. mana whenua also known as iwi and hapuu) and Maaori with tribal affiliations outside Hamilton City but who reside in Hamilton City or who own property in Hamilton City (i.e. Maataawaka).
Proposal	A suggestion of change presented to the Council, subsequently resulting in a decision made by or on behalf of the Council at a Council or Committee meeting.
Special Consultative Procedure (SCP)	The Special Consultative Procedure, as outlined in section 83 of the LGA 2002, which sets out minimum requirements for engagement including (but not limited to): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making available a Statement of Proposal. • Allowing a minimum of one month to receive written views. • Allowing people to present views in a spoken manner.

Significance	<p>Defined in section 5 of the LGA 2002, the degree of importance of the proposal or decision as assessed by the Council, in terms of its likely impact on, and likely consequences for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the city b. any persons who are likely to be particularly affected by, or interested in, the issue, proposal, decision or matter. c. the capacity of the Council to perform its role, and the financial and other costs of doing so.
Significant	<p>Defined in section 5 of the LGA 2002, in relation to any proposal or decision means that the proposal has a high degree of significance. Decisions made by the Chief Executive or officers under delegated authority will not be deemed to be significant.</p>
Significant activity	<p>Defined by Council as being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. network infrastructure (as a whole) b. public transport services (as a whole) c. solid waste collection and disposal (as a whole) d. the avoidance or mitigation of natural hazards <p>libraries, museums, reserves, and recreational facilities,</p>
Strategic asset	<p>Defined in s5 of the LGA 2002, an asset or group of assets that the Council needs to retain if the Council is to maintain its capacity to achieve or promote any outcome that the Council determines to be important to the current or future well-being of the community.</p> <p>The following are the Council's strategic assets at the time of the adoption of this policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Hamilton City Libraries network b. Waterworld and Gallagher Pool c. Waikato Museum and Collection d. Hamilton Transport Centre e. Hamilton Zoo f. Hamilton Gardens g. FMG Stadium, Seddon Park, Claudelands Events Centre and Porritt Stadium h. Cemeteries i. Wastewater reticulation and treatment network (as a whole) j. Stormwater reticulation network (as a whole) k. Transportation network (as a whole). l. Reservoirs and water reticulation and treatment network (as a whole) m. Waikato Regional Airport Limited
Statement of Proposal	<p>A document that provides the basis for consultation with the community under the SCP by setting out the Council's proposition with respect to a particular decision.</p>

Council	Hamilton City Council, Te Kaunihera o Kirikiriroa
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Kaupapa Here Policy

Application

16. This policy is applied in two steps:

- a. **Step 1** – Determining the significance of the proposal/decision.
- b. **Step 2** – Determining the requirement to engage or not (guided by the level of significance); and if there is a requirement to engage, the level of engagement.

17. Where Council makes a decision that is significantly inconsistent with this policy, the steps identified in [section 80](#) of the LGA 2002 will be applied.

There may be occasions when the Council may not follow this policy, for example where failure to make a decision urgently would result in unreasonable or significant damage to property, risk to people's health and safety, or the loss of a substantial opportunity to achieve the Council's strategic objectives.

Step 1 - Determining the level of significance

18. [Schedule 1 - Determining significance](#) outlines key considerations relative to a decision or proposal's impact on the:
 - a. Service provided by the Council.
 - b. Transfer of ownership or control of strategic assets.
 - c. Level(s) of financial consequence.
 - d. Ability to reverse a decision.
 - e. Consistency with a prior decision.
 - f. Levels of public interest known.
 - g. Community (as a whole or in part).
19. The Council will assess the degree of significance of a proposal or decision on a case-by-case basis using [Schedule 1 - Determining significance](#) and determine the level of significance of a proposal or decision to be high, medium or low.
20. If the proposal or decision triggers four or more [key considerations](#) which are under the high significance level column, this indicates that the level of significance is likely to be **high**.
21. If the proposal or decision triggers five or more [key considerations](#) which are under the low significance level column, this indicates that the level of significance is likely to be **low**.
22. If the level of significance of a proposal or decision is not deemed to be high (under clause 20) or low (under clause 21), this indicates that the level of significance is likely to be **medium**.

Step 2 - Determining engagement approach

23. Council acknowledges that community engagement occurs across a spectrum at differing levels and is broader than consultation. Engagement is a process that involves all or some of the community and can be focused on sharing information, generating ideas, decision making, and/or problem solving.
24. Council staff will consider existing information on the community's views and perceptions related to a proposal before undertaking any further community engagement.
25. The engagement approach (platform, questions, audiences, tactics, analysis, reporting) and associated communications, will be outlined by Council staff in a communication and engagement plan specific to the proposal. The content of this plan will be informed by subject matter experts.
26. Each Council communication and engagement plan will be informed by the proposal details. Council may use a variety of engagement techniques based on a range of factors, including history and public awareness of the issue/proposal, stakeholder involvement, and timing related to other events and budgets.
27. There are times when it will not be appropriate to engage with the community on certain issues, proposals, decisions, or matters. Examples of this include where the Council:
 - h. Organisational decisions (e.g. staff changes and operational matters) that do not materially reduce a level of service;
 - i. Decisions that are consistent with Council's Long-Term Plan, or another policy or plan that has already been subject to consultation, or directives from central government;
 - j. Protection of the privacy and safety of individuals (as provided for in the Privacy Act 2020 and Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987);
 - k. Maintenance of confidentiality and/or commercial sensitivity to enable Council to carry out commercial activity or negotiations without prejudice (as provided for in the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987);
 - l. Where Council is acting with urgency (for example under the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002);
 - m. Decisions to act where is necessary to:
 - i. Comply with the law;
 - ii. Save, or protect life, health or amenity and prevent serious damage to property;
 - iii. Avoid, remedy or mitigate an adverse effect on the environment;
 - iv. Protect the integrity of existing and future infrastructure and amenity.
 - n. Decisions in relation to regulatory and enforcement activities.
28. The Council will use a customised version of an internationally recognised approach to public engagement (IAP2). **Schedule 2** – Council's Community Engagement Spectrum, outlines its approach to determining level of engagement. Progressing from left to right of this figure shows increasing levels of community engagement in decision-making and expectations for each.

29. In general, the more significant an issue, the greater the need for community engagement.
30. The proposed engagement approach will be supported by rationale outlined in the Council or Committee reports.
31. Post engagement, the engagement insights will be provided in a meaningful and timely way to Council.

Use of Special Consultative Procedure

32. The Council will use the Special Consultative Procedure (as set out in section 83 of the LGA 2002) where required under the LGA or any other legislation.
33. The Council will develop a proposal to fulfil the requirements of section 82A of the LGA 2002, will make this available to the public, allow written submissions for a period of up to four weeks, and will consider all submissions prior to making decisions.
34. Specific issues where Council may use this form of consultation will include:
 - The adoption of an Annual Plan where it differs significantly from the content of the Long-Term Plan
 - The adoption of the Development Contributions Policy where it differs significantly from the content of the previous Policy.
 - The making, amending or revoking bylaws
 - Or any other situation as defined by section 87 of the LGA 2002.
35. A special consultation procedure is to be used for the adoption or amendment of a long-term plan but in accordance with the changes described in section 93 of the LGA 2002.
36. Where an engagement is not subject to the SCP ([section 83](#) of the LGA 2002), the Council will apply the Principles of Consultation ([section 82](#) of the LGA 2002).

Monitoring and Implementation

37. Implementation of this policy will be monitored by the Partnerships, Communication and Maaori General Manager .
38. This policy will be reviewed, at the request of the Council, in response to any relevant legislative amendment, or every three years (whichever comes first).

Schedule 1 – Determining significance

Key considerations	High Significance	Medium Significance	Low Significance
Alteration of a service which comes under the Council's significant activities (see significant activities listed in the definitions table).	Ceasing or commencing a service. (e.g. the closure of a museum).	A more than nominal alteration of a service. (e.g. the digitisation of most hard copy books at public libraries).	A nominal or no alteration of a service. (e.g. the undertaking of a tender with a different contractor).
Involves the transfer of ownership or control of strategic assets to or from the Council.	Majority transfer (i.e. more than 51%) or transfer in its entirety. (e.g. a full transfer of a theatre facility).	Minority transfer. (e.g. a 30% share transfer of the museum).	Nominal or no transfer. (e.g. the transfer of a council owned artwork).
Level of financial consequences in relation to unbudgeted operating cost or capital cost in the Long-Term Plan.	Unbudgeted operating cost(s) greater than 10% of total expenses in the financial year of the proposal / decision. (e.g. a \$25m unbudgeted increase in lease costs). AND/OR	Unbudgeted operating cost(s) greater than 5% but less than 10% of total expenses in the financial year of the proposal / decision. (e.g. a \$15m unbudgeted increase in lease costs). AND/OR	Unbudgeted operating cost(s) less than 5% of total expenses in the financial year of the proposal / decision. (e.g. a \$1m unbudgeted increase in lease costs). AND/OR

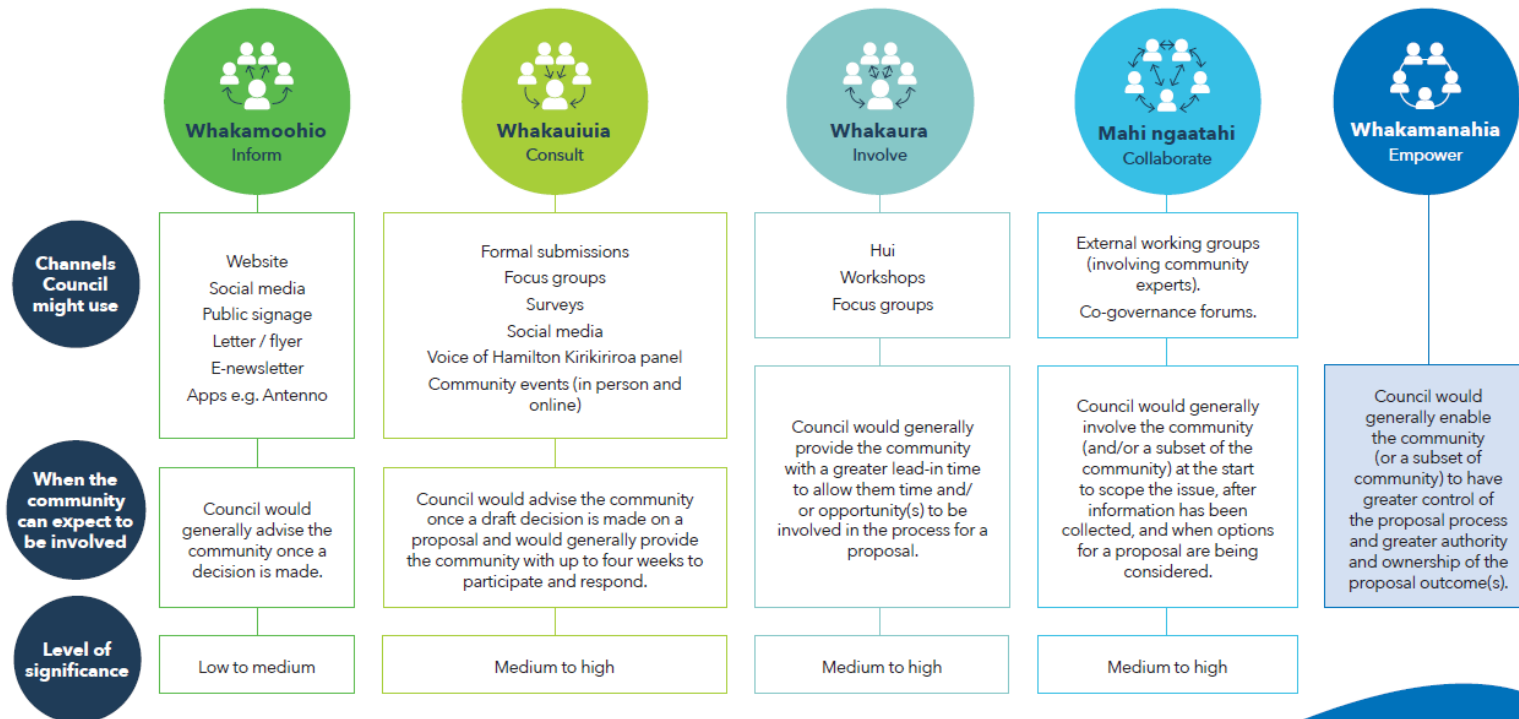
Key considerations	High Significance	Medium Significance	Low Significance
	Unbudgeted capital cost(s) greater than 1% of total assets in the financial year of the proposal / decision. (e.g. the construction of a \$40m unbudgeted building).	Unbudgeted capital cost(s) greater than .5% but less than 1% of total assets in the financial year of the proposal / decision. (e.g. the construction of a \$25m unbudgeted building).	Unbudgeted capital cost(s) less than .5% of total assets in the financial year of the proposal / decision. (e.g. the construction of a \$1m unbudgeted building).
Ability to reverse the decision.	Highly difficult. (e.g. constructing a purpose built building).	Moderately difficult. (e.g. adoption of the Speed Limit Bylaw).	Low difficulty. (e.g. minor amendment to a policy).
Consistency with a prior decision or decisions (i.e. proposal or decision which is consistent with current policies and strategies).	Decision or proposal is significantly inconsistent. (e.g. a decision or proposal that retires a Council adopted strategy).	Decision or proposal is consistent but with some notable variations. (e.g. a decision or proposal contrary to the public places policy allowing restaurants to use entire width of public footpaths for outdoor entertainment).	Decision or proposal is consistent. (e.g. adopting the public places bylaw to enforce the public places policy).

Key considerations	High Significance	Medium Significance	Low Significance
Levels of public interest known.	High levels of public interest known. (e.g. the adoption of the psychoactive substances policy).	Moderate levels of public interest known. (e.g. the adoption of the Event Sponsorship policy).	Low levels of public interest known. (e.g. the adoption of the elected member support policy).
Impact on proportion of the community.	Impacts a large proportion of the community. (e.g. a change in the rubbish collection timeframes).	Impacts a subgroup or groups within the community. (e.g. the creation of a neighbourhood playground).	Impacts an individual person or household. (e.g. the removal of a street tree).
Degree of impact on affected people in the community.	High degree. (e.g. the change of a road name).	Moderate degree. (e.g. the investment in a small suburb library).	Low degree. (e.g. changing the style of bus stop waiting areas).

Schedule 2 – Council’s Community Engagement Spectrum



Hamilton City Council, Te Kaunihera o Kirikiriroa Community engagement spectrum



First Adopted:	27 November 2014
Revision dates / versions:	XX November 2023 Version 4
Next review date:	YY November 2026
Engagement required:	Special Consultative Procedure
Document number / reference:	
Associated legislation / documents:	Local Government Act 2002
Sponsor / Group	General Manager Partnerships, Communication and Maaori

Significance and Engagement Policy

Te Puutake Purpose Scope

- 1. To clarify the degree of significance for proposals and decisions.
- 2. To clarify when and how communities can expect to be engaged.
- 3. To clarify council decision making on consultation and engagement.

Whaanuitanga Scope

- 4. This Policy applies to Council Elected Members and staff.
- 5. This policy applies to any proposal presented to the Council and its Committees for a decision.
- 6. This policy does not affect any statutory requirement to undertake any specific consultation and decision-making processes (e.g. under the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) or resource management legislationResource Management Act 1991).

Ngaa Tikanga Whakahaere Principles

- 4.7. The Council will be consistent and transparent in how it engages the public.
- 5.8. The Council will commit to genuine and authentic community engagement.
- 9. The Council will acknowledge the unique status of Maaori and will utilise a range of different mechanisms to ensure their views are appropriately represented and considered in the decision-making process.
- 10. The Council will recognise the following when engaging with Maaori:
 - a. Te Tiriti o Waitangi settlements, particularly specific identified mechanisms including, but not limited to, co-governance agreements, and joint management agreements.
 - b. He Pou Manawa Ora – Pillars of Wellbeing Strategy; and

- c. [The status of Te Ture Whaimana as the primary direction setting document for proposals or decisions that impact on Waikato te Awa, the Waikato River, ensure Maaori views are considered when engaging.](#)
11. The Council will consider language, accessibility and cultural needs in any engagement.
12. [The Council will endeavour to treat engagement approaches and responses in an equitable manner.](#)
- 6.13. The Council will act honestly and openly when analysing and presenting any engagement results.
- 7.14. The Council will provide appropriate information to help people understand what is being proposed.
- 8.15. The Council will prominently outline a proposal's or decision's cost in any engagement.

[He Whakamaarama Definitions](#)

Definition	Detail
Community	A group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common. Includes interested parties, affected people, and key stakeholders.
Consultation	A subset of engagement; a formal process where the community can present their views to the Council on a specific decision that is proposed and made public. a formal process to gain input or feedback from the community about an identified Council option(s) or proposal subject to a decision.
Decision	A decision made by or on behalf of the Council, including those made by its Committees , the Chief Executive or officers under delegated authority. Decision implies that a proposal has been considered and that Council has considered if required, that the views of the community have been considered in the decision-making process.
Engagement	The process of seeking informationviews from the community to inform and assist Council decision making.
LGA 2002	Local Government Act 2002.
Maaori	Includes Maaori who have tribal links to Kirikiriroa, Hamilton (i.e. mana whenua also known as iwi and hapuu) and Maaori with tribal affiliations outside Hamilton City but who reside in Hamilton City or who own property in Hamilton City (i.e. Maataawaka).

Proposal	A suggestion <u>of change</u> presented to the Council, <u>subsequently</u> resulting in a decision made by or on behalf of the Council at a Council or Committee meeting.
<u>Special Consultative Procedure</u> (SCP)	The Special Consultative Procedure, as outlined in <u>section 83</u> of the LGA 2002, which sets out minimum requirements for engagement including (but not limited to): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making available a Statement of Proposal. • Allowing a minimum of one month to receive written views. • Allowing <u>persons</u> ople to present views in a spoken manner.
Significance	Defined in <u>section 5</u> of the LGA 2002, the degree of importance of the proposal or decision as assessed by the Council, in terms of its likely impact on, and likely consequences for:— <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. the city b. any persons who are likely to be particularly affected by, or interested in, the <u>issue</u>, <u>proposal</u>, or decision <u>or matter</u>. c. the capacity of the Council to perform its role, and the financial and other costs of doing so.
Significant	Defined in <u>section 5</u> of the LGA 2002, in relation to any proposal or decision means that the proposal has a high degree of significance. Decisions made by the Chief Executive or officers under delegated authority will not be deemed to be significant.
Significant activity	An activity (or group of activities) meeting the definition of core services under s11A of the LGA 2002. Defined by Council as being: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. network infrastructure <u>(as a whole)</u> b. public transport services <u>(as a whole)</u> c. solid waste collection and disposal <u>(as a whole)</u> d. the avoidance or mitigation of natural hazards e. libraries, museums, reserves, and recreational facilities, and other community infrastructure.
Strategic asset	Defined in <u>s5</u> of the LGA 2002, an asset or group of assets that the Council needs to retain if the Council is to maintain its capacity to achieve or promote any outcome that the Council determines to be important to the current or future well-being of the community. The following are the Council's strategic assets at the time of the adoption of this policy: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Hamilton City Libraries network b. Waterworld and Gallagher Pool c. Waikato Museum and Collection d. Hamilton Transport Centre e. Hamilton Zoo

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> f. Hamilton Gardens g. WaikatoFMG Stadium, Seddon Park, Claudelands Events Centre and Porritt Stadium h. Cemeteries i. Wastewater reticulation and treatment network <u>(as a whole)</u> j. Stormwater reticulation network <u>(as a whole)</u> k. Transportation network <u>(as a whole)</u>. l. Reservoirs and water reticulation and treatment network <u>(as a whole)</u> m. Waikato Regional Airport LtdLimited
Statement of Proposal	A document that provides the basis for consultation with the community under the SCP by setting out the Council's proposition with respect to a particular decision.
Council	Hamilton City Council, Te Kaunihera o Kirikiriroa

Kaupapa Here Policy

Application

~~9. This policy applies to any proposal presented to the Council for a decision.~~

~~10.16.~~ This policy is applied in two steps:

- a. **Step 1** – Determining the significance of the proposal/decision.
- b. **Step 2** – Determining the requirement to engage or not (guided by the level of significance); and ~~if~~ there is a requirement to engage, the level of engagement ~~is set out~~.

~~1. This policy does not affect any statutory requirement to undertake any specific consultation and decision-making processes (e.g. under the Resource Management Act 1991).~~

1. Where Council makes a decision that is significantly inconsistent with this policy, the steps identified in section 80 of the LGA 2002 will be applied.

~~2.~~ There may be occasions when the Council may not follow this policy, for example where failure to make a decision urgently would result in unreasonable or significant damage to property, risk to people's health and safety, or the loss of a substantial opportunity to achieve the Council's strategic objectives. ~~The Act LGA 2002 sets out a process for the Council to follow if the Council has a good reason to make a decision outside of this policy.~~

Step 1 - Determining the level of significance

~~3.2.~~ Schedule 1 - Determining significance outlines key considerations relative to a decision or proposal's impact on the:

- a. Service provided by the Council.

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- b. Transfer of ownership or control of strategic assets.
- c. Level(s) of financial consequence.
- d. Ability to reverse a decision.
- e. Consistency with a prior decision.
- f. Levels of public interest known.
- g. Community (as a whole or in part).

4.3. The Council will assess the degree of significance of a proposal or decision on a case-by-case basis using Schedule 1 - Determining significance and determine the level of significance of a proposal or decision to be high, medium or low.

5.4. If the proposal or decision triggers four or more key considerations which are under the high significance level column, this indicates that the level of significance will be deemed to be high.

6.5. If the proposal or decision triggers five or more key considerations which are under the low significance level column, this indicates that the level of significance will be deemed to be low.

7.6. If the level of significance of a proposal or decision is not deemed to be high (under clause 159) or low (under clause 1620), this indicates that the level of significance will be deemed to be medium.

Step 2 - Determining engagement approach

8.7. Council acknowledges that community engagement occurs across a spectrum at differing levels and is broader than consultation. Engagement is a process that involves all or some of the community and can be focused on sharing information, generating ideas, decision making, and/or problem solving.

9.8. Council staff will consider existing information on the community's views and perceptions related to a proposal before undertaking any further community engagement.

10.9. Details of engagement activities will be developed in an engagement plan specific to each project or initiative. The engagement approach (platform, questions, audiences, tactics, analysis, reporting) and associated communications, will be outlined by Council staff in a communication and engagement plan specific to the proposal. The content of this plan will be informed by subject matter experts.

10. Each Council communication and engagement plan will be informed by the proposal details. Council may use a variety of engagement techniques based on a range of factors, including history and public awareness of the issue/proposal, stakeholder involvement, and timing related to other events and budgets.

11. There are times when it will not be appropriate to engage with the community on certain issues, proposals, decisions, or matters. Examples of this include where the Council:

- a. Organisational decisions (e.g. staff changes and operational matters) that do not materially reduce a level of service;
- a.b. Decisions that are consistent with Council's Long-Term Plan, or another policy or plan that has already been subject to consultation, or directives from central government;

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- ~~b-c.~~ Protection of the privacy and safety of individuals (as provided for in the Privacy Act 2020 and Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987);
- ~~e-d.~~ Maintenance of confidentiality and/or commercial sensitivity to enable Council to carry out commercial activity or negotiations without prejudice (as provided for in the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987);
- ~~d-e.~~ Where Council is acting with urgency (for example under the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002);
- ~~e-f.~~ Decisions to act where is necessary to:
 - i. Comply with the law;
 - ii. Save, or protect life, health or amenity and prevent serious damage to property;
 - iii. Avoid, remedy or mitigate an adverse effect on the environment;
 - iv. Protect the integrity of existing and future infrastructure and amenity.
- ~~f-g.~~ Decisions in relation to regulatory and enforcement activities.

~~11-12.~~ The Council will use a customised version of an internationally recognised approach to public engagement (IAP2). **Schedule 2 – Council's Community Engagement Spectrum**~~Determining engagement approach, outlines its Council's approach to determining its level of engagement. Progressing from top left to bottom right of this table figure shows increasing levels of community engagement in decision-making and expectations for each.~~

~~12-13.~~ In general, the more significant an issue, the greater the need for community engagement.

~~13-14.~~ The proposed engagement approach will be supported by rationale outlined in the Council or Committee reports.

~~14-15.~~ Post engagement, the engagement insights will be provided in a meaningful and timely way to Council.

Use of Special Consultative Procedure

~~16.~~ The Council will use the Special Consultative Procedure (as set out in section 83 of the LGA 2002) where required under the LGA or any other legislation.

~~15-17.~~ The Council will develop a proposal to fulfil the requirements of Section 82A of the LGA 2002, will make this available to the public, allow written submissions for a period of up to four weeks, and will consider all submissions prior to making decisions.

34. Specific issues where Council may use this form of consultation ~~as a minimum~~ will include:

- The adoption of an Annual Plan where it differs significantly from the content of the ~~10-Year~~ Long-Term Plan

- The adoption of the Development Contributions Policy where it differs significantly from the content of the previous Policy.
- The making, amending or revoking bylaws
- Or any other situation as defined by section 87 of the LGA 2002.

35. A special consultation procedure is to be used for the adoption or amendment of a long-term plan but in accordance with the changes described in section 93 of the LGA 2002.

36. Where an engagement is not subject to the SCP ([section 83](#) of the LGA 2002), the Council will apply the Principles of Consultation ([section 82](#) of the LGA 2002).

Monitoring and Implementation

37. Implementation of this policy will be monitored by the [Partnerships, Communication and Maaori](#) General Manager [Strategy and Communications](#).

38. This policy will be reviewed, at the request of the Council, in response to any relevant legislative amendment, or every three years (whichever comes first).

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Schedule 1 – Determining significance

Key considerations	Significance Level		
	High	Medium	Low
Alteration of a service which comes under the Council's significant activities (see significant activities listed in the definitions table).	Ceasing or commencing a service. (e.g. the closure of a museum).	A more than nominal alteration of a service. (e.g. the digitisation of most hard copy books at public libraries).	A nominal or no alteration of a service. (e.g. the undertaking of a tender with a different contractor).
Involves the transfer of ownership or control of strategic assets to or from the Council.	Majority transfer (i.e. more than 51%) or transfer in its entirety. (e.g. a full transfer of a theatre facility).	Minority transfer. (e.g. a 30% share transfer of the museum).	Nominal or no transfer. (e.g. the transfer of a council owned artwork/statue).
Level of financial consequences in relation to unbudgeted operating cost or capital cost in the Long-Term Plan.	<p>Unbudgeted operating cost(s) greater than 10% of total expenses in the financial year of the proposal / decision. (e.g. a \$25m unbudgeted increase in lease costs).</p> <p>AND/OR</p> <p>Unbudgeted capital cost(s) greater than 1% of total assets in the financial year of the proposal / decision. (e.g. the construction of</p>	<p>Unbudgeted operating cost(s) greater than 5% but less than 10% of total expenses in the financial year of the proposal / decision. (e.g. a \$15m unbudgeted increase in lease costs).</p> <p>AND/OR</p> <p>Unbudgeted capital cost(s) greater than .5% but less than 1% of total assets in the financial year of the proposal / decision.</p>	<p>Unbudgeted operating cost(s) less than 5% of total expenses in the financial year of the proposal / decision. (e.g. a \$1m unbudgeted increase in lease costs).</p> <p>AND/OR</p> <p>Unbudgeted capital cost(s) less than .5% of total assets in the financial year of the proposal / decision. (e.g. the construction of a \$1m unbudgeted building).</p>

	a\$40m unbudgeted building).	(e.g. the construction of a \$25m unbudgeted building).	
Ability to reverse the decision.	Highly difficult. (e.g. constructing a purpose built building).	Moderately difficult. (e.g. adoption of the Speed Limit Bylaw).	Low difficulty. (e.g. minor amendment to a policy).
Consistency with a prior decision or decisions (i.e. proposal or decision which is consistent with current policies and strategies).	Decision or proposal is significantly inconsistent. (e.g. a decision or proposal that retires a Council adopted strategy).	Decision or proposal is consistent but with some notable variations. (e.g. a decision or proposal contrary to the public places policy allowing restaurants to use entire width of public footpaths for outdoor entertainment).	Decision or proposal is consistent. (e.g. adopting the public places bylaw to enforce the public places policy).
Levels of public interest known.	High levels of public interest known. (e.g. the adoption of the psychoactive substances policy).	Moderate levels of public interest known. (e.g. the adoption of the Event Sponsorship policy).	Low levels of public interest known. (e.g. the adoption of the elected member support policy).
Impact on proportion of the community.	Impacts a large proportion of the community. (e.g. a change in the rubbish collection timeframes).	Impacts a subgroup or groups within the community. (e.g. the creation of a neighbourhood playground).	Impacts an individual person or household. (e.g. the removal of a street tree).

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Degree of impact on affected people in the community.	High degree. (e.g. the change of a road name).	Moderate degree. (e.g. the investment in a small suburb library).	Low degree. (e.g. changing the style of bus stop waiting areas).
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Schedule 2 – Determining engagement approach Council's Community Engagement Spectrum

Inform	To seek the view of the community on options Council is considering.	Survey Our Hamilton Website Social media E- newsletters Targeted letters /email Signage on site	Prior engagement and research has established an understanding of the communities views on this issue	Survey response No formal option to present views to Council via hearings Public may make representation in public forum when the item is being discussed at Council	Low to Medium
Consult	To seek the view of the community on options and allow the community to propose suggestion to Council for Consideration. A formal process	Survey Social media Signage on site Open day / information session(s)	Prior engagement and research has established an understanding of the communities views on this issue	Survey response Formal option to present views to Council via hearings Public may make representation in public forum when the item is being discussed at Council	Medium to High
Involve	To seek community input into options being considered by Council	Face-to-face conversations Focus groups Open day / information session(s) Survey Media Our Hamilton Social media	Prior engagement and research has established an understanding of the communities views on this issue seeking more information on community-led solutions	Ideas to refine the options Survey response Option to present views to Council via hearings	Medium to High



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Item 10

Council Report

Committee: Council **Date:** 14 December 2023
Author: Mark Davey **Authoriser:** Blair Bowcott
Position: City Planning Manager **Position:** General Manager Strategy, Growth and Planning
Report Name: Independent Hearings Commissioners' Panel - extension to contract

Report Status	<i>Open</i>
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Purpose - *Take*

1. To seek the Council's approval to extend the Independent Hearing Commissioners' Panel contract by 6 months to 29 October 2024.

Staff Recommendation - *Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi*

2. That the Council:
 - a) receives the report;
 - b) approves an extension to the term of the current Independent Hearings Commissioners' Panel by 6 months to 29 October 2024 (**Option 1** of the staff report);
 - c) notes that the request is to extend the date only – no other amendments will be made to the contract;
 - d) notes that a full review of the Independent Hearings Commissioners' Panel will be undertaken in early 2024, which will result in a new contract to start on 29 October 2024; and
 - e) notes that the decision and information in relation to this matter be released at the appropriate time, to be determined by the Chief Executive.

Executive Summary - *Whakaraapopototanga matua*

3. The Council's governance structure includes an Independent Hearings Commissioners' Panel (the Panel) to hear and decide certain Resource Management Act (RMA) matters.
4. The Panel has delegated authority to act on behalf of the Council as outlined in the *Governance Structure Terms of Reference and Delegations for Council, and Committees of Council 2022-25 Triennium* (see **Attachment 1**).
5. The existing Panel contract expires on 29 April 2024. Staff recommend **Option 1**, an extension of 6 months will allow enough time to review and undertake the process to appoint a new Panel to start on 29 October 2024.
6. Staff consider the matters in this report have low significance and that the recommendations comply with the Council's legal requirements.

Discussion - *Matapaki* Background - *Kooreo whaimaarama*

7. Under s34A of the RMA, the Council may delegate certain functions, powers and duties to RMA hearings commissioners.
8. The current Panel of 26 individuals was approved at the 29 April 2021 Council meeting for three years, expiring on 29 April 2024.
9. Note that occasionally we appoint commissioners from outside of the Panel where particular expertise is required.
10. The workload of the Urban and Spatial Planning Unit (formerly City Planning) over the last 6 months has meant there has been insufficient time to undertake a full review of the Panel.
11. An extension of 6 months will allow enough time to review and undertake the process to appoint a new Panel to start on 29 October 2024.
12. No other changes are proposed to the existing Panel Terms of Reference or delegations. The Panel is generally considered to be still fit for purpose and an extension of 6 months does not present any legal or policy risk.
13. Staff have assessed that there are two reasonable and viable options for the Council to consider:
 - i. **Option 1:** Approves the extension of the current Panel to 29 October 2024.
 - ii. **Option 2:** Does not approve the extension.
14. Staff recommend **Option 1** as the Panel is generally considered to be still fit for purpose and an extension of 6 months does not present any legal or policy risk.
15. Further, having the ability to appoint from the Panel is considered administratively efficient and necessary, particularly regarding the appointment of commissioners and/or panels for resource consent hearings where statutory timeframes are required to be adhered to.

Financial Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro Puutea*

16. The fixed hourly fee for commissioners is \$200.00 per hour (excluding GST) for panel members and \$225.00 per hour (excluding GST) for the Chair.
17. These rates include all disbursements. The rates were set through benchmarking the arrangements used by other Councils, including Auckland City Council, but have been set up to include disbursements.
18. Resource consent applicants and private plan change applicants are required to pay for commissioners at these rates.
19. For Council-initiated plan changes and other RMA matters, the Council pays these rates from the budgets allocated to these specific matters.

Legal and Policy Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro-aa-ture*

20. Staff confirm that the staff recommendations comply with the Council's legal and policy requirements.

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Climate Change Impact Statement

21. Staff have assessed this option against the Climate Change Policy for both emissions and climate change adaptation. Staff have determined no adaptation or emissions assessment is required.

Wellbeing Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro-aa-oranga tonutanga*

22. The purpose of Local Government changed on the 14 May 2019 to include promotion of the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future ('the 4 wellbeings').
23. The Panel ensures that relevant social, economic, environment and cultural issues are properly understood and taken into account when hearing and deciding resource management matters. All Maangai Maaori who are Ministry for the Environment accredited Commissioners are members of the Panel.

Risks - *Tuuraru*

24. The Panel is generally considered to be still fit for purpose and an extension of 6 months does not present any legal or policy risk.

Significance & Engagement Policy - *Kaupapa here whakahira/anganui*

Significance

25. Staff have considered the key considerations under the Significance and Engagement Policy and have assessed that the recommendation(s) in this report has/have a low level of significance.

Engagement

26. Given the low level of significance determined, the engagement level is low. No engagement is required.

Attachments

Attachment 1 - Independent Hearing Commissioners' Panel

Independent Hearings Commissioners' Panel

Reports to: The Council

Chairperson: As appropriate

Membership - with up to three sitting at any one time (including the Chairperson, if required):

Alistair Black;
Bill Wasley;
Cherie Lane;
Chris Mitchell;
David Hill;
David McMahon;
Gerry Kessels;
Gina Sweetman;
Glenda Fryer;
Heike Lutz;
Jan Caunter;
Jan Sedgewick;
Judith Makinson;
Justine Bray;
Kate McArthur;
Linda Te Aho;
Loretta Lovell;
Mark Farnsworth;
Peter Kensington;
Richard Knott;
Robert Schofield;
Steven Wilson;
Tracie Dean-Speirs;
Tracy Ogden-Cork;
Vicki Morrison-Shaw;
Vishal Chandra; and
any Hamilton City Councillor who is a Ministry for the Environment accredited RMA Commissioner.

Meeting frequency: As required

Purpose:

1. To undertake certain hearings under the Resource Management Act 1991 ('RMA'), unless otherwise reserved by full Council.

The Independent Hearings Commissioners' Panel is delegated the following Terms of Reference and powers:

Attachment 1

Terms of Reference:

2. The power to hear and decide any of the following RMA matters:
 - a) application for a resource consent or change to conditions of resource consent;
 - b) notice of objection;
 - c) notice of requirement to designate land and alter a designation; for a heritage order and alteration to a heritage order; or
 - d) to hear submissions and decide on Plan Changes and Reviews of the Operative Hamilton City District Plan under Schedule 1 to the Resource Management Act 1991 where Council resolves to not hear and decide on those matters.
3. The power to exercise all procedural powers under the RMA relevant to the matter to be heard from the date selection being confirmed by the General Manager Growth until the date the final decision is delivered by the hearings commissioner(s).
4. The power to select a hearings chairperson; and give the chairperson, if one is selected, a casting vote.

Special Notes:

- The General Manager Growth is delegated authority to select the Hearings Commissioner/s from the appointed list to hear and decide RMA matters within the Terms of Reference.
- The Commissioners' decisions are reported to Council for information and District Plan effectiveness monitoring

Item 10

Council Report

Item 11

Committee: Council **Date:** 14 December 2023
Author: Amy Viggers **Authoriser:** David Bryant
Position: Governance Lead **Position:** General Manager Business Services
Report Name: Future of Local Government - LGNZ Special General Meeting

Report Status	<i>Open</i>
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Purpose - *Take*

1. To inform the Council of the outcome of the Future by Local Government – A consensus outcome paper at Local Government New Zealand's (LGNZ's) Special General Meeting.

Staff Recommendation - *Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi*

2. That the Council receives the report.

Executive Summary - *Whakaraapopototanga matua*

3. On Monday 11 December all councils were asked to join an online Special General Meeting to vote on outcomes as outlined in **Attachment 1**, so that a formal supported position can be reached concerning *the Future by Local Government – A consensus outcome paper as Local Government New Zealand's (LGNZ's) (Attachment 2)*.
4. As there was no Council meeting scheduled between the release of the outcome paper, the submission consensus was sought from Elected Members via email.
5. A verbal update will be provided at this meeting as to the outcome of the Special General Meeting.
6. Staff consider the decision sought in this report have low significance and that the recommendations comply with the Council's legal requirements.

Discussion - *Matapaki*

7. The Future for Local Government Review (FFLG) was initiated in 2021 by central government in response to a request from local government. It was designed to address the collective impacts of reform programmes on the function and role of local government, address new and increasing challenges faced by local government, and renew and better equip local governance for the future.
8. Deputy Mayor O'Leary and Councillor Tauariki were appointed onto the LGNZ advisory group, Future for Local Government, to work through the recommendations on [Local Government Reform](#).

Item 11

9. The outcome of this work is *'to adopt The Future by Local Government – A consensus outcome paper as Local Government New Zealand's (LGNZ's) agreed parameters for further advocacy and engagement with central government'*.
10. On Monday 11 December all councils were asked to join an online Special General Meeting to vote on the outcomes, so that a formal supported position could be reached. The agenda for the special general meeting is **Attachment 2**.
11. As there was no Council meeting scheduled between release of the outcome paper and the 11 December meeting, the submission consensus was sought from Elected Members via email.
12. A verbal update will be provided at this meeting as to the outcome of the Special General Meeting.

Financial Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro Puutea*

13. This is a regular operating activity funded through the Long-Term Plan.

Legal and Policy Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro-aa-ture*

14. Staff confirm that the staff recommendation complies with the Council's legal and policy requirements.

Climate Change Impact Statement

15. Staff have assessed this option against the Climate Change Policy for both emissions and climate change adaptation. Staff have determined no adaptation assessment or emissions assessment is required.

Wellbeing Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro-aa-oranga tonutanga*

16. The purpose of Local Government changed on the 14 May 2019 to include promotion of the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future ('the 4 wellbeings').
17. The subject matter of this report has been evaluated in terms of the 4 wellbeings during the process of developing this report. The recommendations set out in this report are consistent with that purpose.

Risks - *Tuuraru*

18. There are no known risks associated with the decisions required for this matter.

Significance & Engagement Policy - *Kaupapa here whakahira/anganui*

19. Staff have considered the key considerations under the Significance and Engagement Policy and have assessed that the matter(s) in this report has/have a low level of significance.
20. Given the low level of significance determined, the engagement level is low. No engagement is required.

Attachments - *Ngaa taapirihanga*

Attachment 1 - Future by Local Government consensus outcome paper

Attachment 2 - Special General Meeting Paper on the Future by Local Government



Item 11

Attachment 1

THE FUTURE BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT

// A consensus outcome paper based on Choosing Localism

// NOVEMBER 2023





It's time for a brighter future

Local government sees growing momentum for change and wants to drive that shift. The status quo faces huge funding pressure, with councils navigating difficult decisions as they deliver for communities while fulfilling unfunded mandates from central government. Current funding models are unsustainable; debt is increasing but so are infrastructure deficits.

Over the past three years, an independent panel identified ways to transform the local government system, with the Review into the Future for Local Government releasing its final report in June 2023. In July 2023, LGNZ's AGM resolved to develop a consensus position or positions on this report, to create a powerful advocacy platform. Together we've developed this consensus outcome paper through a series of in-person meetings and engagement. It sets parameters for conversations with the new Government and future governments.

To better serve our communities, the whole system of government needs to change, not just local government. An integrated system, with local government as a key strategic partner, would transform Aotearoa New Zealand's democratic landscape. Central government would focus on national direction, regulation and responses, while local government grows local delivery on the ground. Public money would be shared in a way that increases efficiency, delivering better outcomes for the communities we all serve. This would supercharge local government's ability to deliver the social, economic, environmental and cultural needs our communities are demanding at place – ultimately delivering future-proofed infrastructure and a more prosperous country.

Choosing localism sits at the heart of this work. To choose localism means central and local governments commit to working together and entrust communities with a greater role in decision making. It also means allowing communities and councils to try different things, specifically tailored to their region, sub-region or place. When done well this pays huge dividends, as demonstrated around the world. Progress would not be instant but span across years and decades. The changes also rely on LGNZ's work to lift the capability of local government, and on a commitment from central government to genuinely support local government in addressing the challenges our communities face.

Local government wants communities to succeed through empowered local leadership, genuine partnership and locally led delivery. These proposals would drive towards that:

1. Build a new system of government that's fit for purpose;
2. Rebalance the country's tax take between central and local government;
3. Create stronger, more authentic relationships between local government and iwi, hāpu and Māori;
4. Align central, regional and local government priorities; and
5. Strengthen local democracy and leadership.

This paper sets out the outcomes from a consensus building process that local government can stand behind.

Future **by** Local Government consensus outcome paper November 2023 // 2



What are we aiming for?

Our vision

This vision articulates where local government wants to go and what we are ultimately trying to achieve:

Thriving, resilient communities throughout Aotearoa New Zealand.

What does this mean?

- Every New Zealander belongs to a community that's sustainable, safe, resilient to the impacts of our changing climate, prosperous, full of opportunities for all, and inclusive.
- New Zealand is a network of communities where people feel connected to each other and their place.
- Local government is the key driver of this vision because it's the only part of government that has specific responsibility for our communities and their wellbeing – social, economic, environmental and cultural.
- Communities are fundamental to the future and role of local government.

Our purpose

Our purpose articulates why local government exists and what we are here to do:

To help communities succeed through empowered local leadership, genuine partnership and locally led delivery.

What does this mean?

- Councils are led by strong, capable and well-supported leaders who have the mandate to make good, long-term decisions for their local communities.
- Councils work in genuine, authentic ways with central government, iwi and hapū, NGOs and the community to identify specific local and regional issues and design appropriate solutions.
- Councils work with their communities and partners to deliver services that meet the unique needs of the various groups in their rohe.



Our way forward

1. Build a new system of government that's fit for purpose

We need a fit-for-purpose system of government that meets communities' unique, local needs while addressing the complex challenges facing New Zealand. To do both, we must collectively determine which services and activities are best delivered locally, regionally and centrally – and how best to fund them. The *form* of a future local government system should follow these *functions*.

While we need clarity on function first, after that local government is up for the conversation on form – and wants to lead it. There's an opportunity to transform the system as long as this is driven locally, with different places able to come up with their own solutions. Reorganisation might be right for some areas but not for others: one size doesn't fit all.

These are essential elements of the transformed system:

- Power is devolved to local communities where that makes sense;
- A four-year term of local government
- Infrastructure investment that's fit for the future
- Continuous learning and system improvement;
- Performance measurement and accountability;
- System stewardship is enhanced, including improving how local government honours and gives effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi; and
- Opportunities to test out different governance and delivery approaches. This means recognising different areas need to be able to come up with their own solutions and approaches.

As well as working together to design and build a new system of local government, central and local government must build a more effective working relationship. However, establishing a dedicated Crown agency – as proposed by the FFLG Panel – is not the best way forward. Rather than creating a new layer of bureaucracy, existing institutions could fulfil this role.

Specific actions

- Provide dedicated funding that allows local government to transition to a future system; and
- Agree to including the Minister of Local Government in Cabinet to make it clear local government is a strategic partner.



Areas for central and local government to work together on

In the short term (12 months)

- Create a joint working group with cross party support to develop a roadmap for change, with commitment from Treasury and the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet to invest in local government system changes;
- Rationalise the scope and requirements on councils in their financial planning, particularly for long-term plans, to reduce cost and enable councils to focus on the aspects that make the most difference for communities and their accountability to them.
- Amend the Local Government Act to set the local government term at four years from the 2025 elections.

In the medium term (two-three years)

- Determine, via the joint working group, which services and activities are best delivered locally, regionally and centrally, with the objective of devolving more powers to a local level;
- Undertake experimental approaches in different regions to test out different governance and delivery approaches, potentially through city and regional deals;
- Establish a transition unit, or similar, to support capability development in local government while we build a system that is fit for purpose;
- Support local government leaders by investing in adaptive leadership capability so they can lead effectively through a period of system renewal, with a focus on innovation, experimentation and partnership;
- Improve local government data collection and introduce benchmarking to support performance measurement and a focus on continuous learning and improvement;

In the long term (three-seven years)

- Have determined, in consultation with communities, what structures and funding models are needed; and
- Design the necessary legislative and regulatory framework.

2. Rebalance the country's tax take between central and local government

Local government needs sufficient funding to deliver locally led solutions to the big issues facing our communities.

The current funding model for local government is unsustainable. It means local government cannot address the range of complex issues facing our communities, including providing infrastructure to support growth and dealing with climate change mitigation and adaptation.

A successful, sustainable system of local government requires a new approach to funding, where central government and local government commit to working together to agree a way forward. The



flow of money between central and local government needs to be rebalanced so we can deliver more efficiently for communities rather than competing with each other for funds.

With the status quo increasingly under strain, inaction is an inefficient and counterproductive choice. Solving the funding challenge will create greater prosperity and better economic outcomes. It also opens the door to place-based solutions like city and regional deals.

Specific actions

- Increase central government investment in local government through:
 - returning revenue equivalent to GST charged on rates; and
 - paying rates on Crown property.
- Incentivise regional economic growth by returning a proportion of all GST to its point of origin.
- Cabinet specifically considers the funding implications of proposed policy decisions for local government, and fund or negotiate the costs that councils are mandated to meet by central government policies.
- Allow a toolbox approach to funding so that, where appropriate, local government can set and determine local taxes such as local fuel tax, bed tax, and congestion charging.

Areas for central and local government to work together on

- Develop sustainable funding models for infrastructure investment; and
- Develop funding arrangements for climate change mitigation and adaptation.

3. Create stronger, more authentic relationships between local government and iwi, hapū and Māori

Any fit-for-purpose system of local government will honour and give effect to a Tiriti-based partnership between local government and iwi, hapū and Māori. Many councils have well-established relationships with iwi and hapū, which are delivering broader benefits for their communities. Other councils are in the early stages; they need capacity and capability support to grow these relationships.

To create stronger, more authentic relationships, all councils need to work in partnership with iwi, hapū and Māori within their respective rohe and takiwā, and ensure te ao Māori, mātauranga Māori and tikanga are an everyday part of local government.

- To support and strengthen these relationships, we need a new legislative framework for Te Tiriti-related provisions in the Local Government Act 2002. We also need to address the funding and capacity challenges facing both local government and iwi, hapū and Māori.



Specific actions

- Introduce new provisions in the Local Government Act 2002 that explicitly recognise local government as a partner to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and te ao Māori values;
- Introduce a statutory requirement for councils and iwi, hapū and Māori to develop partnership frameworks to give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi provisions; and
- Introduce a statutory requirement for councils to prioritise and invest in developing and strengthening local government capability and capacity in the areas of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, te ao Māori values, mātauranga Māori, and tikanga to improve local government as a Te Tiriti o Waitangi partner.

Areas for central and local government to work together on

- Undertake a comprehensive review (jointly by central government, local government and iwi/hapū) of requirements for engaging with iwi, hapū and Māori across all legislation that impacts local government to find opportunities to streamline or align those requirements.

4. Align central, regional and local government priorities

We want to work with central government to develop a process for determining shared priorities at a regional level and aligning these with the priorities of central government. This could include these steps:

1. Councils determine their priorities, in partnership with hapū/iwi and local communities, and identify which priorities cannot be implemented with existing revenue;
2. All councils in a region agree their shared local priorities and develop a 'regional package';
3. Central government and regions negotiate the priorities included in the regional package, including roles and responsibilities, funding, accountabilities and any partnerships with NGOs or the private sector; and
4. Councils and central government finalise their Plans based on the agreements reached.

Areas for central and local government to work together on

Ensure that (through statutory provisions or other means):

- Central government and local government commit to aligning wellbeing priorities and agreeing place-based investment plans;
- Budgets and planning documents, other local/regional strategies, and central government plans and strategies are aligned and cohesive;
- Intergenerational accountability is embedded through an outcomes framework; and
- Budgets and planning documents and place-based investment plans are tracked and measured to assess progress and effectiveness.



5. Strengthen local democracy and leadership

Local government wants its communities to actively participate in local democracy. But voter turnout has been decreasing and engagement meets the needs of some groups better than others. Local government elections need the same degree of focus and promotion as general elections.

A more engaged society leads to better solutions and decisions. Local government is committed to developing and investing in democratic innovations, including participatory and deliberative democracy processes. But further changes are needed to strengthen local democracy.

Specific actions

- Amend Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002 to support and encourage greater use of participatory and deliberative democracy processes (such as citizens' assemblies or using a representative sample of the population to respond to a particular question) that can be easily tailored to meet communities' unique needs and circumstances;
- Task the Electoral Commission with investigating options for online or electronic voting, so that the way people vote is fit for the future. New modes of voting could be tested in local body elections;
- Invest in civics education, particularly in secondary schools, to encourage greater participation in local decision making.
- Have the Electoral Commission run and invest in the promotion of all elections to the same standard as central government elections. That should include design and oversight, standard setting, promotion of elections (while allowing local councils to customise campaigns to suit local needs), specific initiatives to encourage diversity of candidates, determination of the election method, and conduct of the election process.



Item 11

Attachment 2

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING PAPER

// Background on the Future **by** Local Government

// NOVEMBER 2023





Purpose

1. To adopt **The Future by Local Government – A consensus outcome paper** as Local Government New Zealand's (LGNZ's) agreed parameters for further advocacy and engagement with central government.

Executive summary

2. The Future for Local Government Review (FFLG) was initiated in 2021 in response to a request from local government. It was designed to address the collective impacts of reform programmes on the function and role of local government, address new and increasing challenges faced by local government, and renew and better equip local governance for the future.
3. The independent FFLG Panel engaged extensively with local government over its two-year duration and did broad and extensive research on models and effective local governance arrangements around the world. Its final report closely reflected LGNZ's submission on a previously released draft.
4. When the final FFLG report was released, councils were clear they wanted to drive change themselves rather than central government imposing change.
5. To this end, LGNZ's 2023 AGM agreed to develop a consensus position or positions on the final FFLG report. And on that basis, LGNZ facilitated an inclusive process for members to reach consensus with each other. This has resulted in the consensus outcome paper titled **The Future by Local Government** (attachment A). This future-focused policy paper, if adopted, would provide LGNZ with parameters for engagement with the incoming government.
6. To realise the changes set out in the consensus outcome paper, central government needs to act.
7. This will only happen if local government is united in seeking change and is prepared to play a constructive role in making it happen. Adoption of the position statement would send this signal.
8. Failure to adopt the consensus outcome paper could result in little action or unilateral reform by central government – both of which take local government out of the driving seat.

Motion

That LGNZ adopt **The Future by Local Government** (attachment A) and use this as the basis for engagement and advocacy with central government on local government system reform.

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Context

Establishment of the Future for Local Government Review

9. In April 2021, in response to calls from LGNZ and the wider local government community, an independent review of local government was announced by the government.
10. This was an immediate response to significant policy reform driven by the previous government across water services, resource management, climate change and the health system, all of which centralised decision making and altered the role of local government. But it was also in response to other significant challenges facing local government, such as climate change, infrastructure decay and significant funding pressures.
11. Specifically, there had also been a long history of advocacy around the need for system reform addressing aspects such as funding and participation.
12. The overall purpose of the Review was to identify how our system of local democracy and governance needed to evolve over the next 30 years, to improve the wellbeing of New Zealand communities and the environment, better partner with central government, and actively embody Treaty partnership.
13. The scope of the Review comprised what local government does (roles, functions, partnerships), how it does it (including representation and governance), and how it pays for it.

Local government engagement with the Future for Local Government Review

14. Since the Review launched in April 2021, LGNZ has engaged extensively with members to understand what is important to them.
15. We held multiple workshops and discussions with councils to gather feedback and engage them in this work, including:
 - a. National workshops for elected members and council staff on some of the draft report's key themes. These included separate sessions on strengthening local democracy, the future structure of local government, and councils' non-negotiables for future change. Each of these three workshops were attended by 60-100 mayors, chairs, elected members, chief executives and council officers.
 - b. Hosting the Review Panel at LGNZ Sector meetings. Each of the Rural and Provincial, Metro and Regional Sectors had an opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions about the draft report and the Panel's future direction. We also held



discussions with both the Te Maruata Rōpū Whakahaere and wider whānui to receive their feedback on the draft report.

- c. National workshops on each of the Panel's five priority question areas and key shifts, which were well attended by mayors, chairs, elected members, chief executives and council officers. Up to 200 members attended some of the sessions. These workshops informed our Vision for the Future paper that we shared with the Panel in May 2022.
- d. Scenario workshops based on three possible futures for local government, with our Rural and Provincial, Metropolitan, and Regional Sectors, and Young Elected Members' Network.
- e. Sessions on the Future for Local Government were also held with Te Maruata and the Community Boards Executive Committee.
- f. Supporting an independent group of sector representatives to develop a vision for what an integrated public service could look like, and the kinds of change to local government's roles, functions and structures needed to support better outcomes for communities.

The Future for Local Government Review final report

- 16. The FFLG Panel released its final report in June 2023. This report made 17 key recommendations including new funding and financing tools, changes to the Local Government Act to explicitly recognise local government as a Te Tiriti partner, different structures, and tools to rebuild trust and confidence in local democracy.
- 17. The final report's recommendations were intended as a package to deliver lasting changes to the system as a whole.
- 18. The Panel's report says that while there is a real need to transfer resources and level up funding between central and local government, this must come with a commitment to do things differently and change the system to be more responsive to local needs.
- 19. Many of the recommendations in the final report aligned strongly with what councils raised in their submissions and during engagement with LGNZ.
- 20. Nineteen of LGNZ's recommendations were included in some form. And 10 out of the 17 final recommendations match the recommendations that LGNZ made in its submission on the draft report.



The consensus process to develop the position statement

21. Councils were clear that they wanted to drive change themselves rather than central government imposing change. In response to this, members at LGNZ's AGM in July 2023 agreed to take a consensus position or positions on the FFLG report to enable councils to have a strong platform from which to advocate to the incoming government.
22. LGNZ's National Council created an Advisory Group to help guide this process. There was a nomination process, and National Council was mindful of type of council, geographic spread, range of perspectives and diversity when selecting the group. The group is:
 - LGNZ President – Mayor Sam Broughton
 - Te Maruata representatives – Councillor Moko Tauariki, Mayor Faylene Tunui
 - Young Elected Members representative – Councillor Alex Crackett
 - CBEC representative – Co-Chair Sarah Lucas
 - Six other elected members – Mayor Anita Baker, Mayor Max Baxter, Mayor Tim Cadogan, Deputy Mayor Angela O'Leary, Chair Peter Scott and Mayor Andrew Tripe.
 - Three chief executive representatives – Taituarā President (role shared by Barbara McKerrow and Jo Miller), Steve Ruru and Alex Parmley.
23. LGNZ ran two in-person events to help build consensus. The first event on 18 September had 150 attendees and worked through all 17 of the FFLG Panel's recommendations to identify where members might find consensus. It produced thousands of post-it notes, which indicated people's views and all of this data was shared with all elected members after the event.
24. The first event ruled some areas in and already agreed and ruled some out. It also identified four focus areas where it might be possible to reach consensus.
25. The second event on 2 November concentrated on these four areas – Funding, System transformation, Te Tiriti, and Wellbeing & working with central government.
26. Between the first and second events, LGNZ also ran online engagement through a new platform that allowed people to see how their opinions fit with other people's and make comments. In total 164 people engaged with the online platform, though not every person answered every question. People from 19 councils participated.
27. Supporting all of this engagement was a range of email communication, including designed emails to all elected members, promotion in *Keeping it Local*, personal emails from the LGNZ President, and personal emails from the LGNZ CE.
28. Off the back of all of this engagement, the LGNZ team and the Advisory Group have produced **The Future by Local Government**, which reflects the conversations that members have had and the outcomes that has been reached through the consensus building process.
29. The consensus outcome paper will set the direction for advocacy material developed for a central government audience. This tailored material will seek to motivate central

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government to engage with us and emphasise the value local government brings to meeting their aspirations.

Analysis and advice

30. While local government can act independently to implement some of the actions we are recommending, central government action is essential for comprehensive implementation of many of the issues covered in the consensus outcome paper.
31. Any major reform of the local government system presents risk for central government. The issues and opportunities covered in the consensus outcome paper would require significant focus and could expose any government to criticism. This is why it is so important for local government to be clear how it sees a future system best evolve.
32. Both major political parties have yet to publicly respond to the substance of the FFLG report and have signalled a desire to understand the views of local government on the recommendations and the way forward. This strongly suggests that the next and future governments would only engage on reform on the scale set out in the consensus outcome paper if local government was clear and united on what it wanted. Local government might also be expected to demonstrate a commitment to be constructively engaged during the process of negotiating and implementing any agreements around reform.
33. A clear set of preferred outcomes adopted by local government, to form the basis for ongoing engagement with central government, is therefore a prerequisite for action.
34. An adopted consensus outcome paper will also help to set the parameters for local government in discussions with the Government, noting that ongoing engagement with local government would be critical throughout that process.
35. Failure to adopt the consensus outcome paper could have several unintended consequences, all of which are inefficient and ultimately counterproductive to the aspirations of both local and central government. These potential outcomes include:
 - Unilateral action by central government on those aspects of the report that it saw as desirable;
 - Other central government reforms driving change of the local government system (eg water services and resource management reform);
 - The incoming government dismissing the previous FFLG report and starting the process anew, resulting in significant delays and duplication of previous consultation with local government;
 - Little intentional change in the local government system, with current challenges exacerbated and the impact of local government weakened, to the detriment of communities; and/or
 - Lost opportunities to deliver better across the whole system of government – central, regional and local – for our communities.



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Next steps

36. If adopted, LGNZ will use the adopted consensus outcome paper to engage with the incoming government and find agreement on comprehensive reform of the local government system. Continuing strong and transparent member engagement would be an essential part of this process.
37. The consensus outcome paper would set the direction for advocacy material developed for a central government audience. This tailored material would seek to motivate central government to engage with us and emphasise the value local government brings to meeting their aspirations.

Attachments

Attachment A: The Future by Local Government: A consensus outcome paper based on Choosing Localism

Attachment 2

SGM paper November 2023 // 7

Item 12

Council Report

Committee: Council **Date:** 14 December 2023
Author: Amy Viggers **Authoriser:** David Bryant
Position: Governance Lead **Position:** General Manager Business Services
Report Name: 2024 East Ward By-Election - Order of Candidates names

Report Status	<i>Open</i>
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Purpose - *Take*

1. To seek a decision of the Council of the order in which candidates' names are listed on the voting documents for the 2024 East Ward By-Election.

Staff Recommendation - *Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi*

2. That the Council:
 - a) receives the report; and
 - b) approves the names of the Hamilton City Council Candidates for the 2024 East Ward By-Election to be arranged on the voting documents to be:
 - i. Alphabetical order; **OR**
 - ii. Pseudo-random order; **OR**
 - iii. Random order.

Executive Summary - *Whakaraapopototanga matua*

3. The 2024 Local Authority Elections for Hamilton City Council (2024 Elections) will conclude at 12.00pm 17 February 2024.
4. The By-Election is required to be undertaken in accordance with the Local Electoral Act 2001 (LEA) to fill an extraordinary vacancy following the resignation of Councillor Ryan Hamilton.
5. The 2024 By-election will be conducted using the Single Transferable Voting (STV) electoral system established by Council in August 2020.
6. A decision the Council may make if it chooses is the order of Candidates names on the voting documents (Clause 21(1) of the Local Electoral Regulations 2001). The options for order are alphabetical, random, or pseudo-random.
7. If no decision is made on the order of names, the order defaults to alphabetical.
8. Staff consider the matters/decisions in the report to have low significance and that the recommendations comply with the Council's legal requirements.

Discussion – *Matapaki*

9. Although not mandatory, the Local Electoral Regulations 2001 allows Local Authorities to consider the order of candidate names on the voting documents if they wish.

10. For the 2013, 2016, 2019, 2022 elections, the Council considered the voting order and resolved to use random order.
11. If no decision is made, the order of names defaults to alphabetical order.

Options

12. The candidate profile statement booklet is always printed in alphabetical order. It is only order of candidate names on the voting documents that the Council can determine.
13. The features of each name order arrangement are described below:
 - i. **Option 1 – Alphabetical order of surname:** Alphabetical order is simply listing candidate surnames alphabetically.
 - ii. **Option 2 – Pseudo-random order:** Pseudo-random order is where candidate surnames are randomly selected, and the order selected is the order appearing on **all** voting documents. The names are randomly selected via a good practice method managed by Election Services.
 - iii. **Option 3 – Random Order:** Random order is where all candidate surnames are randomly selected by computer so that the order of surnames is different on each voting document.
14. The advantage of **Option 1 - alphabetical order** is that it is familiar and easier to understand for voters. Where there is many candidates competing for a position, it is easier for a voter to find a candidate they wish to vote for if the names are listed alphabetically.
15. It is also easier for a voter if the order of names on the voting document follows the order of names in the directory of candidate profile statements accompanying the voting document.
16. Random order (**Options 2 and 3 - random and pseudo-random**) removes the perception of name order bias, but the Pseudo-random order of names simply substitutes a different order for an alphabetical order. Any potential first-name bias will transfer to the name at the top of the pseudo-random list. The only effective alternative to alphabetical order is random order.
17. A disadvantage for both the random options is voter confusion as it is not possible for the supporting documents such as the candidate profile statement booklets to follow the order of a random voting paper. Making voting more difficult carries the risk of deterring the voter from taking part.
18. The following table shows the candidate's name order decided by city and regional councils for past elections:

Local Authority	2016	2019	2022
Auckland Council	Alphabetical	Alphabetical	Alphabetical
Hawke's Bay Regional Council	Alphabetical	Alphabetical	Not available
Invercargill City Council	Alphabetical	Random	Not available
Horizons Regional Council	Alphabetical	Random	Random
Southland Regional Council	Alphabetical	Alphabetical	Random
Taranaki Regional Council	Alphabetical	Alphabetical	Not available
Bay of Plenty Regional Council	Random	Random	Random

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Christchurch City Council	Random	Random	Random
Canterbury Regional Council	Random	Random	Not available
Hamilton City Council	Random	Random	Random
Napier City Council	Random	Random	Random
Tauranga City Council	Random	Random	Not applicable
Wellington City Council	Random	Random	Random

19. Auckland Council previously undertook an analysis of the impacts of candidate order on elections outcomes based on their 2010, 2013, 2016 elections.
20. Their findings “indicated that there was no compelling evidence that candidates being listed first were more likely to be elected in the last three elections” and that it was “reasonable to conclude that the results from the last three elections were not impacted dramatically by the use of alphabetical ordering on the voting documents.”
21. The Auckland Council report can be found [here](#).

Financial Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro Puutea*

22. The budget of \$192,500 the 2023/24 East Ward By-Election was approved by the Finance and Monitoring Committee and then the Council on 31 October 2023. The candidate voting order will not change the overall cost.

Legal and Policy Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro-aa-ture*

23. Staff confirm that the staff recommendation and any chosen option will comply with the Council’s legal and policy requirements.
24. Local Electoral Regulations 2001, S31 allows Local Authorities to consider the order of candidate names on the voting documents. It is not mandatory to pick an option, and if no decision is reached on the matter, the order of candidate names will automatically revert to alphabetical order.

Climate Change Impact Statement

25. Staff have assessed this option against the Climate Change Policy for both emissions and climate change adaptation. Staff have determined no adaptation or emissions assessment is required.

Wellbeing Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro-aa-oranga tonutanga*

26. The purpose of Local Government changed on the 14 May 2019 to include promotion of the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future (‘the 4 wellbeings’).
27. The subject matter of this report has been evaluated in terms of the 4 wellbeings during the process of developing this report. The recommendations set out in this report are consistent with that purpose.

Risks - *Tuuraru*

28. If names are ordered alphabetically, there could be perceived risk of bias.

29. If names are randomised, there could be a perceived risk of increasing the complexity of the voting experience and deterring voters.

Significance & Engagement Policy - *Kaupapa here whakahira/anganui*

Significance

30. Staff have considered the key considerations under the Significance and Engagement Policy and have assessed that the matter(s) in this report has/have a low level of significance.

Engagement

31. Given the low level of significance determined, the engagement level is low. No engagement is required.

Attachments - *Ngaa taapirihanga*

There are no attachments for this report.

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Item 13

Council Report

Committee: Council **Date:** 14 December 2023
Author: Nicholas Hawtin **Authoriser:** Michelle Hawthorne
Position: Governance Advisor **Position:** Governance and Assurance Manager
Report Name: Recommendations from Open Committee Meetings

Report Status	<i>Open</i>
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Purpose – Take

1. To seek the Council's approval of the following recommendations from the following:
 - i. the Strategic Risk and Assurance Committee meeting of 6 December 2023 ([Agenda and Minutes](#));
 - a. Safety and Wellbeing Report - 1 August 2023 to 31 October 2023
 - b. Risk Management Report

Recommendations from the Strategic Risk and Assurance Committee meeting of 6 December 2023

Safety and Wellbeing Report - 1 August 2023 to 31 October 2023

2. That the Council receives the report.

Risk Management Report

3. That the Council receives the report.

Attachments - *Ngaa taapirihanga*

There are no attachments for this report

Resolution to Exclude the Public

Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

The following motion is submitted for consideration:

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely consideration of the public excluded agenda.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution follows.

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reasons for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
C1. Confirmation of the Council Public Excluded Minutes 31 October 2023) Good reason to withhold) information exists under) Section 7 Local Government) Official Information and) Meetings Act 1987)	Section 48(1)(a)
C2. Confirmation of the Elected Member Briefing Public Excluded Notes - 1 November 2023		
C3. Confirmation of the Elected Member Briefing Public Excluded Notes - 15 November 2023		
C4. PlanIT Software Testing Contract Renewal		
C5. IBIS Contract Renewal		
C6. Rotokauri Stage 1 – Private Developer Agreements		
C7. Recommendations from Public Excluded Committee Meetings		

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, as follows:

Item C1.	to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	Section 7 (2) (j)
Item C2.	to enable Council to carry out negotiations to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	Section 7 (2) (i) Section 7 (2) (j)
Item C3.	to enable Council to carry out negotiations to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	Section 7 (2) (i) Section 7 (2) (j)

Item C4.	to enable Council to carry out commercial activities without disadvantage	Section 7 (2) (h)
Item C5.	to enable Council to carry out commercial activities without disadvantage	Section 7 (2) (h) Section 7 (2) (i)
Item C6.	to enable Council to carry out negotiations To enable Council to carry out commercial activities without disadvantage	Section 7 (2) (h)
Item C7.	to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	Section 7 (2) (j)