



KAWERAU DISTRICT COUNCIL

Te Kaunihera ā rohe o Kawerau

TAONGA O TE WHENUA - TREASURE OF THE LAND

**The Meeting of the
Regulatory and Services Committee
will be held on Wednesday 11 December 2024
commencing at 9.00am**

A G E N D A

REGULATORY & SERVICES COMMITTEE

Her Worship the Mayor - F K N Tunui

Councillor C J Ion - Chairperson

Councillor W Godfery

Councillor S Kingi

Councillor B J Julian

Councillor A Rangihika

Councillor R G K Savage

Councillor R Andrews

Councillor J Ross

GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC FORUM AT MEETINGS

1. A period of thirty minutes is set aside for a public forum at the start of each Ordinary Council or Standing Committee meeting, which is open to the public. This period may be extended on by a vote by members.
2. Speakers may address meetings on any subject. However, issues raised must not include those subject to legal consideration, or be issues, which are confidential, personal, or the subject of a formal hearing.
3. Each speaker during the public forum is permitted to speak for a maximum of three minutes. However, the Chairperson has the discretion to extend the speaking time.
4. Standing Orders are suspended for the duration of the public forum.
5. Council and Committees, at the conclusion of the public forum, may decide to take appropriate action on any of the issues raised.
6. With the permission of the Chairperson, members may ask questions of speakers during the period reserved for public forum. Questions by members are to be confined to obtaining information or clarification on matters raised by the speaker.

**The Meeting of the Regulatory and Services Committee
will be held on Wednesday 11 December 2024
commencing at 9.00am**

A G E N D A

1 Karakia Timatanga | Opening Prayer

2 Apologies

3 Leave of Absence

4 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

Any member having a “conflict of interest” with an item on the Agenda should declare it, and when that item is being considered, abstain from any discussion or voting. The member may wish to remove themselves from the meeting while the item is being considered.

5 Public Forum

PART A – REGULATORY

6 Monthly Report - Regulatory and Planning Services (Group Manager, Regulatory and Planning) (340000)

Pgs. 1 - 6

Attached is the report from the Group Manager, Regulatory and Planning covering Regulatory and Planning Services activities for the month of November 2024

Recommendation

That the report from the Group Manager, Regulatory & Planning Services for the month of November 2024 be received.

PART B – NON REGULATORY

7 Monthly Report - Finance and Corporate Services (Group Manager, Finance and Corporate Services) (211000)

Pgs. 7 - 12

Attached is the report from the Group Manager, Finance and Corporate Services covering Finance and Corporate Services activities for the month of November 2024.

Recommendation

That the report from the Group Manager, Finance and Corporate Services for the month of November 2024 be received.

8 **Monthly Report - Operations and Services (Group Manager, Operations and Services) (440000)**

Pgs. 13 - 17

Attached is the report from the Group Manager, Operations and Services covering Operations and Services activities for the month of November 2024.

Recommendation

That the report from the Group Manager, Operations and Services for the month of November 2024 be received.

9 **Monthly Report - Economic and Community Development (Economic and Community Development Manager) (309005)**

Pgs. 18 - 53

Attached is the report from the Economic and Community Development Manager covering Economic and Community activities for the month of November 2024.

Recommendation

That the report from the Economic and Community Development Manager for the month of November 2024 be received.

10 **Monthly Report – Communication and Engagement (Communication and Engagement Manager) (340100)**

Pgs. 54 - 57

Attached is the report from the Communication and Engagement Manager covering Communication and Engagement activities for the month of November 2024.

Recommendation

That the report from the Communication and Engagement Manager for the month of November 2024 be received.

11 **Karakia Whakamutunga | Closing Prayer**

M Godfery

Chief Executive Officer

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MONTHLY REPORT REGULATORY & PLANNING SERVICES

November 2024

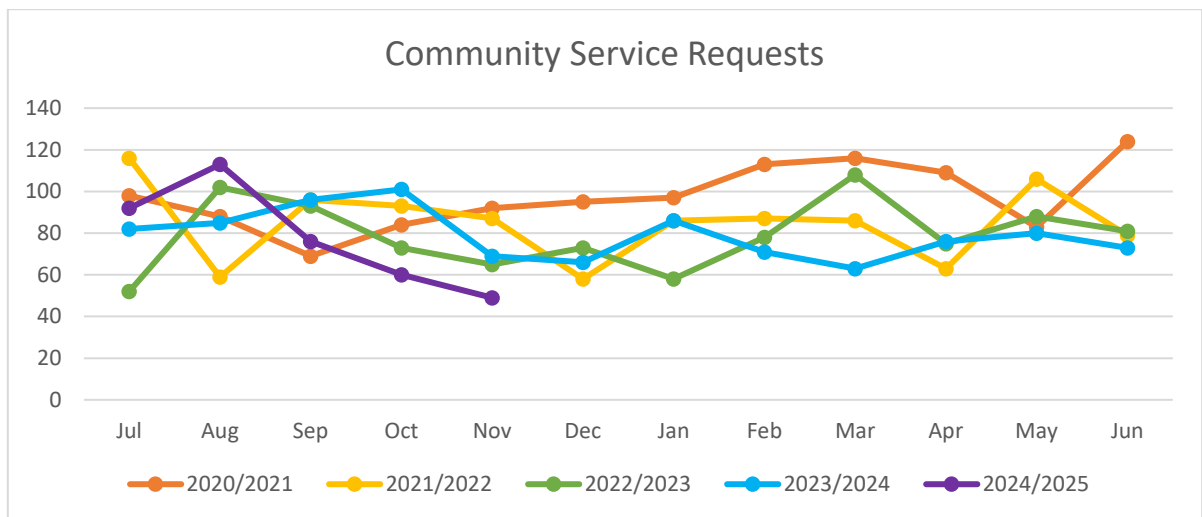
1 Animal Control

1.1 Dog Registration

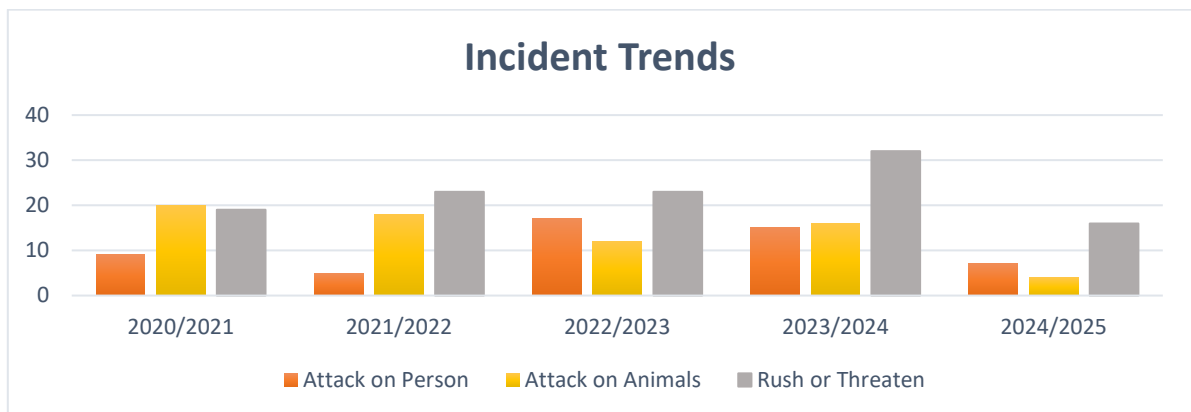
At 30 November 2024, there are 1,310 dogs registered of the 1,341 dogs listed on the dog register for 2024/2025. This represented 97.7% of known dogs. Enquiries are undergoing to confirm whether the outstanding unregistered dogs, still live within Kawerau.

1.2 Dog Control - Ranging, Complaints and Incidents

A total of forty nine (49) service requests were responded to in November 2024.



This included thirty (30) statutory occurrences (barking, roaming, attacks) attended by Council. These related largely to complaints of barking (5) or roaming (16).



During November, we received five (5) reports of an attack on a person and three (3) reports of a rush.

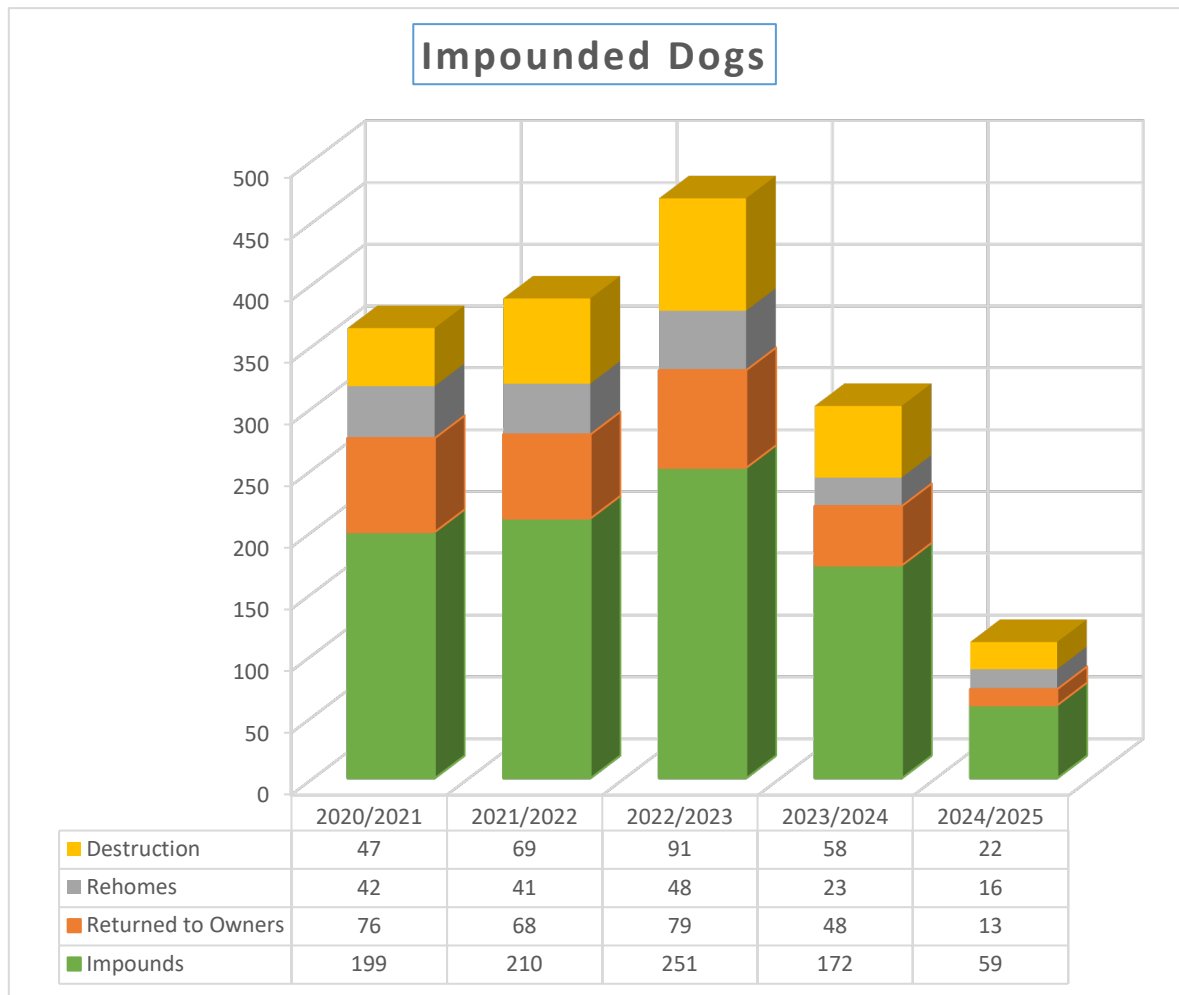
Four of the five attacks have been resolved. The first relates to two dogs which escaped from their address and rushed at a child walking their dog. The child and a member of the public trying to assist were both bitten. Infringements have been issued and repairs made to the address to secure the dogs.

Two incidents related to two separate dogs from the same address. Both dogs have been surrendered and infringement issued.

One attack was on a child and when impounded the dog also bite Council's contractor. Dog has been surrendered and infringement issued.

The remaining incident is waiting on confirmation of description. It is believed the dog and owner have been identified and the owner is working with Council.

In regards to the three rush incidents, dogs were not located for two incidents and the third incident was resolved with a warning, and the owner has arranged for a builder to secure their fence.



In November 2024, ten (10) dogs were impounded. During this same period, four (4) dogs were returned to their owners, three (3) dogs were destroyed and one (1) dog was rehomed or placed in foster care.

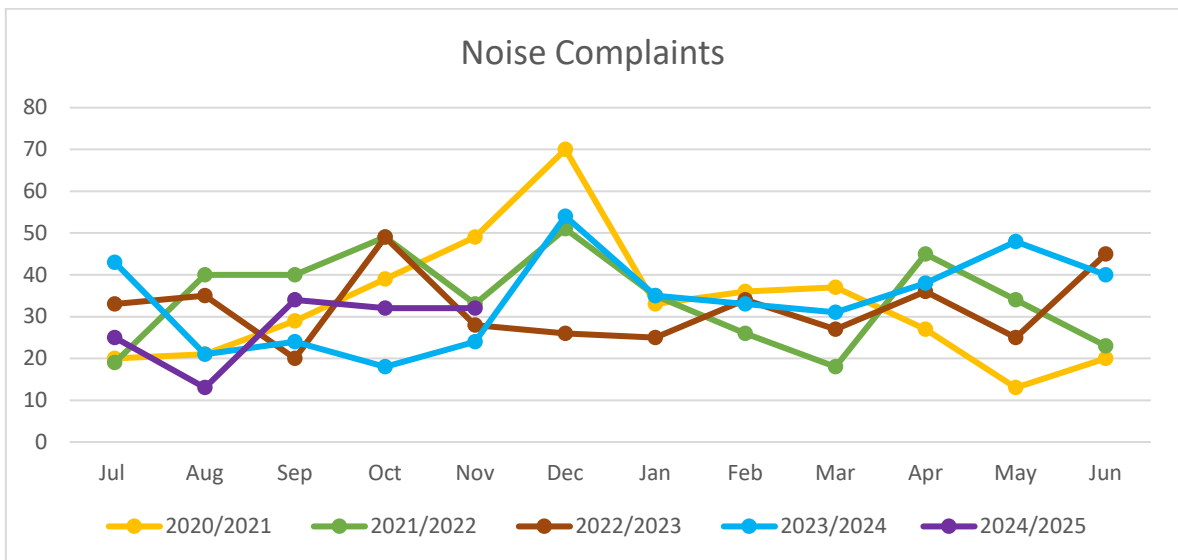
A review of the impound registered was completed which identified a few reporting errors where dogs had not been entered into the register at the time of completing the monthly reports. Numbers on the graph have been amended to reflect the following changes. Additional impounds are as follows:

	Reported	Actual
July	6	7
August	9	13
September	19	20
October	7	9

The KTown Community Animal Welfare Society and Kawerau District Council’s Community Dog Welfare Day was held on 30 November 2024. People from all walks of life came to get their dogs wormed, deflead, microchipped and obtain vouchers for desexing. A total of seventeen (17) dogs were microchipped, forty three (43) wormed and deflead and 20 desexing vouchers were issued.

2 Monitoring and Compliance

There were 32 noise complaints in November 2024, with four (4) incidents found to be excessive and two (2) excessive noise notices issued.



On 18 November 2024, community consultation commenced on the reviewed Freedom Camping Bylaw. At the time of writing two consultation sessions had been completed and there are two more on Tuesday the 10th of December at 9am and Thursday 12th of December at 12pm. Consultation closes on 20 December 2024.

3 Alcohol Regulation

The Eastern Bay Local Alcohol Policy is still being progressed. Currently this is sitting with the Alcohol Regulatory & Licensing Authority. Work is happening in the background to try to negotiate an outcome.

4 Food Safety and Premises

In November 2024, the following work was completed:

Four registration reminder letters issued with one being a final notice to register.

One enquiry regarding a new smoothie/ice cream shop

5 Environmental Health

Nothing to report for the month of November.

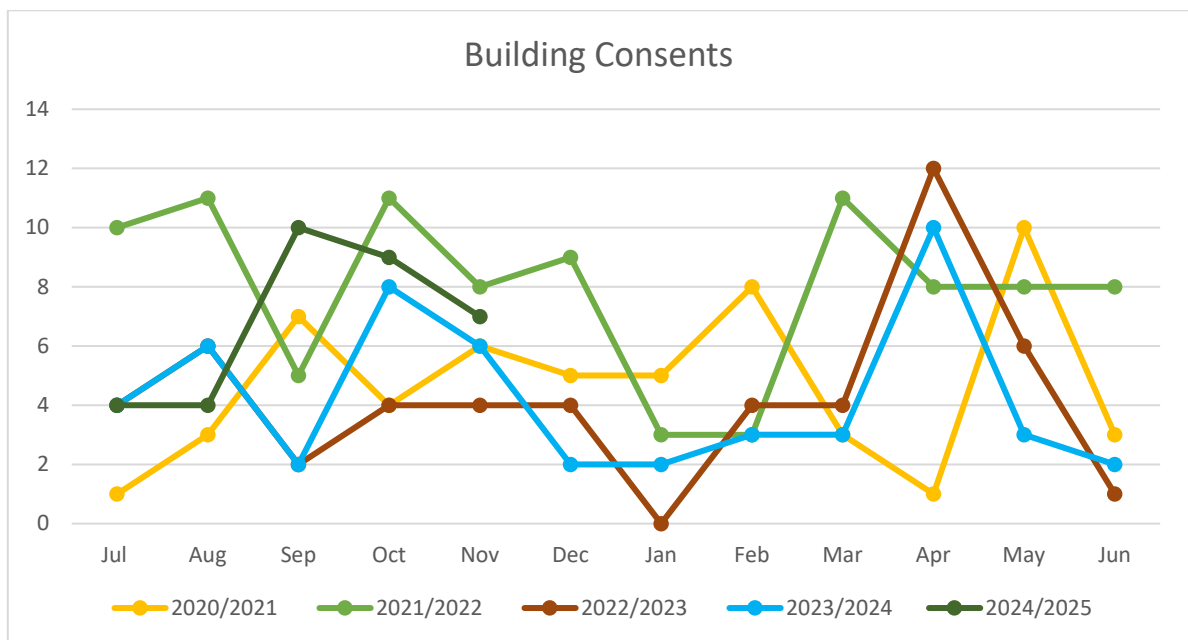
6 Building Control

6.1 Building Consent Authority (BCA)

Seven (7) building consents were issued in November 2024. The total value of the building consents was \$2,057,140.

The types of building work for the month included:

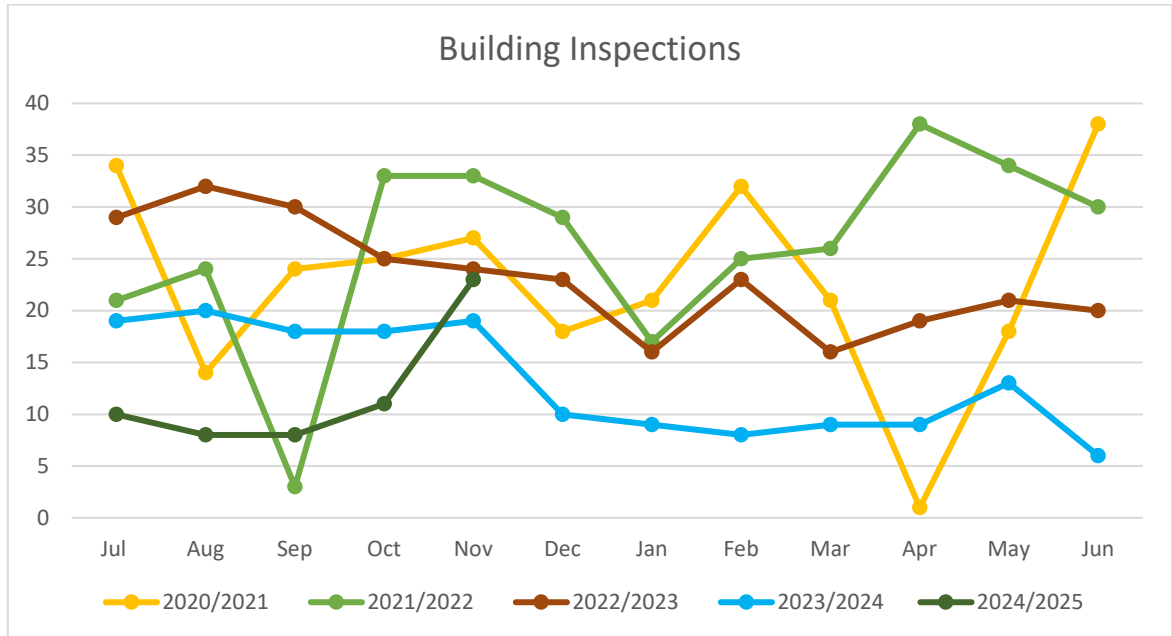
- 1 x Alterations to commercial building
- 1 x Internal Alterations
- 2 x Solid Fuel Heater
- 1 x Installation of a Marquee
- 2 x Construction of residential dwelling



Three (3) code of compliance certificates were issued for the month of November.

One (1) exemption was approved.

Twenty three (23) building inspections were completed and six (6) office meetings.



6.3 Territorial Authority

Ten (10) Land Information Memorandum ('LIM') reports were issued during November 2024.

Territory Authority Assessment commenced in October 2024, with assessment documents due in early November 2024. Assessment is on our Dangerous, Insanitary and Affected Building and Certificate of Public use processes and policies. Documents have been submitted as required and we are awaiting the outcome.

7 **Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM)**

Three KDC Officers have been accepted for the Bay 8 Training programme in March 2025. Congratulations to Andrew Bluett, Raiha Andrew and Courtney Cox.

In November 2024, the Incident Management Team met with an invitation for all staff to attend and participate in a prepared exercise. There was a great turnout and it gave staff an opportunity to set up the emergency operations centre and learn how it operates.

8 **District Plan**

8.1 District Plan Review

Early communication on the District Plan Review commenced in November during the Spatial Planning Sessions.

8.3 Resource Consents

Three applications for resource consents were received in November. One (1) resource consent was approved to establish a new mobile tower.

8.4 Spatial Plan

Engagement of the Eastern Bay of Plenty Spatial Plan “Our Places” closed on 17 November 2024. Submissions were received through a range of sources including:

- Written – 60
- Social Pinpoint – 125 comments
- In person events – 300+

On 2 December a hearing was held in Whakatāne for those who wished to speak to their submission. Presentation was provided by 8 submitters.

Next step is to prepare a report with recommendations to the Project Governance Group on 18 December 2024. This will confirm the responses to the feedback and submitters along with providing direction for the drafting of the Spatial Plan.

Next year the Spatial Plan will be drafted and further consultation will be undertaken on the final draft.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report from the Group Manager, Regulatory and Planning Services for the month of November 2024 be received.



Michaela Glaspey

Group Manager, Regulatory and Planning

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MONTHLY REPORT

FINANCE & CORPORATE SERVICES

November 2024

1 Library and Museum

1.1 Library

November was steady with a noticed increase in patron printing and scanning to email. The recycled jewellery workshop run by Adult Programmer Sue Gould saw 20 people come through to participate with many compliments around what a great initiative.

APNK pushed out updates to Council's APNK devices which were aimed at improving use for patrons. The network outage provided the opportunity to discuss the Business Continuity Plan and to get it updated.

Displays for November were recycling fashion and Paws 2 Read.

Library Statistics

	Nov 2024	YTD 2024/25	Nov 2023	YTD 2023/24
Items issued	2,825	16,194	3498	16,438
People visiting	4,073	21,601	4,315	23,829
New members	19	76	12	91
Active members*	1,342		1,303	

*Those people that have used library services in the last 2 years

1.2 Museum

In mid-December the museum team will install a new exhibition in the Jellicoe Court Windows. With a working title of 'School's Out for Summer', the display is organised around some impressive honour boards and school crests from Kawerau schools that are in Council's collection, but which have never been displayed due to their size.

Staff have been developing a new template for exhibition booklets and are planning to use in December. The museum team continues to make progress on the major stocktake and is currently itemising the contents of Bay D (Textiles).

Sir James Fletcher Kawerau Museum Statistics

	Nov 2024	YTD 2024/25	Nov 2023	YTD 2023/24
Exhibitions	0	2	0	2

Vernon Records	Nov 2024	YTD 2024/25	Nov 2023	YTD 2023/24
Objects – items added to collection	23	139	31	137
People	58	284	59	279
Documents	44	247	271	507
Photographs	80	475	99	362

Objects – items added to Vernon Museum Collection, *People* – records added to Vernon on individuals and organisations, *Documents* – a document added to Vernon like newspaper articles, forms, etc., and *Photographs* – photos added to Vernon.

2 Weather Station

The average temperature for the month of November was 25.0° and the highest temperature for the month was 31.5° recorded on the 29th of November 2024.

The sunshine hours weather sensor was reinstalled, with data collection recommencing on the 8th of November. The accumulated sunshine hours for the 23 collection days for November totalled 166 hours and 54 minutes, with the sunniest days being 12 hours and 42 minutes of sunshine which was recorded on the 22nd of November. The Appendix to this report shows a combined graph of the temperatures and sunshine data collected for November.

Rainfall for November totalled 80mm, with the total rain year to date from 1 January 2024 being 1400.5mm.

3 Payments

There were eight payments in November 2024, which exceeded \$50,000.

- Inland Revenue Department (2 invoices) - \$152,866.39 (total) - PAYE for Fortnights ending 20/10/2024 and 03/11/2024.
- AON Insurance (11 invoices) – Total of \$421,755.50 for all Council insurance premium covers, except for Infrastructure Assets premiums for which the invoice is still be received.
- Audit New Zealand – (2 invoices) - \$99,451.41 audit fees for the Annual Report 2023/24 and the Debenture Trust Deed.
- Drintech Contractors – (2 invoices) \$316,796.42 – One invoice for progress claim 10 for Zone 2 & 3 reticulation renewals (coded to 403001.002 Pipework Zone 2) and one invoice for drainage works at WWTP (coded to 403520.002 Pipework Zone 1).
- Insight Enterprises (NZ) Ltd. - \$60,229.28 which is the Microsoft Software annual subscription fees, which includes all Microsoft license fees for staff, plus various server licences that are required.
- TDG Environmental – \$56,437.45 – Priority Wastewater Lines for Claim 1 (coded to 403520.002 Pipework Zone 1).
- Waste Management NZ Ltd - \$74,118.06 for General Waste October 2024.

- WSP New Zealand Limited - \$69,013.23 for Water Reservoir Assessment an operational expense – (coded to 303001-002 Major maintenance - clean out reservoir).

** Please note the payments above are GST inclusive, however all financial reporting is GST exclusive. When comparing to capital expenditure reporting there is likely to be timing differences between payment date and reporting date.

4 Requests for Service

The following table details the total number of service requests received for November and identifies if they have been completed or are still being progressed by the end of the month.

Service	Total	
	Completed	In Progress
Dogs	34	9
Noise	30	0
Building Enquiries	3	0
Trees* & Parks	21	7
Rubbish (Bins & Collections)	59	2
Water	19	5
Wastewater	4	2
Stormwater	1	0
Roading/ Streetlights	7	12
Enforcement/Health/Food/Stock	2	1
Council Buildings/Facilities – Maint.	8	3
Other (Events/Consents/Rates/Vandalism)	8	1
Official Information Requests	5	0
Total	201	42

*Requests relating to the removal of trees are added to a priority list.

For November, 2 requests came via the website and 18 via Antenno. The balance of requests came from phone calls, emails or visits.

6 Funds

The following funds were held at 30 November 2024:

Invested in	\$	Interest Rate	% External
ANZ – on call	751	2.60%	0.02%
BNZ – current & on-call	4,516,445	3.50%	99.48%
Rabobank (on-call)	22,739	3.50%	0.5%
Total Funds (Cash)	4,539,935		100.0%
Internal Loans	1,499,406		
Total Investments	6,039,341		

The following table shows Council's reserve and general funds balances as at 30 November 2024:

	Nov 2024	Nov 2023
Reserve Balances		
Depreciation Reserve Funds*	\$5,728,975	\$4,690,916
Total Reserve Balances	\$5,728,975	\$4,690,916
General Funds	\$310,365	\$1,035,496
Total (comprising funds & internal loans)	\$6,039,341	\$5,726,412

* This includes loan funds uplifted.

The figures show that overall Council has increased funds of \$312,929 at the end of November when compared to this time last year. During October Council did uplift the additional \$2m loan to fund the water reticulation renewals for 2024/25.

7 RECOMMENDATION

That the report from the Group Manager, Finance & Corporate Services for November 2024, be received.



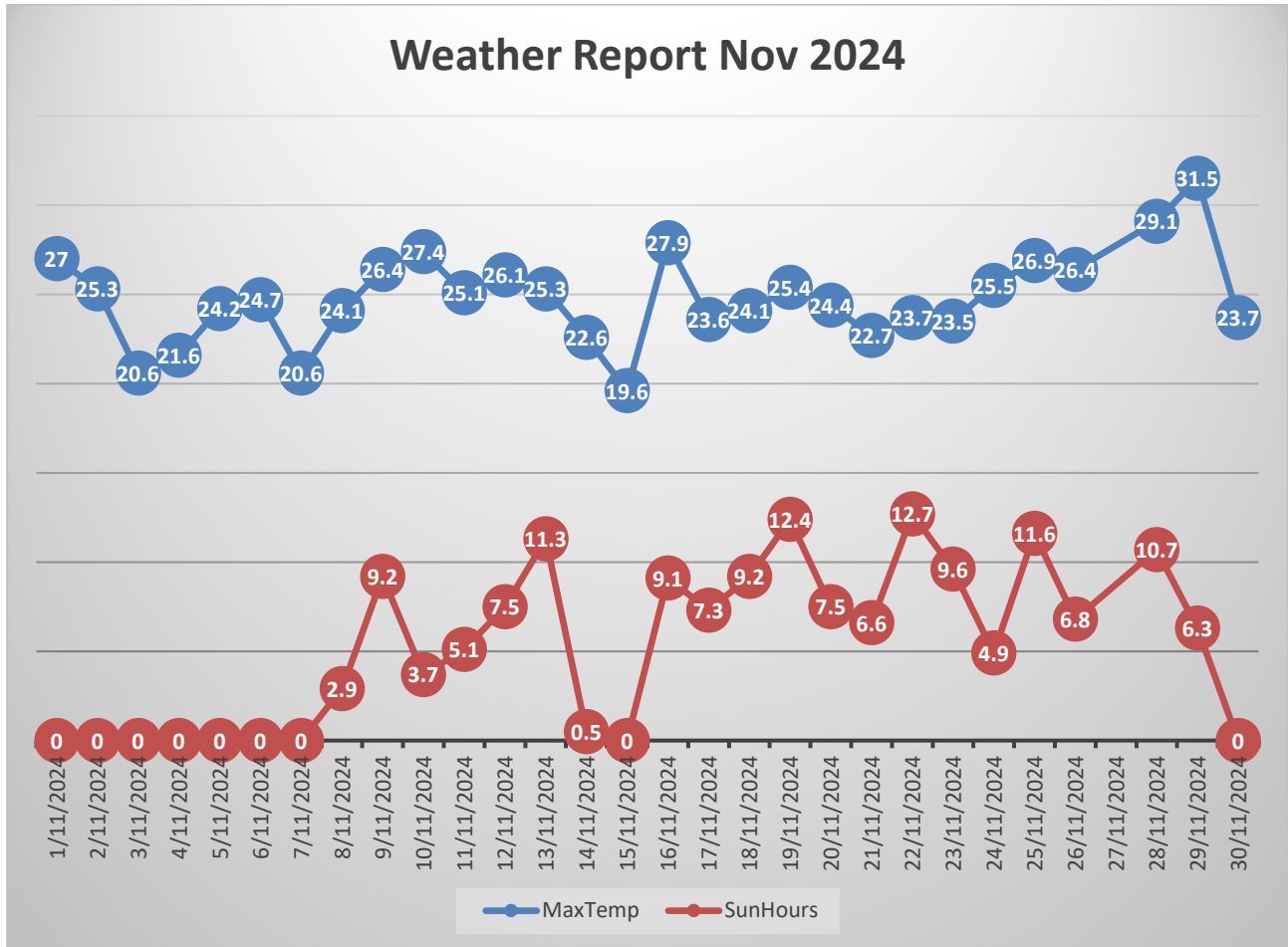
Lee-Anne Butler, CA, BMS

Group Manager, Finance & Corporate Services

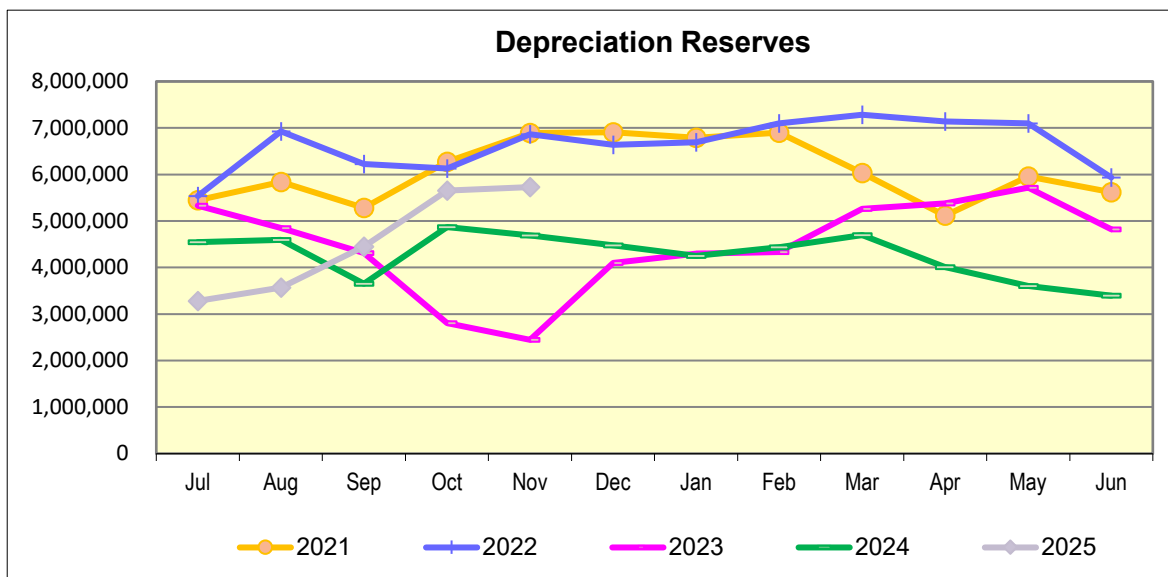
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Appendix

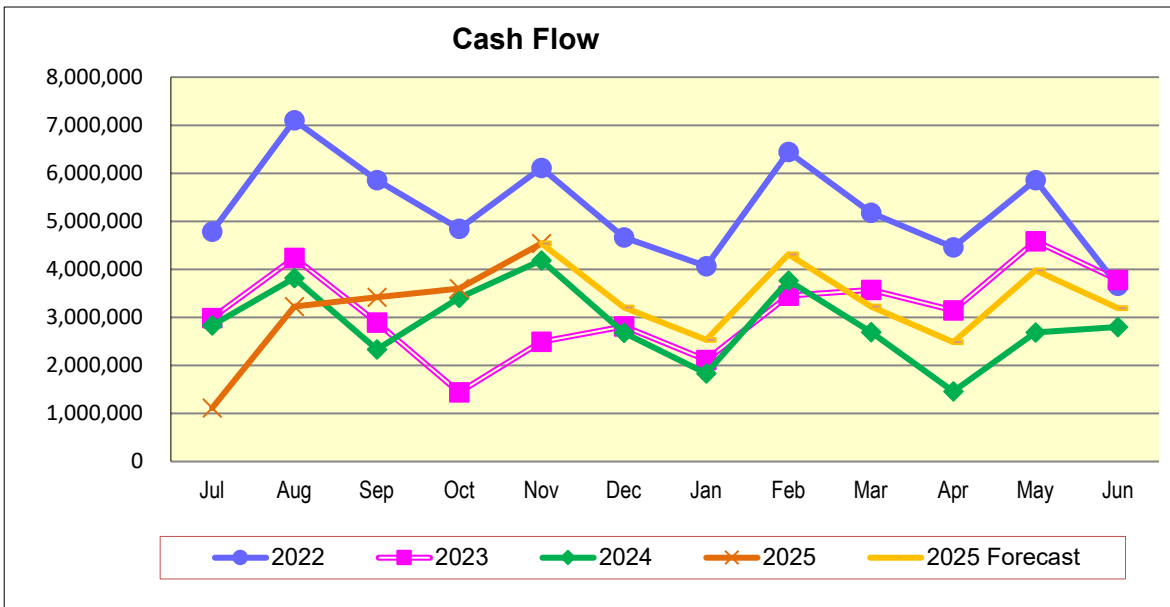
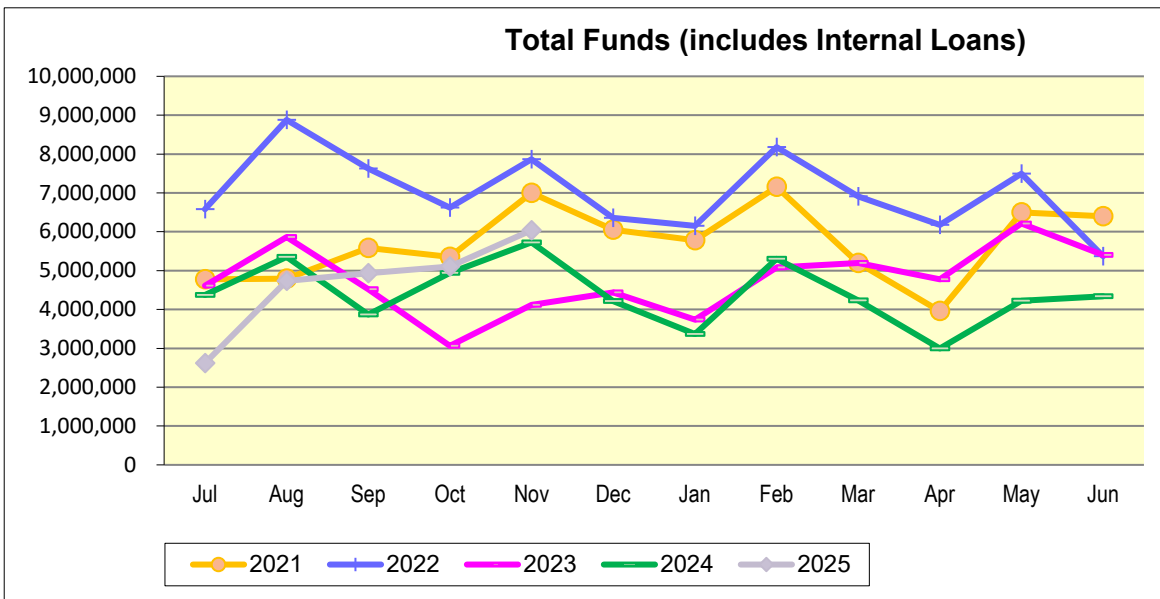
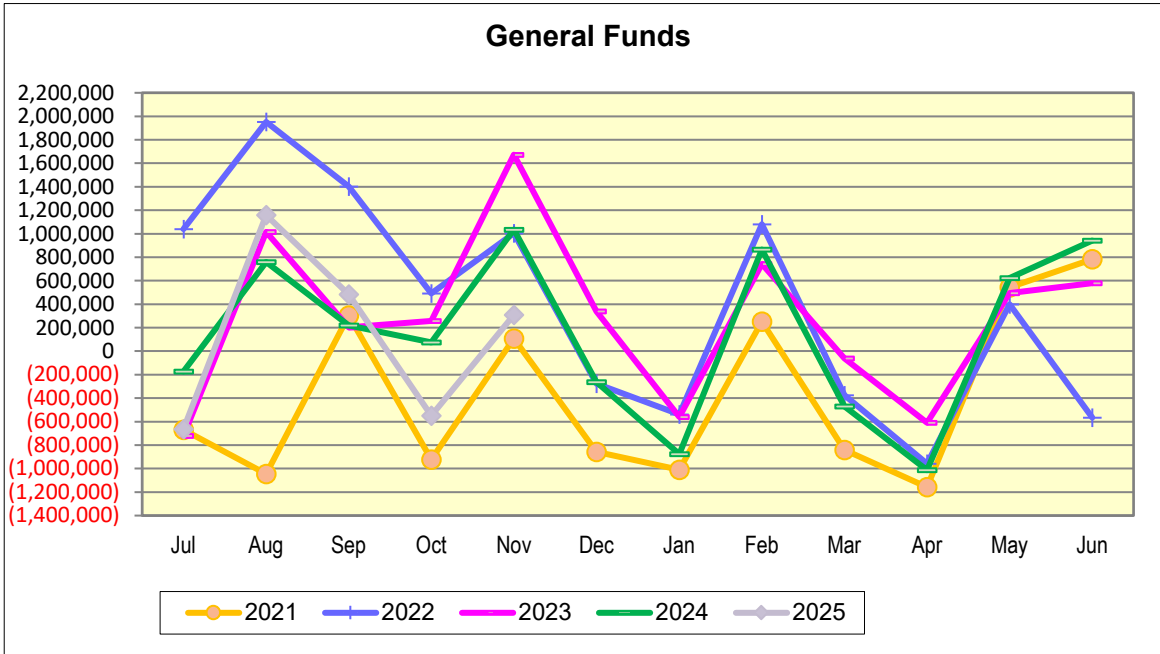
November 2024 - Weather Data



November 2024 – Financial Data



The depreciation reserves funds above includes the loan funding Council has uplifted.



Please note that the 2023/24 actual cashflow is the same as the forecast cashflow for months year to date.

MONTHLY REPORT OPERATIONS AND SERVICES

November 2024

1 Water Supply

The Tarawera Bores are currently unable to supply enough water to meet the community's demand. Staff are investigating the water levels and the condition of both the bore and the aquifer. To supplement the water supply, we are using Umukaraka Spring under an approved emergency consent for water extraction.

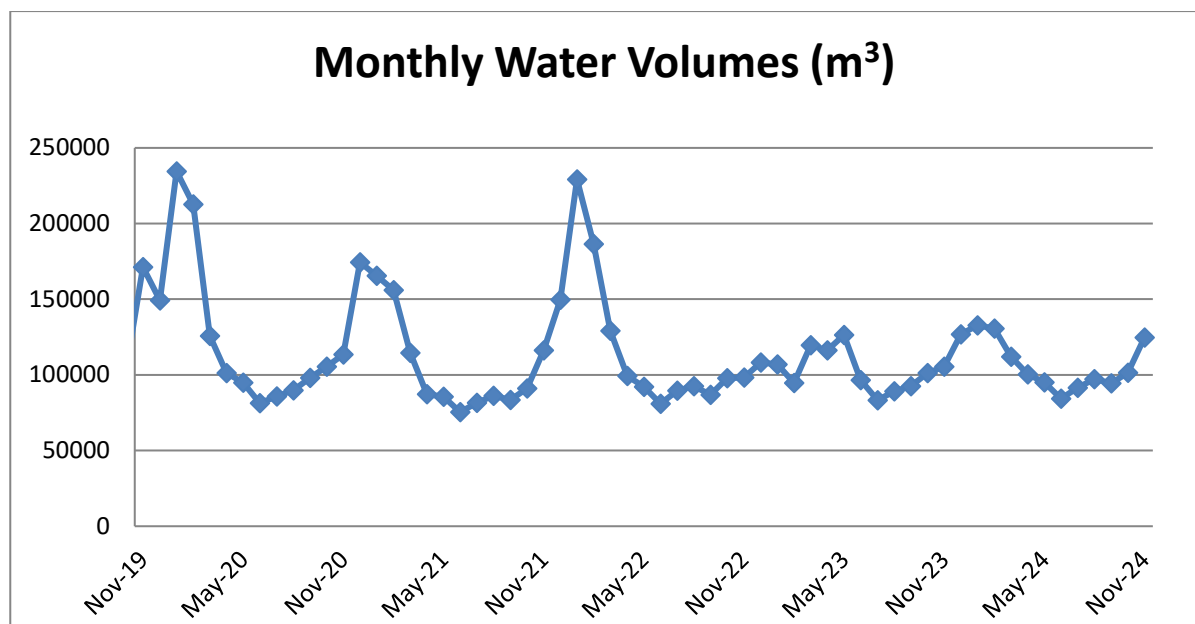
Umukaraka Spring has been developed with all necessary telemetry and infrastructure installed. We are in the process of renewing the water extraction consent to obtain long-term approval for using the spring.

We have received five out of six stakeholder inputs. Once all inputs are collected, the consent will proceed to the final review stage by the Bay of Plenty Regional Council.

Additionally, the water treatment plant is undergoing scheduled upgrades that include the installation of modern pumps and control systems to ensure compliance with existing resource consent conditions and requirements.

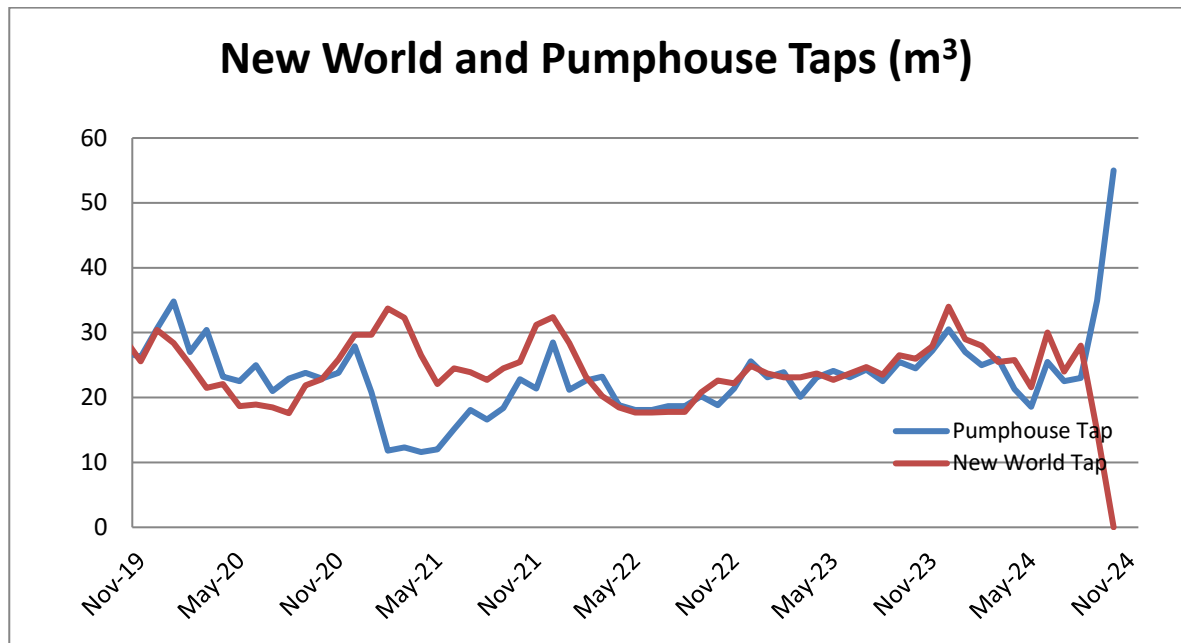
1.1 Use

In November 2024, the town consumed 124,776 m³ of water. This reflects an approximate 25% increase from the consumption in October 2024 and a 20% increase compared to November 2023. For reference, the graph below illustrates the monthly volume of water used (in m³) over the past five years.



In November, the water consumption for the New World car park was 0m³, while the pumphouse on River Road supplied 55 m³. The taps at New World are currently out of service due to the absence of fluoride filters. Although initial filters were installed,

they did not meet expectations regarding their anticipated volume capabilities. Staff are investigating a filter system that can deal with higher volumes. For comparison, the graph below illustrates the monthly water usage (in m³) over the past five years.



1.2 Water Quality

All routine supply samples tested negative for E. coli in November 2024.

One complaint was received regarding low water pressure. Upon investigation, it was determined that the low pressure was due to a defective boundary valve.

Four complaints about dirty water were also received and investigated. Staff found that these issues were related to a water shutdown and a failure of a water main valve.

There were no further reports of low water pressure or other water issues in November.

1.3 Reticulation

The replacement projects for the physical water distribution network are currently in progress.

The Zones 2 & 3 Reticulation project involves replacing a 12 km-long pipeline. 100% of the pipelines are installed in the ground, and 90% of the properties are connected to the new pipelines.

2 Wastewater

During this reporting period, the Wastewater Treatment Plant had no breaches of its resource consent conditions.

There were no wastewater overflow events during the month.

Renewal and upgrade works are ongoing according to the project schedules attached.

3 Roading

Ongoing pothole repairs, footpath, kerb, and channel replacement and cleaning programmes have occurred throughout the town.

Renewal works and upgrades continue as per the project schedules.

4 Stormwater

There have been no significant stormwater system failures.

5 Parks and Reserves

The parks and reserves teams focused on the following activities in November 2024:

- Dangerous tree identification and maintenance
- Mowing across the district
- Commencing weed spraying across the district
- Playpark repairs across the district
- Prideaux Park maintenance

6 Pool

All pools are operating under normal conditions.

7 Refuse Collection

There were no issues with refuse collection during this reporting period.

8 Refuse Disposal

The pickup and transporting of refuse to Tirohia continued without incident.

9 Recycled Collection

The collection and disposal of recycling continued without incident.

10 Vandalism

Two instances of graffiti were repaired, with 9 square metres rectified at \$362. The main areas affected were:

- Street names and posts along Grey Street
- Gateway Funeral Services alleyway

Additionally, there has been vandalism and damage to public parks' fences, gates, and entrances. The primary cause of the damage was people attempting to gain vehicular access to the river and other popular recreational areas.

11 Projects & Schedule

The attached report includes the project schedule and major maintenance works for the financial year 2024/25.

12 RECOMMENDATION

That the report from the Group Manager, Operations and Services for November 2024 be received.



Riaan Nel, B. Tech, BSc Hons
Group Manager, Operations & Services

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Activity	Period	Type	Nov-24	TOTAL YEAR	YTD	%	Comments
AR Roads Subsidised Programme	402515 001	Renewal/Capital	Kerb Replacement	84,000	0.00	0%	
AR Roads Subsidised Programme	402515 002	Renewal/Capital	Street Light Upgrade	62,000	39,000.00	63%	
AR Roads Subsidised Programme	402515 003	Renewal/Capital	Re seals	135,000	0.00	0%	
AR Roads Subsidised Programme	402515 004	Renewal/Capital	Pavement Treatment	75,000	0.00	0%	
AR Roads Subsidised Programme	402515 013	Renewal/Capital	Footpath Replacement	60,000	24,000.00	40%	
AR Roads Subsidised Programme	402515 018	Renewal/Capital	Hardie/River Drainage Works	1,000,000	0.00	0%	
AR Roads Subsidised Programme	402515 019	Renewal/Capital	Storm water catch-pit renewal	60,000	0.00	0%	
AR Roads Subsidised Programme	402515 020	Renewal/Capital	Photo cell Sensory	15,000	0.00	0%	
AR Non Subsidised Programme	402516 001	Renewal/Capital	Reseal Carpark	30,000	0.00	0%	
Water Supply Availability	403001 002	Renewal/Capital	Pipework Zone 2	2,513,862	1,035,000.00	41%	
Water Supply Availability	403001 003	Renewal/Capital	Reticulation Replacement Zone 6	470,000	150,000.00	32%	
Water Supply Availability	403001 004	Renewal/Capital	Replace Tobies	50,000	9,000.00	18%	
Water Supply Availability	403001 005	Renewal/Capital	Valve Refurbishment	75,000	8,000.00	11%	
Water Supply Availability	403001 007	Renewal/Capital	Refurbish Pump System	54,815	30,000.00	55%	
Water Supply Availability	403001 010	Renewal/Capital	UV Tube Replacement	15,000	13,000.00	87%	
Water Supply Availability	403001 021	Renewal/Capital	Headworks	197,402	106,000.00	54%	
Water Supply Availability	403001 030	Renewal/Capital	Lime and Fluoride System	203,000	352,000.00	173%	* Project Fully Funded by MOH
Wastewater Availability	403520 002	Renewal/Capital	Pipework Zone 1	765,000	89,000.00	12%	
Wastewater Availability	403520 004	Renewal/Capital	Milli Screen Renewals	58,776	0.00	0%	
Wastewater Availability	403520 011	Renewal/Capital	Wastewater Treatment Plant	369,670	15,000.00	4%	
Swimming Pools Availability	404031 001	Renewal/Capital	Club Rooms	39,749	0.00	0%	
Swimming Pools Availability	404031 002	Renewal/Capital	Spa Pool	25,000	20,000.00	80%	
Swimming Pools Availability	404031 024	Renewal/Capital	Pool Floor	23,030	7,700.00	33%	
Swimming Pools Availability	404031 061	Renewal/Capital	Filtration system	107,350	93,531.00	87%	
Recreation Centre	404035 005	Renewal/Capital	Building - Various	25,000	4,000.00	16%	
Recreation Centre	404035 020	Renewal/Capital	Cladding/Roof	60,000	0.00	0%	
Town Hall Availability	404036 010	Renewal/Capital	Roof	50,000	0.00	0%	
Passive Reserves	404042 002	Renewal/Capital	Boundary Fence	19,000	13,300.00	70%	
Passive Reserves	404042 019	Renewal/Capital	Seal Carparks	15,800	0.00	0%	
Dog Pound	405061 001	Renewal/Capital	Extension of facilities	596,502	0.00	0%	
Fields Amenity Buildings	405062 001	Renewal/Capital	Prideaux Park Pavilion - Electrical Equipment	20,000	0.00	0%	
District Office Building	405064 001	Renewal/Capital	Replace Air Conditioner	13,500	9,000.00	67%	
District Office Building	405064 020	Renewal/Capital	Flashings Spoutings	100,000	0.00	0%	
Vehicles & Plant	60 80 01 7600	Renewal/Capital	Plant Renewals	249,200	115,335.00	46%	
				7,637,656	2,132,866.00	28%	

MONTHLY REPORT ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

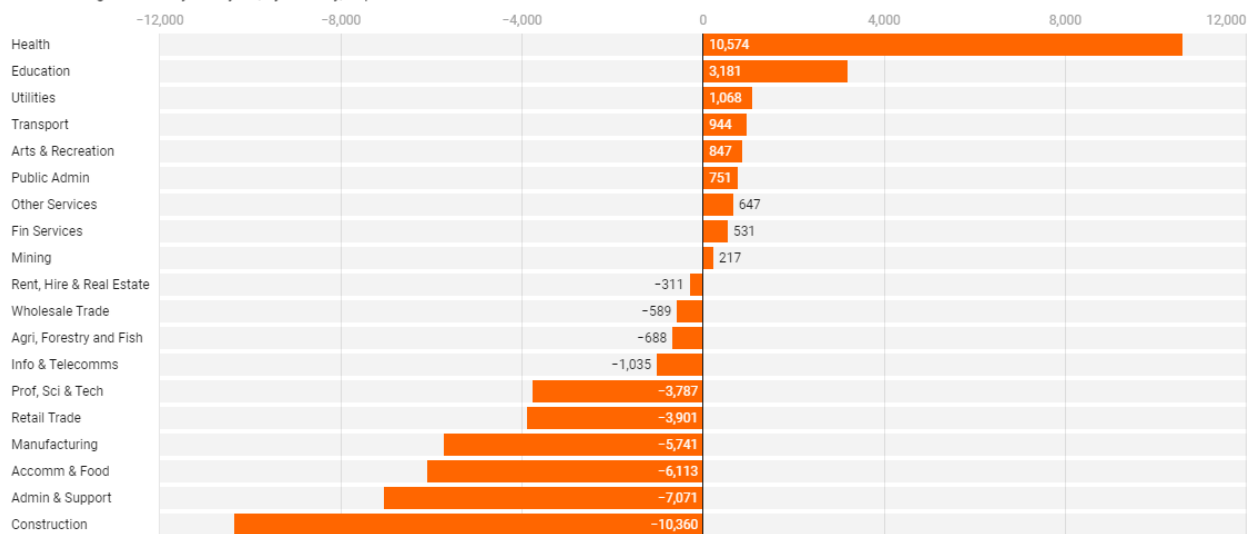
November 2024

1 Economic Development

Infometrics have released data for New Zealand for the past 12 months indicating which industries have been impacted hardest due to the economic slowdown, while showing which sectors have experienced job growth.

Chart 1: How have jobs changed over the last year?

Annual change in monthly filled jobs, by industry, Sep 2024



Health employment has bucked the trend, with an increase of nearly 10,600 filled jobs in September 2024 compared to a year ago, with demographic pressures of a larger and ageing population requiring more people to support demands on the health system.

Education had the second largest increase, up around 3,200 roles from a year ago, due to both population growth but also the weak labour market – generally, when the labour market deteriorates, more people look to reskill through education.

Infometrics forecasts the economy to remain weaker through the first half of next year, then expected GDP¹ growth by the end of 2025 has been revised up from 1.5% to 1.9%pa.

This stronger performance is predicted to continue into the following year, with growth reaching 2.7% pa by mid-2026. Parts of the agricultural sector will contribute to the recovery, as lower costs and better export prices improve profitability for dairy and beef farmers.

A modest pick-up in the housing market is also likely during 2025 as debt-servicing costs reduce, with an increased number of buyers in the market pushing house price inflation back up to over 5%pa. The residential construction industry will enjoy more stable demand conditions after three years of lower enquiry levels.

¹ Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is a fundamental economic indicator that measures the value added from the production of goods and services.

Regional Deals Framework (RDF)

In August this year central Government released the Regional Deals Framework (appendix A), pitched as a successful tool applied in Australia and UK to build stronger relationships between central and local Government and to co-ordinate investment to deliver the infrastructure needed for economic growth and productivity.

In recent weeks all of New Zealand local government bodies have been invited to express their interest to form their own regional deals.

Central government has provided the following deadlines to submit a proposal for a regional deal:

- 18 December 2024 for lodgement of an expression of interest (EOI)
- 28 February 2025 for “light touch proposals”

The RDF is not a funding application, but more of a direction of economic intent for a region, with the potential (but no guarantee) to unlock future investment, either through central Government or overseas investors.

2 Kawerau isite Visitor Information Centre

Access to Te Tapahoro (Outlet Camp) & Tarawera Falls

Access to the Tarawera Falls is only permitted by issue of a permit, available at the Kawerau isite. Permits are only permitted to be issued at the weekend and public holidays, for the use on weekends and public holidays only. It is not permitted for Monday – Friday visits to the Tarawera Falls.

Council is currently waiting on advice from the landowners Māori Investments Limited as to whether access will extend for the Christmas/New Year period to allow mid-week excursions.

Access to drive to Te Tapahoro Outlet campground is not permitted at any time. Permits are not available for this purpose. However, the campground is accessible for the purpose of camping or day visits. Access to the campground can only be achieved by boat or foot access.

By boat from the Rotorua side of Lake Tarawera or via foot from the Tarawera Falls carpark. Patrons wishing to stay overnight at the Department of Conservation managed campground under the ownership of Ngāti Rangitihī, must pre-book and pay for their site, per night (up to a maximum of seven nights consecutively only). Bookings for a tent site are made via the DOC website only.

Please note that it is not permitted to leave a vehicle at the Tarawera Falls car park overnight. Therefore, any campers at Te Tapahoro, must be shuttled into the forest and picked up when they return. Therefore, due to permit requirements through the Tarawera Forest, overnight stayers must plan their stay to incorporate when vehicles have access into the Tarawera Forest.

Key Monthly Statistics – November 2024

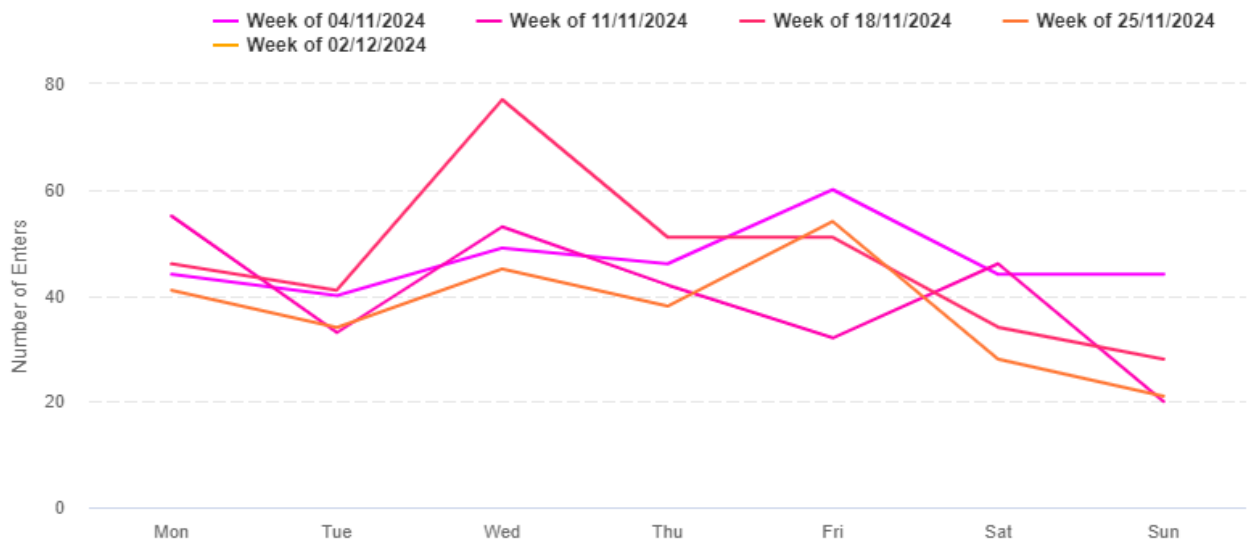
Activity	Oct. 2024	Nov 2024	% difference (to Oct. 2024)	Nov. 2023	% difference (to Nov. 2024)
Visitor enquiries	1698	1323	-28%	1680	21.2%
Forest permits	147	117	-26%	93	25.8%
Public toilet use	1120	out of order*	n/a	2300	n/a
M/home power	14	7	-100%	10	-30%

*The public toilet door counters have likely reached their end of life

As part of the Visitor Information Network (VIN) Inc. membership, at the end of the last financial year all isites were required to install upgraded replacement door counters, with a 50/50 co-funded agreement between isite owner and the VIN Inc.

Foot traffic data into the isite main door for November:

Weekly Foot Traffic (Enters)



3 Community Activities

Regular summer activities

- **Twilight Cricket Competition**

Every Wednesday 5:45 pm to 8:30 pm (Starting October 23rd – March 19th 2025)

Prideaux Park

- **Kawerau Athletics Club Night**

Every Thursday 4:30 pm – 7.00 pm (Starting October 24th) *Prideaux Park*

Events Completed for November 2024

- **Nightmare on Onslow Street**
Friday 2nd - *Rec Centre*
- **EBOP Kennel Association Annual Dog Show**
Friday 8th – Sunday 10th – *Prideaux Park*

Events registered for December 2024

- **New World Kawerau Santa Parade**
Saturday 14th – Town Centre
- **Kawerau Christmas in the Park**
Saturday 14th – Prideaux Park

Events registered for February 2025

- **Big Heart Appeal Street Collection**
Friday 21st – Ranfurly Court and Jellicoe Court

Santa Parade and Kawerau Christmas in the Park update – Saturday 14 December

Council has received all decisions from the following funders towards this year's festive showcase event:

- Trust Horizon \$10k approved (100%)
 - Lion Foundation \$65k approved (100%)
 - Bay Trust \$7.5k approved (62.5% - \$12.5k applied for)
 - NZCT – \$82k (100%)
 - Lotto – \$20k approved (100%)
- Total \$184.5k**

Essity has been added as a donor towards the event, confirming the following business donors for 2024:

- Essity
- Mercury Power
- Oji Fibre Solutions
- Sequal Lumber
- Putauaki Trust
- Māori Investments Ltd.
- Ngāti Tūwharetoa Settlement Trust
- Riteway Rigging
- KFL
- New World Kawerau

The Santa Parade float registrations closed on 6 December.

On Monday 2 December 2024, the public announcement of artists for Kawerau Christmas in the Park 2024 occurred:

Afternoon Show

- MC's Colin Magee and Aroha Ruha-Hiraka
- Kawerau South School Kapa Haka
- GS23 to close the Afternoon Show
- Tribute Band and Video of our loved ones that have passed over the year
- Kotahi Tatou
- Fusion (Band)
- Nikita Tapiki
- Whakatāne Steps Dance Group
- Soul Purpose (Band)
- Lylla-Grace
- Soul Tear (Band)
- Anaia's Band
- Kawerau Putauaki School

Evening Variety Show

- Te Haukakawa 'Boysie' Te Rire
- Mayoral address and waiata
- Master of Ceremony and entertainer Howie Morrison Jnr.
- Musical Director Ben Gilgan and the Kawerau Christmas Showband
- Tomorrow People
- Holly Smith
- Dennis Marsh
- Hamo Dell
- Marley Sola
- Jaedyn Randell
- Takerei Hikuroa-Peck
- Rewa Ututaonga
- Nikau Grace
- Te Pumanawa o Toku Ate Rogers
- Toby James

The format for the event on Saturday 14 December is:

New World Kawerau Santa Parade – coordinated by Kawerau isite

- Parade floats meet behind Ron Hardie Rec Centre from 10:00 hrs.
- Parade commences at 11:00 hrs. – one lap only
- Prize Giving on main stage at 12:00 hrs.

Radio 1XX Community Christmas Concert – Directed by Liana Kerei

- Main stage, Prideaux Park 12:00 hrs. – 17:00 hrs.

Evening Variety Show – Directed by Pari Maxwell

- Main stage, Prideaux Park 18:30 hrs. – 22:00 hrs.

Van Tiel Pyrotechnics are producing the firework display and the HSNO application was submitted to the relevant authorities, with approval granted by Fire Emergency NZ (FENZ).

Neighbourhood Support Kawerau (NSK)

Please note that due to the reset of Neighbourhood Support in Kawerau, the new committee were required to establish a new incorporated society. The official title is now *Neighbourhood Support Kawerau District Inc.*

The new committee currently await decisions on two funding applications, which if successful will allow them to employ a part-time coordinator in Kawerau.

Weekly criminal occurrences (reported & recorded by Whakatane Police Station)											
Month	Week 1		Week 2		Week 3		Week 4		Sub Total		TOTAL
									Res.	Comm.	
									149	48	197
2023/24											
2024/25	Res.	Comm.	Res.	Comm.	Res.	Comm.	Res.	Comm.	Res.	Comm.	
July	1	1	1	0	0	0	5	0	7	1	8
August	4	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	5	3	8
September	3	0	2	0	2	0	1	0	8	0	8
October	2	1	0	1	2	0	0	4	4	6	8
November	2	2	0	1	3	2	2	0	7	5	12

(Res. = Residential, Comm. = Commercial properties)

4 Youth Projects

Kawerau Youth Council (KYC)

KYC members officially convened for the final meeting of 2024 on Wednesday 4 December, which doubled up as their end of year gathering. KYC members will be involved with operational and volunteer support at Christmas in the Park, and will also enter a float into the parade.

The KYC will now go into recess with applications for next year commencing in January 2025.

Te Manatū Whakahiato Taiohi - Expanding Youth Enterprise and Education Funds (Ministry of Youth Development MYD)

As reported in October, the MYD announced three new youth development funding streams:

1. **Introduction to Youth Enterprise Fund (\$0.475m pa)**
2. **Building Entrepreneurial Capital Fund (\$0.725m pa)**
3. **Developing Youth-Led Businesses Fund (\$0.300m pa)**

Organisations were limited to apply to only one of the funding streams, and Council applied towards the **Introduction to Youth Enterprise Fund**.

Under the project title 'Visionary Vibes' Council submitted an application requesting \$19,500 (Excl. GST) to support existing projects which already provide young people with enterprise initiatives, through planning, budget setting and event delivery, through the following project activities:

1. Youth Development Weekend:
 - Objective: To equip young people with essential skills for event planning, leadership, and community engagement.
 - Activities:
 - Workshops on event management, budgeting, and risk assessment.
 - Practical experience in planning and executing a youth event.
 - Mentorship and guidance from experienced professionals and local leaders.

2. School Holiday Program:
 - Objective: To foster creativity, teamwork, and practical skills among young people.
 - Activities:
 - Youth-led activities, such as art, music, sports, and technology.
 - Opportunities for young people to design and implement their own projects.
 - Collaborative learning and skill-sharing among participants.

3. Youth Awards Celebration:
 - Objective: To recognize and celebrate the achievements of young people in Kawerau.
 - Activities:
 - Award ceremony honouring outstanding young individuals and groups.
 - Performances and presentations by young people.
 - Networking opportunities for young people to connect with community leaders and peers.

If successful, funds will be allocated towards:

- **Resource personnel:** Engaging experienced professionals and youth workers to facilitate workshops and provide mentorship.
- **Programme materials:** Purchasing supplies and equipment for workshops, activities, and events.
- **Marketing and promotion:** Advertising the project and events to attract young people.
- **Event logistics:** Covering costs associated with venue hire, catering, and transportation.

Council can expect to receive a response in March 2025 from the MYD, with successful projects to be delivered in 2025/26.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report from the Economic and Community Development Manager for the month of November 2024 be received.



Lee Corbett Barton

Economic and Community Development Manager

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REGIONAL DEALS

Strategic Framework



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Foreword

I am excited to be introducing this new opportunity for how central government, local government and the private sector can be working together to deliver for communities.

We are facing significant economic challenges, including the affordability of housing and how we provide for critical infrastructure. These challenges affect all of us, whether we are living in urban, regional or rural areas. We have been elected as a Government to address these challenges and find practical solutions to fixing them.

Central and local government have powerful tools and mechanisms at their disposal to meet these challenges, unlock economic growth and boost productivity. Regional deals will be a practical and enduring way to ensure that these tools and mechanisms are used in a coordinated way to ensure we are doing everything we can to support New Zealanders

Regional deals will unlock growth in specific geographic areas by providing a regional-level approach. They will focus on funding and financing tools, regulatory relief mechanisms, efficient and innovative use of existing funding and planning mechanisms and improved central government coordination. The deals will align with local government's 10-year planning cycles, allowing for more effective delivery and shared objectives and outcomes. They will reset systems to enable local government, with central government support, to deliver for communities.

Regional deals provide an opportunity for central and local government to agree on joint priorities, and how they wish to accomplish common objectives. Deals are about doing things differently, making the best use of what we already have, and empowering local authorities to support growth for their communities.

This Strategic Framework is just the beginning of this exciting journey to implement an effective and enduring regional deals model for New Zealand. I'm excited about the potential of this new way of doing things and looking forward to working together with local government to deliver the infrastructure investment and economic growth our communities are asking for.



Hon Simeon Brown
Minister of Local Government

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Executive Summary



New Zealand's economic growth and the prosperity it affords to communities goes hand in hand with the growth of our regions

To be a world-class, competitive actor in the 21st century, our regions need to be productive and efficient in the use of their resources and tools. Unlocking economic opportunities will require all levels of government to define shared priorities, actions, and timeframes, and consider all available levers at their disposal to support improved regional economic outcomes. It will also require developing optimal conditions for collaboration with the private sector.

The Speech from the Throne set out the Government's intention to partner with local government to create Regional Deals. Regional Deals provide a long-term approach to address some of the underlying issues impacting economic development and productivity by providing a focus on regions as integrated economic areas.

This strategic framework sets out the Government's expectations for Regional Deals and criteria for selecting regions for deals. Development of this framework includes consideration of local government objectives for Regional Deals as set out in Local Government New Zealand's *'What communities need from the framework for city/regional deals'*.¹

Regional Deals will be based on a 30-year vision, with negotiated 10-year strategic plans to deliver shared objectives and outcomes between central and local government. Deals will be long-term commitments, intended to endure, promoting economic growth and productivity, delivering connected and resilient infrastructure, and improving the supply of affordable, quality housing.

Regional Deals will be a vehicle for greater regional collaboration and coordination, improved local government decision-making and funding and financing, promoting innovative and collaborative ways of working between central and local government, and ensuring resilient cities and regions. They will provide a holistic approach to aligning and delivering agreed outcomes tailored to local conditions and national priorities. The regional deals timeframe includes reviews and evaluation of outcomes to ensure deals continue to reflect current needs.

Priority Objectives

Building economic growth

Delivering connected and resilient infrastructure

Improving the supply of affordable and quality housing

Secondary Objectives

- Greater regional and private sector collaboration
- Improved local government decision-making and funding
- Promoting innovative and collaborative ways of working between central and local government
- Ensuring resilient and sustainable cities and regions

Guiding Principles

To ensure a consistent approach across all Regional Deals, the following principles will apply:

- **partnership**
- **adaptability**
- **certainty of decision-making and funding and financing**
- **accountability and transparency**

Partnerships will involve central and local government, with opportunities for the private sector and iwi/Māori to participate.

Regional Deals will require sustainable funding and financing to develop and implement. Central and local government presently face fiscal constraints, but central government will unlock a range of funding and financing tools (existing and new), regulatory relief, and regional-central government coordination to support the deals.

Regional Deals will be led by Ministers as the main interface with local government leadership. Ministers will have delegated decision-making authority and will manage alignment across portfolios, ensuring that all necessary central government levers are available in support of the system.

Once a deal is finalised, central and local government partners from the region will establish an oversight body. The composition and membership of oversight bodies will be agreed by both parties and will have independent chairs, and senior partner representatives. Involvement of the private sector and iwi/Māori entities will be encouraged.

Regional Deals will be finalised in a staged 'waves' approach, with the first deal finalised in 2025.

Introduction ³³ and Purpose

This strategic framework for Regional Deals is the first step for giving effect to the National Party manifesto commitment and the National and ACT New Zealand coalition agreement commitment to institute long-term regional deals. This commitment is also reflected in the Speech from the Throne for New Zealand's 54th Parliament.²

The framework is a guide for discussions between central government and councils (territorial and regional authorities), and relevant private sector entities (including domestic and international investors), to deliver Regional Deals in support of shared objectives and outcomes.

Context

Current settings do not support local government to foster economic growth in their regions. Councils' existing funding and financing tools are an example of this, where councils are not rewarded for economic growth. Instead, increased tax revenue from local growth flows to central government, not local government. In practice, this means that councils and ratepayers are bearing the costs of growth. In many cases, local communities are either unable or unwilling to embrace growth and development, leading to local decisions that impede economic growth and contribute to New Zealand's significant infrastructure deficit and unaffordable housing market.

This misalignment is also reflected in central and local government's budget cycles: whereas central government operates on yearly budget cycles, local government makes most significant funding decisions through 10-year plans, produced every three years. This makes securing long-term public funding for infrastructure challenging, which in turn translates into reduced certainty for capturing private investment.

New Zealanders are facing significant affordability challenges. For example, New Zealand ranks amongst the least affordable housing markets in the OECD, with inflation-adjusted house prices rising by 256 percent between 2000 and 2021.³ Addressing housing affordability will require strong and aligned central and local government leadership to unlock more land for housing developments, to unlock funding and financing tools for councils, and to develop the right local incentives to encourage housing growth.

Affordability is also reflected in the infrastructure our communities need to thrive and prosper. New Zealand has a significant infrastructure deficit, driven by a combination of historic underinvestment and future challenges like servicing a growing population and decarbonising the economy.⁴ Building bridges, sewerage systems, roads and water supplies has also become increasingly expensive for councils.⁵

Addressing affordability and cost of living issues requires an all-of-New Zealand approach, where central and local government work together to identify and mobilise all available funding and financing and policy levers in a way that better incentivises and distributes the benefits of economic growth.

Regional Deals, will provide an opportunity to focus on getting the basics right by supporting regions to deliver the best for their communities, and the country as a whole.

What are Regional Deals?³⁴

Regional Deals will be based on a 30-year vision, with negotiated 10-year strategic plans to deliver shared objectives and outcomes between central and local government

Regional Deals will be based on a 30-year vision, with negotiated 10-year strategic plans to deliver shared objectives and outcomes between central and local government. Deals will be long-term commitments, intended to endure, to promote economic growth and productivity, delivering connected and resilient infrastructure, and improving the supply of affordable, quality housing. To better deliver shared objectives and outcomes between central and local government, the deals will align with local government 10-year planning cycles rather than central government's three-year planning cycles.

Regional Deals will be a vehicle for greater regional collaboration and coordination, enhanced private sector involvement, improved local government decision-making and funding and financing, promoting innovative and collaborative ways of working between central and local government, and ensuring resilient cities and regions. Deals will work to unlock economic and regional growth, remove regulatory bottlenecks, and support investment in infrastructure funding and provisions, in exchange for a commitment of planning liberalisation. This will provide better value for ratepayers and taxpayers who are one and the same.

By working together through a Regional Deal, central and local government will aim to provide a more strategic vision for how to enable and support economic growth in New Zealand, while generating greater certainty and long-term stability for public- and private-sector investments.

Implementing deals will create system change through:

- enabling competition for growth between regions;
- promoting the best use of planning processes for growth;
- ensuring the right incentives drive growth, including unlocking potential new revenues for local government; and
- certainty over future investment pipelines.

Regional Deals in New Zealand



Regional Deals will be enabling, empowering, enduring and adaptable

Regional Deals will empower local government and enable them to achieve their objectives. While Regional Deals will include specific central governmental priorities and objectives, projects and investments within each deal will be identified regionally through available spatial planning instruments. Regional Deals will coordinate and align central government work programmes and levers, bringing together solutions.

Regional Deals will need to be both enduring and provide the certainty needed to attract and retain the necessary investments to deliver change, especially over several central and local government electoral cycles. They will also need to be adaptable and evolve to different circumstances. To balance these competing requirements, deals will need to be made in a high-trust environment between central and local government. They will need to have strong political commitments to create enabling policy, regulatory and funding and financing environments, followed by contractual arrangements with providers. They will also need to provide for prioritisation and sequencing of investments in a way that aligns with agreed-upon objectives and outcomes.

Foundational components of Regional Deals

Though each Regional Deal will cater for local priorities, they will share the following foundational components:

- A defined economic/geographic area;
- a 10-year strategic plan with clear outcomes sought and the actions required to achieve them;
- decision-making arrangements, delivery timeframes and accountabilities;
- the capital and operational investments required;
- performance metrics with monitoring and reporting requirements; and
- regulatory and institutional settings to support the deal.

‘Regions’ in the context of Regional Deals could be regional, sub-regional or another appropriate scale, so long as they are defined economic and geographic areas with functional local authorities.

Objectives and outcomes³⁷

This framework includes the following priority and secondary objectives for central government to pursue across Regional Deals in New Zealand. The objectives aim to focus both central and local governments to build economic growth.

Priority objectives	Outcomes
Build economic growth ⁷	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased jobs and skills Improved standard of living Increased productivity
Deliver connected and resilient infrastructure ⁸	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better connected communities and businesses through infrastructure Infrastructure built (and identified investment in support of it) is more resilient against the impacts of natural hazards and climate change Infrastructure built enables development, including housing objectives
Improve the supply of affordable, quality housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased supply of build ready land (both greenfield and brownfield), including ensuring the necessary infrastructure is in place for development. Improved housing affordability for rental and home ownership
Secondary objectives	Outcomes
Greater regional and private sector collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better connections across regions, between urban and rural communities to allow for economic growth, infrastructure delivery, and improvements in the supply and quality of our housing, and improved collaboration with the private sector.
Improve local government decision making and funding and financing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local government can use an increased mix of funding tools to fund local infrastructure (water, transport, community infrastructure), housing and growth.
Promote innovative and collaborative ways of working between central and local government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Levels of government work more effectively and efficiently because of innovative processes. Central and local government have increased agility to respond to changing conditions.
Ensure regions are resilient and sustainable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communities are better prepared for the future, including being able to plan and manage our natural and built environment.

Given the current constrained fiscal environment, Regional Deals will initially be focused on the priority objectives. Central and local government will need to agree on what projects will be best placed to support these objectives, which could involve trade-offs and priority setting as regional deals are negotiated.

Specific outcomes for Regional Deals will need to be agreed between deal partners, allowing for iteration of the deal over time. Identifying outcomes requires an in-depth understanding of the regional economic and social conditions, and the projects and activities that will unlock opportunities and growth.

Through a Regional Deal partners will agree an approach for monitoring progress against these objectives and outcomes. More detail is in the **monitoring, evaluation and accountability mechanisms** section.

Guiding Principles³⁸

Guiding principles ensure a consistent approach across all Regional Deals. This framework includes four principles to guide how the deals should be undertaken to achieve the desired objectives and outcomes

Partnership

Regional Deal partners will work in good faith on a no surprises basis to develop long-term, high-trust partnerships that clearly reflect shared long-term objectives and outcomes, and strong commitments to work together. Partnerships will involve central and local government, with opportunities for the private sector and iwi/Māori to participate.

Adaptability

Regional Deals will be adaptable to meet the pace, scale and nature of proposals. They will consider the capability and capacity and readiness of different partners to deliver.

Certainty of decision making and funding

Regional Deals will aim to improve clarity around decision making processes and funding and financing to ensure the integration of long-term strategy and planning. Certainty from Regional Deals will also aim to attract and retain private sector investments.

Accountability and transparency

Regular reporting, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms will hold partners to account, will ensure public awareness of outcomes, and will measure success and provide for lesson learned.

Regional Deal Partnerships³⁹

Regional Deals will primarily be between central and local government, with participation as appropriate from other partners, including the private sector and Māori/iwi organisations

Regional Deals will reflect the guiding principle of ‘partnerships’. It will be critical for trust between partners to be built early so it enables agreement over joint priorities and ways of working, to ensure smooth project implementation.

Central and local government

Regional Deals will be a tool used to help unlock funding and financing tools, provide regulatory relief, and be supported by regional-central government coordination. Local government will provide its unique place-based knowledge and apply the necessary planning, funding and financing, and other regulatory processes to ensure successful delivery of projects.

Central and local government will agree on joint priorities and projects and identify how they will each mobilise their individual levers and tools to support Regional Deals. Partners will agree initially to a limited number of projects (five) to progress as part of a Regional Deal.

Both central and local government partners will be able to mobilise existing working relationships as foundations for their Regional Deals, especially when it involves complex, large-scale projects.

Private sector

The private sector’s expertise and investment capability will be a key component of Regional Deals. Private sector entities involved in a deal will have the opportunity to access new central government levers, leading to cost savings and new growth opportunities.

Combined commitments from central and local government will be aimed at creating an enabling investment environment to attract private sector capital where appropriate, and engagement with the private sector at the earliest possible stages is recommended.

Māori organisations and entities

There is significant potential for Māori organisations and entities to be involved in Regional Deals. The framework encourages local government to engage early with Māori organisations and entities to identify opportunities to partner with Māori, to attract iwi investment, and to use Māori/iwi expertise in Regional Deals and projects under Regional Deals. Regional Deals will also need to honour pre-existing Treaty of Waitangi obligations.

Unlocking funding and financing tools, providing regulatory relief mechanisms and coordination

This framework proposes that the Regional Deal system initially follow an approach that combines:

- unlocking funding and financing tools;
- regulatory relief mechanisms;
- efficient and innovative use of existing funding, financing and planning mechanisms; and
- improved central government coordination.

To support Regional Deals, central government and local government will work together to enable a range of options. Potential options could include:

1. a clear commitment to support agreed projects across agency investment pipelines and coordination of capital commitments to funding for transport, schools, hospitals and other aspects of growth relevant to the region;
2. enabling new user charges, value capture, targeted rates, tolling and congestion charging, an enhanced Infrastructure Funding and Financing Act;
3. proposals for the reallocation of existing government funding (e.g. from the International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy);
4. enhanced Going for Housing Growth payments which could include a share of GST for local government;
5. sector specific commitments, which could include sharing royalties generated by new and reestablished exploration of the mineral estate, or other forms of regional economic development; and
6. specific legislative changes to be advanced through legislation.

Regional Deals will need to align with local government planning and budgetary cycles including long-term plans and are not intended to supersede independent decisions made by government funding agencies. Regional Deal partners will still need to follow regular funding application and approval processes as set out by relevant agencies.

Leadership and Direction



Strategic leadership and direction, oversight and delivery structures for Regional Deals

Leadership and strategic direction

Leadership and strategic direction over Regional Deals will be provided by both local and central governments. The Infrastructure and Investment Ministerial Group will provide this direction for central government. This Ministerial Group will have delegated decision-making authority and will manage alignment across portfolios, ensuring that all necessary central government levers are available in support of the system, as well as interfacing with local government leadership.

The Infrastructure and Investment Ministerial Group will be supported by the Department of Internal Affairs with support from relevant agencies as required.

Oversight bodies

Once a deal is finalised, central and local government partners from the region will establish an oversight body for the Regional Deal. The composition and membership of the oversight bodies will be agreed by both parties and will have independent chairs, and senior partner representatives.

Because Regional Deals could build on existing relationships between central and local government (such as those in support of urban growth), oversight for Regional Deals will need to consider and align with existing oversight arrangements. Initially, the oversight bodies might be extensions of existing structures.

Because private sector investment and expertise will be critical for the success of Regional Deals, these oversight bodies will be encouraged to consider involvement of the private sector.

Implementation and delivery

Decisions regarding the implementation, delivery and evaluation of Regional Deals is contingent on further policy development, discussions with local government and delivery bodies, and the New Zealand Infrastructure Commission's development of a National Infrastructure Plan.

This framework envisages that initially each deal will have the support provided by a central government delivery agency (or agencies) who will coordinate central government and receive input from local government delivery agencies. Delivery agencies will optimise and manage effective prioritisation/sequencing of project milestones, and support procurement and delivery models for delivering infrastructure.

Entities involved in implementation and delivery will also lead on monitoring and evaluation.

Monitoring, evaluation, and accountability measures

A framework for monitoring, evaluating and accountability mechanisms will be developed for all Regional Deals to allow for comparisons and consistency across deals. Bespoke performance indicators for each deal, including metrics and a baseline – against which progress can be assessed on a regular basis – will need to be negotiated between partners and included in the deal. Continuous evaluation and negotiation of new commitments will occur over the lifetime of the deal.

In considering these mechanisms, partners will need to consider:

Complexities in evaluating the impact of deals

For example, outcomes related to economic growth (usually measured by Gross Domestic Product or Gross Value Added for a region) can be affected by many policies and circumstances, which makes it difficult to isolate how much an individual policy has contributed to a particular outcome.

Evaluation timeframes may need to be considered over a longer time horizon

While assessment of whether deals are on time, budget and meeting specific targets is possible within a shorter timeframe (for example annually, or three-yearly), it may be more realistic to assess the wider, strategic achievements over a longer time horizon. Consideration of central and local government election cycles will be important.

Capacity in local authorities

The process of developing a Regional Deal is unique to each deal, a large amount of executive time and negotiation can be required over a significant period. The capacity and skill set within local authorities to deal with the additional demands for project assessment and monitoring that comes with a Regional Deal is likely to be variable. The potential resource burden on local government needs to be monitored over time.

Coherence with existing accountability mechanisms

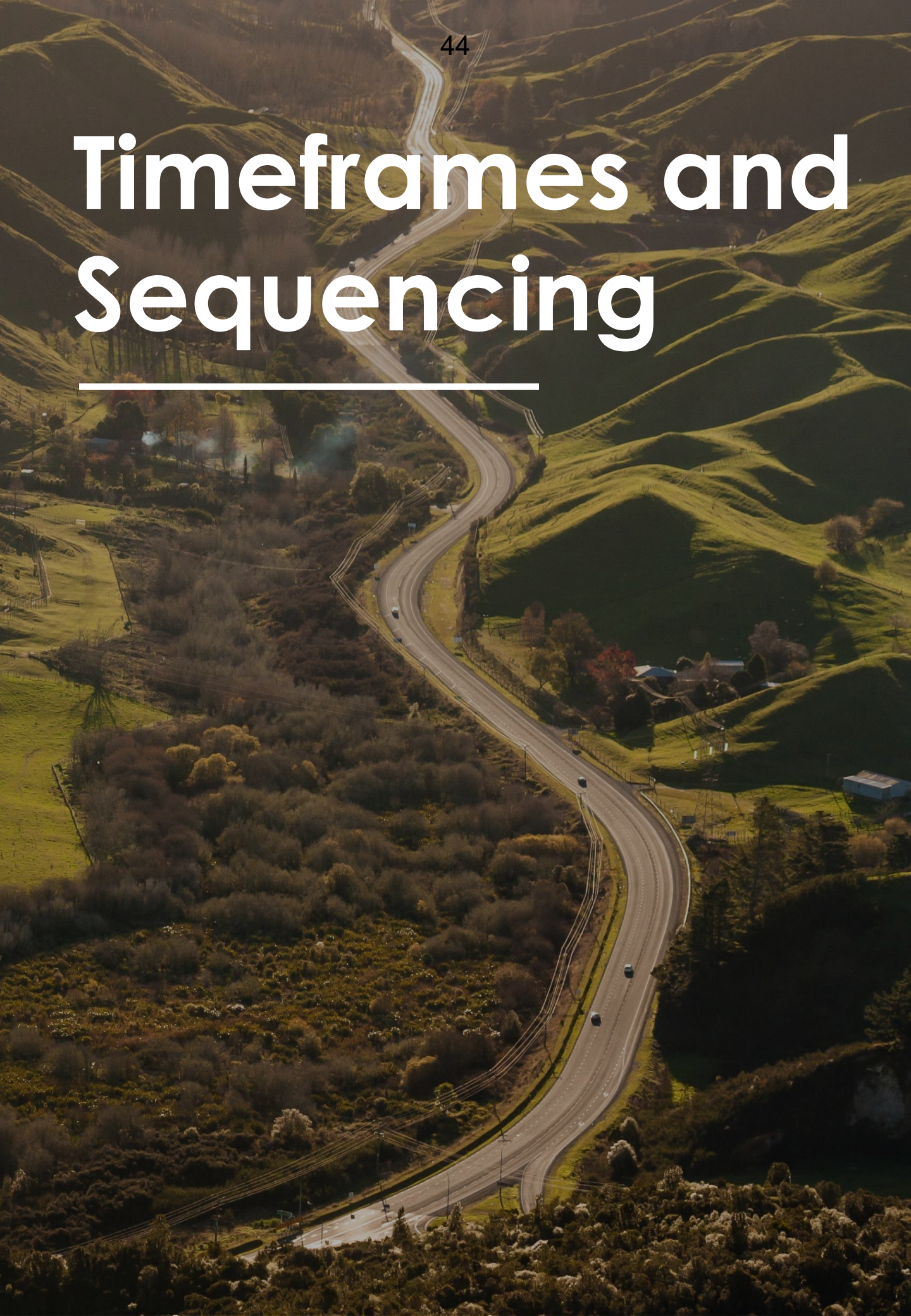
Consideration needs to be given to how any Regional Deal reporting and monitoring framework would integrate and align with existing legislation and regulatory frameworks for central and local government planning and reporting, and which bodies are best placed to assess regional deal progress.

Adaptability to changing circumstances

Consideration also needs to be given to how any variations to a regional deal will occur and how these will integrate with existing processes operated across agencies who are already involved in delivering infrastructure projects with local government partners.

Examples could include macroeconomic targets and council performance metrics such as GDP, population spend metrics, financial accountability measures, joint governance effectiveness; tourism numbers, housing consents, compliance certificates issued.

Timeframes and Sequencing



Regional deals will be based on a 30-year vision, with negotiated 10-year strategic plans to deliver shared objectives and outcomes, to provide optimal time for evaluation of outputs and delivery of projects with long-term outcomes

Timeframes

Regular reviews will be imbedded within the lifespan of deals (e.g. annually) to assess progress and project delivery using the measures discussed in the ***monitoring, evaluation and accountability measures*** section.

The lifespan will cover multiple parliamentary and local government electoral and planning cycles, which will ensure both a long-term approach to growth infrastructure, and capture and retain private sector investment. Regional Deals will need to consider other relevant central and local government planning and funding cycles.

Deal making milestones

Regional Deals will follow a staged approach with the following phases:

- **Milestone 1:** a letter from the Minister of Local Government inviting the regions to apply and laying out the government's expectations for proposals
- **Milestone 2:** consideration of proposals
- **Milestone 3:** a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
- **Milestone 4:** final stage negotiation of a deal

Release a national regional deal framework

Decision makers: Cabinet

A high-level framework that sets out what the government wants to see in Regional Deals. A public version of this document will be used by councils to prepare proposals for Regional Deals.

The framework is not specific to local needs and does not make specific promises of regulatory relief or funding and financing.

Milestone 2

Consideration of proposals

Decision makers: Infrastructure and Investment Ministerial Group | selected councils.

Central government invites expressions of interest (up to five in the first wave). Selected councils provide a light-touch proposal with an outline of the following:

- drivers of economic growth in a region: regions to identify their own areas of growth and key economic drivers;
- what the region will do to unlock growth: regions to identify what actions they intend to take to unlock or enable growth; and
- what the region needs from central government to assist: regions to identify policy and legislative action they need from central government.

Regional Deal Criteria

Light touch proposals assessed against (but not limited to):

- alignment with the strategic framework
- growth potential
- commitment to a regional spatial plan
- capability, capacity, readiness to deliver
- commitment to fiscal prudence
- that councils meet all their regulatory standards (economic and water quality regulation).

Milestone 3

Signed Memorandum of Understanding

Decision makers: Infrastructure and Investment Ministerial Group | LG Partners

Central government will confirm initial intent to progress into an MOU with selected regions.

Central and selected local government partners both develop and agree an MOU setting out intended areas to work together. Central government will provide guidance to support the MOU process to minimise council expenditure during this phase.

A region will need an MOU to enter the pre-deal queue.

Milestone 4

Final Stage Negotiation for a Deal

4.1 Pre-deal Queue

Decision makers: Infrastructure and Investment Ministerial Group | Office of Regional Deals | LG Partners

Ahead of a deal, regions will undertake work that may be needed to support the deals (for example: zoning decisions, community agreement, establishment of any necessary committees, cross-council collaboration, including proposals to establish CCOs for cross-council service delivery).

Central and local government will agree monitoring and reporting metrics to measure overall regional performance (e.g. GDP, population, spend metrics, tourism numbers, housing consents, compliance certificates issued).

4.2 Funding and Financing

Decision makers: Infrastructure and Investment Ministerial Group | Office of Regional Deals | LG Partners

Central government will assess what is needed from local government for a deal. This could include a mix of the following:

Funding and Financing tools

- A pipeline of project funding as set out in the GPS Transport;
- commitment to support the agreed projects across agency investment pipelines and capital commitments;
- value capture/ support for a targeted rate;
- new user charges;
- enhanced Going for Housing Growth payments. For example: share of GST for local government and/or potential earn back mechanisms;
- legislation + other tools to better enable longer term funding and financing commitments, for example, enhanced IFF; or
- sector specific commitments – for example a greater sharing of royalties from an activity like mining.

Regulatory Relief

- Fast track consenting for projects

Coordination

- Coordination of decisions around planning and programming of schools, hospitals, for example, needed to support a growth region

4.4 Finalised regional deal

Decision makers: Infrastructure and Investment Ministerial Group | Office of Regional Deals | LG Partners

Partners sign the Regional Deal. The first deal will be finalised in 2025.

A regional deal is likely to have the following characteristics:

- A defined economic/geographic area;
- 10-year strategic plan with clear objectives, outcomes and actions to meet shared objectives and outcomes;
- alignment with 30-year National Infrastructure Plan;
- clear leadership arrangements, delivery timeframes and accountabilities;
- identified capital and operational investments and operating costs;
- clear performance measurements and regular monitoring and reporting;
- clear operational roles and responsibilities defined and an operating model that balances flexibility and responsiveness with accountability; and
- regulatory and institutional settings to support the deal.

Sequencing

Given the time and resourcing required to negotiate, implement and monitor Regional Deals, this framework proposes that deals be finalised in a staged approach.

The Government intends to complete the first deal in 2025.

Region Selection



Selection of regions for Regional Deals will be made by Ministers using a set of standardised criteria. Guidance will be issued to local government on what they will need to provide to be eligible for a Regional Deal

High level criteria

Local authorities will generally be selected for Regional Deals by the Infrastructure and Investment Ministerial Group (IIMG) based on assessments against standardised criteria:

- alignment with the strategic framework;
- growth potential;
- commitment to a regional spatial plan;
- capability, capacity and readiness to deliver;
- commitment to fiscal prudence; and
- commitment to broader government reform objectives such as Local Water Done Well and Going for Housing Growth.

First wave or tranche

Five regions will be invited to provide light-touch proposals for a first wave of Regional Deals. Selection of regions for the first wave will be led by Ministers, based on selection criteria, and agreed to through a Cabinet process. Selection will be supported by the high-level criteria with particular emphasis on:

- councils being in a growth area that has clear objectives around economic growth, productivity and infrastructure in alignment with the Regional Deal strategic framework;
- councils with an already identified functional economic area, such as through an existing urban partnership, and therefore have initial supporting structures, spatial plans and future development strategies in place, including where relevant, funding and financing proposals for infrastructure development and delivery; and
- councils being ready to deliver on a deal, including having the capability and capacity, a clear plan for the city/region, and a track record of having worked successfully with central government, other councils in the region, private sector and iwi/Māori.

It is noted that central and local government are part of several partnerships that may already satisfy the above criteria, including for example, Urban Growth Partnerships. These urban partnerships could be mobilised as foundations for Regional Deals.

Subsequent waves or tranches

Subsequent Regional Deals will build on the lessons learned from previous Regional Deals to ensure the system is refined as more deals are established. Regions or sub-regions for subsequent waves will be selected through an open expressions of interest process. Proposals received from the expressions of interest will be assessed against the high-level criteria set out in this strategic framework and consideration by the Office of Regional Deals.

Advice to the Infrastructure and Investment Ministerial Group will follow this assessment, and subject to their approval, will proceed to a Cabinet process for formal agreement.

Sources

1. https://img.scoop.co.nz/media/pdfs/2405/Framework_City_and_Regional_deals.pdf
2. Speech from the Throne <https://gazette.govt.nz/managePDF?file=2023/2023-vr5697.pdf>
3. <https://www.hud.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Documents/Cabinet-papers/Cabinet-Paper-Fixing-the-Housing-Crisis.pdf#:~:text=Unaffordable%20housing%20has%20far%2Dreaching,standards%20for%20all%20New%20Zealanders>
4. Report into New Zealand’s Infrastructure Challenge, Sense Partners for the New Zealand Infrastructure Commission, Oct 2021, <https://media.umbraco.io/te-waihanga-30-year-strategy/lhnm5gou/new-zealands-infrastructure-challenge-quantifying-the-gap.pdf>.
5. A report commissioned by Local Government New Zealand demonstrates that in the last three years, building bridges, sewerage systems, roads and water supplies has become 38%, 30%, 27% and 27% more expensive to build respectively
https://d1pepq1a2249p5.cloudfront.net/media/documents/Analysing_increases_in_local_government_costs_LI2BVKU.pdf
6. LGNZ media release: <https://www.lgnz.co.nz/news/media-releases/drivers-behind-rates-rises-across-the-country-laid-bare/>
7. Economic growth is a broad concept that may involve many industries. Funding and financing and regulatory frameworks that underpin industry-specific projects will vary and will need to be considered when regional deals are formalised.
8. Infrastructure refers to “the fixed, long-lived structures that facilitate the production of goods and services, including transport, water, energy, social assets, and digital infrastructure such as our broadband and mobile networks” as defined by the Treasury
<https://www.treasury.govt.nz/information-and-services/nz-economy/infrastructure>
9. Including the Department of Internal Affairs (as initial lead), the Treasury, the Ministry for Housing and Urban Development, the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, the Ministry of Transport, and the Ministry for the Environment. Involvement from the infrastructure Commission is also expected in support of the infrastructure portfolio.



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MONTHLY REPORT COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

November 2024

1 Communication

1.1 Community Pānui | Update


Two pānui | newsletters completed – 5 and 21 November
Hardie Avenue - 8 November

1.2 Significant Communications:

1.2.1 Includes: Better together – anti drink driving campaign, weather warnings, DORA bus at the District Library; Christmas in the Park (memorial tribute video, Santa parade theme), Rates due and Brian Brake museum exhibition

1.2.2 Council Operations and Services includes: Council meetings, Consultation and Engagement – Spatial Plan, Proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw; emergency and planned water shuts, AA closures, Maurie Kjar Aquatic Centre maintenance shut and updates, K-Town C.A.W. Annual Dog Day, Council Christmas Function services' closure, Creative Communities Scheme, New World Taps out of action and priority wastewater renewals

1.3 Council Communication Channels overview

Website  4,000 visits (increase). Top Page Visits: District Library, Rates property search, Christmas in the Park 2024, Maurie Kjar Aquatic Centre, 'Have your say!' and Meetings and Agendas

Social Media		
	Facebook	Instagram
	▲ 6,100 visits	▼ 7 visits
	▲ 48,000 reach	▼ 86 reach
	▲ 5,301 followers	▲ 187 followers

Top content: Maurie Kjar Aquatic Centre Reopened, Christmas in the Park event timetable, MTFJ Mana Taiohi Wānanga and code of ethics training and increased traffic around Cobham Drive

2 Engagement - underway and planned

2.1 Proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw Review

Submissions opened for the proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw on Monday 18 November and close at 5pm on Friday 20 December 2024.

2.2 Our Places - Eastern Bay Spatial Plan

Collaborative project with all Eastern Bay councils to plan for future growth of the district by some 5,500 homes and respective industrial growth over the next 30 years.

Early engagement period closed on 17 November 2024, with a total of 550 pieces of feedback. Thank you to the many people who took the time to give their thoughts and ideas, attend a workshop or drop-in session and particularly to the seven submitters who presented in person at the informal hearing to the Project Steering Group on 2 December 2024. The Engagement Summary Report is available on the Our *Places* website and via the Kawerau District Council website.

2.3 Electoral Process 2023- 2024: Representation Review

Three-stage representation review process nearing completion with the appeal process from 20 September closing on 4 November 2024 for the Final Proposal, which outlines community representation and how Council is arranged. A report will be tabled at the 27 November 2024 Council Meeting.

Completed actions to date:

- Council resolved to retain the First Past the Post (FPP) voting system on 6 September 2023
- Following significant community engagement, Council resolved to introduce Māori Ward(s) on 22 November for the 2025 election
- Representation Review early engagement and feedback gathered from 70 people – March to May 2024
- Two workshops with elected members – May and June 2024
- Extraordinary Meeting 17 July 2024 - Council adopted Initial Proposal of a Mixed System (combination model) of eight councillors plus the Mayor; arranged as two 'at large' (district-wide) seats, three Kawerau Māori Ward seats and three Kawerau General Ward seats and no community board
- Local Government (Electoral Legislation and Māori Wards and Constituencies) Amendment Act 2024 became law in July 2024
- Initial Proposal formal consultation period - 22 July to 26 August
- Council reaffirmed decision to introduce Māori Wards - Extraordinary Meeting Wednesday 14 August 2024
- Initial proposal received 104 submissions
- Hearing for Submitters and Deliberations - Wednesday 11 September
- Council Meeting to adopt Final Proposal - 11 September 2024
- Public Notice of Final Proposal – 20 September 2024

- Submitters advised of the public notification (where contact details were provided) regarding the Final Proposal and appeal period on 20 and 23 September respectively
- Final Proposal Appeal/Objection period closed (20 Sept to 4 November '24)
- LGC Hearing (placeholder if required) – 30 January 2025. *PLEASE NOTE:* The Local Government Commission has advised on 26 November 2024 that the hearing that was scheduled for 30 January 2025 will no longer be required as the one objection received was invalid.
- With support of Election Services, Council will review and complete any final processes to close-out the Representation Review process.
- Triennial Elections and Poll on Māori Wards – 9 September to 11 October 2025

Upcoming Engagement

Planning is underway for a number of other formal, special consultative or early engagement processes in 2024 and 2025 including:

- District Plan – early engagement
- Long Term Plan – early engagement
- Bylaws, policies and strategies
- Age and Accessibility Strategy

3 Residential Developments – Current Status

The table below shows the surplus/deficit to date for each of Council's residential developments (*construction costs):

	Central Cove	Hine Te Ariki / Bell Street	Porritt Glade Lifestyle Village	TOTAL
Total Sections / Units	31	4 / 2	29	64
Sections / Units Sold	22	1	29	52
Remaining Sections / Units	9	3 / 1		12
Units completed		2	29	31
Units under construction				
Surplus/ (Deficit) to Date	291,230	(597,995)	(46,252)**	
<u>Breakeven</u>				
Sales still required to break-even	0	1	0	

**Sales income offsets higher operating costs, due to units being unoccupied.

3.1 Porritt Glade Lifestyle Village

Thanks to the Finance Team for their work to get the Annual Accounts completed and audited for Porritt Glade Lifestyle Village. The AGM has been set for 18 December 2024 at 2pm at the Bert Hamilton Hall.

3.2 Central Cove

Mike Greer Homes' planned build of three spec homes in Central Cove continues and the company has commenced online marketing available to view here [Lot 4, Central Cove Kawerau | Mike Greer Homes](#).

3.3 Duplex Build 53A Bell Street and Hine Te Ariki

Marketing recommencing in December and January for the three-bedroom Bell Street unit and two house and land packages available on the sections accessible from Hine Te Ariki Place with Generation Homes.

3.4 Stoneham Park Residential Development

Council resolved to sign the Heads of Agreement with the Bay of Plenty Housing Equity Fund to invest in Stoneham Park. To be followed by the Equity Fund's board signing in due course.

Meeting convened regarding the earthworks consent process and catchment storm water modelling and parameters on Monday 25 November between Kawerau District Council and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council. Council acknowledges and thanks the BOPRC team for attending and for the openness in discussions and in finding a pathway forward.

In progress:

- Tender evaluation process for stormwater modelling;
- Further communication and meetings with BOPRC re stormwater modelling;
- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Council and Kowhai Park Body Corporate – final review by parties and legal review.

Council Reports being prepared:

- Signing 'in principle' of MOU between Council and Kowhai Park Body Corporate;
- Tender selection process for Storm Water modelling.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report from the Manager, Communications and Engagement for the month of November 2024 be received.



Tania Humberstone

Manager, Communications and Engagement | Residential Development