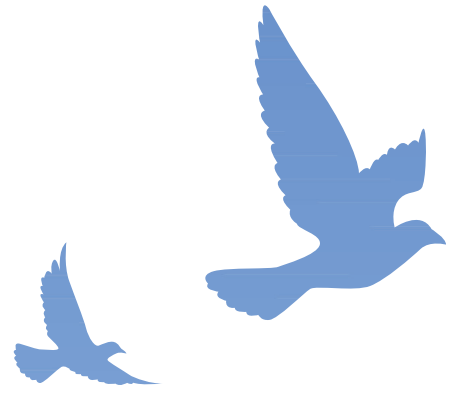




DESIGN | Local Elections 2022
the Future



Making our mark on MANAWATŪ

How we've been nurturing the present and designing the future.

Pre-Election Report 2022



Kia ora,

welcome to the world of local government

a world full of exciting opportunities to make the place we all call home a better place to be.

A district council like ours is responsible for providing and maintaining the infrastructure that forms the basis of a functioning community – aspects such as roading, Three Waters, building developments and recreational spaces. On top of that, we also develop and nurture community facilities that help promote wellbeing connection, such as our libraries and swimming pools.

Every three years, local residents and ratepayers can take up the opportunity of shaping the future direction of Council, either through:

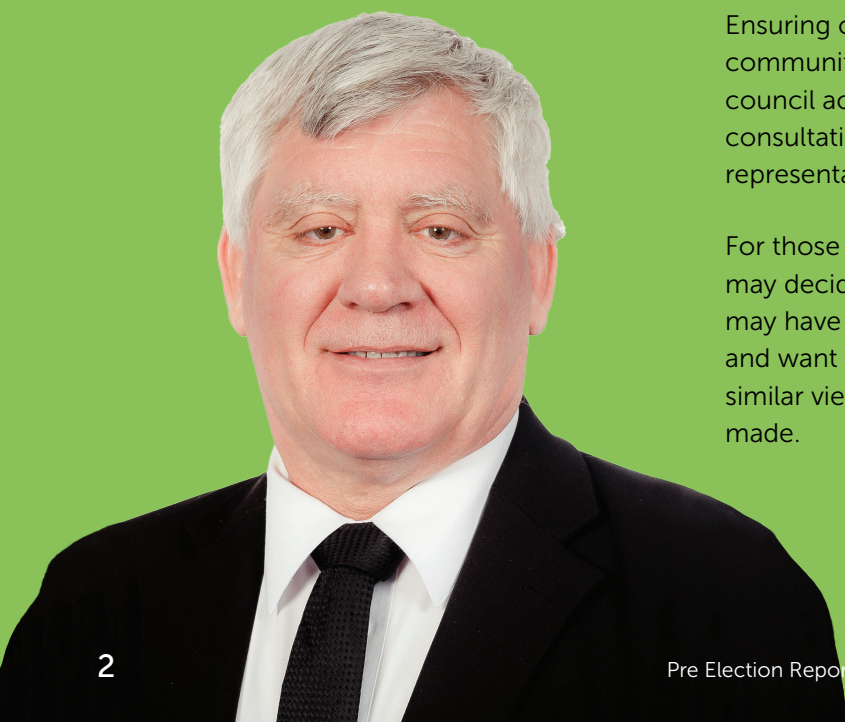
- **standing to be a Councillor themselves, or**
- **voting for their chosen candidate**

Councillors represent the voices of our communities so it's vitally important that the interests of everyone are heard around the council chamber. In order for council to make informed, community-driven decisions, a range of voices and opinions need to be considered.

Helping design the future

Ensuring our district is fit for the future takes a whole community effort. People can do this by learning about council activities, contributing to conversations and consultations, and when the time comes, voting for a council representative that aligns with their own thoughts and values.

For those wanting to make a more practical contribution, you may decide to stand as a candidate in the council election. You may have strong opinions about certain issues facing council and want to ensure that the voice of the people you share similar views with are considered when decisions are being made.





Issues facing our District

There's no doubt that the work and effort of local government is ever-changing, challenging and vitally important for the here and now, and the future generations. Decisions made now will affect how our children, their children and generations after that experience their local environment.

There are many issues facing our council which will need careful consideration over the next three years, and further into the future. Anyone elected as a member of our council will need to have the ability to think strategically about how best we approach, and deal with these key issues.

A key area of focus for us is our relationship with hapū/iwi Māori. We acknowledge the hurt caused by Council's initial decision to defer the establishment of a Māori Ward in Manawatū District, and we have a lot of work to do in restoring the constructive relationships we previously had with iwi in our rohe. We are excited to be welcoming a Councillor for our Ngā Tapuae o Matangi Māori Ward and for what this will bring to our council in the future. It ensures Te Ao Māori is considered in all council decisions and provides iwi Māori with the opportunity to elect the person they feel will represent their views and aspirations at the council table.

Other issues of key importance include the effects of climate change and how we protect our natural and built resources from the ever-increasing impacts our communities are experiencing.

We also need to look at community growth and affordability - how do we ensure our district is an attractive, and sustainable place to have a house or a business?

Local councils are also preparing for some of the biggest shake-ups in a generation, with a range of reforms on the table, including Three Waters, Resource Management Act and the Future for Local Government review. All these will have an impact on how we operate, our remit of responsibility and how we plan for the future.

This Pre-Election Report tells the story of our council and the challenges and opportunities we face over the next three years. It is designed to help you understand more about the big issues so you can make an informed decision on who to vote for in the local elections in October.

It may also encourage you to stand to become an elected member. Our communities need passionate, committed individuals to represent them on our council, so I encourage you to read on and discover more about the role, its responsibilities and what you can gain personally, and professionally from a role as a councillor.

However you decide to make an impact on our community, either by standing for nomination, or by voting in the local elections thank you for taking an interest and I look forward to serving our communities as Chief Executive of Manawatū District Council.



Shayne Harris





Community Outcomes

our vision

A place to belong and grow

He kāinga e ora pai ai te katoa

We provide leisure and sports facilities and support community activities to encourage social and cultural well-being for everyone.

A future planned together

He kāinga ka whakamaherea tahitia tōna anamata e te hapori tonu

We work with all parts of our community to plan for a future everyone can enjoy.

An environment to be proud of

He kāinga ka rauhitia tōna taiao

We protect and care for the Manawatū District's natural and physical resources.

Infrastructure fit for future

He kāinga ka tūwhena tonu ōna pūnahahanga, haere ake nei te wā

We ensure the Manawatū District has infrastructure (water, roads, etc.) that meets the needs of the community now and into the future.

A prosperous, resilient economy

He kāinga ka tōnui tōna ōhanga

We aim to make the Manawatū District a great place to live, to visit and to do business.

Value for money and excellence in local government

He kāinga ka eke tōna kāwanatanga ā-rohe ki ngā taumata o te kairangi

We take pride in serving our communities. We focus on doing the best for the District.



Just over
32,000 

people call Manawatū District home

It covers **250,000 hectares**, stretching from Rangiwahia in the north, to Hīmatangi Beach in the south.

We are a mix of
metro and rural communities
with over half our population living in Feilding.




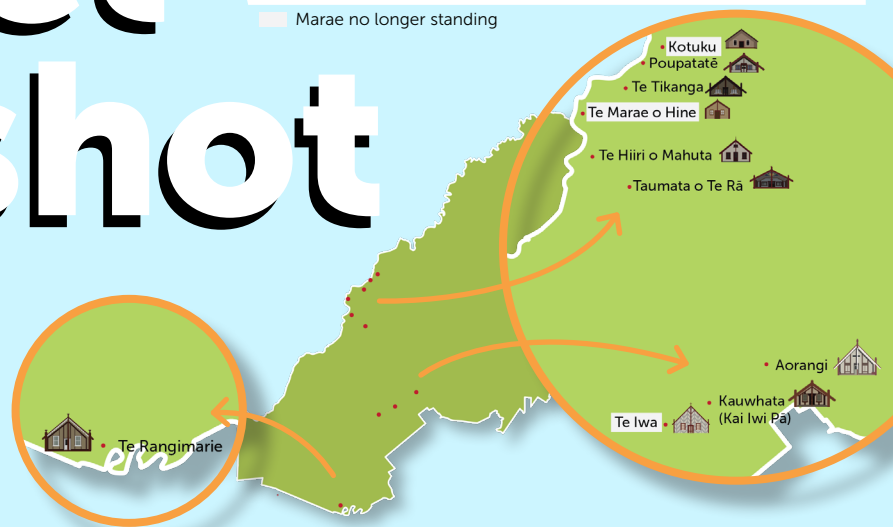
Our rural communities include villages such as Pōhangina, Āpiti and Tangimoana, and we also host New Zealand's largest Air Force base at Ōhakea

District Snapshot

Approximately 16% 
of the Manawatū population identify as Māori

and in Manawatū there are
7 standing Marae and 6 iwi

 Marae no longer standing



We currently have the
largest number of
school children
we've ever had. Over

5,000



at last count so it's important that we are putting in the foundations to build a community fit for their futures.

Our
older population is
also **growing,**

with a fifth of our population projected to be over 65 by 2050

so we need to ensure our district can cater to and support an ageing population.

The agriculture and forestry industries provide the most money to our economy generating approximately

\$540M each year

providing **jobs** for over **2000 people.**



Manufacturing and defence, primarily Base Ōhakea, also contribute strongly to the local economy.

Manawatū District Council's strategies

for the future development of our district need to encompass the needs of all people in our district – whether that be young families, business owners, retirees, students, first-time home buyers or visitors to our region.

The work of council ensures the Manawatū District is a
welcoming and supportive
community, and a place that residents are proud to call home.

Key issues facing our district



Climate Change

What's the issue?

The Manawatū District is certainly not immune to the implications and impacts of climate change. As a district that relies heavily on a thriving agricultural sector, we need to make sure we're prepared for the challenges that climate change will present over the next decades. The impacts of climate change can affect our natural and built environment, and the wellbeing of our communities.

How is Climate Change Affecting us?

Impacts include

coastal erosion

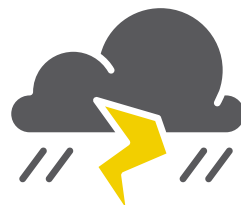


increased fire risk

Higher Temperatures



inland flooding



extreme weather events



sea level rise



river erosion



🌀 The challenge

Mitigating the risks and results of climate change requires significant investment and foresight. We need to ensure that our key infrastructure services such as roads and three waters are resilient enough to withstand the impact of key weather events. We also need to think differently when it comes to how and where district growth should occur with consideration given to flood risks and other natural hazards.

A large proportion of our roading network is exposed to flooding, estimated to be over 200km worth across the district. We also face significant risk from slips and landslides that come with heavy rainfall.

We are already dealing with these effects so the time to act is now. During periods of intense rainfall, Feilding, Rongotea, Kairanga/Bainesse and Tangimoana are prone to flooding and in recent times have seen examples of flooding which has caused damage to homes and communities.

84% of the land owned by iwi Māori is next to waterways such as the Manawatū, Rangitīkei and Ōroua rivers and their tributaries that have a long history of flooding. Approximately 18% of Māori land is within a "Flood Channel Zone" in the Manawatū District Plan and iwi in our district have informed council that they wish to be involved in the ongoing research on the impacts of climate change as part of long term planning for the protection and sustainability of their land.

Council have been working in collaboration with Ngāti Kauwhata to protect and restore the mauri of the Ōroua River. Mana Whakahaere (the Ōroua River Governance Group) has begun the journey of resetting the strategic direction of work to ensure the awa remains a vital and distinctive feature of the Manawatū District and uphold the Ōroua River Declaration.



Progress so far

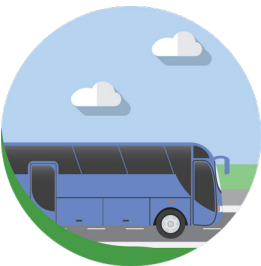
As well as dealing with the impacts of the here and now, it's also important that we consider how our council can positively impact our environment in the future, by looking at more environmentally-friendly operating methods, reducing emissions and minimising waste in our district.

Ways in which council is managing and mitigating climate change include:



Environmental Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan

This will set a clear strategy for the way we tackle environmental issues affecting our district. It looks at how we will measure and reduce our emissions at an operational level, and how we will partner with the community to improve environmental outcomes for our district.



Cleaner and greener

As a rural district, transport is the biggest contributor to greenhouse emissions in our area. Council has been seeking ways to encourage more active transport options, including the new Orbiter bus service in Feilding and advocating for new public transport services in our villages.



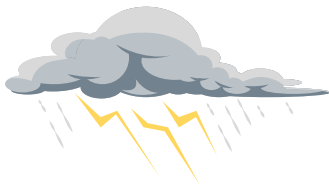
Building resilience

Council has invested in the maintenance and drainage of key structures within our district, designed to keep our roads open. Being proactive in this space also helps reduce the cost of emergency works. We've also built key assets such as the Manawatū Wastewater Treatment Plant outside areas that are likely to be affected by a 1 in 200 year flood event. Major flood protection works – also known as stop banks – have been completed for the lower Manawatū, the Kiwitea Stream and the Ōroua River among other measures and 80% of council staff are now trained in Emergency Management so we have the capacity to respond to multiple events if necessary.



Reducing risk

We are improving the resilience of our three waters (drinking water, storm water and waste water) networks by using resilient design materials and pipe-laying techniques. Lifelines and assets that are critically important are also prioritised for renewal to increase the resilience of our network and reduce our risk profile.



Reserve resilience funds

In light of the predicted increase in the frequency and severity of storm events and extreme weather events, council has taken measures to ensure it has the financial means to respond to such events. This includes building resilience reserve funds of \$8.2million over the life of our 10 Year Plan to 2021/31.



Planning

The impacts of climate change means we have to think differently about how and where we develop our district. We use insights from flood modelling data to shape our consenting process and we consider natural hazards when identifying potential areas of growth.

Local Government Reforms

🌀 What's the issue?

There is significant change on the horizon for local government, and exactly what this will look like is not yet certain. This uncertainty provides us with a challenging environment in which to operate over the next three years as we continue with our 'business as usual' responsibilities while responding to change.

🌀 The challenge

Council operates within a heavily regulated environment, in which legislation, regulations and other requirements can change rapidly. As requirements change, council needs to incorporate them into our policies and processes, and in some cases, undertake works to meet new requirements. This can lead to increased operating costs or the need for expensive infrastructure upgrades.

There are a number of draft policies in the pipeline that if implemented will have cost and resourcing implications for council. Some of the key areas for focus are:

Three Waters



A key consideration for our Council is the Government's proposed Three Waters Reform. This programme will see the removal of current council owned and operated three waters services into one of four new publicly-owned entities which will manage the future delivery of these services by July 2024.

Over the last decade, Manawātū District Council has invested proactively in our core infrastructure, and have confidence that our water systems can support current and future demand, as well as quality requirements. However it is still uncertain on how three waters will be delivered to communities in the future and this will undoubtedly be an area of focus in the coming triennium.



Future for Local Government review

Central government is currently looking at how local government needs to evolve over the next 30 years to meet the needs of our populations. With a focus more likely to be on community wellbeing, the environment and actively embodying Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles, the future looks set to include a significant change from the status quo.



🌀 Resource Management Act (RMA) Reforms

The government is planning to repeal the Resource Management Act and replace it with three new pieces of legislation. This will have major implications on the role and responsibility of our council when it comes to planning and development. We're in agreement that the RMA is in need of reform, but we do have concerns about whether or not the reforms will meet the objectives that the government have set. We'll continue to advocate for changes to the proposed reforms through Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) that will help simplify the current system that will benefit both council and the community we serve.

🌀 Progress so far

Our council is heavily involved in the Communities 4 Local Democracy group (C4LD), which advocates for alternative solutions to the Three Waters Reform proposal. Member councils are looking to reflect their communities' concerns and protect the investments already made into three waters infrastructure.

Council has also submitted feedback into the Future for Local Government review, providing examples of existing and current work linked to the five areas of focus:

- More equitable funding
- Strengthen local democracy
- Genuine partnership between Central Government and Local Government
- Stronger focus on wellbeing
- Authentic relationship with hapū/iwi/Māori

The independent panel established to conduct this review will be presenting the draft report and recommendations in September 2022.



Community Growth and Affordability



What's the issue?

The Manawatū District population is estimated to increase by about 34.5% by 2051. We expect that around 60% of that growth will be in Feilding, while the rest will occur in rural and village areas.

The mean household income in our district is slightly lower than the New Zealand average (\$112,567 vs \$117,774). Housing affordability continues to be a concern for a large number of residents in our district, with houses costing on average 6 times the mean

household income. However when compared with the New Zealand average of 8.8 times the median household income, our district remains competitive and attractive to a range of buyers.

Rental affordability is tracking in a similar vein – our district's rents have been rising at a faster rate compared with the New Zealand average over the last three years, particularly for long term renters. Addressing the issues of housing affordability and increasing housing stock is a high priority for council over the coming triennium.

The challenge

Rising costs

Like the rest of Aotearoa, our council is charged with ensuring our infrastructure, community facilities and services meet growing demand and community expectation while also keeping rates affordable.

The cost of everything is rising, and council is not immune to these changes. Our ageing population and moderate growth limits the ability of our community to pay for infrastructure assets and services. We need to look at how we can generate additional revenue, both through the rates system, and other channels. Council has committed to undertaking a rates review to assess the most equitable way for collecting rates across our district.

Housing stock

A changing population means we have to plan for different forms of housing and ownership, ensuring that smaller, medium density houses and social housing are also part of the development mix and our response to growth.

District development

We need to make sure that the district has activities and services that will encourage families to move here and stay. This includes looking at how we can facilitate affordable housing options and ensure our approaches to growth and development meets the needs of everyone.

In the last five years the number of households on the waiting list for social housing in the district has increased from 29 in March 2017 to 135 in March 2022. This lack of public housing must be addressed in the short term and planned for in the medium to long term.



Progress so far

Council completed a housing stocktake in December 2020 which identified that the market is not meeting current demand for public housing, transitional housing and affordable housing for low income families. As a result of the stocktake, council developed a Housing Strategy and Action Plan.

Work has already begun on increasing the housing stock in Feilding. Our 'Feilding North Growth Works' provides for an extra 1700 homes across the next 20 years. Other urban areas are being considered for development as part of Manawatū District Council's District Plan Review.

Momentum is growing in the papakāinga space, with council looking at opportunities to support iwi for marae-based papakāinga developments. Council is also considering how this type of development can be better actively enabled through the District Plan Review.

Large projects currently in the works, and those planned for the next few years will also create employment and enhance tourism, in turn bringing more people to the Manawatū District. We're expecting to welcome around 275 staff and their families to Base Ōhakea between 2022 and 2023, and the KiwiRail Regional Freight Hub, set to be located between Palmerston North Airport and Bunnythorpe is expected to generate around 300 jobs, some of which will be filled by people currently living in, or looking to relocate to, the Manawatū District.

The Kawakawa Industrial Precinct, around Turners Road in Feilding, will provide 24 hectares of high quality industrial land designed to attract new businesses to the district. Council has also just recently finished work on the Mangaweka Bridge replacement, in collaboration with Rangitīkei District Council. The new bridge allows for easier access to the district by large trucks, as well as supporting local tourism.

Council has also committed to carrying out a rates review, to determine the most equitable way of collecting rates across our district. On top of this, we have already fed back to the Future for Local Government Review about the need for more equitable funding for local governments, and will continue to advocate for alternative streams of revenue rather than relying purely on the rates system.



Other Decisions and Considerations



Environment, regulation and monitoring

Issue

Resource Management Act (RMA) reforms

The current RMA will be replaced by three new Acts – the Natural and Built Environments Act, the Spatial Planning Act and the Climate Change Adaptation Act.

Council Role

Council is providing feedback on the reforms, to improve the process that helps fast track development whilst also protecting the natural environment.

Issue

Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019

Additional responsibilities and requirements for local government to enable New Zealand to meet its emission reduction targets and resilience to climate change.

Council Role

Council is now required to consider climate change action into existing frameworks, plans, projects and decision-making procedures.

Issue

He Kura Koiora i hokia – National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity

New Zealand's indigenous biodiversity is in decline, so this policy statement is designed to try and halt the decline and restore it. A collective and coordinated response is required.

Council Role

Council is required to map and manage significant natural areas and survey and protect highly mobile fauna.

Issue

National Policy for Highly Productive Land

Certain pastoral land to be ringfenced from development to ensure that we have enough highly productive land available for agriculture and horticultural purposes.

Council Role

Council will be required to give more weight to the protection of highly productive land when planning development or making changes to the District Plan.

Issue

National Waste Strategy

To transform waste systems around the country and better regulate how products and materials are managed in our economy.

Council Role

Council has just adopted the Waste Management and Minimisation Strategy 2022-2028, which will see a number of new initiatives to help reduce waste to landfill.

Issue

Water Services Entities Bill

This bill establishes four new publicly owned water entities to that will provide drinking, waste and storm water services, as part of the Three Waters Reform model.

Council Role

Council opposes the reforms in its current form and will continue to advocate for changes to ensure that assets that our community paid for remain in their ownership and that local voices are not lost.

Issue

National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management

This provides local authorities with updated direction on how they should manage freshwater under the RMA.

Council Role

Ensure that we manage fresh water in a way that gives effect to Te Mana o te Wai, through involving tangata whenua and communities in the development of our regional policy statement and prioritising the health and wellbeing of water bodies.

District Growth

Issue

National Policy Statement on Urban Development

Ensuring that towns and cities are well functioning and meeting the needs of our diverse communities, including in public transport and infrastructure.

Council Role

Ensure that opportunities for growth, both 'up' and 'out' are realised and all urban planning development occurs in a way that takes into account the principles of te Tiriti o Waitangi.



Issue

District Plan Review

The District Plan ensures that land use is appropriate for the intended purpose. They are the blueprint to grow the district in a responsible way.

Council Role

Developing options using technical advice that balances the needs for aspects such as housing, business, roading, farming, forestry, then giving residents the opportunity to have their say.

Issue

Economic Development

Encouraging new business enterprises that add value to our district's economy.

Council Role

Council will be reviewing our Economic Development Strategy and ensuring that it aligns with other plans and strategies we have, including our Housing Strategic Action Plan.

Issue

District Promotion

Promoting our district as a great place to land, both to visitors and potential new residents.

Council Role

Working alongside Feilding & District Promotions and Central Economic Development Agency (CEDA) to showcase the best that our district has to offer for tourists and potential residents.

Issue

Housing Strategic Action Plan

To enable whānau to thrive, we need to increase the amount of affordable housing in the district, including rentals.

Council Role

We've created a joint approach with other organisations and housing providers to help increase the supply of houses, including papakāinga.

Issue

Rates System Review

Feedback from residents is that Feilding and the Manawatū District are becoming unaffordable to live in, with rates being part of the issue.

Council Role

Council has decided to review our rating system to ensure that it is fair and equitable to all residents of our district.



Community Wellbeing

Issue

Open Spaces Strategy

Focused on parks and reserves within our district.

Council Role

Creating environments that are valued by residents that encourage people to interact with natural environments and playgrounds.

Issue

Welcoming Communities

We need to ensure our district is a warm and welcoming place for people to settle, and celebrates the uniqueness of different backgrounds and cultures.

Council Role

Council is working to develop a Welcoming Communities strategy, outlining the approach we can take as a district to celebrate, promote and provide opportunities for everyone to settle and thrive in our communities.

Issue

Engaging our Youth

Engaging our next generation of voters and elected members is crucially important. We need to ensure we facilitate their voices to be heard on issues that concerns them, particularly around climate change and affordability.

Council Role

The Manawatū Youth Council is there to advocate on behalf of young people within the district and ensure that their voice and perspective is being heard. We must also look at other ways of engaging our young people and increasing the understanding and context of civic activities.

Issue

Better Later Living Plan

We have an ageing population, and our district needs to cater for the needs of older people, both in its design, and in the way we support people's wellbeing.

Council Role

The Better Later Living Plan was established to give Council a blueprint for how to provide and care for our older residents. Work will continue to ensure the plan is fit for purpose, updating it where necessary and considering the wellbeing needs of our older population at all times.



Major Projects



Upgrade of Feilding Water Supply

What

The upgrade will replace the Almadale reservoir and treatment plant and the trunk water main into town.

Why

The current infrastructure is nearing the end of its useful life and this project was determined to be the most cost effective and resilient option for renewing Feilding's water supply. It will also provide certainty of supply to existing businesses and help attract further investment into Feilding.



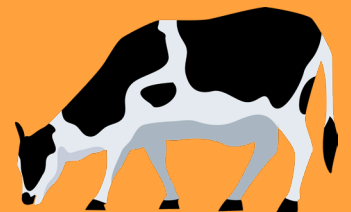
Stanway-Halcombe Rural Water Scheme Upgrade

What

Construction of a new water treatment plant, including UV treatment system at the point of supply.

Why

The existing scheme was originally primarily designed to provide stock watering but sub-division in the area means that it is now being used for drinking water. This upgrade will ensure drinking water is compliant with NZ Drinking Water Standards.



Wastewater Centralisation

What

This will pipe wastewater from the villages of Halcombe, Sanson, Rongotea, Awahuri, Cheltenham and Kimbolton to the Manawatū Wastewater Treatment Plant in Feilding for treatment and disposal.

Why

The centralisation will allow more efficient and cost effective management of wastewater in the district.





Turners Road Extension (Kawakawa Industrial Precinct)

What

Construction of a new road from Turners Road to Kawakawa Road enabling access to 24 hectares of high-quality industrial land.

Why

Opening up this land, with the provision of robust and reliable services for industrial development allows for continued investment in Feilding.

Feilding North Growth Works



What

The area centred around Pharazyn Street was identified as priority for development, with works including water, wastewater, stormwater, roading and footpaths/walkways.

Council is also investigating recreational opportunities as part of the Feilding North Growth Works project.

Why

The area will provide for most of Feilding's residential growth over 2021-31, with space for approximately 1700 houses.

This will complement the current development of a walkway along the Makino Stream from North Street and complete the connection, also enhancing the passive wetland and increasing the ecological biodiversity.

Development of Roots Street East Park

What

Development of a newly acquired neighbourhood park, including site levelling, installation of drainage, tree planting and fencing.

Why

The park will provide opportunities for recreation as part of the Feilding North Growth Works project.





Awahuri Forest – Kitchener Park development

What

Enhancement of the bush through planting of native plants supplied from our Native Nursery. Development of a new wetland bush site on Awahuri Road which will include boardwalk construction, signage enhancement and car park construction.

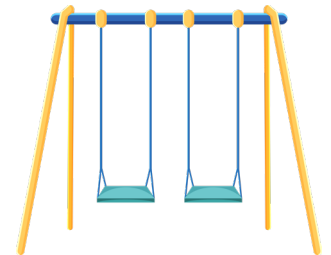
Why

Awahuri Forrest-Kitchener Park is a regionally significant area with high biodiversity, ecology and cultural value. It is increasingly realising its recreational and environmental potential through the design and implementation of key projects.

Kōwhai Park upgrade

What

Continued development of this site, with the installation of additional play equipment, enhancement of the bush area and walking tracks including walking bridges. Implementation of a master plan design for the park.



Why

Developments are helping the iconic Kōwhai Park to be a place where people of all ages and physical abilities can spend time together, enjoying play and recreation.

Waste Management and Minimisation Plan implementation

What

Several new initiatives to better manage and minimise waste will be explored and implemented over the next three years, including collection of commercial food waste from Feilding, rural weekly food waste kerbside collection services, bin clips, mobile garbage collection service and kerbside recycling services.

Why

Waste management and minimisation initiatives helps us protect the district's natural and physical resources, and realise cost and environmental efficiencies.



Feilding Public Library redevelopment

What

Creation of a community-hub which will house the library, as well as a number of other community facilities such as meeting rooms, a café, play area and green spaces.

Why

The hub will provide a safe and welcoming space for people of all ages, cultures and interests.



Earthquake strengthening – Council Administration Building

What

Investigation into what is required to bring the building up to current earthquake standards with work to begin in 2023.

Why

To ensure the building is a safe facility for staff, elected members and the public in the event of significant earthquake.

Feilding Town Centre refresh

What

Considering options for progressing smaller projects that make up the broader town centre refresh project and inviting community consultation on plans.

Why

To improve the vibrancy and accessibility of Feilding town centre to promote business investment and enhance a feeling of community pride and sense of belonging.



Council Finances

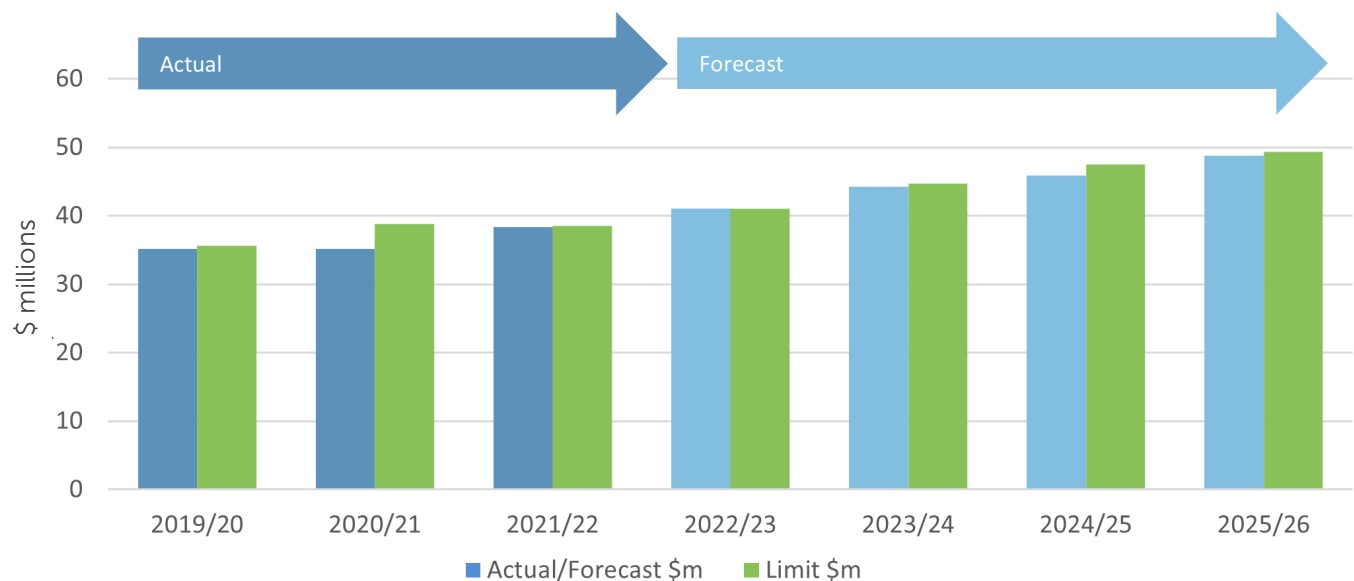
Council Finances

Every three years, council updates its Financial Strategy. This Strategy sets out how council intends to manage its finances in a responsible way. Council sets limits to future rates increases and borrowing to ensure that its activity remains affordable for ratepayers.

The following graphs show council's actual and expected rates income, rates increases and debt compared to the limits in its Financial Strategy. They reflect the forecasted figures set out in the 2021-31 Ten Year Plan. They do not reflect any changes that will have a future impact which may have occurred since the Ten Year Plan.

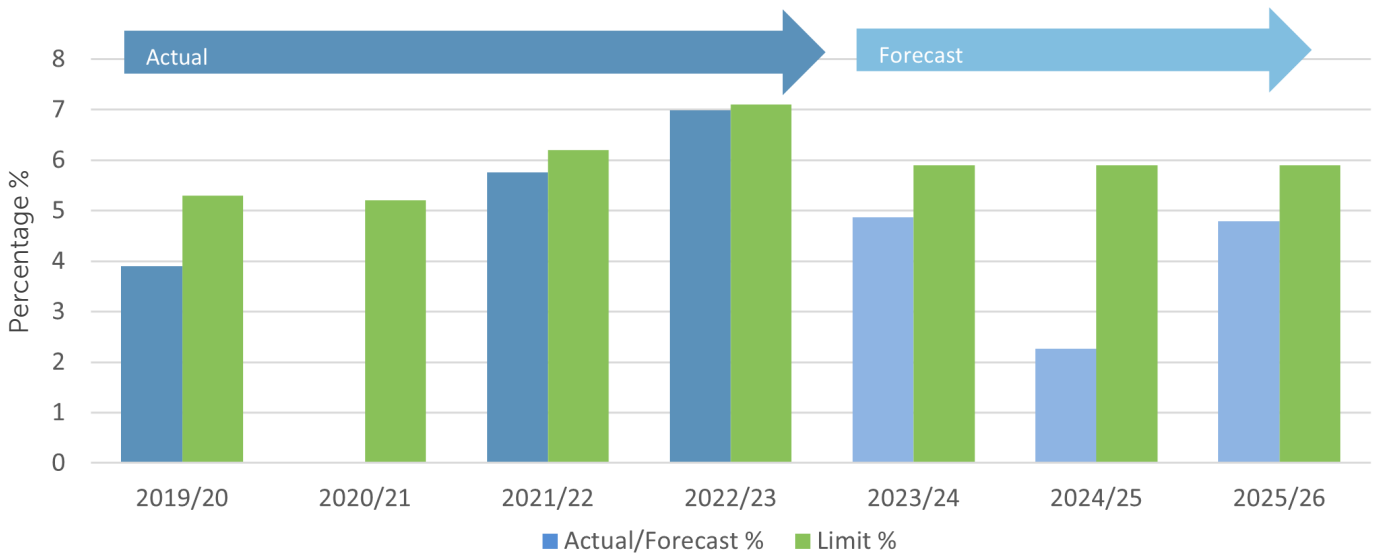
Note: the financial forecast figures represented here have been sourced from the Ten Year Plan 2021-31 which was independently audited. The estimated data from the 2021/22 financial year has not been audited.

Total Rates Income and Limits 2020-2026



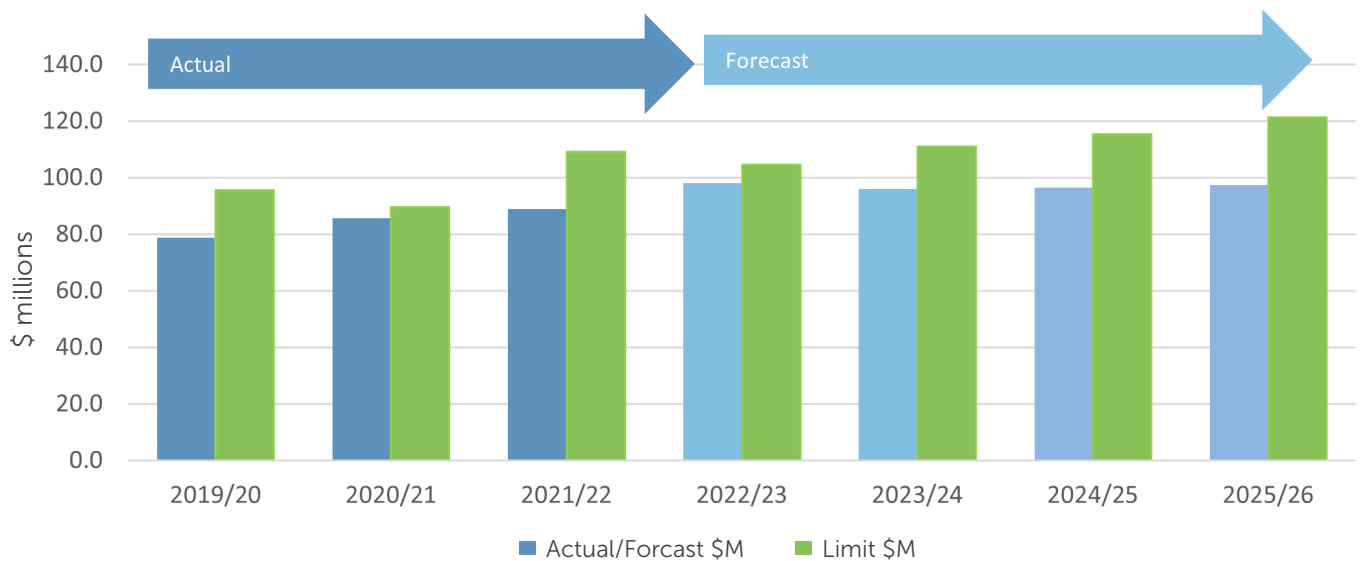
Council has consistently stayed within the Financial Strategy limit for total rates income. This is expected to continue over the next three years. When setting rates, council considers a range of factors including; the level of service provided, legislative requirements, what our ratepayers can afford, debt levels and external factors e.g. interest inflation and changes to external funding.

Rates Increases 2020-2026



Council’s annual rates increases have remained under the limit set in the Financial Strategy, including adopting a 0% increase in 2020/21. In the next three financial years, increases are expected to stay within set limits.

Debt 2020-2026



Council manages its debt so that it consistently tracks less than the borrowing limit set in the Financial Strategy. Council has taken the conscious step to limit the level of the debt cap to \$5M less than the limit set by the Local Government Funding Agency. This buffer provides capacity to respond to emergency works if required in the event of a natural disaster.

Return on Investments

Many of council’s equity investments and community loans are held for strategic purposes rather than for investment return. In the Financial Strategy, council has set a required rate of return as nil.

Funding Impact Statement

Manawatū District Council - Summary Funding Impact Statement

	Actual 2019/20 \$000	Actual 2020/21 \$000	Actual 2021/22 \$000	AP* 2022/23 \$000	LTP* 2023/24 \$000	LTP* 2024/25 \$000	LTP* 2025/26 \$000
Sources of operating funding							
General rates, uniform annual general charge, rates penalties	12,496	12,236	14,136	15,005	15,773	16,091	16,787
Targeted rates	23,870	24,616	25,448	28,011	29,619	31,012	33,256
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	2,963	2,976	4,042	3,352	3,460	3,674	3,788
Fees and charges	6,480	7,133	7,666	7,826	8,737	9,401	9,655
Interest and dividends from investments	133	209	179	229	239	134	173
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees and other receipts	3,892	3,958	3,685	3,317	3,425	3,506	3,670
Total operating funding	49,834	51,128	55,156	57,740	61,252	63,818	67,329
Applications of operating funding							
Payments to staff and suppliers	34,757	38,461	43,246	43,343	43,929	45,694	47,627
Finance costs	2,124	1,644	2,052	1,896	2,128	2,265	2,352
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total applications of operating funding	36,881	40,105	45,298	45,239	46,057	47,958	49,978
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding	12,952	11,023	9,858	12,501	15,195	15,860	17,351
Sources of capital funding							
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	4,145	9,348	15,617	5,340	4,996	4,866	4,812
Development and financial contributions	1,342	2,915	4,580	3,502	3,482	3,850	4,080
Increase (decrease) in debt	9,045	7,020	3,028	12,211	2,547	542	828
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	371	32	4,216	0	0	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total sources of capital funding	14,903	19,315	27,441	21,053	11,025	9,258	9,720
Applications of capital funding							
Capital expenditure							
- to meet additional demand	2,651	3,119	6,213	6,684	4,020	2,671	2,459
- to improve the level of service	6,099	14,587	21,409	14,704	7,303	7,168	4,945
- to replace existing assets	12,749	14,642	19,213	12,325	11,744	14,182	13,007
Increase (decrease) in reserves	6,358	(2,008)	(9,344)	(158)	3,152	1,097	6,661
Increase (decrease) of investments	(2)	(2)	(193)	0	0	0	0
Total applications of capital funding	27,855	30,337	37,298	33,554	26,219	25,118	27,071
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding	(12,952)	(11,022)	(9,858)	(12,501)	(15,195)	(15,860)	(17,351)
Funding Balance	0	1	0	(0)	0	0	0

* LTP (Long Term Plan) refers to Council's Ten Year Plan 2021/22 to 2030/31.

AP refers to Council's Annual Plan 2022/2023.

Actual 2021/22 figures and Annual Plan 2022/23 figures have not been audited.

Summary Statement of Financial Position

Manawatū District Council - Summary Statement of Financial Position

	Actual 2019/20 \$000	Actual 2020/21 \$000	Actual 2021/22 \$000	AP* 2022/23 \$000	LTP* 2023/24 \$000	LTP* 2024/25 \$000	LTP* 2025/26 \$000
Assets							
Current assets							
Financial assets	17,894	25,627	15,888	9,676	15,763	18,881	26,541
Other current assets	275	192	334	297	237	237	237
Total current assets	18,169	25,819	16,222	9,973	16,000	19,118	26,778
Non-current assets							
Other non-current assets	769,529	784,220	826,301	865,935	883,921	905,320	948,617
Financial assets	4,599	4,480	6,259	5,761	7,075	6,482	6,125
Total non-current assets	774,128	788,699	832,560	871,696	890,996	911,802	954,742
Total assets	792,297	814,518	848,782	881,669	906,995	930,919	981,520
Liabilities							
Current Liabilities							
Other current liabilities	9,144	11,256	9,181	10,688	11,598	11,761	11,923
Borrowings	23,000	20,372	12,500	18,500	24,864	29,860	21,875
Total current liabilities	32,144	31,628	21,681	29,188	36,462	41,621	33,798
Non current liabilities							
Other non-current liabilities	793	2,072	2,175	1,943	1,448	930	497
Borrowings	55,707	65,355	76,400	79,775	71,120	66,666	75,479
Total non-current liabilities	56,500	67,427	78,575	81,718	72,568	67,596	75,976
Total liabilities	88,644	99,055	100,256	110,906	109,030	109,217	109,774
Equity	703,653	715,463	748,526	770,763	797,966	821,702	871,746
Total Liabilities and Equity	792,297	814,518	848,782	881,669	906,995	930,919	981,520

* LTP (Long Term Plan) refers to Council's Ten Year Plan 2021/22 to 2030/31.
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Next Steps

🌀 Standing for election

Deciding to stand for election for local council is a big decision. It is a highly challenging role, but equally as rewarding. Local councils need passionate, empathetic and determined voices to sit around the council table advocating for their local communities.

If you feel you are ready to become an elected member of Manawātū District Council then the first step is to be nominated. Candidate nominations are open from 15th July until 12 August 2022 at 12 noon.

The nomination process involves:

- **Completion of an official nomination form**
- **Nominations from two people. Candidates cannot nominate themselves, and people who nominate candidates must be over 18 years old and enrolled to vote in the area the candidate is planning to stand**
- **Candidates must consent to their nomination going forward**
- **A \$200 deposit must be paid, which may be refunded depending on election results**
- **Candidates must be New Zealand citizens and enrolled to vote**

Visit mdc.govt.nz/stand-for-election



to download a nomination form and find out more information about the process.



Voting in the election

Of course we also need our communities to play a pivotal role in the elections process by voting for their chosen nominee. Councils can only be a true representation of our entire community if everyone has their say on who should be around the council table.

Casting your vote is simple, however we do encourage everyone to do some research into the people standing for election and find out who reflects your thoughts, opinions and values when it comes to the future of our district. Your vote really can make a difference.

Talk to your friends, whānau and neighbours about what's important to you as a community. Get your tamariki involved; what would they like to see in the Manawatū District in the future? After all, decisions we make now will pave the way for the district they live in years from now.

Visit our website to find more information on:

- **Ensuring your enrolment details are up to date, and how to update them if you need to**
- **When to expect your voting pack through the post**
- **How to vote in the local elections in October**

Visit mdc.govt.nz/2022-local-elections



