



Statement of Intent 2025 / 2026

This Statement of Intent covers the year 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Statement of Intent is to

- a) State publicly the activities and intentions of this Council Controlled Organisation for the year and the objective to which those activities will contribute; and
- b) Provide an opportunity for shareholders¹ to influence the direction of the organisation; and
- c) Provide a basis for the accountability of the directors² to their shareholders for the performance of the organisation.

OBJECTIVES OF THE COUNCIL CONTROLLED ORGANISATION

1. Section 59 of the Local Government Act 2002 provides:
Principal objective of a council-controlled organisation
 - 1) The principal objective of a council-controlled organisation is to
 - a. Achieve the objectives of its shareholders, both commercial and non-commercial, as specified in the statement of intent; and
 - b. Be a good employer; and
 - c. Exhibit a sense of social and environmental responsibility by having regard to the interests of the community in which it operates and by endeavouring to accommodate or encourage these when able to do so; and
 - d. If the council-controlled organisation is a council-controlled trading organisation, conduct its affairs in accordance with sound business practice.
 - 2) In subsection 1)b. good employer has the same meaning as in clause 36 of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002.

The overall result Council strives for is - Our people delivering great service and facilities to our community. AFKPT as a Council Controlled Organisation is seen as an extension of Council striving towards this outcome.

¹ 'Shareholders' include any partners, joint venture partners, members or other persons holding equity securities in relation to the organisation. In this case the shareholders will be the Mayor and the Councillors of the Manawātū District Council.

² 'Directors' and the 'Board' include trustees, managers or office holders (however described in the organisation).

NATURE AND SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES

Nature

The park / forest is classified as Scenic A reserve. Scenic A Reserve preserves native flora and fauna as much as possible. The Trust is required to govern the maintenance and restoration of the park / forest as per the Reserves Act (RA) stipulations.

Scope

Awahuri Forest Kitchener Park Trust is a Council Controlled Organisation (CCO), accessing funding and providing governance for: long-term planning for reforestation as near as possible to 150 years ago, Planting, Biodiversity, Hydrology, Infrastructure, and Education.

PURPOSES OF AWAHURI FOREST KITCHENER PARK TRUST

The purposes of the Awahuri Forest Kitchener Park Trust as identified in its Trust Deed are:

- a) To assist in the ecological restoration, management and enhancement of the land at Kitchener Park and for this purpose to maintain a five year plan which, with an annual budget, will be made available to the Settlor for its approval prior to the commencement of each financial year;
- b) To steer and co-ordinate the raising of funds to assist the restoration, management, enhancement, promotion and further development of the land at Kitchener Park;
- c) To encourage community access to Awahuri Forest Kitchener Park, and foster knowledge of and interest in the ecological restoration activity at the Park;
- d) To ensure the continued protection and restoration of Awahuri Forest Kitchener Park where possible and restore biodiversity values;
- e) To create a safe haven for native plant and animal species, controlled for plant and animal pests;
- f) To collaborate with other relevant organisations and individuals to reintroduce locally extinct or threatened plant and animal species, to ensure their long term survival;
- g) To develop self-sustaining threatened species populations which will act as source populations for the creation of future community restoration projects in the Manawatu District;
- h) To care for some special collections, including the podocarp, epiphyte and lichen collections presently established at Awahuri Forest Kitchener Park;
- i) To support scientific and historic research of the Kitchener Park ecosystem or components thereof;
- j) To educate the general public, especially school children, about the need to conserve and protect native forest environments in New Zealand.

This Statement of Intent recognises the large number of purposes detailed in the trust deed and concentrates on the five expectations detailed in the Statement of Expectation, given the number of trustees and resource available.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND PRACTICES

1. Financial statements are in accordance with the Public Benefit Entity Simple format – Accrual (not for profit)
2. Comply with the financial obligations of the Local Government Act 2002 with respect to CCO financial reporting
3. Comply with the Charitable Act 2005

4. Approval of payments and monthly sign off of all activities by all Trustees
5. To apply sound financial practices, act prudently and transparently, recognising the Trust receives significant funding from Manawatū Ratepayers.

PERFORMANCE TARGETS

Expectation 1. Maintain the forest / park, within the existing boundary, as an area of unspoilt nature (scenic reserve) for the benefit of the community and visitors.

Description	Starting Point	Target / Output
To continue pest plant programme	2020	<p>Zero density control of Old Man’s Beard by 2027 25-26 continue monitoring the whole forest for seedling infestations</p> <p>Manage Bind weed, Jasmine and dock weed by 2027 25-26 continue management of new plantings and summer blitz in Awahuri Paddock</p> <p>Achieve control mechanism for Phragmites by 2028 25-26: a) Management to continue at optimal levels within the Trust’s resources b) Priority for research & development succession to ensure knowledge is retained and shared c) Continue to lobby for national recognition as a pest plant and funded eradication across NZ</p>
Number of traps vs kill catch animal pests	2013	Encourage buffer zone upstream to prevent new infestation.
Number of Native species planted	Restoring species numbers present as per as per 1927 bio-audit	38 species, 14,000 plants by 30 June 2026 Assess, develop and communicate with nurseries a 10 year enrichment planting program for the newly restored areas
New plant survival rate	80%+	New wetlands: 80%+ over 2½ year period 1 July 2024 to 31 December 2027 Final plant counts to be completed for Coronation planting area and MPI funded plants
Numbers of big trees lost	2024/25 commenced tracking	Nil per annum

Expectation 2. Actively pursue third-party funding opportunities for forest / park investment (to invest in the activities within the forest / park and development of the forest / park).

Description	Starting Point	Target / Output
Maintain appropriate third party funding for the activities and development of the forest / park	n/a	Relevant funding applications are lodged to maintain the funding level required Target: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phragmites \$85,000 • Plants funding for 2026-2027 \$30,000
Measurement of 'In kind' support	Estimated annual hours: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trustee 1,100 • Stakeholders 200 	Maintain relationships and measure the resulting significant 'in kind' support

Expectation 3. Plan to develop further walking and cycling tracks within the forest / park to connect to the "loop track concept" described in Council's Walking & Cycling Strategy.

Description	Starting Point	Target / Output
Awahuri Paddock all weather maintenance track	May 2025	Permits approved Dec 2025 Completion June 2026 <i>Note MDC funded activity</i>
Work with Council on a cycling track design	Not yet commenced	Understand MDC's vision and work together on a cycling track design. Keep dialogue open with Council, review and have input into relevant plans.

Expectation 4. Minimise future flooding impacts to the forest / park through appropriate design and planting.

Description	Starting Point	Target / Output
Take opportunities to provide feedback to Council and Horizons concerning flood management activity. Maintain relationship with Horizons	February 2024 infrastructure for wetland planting. Makino stream side re-modelling. Monitor and plan adaptations as required. Initiate discussions on road flooding risks at the pump house corner Awahuri Rd	Report on feedback provided to Council and Horizons Keep monitoring flood infrastructure impacts in wetland and westside hydrology restoration, responding to any issues as required. Continue discussions for Makino stream removal of willows over next 10 years and develop initial plan from flood observations. Progress talks with MDC and Horizons working to create a plan in preparation for the next LTP funding decisions

Expectation 5. Make the forest / park available for educational opportunities to increase awareness and extend knowledge.

Description	Starting Point	Target / Output
Continue to create forest plant species signage	22 species signs at 1 July 2025	Increase by 10 new signs by 1 July 2026
Maintain and make available forest knowledge to the public / schools	Website Home - Awahuri Forest - Kitchener Park	Review and update website by June 2026 including increase of knowledge-based information
Maintain the Trust's adult education programme	Adult education events occur	3 x adult related engagements / events p.a. (may include university student visits)

AFKPT FORECAST STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

To Financial Year ending 30 June 2028

	SOI FY 2025 / 26 \$	SOI FY 2026 / 27 \$	SOI FY 2027 / 28 \$
Income total	258,760	272,350	275,780
MDC operational grant forecast	123,760	127,350	130,780
MDC Wetland Maintenance Funding	20,000	20,000	
Contestable / other grants	115,000	125,000	145,000
Expenses total	254,760	267,546	274,749
Biodiversity	235,760	246,546	251,749
Admin	19,000	21,000	23,000
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	4,000	4,804	1,031
Depreciation	1,000	1,800	1,500
Net Surplus / deficit	3,000	3,004	(469)

AFKPT FORECAST STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

To Financial Year ending 30 June 2028

	SOI FY 2025/26 \$	SOI FY 2026/27 \$	SOI FY 2027/28 \$
Assets total	111,000	127,500	156,500
Cash and receivables	105,000	121,000	150,000
Assets	6,000	6,500	6,500
Liabilities total	22,000	27,500	27,500
GST	6,000	7,500	7,500
Trade creditors	16,000	20,000	20,000
Net Assets	89,000	100,000	129,000
Equity	89,000	100,000	129,000
Accumulated Funds	86,000	96,996	129,469
Current Year Earnings	3,000	3,004	(469)

Note 1: Trust has few assets as all non removable assets are transferred to MDC.

Note 2: Native Trees have no accounting value