



# WHANGANUI DISTRICT COUNCIL

Te Kaunihera a Rohe o Whanganui

## AGENDA

### Council Meeting 25 June 2024

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Meeting of Whanganui District Council will be convened on:

**Date:** Tuesday, 25 June 2024

**Time:** 9:30 am

**Location:** Council Chamber  
101 Guyton Street  
Whanganui

**David Langford**  
Chief Executive

## **Membership**

**Chair:** Mayor Andrew Tripe

**Deputy Chair:** Deputy Mayor Cr Helen Craig

**Members:** Crs Charlie Anderson, Charlotte Melser, Glenda Brown, Helen Craig, Jenny Duncan, Josh Chandulal-Mackay, Kate Joblin, Michael Law, Peter Oskam, Philippa Baker-Hogan, Rob Vinsen, and Ross Fallen.

Rural Community Board appointee – David Wells (speaking rights only)

**Order of Business**

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**1 OPENING PRAYER / KARAKIA****2 APOLOGIES****3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE****4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Elected Members will be provided with the opportunity to declare any disclosable pecuniary or other non-pecuniary interest in any matter to be considered at this meeting, or declare any new conflicts that have arisen since last completing the Elected Members' Interests Register.

**5 MAYORAL MESSAGE**

Mayor Andrew Tripe will deliver his mayoral message.

**6 PUBLIC FORUM / DEPUTATIONS**

Nil

## **7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

### **7.1 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7 MAY 2024**

<b>Author:</b>	<b>Bridgette Walters - Democracy Advisor</b>
<b>Authoriser:</b>	<b>Anna Palamountain - Democracy Services Manager</b>
<b>Significance:</b>	<b>not significant</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>25 June 2024</b>
<b>References:</b>	<b>1. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 7 May 2024</b>

#### **Recommendation**

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 7 May 2024 are confirmed as a true and correct record.

The agenda and live stream meeting recording for this meeting can be viewed on the Council's website via the following link.

[Past Meetings, Agendas & Minutes Whanganui District Council](#)

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE WHANGANUI DISTRICT COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 101 GUYTON STREET, WHANGANUI  
ON 7 MAY 2024 AT 11:30 AM**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Andrew Tripe, Deputy Mayor Helen Craig, Cr Charlie Anderson, Cr Charlotte Melser, Cr Glenda Brown, Cr Jenny Duncan, Cr Josh Chandulal-Mackay, Cr Kate Joblin, Cr Michael Law, Cr Peter Oskam, Cr Philippa Baker-Hogan, Cr Rob Vinsen, Cr Ross Fallen, Cr Charlotte Melser

**APOLOGIES:** Nil

**IN ATTENDANCE:** David Wells (Rural Community Board Chair), Susan Kosmala (Independent Chair – Risk & Assurance Committee), David Langford (Chief Executive), Lance Kennedy (Deputy Chief Executive), Mike Fermor (Chief Financial Officer), Marianne Cavanagh (General Manager Community & Customer Experience), Sarah O'Hagan (General Manager Community, Property and Open Spaces), Jason Shailer (Operations Manager – Regulatory & Compliance), Anna Palamountain (Democracy Services Manager), Sarah Pomeroy (Communications & Marketing Manager), Dr Bronwyn Labrum (Director – Whanganui Regional Museum), Marshall Tangaroa (Chair – Whanganui Regional Museum Trust), Carla Donson (Whanganui Regional Museum Electoral College), Dave Rudolph (Senior Engineering Officer), Bridget Lohrey (Digital Communications Advisor), Bridgette Walters (Democracy Advisor), Hannah Rodgers (Policy Advisor), Nikki Ni (Project Engineer 3 Waters), Ariel Jeffcoat (Business Support Officer – Events), Demelza Ranginui (Democracy Support Officer), Sasha Matthews (Governance Support Officer)

**Democracy Note:**

*Item 8.7 Notice of Motion - Water safety and competency for children and Item 8.13 Initial Proposal – Representation Arrangements was withdrawn from the agenda*

**1 OPENING PRAYER / KARAKIA**

Mayor Andrew said an opening karakia

**2 APOLOGIES**

Nil

**3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Nil

#### 4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

##### Item 8.3 – Notice of Motion – Call for an Immediate and Permanent Ceasefire in Gaza

Mayor Andrew Tripe, Deputy Mayor Cr Helen Craig, Crs Peter Oskam, Jenny Duncan and Michael Law declared that they had signed the petition.

Cr Michael Law stated he would step away from the table for this item.

#### 5 MAYORAL MESSAGE

Mayor Andrew delivered his Mayoral Message.

Mayor Andrew acknowledged the work of the late Sir Robert Martin advocating for the disabled and a minutes silence was held.

#### 6 DEPUTATIONS

Nil

#### 7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

##### 7.1 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 26 MARCH 2024

**Author:** Bridgette Walters - Democracy Advisor  
**Authoriser:** Anna Palamountain - Democracy Services Manager  
**Significance:** not significant  
**Date:** 7 May 2024

##### Resolution CNCL/2024/1

Moved: Mayor Andrew Tripe  
Seconded: Cr Josh Chandulal-Mackay

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26 March 2024 are confirmed as a true and correct record.

**CARRIED**

#### 8 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

##### 8.1 PETITION FROM PALESTINIAN SOLIDARITY NETWORK AOTEAROA CALLING FOR AN IMMEDIATE AND PERMANENT CEASEFIRE IN GAZA

**Author:** Bridgette Walters - Democracy Advisor  
**Authoriser:** Anna Palamountain - Democracy Services Manager

##### Resolution CNCL/2024/2

Moved: Mayor Andrew Tripe



Seconded: Cr Kate Joblin

That the Council receive the Petition from Palestinian Solidarity Network Aotearoa Calling for an Immediate and Permanent Ceasefire in Gaza.

**CARRIED**

## **8.2 PETITION FROM PALESTINIAN SOLIDARITY NETWORK AOTEAROA CALLING FOR A CHANGE IN PROCUREMENT POLICY**

**Author:** Bridgette Walters - Democracy Advisor

**Authoriser:** Anna Palamountain - Democracy Services Manager

### **Resolution CNCL/2024/3**

Moved: Cr Kate Joblin

Seconded: Cr Philippa Baker-Hogan

That the Council receive the Petition from Palestinian Solidarity Network Aotearoa Calling for a Change in Procurement Policy.

**CARRIED**

## **8.3 NOTICE OF MOTION - CALL FOR AN IMMEDIATE AND PERMANENT CEASEFIRE IN GAZA**

**Significance:** not significant

**Date:** 7 May 2024

Cr Michael Law declared a conflict of interest for this item and stepped away from the table.

Councillors emphasised that both parties had responsibilities to end conflict.

Amendment to a) and b) accepted by mover and seconder to include: calls to all parties in the conflict.

Amendment to c) accepted by mover and seconder to include: and calls for a release of all hostages

### **Resolution CNCL/2024/4**

Moved: Cr Josh Chandulal-Mackay

Seconded: Cr Charlotte Melsner

That Whanganui District Council

- (a) calls to all parties in the conflict for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza,
- (b) calls on the Government of New Zealand to call for all parties in the conflict for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza,
- (c) condemns all acts of violence and terror against civilians and calls for a release of all hostages on all sides in the Palestinian and Israeli conflict.

**CARRIED**

*Meeting was adjourned for lunch break at 12:37 pm and reconvened at 1:22 pm.*

#### **8.4 RISK AND ASSURANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR'S UPDATE - MAY 2024**

**Author:** Bridgette Walters - Democracy Advisor

**Authoriser:** Anna Palamountain - Democracy Services Manager

##### **Resolution CNCL/2024/5**

Moved: Mayor Andrew Tripe

Seconded: Cr Kate Joblin

That the Council receive the verbal update – Risk and Assurance Committee Chair's Update - May 2024.

**CARRIED**

#### **8.5 INSURANCE - MOVING FROM A TRANSACTIONAL APPROACH TO A STRATEGIC APPROACH FOR PURCHASING INSURANCE**

**Author:** Mike Fermor - Chief Financial Officer

**Authoriser:** David Langford - Chief Executive

**Significance:** not significant

**Date:** 7 May 2024

##### **Resolution CNCL/2024/6**

Moved: Cr Kate Joblin

Seconded: Cr Jenny Duncan

That Council cancels insurance cover on those assets identified in the attachment 'Low risk property assets' contained within the report 'Insurance - Moving from a transactional approach to a strategic approach for purchasing insurance' presented to the 2 May 2024 Risk & Assurance Committee meeting, subject to officers completing the necessary communication and analysis.

**CARRIED**

**8.6 WHANGANUI REGIONAL MUSEUM EMERGENCY FUNDING REQUEST - MAY 2024**

**Author:** David Langford - Chief Executive

**Authoriser:** David Langford - Chief Executive

**Significance:** not significant

**Date:** 7 May 2024

Recommendation was amended to a) up to \$250,000 ... so that the Whanganui Regional Museum can maintain solvency up to 30 June 2024 and b) makes the additional funding and implement the subsequent decisions of Council.

The amendments provided reassurance that changes will be implemented following the service delivery review.

**Resolution CNCL/2024/7**

Moved: Cr Kate Joblin

Seconded: Cr Charlie Anderson

That the Council:

- (a) Approves a one-off payment of up to \$250,000 to the Whanganui Regional Museum prior to 30 June 2024 so that it can maintain solvency up to 30 June 2024.
- (b) Makes the additional funding conditional on the Council undertaking a Section 17A service delivery review and the Whanganui Regional Museum being bound to implement the subsequent decisions of Council.

**CARRIED**

**AGAINST** Cr Michael Law

**Democracy Note:**

*Item 8.7 Notice of Motion - Water safety and competency for children was withdrawn from the agenda.*

*Item 8.11 Rural Community Board Chair's Update – May 2024 was taken next.*

*Item 8.12 Whanganui Centenary Celebration followed*

**8.11 RURAL COMMUNITY BOARD CHAIR'S UPDATE - MAY 2024**

**Author:** Demelza Ranginui - Democracy Support Officer

**Authoriser:** Anna Palamountain - Democracy Services Manager

**Resolution CNCL/2024/8**

Moved: Cr Kate Joblin

Seconded: Cr Jenny Duncan

That the Council receive the report – Rural Community Board Chair's Update - May 2024.

**CARRIED**

**8.12 WHANGANUI CENTENARY CELEBRATION 2024****Author:** Ariel Jeffcoat - Business Support Officer**Authoriser:** Marianne Cavanagh - General Manager Community & Customer Experience**Resolution CNCL/2024/9**

Moved: Cr Kate Joblin

Seconded: Cr Charlotte Melser

That the Council receive the report – Whanganui Centenary Celebration 2024.

**CARRIED****8.8 ACCELERATED PROCUREMENT FOR 2024/25 THREE WATERS CAPITAL WORKS****Author:** Nikki Ni - Project Engineer 3 Waters**Authoriser:** Kritzo Venter - Snr Stormwater Engineer

Lance Kennedy - Deputy Chief Executive

**Significance:** not significant**Date:** 7 May 2024*David Wells left the meeting at 3:04 pm during questions on Item 8.8**Cr Michael Law left the meeting at 2:59 pm at start of presentation of Item 8.8 and returned at 3:05 pm during questions***Resolution CNCL/2024/10**

Moved: Cr Kate Joblin

Seconded: Cr Jenny Duncan

That the Council:

Adopts Option 1 – Accelerated Procurement Plan for 2024/25 Three Waters Capital Works. This will involve an accelerated procurement process through bundling a selection of major works for the 2024/25 from Long Term Plan and Annual Plan simultaneously through early contractor engagement with a selected panel of local/regional suppliers.

**CARRIED**

**8.9 REQUEST FOR ADOPTION - SOLID WASTE BYLAW 2024**

**Author:** Hannah Rodgers - Policy Advisor  
**Authoriser:** Elise Broadbent - Policy Manager  
Lance Kennedy - Deputy Chief Executive  
**Significance:** significant  
**Date:** 7 May 2024

*Officer correction of recommendation b) Bylaw.... to come into force 1 July 2024*

**Resolution CNCL/2024/11**

Moved: Cr Ross Fallen  
Seconded: Cr Josh Chandulal-Mackay

That Council:

- a) Confirm that;
  - a. a bylaw is the most appropriate way of addressing the issues arising around solid waste and meeting our obligations under the Waste Plan 2021-27; and
  - b. the proposed Solid Waste Bylaw 2024 is the most appropriate form of bylaw; and
  - c. the proposed Solid Waste Bylaw 2024 is not inconsistent with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990; and
- b) Adopts the proposed Solid Waste Bylaw 2024 with any minor amendments to come into force 1 July 2024.

**CARRIED**

**8.10 LAND ACQUISITION**

**Author:** Sarah O'Hagan - General Manager Community Property & Places  
**Authoriser:** David Langford - Chief Executive  
**Significance:** not significant  
**Date:** 7 May 2024

*The meeting took a short adjournment during this item at 3:58 pm and reconvened at 4:01 pm.*

*Amendment was made to recommendation that purchase on completion of satisfactory due diligence.*

*Recommendation for each property was taken separately.*

**Resolution CNCL/2024/12**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Helen Craig  
Seconded: Cr Josh Chandulal-Mackay

That the Council:

- (a) Delegates authority to the Chief Executive to finalise the purchase on the completion of satisfactory due diligence and execute the sale and purchase agreements for the following properties as per the sale and purchase agreements:
- (i) 33 Victoria Avenue through to 36 St Hill Street, (referred to as the Whanganui Furnishings properties)

**CARRIED**

**AGAINST** Crs Rob Vinsen, Charlie Anderson, Peter Oskam, Philippa Baker-Hogan

**Resolution CNCL/2024/13**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Helen Craig

Seconded: Cr Josh Chandulal-Mackay

- (ii) 63 and 65 – 71 Ridgway Street (referred to as the Flynn properties)

**CARRIED**

**AGAINST** Crs Charlie Anderson, Peter Oskam, Philippa Baker-Hogan, Michael Law

**Resolution CNCL/2024/14**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Helen Craig

Seconded: Cr Josh Chandulal-Mackay

- (iii) 45 – 49 Victoria Avenue and 51 – 61 Ridgway Street (referred to as Wakefield Chambers properties).

**CARRIED**

**AGAINST** Crs Charlie Anderson, Peter Oskam, Philippa Baker-Hogan

**Democracy Note:** Item - 8.11 Rural Community Board Chair's Update and Item - 8.12 Whanganui Centenary Celebration were taken after Item 8.6

**9 MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC****RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC**

*Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.*

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**Note**

Section 48(4) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 provides as follows:

“(4) Every resolution to exclude the public shall be put at a time when the meeting is open to the public, and the text of that resolution (or copies thereof):

- (a) Shall be available to any member of the public who is present; and
- (b) Shall form part of the minutes of the local authority.”

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

**Motion to Exclude****Resolution CNCL/2024/15**

Moved: Mayor Andrew Tripe

Seconded: Cr Philippa Baker-Hogan

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely items listed overleaf.

Reason for passing this resolution: good reason to withhold exists under section 7. Specific grounds under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution: Section 48(1)(a)

**CARRIED**

ITEM NO.	GENERAL SUBJECT OF EACH MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED	SECTION	SUBCLAUSE AND REASON UNDER THE ACT	PLAIN ENGLISH REASON	WHEN REPORTS CAN BE RELEASED
10.1	Public Excluded Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26 March 2024			Refer to the public excluded reasons provided in the relevant agenda	
11.1	Appointment of Independent Chairperson and Independent Member to the CCO Committee	s7(2)(a), s7(2)(i)	Privacy, Negotiations	The details of the individuals who are being proposed for appointment should be kept confidential until they are formally appointed to the roles to protect their privacy. The remuneration details should be kept confidential to enable the Council to negotiate the level of remuneration with the candidates.	Once the appointments have been confirmed
11.2	Chief Executive Remuneration Review- May 2024	s7(2)(a)	Privacy	The report considers the employment conditions of the Chief Executive.	



**The meeting entered Public excluded at 4:26 pm**

**The meeting closed at 4:53 pm.**

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Council Meeting held on 25 June 2024.**

.....  
**CHAIRPERSON**

## 8 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

### 8.1 PETITION 1 FROM FRIENDS OF THE AVIARY REQUESTING COUNCIL HALT THE PLAN TO CLOSE THE ROTOKAWAU VIRGINIA LAKE AVIARY

**Author:** Bridgette Walters - Democracy Advisor

**Authoriser:** Anna Palamountain - Democracy Services Manager

**References:**

1. [Aviary Cover Letter](#)  
2. [Aviary - Paper Petition](#)  

#### Recommendation

That the Council receive Petition 1 from Friends of the Aviary requesting Council halt the plan to close the Rotokawau Virginia Lake Aviary.

The Chief Executive has received **two petitions** from Erina Cresswell on behalf of Friends of the Aviary, however, only Petition 1 meets the requirements of Standing Orders and is presented for the Council's consideration.

**Petition 1** requests that *"The Whanganui District Council halt the plan to close the Rotokawau Virginia Lake aviary and seek alternative management by the current community-led group who agreed to the Council's offer of purchase."* and received support from **282 petitioners** who reside locally.

**Petition 2** is in digital form and states, *"Save the Aviary at Rotokawau Virginia Lake"*. This petition received support from approximately 2100 petitioners who reside nationally, and internationally.

The Chair has allocated 10 minutes of speaking time for this presentation.

Following the presentation, Elected Members may ask questions at the discretion of the Chairperson to obtain information or clarification on the issue raised by the petition.

No resolution, decision, or recommendation may be made in respect of this petition.

## PETITION

Chief Executive  
Whanganui District Council  
P O Box 637  
Whanganui

18 June 2024

To the Chief Executive.

Please accept the following two petitions to be consecutively heard at the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2024 Whanganui District Council meeting.

The first petition is to accept the digital petition hosted by Charge.org as part of our paper petition to Save the Rotokawau Virginia Lake Aviary. This petition has 28 signatories.

The second petition is the petition to Save the Rotokawau Virginia Lake Aviary. You will note on our paper petition the extra addition of a column to acknowledge duplication of digital signatures.

Digital Petition – 2298 (ran from 9 Jun to 18 Jun 2024)  
Paper Petition – 282 (ran from 13 Jun to 18 Jun 2024)  
Total – 2580  
Doubles – 68  
Grand Total – 2512

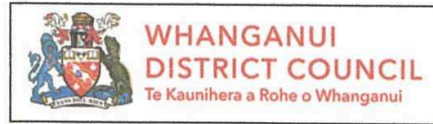
Please find enclosed the two petitions including contact information and signed by our designated speakers.

Yours Sincerely



Erina Cresswell  
Friends of the Aviary

# PETITION



(Date)

Chief Executive  
Whanganui District Council  
P O Box 637  
Whanganui

To the Chief Executive

We, the residents of [town/locality] wish to petition the Whanganui District Council on the following: [state grounds or concerns on the issue] (Note: the petition must comprise fewer than 150 words (not including signatories<sup>5</sup> and contain at least 20 signatures.)

WE THE HEREBY UNDERSIGNED REQUEST THE WHANGANUI DISTRICT COUNCIL TO ~~ACCEPT~~ <sup>REJECT</sup> THE PLAN TO CLOSE THE ROTOKAJAM VIRGINIA LAKE AVIARY AND TO SEEK ALTERNATIVE MANAGEMENT BY THE CURRENT COMMUNITY LED GROUP WHO AGREED TO THE COYNCIL OFFER OF PURCHASE

- (If you are representing an organisation, give brief details of the purpose of your organisation, membership and structure and the people consulted in the preparation of the petition).

The contact person for this petition is:

Name	GRANT ROGERSON	Karen Matthews
Postal address	1651 BRUNSWICK Rd, BRUNSWICK	244 Maxwell Station Rd
Town/Postcode	WANGANUI 4578	Wanganui 4574
Contact number	027 4818828	027 859 4500
Email address	gergsus@hotmail.com	carlkorza@gmail.com

Note: For privacy reasons, these details could be included in a separate covering letter.

To the Whanganui District Council

State: Purpose of Petition and defined action sought from Council

Signatories – please print clearly

	Name	Address (Signatories do not have to include their addresses)	Signature	online
1	Erin Cresswell	Wanganui	[Signature]	✓
2	Ray Ramsay	WHANGANUI	[Signature]	✓
3	Simon Gray	Wanganui	[Signature]	✓
4	Ivy Gray	Wanganui	[Signature]	✓
5	Darryl Greedles	Wanganui	[Signature]	✓
6	Bob [unclear]	Wanganui	[Signature]	✓
7	Valencia Solomon	Whanganui - Waverley	[Signature]	✓
8	Marie Broughton	Whanganui	[Signature]	✓
9	DAVE HILL	[Redacted]	[Signature]	✓
10	Bruce Quickfall	[Redacted]	[Signature]	✓

Privacy Notice: Petitions received by the Council are public documents and along with the name of the petitioner will be released to persons who may request a copy. The contact details of the signatories such as telephone numbers, email address will be withheld unless the Principal Petitioner indicates that they do not object to those contact details being released.

Subsequent pages of petition

To the Whanganui District Council

We, the residents of [town/locality] wish to petition the Whanganui District Council on the following: [state grounds or concerns on the issue] (Note the petition must comprise fewer than 150 words (not including signatories) (Note: the petition must comprise fewer than 150 words (not including signatories and contain at least 20 signatures.)<sup>6</sup>

WE THE HEREBY UNDERSIGNED REQUEST THE WHANGANUI DISTRICT COUNCIL TO HALT THE PLAN TO CLOSE THE ROTOKAWAY VIRGINIA LAKE AVIARY AND TO SEEK ALTERNATIVE MANAGEMENT BY THE CURRENT COMMUNITY LED GROUP WHO AGREED TO THE COUNCIL OFFER OF PURCHASE

Signatories – please print clearly

	Name	Address (Signatories do not have to include their addresses)	Signature	Online
11	Jose Townsend		[Signature]	✓
12	Vanessa Tale		[Signature]	✓
13	Carlo Pepe		[Signature]	✓
14	Debra Bullock		[Signature]	✓
15	Murray Barnes		[Signature]	✓
16	Jay Gray	Whanganui	[Signature]	✓
17	Denni Gray	Whanganui	[Signature]	✓
18	Vincent Gray	Whanganui	[Signature]	✓
19	Scott Quick	Whanganui	[Signature]	✓
20	Denise - Phillip	Freeman Whanganui	[Signature]	✓
21	Sandra Lennox	Whanganui	[Signature]	✓
22	Leo [Signature]	[Redacted] Whanganui	[Signature]	✓
23				
24				
25				
26				
27				
28				
29		(22) (Digital - 22)		
30				









**SUBSEQUENT PAGES OF PETITION**

We the hereby undersigned request the Whanganui District Council to ~~reverse~~ the plan to close the Rotokawau Virginia Lake Aviary and to seek alternative management by the current community led group who agreed to the council offer of purchase.



NAME	ADDRESS/CONTACT	SIGNATURE	ONLINE PETITION PLEASE TICK
N. Tamati Carter	[Redacted]	[Signature]	
B. Frenicks	[Redacted]	[Signature]	✓
S. Frenicks	[Redacted]	[Signature]	
S. Hikaka	[Redacted]	[Signature]	✓
D JAMES	[Redacted]	[Signature]	
P ADAMS	[Redacted]	[Signature]	✓
OHAGAN T	[Redacted]	[Signature]	
Marilyn Beauveriche	[Redacted]	[Signature]	✓
Skye	[Redacted]	[Signature]	
W. Whikeke	Whanganui	W. Whikeke	
JJ	Whanganui	J. Triot	✓
Varia Wilson	Whanganui	Varia Wilson	
Samuel Cameron	Whanganui	SC	
Chloe Kendrick	Whanganui	Chloe Kendrick	
Maxwell Ruscoe	Whanganui	[Signature]	
Hannah Cullinane	Whanganui	[Signature]	
Lorraine Dixon	Whanganui	[Signature]	⊙
KAT Foster	"	[Signature]	
Kate Rakocj	Whanganui	KR.	
Nick Bunn	Whanganui	NAB	
Eva Bunn	Whanganui	B.	
Levi Bunn	Whanganui	LEVI	
Bella Davies	Whanganui	Bella	
Molly Baskett	Whanganui	Molly B	
Kyley Kirk	Whanganui	[Signature]	
Sasha Chapman	Whanganui	Sasha	
Livy Grant	Whanganui	[Signature]	
Veronica Cooke	Whanganui	[Signature]	
Clifton Curry	Whanganui	[Signature]	
Hamish Carroll	Whanganui	[Signature]	
Alice Ackliff	Whanganui	[Signature]	
Stefan Callaghan	Whanganui	[Signature]	

PLEASE DROP OFF COMPLETED FORMS TO THE FUNKY DUCK DURING OPENING HOURS BY THE 21ST JUNE 2024 FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT THE 'FRIENDS OF THE AVIARY' ON FACEBOOK

21

(33) (39) - (6 Digital)

✓





**SUBSEQUENT PAGES OF PETITION**

We the hereby undersigned request the Whanganui District Council to ~~close~~ the plan to close the Rotokawau Virginia Lake Aviary and to seek alternative management by the current community led group who agreed to the council offer of purchase.



NAME	ADDRESS/CONTACT	SIGNATURE	ONLINE PETITION PLEASE TICK
Esley Aylward	[REDACTED]	[Signature]	
Lily Callaghan Sam		Sam	
Lucy Callaghan	Whanganui	Lucy Callaghan =>	
Jinny Cleary	Masterton	[Signature]	
Arabella C-J	Masterton	Arabella	
Luke	New Plymouth	[Signature]	
[Signature]	Whanganui	Savannah -	
Violet [Signature]	Whanganui	[Signature]	
Rose Taylor	Auckland	[Signature]	
Lyette Wyss	Eltham	[Signature]	
Helen Snook	[REDACTED] Eltham	MRSNOOK	
Jessica Rodgers	[REDACTED] ad	[Signature]	
Samuelle Galois	[REDACTED] ad	sgalloy	
Cheryl Adsett	[REDACTED] t	Tai hope.	
Raka Samadhinig Mireia Isabelli	[REDACTED] Masterton SB10	[Signature]	
Rebecca Marshall	Whanganui	[Signature]	✓
Riley Coft	Whanganui	[Signature]	
Paula Goudie	Drvie Hill Whanganui	[Signature]	
Alex Wood	Drvie Hill Whanganui	[Signature]	
Deen Penwarden	Ganville, Whanganui	[Signature]	
Aina Penwarden	Ganville, Whanganui	[Signature]	
William Penwarden	ganville whanganui	[Signature]	
Enna	Tawhero, Whanganui	[Signature]	
Te Ao Marama	" "	[Signature]	
Maha	" "	M	
LUQAS	" "	[Signature]	
cloha P.	Springvale	[Signature]	
shane Ferris	[REDACTED]	[Signature]	
Felix	" "	[Signature]	
Chris	Levin	[Signature]	
Charlie	Levin	Charlie A.	

**EASE DROP OFF COMPLETED FORMS TO THE FUNKY DUCK DURING OPENING HOURS BY THE 21ST JUNE 2024**  
 MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT THE 'FRIENDS OF THE AVIARY' ON FACEBOOK

(34) - (1 Digital)

**SUBSEQUENT PAGES OF PETITION**

We the hereby undersigned request the Whanganui District Council to ~~reject~~ the plan to close the Rotokawau Virginia Lake Aviary and to seek alternative management by the current community led group who agreed to the council offer of purchase.



NAME	ADDRESS/CONTACT	SIGNATURE	ONLINE PETITION PLEASE TICK
Esther Huntley		<i>Esther Huntley</i>	✓
Kayla Tutaki	Burmah St Aramoho	<i>Kutaki</i>	
Dianna Coffey		<i>D Coffey</i>	
Leanne Farrant		<i>L Farrant</i>	
Chloe O'Leary		<i>Chloe O'Leary</i>	
Christine Marshall		<i>C Marshall</i>	
Jenny King		<i>J King</i>	
Bronnie Caister		<i>B Caister</i>	✓

8 (2 Digital)

PLEASE DROP OFF COMPLETED FORMS TO THE FUNKY DUCK DURING OPENING HOURS BY THE 21ST JUNE 2024  
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT THE 'FRIENDS OF THE AVIARY' ON FACEBOOK





**SUBSEQUENT PAGES OF PETITION**

We the hereby undersigned request the Whanganui District Council to ~~reject~~ the plan to close the Rotokawau Virginia Lake Aviary and to seek alternative management by the current community led group who agreed to the council offer of purchase.



NAME	ADDRESS/CONTACT	SIGNATURE	ONLINE PETITION PLEASE TICK
Marlene Williams	[REDACTED]	[Signature]	
Bryson Lukes		[Signature]	
Kevin		[Signature]	
Shirley Smith		[Signature]	
Den. Mayfin.		[Signature]	
C. Richard		[Signature]	
Jane		[Signature]	
Georgia		[Signature]	
Sharlae		[Signature]	

**PLEASE DROP OFF COMPLETED FORMS TO THE FUNKY DUCK DURING OPENING HOURS BY THE 21ST JUNE 2024 FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT THE 'FRIENDS OF THE AVIARY' ON FACEBOOK**













## 8.2 APPLICATION FOR INTENDED ROAD CLOSURE FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE ANNUAL CEMETERY CIRCUIT MOTORCYCLE RACE

<b>Author:</b>	<b>Melanie Francis - Customer Support Team Leader</b>
<b>Authoriser:</b>	<b>Jason Shailer - Operations Manager Regulatory and Compliance</b>
<b>Significance:</b>	<b>not significant</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>25 June 2024</b>
<b>References:</b>	<b>Nil</b>

### Purpose

1. To seek Council approval to close roads around the Heads Road Cemetery as well as a section of the Mountain to Sea shared pathway for the annual Cemetery Circuit Motorcycle Race scheduled for 26 December.

### Executive summary

2. Council has received an application to close roads around the Heads Road Cemetery for the purpose of the annual Cemetery Circuit Motorcycle Race, scheduled for 26 December 2024.
3. Emergency Services, Horizons, Waka Kotahi (NZTA) have not objected to the application. On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2024 the local community, via public notice and social media have been informed and provided the opportunity to make comment. The due date for comment was 9 June 2024; no submissions were received.
4. Council Officers support the road closures subject to the implementation of the supporting Traffic Management Plan, which has been approved by Council Infrastructure Department.

### Options assessment

The available options are:

- **Option 1** – Council closes the roads and shared pathway as requested – preferred option.  
Option 1 is the preferred option because the annual Cemetery Circuit Motorcycle Race is a well-managed and well-known event. This option is recommended subject to the implementation of a supporting Traffic Management Plan.
- **Option 2** – Council does not close the roads and shared pathway.  
In the absence of objections from potentially affected parties and the public, option 2 not closing the roads or shared pathway is not supported.

### Risk

5. The recommended decision has a minor degree of risk.  
*For further information, refer to the 'Risk assessment' section of this report.*

### Recommended option

6. Officers recommend that Council proceed with **Option 1**.

**Recommendations**

That the Council:

- (a) Closes Taupo Quay between the Warehouse Building to Pacific Place, Heads Road between Taupo Quay and Sarjeant Street, Sarjeant Street between Guyton Street to the Hatrick Raceway Entrance, Guyton Street between Heads Road to Hatrick Street West, Ridgway Street between Guyton Street and Trafalgar Place, Hatrick Street East between Maria Place to Ridgway Street, Wilson Street between Maria Place to Taupo Quay, and the Mountain to Sea Shared Pathway between the Cobham Bridge to Integrity Motors, from 4.00am to 11.00pm Boxing Day – Thursday 26 December 2024. Subject to the implementation of the supporting Traffic Management Plan;
- (b) Gives public notice of its decision to close the roads referred to at (a) above in the form of an advertisement in the Whanganui Chronicle, in accordance with Clause 11A of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 1974.

**Background context**

7. Schedule 10, Clause 11 of the Local Government Act 1974 allows for the local authority to authorise the closure of any road or part of any road to all traffic or any specified type of traffic (including pedestrian traffic). As the intended road closure is for the purpose of a race/sporting event, pursuant to Clause 12 of Schedule 10 the decision to close the roads must be made by Council. The decision cannot be delegated to the Chief Executive or another officer of the Council.
8. The Council has received an application from Cemetery Circuit Limited for the closure of roads, including a section of the Mountain to Sea Shared Pathway, around the Heads Road Cemetery for the purpose of the annual Cemetery Circuit Motorcycle Race. A site plan showing the extent of the road closures is provided below. The supporting Traffic Management Plan details how traffic will be managed for the duration of the event.



**Analysis and advice**

9. The following road closure key issues were analysed:
10. **Mountain to Sea Shared Pathway** – included in the application is a section of the Mountain to Sea Shared Pathway. The intended closure of this area is to assist in mitigating possible injury to individuals who may attempt to gain unpaid access to the event. Council will monitor the receipt of any complaints in respect of this closed area.
11. **Detour Routes** – These are specified in the Traffic Management Plan and have been approved by Infrastructure. The detour routes are the same as those deployed in the race event held in previous years.
12. **Waste Minimisation** – The applicant has provided details of how waste created at the event will be managed. Rubbish receptacles are located around the event course with contractors



employed to empty the receptacles and collect loose rubbish to ensure the event areas are left clean and tidy.

13. **Stakeholder Engagement** – The applicant notifies the affected property owners of the intended road closure. This is not a legislative requirement, rather, it is deemed good consultation practice.
14. Police, Fire Service, Waka Kotahi (NZTA), Horizons, St Johns, Road Carriers and local contractors have been notified of the intended road closure. None of these parties object to the intended road closure.
15. The intended road closure was advertised in the Whanganui Chronicle as well as on the Council's website and Facebook page on Saturday 25 May 2024, in accordance with the public notice requirement set out in Clause 11A of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 1974. Any person wishing to make comment on the intended road closure was asked to do so in writing by 9 June 2024. No objections to the intended road closure were received.

#### Alignment with Council's strategies and policies

16. This item supports section 10 of the Local Government Act 2022 by enabling democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and promoting the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future.

#### Legal considerations

17. Nil.

#### Māori and cultural considerations

18. Nil.

#### Climate change impact considerations

19. Nil.

#### Risk assessment

20. The recommended decision has a very minor degree of risk as summarised in the table below.

Risk Profile Area	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Rating
<p><b>Environmental</b></p> <p>Option 1 – Risk related to the damage and destruction of headstones within the Heads Road Cemetery and/or the damage to roads. Organisers are liable and are required to have Public Liability Insurance to the value of \$1,000,000 for the event.</p> <p><b>Reputation/Image</b></p> <p>Option 2 – Risk related to how Council and staff would be perceived by the community, the media, nationwide and even internationally if the intended road closure is declined and the annual Cemetery Circuit Motorcycle Race cannot proceed. Option 2 is not recommended.</p> <p><b>Legal Compliance (regulatory)</b></p> <p>Option 1 – Risk related to complying with legal obligations and avoid being exposed to liability. The formal closure of roads, advertising, stakeholder engagement and implementation of an approved traffic management plan ensure Council’s exposure is rare.</p>	<p>Rare</p>	<p>Very minor</p>	<p>Low</p>
<p><b>Overall Risk Profile Score</b></p>			<p>Low</p>

**Significance**

- 21. The recommended decision is considered not significant under the Council’s Significance and Engagement Policy.

**Engagement**

- 22. The applicant notifies affected businesses and residents. The local community, via public notice on Friday 25 May 2024 and social media; and relevant agencies, via email, have been informed and provided the opportunity to make comment. No objections have been received in response to the consultation.

### Consultation

Consultation Community groups / stakeholders	Key themes from consultation
Local Community	No objections to the road closure request.
FENZ/Police/NZTA/Transit	No objections to the road closure request.
RTANZ/NZTC/AA/NatRoad/RTF	No response.
St John/Intercity/Rivercity Cabs	No response.
Horizons	No response.
Local Contractors – Downer, Enviro Waste, Waste Management & Higgins	No response.

### Next step

23. Cemetery Circuit Limited will be advised of the outcome in relation to the intended road closure for the Cemetery Circuit Motorcycle Race. Road Closure terms and conditions will be issued.

### 8.3 REAPPOINTMENT OF INTERIM DIRECTOR TO THE BOARD OF WHANGANUI DISTRICT COUNCIL HOLDINGS LTD AND ISSUE OF A LETTER OF SUPPORT TO THE BOARD

**Author:** Mike Fermor - Chief Financial Officer

**Authoriser:** David Langford - Chief Executive

**Significance:** not significant

**Date:** 25 June 2024

**References:** 1. Letter of Support from WDC  

#### Purpose

1. To approve, as shareholder of Whanganui District Council Holdings Ltd (WDCHL), the reappointment of Lucy Elwood as interim director of WDCHL; and
2. To approve the issue of a Letter of Support to the Board of WDCHL.

#### Introduction

3. Whanganui District Council (WDC) passed a resolution at its meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024 to transfer assets and liabilities of WDCHL to WDC, and then to close the Company by way of amalgamation with one of its subsidiaries.
4. Officers have been working with the directors of WDCHL to action the above. Originally it was thought closure may have been able to be achieved by 30 June, however, this timeline has been extended, with closure now expected to be completed within the next six months.
5. Lucy was reappointed as an interim director on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024. While the appointment did not have an expiry date, Lucy expressed her intention that the appointment was until 30 June 2024.
6. With the closure of WDCHL now anticipated to be completed before the end of 2024, Lucy has agreed, and it is recommended by officers', to extend her directorship until closure has been completed.
7. The directors have requested a Letter of Support (LoS) from WDC. The attached draft LoS confirms funding support to enable WDCHL to remain solvent as the directors' work through the process of closing the Company.

#### Options assessment

The available options are:

- **Option 1 (preferred option)**
8. Council approves:
    - (a) The reappointment of Lucy Elwood as an interim director of WDCHL, and
    - (b) The issue of a Letter of Support (LoS)

**Option 2**

9. Council does not approve
  - (a) The reappointment of Lucy Elwood as an interim director of WDCHL, and
  - (b) The specific wording in the draft LoS, i.e. requests changes to the draft LoS.
10. If the Council does not approve the reappointment, it would need to provide guidance to management regarding expectations of alternative directors with appropriate skills to allow WDCHL to operate and make decisions effectively. The Company Constitution has two directors as a minimum number.
11. The directors have requested a LoS which will provide them assurance of funding so that WDCHL will remain solvent and be able to trade normally as they work through the process of closing the Company. In this situation Council's only viable option is to provide them with a LoS.
12. While the recommendation is to provide the LoS, Council could decide to change the specific wording in the LoS. Should it wish to do so, it would need to provide guidance to management regarding the changes it wanted to make.

**Risk**

13. The recommended decision has a moderate degree of risk. This level of risk is associated with the Letter of Support and not the reappointment of Lucy Elwood as interim director.

*For further information, refer to the 'Risk assessment' section of this report.*

**Recommended option**

14. Officers recommend that Council proceed with **Option 1**.

**Recommendations**

That Whanganui District Council, as shareholder of Whanganui District Council Holdings Limited:

- (a) Reappoints Lucy Elwood as an interim director of Whanganui District Council Holdings Limited.
- (b) Requests the Chief Executive to sign this company minute recording this resolution.

That Whanganui District Council:

- (c) Approves the issue of a Letter of Support to the Board of Whanganui District Council Holdings Limited.

**Background context**

15. The WDCHL's constitution requires at least two directors on the board. One of those directors, Lucy Elwood, when reappointed in March 2024, stated she was not prepared to extend her directorship beyond 30 June 2024.
16. At that time the CCO review was being completed, resulting in Officers' recommendation to close WDCHL. It was thought closure may have been able to be achieved by 30 June 2024.

17. Closure of WDCHL will not now be completed within this timeframe, but could take a further six months to complete. Lucy has agreed to extend her directorship as WDCHL still requires a board, of at least two directors, to continue to operate the Company.
18. Both Lucy, and Carolyn van Leuven (the second board member and Chair), have proved valuable members of the board. They provide valuable skills and expertise in providing commercial advice to Council in regards to their CCO investments.
19. As WDCHL is in a transition period until it is closed, with its assets potentially being transferred to Council at various stages, there may be times where the Company requires funding from Council to enable it to remain solvent.
20. A draft Letter of Support is attached, which provides assurance of funding support to the directors if required. The directors are still expected to use all reasonable skill and judgement to run the operations of WDCHL in a prudent manner.

#### Alignment with Council's strategies and policies

21. This decision is in accordance with the Council Controlled Organisations Director Appointment and Remuneration Policy (2019).

#### Financial considerations

22. Directors' fees are paid by WDCHL so there are no direct financial considerations in making the decision to extend directorships.
23. Council may be required to provide funding support to WDCHL as per the Letter of Support, however at this time it is uncertain if this support will be required, and if so what the amount of support would be.

#### Legal considerations

24. There are no further legal considerations to those highlighted in this report.

#### Māori and cultural considerations

25. There are no Maori or cultural considerations relevant to the recommendation in this report.

#### Climate change impact considerations

26. There are no climate change considerations relevant to the recommendation in this report.

#### Risk assessment

27. The recommended decision has a minor degree of risk as summarised in the table below.

Risk Profile Area	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Rating
Financial	Likely	Moderate	Medium
Legal compliance (regulatory)	Rare	Very minor	Low
<b>Overall Risk Profile Score</b>			<b>Medium</b>

28. The financial risk is tied to the financial position of NZICPA as it recovers from the impact of Covid-19 boarder closures. This recovery has been slower than originally planned.

#### **Significance**

29. The recommended decision is considered not significant under the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

#### **Engagement / Consultation**

30. Not applicable.

#### **Next step**

31. Complete formal documentation.

25 June 2024

The Board  
Whanganui District Council Holdings Limited  
PO Box 899  
Whanganui 4541

Dear Board Members

**Letter of Support for Whanganui District Council Holdings Limited.**

Whanganui District Council (WDC) has passed shareholder resolutions to disestablish Whanganui District Council Holdings Limited (WDCHL). This process is likely to take a period of time, and until it is completed it is likely WDCHL will require financial support from WDC to remain solvent.

This Letter of Support confirms that WDC will provide the necessary funding to enable WDC to maintain solvency until the Company is disestablished. In providing this Letter of Support WDC does expect the directors of WDCHL to use all reasonable skill and judgment to run the operations of WDCHL in a prudent manner and in the best interests of WDCHL.

This Letter of Support has been duly authorised by WDC and/or is within my powers as Mayor, and is intended to be legally binding on and enforceable against WDC.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Tripe  
**Mayor of Whanganui**



## 8.4 DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS POLICY 2024 - DELIBERATIONS

**Author:** Justin Walters - Principal Policy Planner

**Authoriser:** David Langford - Chief Executive

**Significance:** not significant

**Date:** 25 June 2024

**References:** 1. [Summary of Submissions to Proposed Development Contributions Policy \(2024\)](#)  

### Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is for the Council to consider and make decisions on submissions on the proposed Development Contributions Policy 2024.

### Introduction

2. The Development Contributions Policy is a revenue and financing tool to collect revenue to pay for the infrastructure required to support population growth. This revenue should be collected in a fair and equitable manner from those who benefit from this infrastructure.
3. Public consultation was carried out from 2 April to 2 May 2024.
4. A total of 531 submissions were received with the majority being in support of the amended policy. Fourteen submitters elected to present their submission to Council.
5. A detailed assessment of submissions, including officer recommendations, are included as part of Reference 1 - Summary of Submissions to Proposed Development Contributions Policy (2024).

### Options assessment

6. The available options are:
  - **Option 1** – That Council considers the submissions on the Proposed Development Contributions Policy (2024) and incorporates all decisions made during the deliberations into the final Development Contributions Policy, for formal adoption by Council on 16 July 2024.
  - **Option 2** – That Council makes no decisions and refers the proposed Development Contributions Policy back to officers for further work.

### Risk

7. The recommended decision has a minor degree of risk.

*For further information, refer to the 'Risk assessment' section of this report.*

### Recommended option

8. Officers recommend that Council proceed with Option 1.

### Recommendations

That Council:

- (a) Considers the submissions and feedback on the proposed Development Contributions Policy 2024.
- (b) Incorporates all decisions made during the deliberations into the final Development Contributions Policy, for formal adoption by Council on 16 July 2024.
- (c) Delegates authority to the Chief Executive to make amendments to the Development Contributions Policy 2024, to update capital expenditure and projects within the policy, to give effect to changes to capital expenditure and projects within the Long-Term Plan 2024-34, prior to formal adoption by Council on 16 July 2024.
- (d) Delegates authority to the Chief Executive to make editorial and typographical amendments to the Development Contributions Policy 2024 to improve readability, prior to formal adoption by Council on 16 July 2024.

### Background context

9. Council has now completed consultation on its proposed [Development Contributions Policy 2024](#).
10. Public consultation on the proposed Development Contributions Policy ran from 2 April to 2 May 2024 and was notified as follows:
  - Community Link
  - Council Facebook,
  - Have Your Say Community Panel,
  - Meeting of the Developers Forum
11. A total of 531 submissions were received with 14 presented to Council at the hearings.
12. An electronic [volume of all submissions](#) has been supplied to Elected Members and is available on the council's website.

### Summary of submissions to the Proposed Development Contributions Policy 2024.

A total of 531 submitters expressed their views, with the majority being in support of the proposed policy.

#### Topic 1: Funding infrastructure to support population growth through Development Contributions

13. The proposal was to increase the scope and quantum of development contributions to offset the need to fund growth related infrastructure through rates.
14. A total of 521 responses were received for the topic; 65% (339) agreed, 27% (140) were neutral, and 8% (42) disagreed. The majority of the submitters who were in support for the topic commented that "growth should pay for growth" while others commented that the proposed DCs policy is a fair and reasonable approach and should be used to leverage better building practices. Submitters also commented that quality infrastructure promotes growth and that they consider seeing developers constructing the infrastructure in future.

*“WDC MUST establish the true cost of connecting to WDC infrastructure including the impact of more connections have on it. Absolutely no subsidising or discounts of any kind. e.g. power companies charge what it costs for connection. WDC learn from it please”.*

*Submission 497*

*“We do support Development Contributions that are affordable, appropriate and fair”.*

*Submission 226 & 24*

15. Submitters who indicated a neutral view commented that “growth should pay for growth” with others seeking more information and wanting to see better building practices encouraged.
16. Submitters who disagreed on the topic highlighted that future developments will eventually contribute towards Council’s revenue through rates and would discourage future development.

*“Targeted rates spread the costs and does not deter development. Similarly, the positive benefits of development are spread within the community.”*

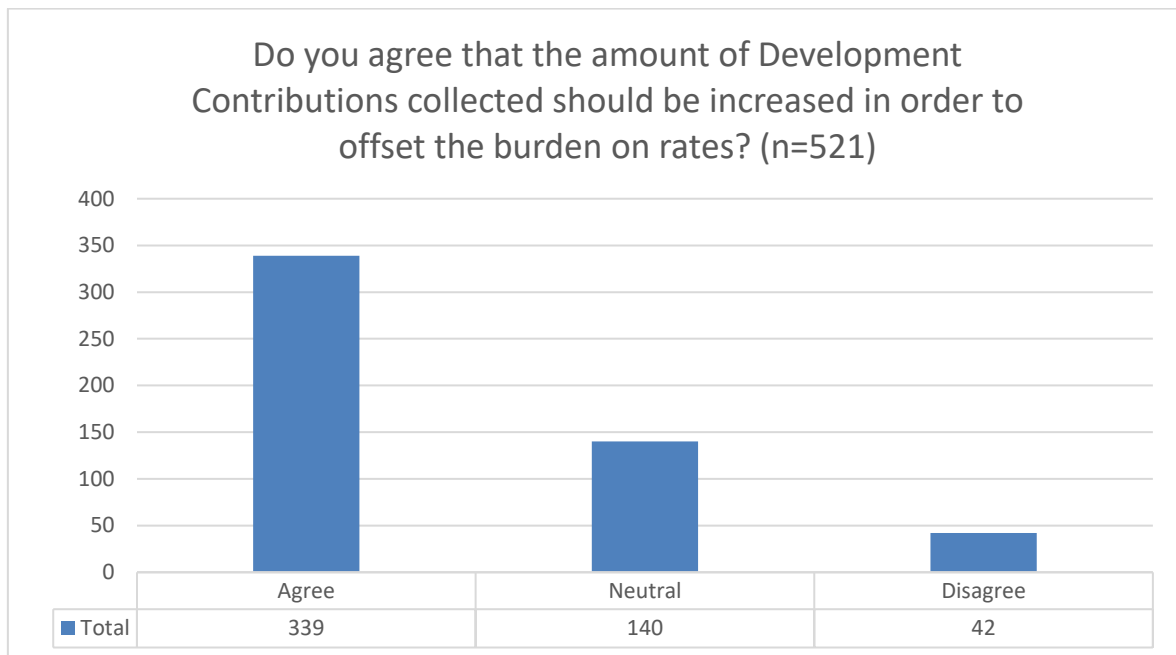
*Submission 273*

*“The council needs to seriously consider what they are doing. Increased council development contributions will only increase the price of building and discourage people from moving to Wanganui.”*

*Submission 3*

*“Developers are also experiencing hard times keeping contributions low will attract their interest.”*

*Submission 1544*



**Topic 2: Extension of the Development Contributions Policy**

- 17. The proposal was to extend the Development Contributions Policy to the whole of Whanganui District – including all existing suburbs and the Mill Road Industrial Area.

A total of 515 responses were received, 72% (371) agreed, 22% (114) were neutral and 6% (30) disagreed. The majority of the submitter’s comments indicated that the “Growth should pay for growth”. Five submitters commented that the amount of DCs applied in all areas should be same. Further comments stated that Council should support and encourage high density developments and make sure that the infrastructure is available in those development zones.

*“Anything that puts pressure on public infrastructure or services should pay development contributions.”* Submission 1366

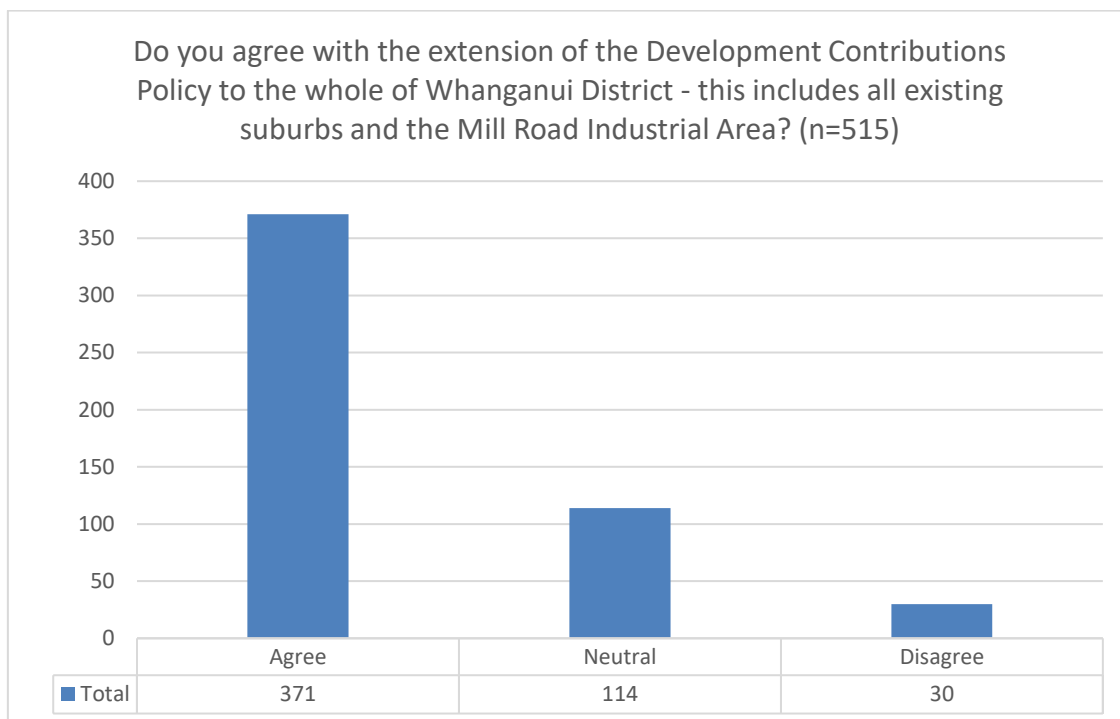
*“People building houses and buildings should contribute to the additional cost on infrastructure.”*

Submission 1232

- 18. Submitters who disagreed on the topic commented that unintended consequences may discourage future development as well, as it discourages infill development. Submitters also prefer to exclude infill development and only focus on expansion areas as this is not a fair and reasonable approach.

*“It is not conducive to the District Plan which contains objectives and policies to promote infill development and utilizing existing infrastructure. Infill development is already marginal with high development costs. The DC District wide charges tabled will deter small infill development by private individuals”.*

Submission 273



**Topic 3: Demand Measures**

- 19. The proposal was to change from a site-based to occupancy-based assessment for residential developments.
- 20. A total of 515 responses were received for the topic, 62% (321) agreed, 23% (118) were neutral and 14% (76) disagreed. The submitters who agreed on the topic commented that it is a fair and rational approach since there is a high demand for infrastructure. A number of submitters commented that DCs should support and encourage high density developments.

*“I agree that larger homes should pay a higher levy/contribution. However, this also raises the question of whether all properties should at least in part be rated based upon number of occupants”.*

*Submission 812*

*“As long as this doesn't dissuade developers from building high-quality multi-tenanted housing in the central city area”.*

*Submission 122*

- 21. The primary reason to indicate neutrality for the change from site-based to an occupancy-based related to whether or not bedrooms were the most appropriate method of assessment.

*“How do you know how many occupants there are? A volume based or square metre-based charge would be fair. The bigger the property, the more you pay”.*

*Submission 1092*

22. The main reasons from those disagreeing with the proposal included that the number of bedrooms didn't accurately reflect demand and that it would have unintended consequences by discouraging future development. One of the submitters commented that the increasing DCs would be a disadvantage for larger families therefore the site-based assessment of DCs should be retained.

*"All subdivisions are located within unique locations that will have different draws on services and different development benefits for the communities. In this context we strongly encourage the Council to avoid a one-size fits all approach to the application of development contributions. Council must have a robust and pragmatic approach to each subdivision as they consider the level of DC costs".*

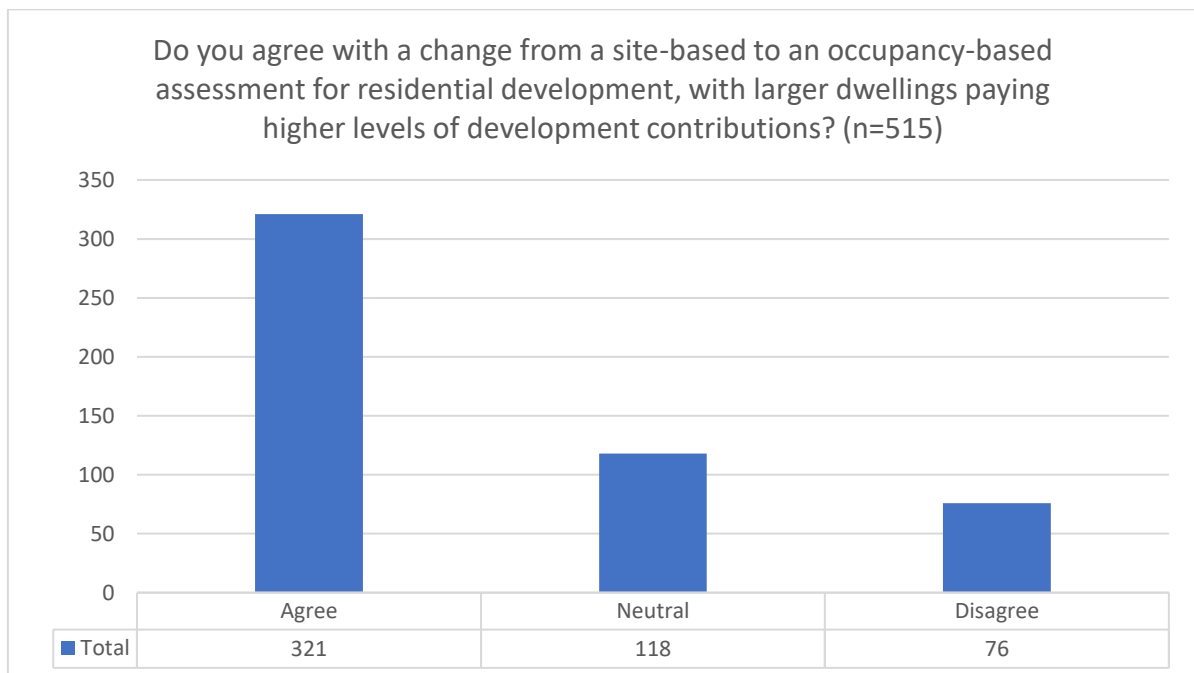
*Submission 196*

*"I don't think the pipe sizes will actually be different; nor additional roads and sidewalks needed. Larger houses pay more rates. Potential occupancy is not the same as actual occupancy".*

*Submission 595*

*"No fair as a four-bed family house could have 2 retired occupants or be occupied 8 or more working adults, does not reflect the actual reality".*

*Submission 1332*



Topic 4A: Remissions - Community groups and trusts

23. The proposal was to include remissions for community groups and trusts within the policy.
24. A total of 497 responses were received on the topic, with 50% (248) agreed, 34% (169) neutral and 16% (80) disagreed. Submitters who agreed to the topic commented that trusts should be excluded from the remissions and the criteria for assessment needs to be set for the rest of the groups, before any remission is granted. Several submitters consider having more community housing and development as this will ultimately benefit the whole community in the future.

*“For community groups I agree, because they do good work for the public. But as for trusts, it depends on what they offer as services”.*

*Submission 149*

25. Two of the neutral submitters commented that they require more information as the consultation was rushed with a lack of engagement. One of the submitters supported the remissions for not-for-profit organisations while one other submitter commented that community groups should be treated on case-by-case basis.

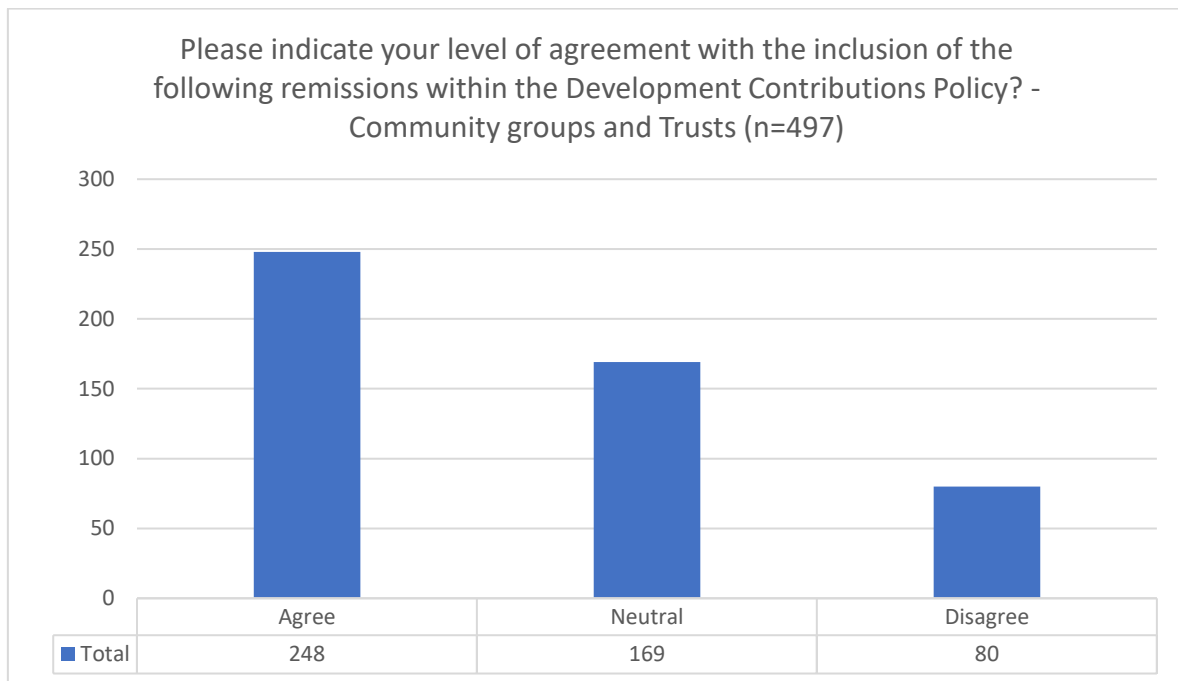
*“Any development has a certain amount of community benefit and a benefit to the Council as a whole. By offering relief to some projects and not others is a slanted view on holistic benefit. There is no way to properly gauge the community benefit and cost benefit to the city of Whanganui. A consistent approach to any relief on levies should be applied to assess the benefit to the community of any project based widely agreed standards and parameters”.*

*Submission 232*

26. Comments from the submitters who disagreed with the topic were fundamentally similar to the comments from agreed and neutral submitters however, several other submitters commented that everyone should pay their share.

*“The charges are either a necessary offset of infrastructure costs or they're not. Apply them evenly.”*

*Submission 106*



**Topic 4B: Remissions – Social Housing**

- 27. The proposal was to include the application of remissions for social housing within the policy.
- 28. A total of 487 responses were received on the topic, 47% (227) agreed, 29% (143) were neutral and 24% (117) disagreed. The majority of the submitters whether agreeing, neutral or disagreeing to the topic commented that there should be a criterion for assessment of groups before any remission is granted.
- 29. Further comments from the agreed submitters highlighted that the remissions should be given to the developers of social housing as we need more community housing developments for the benefits of our community. One of the submitters commented that churches should be excluded from the remissions criteria.

*“I agree with remissions for projects which will benefit the community, such as social housing. The assessment criteria could allow for a degree of flexibility, so that projects would be assessed on a case-by-case basis.”*

*Submission 525*



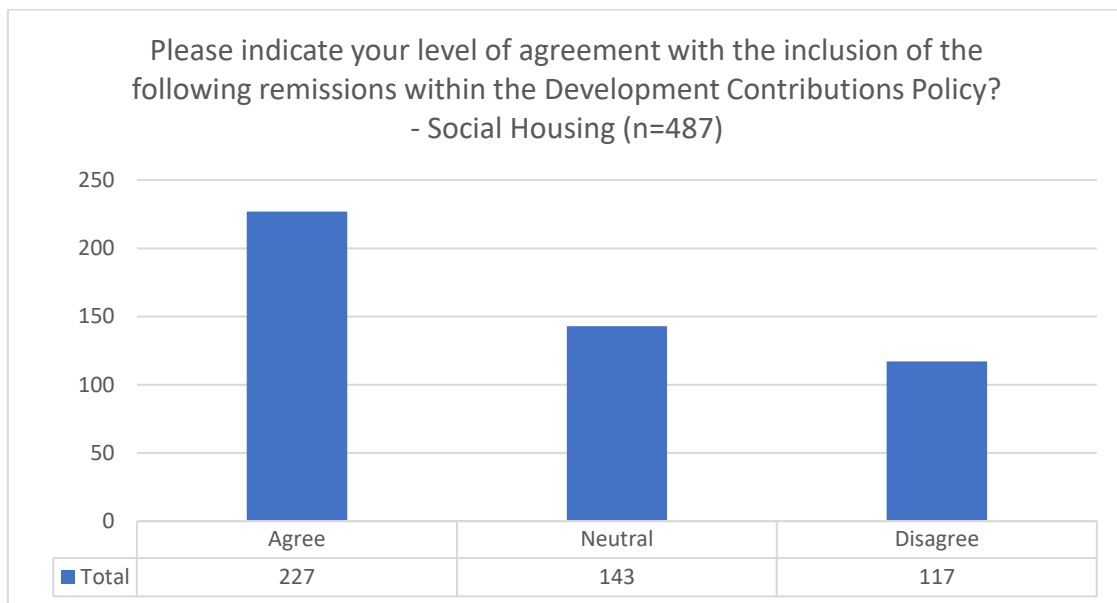
30. Several submitters that disagreed on the topic commented that everyone should pay for growth. Two other submitters who disagreed to the topic highlighted that social housing adds higher demand on the council’s infrastructure than a single dwelling does. Three submitters highlighted that that social housing is a central government function.

*“High density developments such as social housing place extreme demands on infrastructure far in excess of a large single dwelling on the same Lot size.”*

*Submission 856*

*“Central government should pay for social housing, we already pay for this with our taxes”.*

*Submission 436*



**Alignment with Council’s strategies and policies**

31. The proposed Development Contributions Policy actively contributes to the Long-Term Plan and Infrastructure Strategies, as it enables development contributions to be collected, which fund critical infrastructure to support growth within the designated areas.

**Financial considerations**

32. A decision to adopt the Development Contributions Policy will have impacts on the funding sources for growth related infrastructure contained within the Long-Term Plan 2024-2034.

**Legal considerations**

33. In order to levy development contributions, a territorial authority is required to adopt development contributions policy under section 102(1) Local Government Act 2002 following the principles under section 82 and 82A.

### Māori and cultural considerations

34. Development Contributions is a revenue and financing tool to collect revenue related to the costs of providing infrastructure to support growth. In developing the Development Contributions policy, Council is required to consider whether or not the proposed Policy supports the provisions within the preamble to Te Ture Māori Act 1993. The proposed policy is considered to support the principles of promoting the retention of Māori land and to facilitate the occupation, development, and utilisation of that land for the benefit of its owners, their whanau, and their hapū.

### Climate change impact considerations

35. The Development Contributions Policy is a funding and financing tool for the roading, infrastructure, stormwater, wastewater and community facilities projects which contribute to supporting community resilience, a safe and healthy environment and achieving an effective response to climate change, and therefore implicitly supports our climate change priorities.

### Risk assessment

36. The recommended decision has a minor degree of risk. During the development of the Proposed Development Contributions Policy, the policy has been legally reviewed for compliance with the LGA 2002 requirements. Making decisions on submissions carries a minor reputation risk with the community.
37. The recommended decision has a minor degree of risk as summarised in the table below.

Risk Profile Area	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Rating
Reputation/image	Unlikely	Minor	Low
<b>Overall Risk Profile Score</b>			<b>Low</b>

### Significance

38. The recommended decision to consider and make decisions on submission is considered not significant under the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy however it is noted that a decision to adopt and amend the Development Contributions Policy will be significant. The decision made will be aligned with the requirements Section 82 and 83 LGA 2002.

### Next steps

39. Following deliberations on submissions, a final decision on the Policy, including any amendments, will be made by Council at its meeting on the 16 July 2024. If adopted the policy is recommended to come into force on 17 July 2024.
40. All submitters will be sent a letter outlining the Council's final decision on the Policy once made.

Summary of Submissions to Proposed Development Contributions Policy (2024)

UPDATED 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Summary of submission	Officer Comment	Officer's recommendations / Proposed Actions
<b>Topic 1: Funding infrastructure to support growth through Development Contributions</b>		
<p>1. <b>Agree (339)</b> <u>Comments / Reasons</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Growth should pay for growth (18)</li> <li>• Support affordable, appropriate and fair DCs (3)</li> <li>• Fair and reasonable (2)</li> <li>• Use DC's to leverage for better building practices (2)</li> <li>• Developers should construct infrastructure (1)</li> <li>• Quality infrastructure promotes growth (1)</li> <li>• DC's should be used to service the area it is collected from (1)</li> <li>• Use alternative sources of funding (1)</li> </ul>	<p>Since 2018, the district's growth profile has changed and it is projected to grow by 4000 people which will result in an increase of approximately 1160 additional residential units.</p> <p>Council has three main sources of funding available to provide infrastructure for growth: rates, development contributions and third-party funding (like NZTA for roads).</p> <p>With the increase in the need for infrastructure outside of the original two growth areas, rates are no longer considered the most appropriate method of funding the infrastructure required for growth.</p>	<p><b>Accepted.</b> That the submissions are noted and taken into consideration.</p>

Summary of submission	Officer Comment	Officer's recommendations / Proposed Actions
<p>2. <b>Neutral (140)</b>  <u>Comments / Reasons</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Growth should pay for growth (4)</li> <li>• More information required (3)</li> <li>• DC's should be increased proportionally (1)</li> <li>• Future developments will eventually contribute towards Councils revenue through rates (1)</li> <li>• Site by site assessments needed (1)</li> <li>• Encourage high density developments within urban infill zones (1)</li> <li>• Unintended consequence - Increase costs of housing (1)</li> <li>• Use DC's to leverage for better building practices (1)</li> </ul>	See above.	<b>Note</b> the submission.
<p>3. <b>Disagree (42)</b>  <u>Comments / Reasons</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Future developments will eventually contribute towards Councils revenue through rates (5)</li> <li>• Unintended consequence - Discourage future development (5)</li> <li>• Unfair charges on developers (3)</li> <li>• DCs only used for capital infrastructure projects (2)</li> <li>• Developers should construct infrastructure (1)</li> <li>• Increase DC's should reduce rates overall (1)</li> </ul>	<p>See above.</p> <p>In addition, while it is noted that some projects may be adversely affected by the Development Contributions Policy, at the time of writing this report, there were in excess of 900 lots currently being developed that will continue to be progressed under current Development Contributions Policy.</p>	<b>Note</b> the submission.

Summary of submission	Officer Comment	Officer's recommendations / Proposed Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rural - Unfair charges on (1)</li><li>Unintended consequence - Increase costs of housing (1)</li></ul>		
4. <b>Consider impact on existing policies (1)</b> <u>Comments / Reasons</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Unintended consequences (1)</li></ul>	See above.	<b>Note</b> the submission.

Summary of submission	Officer Comment	Officer's recommendations / Proposed Actions
<b>Topic 2 - Extension of the Development Contributions Policy</b>		
<p>5. <b>Agree (371)</b> <u>Comments / Reasons</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Growth should pay for growth (14)</li> <li>• Similar DC's should be applied to all areas (5)</li> <li>• Restrict further growth (2)</li> <li>• Support increase growth (1)</li> <li>• High density - Support / encourage (1)</li> <li>• Future developments will eventually contribute towards Councils revenue through rates (1)</li> <li>• Council should make sure infrastructure is available in development zones (1)</li> <li>• Unintended consequence - Discourage infill development (1)</li> <li>• Use the available vacant land for industrial or residential purposes (1)</li> <li>• More information required (1)</li> </ul>	<p>With the increase in the need for infrastructure outside of the original two growth areas, rates are no longer considered the most appropriate method of funding the infrastructure required for growth.</p> <p>The proposed policy extends the catchment for development contributions to the whole district so that developers, and the future residents of that development, who benefit from the infrastructure provided for growth pay a fair, equitable and proportionate level of the infrastructure cost required to pay for growth.</p>	<p><b>Accepted.</b> That the submissions are noted and taken into consideration.</p>
<p>6. <b>Neutral (114)</b> <u>Comments / Reasons</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Growth should pay for growth (1)</li> <li>• High density - Support / encourage (1)</li> <li>• Future developments will eventually contribute towards Council's revenue through rates (1)</li> </ul>	<p>See above</p>	<p><b>Note</b> the submissions.</p>

	Summary of submission	Officer Comment	Officer's recommendations / Proposed Actions
7.	<p><b>Disagree (30)</b> <u>Comments / Reasons</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unintended consequence - Discourage future development (3)</li> <li>• Unintended consequence - Discourage infill development (2)</li> <li>• Devaluation of property values (2)</li> <li>• Exclude infill development - Only expansion areas (1)</li> <li>• Not fair and reasonable (1)</li> </ul>	<p>See above.</p> <p>In addition, while it is noted that some projects may be adversely affected by the Development Contributions Policy, at the time of writing this report, there were in excess of 900 lots currently being developed that will continue to be progressed under the current Development Contributions Policy and will only incur additional costs if their development is large than a single HEU.</p>	<p><b>Note</b> the submission.</p>
8.	<p><b>Consider impact on existing policies (1)</b> <u>Comments / Reasons</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unintended consequence - Discourage future development (1)</li> </ul>	<p>See above.</p>	<p><b>Note</b> the submission.</p>

Summary of submission	Officer Comment	Officer's recommendations / Proposed Actions
<b>Topic 3 – Demand Measure</b>		
<p>9. <b>Agree (321)</b> <u>Comments / Reasons</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High density - Support / encourage (5)</li> <li>• Growth should pay for growth (3)</li> <li>• Higher demand on infrastructure (3)</li> <li>• Fair and rational (2)</li> <li>• Larger dwellings are already paying high rates through Capital value (2)</li> <li>• Apply higher DC's to Gin palaces (1)</li> <li>• Bedrooms - Number of bedrooms does not accurately reflect demand (1)</li> </ul>	<p>Demand measures for residential development are proposed to move from a site-based demand measure to an occupancy-based demand measure which is tied more closely to the actual demand a new dwelling or new addition to a dwelling places on Council infrastructure.</p> <p>For residential development, the use of bedrooms is a balance between accurately reflecting the potential demand of a dwelling and a policy that can easily be used and implemented.</p> <p>As discussed above, given the nature of development timelines, some projects may be affected however there are a significant number of additional sites currently progressing through the development process that will continue to be progressed under the current Development Contributions Policy and will only incur additional costs if their development is large than a single HEU.</p>	<p><b>Accepted in Part.</b> That the submissions are noted and taken into consideration.</p>



	Summary of submission	Officer Comment	Officer's recommendations / Proposed Actions
10.	<p><b>Neutral (118)</b> <u>Comments / Reasons</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bedrooms - Number of bedrooms does not accurately reflect demand (6)</li> <li>• High density - Support / encourage (2)</li> <li>• Unintended consequence - Discourage future development (1)</li> </ul>	See above.	<b>Note</b> the submission.
11.	<p><b>Disagree (76)</b> <u>Comments / Reasons</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bedrooms - Number of bedrooms does not accurately reflect demand (12)</li> <li>• Unintended consequence - Discourage future development (5)</li> <li>• High density - Support / encourage (2)</li> <li>• Disadvantages larger families (1)</li> <li>• Keep site based approach (1)</li> <li>• Similar DC's should be applied to all areas (1)</li> </ul>	See above.	<b>Note</b> the submission.
12.	<p><b>HEU - Keep site based (4)</b> <u>Comments / Reasons</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change to project feasibility (2)</li> </ul>	Site based assessment are not considered to accurately reflect the design demand of a development and would likely lead to the over or under recovery of Development Contributions.	<b>Note</b> the submission.

Summary of submission	Officer Comment	Officer's recommendations / Proposed Actions
13. <b>Actual demand - Greater use of (1)</b> <u>Comments / Reasons</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fairness / Actual cost of infrastructure (1)</li> </ul>	A greater use of actual design demand of a development would significantly increase the complexity of implementing the Development Contributions Policy, increase the amount of information developers had to provide with applications, and would reduce the predictability of the policy across the district.	<b>Note</b> the submission.
14. <b>Stormwater - Allow offsetting of demand through stormwater neutrality (2)</b> <u>Comments / Reasons</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduces demand on network (2)</li> </ul>	<p>Stormwater demand relates primarily to peak flow during storm events. With appropriate stormwater attenuation on the subject site, stormwater demand on Council's reticulated networks, for the design event (i.e. 10%AEP storm event inclusive for Climate Change), can be reduced.</p> <p>As part of a meeting held on the 4 June to discuss concerns raised by developers within their submissions, an option was put forward to simplify the stormwater calculation by using occupancy/bedrooms in a similar way to the other demand measures.</p> <p>If occupancy is used as a proxy for stormwater demand, stormwater attenuation will not be able to offset stormwater demand as it will not be able to offset the occupancy based on the number of bedrooms.</p> <p>If impervious surface area is retained as the calculation method for stormwater demand, stormwater attenuation back to a minimum of 160m<sup>2</sup> per site can be considered.</p>	<b>Note</b> the submission.

Summary of submission	Officer Comment	Officer's recommendations / Proposed Actions
15. <b>Stormwater - Exclude patios and driveways from calculation (2)</b>	Requested change to the definition of impermeable surfaces would significantly underrepresent the stormwater demand a development would have on Council's stormwater network.	<b>Note</b> the submission.
16. <b>Wastewater - Allow offsetting when on-site pumping is required (1)</b> <u>Comments / Reasons</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduces demand on network (1)</li> </ul>	Wastewater demand is made up of both peak flow and total volume. Council's wastewater system is designed for a peak flow equivalent to 1 gravity connection per 400m <sup>2</sup> within the urban area.  While on-site pumping might allow a higher density development to keep within the allowable peak flow limit for Council's network, it still creates a demand on Council wastewater network.	<b>Note</b> the submission.

Summary of submission	Officer Comment	Officer's recommendations / Proposed Actions
<p>17. <b>Loophole in policy – The way a developer carries out a development will affect the quantum of development contributions charged. (1)</b></p>	<p>Under the policy, if a residential development with dwellings of 1-2 bedrooms is undertaken before any subdivision of the land, a developer will only be liable for the actual demand of the development (0.5 HEU x no. of dwellings) rather than 1 HEU per site if the property was subdivided first.</p> <p>Where the land use consent is assessed before a subdivision, Council is able to assess the actual demand of the development rather than needing to assess the proposal based on assumed demand.</p> <p>It is also noted that where the subdivision is carried out prior to the land-use the developer retains the flexibility to erect a dwelling on the site of up to 4 bedrooms and 160m<sup>2</sup> impervious areas prior without the need for additional development contributions to be paid.</p>	<p><b>Note</b> the submission.</p>

	Summary of submission	Officer Comment	Officer's recommendations / Proposed Actions
<b>Topic 4A – Remissions - Community groups and Trusts</b>			
18.	<p><b>Agree (248)</b> <u>Comments / Reasons</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Criteria needed for the assessment of groups before remission is granted (6)</li> <li>Benefits the whole community (3)</li> <li>Support remissions for community groups but not trusts (2)</li> <li>Churches - Excluded from remissions (1)</li> <li>Rates already pays for infrastructure (1)</li> <li>We need more community housing and developments for the community benefit (1)</li> </ul>	<p>Remissions for Community groups and Trusts are at the full discretion of Council and based on the community benefit the proposed development would provide.</p> <p>Trusts operating for private benefit would not be eligible for remission as there would not be a community benefit.</p>	<b>Accepted.</b> That the submissions are noted and taken into consideration.
19.	<p><b>Neutral (169)</b> <u>Comments / Reasons</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Criteria needed for the assessment of groups before remission is granted (4)</li> <li>Consultation - Rushed / Insufficient engagement (2)</li> <li>More information required (2)</li> <li>Agree if the organisations for remissions are not for profit (1)</li> <li>Community groups should be treated on case by case basis (1)</li> </ul>	See above.	<b>Note</b> the submission.

	Summary of submission	Officer Comment	Officer's recommendations / Proposed Actions
20.	<b>Disagree (80)</b> <u>Comments / Reasons</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Everyone should pay their share (4)</li><li>• Criteria needed for the assessment of groups before remission is granted (1)</li><li>• More information required (1)</li><li>• Support remissions for community groups but not trusts (1)</li></ul>	See above.	<b>Note</b> the submission.

	Summary of submission	Officer Comment	Officer's recommendations / Proposed Actions
<b>Topic 4B – Remissions - Social Housing</b>			
21.	<p><b>Agree (227)</b>  <u>Comments / Reasons</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Criteria needed for the assessment of groups before remission is granted (5)</li> <li>• Benefits the whole community (2)</li> <li>• Churches - Excluded from remissions (1)</li> <li>• Equitable (1)</li> <li>• Kainaga Ora needs to be assessed thoroughly before remissions are granted (1)</li> <li>• Need more time to answer (1)</li> <li>• Rates already pays for infrastructure (1)</li> <li>• Remissions should be given to developers of social housing (1)</li> <li>• We need more community housing and developments for the community benefit (1)</li> <li>• We need more community housing in district to help people (1)</li> </ul>	<p>Under the remissions policy there are detailed criteria that need to be met before a project can be considered for a remission.</p> <p>Remissions for the delivery of social housing is at the full discretion of Council and the development would be required to deliver social housing which is then managed by a community housing provider (CHP).</p> <p>Crown and crown agents including Kāinga Ora are not eligible for the proposed remission.</p>	<p><b>Accepted.</b> That the submissions are noted and taken into consideration.</p>

	Summary of submission	Officer Comment	Officer's recommendations / Proposed Actions
22.	<p><b>Neutral (143)</b></p> <p><u>Comments / Reasons</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Criteria needed for the assessment of groups before remission is granted (3)</li> <li>• More information required (2)</li> <li>• Consultation - Rushed / Insufficient engagement (1)</li> <li>• Remissions should be given to developers of social housing (1)</li> <li>• Social housing should be assessed as private dwellings (1)</li> </ul>	See above	<b>Note</b> the submission.
23.	<p><b>Disagree (117)</b></p> <p><u>Comments / Reasons</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Everyone should pay their share (4)</li> <li>• Social housing is a central government function (3)</li> <li>• Criteria needed for the assessment of groups before remission is granted (2)</li> <li>• Infrastructural demand for social housing is higher than single dwelling (2)</li> <li>• More information required (1)</li> </ul>	See above.	<b>Note</b> the submission.



	Summary of submission	Officer Comment	Officer's recommendations / Proposed Actions
	<b>Topic 5 – Other</b>		
24.	<p><b>Consultation - Rushed / Insufficient engagement (6)</b></p>	<p>A number of developers, builders and surveyors have raised concerns relating to rushed or insufficient engagement.</p> <p>A total of 531 people directly submitted on the proposed Development Contributions Policy with a significant majority of submitters in support of the proposal.</p> <p>Developers have had the ability to input through the submission process, at a meeting of the developer's forum as well as in a number of meetings and correspondence between individual developers and officers.</p> <p>Noting the development timelines, some projects may be adversely affected by the Development Contributions Policy, however at the time of writing this report, there were in excess of 900 lots currently being developed that will continue to be progressed under the current Development Contributions Policy. 900 lots is equivalent to 4-5 year of development at approximately 160-180pa (based on rolling average for building consents).</p>	<p><b>Note</b> the submission.</p>

	Summary of submission	Officer Comment	Officer's recommendations / Proposed Actions
25.	<b>Consultation - Working group sought (3)</b>	See above.  Three developers requested that a committee be convened to consider Development Contributions Policy.	<b>Note</b> the submission.
26.	<b>Timing - Delay commencement of policy (2)</b> <u>Comments / Reasons</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Property development has long lead in times for projects (2)</li> </ul>	See above.  In addition, under the LGA 2002 a development contributions policy may only recover growth related costs within an approved LTP. Conversely, the LTP identifies the funding that is anticipated to be received through development contribution that would otherwise need to be funded through other means including rates.	<b>Note</b> the submission.

<p>27.</p>	<p><b>Drafting - Complex and difficult to use/understand (5)</b></p>	<p>The LGA 2002 is relatively prescriptive in the requirements for the matters that need to be addressed within a Development Contributions Policy. In addition, the need to be precise in the wording of the policy, to avoid ambiguity and provide certainty, can result in technical or detailed policy provision.</p> <p>As part of the review of submissions and consideration of the implementation of the policy officers have considered whether or not any minor changes might improve usability or understanding.</p> <p>During the consultation on the policy, there has been a number of meetings with individual developer to discuss and work through implications. As part of a meeting held on the 4 June to discuss concerns raised by developers within their submissions, an option was put forward to simplify the stormwater calculation by using occupancy/bedrooms in a similar way to the other demand measures.</p> <p>Supporting information is also being developed to assist the developers and the general public with the practical implementation of the Development Contributions Policy.</p>	<p><b>Note</b> the submissions.</p> <p><u>That</u> the following minor amendments be made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amend Table 2: HEU demand measures – To calculate stormwater based on occupancy.</li> <li>• Site / Allotment – To replace references to ‘allotment’ with ‘site’ where the meaning of the text will not be changed.</li> <li>• Impervious Surface Area (ISA) – Addition of ‘including <u>but not limited to:</u>’</li> <li>• Amend Table 4: DEU demand measures – Other as follows:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <u>Car equivalent movements per day</u> <del>Vehicle trips per day</del></li> <li>– <u>10 car equivalent movements average trips per day</u></li> </ul> </li> <li>• 8.4.3 – Addition of missing wording for fees for objections</li> <li>• 9.0 – Activity description for Reserves</li> <li>• Various other typographical amendments including:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Section 2 – Background</li> <li>– Section 4 – Purpose</li> <li>– Section 6 - Definitions</li> <li>– Section 7 - Policies</li> <li>– Section 8 – Policy Administration</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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28.	<b>Timing of Payments - Delay payment of DC's until building consent stage (2)</b>	Council is required to provide infrastructure capacity, at subdivision stage and so incurs the associated cost at this stage or even in advance of it. The Policy ensures contributions are assessed and invoiced at the earliest possible point in development process to recoup the capital outlay and to avoid unnecessary interest costs for Council.	<b>Note</b> the submissions.
29.	<b>Timing of Payments - Payment charged at building consent stage (1)</b> <u>Comments / Reasons</u>  • Unintended consequence – Code of Compliance not sought	See above.  In addition, it is noted that contracts for building services are often tied to obtaining Code of Compliance and there are insurance and other implication for not receiving a Code of Compliance for a building.	<b>Note</b> the submission.
30.	<b>Housing Supply - Allow increased density on non-serviced Rural Lifestyle zoned properties (1)</b>	Development Contributions Policy is tool for cost recovery and does not set densities for development.	<b>Note</b> the submission.

## 8.5 CONTINUATION OF THE 2021-2031 LONG TERM PLAN POST 30 JUNE 2024

**Author:** Mike Fermor - Chief Financial Officer

**Authoriser:** David Langford - Chief Executive

**Significance:** not significant

**Date:** 25 June 2024

**References:** Nil

### Purpose

1. To advise the Council that from the period 1 July 2024 until adoption of the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan (2024-34 LTP), scheduled for 16 July 2024, the 2021-2031 amended Long Term Plan (2021-31 LTP) will continue to apply.

### Background

2. Under the Local Government Act 2002 (s93(3)) councils are to adopt LTPs before the commencement of the first year to which it relates, i.e. before 1 July 2024 for the 2024-34 LTP.
3. Due to the uncertainty councils faced over the future operating model for the three waters, and the impact this had on planning for the 2024-34 LTPs, the Local Government Act 2002 was amended to allow for late adoption of the 2024-34 LTP. The time extension provided is up to 30 September 2024.
4. Where councils decided to adopt their 2024-34 LTP after 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024, the amendment to the Local Government Act states that the current 2021-31 LTP will continue to apply (LGA Schedule 1AA s46).
5. Whanganui is scheduled to adopt its 2024-34 LTP on 16<sup>th</sup> July, this means the 2021-31 LTP will continue to apply until this date.

### Options assessment

6. No options are available for Council to consider as the resolution is to note a legislative provision for those councils who adopt their 2024-34 LTP after 1 July 2024, but before 30 September 2024.

### Risk

7. The recommended decision has a minor degree of risk.

*For further information, refer to the 'Risk assessment' section of this report.*

### Recommendations

That Council notes the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan will remain in force until the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan is adopted at the 16 July 2024 Council meeting.

### Alignment with Council's strategies and policies

8. This report advises the continuation of the current LTP until 16 July 2024 when the 2024-34 LTP will be adopted.

### Financial considerations

9. There are no costs associated with the recommendations in this report. However it is noted the 2024-34 LTP budgets will not apply until adoption on 16<sup>th</sup> July.

### Legal considerations

10. There are no further legal considerations to those highlighted in this report.

### Māori and cultural considerations

11. There are no Maori or cultural considerations relevant to the recommendation in this report

### Climate change impact considerations

12. There are no climate change considerations relevant to the recommendation in this report

### Risk assessment

13. The recommended decision has a minor degree of risk as summarised in the table below.

Risk Profile Area	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Rating
Financial	Unlikely	Minor	Low
<b>Overall Risk Profile Score</b>			Low

### Significance

14. The recommended decision is considered not significant under the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

## 8.6 LOCAL ELECTION 2025 - INITIAL REPRESENTATION PROPOSAL

**Author:** Anna Palamountain - Democracy Services Manager

**Authoriser:** David Langford - Chief Executive

**Significance:** significant

**Date:** 25 June 2025

**References:**

1. [Attachment 1: WDC Rep Review 2024 - General Ward](#)  
2. [Attachment 2: WDC Rep Review 2024 - Maori Ward](#)  
3. [Attachment 3: WDC Rep Review 2024 - Rural Representation Ward](#)  
4. [Attachment 4: WDC Rep Review 2024 - Affected Meshblocks](#)  

### Representation Review Working Party endorsement

*The Representation Review Working Party endorses the recommendations proposed in this report*

### Purpose

1. To present and seek Council adoption of the recommended initial proposal for representation arrangements for the 2025 and 2028 elections.

### Introduction

2. Whanganui District Council's current representation arrangements are:
  - a Mayor and 12 Councillors who are elected at large (by all residents of the Whanganui District).
  - a Whanganui Rural Community Board comprising of 7 board members who are elected by residents within the three subdivisions namely Whanganui (2 members), Kaitoke (2 members), and Kai Iwi (3 members).
3. The Local Electoral Act 2001 (LEA) requires councils to review representation arrangements at least once every six years to ensure fair and effective representation for the community. Council last reviewed its representation in 2018, therefore, a review is required before the next Local Body Election in October 2025.
4. The review covers the **total number of councillor positions and how they are elected. It also considers the requirement for a Community Board.**
5. To assist with this process, the Council, at its meeting on 13 December 2023, established a Representation Review Awheawhe (Working Party) comprised of technical officers and a selection of elected members.
6. The role of the Working Party was to evaluate the current representation and undertake preliminary engagement with the community to inform the initial representation arrangement model recommended to the Council for adoption ahead of consultation with the community.
7. Preliminary engagement with the community occurred between February and April 2024 via **a district-wide community survey. A short survey targeting the district's rural community, and a Community Korero information session,** were also undertaken.

8. The outcome of the district-wide community survey was that **the majority of responses supported a reduction in the total number of councillor positions, weighing towards 10, elected on a District-wide basis.**

*Refer to the 'Considerations' section further down in the report for information on the factors considered when determining representation arrangements.*

### Recommended option

9. The Representation Review Working Party recommends that the **Council proceed with Option 1.**

### Recommendations

1. That the Council, in accordance with sections 19H and 19J and clauses 1 and 2 of Schedule 1A of the Local Electoral Act 2001, adopts the following as its initial proposal for representation arrangements for the local elections to be held in 2025 and subsequent elections until altered by any subsequent decisions:
  - a) The Whanganui District Council comprise the Mayor, elected at large, and 10 councillors elected from wards;
  - b) The Whanganui District is divided into two wards:
    - The Whanganui General Ward, comprising the entire district as shown in the map at Attachment 1, represented by 8 councillors, and
    - The Whanganui Māori Ward, comprising the entire district as shown in the map at Attachment 2, represented by 2 councillors;
  - c) The Whanganui District retains a Whanganui Rural Community Board consisting of seven members elected by the electors of three subdivisions, comprising the areas shown at Attachment 3:
    - Whanganui (2 members)
    - Kaitoke (2 members), and
    - Kai Iwi (3 members),
    - plus 2 members appointed by Council representing the Whanganui General Ward and/or the Whanganui Māori Ward
  - d) The Council will give public notice of this proposal within 14 days of resolution;
  - e) The Council will hear submissions on this 13 August 2024.

### Risk

10. The recommended decision has a moderate degree of risk.

*Refer to the 'Risk assessment' section further down in the report for information*

### Options assessment

This section outlines the options considered by the Representation Review Working Party.



**Option 1 – Working Party preferred option**

- a) Reduce the total number of councillor positions to **10**, comprising **8 district-wide General Ward councillors**, and **2 district-wide Māori Ward councillors**, noting the population each councillor represents:

	Population	No of councillors	Population per member
<b>Whanganui General Ward</b>	40,200	8	5,025
<b>Whanganui Māori Ward</b>	8,720	2	4,360
<b>District total</b>	<b>48,920</b>	<b>10</b>	

- b) Retain a Whanganui Rural Community Board, comprising **7 board members** who are elected by the electors of the **three subdivisions** namely Whanganui (2 members), Kaitoke (2 members), and Kai Iwi (3 members), **plus 2 members appointed by Council representing the Whanganui General Ward and/or the Whanganui Māori Ward.**

11. In practice, this means that residents who are enrolled on the General Electoral Roll elect **8 General Ward councillors**, and residents enrolled on the Māori Electoral Roll elect **2 Māori Ward councillors.**
12. Option 1 meets the requirements for determining representation arrangements (outlined in the 'Representation considerations' section of this report) and aligns with the majority preference indicated in the district-wide preliminary community survey to reduce the number of councillor positions, and retain a Community Board.
13. This option also retains an element of familiarity for residents, who have previously elected councillors on a district-wide basis through the at large basis of election.
14. Minor adjustments to the boundaries of subdivisions within the Whanganui Rural Community Board are proposed in order to achieve compliance with the fair representation requirements of the LEA; see details under Community Board below.

**Option 2 – comparable option to the current representation arrangement.**

- a) Retain **12** councillor positions in total and have a **district-wide General Ward** with **10** councillors, and a **district-wide Māori Ward** with **2** councillors.
- b) Retain a Whanganui Rural Community Board, comprising **7 board members** elected by the electors from the **three subdivisions** namely Whanganui (2 members), Kaitoke (2 members), and Kai Iwi (3 members), **plus 2 members appointed by Council representing the Whanganui General Ward and/or the Whanganui Māori Ward.**

	Population	No of councillors	Population per member
<b>Whanganui General Ward</b>	40,200	10	4,020
<b>Whanganui Māori Ward</b>	8,720	2	4,360
<b>District total</b>	<b>48,920</b>	<b>12</b>	

15. In practice, Option 2a means that residents who are enrolled on the General Electoral Roll elect **10 General Ward councillors**, and residents enrolled on the Māori Electoral Roll elect **2 Māori Ward councillors.**

16. Option 2 is comparable to the current representation arrangements in terms of the total number of councillor positions, and it meets the requirements for determining representation arrangements outlined in the 'Representation considerations' section of this report.
17. The option of retaining 12 councillor positions in total goes against the majority preference indicated in the district-wide preliminary community survey to reduce the total number of councillor positions.
18. Minor adjustments to the boundaries of the Whanganui Rural Community Board are proposed to achieve compliance with the fair representation requirements of the LEA; see details under the Community Board below.

### Option 3 – Create urban and rural wards, with no community board

- a) Reduce the total number of councillor positions to **10**, divide the **District into an Urban General Ward** with **6** councillors, a **Rural General Ward** with **2** councillors, and a **district-wide Māori Ward** with **2** councillors.
  - b) Do not have a Community Board, i.e. the existing Community Board would be disestablished.
19. In practice, Option 3 means that residents enrolled on the General Roll are split between an **Urban General Ward**, comprising approximately the urban area of Whanganui city, a **Rural Ward**, comprising the balance of the district, as represented by the boundaries of the Whanganui Rural Community Board, and there would no longer be a Community Board representing the rural community.
  20. Residents within the Urban Ward would elect **6** councillors, and residents who live within the Rural Ward would elect **2** councillors. Residents enrolled on the Māori Electoral Roll would elect **2** councillors.
  21. Elections held on a wards basis must comply with the 'fair representation' requirements of the LEA Section 19V; that is, that *the population of each ward, divided by the number of members to be elected by that ward, produces a figure no more than 10% greater or smaller than the population of the district or region or community divided by the total number of elected members (other than members elected by the electors of a territorial authority as a whole, if any, and the mayor, if any).*

22. Based on the June 2023 population estimates provided by Stats NZ, the population per member ratios for this option would be as follows:

	Population	Members	Population- member ratio	Difference from quota	% Difference from quota
<b>General wards</b>					
Whanganui Urban Ward	34,800	6	5,800	898	17.83
Whanganui Rural Ward	5,500	2	2,750	-2,152	-42.72
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>40,300</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5,038</b>		
<b>Māori wards</b>					
Whanganui Māori Ward	8,720	2	4,360		
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>8,720</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4,360</b>		
<b>District total</b>	<b>49,020</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4,902</b>		

23. This shows that both wards would be significantly outside the +/- 10% margin for fair representation. Reducing the number of councillors elected from the Rural Ward to achieve compliance would leave the rural constituency of the district with only one elected representative, which would not be in line with community expectations as expressed in the preliminary engagement survey, nor with the views of the community board.
24. The majority preference indicated in the **district-wide preliminary community survey** supported retaining representation at a Community Board level.
25. **51%** of rural residents who responded to the **survey targeting the rural community** supported the notion of a Rural Ward with **2** councillors.
26. Option 3 is not supported by the Whanganui Rural Community Board. The Board's view is that **2** councillor positions are not adequate to represent the rural community due to the geographical spread of rural residents.

### Community Board

27. Both the recommended option (option 1) and option 2 above propose the retention of the Whanganui Rural Community Board, with members elected from 3 subdivisions.
28. Under the LEA, the fair representation requirements of section 19V (the '+/-10% rule') also apply in respect of subdivisions of communities.

29. Based on the June 2023 population estimates provided by Stats NZ, the population per member ratios for the 3 subdivisions, based on the current boundaries, would be as follows:

	Population	Members	Population-member ratio	Difference from quota	% Difference from quota
<b>Whanganui Rural Community</b>					
Whanganui Subdivision	1,350	2	675	-215	<b>-24.16</b>
Kai Iwi Subdivision	2,950	3	983	93	<b>10.49</b>
Kaitoke Subdivision	1,930	2	965	75	8.43
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,230</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>890</b>		

30. Both the Whanganui and Kai Iwi subdivisions would be non-compliant with the +/- 10% requirement under this scenario.

31. It is proposed to make minor adjustments to the boundaries of the subdivisions, as shown in the map in **Attachment 4**: The affected areas all sit north of the State Highway.

Meshblock	Population	Adjustment
4010778	10	Move from Kai Iwi subdivision to Whanganui subdivision
1680600	50	
1680501	80	
1680502	110	
1680103	10	
1680001	10	
1679700	80	
4018473	30	Remove from Kai Iwi subdivision (now urban)
4018481	0	

32. These changes would result in the following population per member ratios:

	Population	Members	Population-member ratio	Difference from quota	% Difference from quota
<b>Whanganui Rural Community</b>					
Whanganui Subdivision	1,710	2	855	-32	<b>-3.6</b>
Kai Iwi Subdivision	2,560	3	853	-34	<b>-3.8</b>
Kaitoke Subdivision	1,940	2	970	83	9.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,210</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>887</b>		

*\*Note: minor variations between tables due to rounding.*

These boundary adjustments bring the proposal into compliance with the +/- 10% requirement.

## Key principles

33. The Working Party has given due consideration to the following three **key principles** set out in legislation when determining the proposed representation arrangements.
- Communities of interest
34. This means identifying what communities of interest exist across the district from a perceptual, functional, and political perspective. This principle is relevant when determining the **number and boundaries of wards**.
35. The Working Party recommends that the existing representation arrangements, with councillors elected on a district-wide (at large) basis, along with a rural-based community board, provides effective representation for the urban and rural communities of interest, and that this representation will be carried over into the preferred option of district-wide wards.
- Effective representation of communities of interest
36. This means identifying the best structure to maintain access and representation that recognises communities of interest. This principle is relevant when determining the **basis of election** and **number of members**.
37. As noted above, the Working Party recommends that the preferred option best aligns with the majority preference indicated in the preliminary community survey to reduce the number of councillor positions and to retain a Community Board.
38. The preferred option also retains an element of familiarity for residents, who have previously elected councillors on a district-wide basis through the at-large basis of election. It provides the closest option to an at-large basis of election.
- Fair representation of electors
39. This refers to the +/- 10% requirement where the population per member for each ward must be within +/- 10% of the population per member for the whole district.
40. This principle is relevant to ensure equality of representation per member, however, there are some grounds for exception set out in the LEA Section 19V(3).
41. Under the proposed option of a single district-wide General Ward and a single district-wide Māori Ward, there is no requirement for the +/- 10% rule to apply.

### Preliminary community engagement

42. Preliminary engagement with the community occurred between February and April 2024 via **a district-wide community survey. A short survey targeting the district's rural community, and a Community Korero information session,** were also undertaken.
43. Of the **130 survey responses** to the **district-wide preliminary community survey**:
  - 54% supported reducing the total number of councillor positions
  - 64% supported councillors continuing to be elected by electors of the entire district
  - 54% supported retaining a community board.
44. Of the **62 survey responses received from the district's rural community**:
  - 51% supported the notion of rural ward councillor positions.
45. In addition to the survey, the Representation Review Working Party also spoke directly with members of the Whanganui Rural Community Board.
46. As a collective, the Whanganui Rural Community Board indicated **strong support** for retaining a rural community board and expressed the need for better cohesion between the Council and the Community Board and greater delegations to make decisions on rural-related matters to function effectively.

### Basis of election: Representation arrangements in the future

47. Under the provisions of the LEA, the Council's decision to establish a Māori ward/s at the 2025 Local Election has resulted in the District needing to have at least **one General ward**.
48. This means that the Council's current representation arrangement where all councillors are **elected at-large** by all electors (voters) of the District is no longer possible.
49. In the future, representation arrangements must now include:
  - One or more General wards (for electors on the General roll)
  - One or more Māori wards (for electors on the Māori roll)
50. Councils may also choose to adopt a mixed basis of election, where some councillors are elected by wards, and some are **elected at large**.

***Note:** The Working Party considered that an option with an 'at large' component is deemed not viable, as to achieve a total of 10 councillors, including 2 councillors elected at large, the number of councillors elected by wards would have to be reduced to 8; this, in turn, would mean that the Council would no longer meet the threshold for electing 2 Māori members.*

## The Mayor

51. Under all options **the Mayor is elected at large, i.e. by all voters in the District.**

## Māori representation

52. In November 2023, the Council resolved to establish Māori ward/s for the 2025 elections. Under the formula set in legislation, if the Council includes a total of 10 members elected from wards, **two Māori ward councillor positions would be available** at the 2025 Local Election.
53. Māori ward councillor positions can be elected in one district-wide ward; or the District can be split into two Māori wards of relatively even population size, with one Māori ward councillor elected in each Māori ward.
54. The preference of the Working Party is for **2 Māori Ward** councillor positions **elected in one district-wide Māori Ward**; this also mirrors the district-wide basis for the proposed General Ward.

## Changes to the Local Electoral Act provisions for Māori wards

55. The Council notes that the Local Government (Electoral Legislation and Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment Bill was introduced on 20 May 2024. For Whanganui District Council (and other councils that decided to establish Māori wards for the 2025 local elections), transitional arrangements proposed in the Bill would require the Council to either:
- (a) Rescind the decision to establish Māori wards; or
  - (b) Hold a binding poll alongside the 2025 local elections to decide whether Māori wards should continue.
56. If the Council chooses to disestablish or rescind its decision to establish Māori wards, it will subsequently need to either:
- (a) Carry out a shortened representation review before April 2025; or
  - (b) Continue to use its current representation arrangements (for councils that choose to rescind their decision to establish Māori wards for 2025).
57. If the Council chooses to hold a poll alongside the 2025 local elections, the results of that poll will take effect at the 2028 local elections.
58. The Council is not able to make any decisions under these provisions until the Bill is enacted, which is expected to be in late July 2024.
59. This report is prepared on the basis that the Council will continue with its representation review as currently in progress, and no action is required at this time.

## Consultation

60. The Local Electoral Act 2001 requires the Council to publicly notify this proposal within 14 days of resolution and to make provision for the public to make submissions on the proposal, for not less than one month.

61. The Council will make copies of the proposal, along with supporting information, available online and at customer services and libraries.
62. Anyone submitting can request the right to be heard in support of their submission.
63. The Council will hear submissions on the proposal, if requested, on **13 August 2024**.

### Background context

64. The Local Electoral Act 2001 requires Councils to review their representation arrangements at least once every six years to ensure they are fair and provide effective representation for the community.
65. Whanganui District Council undertook its last representation review in 2018 and needs to undertake its next review ahead of the 2025 local elections.
66. The first part of the process was to seek the community's views on having dedicated Māori representation factored into the council's representation arrangements and present the findings to the Council seeking a formal decision.
67. On 24 October 2023, based on the support from the community, the Council formally decided to establish Māori Wards for the 2025 and 2028 Local Body Elections.
68. The next part of the process was to establish a Representation Review Awheawhe (Working Party) to undertake preliminary community engagement on wider representation matters and recommend an initial representation arrangement to the Council for adoption, before proceeding to community consultation, which is the subject of this report.
69. The Council has previously resolved to retain the First Past the Post (FPP) voting system after a binding poll conducted as part of the 2019 local government elections. It was not required to review this decision as part of the current representation review.

### Significance

70. The Representation Review process is assessed as **significant** under the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

### Alignment with Council's strategies and policies

71. The recommendations are not inconsistent with any current policies or plans.

### Financial considerations

72. The costs associated with the recommendation in this report are budgeted for in the Long-Term Plan/Annual Plan.

### Legal considerations

73. The recommendation complies with the requirements of the Local Electoral Act 2001.



### Māori and cultural considerations

74. On 24 October 2023, the Council, informed by consultation with the Māori community, resolved to establish Māori wards effective the 2025 and 2028 Local Body Elections.
75. See note above re the Local Government (Electoral Legislation and Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment Bill.

### Climate change impact considerations

76. There are no climate change impacts or implications arising from the decisions in this report.

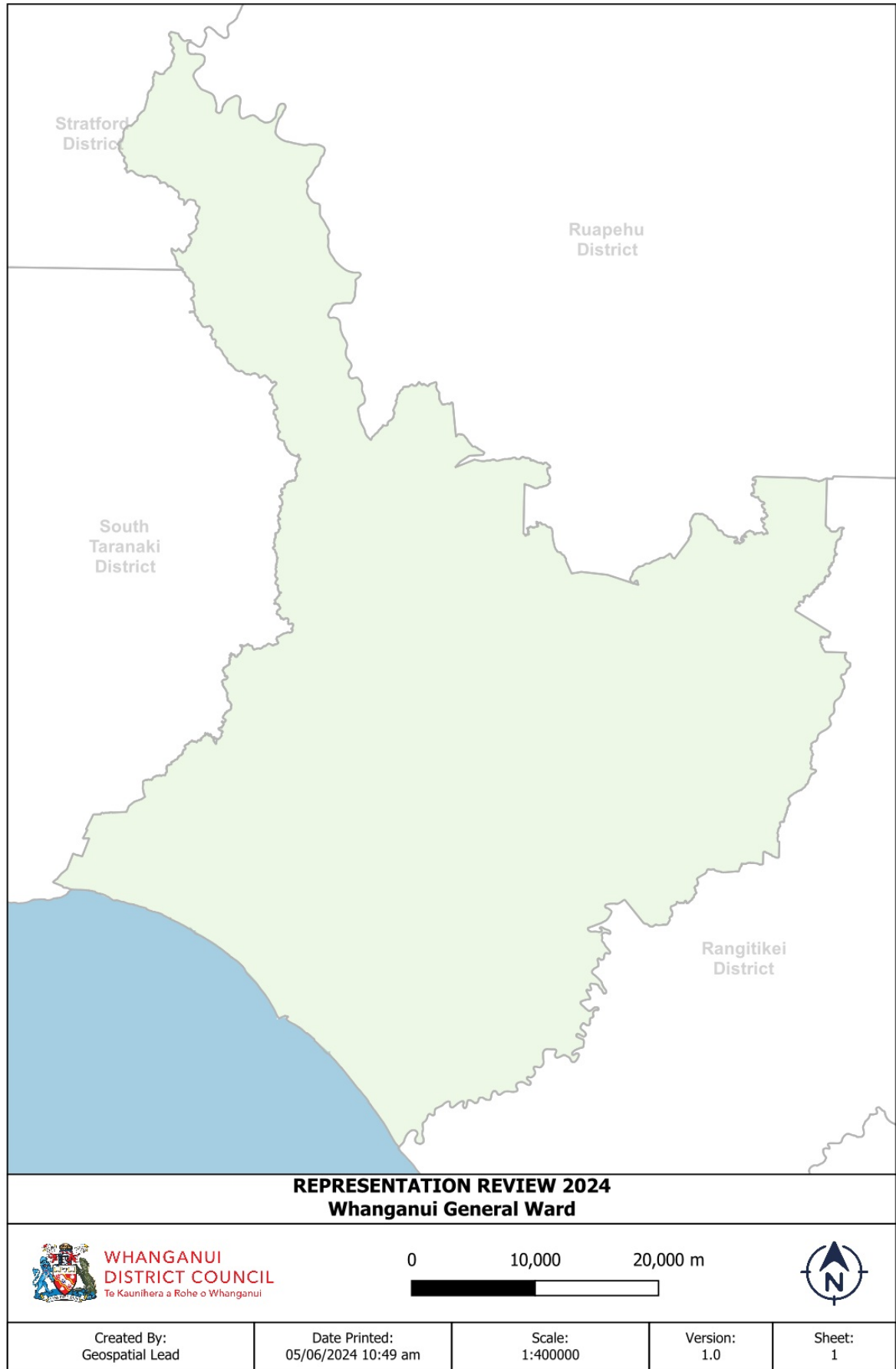
### Risk assessment

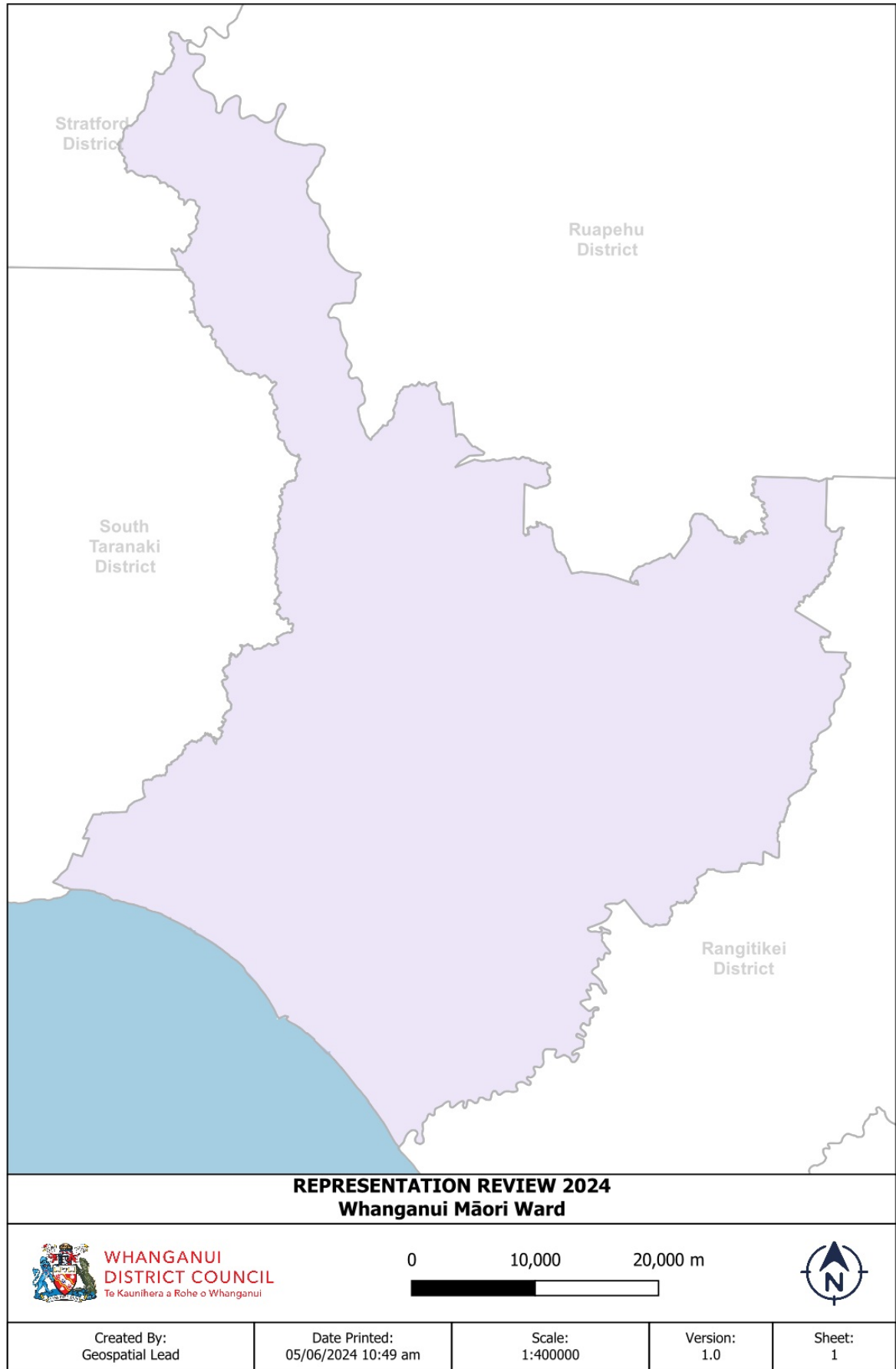
77. The recommended decision has a **moderate** degree of risk as summarised in the table below.

Risk Profile Area	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Rating
<b>Reputation/image</b> <i>The recommendation is significant in terms of Section 5 Local Government Act 2002 as it relates to a decision that has a degree of importance in terms of its likely impact on, and the likely consequences for the current and future social, and or cultural well-being of any persons who are likely to be particularly affected by, or interested in, the recommended decision</i>	Possible	Moderate	Medium
<b>Overall Risk Profile Score</b>			Medium

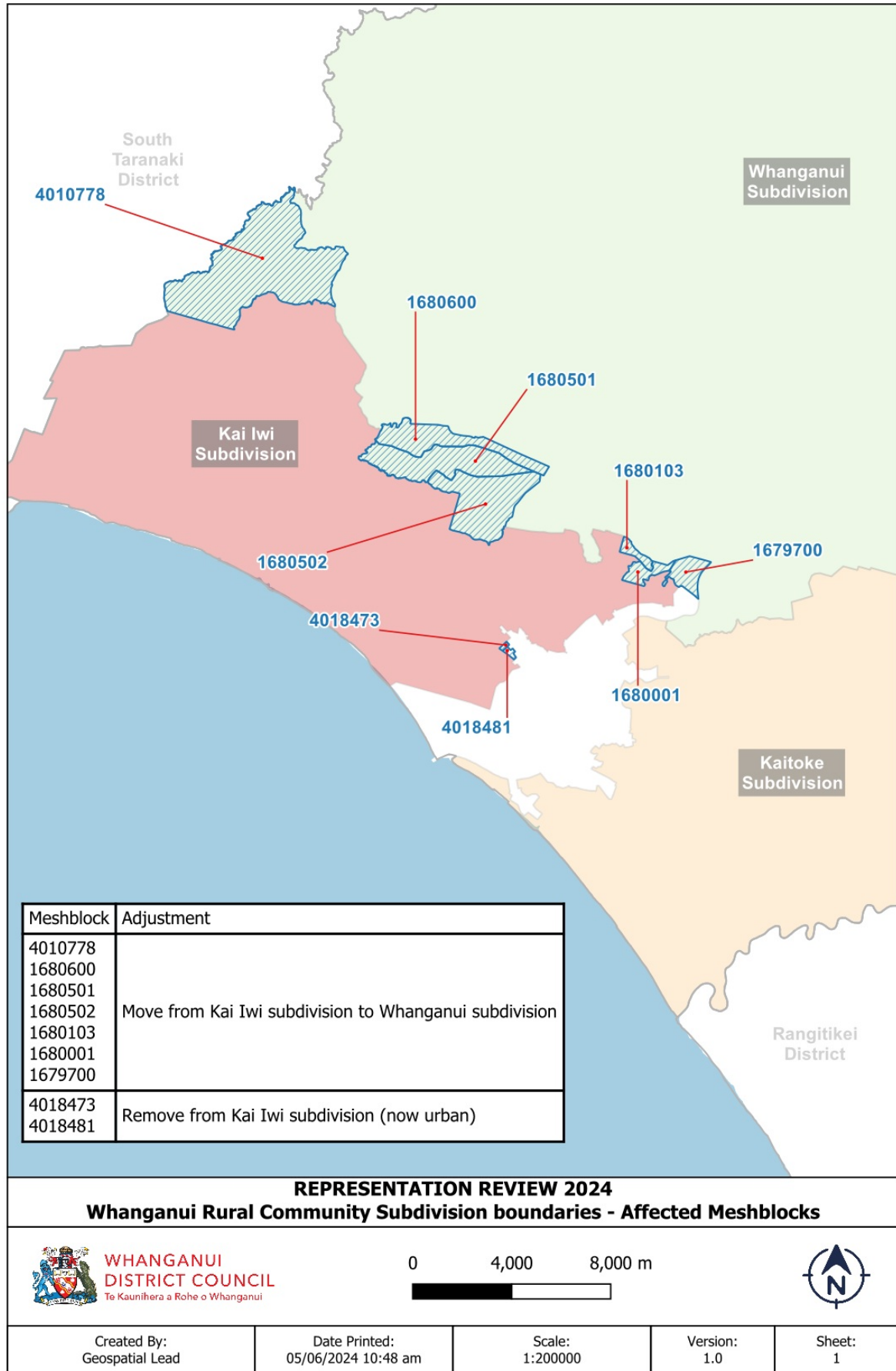
### Next steps

78. The Democracy Team will arrange public notification of the proposed representation arrangement and undertake consultation with the community, for not less than one month.
79. The Council will hear any submissions on the initial proposal, if requested, on **13 August 2024**.
80. Following hearings and deliberations on any submissions received, the Council will either confirm the initial proposal as the final proposal or make any amendments to the proposal in response to submissions and adopt the final proposal at its meeting on **3 September 2024**.
81. The final proposal for representation arrangement will then be publicly notified and will be open for appeals and objections for not less than one month.
82. Any objections or appeals received will be referred to the Local Government Commission, which will make the final determination on the District representation arrangements for the 2025 and 2028 Local Elections.









## 8.7 APPROVAL TO ATTEND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT NZ CONFERENCE 2024

<b>Author:</b>	<b>Bridgette Walters - Democracy Advisor</b>
<b>Authoriser:</b>	<b>Anna Palamountain - Democracy Services Manager</b>
<b>Significance:</b>	<b>not significant</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>25 June 2024</b>
<b>References:</b>	<b>Nil</b>

### Executive summary

To seek approval for the Elected Members to attend the annual Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) Conference (“Conference”) in Wellington on 21-23 August 2024.

1. The Conference is an annual event with keynote speakers and workshops discussing local and national issues in local government. It is typically attended by Councillors and high-level local government representatives from around New Zealand.
2. Whanganui District Council usually sends the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor and 1 councillor. The Mayor intends to seek interest from councillors.
3. The event is an opportunity for attendees to develop their governance skills, discuss issues of local and national importance, and network with other Councillors and local government staff. The Conference is also an opportunity to represent Whanganui District Council at a national level.
4. Council will fund the cost of attendance (including travel and accommodation) from the Elected Member’s Professional Development budget.
5. The conference registration fee is \$1395 + GST per person. Travel and accommodation costs are approximately \$800.00 per person.

### Recommendation

That Council approves the attendance of Mayor Andrew Tripe and Deputy Mayor Cr Helen Craig to attend the Local Government New Zealand Conference held in Wellington on 21-23 August 2024.

### Options

6. The available options are:
  1. Council sends the named Elected Members to the Conference. This is the **preferred option** as it provides a professional development and networking opportunity.
  2. Council sends alternative Elected Members to those named in the recommendation
  3. Council does not send anyone to the Conference. This is not recommended.

### Recommended Options

7. Officers recommend that Council proceed with **option 1**.

## Analysis and advice

### Alignment with Council's strategies and policies

8. The recommendation aligns with the Elected Member Allowances and Expense Policy 2023.

### Financial considerations

9. The costs associated with the recommendation in this report are budgeted in the Long Term Plan / Annual Plan.

### Legal considerations

10. There are no legal or legislative considerations associated with the recommendation.

### Māori and cultural considerations

11. There are no Māori or cultural considerations associated with the recommendation.

### Climate change impact considerations

12. There are no climate change considerations associated with the recommendation.

### Risks

13. Reputation/image – non-attendance could likely affect the way the Council and staff are perceived by the community – nationwide, internationally, by stakeholders, and by the media.

## Significance and Engagement

### Significance

14. The recommended decision is considered not significant under the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

### Engagement

15. The Mayor intends to seek interest from councillors.

### Next steps

16. The Democracy Services & Advice Team will arrange conference registration, travel, and accommodation.

