



**Far North
District Council**



Te Kaunihera o Tai Tokerau ki te Raki

AGENDA


Ordinary Te Kuaka - Te Ao Māori Committee Meeting

Tuesday, 28 November 2023

Time: 12:30 pm
Location: Council Chambers
Memorial Avenue
Kaikohe

Membership:

Chairperson Harry Burkhardt – Chairperson
Cr Hilda Halkyard-Harawira – Deputy Chairperson
Kahika - Mayor Moko Tepania
Kōwhai – Deputy Mayor Kelly Stratford
Cr Ann Court
Cr Felicity Foy
Cr Babe Kapa
Cr Penetaui Kleskovic
Cr Steve McNally
Cr Mate Radich
Cr Tāmami Rākena
Cr John Vujcich
Te Kahu o Taonui Representatives

 Far North District Council <i>Te Kaunihera o Tai Tokerau ki te Raki</i>	Authorising Body	Mayor/Council
	Status	Standing Committee
COUNCIL COMMITTEE	Title	Te Kuaka – Te Ao Māori Committee Terms of Reference
	Approval Date	29 June 2023
	Responsible Officer	Chief Executive

Kaupapa / Purpose

The purpose of Te Kuaka Committee is to strengthen a Te Ao Māori perspective within Council decision-making across policies and strategies.

To perform his or her role effectively, each member must develop and maintain his or her skills and knowledge, including an understanding of the Committees' responsibilities, and of the Council's business, operations and risks.

Ngā Huānga / Membership

The Committee will comprise of Mayor and all Councillors as well as 12 iwi representatives nominated through Te Kahu o Taonui.

The Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson roles are to be appointed by the Committee.

Mayor Tepania

Deputy Mayor Kelly Stratford

John Vujcich

Ann Court

Babe Kapa

Felicity Foy

Hilda Halkyard-Harawira

Mate Radich

Penetaui Kleskovic

Steve McNally

Tāmati Rākena

Kōrama / Quorum

The quorum at a meeting of the Committee is 7 members comprising of 5 FNDC representatives and 2 Te Kahu o Taonui members.

Ngā Hui / Frequency of Meetings

The Committee shall meet 4 weekly.

Ngā Apatono / Power to Delegate

The Committee may not delegate any of its responsibilities, duties or powers.

Ngā Herenga Paetae / Responsibilities

The Committees responsibilities are described below:

- Ensure that the work of Te Kuaka is carried out in a way that enhances the social, economic, cultural, and environmental wellbeing of the Far North District
- **Mahi ngātahi mā te huihui, wānanga** Recommend to Council, aspects of importance to Māori for incorporation into the development of the Strategic documents (e.g. Te Ao Māori Framework, Annual Plan, Long Term Plan, District Plan)
- **Manaaki** To assist Council as appropriate in conducting and maintaining effective, good faith working relationships with the Māori community (e.g. Iwi Hapu Environmental Management Plans)
- Recommend to Council aspects that the Far North District Council could pursue to develop and or enhance Māori capacity to contribute to Council's decision-making processes.

Ngā Ture / Rules and Procedures

Council's Standing Orders and Code of Conduct apply to all meetings.

Far North District Council
Ordinary Te Kuaka - Te Ao Māori Committee Meeting
will be held in the Council Chambers, Memorial Avenue, Kaikohe on:
Tuesday 28 November 2023 at 12:30 pm

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1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA / OPENING PRAYER**2 NGĀ WHAKAPĀHA ME NGĀ PĀNGA MEMA / APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members need to stand aside from decision-making when a conflict arises between their role as a Member of the Committee and any private or other external interest they might have. This note is provided as a reminder to Members to review the matters on the agenda and assess and identify where they may have a pecuniary or other conflict of interest, or where there may be a perception of a conflict of interest.

If a Member feels they do have a conflict of interest, they should publicly declare that at the start of the meeting or of the relevant item of business and refrain from participating in the discussion or voting on that item. If a Member thinks they may have a conflict of interest, they can seek advice from the Chief Executive Officer or the Manager - Democracy Services (preferably before the meeting).

It is noted that while members can seek advice the final decision as to whether a conflict exists rests with the member.

3 NGĀ TONO KŌRERO / DEPUTATION

- Dallas King on behalf of Ngāti Kaharau me Ngāti Hau Hapū
- Ipu Tito-Absolum on behalf of Te Mahurehure in regard to Te Waananga o Hokianga

4 TE WHAKAAETANGA O NGĀ MENETI O MUA / CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

4.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

File Number: A4459379

Author: Imrie Dunn, Democracy Advisor

Authoriser: Casey Gannon, Manager - Democracy Services

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The minutes are attached to allow the Committee to confirm that the minutes are a true and correct record of previous meetings.

RECOMMENDATION

That Te Kuaka – Te Ao Māori Committee confirm the minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held virtually on 7 November 2023 are true and correct.

1) BACKGROUND

Local Government Act 2002 Schedule 7 Section 28 states that a local authority must keep minutes of its proceedings. The minutes of these proceedings duly entered and authenticated as prescribed by a local authority are prima facie evidence of those meetings.

2) DISCUSSION AND OPTIONS

The minutes of the meetings are attached.

Far North District Council Standing Orders Section 27.3 states that no discussion shall arise on the substance of the minutes in any succeeding meeting, except as to their correctness.

Reason for the recommendation

The reason for the recommendation is to confirm the minutes are a true and correct record of the previous meetings.

3) FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGETARY PROVISION

There are no financial implications or the need for budgetary provision as a result of this report.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. 2023-11-07 Te Kuaka - Te Ao Māori Committee Minutes [A4460518] - A4460518**  

Compliance schedule:

Full consideration has been given to the provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 S77 in relation to decision making, in particular:

1. A Local authority must, in the course of the decision-making process,
 - a) Seek to identify all reasonably practicable options for the achievement of the objective of a decision; and
 - b) Assess the options in terms of their advantages and disadvantages; and
 - c) If any of the options identified under paragraph (a) involves a significant decision in relation to land or a body of water, take into account the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral land, water sites, waahi tapu, valued flora and fauna and other taonga.
2. This section is subject to Section 79 - Compliance with procedures in relation to decisions.

Compliance requirement	Staff assessment
State the level of significance (high or low) of the issue or proposal as determined by the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy	This is a matter of low significance.
State the relevant Council policies (external or internal), legislation, and/or community outcomes (as stated in the LTP) that relate to this decision.	This report complies with the Local Government Act 2002 Schedule 7 Section 28.
State whether this issue or proposal has a District wide relevance and, if not, the ways in which the appropriate Community Board's views have been sought.	It is the responsibility of each meeting to confirm their minutes therefore the views of another meeting are not relevant.
State the possible implications for Māori and how Māori have been provided with an opportunity to contribute to decision making if this decision is significant and relates to land and/or any body of water.	There are no implications for Māori in confirming minutes from a previous meeting. Any implications on Māori arising from matters included in meeting minutes should be considered as part of the relevant report.
Identify persons likely to be affected by or have an interest in the matter, and how you have given consideration to their views or preferences (for example, youth, the aged and those with disabilities).	This report is asking for minutes to be confirmed as true and correct record, any interests that affect other people should be considered as part of the individual reports.
State the financial implications and where budgetary provisions have been made to support this decision.	There are no financial implications or the need for budgetary provision arising from this report.
Chief Financial Officer review.	The Chief Financial Officer has not reviewed this report.

Extraordinary Te Kuaka - Te Ao Māori Committee Meeting Minutes
Unconfirmed

7 November 2023

**MINUTES OF FAR NORTH DISTRICT COUNCIL
EXTRAORDINARY TE KUAKA - TE AO MĀORI COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE VIRTUALLY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS
ON TUESDAY, 7 NOVEMBER 2023 AT 9:00AM**

PRESENT: Chairperson Harry Burkhardt, Cr Hilda Halkyard-Harawira, Kahika - Mayor Moko Tepania, Cr Babe Kapa, Cr Penetaui Kleskovic, Cr Tāmāti Rākena, Cr John Vujcich, Margaret Mutu (Chairperson Te Iwi o Ngāti Kahu)

IN ATTENDANCE: Kawiti Waetford (Kaiwhakawhiti Reo Language Interpreter), Kiri Sloan-Hobson, Keringawai Evans, Rueben Taipari, Phillip Grimshaw

STAFF PRESENT: Guy Holroyd (Chief Executive Officer), Roger Ackers (Group Manager – Policy and Planning), Ruben Garcia (Group Manager – Communication and Engagement), Ellie Greenwood (Democracy Advisor – Democracy Services), Imrie Dunn (Democracy Advisor – Democracy Services), Casey Gannon (Manager – Democracy Services), Llani Harding (Pouhautu Te Hono – Manager Te Hono), Maria Giacon (Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer), Melissa Wood (Community Board Coordinator – Stakeholder Relationships), Tanya Proctor (Head of Infrastructure Strategy), Dena-Maree Hemara (Kaiarahi Kaupapa Māori – Te Hono), Emma Healy (Executive Officer – Strategic Relationships), Jacine Warmington (Group Manager - Strategic Relationships), Jude Campbell (Principal Advisor – Te Hono), Kevin Johnson (Group Manager – Delivery and Operations), Lawrence Whareraru (Kaiarahi Kaupapa Māori – Te Hono), Marlema Baker (Te Kuaka Committee Coordinator - Democracy Services), Tammy Wooster (Manager – Integrated Planning), Tanya Proctor (Head of Infrastructure Strategy – Chief Executive Office)

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA / OPENING PRAYER

At 9:08 am Cr Rākena commenced the meeting with a karakia.

2 NGĀ WHAKAPĀHA ME NGĀ PĀNGA MEMA / APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

APOLOGY

RESOLUTION 2023/9

Moved: Cr Hilda Halkyard-Harawira

Seconded: Cr John Vujcich

That the apology received from Cr Ann Court, Cr Steve McNally, Cr Foy be accepted and leave of absence granted.

CARRIED

3 NGĀ TONO KŌRERO / DEPUTATION

- Keringawai Evans - Haititaimarangai Marae and Hapu Te Whanau Moana me Te Rorohuri are concerned about the lack of consultation and engagement over the consents and easements process that have occurred with the landowner and the desecration to Waahi Tapu at Pātia o Matariki

Extraordinary Te Kuaka - Te Ao Māori Committee Meeting Minutes
Unconfirmed

7 November 2023

- Rueben Taipari – Long and painful experiences when it comes to occupations of any form that has been through generations but have never had the opportunity for Māori wards and Te Kuaka - Te Ao Māori Committee to be a part of the resolution. Wanting to make the process better for both Iwi, Hapu and Council to move forward. Voiced concerns about the disconnection between Council staff and community Iwi and Hapu due to processes that are needing to be followed.

PROTECTING PĀTIA O MATARIKI WAAHI TAPU

Chair Harry Burkhardt accepted a tabled document from Keringawai Evans.

MAJOR ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA

RESOLUTION 2023/10

Moved: Margaret Mutu - Chairperson Te Iwi o Ngāti Kahu

Seconded: Cr Hilda Halkyard-Harawira

That Te Kuaka – Te Ao Māori Committee recommend Council:

- a) consider the Pātia o Matariki Waahi Tapu tabled document at the 7 November Committee meeting be considered urgently, including but not exclusive to:
 - i. An acknowledgement that the area known as Pātia o Matariki, held partly in parcels legally described as Whatuwhiwhi / Whatuwiwi 1A, 1B1C, 1B1B2 and 1B1A 2, is a waahi tapu.
 - ii. A commitment to funding (upon provision of invoices) the actual and reasonable costs incurred by the Marae Trust in procuring a cultural impact assessment or CIA for Pātia o Matariki.
 - iii. A confirmation that delegated authority in respect of decisions under the Resource Management Act 1991, or the Natural and Built Environment Act 2023 affecting Pātia o Matariki will be rescinded and decision-making authority will instead be held by Te Kuaka, with Te Hono staff to engage with the Marae Trust and representatives of Te Whānau Moana me Te Rorohuri prior to any decisions being made.
 - iv. A 'best endeavours' commitment to assisting the Marae Trust, Te Whānau Moana me Te Rorohuri to secure ongoing protection for Pātia o Matariki, including working with NRC and other stakeholders to obtain funding.
- b) update Te Kuaka – Te Ao Maori Committee by 25 December 2023; and,
- c) note the report cannot be delayed because decisions are scheduled to be discussed with key partners and stakeholders of Te Whānau Moana and Te Rorohuri on 9 November 2023.

CARRIED

4 NGĀ KŌRERO / CHAIRPERSON ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Congratulations to Mariameno Kapa-Kingi for becoming part of the new Te Pati Māori lineup.

Page 2

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7 November 2023

Unconfirmed

- Would like Te Kuaka- Te Ao Māori Committee to work closely with Mariameno Kapa- Kingi as a Māori representative in parliament for Te Tai Tokerau.
- Te Hono has organised a training programme for potential hearing commissioners in Kaikohe.

5 TE WHAKAAETANGA O NGĀ MENETI O MUA / CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

4.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Agenda item 4.1 document number A4426648, pages 8 - 11 refers.

RESOLUTION 2023/11

Moved: Cr Hilda Halkyard-Harawira

Seconded: Cr John Vujcich

That Te Kuaka – Te Ao Māori Committee confirm the minutes of the meeting held virtually on 3 October 2023 are true and correct.**CARRIED**

6 NGĀ PŪRONGO TAIPITOPITO / INFORMATION REPORTS

5.1 MANA WHAKAHONO A ROHE / IWI PARTICIPATION ARRANGEMENTS

Agenda item 5.1 document number A4426621, pages 12 - 14 refers.

RESOLUTION 2023/12

Moved: Kahika - Mayor Moko Tepania

Seconded: Cr Tāmāti Rākena

That the Te Kuaka – Te Ao Māori Committee receive the report Mana Whakahono-ā-Rohe / Iwi Participation Arrangement and seek to maintain Council's position on the implementation of Mana Whakahono-ā-Rohe / Iwi Participation Arrangements.**CARRIED**

7 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA / CLOSING PRAYER

Cr Rākena closed the meeting with a karakia

8 MEETING CLOSE

The meeting closed at 10:38 am.**The minutes of this meeting will be confirmed at the Te Kuaka - Te Ao Māori Committee Meeting held on 28 November 2023.**.....
CHAIRPERSON

5 NGĀ PŪRONGO / REPORTS

5.1 CLIMATE ACTION POLICY

File Number: A4480102

Author: Esther Powell, Manager - Climate Action and Community Development

Authoriser: Roger Ackers, Group Manager - Planning & Policy

TAKE PŪRONGO / PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To provide Te Kuaka – Te Ao Māori Committee (Committee) with a brief on the proposed Climate Action Policy and to seek endorsement from the Committee.

WHAKARĀPOPOTO MATUA / EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Recent extreme weather events in 2023 emphasize the need for urgent action to address climate change risks.
- The report provides the Committee with a brief on the proposed Climate Action Policy, its key objectives, policies, and deliverables.
- The purpose and scope of this policy is to direct council staff on how to undertake climate risk mitigation, identify opportunities relating to climate, support adaptation to the effects of climate change and to meet Council's statutory obligations.
- The policy aligns with Council's strategic goals and legal obligations.
- There are three key functions of the policy in supporting mitigation and adaptation:
 - Reduce greenhouse emissions,
 - Adapt to changing climatic conditions, and
 - Promote a sustainable future for generations to come.
- The policy establishes a climate action reference group responsible for policy delivery, operational plans, risk scenarios, and monitoring.
- The policy sets a framework to partner with tangata whenua, to support climate action by Māori, for Māori.
- The policy applies to elected members, staff, and contracted organisations working with the Council.
- It aligns with national and regional strategies, emphasizes climate adaptation, considers climate in council decisions, and acknowledges financial implications.
- The policy includes provisions for periodic review, ongoing collaboration, and monitoring and evaluation.
- The policy is likely to generate a significant level of public interest and is of specific interest to Māori.

TŪTOHUNGA / RECOMMENDATION

That the Te Kuaka Te Ao Māori Committee endorse the Climate Action Policy.

1) TĀHUHU KŌRERO / BACKGROUND

The disastrous weather events in 2023 have brought the risks associated with a changing climate firmly to the forefront of our minds. The Auckland Anniversary Day floods and Cyclone Gabrielle have highlighted that we need to continue to take urgent action to build the resilience of council and its communities to avert future disaster.

In 2017, Council signed the Local Government Leaders Declaration to "Develop and implement ambitious actions plans" for climate change mitigation and adaptation. Council has been moving forward developing its climate response based on scientific evidence, academic literature, and best practice. In April 2020, the FNDC Climate Change Roadmap (the Roadmap) was adopted by

Council. The Roadmap sets out the goals, principles and actions in four key responses to climate change. These are:

1. Council reduces its carbon emissions,
2. Provides education and guidance to support the community to achieve zero carbon by 2050,
3. Manages councils' services, resources, and assets to future-proof them from the risks of climate change, and
4. Supports Far North communities to prepare for and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Council's four responses to climate change are embedded in the FNDC Long Term Plan 2021-31 and Far North 2100.

This is a new policy that will guide council staff on how to implement climate mitigation and adaptation within the business in accordance with the Roadmap.

2) MATAPAKI ME NGĀ KŌWHIRINGA / DISCUSSION AND OPTIONS

Legislative and Policy Context

The Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019 provides for a national adaptation plan (delivered by central government in 2022) and sets a national net greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions target of zero by 2050. Council has a statutory responsibility to avoid or mitigate natural hazards and to have regard to the effects of climate change when making decisions under the Resource Management Act 1991. Council is also responsible for civil defence and emergency management, as well as improving community resilience through public education and local adaptation planning. Council is a member of the Joint Climate Change Adaptation Committee and has endorsed the Te Tai Tokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy.

Policy Content

The Climate Action Policy provides methods for giving guidance and support to staff for implementing council and community adaptation and mitigation measures. It does so by outlining principles and policies to assist in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, adapting to changing climatic conditions, and achieving a sustainable future for future generations. It operates on a set of principles emphasizing collaboration, Indigenous knowledge, and environmental stewardship. The policy sets a framework to partner with tangata whenua, to support climate action by Māori, for Māori.

The policy establishes an internal climate action reference group responsible for the delivery of a policy implementation programme and guidance, an operational emissions reduction plan, climate change risks and opportunities scenarios and a monitoring and evaluation plan.

The policy applies to the activities of elected members, staff and the organisations and people who are contracted to work for the Council.

The policy will assist council to align its climate efforts with national plans and follows climate-related financial recommendations, aimed at reducing both council's own greenhouse gas emissions and those of the community. It also places a strong focus on climate adaptation, including future-proofing resources and assets, educating communities, and supporting resilience-building initiatives.

The policy directs consideration of climate change in all key council decisions, categorises risks, and explores opportunities. It emphasizes the integration of climate considerations into various planning aspects. The policy recognises the financial implications of climate change, monitors funding opportunities, and provides for modelling long-term costs and savings. The policy also includes provisions for periodic review and collaboration to ensure national and regional consistency, with ongoing monitoring and evaluation to track progress.

Establishment of a Reference Group

The policy establishes a climate action reference group whose purpose is to implement the policy within the business. Membership will be a cross section of council staff who will implement the policy and act as climate change champions within their departments. The reference group will deliver a policy implementation programme and guide incorporating a decision-making framework and an operational emissions reduction plan. Further the reference group will develop climate change risk

and opportunity scenarios and a monitoring and evaluation plan to report on the progress made to implement the policy.

Options

Option 1 the Committee endorse the climate policy. The policy is embedded in council businesses and across work programmes.

Option 2 the Committee does not endorse the policy.

Staff recommend that Te Kuaka – Te Ao Māori Committee endorse this policy as its implementation will assist Council to meet its strategic goals and legislative requirements relating to climate change.

TAKE TŪTOHUNGA / REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

The Climate Action Policy will assist the council to embed strategies and tactics for mitigating and adapting to climate change risks into its regular operations and towards meeting statutory requirements. While the policy was drafted with internal consultation across the business, it is acknowledged that no external consultation (including tangata whenua) has been undertaken. Climate change is a matter of significance in that the policy is likely to generate a high level of public interest. Climate change mitigation and adaptation is of specific interest to Māori in that iwi/hapu/whanau are disproportionately impacted by the effects of climate change. It is for these reasons that it is recommended that the policy be endorsed by the Committee.

Next Steps

In January/February 2024 the Climate Action and Resilience Department will socialise the policy to teams across the organisation engaging using scenario planning and serious games. Champions will be identified across the organisation and a Climate Action Reference Group established. The key tasks of the reference group will be to develop a policy implementation programme, guidance on how to implement the policy, a decision-making framework, and a monitoring, effectiveness and reporting framework.

3) PĀNGA PŪTEA ME NGĀ WĀHANGA TAHUA / FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGETARY PROVISION

There is no additional cost to Council in adopting the policy. Where professional services may be required, there is an existing budget for these services within the budget approved in the Long-Term Plan 2021-31 and 2023-24 Annual Plan for the Climate Action and Resilience Department. There may be costs to departments in embedding the policy for example relocation of assets that are at risk from the effects of climate change. Specific actions and associated costs are not considered in this paper as the actions and costs are unknown until an implementation plan and operational emissions reduction plan is developed by the climate action reference group.

ĀPITIHINGA / ATTACHMENTS

1. FNDC Draft Climate Action Policy V5 - 30 October 2023 - A4468845 [↓](#) 
2. Climate Change Roadmap April 2020 - A4468844 [↓](#) 

Hōtaka Take Ōkawa / Compliance Schedule:

Full consideration has been given to the provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 S77 in relation to decision making, in particular:

1. A Local authority must, in the course of the decision-making process,
 - a) Seek to identify all reasonably practicable options for the achievement of the objective of a decision; and
 - b) Assess the options in terms of their advantages and disadvantages; and
 - c) If any of the options identified under paragraph (a) involves a significant decision in relation to land or a body of water, take into account the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral land, water sites, waahi tapu, valued flora and fauna and other taonga.
2. This section is subject to Section 79 - Compliance with procedures in relation to decisions.

He Take Ōkawa / Compliance Requirement	Aromatawai Kaimahi / Staff Assessment
State the level of significance (high or low) of the issue or proposal as determined by the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy	The policy is considered to have medium significance and therefore requires public engagement due to the high level of public interest and specific interest to Māori.
State the relevant Council policies (external or internal), legislation, and/or community outcomes (as stated in the LTP) that relate to this decision.	Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019, Resource Management Act 1991, Local Government Act 2002, National Adaptation Plan, Far North 2100, Te Tai Tokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy.
State whether this issue or proposal has a District wide relevance and, if not, the ways in which the appropriate Community Board's views have been sought.	This policy has district wide relevance and has been widely socialised through the adoption of Far North 2100 and the Far North Long Term Plan 2021-31.
State the possible implications for Māori and how Māori have been provided with an opportunity to contribute to decision making if this decision is significant and relates to land and/or any body of water. State the possible implications and how this report aligns with Te Tiriti o Waitangi / The Treaty of Waitangi.	This policy will assist Council to implement its strategic goals and meet legislative requirements. The policy specifically states that Council will develop its climate change response in partnership with Māori and that Council will encourage, align with and provide resources that support iwi and hapū led climate change responses to empower Māori to build resilience for Māori by Māori. The policy provides the basis to start these conversations and the framework to develop actions and enter into partnerships with Māori.
Identify persons likely to be affected by or have an interest in the matter, and how you have given consideration to their views or preferences (for example – youth, the aged and those with disabilities).	The policy has been under development over some time. During this time extensive engagement with internal parties has been undertaken. It is recommended that the policy is publicly notified due to the level of public interest and specific interest to Māori.
State the financial implications and where budgetary provisions have been made to support this decision.	Professional Services fees may be required and are approved in the 2023-24 budget for the department and funding has been requested in the draft Long Term Plan.
Chief Financial Officer review.	The Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report.

Climate Action Policy

Adopted: xxx

Version 4.0
Contact: Esther Powell – Manager Climate Action & Resilience
Review Date: xxx

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1.0 Policy Statement

The Far North District Council recognises that climate change presents an unprecedented challenge to our people and places (see Schedule One). Council is committed to supporting our communities to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change, and to promoting a transition to a sustainable, carbon neutral future. This policy supports council and community adaptation and mitigation measures by outlining clear goals, strategies, and actions to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, adapt to changing climatic conditions, and to promote a sustainable future for generations to come. Definitions pertaining to the policy are found in Schedule Two.

We will:

1. Reduce Green House Gas (GHG) emissions through sustainable business practices.
2. Build resilience by ensuring our operations and assets can withstand changing conditions.
3. Support sustainability by promoting eco-friendly products and reducing waste.
4. Work collaboratively with stakeholders and advocate for collective action to adapt to changing climatic conditions.

5. Innovate with sustainable technologies and business practices.

2.0 Application

This Climate Change Policy applies to the activities of Council's elected members, staff, and the organisations and people who are contracted to work for the Council.

This Policy cannot override Acts and regulations under New Zealand law. The Council will not apply this Policy in performing its regulatory functions where the assessment of climate impacts is governed by existing statutory processes (e.g., in the application of the District Plan and the assessment of resource consents).

3.0 Policy Objectives

- 3.1 Ensure that all Council's decision-making incorporates consideration of climate change risks (see Schedule One) and opportunities and meets statutory obligations.
- 3.2 Provide guidance on the Council's management of climate change risks and opportunities.
- 3.3 Ensure that measures and targets for GHG emissions reduction are put in place, with regular reporting on progress towards our responsibilities.

4.0 Principles

Council is committed to planning and responding to climate change. Foremost the Council will adhere to the principles of Te Tai Tokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy¹ adopted by Council in 2022. We will:

- **Whanaungatanga:** work together to build relationships and a sense of connection, enabling authentic partnerships and collaborative working relationships.
- **Ka mua, ka muri:** walk backwards into the future balancing today's needs and responsibilities with the rights of future generations and learning from the past.
- **Matauranga Māori:** engage with matauranga Māori and Western science to understand climate change and inform decision making. We will use research-led, evidence-based, values driven policy and decision making to proactively manage risks and identify opportunities.
- **Kaitiakitanga:** provide guardianship of Taiao in accordance with tikanga Māori, to mitigate and adapt to the changing climate.

5.0 Broad direction and goals

The Council's broad direction for its climate change response is guided by the government's national plans: the National Adaptation Plan² and the Emissions Reduction Plan – Te hau maahori ki anamata³ (see Schedule 3).

Policies

- 5.1 The Council will align its climate-related planning and activities with central government direction on **emissions reduction** and climate **adaptation**.

¹ [Te Tai Tokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy 2022](#)

² [National Adaptation Plan 2022](#)

³ [Emissions Reduction Plan 2022 – Te hau maahori ki anamata](#)

- 5.2 The Council will follow the **Taskforce on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD recommendations)** in its response to climate change (see Schedule 4).
- 5.3 The Council will actively align its policies, practices, and actions with the objectives and priorities outlined in the Te Tai Tokerau Adaptation Strategy.

6.0 Sources of evidence

Policies

- 6.1 The Council's response to climate change will be based on evidence from the latest scientific sources, such as from the Ministry for the Environment, NIWA and the Northland Regional Council. (See Schedule 4).
- 6.2 The Council will incorporate mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge) alongside Western science in formulating its response to climate change.

7.0 Partnering with Māori

Policies

- 7.1 The Council will develop its climate change responses in partnership with Māori.
- 7.2 The Council will encourage, align with, and provide resources that support iwi- and hapū-led climate change responses to empower Māori in building resilience for Māori, by Māori.

8.0 Climate change mitigation

The Council has two mitigation goals stated in the Climate Change Roadmap⁴:

- 1) to reduce its own **greenhouse gas emissions** in line with the government's national **emission reduction** targets or better ("walking the talk")
- 2) to promote and advise the businesses and communities of the Far North towards Carbon Zero 2050 ("reducing our carbon emissions together").

Policies

- 8.1 The Council will align its targets for emissions reduction with the latest government targets and align its planning for emissions reduction with the Emissions Reduction Plan – Te hau maahori ki anamata.
- 8.2 The Council will apply the following hierarchy in relation to greenhouse gas emissions reduction:
 - (i) limit new emissions.
 - (ii) reduce existing emissions, including improving energy efficiency.
 - (iii) replace existing sources with lower emission options.
 - (iv) increase **carbon sequestration**.
 - (v) **offset** emissions.
- 8.3 The Council will establish and actively follow an **operational emissions reduction** plan to achieve agreed **emissions reduction** and **carbon sequestration** or **offsetting** targets.
- 8.4 The Council will undertake annual **inventories** of the council's **greenhouse gas emissions** to update the **operational emissions reduction** plan.

⁴ [Climate Change Roadmap 2020](#)

- 8.5 The Council's procurement practices will be reviewed and, where practicable be updated to:
- support a **circular economy** approach.
 - reduce **embodied emissions** in the products Council purchases.
- 8.6 The Council will contribute to a regional emissions **inventory** to record **greenhouse gas** emissions across the district.
- 8.7 The Council will work with communities to prepare a district-wide community **emissions reduction** plans.
- 8.8 The Council will monitor progress towards achieving the objectives and targets of the regional **emissions reduction** plan for the district, and publicly report on progress every three years.

9.0 Climate change adaptation

The Council has two climate change **adaptation** goals in the Climate Change Roadmap 2020:

- 1) to future-proof its resources, assets, and services from the risks of climate change ("prudent future proofing")
- 2) to work with the communities of the Far North to prepare for and adapt to the impacts of climate change ("developing resilience").

Policies

- 9.1 The Council will quantify climate change risks to the district as a basis for implementing adaptation planning to build resilience in vulnerable and exposed communities.
- 9.2 The Council will implement a climate change education program to ensure communities are informed of climate change science and potential risks and impacts.
- 9.3 The Council will contribute to and actively follow a climate adaptation implementation plan which will align with the National Adaptation Plan¹⁰ and Te Tai Tokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy 2022. This plan will describe climate adaptation priorities and targets and list projects to meet these targets.
- 9.4 The Council will work alongside communities assisting in the development of community adaptation plans using Dynamic Adaptive Pathways Planning (DAPP) and other bespoke adaptive planning methodology (See Schedule 6).
- 9.5 The Council will not undertake any action in response to coastal erosion affecting private land except in exceptional circumstances at the Council's sole discretion.

10.0 Climate-related decision-making

Climate change considerations are already embedded in some council processes such as designing engineering projects. The Policy requires that climate change is considered in all key council decisions.

Policies

- 10.1 The Council will develop a policy implementation guide to direct implementation and to provide a decision-making framework that considers climate change adaptation and mitigation to build resilience into all key Council plans, policies, and projects.

11.0 Risk management and opportunities

The Council recognises climate change as one of its top organisational risks as it poses significant risks for the Council and the community through:

- **environmental impacts** (climatic, geographic, public health, social, cultural, economic, and financial)
- **transition challenges** (compliance, governance, legal, financial, and policy-related).

The Council's current climate change risk position is categorised into four risk themes⁵ to enable focus on treatments with clear outcomes and accountability, and to support allocation of resources and management responsibilities.

The Council recognises that in addressing risk there are opportunities to increase:

- **environmental sustainability** (sustainable development, renewable energy, efficient waste management and recycling)
- **economic development** (local economic development, tourism, and cultural promotion)
- **technological advancements** (technology and innovation, digital inclusion, education, and workforce development)

Policies

- 11.1 The Council will continually research, expand its understanding, quantify where possible and regularly report to the governing body regarding the four risk themes recorded in the Council's Risk Register and opportunities for transitioning from risk to council and community resilience.
- 11.2 The Council will quantify risks to its assets, and plan for and document these risks, in Asset Management Plans and identify opportunities to transition to resilient infrastructure.
- 11.3 The Council will develop plausible climate change risk and opportunity scenarios for the district and for the Council itself.

12.0 Integrated planning

The Council recognises the need to coordinate its response to climate change risks and opportunities.

Policies

- 12.1 The Council will consider climate change impacts in all types of planning including financial, infrastructure, and spatial planning.

Related information

Note that the Proposed District Plan (PDP)⁶ is not governed by this Policy, as it is a statutory document. The PDP clearly recognises climate change threats, with four strategic objectives and related policies and rules referencing climate change.

- 12.2 The Council will include projected climate change related costs in infrastructure maintenance, upgrades, relocation, and renewals plans.

13.0 Financial management

The financial implications of both climate change adaptation and mitigation are significant. To maintain a commitment to affordability while also being responsive to climate change, the Council will need to be alert to emerging funding opportunities.

⁵ [Council's climate change risk framework](#)

⁶ [Proposed District Plan](#)

Policies

- 13.1 The Council will seek, review, and monitor emerging funding opportunities for climate change initiatives.
- 13.2 The Council will model the long-term financial costs and savings of reducing Council's greenhouse gas emissions and implementing adaptation strategies.

14.0 Policy Review

- 14.1 The Council will review this climate change policy as required or in response to issues that may arise, at the request of the Council, or in response to changes to legislative or statutory requirements.
- 14.2 The Council will work with the joint council Climate Action Te Tai Tokerau (CATT) to form a regional climate change policy for the approval of the Council, to achieve consistency of application across the region.

15.0 Monitoring and Implementation

- 15.1 The Council will ensure that this Policy is supported by an implementation programme supported by an implementation guide that incorporates a decision-making framework, involving the development and implementation of staff training and guidance, supporting documents and wide communication both internally and to the community.
- 15.2 Implementation of this Policy will be supported by a monitoring and evaluation plan, and implementation will be reported on to the Council annually.
- 15.3 The Council will establish a climate action reference group comprised of staff to develop a policy implementation programme and a policy implementation guide to assist staff to incorporate climate change into decision making including roles and responsibilities of staff within the organization.

16.0 Changes to Schedules

The schedules in this Policy may be amended at any time by Council resolution.

Schedule 5 (Sources of Evidence) includes technical information which may be amended by Council staff as fresh information becomes available, for example from the Ministry for the Environment.

Schedule 1 – Climate Change Related Risks

A range of impacts of climate change are projected for Northland by the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA)⁷ including sea level rise, more warmer days, frosts becoming very rare, more droughts, more extreme weather events and more ex-tropical cyclones.

Potential threats of climate change for the Far North include:

- More severe storms
- Slips and floods
- Damage to the transport and infrastructure networks
- Coastal erosion & inundation
- Water shortages/drought
- Increased estuarine sedimentation
- Contamination of soil
- Salination of water sources/aquifers
- Threat of vector diseases
- Threat of new agricultural pests
- Forest mortality
- More frequent and extensive wildfires
- Higher rates of erosion of soils including highly productive soils
- Increased threats to biodiversity.

These threats pose many risks to the community, including:

- Displacement of people
- Severance from essential services such as access, power, and telecommunications
- Public health risks
- Burden of rates for the district as a whole and especially for vulnerable communities
- Increasing risk of wildfires
- Agriculture/horticulture will be different, and the economy will change
- Increased civil defence emergencies and risk of disaster.

For the Council, potential risks include:

- Damage or loss of infrastructure
- Damage or loss of parks and reserves
- Cost to protect/relocate/adapt infrastructure and assets.
- Large/long-term financial and legal risks
- Increasing insurance costs and ultimately the potential inability to insure some areas
- Reputational risks.

⁷ [Northland Region Climate Change Projections and Implications 2016](#)

Schedule 2 – Definitions

- **Adaptation** – means actions that can help people or natural systems adjust to the actual or expected impacts of climate change. Actions may moderate harm or exploit beneficial opportunities⁸.
- **Carbon sequestration** – means the practice of removing carbon from the atmosphere and storing it, for instance in forests, grasslands and soil.
- **Circular economy** – means economic activity that restores and regenerates natural systems, designed to replace our current 'take–make–dispose' system with a 'make–use–return' economic system.
- **Climate change** – refers to long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns; in particular, shifts from pre-industrial times largely due to human activities increasing carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.
- **Council** – means the Far North District Council.
- **District** – means the Far North District.
- **Dynamic Adaptive Pathways Planning (DAPP)** – the DAPP approach⁹ develops a series of actions over time (pathways) based on making decisions as conditions change, before severe damage occurs, and as existing policies and decisions prove no longer fit for purpose.
- **Embodied emissions** – emissions that are required for the extraction, processing, manufacture, and delivery of materials, building processes, and demolition and disposal of materials. Also referred to as lifecycle emissions.
- **Emissions** – greenhouse gases emitted into the air.
- **Emissions reduction** – means reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Greenhouse gas** – any gas that has the property of absorbing infrared radiation (net heat energy) emitted from Earth's surface and re-radiating it back to Earth's surface, thus contributing to the greenhouse effect.
- **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)** – is an organisation of countries that provides governments at all levels with the scientific information they can use to develop climate policies.
- **Inventory** – a formal measure of total greenhouse gas emissions, calculated within a specific time period for an organisation's activities or geographic boundary.
- **Mitigation** (of climate change) – means "a human intervention to reduce the sources or enhance the sinks of greenhouse gases"¹⁰
- **Net zero emissions** – means "achieving an overall balance between greenhouse gas emissions produced and greenhouse gas emissions taken out of the atmosphere. This means cutting greenhouse gas emissions to as close to zero as possible, with any remaining emissions re-absorbed from the atmosphere, by oceans and forests for instance"¹¹
- **Offsetting** – means compensating for an organisation's greenhouse gas emissions by funding emissions savings elsewhere, typically via tradeable rights or certificates.
- **Projected sea level rise** – projections for sea-level rise are based on:
 1. four Representative Pathway Concentrations (RCPs) associated with greenhouse gas concentration trajectories adopted in the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report on Climate Change² or, where available, the five Shared Socioeconomic Pathways (SSPs) associated with the broad global socioeconomic trends described in the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report¹²

⁸ [IPCC 5th Assessment Report Annex II](#)

⁹ See [Coastal hazards and climate change: Guidance for local government 2017](#).

¹⁰ [IPCC 6th Assessment Report WGII](#)

¹¹ the [United Nations Net Zero Coalition](#)

¹² [IPCC Sixth Assessment Report 2021](#)

2. projections of vertical land movement based on data from the NZ Searise: Te Tai Pari O Aotearoa Programme¹³
- **Resilience** – The capacity of interconnected social, economic, and ecological systems to cope with a hazardous event, trend or disturbance, responding or reorganising in ways that maintain their essential function, identity and structure. Resilience is a positive attribute when it maintains capacity for adaptation, learning and/or transformation.¹⁴
 - **Risk** - The potential for adverse consequences for human or ecological systems, recognising the diversity of values and objectives associated with such systems. In the context of climate change, risks can arise from potential impacts of climate change as well as human responses to climate change. Relevant adverse consequences include those on lives, livelihoods, health and well-being, economic, social, and cultural assets and investments, infrastructure, services (including ecosystem services), ecosystems and species. In the context of climate change impacts, risks result from dynamic interactions between climate-related hazards with the exposure and vulnerability of the affected human or ecological system to the hazards. Hazards, exposure, and vulnerability may each be subject to uncertainty in terms of magnitude and likelihood of occurrence, and each may change over time and space due to socio-economic changes and human decision-making. In the context of climate change responses, risks result from the potential for such responses not achieving the intended objective(s), or from potential trade-offs with, or negative side-effects on, other societal objectives, such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Risks can arise for example from uncertainty in the implementation, effectiveness or outcomes of climate policy, climate-related investments, technology development or adoption, and system transitions.¹⁵
 - **TCFD recommendations** – the Taskforce on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD)¹⁶ recommendations describe best practice organisational responses to climate change (see Schedule 1).

¹³ [NZ Searise: Te Tai Pari O Aotearoa Programme 2022](#)

¹⁴ [IPCC AR6 WGII](#)

¹⁵ [IPCC AR6 WGII](#)

¹⁶ [Taskforce on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures](#)

Schedule 3 – Legislation and Council Documents

Legislation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019 • Local Government Act 2002 • Waste Minimisation Act 2008 • Resource Management Act 1991 • Natural and Built Environment Bill (draft) • Spatial Planning Bill (draft) • Climate Change Adaptation Bill¹⁷
Far North District Council policies, strategies, and plans
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long Term Plan 2021-31 and its associated Infrastructure Strategy and Financial Strategy • Operational District Plan and Proposed District Plan • Draft Engineering Standards May 2022 • Integrated Transport Strategy (2021) • Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2017-2023 • Climate Change Roadmap (2020) • Emissions Inventory Report 2020 • Te Tai Tokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy (2022) • Far North 2100 – A District Strategy (2021) • Risk Management Policy (2019) • Kaupapa Here Hiringa Here Tomokanga Significance and Engagement Policy (2021) • Revenue and Financing Policy (2021) • Sustainable Procurement Policy (2020)
Northland Regional Council strategies and plans
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Te Tai Tokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy (CATT) (2022) • Northland Regional Council, Nga Taumata O Te Moana (Climate Change Strategy) • Northland Regional Council, Te Nahere Roa 2021-2021 (Long Term Plan 2021-2031)
Ministry for the Environment plans and guidance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Guide to Local Climate Change Risk Assessments (2021) • Emissions Reduction Plan (2022) • National Adaptation Plan (2022) • Guidance for organisations requested to provide information under the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019 (2020) • Emissions Reduction Plan 2022 – Te hau maahori ki anamata • National Climate Change Risk Assessment (2020) • Preparing for climate change – A guide for local government in New Zealand (2008)
Other guidance documents
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NIWA - NZ Searise: Te Tai Pari O Aotearoa Programme (2022) • Department of Conservation - New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (2010) • National Policy Statement on Housing and Urban Development (2021)

¹⁷ The Climate Change Adaptation Bill has not been released. The Environmental Defence Society (EDS) have reported their recommendations for this bill in the document [‘Current Legislation and Policy Framework for Managed Relocation – Working Paper 2’](#). This can be referred to for further information.

NZ Searise: Te Tai Pari O Aotearoa Programme 2022; New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010; and National Policy Statement on Housing and Urban Development 2021.

DRAFT

Schedule 4 – TCFD reporting recommendations

Following is the Taskforce on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD)¹² framework for organisational response to climate change and disclosure to the government and other parties:

Recommendations and Supporting Recommended Disclosures

Governance	Strategy	Risk Management	Metrics and Targets
Disclose the organization's governance around climate-related risks and opportunities.	Disclose the actual and potential impacts of climate-related risks and opportunities on the organization's businesses, strategy, and financial planning where such information is material.	Disclose how the organization identifies, assesses, and manages climate-related risks.	Disclose the metrics and targets used to assess and manage relevant climate-related risks and opportunities where such information is material.
Recommended Disclosures	Recommended Disclosures	Recommended Disclosures	Recommended Disclosures
a) Describe the board's oversight of climate-related risks and opportunities.	a) Describe the climate-related risks and opportunities the organization has identified over the short, medium, and long term.	a) Describe the organization's processes for identifying and assessing climate-related risks.	a) Disclose the metrics used by the organization to assess climate-related risks and opportunities in line with its strategy and risk management process.
b) Describe management's role in assessing and managing climate-related risks and opportunities.	b) Describe the impact of climate-related risks and opportunities on the organization's businesses, strategy, and financial planning.	b) Describe the organization's processes for managing climate-related risks.	b) Disclose Scope 1, Scope 2, and, if appropriate, Scope 3 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and the related risks.
	c) Describe the resilience of the organization's strategy, taking into consideration different climate-related scenarios, including a 2°C or lower scenario.	c) Describe how processes for identifying, assessing, and managing climate-related risks are integrated into the organization's overall risk management.	c) Describe the targets used by the organization to manage climate-related risks and opportunities and performance against targets.

Schedule 5 – Sources of evidence

- The Council will follow the scenarios stipulated by the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) relating to **projected sea level rise** in planning for coastal **adaptation**.

Related information

The latest Ministry for the Environment requirements are listed in the National Adaptation Plan 2022²:

“When making or changing policy statements or plans under the RMA, including to give effect to the provisions of the NZ Coastal Policy Statement, councils should use the recommended climate change scenarios outlined below, as a minimum:

- to screen for hazards and risks in coastal areas, use the Shared Socioeconomic Pathway scenario for fossil fuel intensive development (SSP5-8.5) where available, or the Representative Concentration Pathway RCP8.5, to 2130
- for detailed hazard and risk assessments in coastal and non-coastal areas, use both the middle-of-the-road scenario (SSP2-4.5) and the fossil fuel intensive development scenario (SSP5-8.5) where available, RCP4.5 and RCP8.5, to 2130, for areas at high risk of being affected, adding the relevant rate of vertical land movement locally [from the NZ Searise: Te Tai Pari O Aotearoa programme 2022¹⁸]. Where SSP2-4.5 and SSP5-8.5 are not available, use RCP4.5 and RCP8.5 to 2130, adding the relevant rate of vertical land movement locally
- for all other climate hazards and risks, use the most recent downscaled climate projections for Aotearoa.

In addition, councils should stress test plans, policies and strategies using a range of scenarios as recommended in the interim guidance and the National Climate Change Risk Assessment 2020¹⁹ Framework, as relevant to the circumstance”.

- The Council will use the latest hazard maps produced by Northern Regional Council to assess river flooding and coastal hazards²⁰
- The Council will use the latest climate projections from NIWA in its climate change planning.
- The Council will follow the climate-related engineering specifications included in the latest Engineering Standards²¹ when planning or permitting any development project or engineering work.

¹⁸ [NZ Searise: Te Tai Pari O Aotearoa programme 2022](#)

¹⁹ [National Climate Change Risk Assessment 2020](#)

²⁰ See the [NRC Natural Hazards Portal](#)

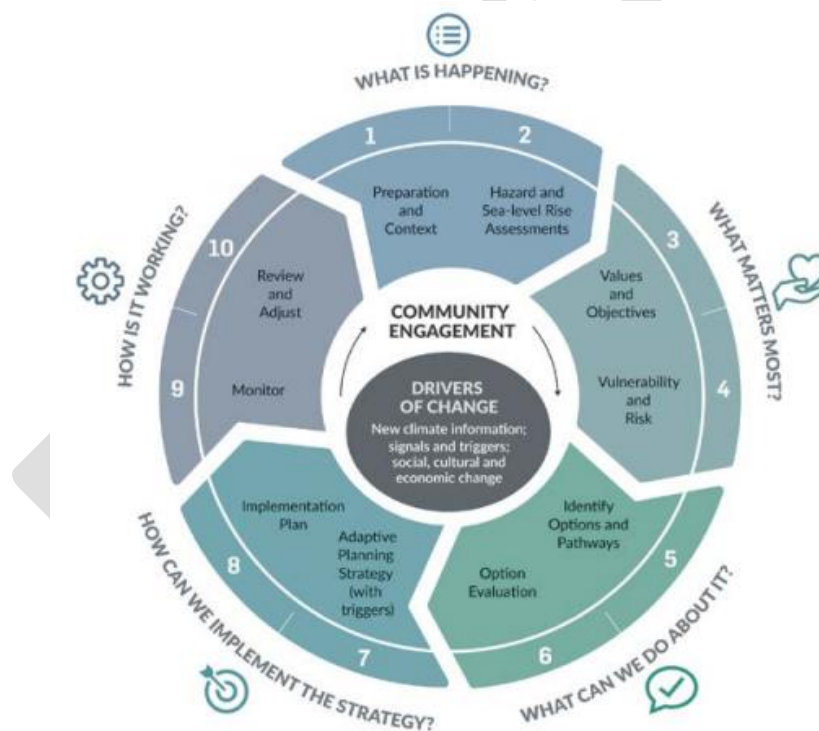
²¹ [Draft Engineering Standards](#)

Schedule 6 – Dynamic adaptive pathways planning (DAPP)

The **DAPP** planning process requires considering a range of **adaptation** options, typically at the community level, and identifying what would trigger their application. The resulting plan will focus on developing resilience to key climate impacts including:

- **Environmental impacts** such as coastal erosion and inundation, river flooding and extreme weather events such as storms and droughts
- **Economic impacts** such as the increased cost of future proofing assets
- **Cultural impacts** such as impacts on sites of cultural significance to Māori – including marae, urupā (burial grounds), waahi tapu (sacred sites) and mahinga kai (food gathering sites)
- **Social impacts** such as isolation due to disruption of the transport network.

The diagram below shows the ten-step decision cycle for dynamic adaptive planning recommended in *Coastal hazards and climate change: Guidance for local government 2017*⁶.



Far North District Council Climate Change Roadmap April 2020

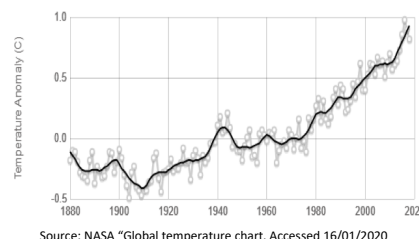
The intention of this document is to obtain approval from elected members for FNDC's broad approach to climate change, including:

- Goals and associated guiding principles
- Proposed action plans in four key focus areas involving mitigation and adaptation

CLIMATE CHANGE CONTEXT AND COUNCIL'S RESPONSE

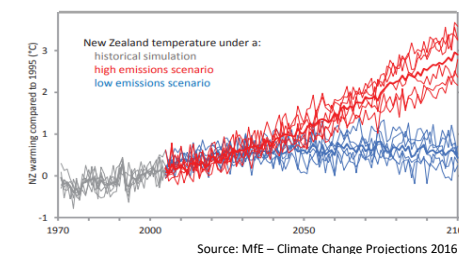
GLOBAL CONTEXT

- Due largely to increasing levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, the planet is experiencing a warming trend that is happening faster than has been seen in recent history (Source: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, IPCC - 2013).
- Eighteen of the 19 warmest years since 1951 have all occurred since 2001.(NASA).



NATIONAL CONTEXT

- The extent of warming in New Zealand will depend on the level of global carbon emissions, which has been forecast by Ministry for the Environment using a range of scenarios.
- Even under a low emissions scenario, the temperature will increase in New Zealand and the sea level will rise.



FAR NORTH CONTEXT

Climate change effects

A range of impacts of climate change have been projected for Northland by NIWA:

- Sea level rise
- More warmer days
- Frosts becoming very rare
- More droughts
- More extreme weather events

Summary NIWA Northland predictions: [LINK](#)

Detailed report: [LINK](#)

Potential impacts

- Severe storms
- Coastal erosion & inundation
- Water shortages/drought
- Increased estuarine sedimentation
- Contamination of soil
- Salination of water sources/aquifers
- Slips and floods
- Damage to the transport and infrastructure networks
- Threat of vector diseases
- Threat of new agricultural pests.

Significant risks to the community

- Coastal retreat and displacement of people
- Public health risks
- Burden of rates for the District as whole and especially for deprived communities
- Increasing risk of forest fires
- Agriculture/horticulture will be different, and the economy will change
- More civil defence emergencies.

“We need to think and plan ahead now”

Quote from survey of managers at FNDC

Significant risks for Council

- Vulnerable infrastructure
- Vulnerable parks and reserves
- Large/long term financial risks
- Cost to protect/shift/future-proof infrastructure and assets
- Increasing insurance costs and potential inability to insure some areas
- Reputational risks
- Our ability to borrow money will be at risk if we have inadequate climate-related financial disclosure.

FNDC'S STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS

- Council has obligations and responsibilities under the Resource Management Act, the Local Government Act, the Civil Defence Act and particularly the Zero Carbon Amendment Act 2019.
- Our policies must be consistent with Northland Regional Council's Regional Policy Statements relating to hazards and biodiversity, water quantity and quality.

FNDC'S RESPONSE TO DATE

- Council has acknowledged that climate change is the number one risk it faces
- FNDC signed the Local Government Leaders Declaration in 2017, committing to “develop and implement **ambitious action plans**” for climate change mitigation and adaptation
- We are an active member of Climate Adaptation Te Tai Tokerau (CATT) Group of the four local authorities in Northland charged with developing the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Framework
- In August 2019 Council resolved that a KPI for the Chief Executive was to develop a Climate Change Roadmap.

DEVELOPING THIS ROADMAP

Work to date includes:

- A survey of all senior managers at FNDC
- Forming an internal Climate Change Working group
- Preparing website and education materials/links
- Study of government guidelines, what other local authorities are doing and attendance at relevant conferences
- Commissioning a carbon footprint assessment for Council itself.

CLIMATE CHANGE GOALS AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES



CLIMATE CHANGE GOALS

- 1 Council reduces its own greenhouse gas emissions in line with the Government's national emission reduction targets or better.
- 2 Council supports the businesses and communities of the Far North towards a Carbon Zero 2050.
- 3 Council future-proofs its resources, assets and services from the risks of climate change.
- 4 Council works with the communities of the Far North to prepare for and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Council will engage in dialogue with the community on the goals and guiding principles before they are formally adopted

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. We acknowledge the reality of climate change and will act now in response to the risks this poses

There is clear evidence of the need to act now on climate change to reduce future risks and costs for our District. We will make climate change risks a key consideration in all our planning and decisions.

2. We recognise the importance of kaitiakitanga

We recognise the role of tangata whenua as kaitiaki in relation to natural and physical resources in their rohe and will engage with tangata whenua regarding climate change issues.

3. We will be thoughtful and considered in our planning for climate change

Long-term thinking, policies and actions will ensure the needs of current and future generations are met. The risks of climate change are complex, so we will be careful and considered in our approach. Our plans will evolve over time as new information and data on climate change becomes available.

4. We will learn with and support our communities to address the risks and potential opportunities of climate change

Enhancing the resilience and readiness of our communities and businesses will help us adapt to climate change. We will engage with our communities and also advocate on their behalf to central government.

5. We will work cooperatively with others

The nature and scale of climate change means that we cannot go it alone in our approach to climate change. We will work together with central government and other agencies as well as community groups, iwi and hapū to co-ordinate our response.

"This is not centuries away, it's happening now ... it is an urgent problem"

Professor James Renwick – Professor of Physical Geography at Victoria University, member of the Climate Commission

"Make sure climate change is the centre of all planning moving forward"

Quote from survey of managers at FNDC

"Climate change is the defining issue of our time and we are at a defining moment"

United Nations

TWO KEY RESPONSES TO CLIMATE CHANGE - MITIGATION & ADAPTATION

Mitigation

Reducing or preventing the emission of greenhouse gases

The Paris Agreement target is to limit global temperature increase this century to between 1.5 - 2°C above pre-industrial levels. Global temperatures are already between 0.8-1.0°C above this level, so the window to respond is narrowing rapidly.

In line with the Paris agreement, the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019 (ZCA) sets targets for New Zealand:

- To reduce emissions of greenhouse gases (except biogenic methane) to net zero by 2050 and to reduce emissions of biogenic methane to 24–47 per cent below 2017 levels by 2050, including to 10 per cent below 2017 levels by 2030 (ten years' time)

Under this legislation, Council will be required to reduce its own carbon emissions and report on progress to government.

Adaptation

Adapting to climate change

Climate change poses many threats but there will also be opportunities. Our challenge is to adapt to these changes.

We will operationalise climate change adaptation so it becomes 'business as usual' through our strategies and plans including the Long Term Plan, the District Plan, our Infrastructure Strategy, Asset Plans and the Financial Plan. This will result in 'on the ground' infrastructure projects in the coming years that have climate change objectives and decision making in Council that is informed by climate change policy, standards and science.

Adaptation and Mitigation Activity can be Linked

Our actions to adapt to climate change can be linked to climate change mitigation. For example, planting trees on marginal land to help reduce erosion will also assist mitigation through increased carbon sequestration. Conversely, some major adaptation projects may mean an increase in council's carbon footprint

FOUR FOCUS AREAS

RESPONDING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

MITIGATION

ADAPTATION

FOCUS AREAS	COUNCIL	1 "Walking the talk" Council reduces its carbon emissions	3 "Prudent future proofing" Managing council's services, resources and assets to future-proof them from the risks of climate change
		2 "Reducing our carbon emissions together" Supporting our communities to achieve zero carbon by 2050	4 "Developing resilience" Help our communities prepare for and adapt to the impacts of climate change

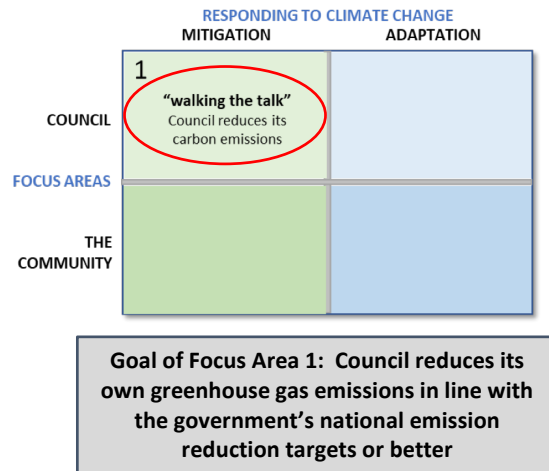
"We have a mandate from central government to look after the wellbeing of the people of the Far North"

Quote from survey of managers at FNDC

"Council can be the heroes in the climate change area"

Mary-Jane Ardley – Coastal Restoration Trust

FOCUS AREA 1 (MITIGATION) – ‘WALKING THE TALK’ COUNCIL REDUCES ITS CARBON EMISSIONS



"We've moved and renovated offices, so they are all now of 5-star standard, we're electrifying our vehicle fleet, and we've invested in quality video conferencing and calling, which cuts down how much we fly between our offices. Measuring our carbon has highlighted all sorts of opportunities to reduce our emissions, and to influence our suppliers to do the same"

Alison Howard, Head of Sustainability, Meridian Energy

WHY MEASURE AND REDUCE OUR EMISSIONS

- To contribute to New Zealand's collective effort to reduce its emissions. New Zealand is the fourth highest per capita producer of greenhouse gas in the world, beaten only by the United States, Canada and Australia
- To identify operating efficiencies and cost savings
- To enable progress reporting as required by ZCA
- The Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) will be tightened and the price of carbon credits will increase so we will need to pay more for our carbon emissions
- To demonstrate social and environmental responsibility
- To play our part in the Far North and "walk the talk"
- To identify business opportunities

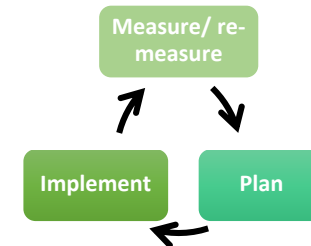
BEING TRANSPARENT

- We will openly communicate the results of our emissions inventory and our improvement targets
- We will recognise where trade-offs have been made e.g. while reducing air travel will reduce our carbon emissions reductions, this would have an impact on our ability to do business and engage nationally where face to face meetings are required. In these cases, we will look to offset these emissions.

"Get started – you can always build on that foundation and increase sophistication of measurement over time. The key is to have some information to start working with. Reporting and communication is really important, making data visible and relatable to managers, staff and stakeholders"

Grant Heather — Senior Strategy Manager, NZ Rail

IMPROVEMENT PROCESS



STEPS IN THE PROCESS

1. MEASURE OUR EMISSIONS

- An emissions inventory is underway focusing on FY 2018/19
- Conducted by WSP

2. PLANNING

- We will identify and prioritise opportunities to improve, setting targets for mitigation activity

3. IMPLEMENTATION

- We will put in place plans to reduce our emissions

4. RE-MEASURE EVERY TWO YEARS

- With the goal to reach zero carbon by 2050 or earlier

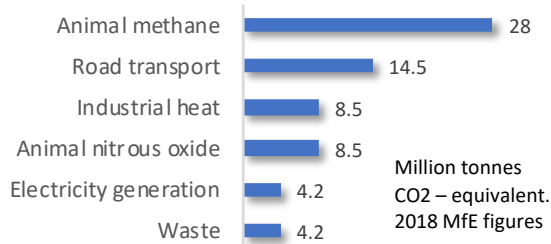
"Do an audit of the current state, set goals, then another audit in 12-24 months to compare improvements. Be open and accountable about our targets and progress towards them. Report to the public how we're tracking"

Internal survey of managers at FNDC

FOCUS AREA 2 (MITIGATION) – ‘EDUCATION & GUIDANCE’ SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITIES TO ACHIEVE ZERO CARBON BY 2050



SIX MAIN SOURCES OF GHG EMISSIONS IN NZ



MITIGATION ACTIVITIES THAT WILL HAVE THE GREATEST EFFECT NATIONALLY

- Plant trees to sequester carbon
- Convert the national vehicle fleet to electric
- Eliminate fossil fuels from industrial processes up to 300°C
- Develop new solutions to reduce emissions from agriculture
- Better management of landfill sites including capture of methane
- Move to 100% renewable electricity generation

WHY SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY?

- To contribute to New Zealand's collective effort to reduce its emissions
- To demonstrate social and environmental responsibility
- To play our part in the Far North
- To become a leader in this area

HOW WE WILL SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITIES

- We will provide information on the ways that people can reduce their carbon footprint e.g. via links on the website
- Our plans will incorporate carbon emission reduction policies, in line with the government's GHG reduction plan
- We will support community projects that have carbon emission reduction objectives, as in the case study below.

CASE STUDY:

CRIMSON COAST ELECTRIC VEHICLE HIGHWAY

Since 2017 Council helped expand the EV charging station network in the Far North from one to eight stations. This was done by;

- Facilitating funding through ChargeNet NZ and the Energy Efficiency & Conservation Authority
- Making available Council land for the charging sites
- Collaborating with Top Energy, Northland Regional Council and local EV user group RevUp to install these stations.

"Clean air and water, and a liveable climate are inalienable human rights. And solving this crisis is not a question of politics. It is our moral obligation"

Leonardo DiCaprio

WORKING WITH THE BUSINESS SECTOR

Where possible we will work with the business sector to reduce GHG emissions. Areas we can help address include:

- Infrastructure plans that, for example, extend the electric vehicle charging station network, foster multi-modal transport networks across the District and result in zero emission water and wastewater services.
- Development rules, local policies and regulation that, for example, might encourage commercial planting of trees to sequester carbon or support renewable energy use and production.

ACKNOWLEDGING GOVERNMENT'S KEY ROLE IN SETTING NATIONAL POLICIES

Many of the broader 'levers' to reduce carbon emissions relate to government planning and policies that will be implemented at the Council in the future. For example

- Government Investment in renewable energy projects
- Managing the Emissions Trading Scheme
- National policy to meet the emissions targets.

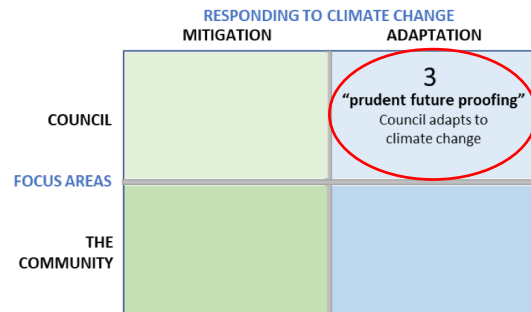
COMMUNICATION & ADVOCACY

We will regularly communicate with the community on climate change topics, encouraging two-way dialogue. We will also advocate on behalf of our communities to central government

"This is not centuries away, it's happening now ... it is an urgent problem"

Professor James Renwick – Professor of Physical Geography at Victoria University, member of the Climate Commission

FOCUS AREA 3 (ADAPTATION) – MANAGING COUNCIL’S SERVICES, RESOURCES AND ASSETS TO FUTURE-PROOF THEM FROM THE RISKS OF CLIMATE CHANGE



Goal of Focus Area 3: Council future-proofs its services, resources and assets from the risks of climate change

ADAPTATION ANTICIPATES CHANGE AND FOCUSES ON BEING PROACTIVE RATHER THAN REACTIVE

Identifying the risks of climate change and taking timely mitigating actions to reduce and prevent future damage is fundamental to effective adaptation.

This can be achieved using:

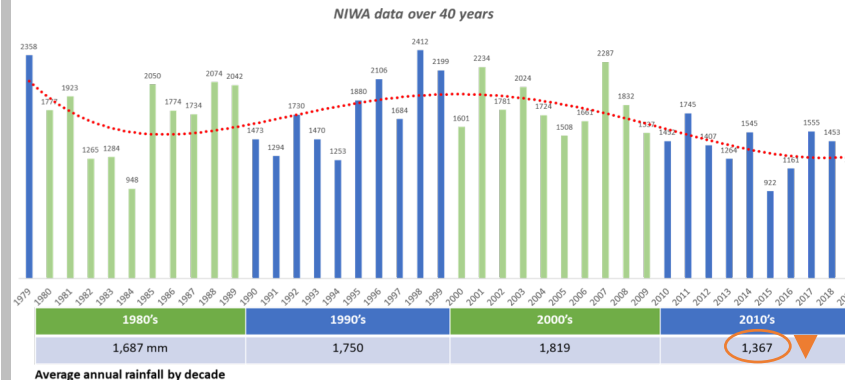
- predictive methods (where uncertainty is low)
- scenarios (where uncertainties are high)
- adaptive planning (where a trend exists such as rising sea level but the rate of change in the future is uncertain. Points on the trend-line will trigger particular responses)

Shifting from a reactive approach where we respond to climate events after they occur to a more proactive approach will enhance resilience and reduce our financial and social exposure to climate change impacts across the Far North District.

“Active and adaptive management is required in response to climate change”

Sir Peter Gluckman

KERIKERI MEAN ANNUAL RAINFALL TREND – REDUCED RAINFALL



While the mean annual rainfall in Kerikeri varies from year to year, it has decreased in the last decade compared with previous decades

Only one year in the last decade has annual rainfall been above the average over the last 40 years.

CASE STUDY – NORTH SHORE CITY WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT

In 1997 North Shore City experienced a significant number of beach pollution events linked to overflows from its wastewater system.

Community concern led to analysis of what would be needed to rectify the problem. Two scenarios were developed – the first costing \$260 million did not account for climate change effects while in the second scenario, an extra \$150 million was required to respond to climate change.

The community chose the lower cost option with reduced levels of protection compared with the higher cost option which factored in climate change. However, reviews of the system were required every three to five years to assess if further spending was necessary, thus putting in place an adaptive response.

Example included in the MfE document *Preparing for climate change – a guide for local government in New Zealand*. See Link in the Appendix

PROPOSED ADAPTATION PROCESS

We recognise that while adaptation may involve extra costs, carrying on ‘as normal’ may be more costly in the long-run.

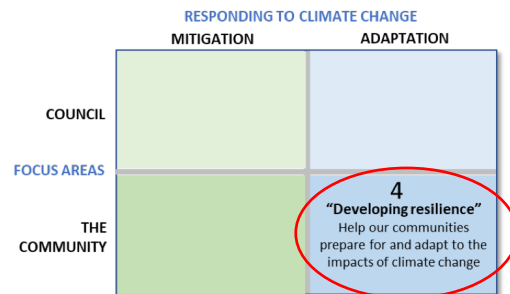
RECOMMENDED APPROACH

1. Conduct evidence-based and location-specific planning
2. Evaluate the long-term costs and benefits of different adaptive solutions
2. Use the Dynamic Adaptive Planning Protocol (DAPP) process recommended by MfE where climate change risks are uncertain
4. For significant projects, seek guidance from the community and elected members regarding preferred options before proceeding (see the North Shore City case study).

REGIONAL INTEGRATION

We will align our adaption approach with the Regional Adaptation Strategy being developed by the Northland local authorities regional group (CATT) .

FOCUS AREA 4 (ADAPTATION) – ‘DEVELOPING RESILIENCE’ HELPING OUR COMMUNITIES PREPARE FOR AND ADAPT TO THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

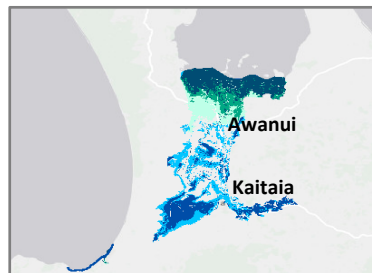


Goal of Focus Area 4: Council works with the communities of the Far North to prepare for and adapt to the impacts of climate change

HAZARD MAPPING

Mapping of coastal and flood hazards by NRC will help us identify vulnerable communities

The Kaitaia flood plain stands out as the largest geographical area at risk in the Far North.



NRC Hazard mapping

DEVELOPMENT IN HAZARD ZONES

Under the NRC Regional Policy Statement future development of land will need to be located away from coastal and low-lying areas vulnerable to sea-level rise, coastal erosion and flooding. This will be incorporated in the District Plan as risk area overlays showing potential hazard risk areas with associated policies and rules for land use and subdivision.

“If everyone focused their love, care, and commitment to protecting and regenerating their local places, ... then a side effect would be the resolution of the climate crisis”

Charles Eisenstein, Climate: A New Story

ENGAGING WITH THE COMMUNITY

We will take part in conversations with communities to identify how vulnerable areas are best addressed.

FACING TOUGH DECISIONS

Those in vulnerable areas e.g. where sea level rise is likely to cause coastal inundation, will face tough decisions regarding the viability of where they live. They are likely to feel pressure from increasing insurance premiums as well as rising sea levels. If private insurers retreat from a coastal area because of increased risk from rising seas, cover from EQC will also disappear, because the two insurances are bundled.

COUNCIL’S POWERS RE EXISTING HOMES

The Resource Management Act gives Council the power to zone land for varying levels of development. But there is no clear power for councils to require people in existing homes, that were lawfully built, to move somewhere less dangerous.

NEED FOR GOVERNMENT SUPPORT/GUIDANCE

Currently the legal situation is unclear regarding how Council should respond to potential loss and damage to existing homes from climate change effects such as sea level rise. Council needs to request guidance from central government in this area.

“You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make”

Jane Goodall

HELPING BUILD RESILIENCE

Adopting a precautionary approach, Council will engage with at-risk communities early, before they begin to experience severe impacts of climate change. We will:

- help communities understand the upcoming challenges
- give them the ability to ‘have a voice’ in decisions that will affect them including lobbying government
- work to ensure the community has sufficient trust and confidence in Council to allow frank discussion.

A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT APPROACH TO ENGAGEMENT

Our engagement with the community will be:

- **Responsive to the needs of our Māori treaty partners**
- **Long-term** – i.e. committing to ongoing engagement on a regular basis over many years
- **Supportive** – i.e. supporting community members to come together to share their concerns and aspirations, to provide information about climate impacts and options and to help build collective understanding
- **Inclusive** – i.e. engaging with as wide a range of affected people as possible
- **Delivery-focused** – i.e. involving community members in identifying possible options for the future including the funding of the response to climate change, keeping the community regularly updated and delivering on agreed solutions

“...the effects of climate change will not be felt equally. It will affect the poor, the marginalised, those on coastal lands the most”

Rev. Mathew Newton, St Paul’s Church, Auckland

ALIGNMENT TO THE DISTRICT'S VISION AND EXPECTATIONS



OUR VISION

He Whenua Rangatira - A District of Sustainable Prosperity and Well-Being

CLIMATE CHANGE GOALS

	Reduce council's greenhouse gas emissions to net zero	Support our communities towards carbon zero by 2050	Manage our resources and assets to best future-proof them from the risks of climate change	Help our communities prepare for and adapt to the impacts of climate change
OUR EXPECTATIONS				
He wahi ataahua: Valuing the outstanding beauty of our District	✓			
He waka hourua: Fit-for-purpose infrastructure underpinning success			✓	
Kokiri tahi: Empowered communities working collaboratively		✓		✓
Oranga taiao, oranga tangata: Nurturing the environment so it nourishes us	✓	✓	✓	✓
Oranga kainga: A thriving, sustainable local economy		✓		✓
Mana i te whenua: The role of tangata whenua is valued and respected		✓		✓
Te ira tangata: Rich heritage and diversity respected and celebrated		✓		✓
Tangata whai ora: Happy, healthy, safe and purposeful people		✓		✓
Whanau: A great place for our families to flourish		✓		✓

WE MUST ACT FOR LEGAL REASONS!



LENDERS & INSURERS ARE MAKING FINANCIAL DECISIONS BASED ON CLIMATE-RELATED FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

- Climate-related financial disclosure rules recommended by the international Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) in 2017 are being adopted globally
- In New Zealand the government will make climate-related financial disclosure mandatory (refer to Reference # 14 at the end of this document which contains the consultation paper circulated by MfE and MBIE in late 2019). Consultation closed December 2019 and new regulations are expected in 2020
- This information is being used by financial institutions such as banks and insurance companies to inform their decisions. For instance, the Queensland government has struggled to borrow money as it has large climate-related risks to its economy and a poor documented response to these risks to date
- These requirements will affect local authorities as well as the Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)
- Our ability to borrow funds and the interest rates we pay will depend on us disclosing detailed information in our financial reporting about the impact that climate change is having and will have on our business and what we are doing about this
- **We must treat our response to climate change as a major programme of work with solid financial disclosure around our governance, the risks we identify, our related processes and our performance against targets.**

OUR REPORTING OBLIGATIONS

In-depth reporting of our actions will be required by the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019 (ZCA) in line with TCFD guidelines:

- 1) Our **governance** in relation to the risks of and opportunities regarding climate change
- 2) The **actual and potential impacts** of climate-related risks and opportunities on our business, strategy, and financial planning:
- 3) Our **processes** to identify, assess, and manage the risks
- 4) Our **metrics and targets** used to assess and manage the risks and opportunities, including timeframes and progress.

“Disclosures should be defined, collected, recorded, and analysed in such a way that the information reported is verifiable to ensure it is high quality. For future-oriented information, this means assumptions used can be traced back to their sources”

TCFD Recommendations 2017

WHAT WE DO MUST STAND UP IN COURT

- Potentially we will face legal challenges through our response to climate change – for example, challenges relating to the zoning of land, existing private assets, or the management of public assets.
- Informal advice from Simpson Grierson at a local government workshop in February 2020 is to thoroughly research and document the reasons for our climate-related policies and decisions.
- We must be rigorous in identifying and documenting the climate change assumptions that we adopt as well as the actual and potential impacts we identify as this may need to stand up in court.

“The NZ Coastal Policy Statement directive is that councils must identify coastal hazards. In response, local authorities have commissioned research, created hazard maps and noted hazard areas within LIMs. This has often been undertaken without consultation with affected communities, resulting in significant friction between councils and landowners and multiple court cases”

NZ Planning Institute, *Planning Quarterly Dec 2019*

ALIGNING OUR TIMING WITH OTHER KEY PROGRAMMES OF WORK

“When it comes to climate change we are in the beautiful position of knowing what our choices are. We can feel a real sense of opportunity about the future - what role our science can play, and how people can contribute”

Dr Sam Dean, Principal Scientist, NIWA

“Sometimes the riskiest decision you can make is to do nothing”

Richard Branson

The Zero Carbon Act

Government delivers first national climate change risk assessment

2020

Government sets first budgets and reduction plan

End 2021

Government presents first national adaptation plan

2022



Feb 2021

Commission delivers advice on first three emissions budgets and first emissions reduction plan

2024

Commission reports on progress and Government must respond. Commission delivers advice on next emissions budget and reduction plan

2026

Commission delivers second national climate change risk assessment

Climate Adaptation Te Tai Tokerau (CATT)

Regional Risk Assessment Completed

July 2020

Pilot Community Adaptation Programme

Aug 2020 – May 2021

Oct 2020

Regional Adaptation Strategy Finalised

June 2021

Regional Community Adaptation Programme

FNDC

Roadmap presented to Council

May 2020

Adoption of District Plan & FN2100 Spatial Plan

Dec 2020

June – Aug 2020

June 2021
Adoption of 21-31 LTP

Engagement with Far North Communities – preparing for climate change

Adoption of 24-34 LTP

June 2024

Implementation of community adaptation plans



Proposed objectives, initiatives and actions aimed at achieving Council's Climate Change Goals

The following proposed actions and initiatives have been identified by Administration as producing deliverables aimed at achieving Council's climate change objectives contained in this Roadmap document. Each action and initiative will need to be further justified by a business case and approved by Council as programmes and projects of work via the Long Term Plan processes over the coming years starting with the 2021-31 Long Term Plan.

1. COUNCIL TO REDUCE ITS CARBON EMISSIONS

Goal	Objectives	Initiative	Actions - Outputs	Account-ability	Indicative cost	Now 20-21	Short term 21-24 LTP	Medium term 2024 to 2050	Long term After 2050
Council reduces its own greenhouse gas emissions in line with the government's national emission reduction targets or better	Council's emissions of methane reduced by 10% below 2017 levels by 2030 and 47% by 2050 or earlier. Council's net emissions of all other greenhouse gases reduce to zero by 2050.	Initial Carbon footprint reduction programme <i>(must do in preparation for the implementation of the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act)</i>	Baseline Carbon Footprint produced	Strategic Planning and Policy	\$40,000	✓			
			Develop initial carbon footprint reduction programme for 21-31 LTP developed from baseline carbon footprint	Strategic Planning and Policy	\$25,000	✓			
			Implementation of initial carbon footprint reduction programme for 21-24 LTP: Possible projects aimed at reducing carbon footprint (LTP 21-24): 1. Appoint sustainability programme manager - responsible for implementing the carbon footprint reduction programme 2. Investigation into carbon credits as long term sustainable source of income for Council with the aim of becoming cost neutral as well as carbon neutral realised through the Council land and reserves estate. 3. Implement triple bottom line reporting 4. Implement a carbon footprint monitoring system with carbon footprint dashboard. 5. Reduction of electricity usage from fossil fuels 6. Minimise waste, maximise recycling 7. Transition vehicle fleet to low and zero emission vehicles 8. Incentivise employees who take action to reduce their individual carbon footprints (i.e. reward and recognition for not flying, using technology, using low emission forms of transport etc.)	Strategic Planning and Policy	\$750,000 spread across the following LTP years 2021-22 2022-23 2023-24 Future LTPs TBD		✓	✓	

1. COUNCIL TO REDUCE ITS CARBON EMISSIONS CONT'D

Goal	Objectives	initiatives	Actions - Outputs	Account ability	Indicative Cost	Now 20-21	Short term 21-24 LTP	Medium term 2024 to 2050	Long term After 2050
Council reduces its own greenhouse gas emissions in line with the government's national emission reduction targets or better	Council's emissions of methane reduce by 10% below 2017 levels by 2030 and 47% by 2050 or earlier. Council's net emissions of all other greenhouse gases reduce to zero by 2050.	Further Carbon Footprint reduction programmes – planned into each LTP	Complete Carbon Footprint – preparation for 2024-34 LTP	Strategic Planning and Policy	\$50,000		✓		
		(must do in preparation for the implementation of the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act)	Implementation of carbon footprint reduction programme for 24-27 LTP: Possible projects aimed at reducing carbon footprint (LTP 21-24): 1. Realisation of financial benefits from carbon credits from Council land and reserves estate 2. Investment in the purchase and development of further land as carbon credits 3. Green Council building initiatives initiated 4. Continue to incentivise employees who take action to reduce their individual carbon footprints (i.e. – reward and recognition for not flying, using technology, using low emission or no emission forms of transport etc.)	Strategic Planning and Policy	Cost neutral – cost of projects offset by carbon credits vested in the Emissions Trading Scheme.			✓	✓
		Further Carbon Footprint reduction programmes in LTPs out to 2050	Council continues to measure, plan and implement Carbon Footprint minimisation programmes out to 2050 – achieving carbon zero carbon and realising the benefits from its investment in carbon credits	Strategic Planning and Policy	Cost neutral			✓	✓



2. SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITIES TOWARDS A CARBON ZERO 2050

Goal	Objectives	Initiatives	Actions - Outputs	Account-ability	Indicative Cost	Now 20-21	Short term 21-24 LTP	Medium Term 2024-2050	Long Term After 2050
Council supports the businesses and communities of the Far North towards a carbon zero 2050	<p>The community's emissions of methane reduce by 10% below 2017 levels by 2030 and 47% by 2050 or earlier.</p> <p>The net emissions of all other greenhouse gases reduce to zero by 2050.</p>	<p>Community Zero Carbon initiatives</p> <p><i>(Should do based on supporting the businesses and communities of the Far North District in achieving their own emission targets under the the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act)</i></p>	<p>Review of all current strategies and plans to determine what initiatives that are being put forward will result in a reduction of the District's Carbon Footprint via changing investments and behaviours on the part of households and businesses. This will include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. District Plan – land use changes 2. Transport Strategy and Plans – NZTA is favourable towards more low emission forms of transportation (multi-modal forms of transportation) 3. Infrastructure strategies including reserves and open spaces 4. Waste minimisation plans 	Strategic Planning and Policy	\$25,000	✓			
			<p>Develop and Implement an online District Environmental Dashboard that is publicly available in service centres, online, can be taken on tablets to community meetings and to schools. This will contain</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carbon output and sinks. The District Carbon Footprint 2. Water usage, Waste produced etc. 	Strategic Planning and Policy	\$150,000		✓		
			<p>Collaborate with project managers of each project coming out of the above strategies to develop:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communications and community engagement plans that inform how the outcome of the project will reduce the District's carbon footprint 2. Update District Carbon Footprint with each successfully implemented project via the District Environmental Dashboard 3. Update and inform the community regarding the future initiatives of Council that will reduce the District's Carbon Footprint (ongoing) <p>Success measured via successful projects resulting in positive measures on the District Environmental Dashboard</p>	Strategic Planning and Policy	<p>\$150,000 for 2021-24 LTP years</p> <p>Future LTPs TBD</p>		✓	✓	✓

3. MANAGING COUNCIL'S SERVICES, RESOURCES AND ASSETS TO FUTURE-PROOF THEM FROM THE RISKS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Goal	Objectives	Initiatives	Actions - Outputs	Account-ability	Indicative cost	No w 20-21	Short term 21-24 LTP	Medi um Term 2024-2050	Long Term After 2050
Council future proofs its services, resources and assets from the risks of climate change	Council develops it's climate change toolkit in preparation for Community Engagement and Infrastructure Planning for the three year period starting July 2021.	Climate Change Policies and Strategies adopted by Council. <i>(must do in preparation for the implementation of the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Policy on the source of truth for the Science behind climate change (sea level rise, temperature increase, weather 2. Policy on Dynamic Adaptive Planning Pathway (DAPP) as the tool that will inform Infrastructure Planning and community engagement on climate change. This will include benefit cost analysis and scenario requirements 3. Legal liability and financial risk assessment completed on the impacts of climate change policy on Council 4. Te Takakura Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (combined with NRC, WDC, KDC) 5. Climate change policies and strategies embedded and referenced in the District Plan review, the 2021-31 Long Term Plan including the Infrastructure Strategy and Financial Strategy. 	Strategic Planning and Policy	\$50,000	✓			
		Climate Change Policies and Strategies implemented into Council decision making processes (Governance and Management). <i>(must do in – as above)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Education and training (change management) of Council Staff on Climate Change Policies (DAPP) and what it means for each group, department and team (change management support) 2. Stock take of Council Assets (Waters, Transport Networks, Social Infrastructure – including open spaces, parks and reserve) that will be impacted by Climate Change. Details captured on Asset Management System (spatial data and non-spatial data) - co-requisite project – project Darwin 3. Financial models developed to inform scenarios and benefit cost analysis – aligned with revenue review and risk assessment. 4. Implementation of Climate Change Policies into Council reporting and decision making (compliance schedule, education of elected members, financial disclosure and risk reporting) 5. Specific metrics and KPIs developed for climate change. 	Lead: Strategic Planning and Policy Infrastructure and Asset Management Corporate Services	\$150,000 for following years 2021-22		✓		
	4. HELPING OUR COMMUNITIES PREPARE FOR AND ADAPT TO THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE (detail on the next page)		Action and Outputs from working with our communities that will inform how Council, via future LTPs, will future proofs its services, resources and assets from the risks of climate change: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community aspirations for climate change captured by Administration by applying DAPP and Financial Models as part of community engagement 2. Asset management, finance and corporate planning systems updated based on outcome of applying DAPP and Financial Models as part of community engagement and consultation. 	Strategic Planning and Policy > Community Engagement Infrastructure and Asset Management	\$100,000 spread across the following years 2022-23 2023-24 Future LTPS TBD		✓	✓	✓

4. HELPING OUR COMMUNITIES PREPARE FOR AND ADAPT TO THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Goal	Objectives	Initiatives	Actions - Outputs	Account-ability	Indicative cost	Now 20-21	Short term 21-24 LTP	Medium Term 2024-2050	Long Term After 2050
Council works with the communities of the Far North to prepare for and adapt to the impacts of climate change	Council engages and consults with the community using its adopted Climate Change Toolkit over the period of 2021-2024 and then into future years so as to inform future Long Term Plans including future Financial and Infrastructure Strategies	Community Engagement Plans adopted <i>(must do in preparation for the implementation of the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Broad communications to the public on policy and intent of Council to consult and engage with communities is delivered Plan for community consultation is adopted by Council. This will outline over the coming years the order in which communities will be consulted on with using DAPP and the financial models adopted by Council This is aligned with NRC's implementation of the Te Taikokerau Climate Change Adaptation Strategy Administration develop Community engagement collateral and individual plans based on local community knowledge Council communicates the adopted plans to the public via website and other communication channels. 	Strategic Planning and Policy	\$25,000	✓			
		Community Engagement Plans executed <i>(must do in preparation for the implementation of the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Each individual communities engagement and consultation plan on climate change is executed. 	Strategic Planning and Policy with support from Northland Regional Council	\$210,000 for each of: 2021-22 2022-23 2023-24 Future LTPs TDB		✓	✓	
	The 2024-34 Long Term Plan includes specific projects resulting from community engagement	The 2024-24 Infrastructure Strategy and resulting projects have specific climate change adaptation outcomes for Far North Communities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Infrastructure projects for transport, waters, parks, playgrounds will have clearly defined, community informed Climate Climate change adaptation outcomes. 	Infrastructure and Asset Management	\$250,000			✓	

6.INDICATIVE COST BREAKDOWN – THREE YEARS OF THE 2021-31 LONG TERM PLAN

	Focus Area	Initiative	Indicative Cost 2021-22	Indicative Cost 2022-23	Indicative Cost 2023-24	Total Indicative Cost
Cost Breakdown for each initiative – Long Term Plan 2021-31	Council to reduce its carbon emissions	Carbon Footprint Reduction Programme (including the employment of a Sustainability Programme Manager)	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$750,000
		Carbon footprint for 2024-34 LTP			\$50,000	\$50,000
	Supporting our communities towards a carbon zero 2050	Community zero carbon initiatives –implementation of environmental dashboard	\$50,000	\$100,000		\$150,000
		Updating of community environmental dashboard	\$30,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$150,000
	Managing council's, services, resources and assets to future-proof them from the risks of climate change	Council develops it's climate change toolkit in preparation for Community Engagement and Infrastructure Planning for the three year period starting July 2021	\$150,000			\$150,000
		Asset management, finance and corporate planning systems updated based on the outcome of applying the Dynamic Adaptive Planning Pathway (DAPP) and Financial Models as part of community engagement and consultation		\$50,000	\$50,000	\$100,000
	Helping our communities prepare for and adapt to the impacts of climate change	Community Engagement Plans executed in alignment with Northland Regional Council	\$210,000	\$210,000	\$210,000	\$630,000
Totals			\$690,000	\$670,000	\$620,000	<u>\$1,980,000</u>





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HE ARA TĀMATA
CREATING GREAT PLACES
Supporting our people

6 NGĀ PŪRONGO TAIPITOPITO / INFORMATION REPORTS

6.1 ESTABLISHMENT OF A FAR NORTH DISTRICT COUNCIL NAMING PANEL

File Number: A4428046

Author: Llani Harding, Pouhautu Te Hono - Manager - Te Hono

Authoriser: Jacine Warmington, Group Manager - Strategic Relationships

TAKE PŪRONGO / PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To recommend the approval of the formation of a Council Naming Panel as an advisory panel to Council.

WHAKARĀPOOTO MATUA / EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is responsible for naming public infrastructure such as roads, parks and reserves, and council-owned community facilities. Previous policies about naming roads and reserves included some requirements for consultation with Māori, but in practice, this had not always worked as well as it should.

Council developed a new Naming policy and an improved, consistent procedure for approving names. The development of the Naming policy was approved by Council in November 2021 and adopted on 22 September 2022.

TŪTOHUNGA / RECOMMENDATION

That the Te Kuaka – Te Ao Māori Committee receive the report Establishment of a Far North District Council Naming Panel.

TĀHUHU KŌRERO / BACKGROUND

The Council wants to improve the process of consultation with mana whenua on names and promote and support the use of te reo Māori.

The Naming policy does not change the rules about who is responsible for determining appropriate names for roads, open spaces, and council facilities. It aims to improve the process and enable Council to partner more effectively with mana whenua on choosing appropriate names.

MATAPAKI ME NGĀ KŌWHIRINGA / DISCUSSION AND NEXT STEPS

The intention is to set up a Naming Panel which will support the selection of te reo Māori names.

The Naming panel will be reflective of Tangata Whenua across the three wards and Te Hono staff will lead the process of confirming the membership of the panel.



- The panel will meet 6-weekly.
- The panel will be resourced appropriately.
- The panel will provide recommendations to Community Boards for approval.
- The panel will work closely with NTA and Te Hono to provide effective, timely advice on Naming opportunities.
- The panel will consider any applications for naming and/or renaming of Far North District Council assets.

PĀNGA PŪTEA ME NGĀ WĀHANGA TAHUA / FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGETARY PROVISION

Appropriate budget is available for the resourcing of the 6 weekly meetings and attendance.

There are no other budgetary requirements outside of the panel for Te Kuaka to consider as individual Council departments that require broader renaming as part of a project or to address an issue, will need to consider the impacts on their budgets.

ĀPITIHINGA / ATTACHMENTS

1. Naming Policy-2022 - A4484074 [↓](#) 
2. Procedures for applying the Naming Policy - A4484081 [↓](#) 



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Naming Policy

Adopted: 22 September 2022
 Last updated: 22 September 2022

Background

Councils have a significant role in the choice and approval of names for public infrastructure such as roads, parks and reserves, and Council facilities. Under the Local Government Act 1974, the Council has the power to name and to alter the name of roads. Under the Reserves Act 1977, the Council has the power to name reserves. In addition, from time to time the Council names Council facilities.

Previous policy guidance for naming Council-controlled infrastructure was provided in the Road Naming and Property Numbering Policy (2014), the Reserves Policy (2017), and the Art and Memorials in Public Places Policy (2017).

Application

This policy applies to infrastructure in the Far North District that is within the Council's power to name. This includes the naming and renaming of:

- roads – both public and private
- open spaces – reserves, parks, and walkways vested in the Council
- Council facilities – civic spaces, community halls, recreation facilities

Definitions

The following definitions apply to this Policy:

- **Applicant** – means the individual or entity making an application, which may include the Council, a consent holder, or the party developing the infrastructure.
- **Council** – means the Far North District Council.
- **Council facility** – means a facility controlled by the Council. Such facilities may include but are not limited to community halls, civic spaces, as well as sport, recreation, and entertainment facilities.
- **Far North District** - means the area of jurisdiction of the Far North District Council.
- **Mana whenua** – means Māori who have historic and territorial rights over the land.
- **Open space** – means reserves, parks, and walkways administered by the Council.
- **Park** – means Council-owned public open space held under the Local Government Act 2002 with a primary community, recreational, environmental, cultural, or spiritual function.
- **Private road** – means, as defined by section 315 of the Local Government Act 1974, any roadway on private land intended for the use of the public. Private roads are not maintained by the Council, but are formally named by the Council. Formal naming is required for formed private roads to ensure correct identification for key services such as emergency, postal, and utility services.
- **Private rights-of-way (private way)** – means, as defined by section 315 of the Local Government Act 1974, any way or passage on private land intended for the use of only certain persons or classes of person. Private rights-of-way are not maintained by the Council, but those that serve 6 or more properties should be formally named by the Council to aid correct identification for key services such as emergency, postal, and utility services.

- **Policy** – means the Council's adopted Naming Policy.
- **Reserve** – means as defined under section 2 of the Reserves Act 1977.
- **Road** – means land defined as road by section 315 of the Local Government Act 1974, which includes land intended for use by the public generally. This includes access ways and service lanes.

Legislative and Policy Context

Under section 319(1)(j) of the Local Government Act 1974, councils have the power to name and to alter the name of roads. Under section 319(B)(1), councils have the power to allocate a number to any area of land or building or part of a building within their districts.

Road names must be approved by Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand. Road naming and property numbering must comply with the *Australian/ New Zealand Standard Rural and Urban Addressing (AS/NZS4819:2011)* and subsequent amendments.

Under section 16 (10) of the Reserves Act 1977, territorial authorities have the power to name reserves vested in them. The Council must follow the procedures in sections 16(10) and 16(10A) of the Reserves Act to name or rename a reserve.

It should be noted that the power to name (and rename) settlements (such as suburbs and localities) and geographic features, lies with the New Zealand Geographic Board Ngā Pou Taunaha o Aotearoa (NZGB). While this is outside its jurisdiction, the Council may make a proposal to the NZGB to name or rename a place or feature.

Strategic alignment

The policy will contribute to achieving the outcomes set out in the following strategic documents:

- Under section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 the purpose of local government is “to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future.” Ensuring that the names we give to community infrastructure reflect our people and their stories, and promoting the use of te reo Māori, will contribute to cultural wellbeing in the Far North District.
- Revitalising te reo Māori is part of the wider partnership between the Crown and tāngata whenua, as expressed in Maihi Karauna: The Crown's Strategy for Māori Language Revitalisation 2019-2023.

Objectives

To promote social and cultural wellbeing by:

- encouraging and enabling the use of appropriate names in te reo Māori
- ensuring that locations of cultural significance for mana whenua are named appropriately
- enhancing placemaking through names that reflect the unique culture and identity of communities in the Far North District
- ensuring correct and clear addressing for emergency services and other key services (road naming)
- improving guidance for developers and property owners to consult with mana whenua, should they wish to choose a Māori road name

Policies

1. The Council will provide a consistent approach to determining appropriate names for roads, open spaces, and council facilities.
2. The Council will have a naming system for public infrastructure that will recognise and maintain the history and identity of our local communities, with te reo Māori names increasingly represented within the district.
3. The Council acknowledges and respects the Crown's responsibility as a Treaty partner and the requirement of local government to take into account the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi / the Treaty of Waitangi, specifically the obligations placed on the Council to provide opportunities for Māori to participate in decision-making and other council processes in a way which is meaningful to both parties.
4. The Council recognises it needs to establish meaningful and enduring relationships with Māori in order to enable effective participation in decision making while at the same time achieving mutually beneficial outcomes. Mana whenua hold mana and traditional associations with place and are the most appropriate authority to seek te reo Māori names from. They will be a partner in the process of selecting names for roads, open spaces, and Council facilities.
5. A Naming Komiti in each ward will support the selection of te reo Māori names. These Komiti will be resourced and administered by the Council.
6. This policy will not be applied retrospectively, except where individual renaming applications are received.
7. Names are to be agreed as early as possible in any development application process. This policy should form part of any subdivision design and approval process reference material.
8. Road names and road numbering must conform with *The Australian/ New Zealand Standard Rural and Urban Addressing (AS/NZS4819:2011)*.
9. Naming a private road or right-of-way does not mean that the Council accepts responsibility for the formation or maintenance of that private road or right-of-way.

Monitoring and Implementation

- Implementation of the policy will be monitored by the Council.
- This policy will be reviewed in response to issues that may arise, at the request of the Council, or in response to changes to legislative or statutory requirements (whichever occurs first).
- Amendment to this policy following a review may be subject to a public consultative process.

Procedures for applying the Naming Policy

Last updated: September 2022

Application

This document outlines the procedures for applying the Far North District Council's Naming Policy and should be read in conjunction with it. The Naming Policy applies to the naming and renaming of:

- roads – both public and private
- open spaces – reserves, parks, and walkways vested in the Council
- Council facilities – civic spaces, community halls, recreation facilities

Consultation with Māori

The Council recognises the requirement on local government to contribute to the Crown's broader relationship responsibilities by ensuring engagement with Māori is meaningful. The Council holds enduring relationships with our mana whenua partners. It is right that we seek guidance and advice from appropriate iwi entities and hapu kaikorero before we engage in long-term discussion relating to naming of Council-controlled assets.

When to consult:

1. Consultation begins at pre-consenting stage. The Council will ensure consent applicants are aware of our naming policy and procedures.
2. Iwi/Hapū will have first opportunity to recommend a name for any Council-controlled open spaces and Council facilities.
3. In the case of roads (public or private), where the road is identified in the District Plan as being at a site of cultural significance to Māori, iwi/hapū will have first opportunity to recommend a name for that road. In other cases, if developers and property owners wish to choose a Māori name, they must consult with iwi/hapū either to request gifting of a name, or to seek approval of a suggested name.

Who to consult:

1. Consultation will be conducted through a Naming Komiti in each ward (established by the Council).
2. These Komiti will be resourced and administered by the Council.

Procedure for consultation:

1. Naming requests will be sent via email to the Komiti allocated email address, administered by the Council.
2. At the discretion of the Naming Komiti, requests can be resolved via email or every 6 weeks at a Komiti hui.
3. Applicants will be invited to attend the Komiti hui that their naming request relates to.
4. On approval of the requests, all recommendations for suitable names will be forwarded to the next approval step (such as Community Board, or Northland Transportation Alliance in the case of roads).

Procedures

General procedures

1. Applicants, or managers of any project, where the naming of roads or open spaces is required, are advised to seek advice early from the Council and the Naming Komiti to ensure that their application will fulfil the requirements for consultation with Māori, in a timely manner.
2. The responsibility for making a Council decision on a name is determined by Council delegations (such as delegations to Community Boards to allocate names for previously unnamed roads).
3. The Council's decision on the choice of name is final.

Roads

1. Public roads vested in the Council shall be named.
2. Formed private roads and the forming of previously unformed paper roads providing access to 5 or more properties should be named. Private rights-of-way which provide access to 6 or more properties should be named.
3. Applications for naming roads are submitted as part of the resource consent process.
4. Where the road is identified in the District Plan as being at a site of cultural significance to Māori, iwi/hapū will have first opportunity to name that road. The applicant will make a request for three appropriate names to the Naming Komiti.
5. In other cases, if they wish to, applicants may make a request to the Naming Komiti either to request gifting of a Māori name, or to seek approval of a suggested Māori name.
6. Each application shall include three proposed names, listed in order of preference, with a brief statement about their significance.
7. The Council will refer the proposed road names to Toitū Te Whenua / Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) for approval.
8. After LINZ approval, the application will be referred to the relevant Community Board for approval.

Open spaces

1. Iwi/Hapū will have first opportunity to name any Council-controlled open spaces.
2. The local community will be consulted regarding proposals to name open spaces.

Council-controlled facilities

1. Iwi/Hapū will have first opportunity to name any Council facilities.

Renaming

1. The Council will only consider renaming roads in exceptional circumstances, as this change can be disruptive for residents, business, and providers of services.
2. Requests for renaming may be considered by the Council for the following reasons:
 - a. a change to infrastructure requires it (e.g. change of road layout)
 - b. the current name is offensive or inappropriate
 - c. the current name is inaccurate or misspelled
 - d. there is a duplicate or similar name causing confusion
 - e. the request addresses a significant wrong or grievance
 - f. any other reason the Council considers to be appropriate.
3. The local community and interested parties will be consulted regarding proposals to rename roads, open spaces, and community facilities.

Naming criteria and guidelines

Recommendations for names should include evidence that the proposed names meet one or more of the following criteria:

- An appropriate te reo Māori name where the site is important to mana whenua.
- Reference to stories about the history or culture of the place. Te reo Māori names are encouraged where appropriate.
- People who were important in the history of the area. If there is a suggestion is to name the road, open space, or facility after a person, that person should have an established connection to the place or facility. In the case of a historical figure, the Council may seek advice regarding whether or not the name is appropriate.
- Reflecting the local landscape, flora or fauna. Te reo Māori names are preferred where appropriate.
- Following a specific theme in the location (where that theme is still considered appropriate for new names).

Names should be:

- Unique – not duplicated or closely similar to other names in the district.
- Short – preferably fewer than 12 characters. This is particularly the case for road names.
- Simple – easy to spell and pronounce.
- Respectful – unlikely to cause offence.

Names in more than one language (bilingual or trilingual) may be appropriate in some cases, but cannot be used for road names.

Road names and road numbering must conform with *The Australian/ New Zealand Standard Rural and Urban Addressing (AS/NZS4819:2011)*.

6.2 RATINGS RELIEF POLICY AMENDMENTS

File Number: A4462055

Author: Jude Campbell, Principal Advisor

Authoriser: Llani Harding, Pouhautu Te Hono - Manager - Te Hono

TAKE PŪRONGO / PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To discuss the amendments of the rating relief policy ML21/02 Policy – Māori Freehold Land used for the purposes of Papakāinga or other housing purposes subject to occupation licenses or other informal arrangements.

WHAKARĀPOPOTO MATUA / EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The ML21/02 policy was developed to integrate the amendments of the Local Government (Rating on whenua Māori) Amendment Act 2002 and to address issues in relation to the application of rates payable for occupancy on papakāinga.

The purpose of these provisions of the Act regarding whenua Māori is to acknowledge the unique status and ownership structure of Māori Freehold Land and to provide special considerations in the assessment of rates on whenua Māori. However, the existing policy has given rise to challenges for whānau living on papakāinga and the application of their rates.

To address current challenges, the policy must be revoked and aligned to the intent of the legislation, in which the interpretation and application of the policy must include Ahu Whenua Trusts, Whānau Trusts and Whenua Tōpū Trusts. Furthermore, additional amendments to the conditions of the policy need to be addressed, such as the term 'no rentals payable', as many whānau and whenua Māori Trusts have a requirement to pay rent under the term of agreement applied in their Kāinga Ora Whenua Agreement (Land and Tenure Security Interest).

The policy statement, objectives and conditions must be prepared to address current and future issues.

TŪTOHUNGA / RECOMMENDATION

That the Te Kuaka – Te Ao Māori Committee receive the report Ratings Relief Policy Amendments.

TĀHUHU KŌRERO / BACKGROUND

Te Ture Whenua Māori Act is legislation that pertains to whenua Māori and its governance. The Act provides a legal framework for the governance, use, and development of whenua Māori, which include papakāinga arrangements. The Act enables Māori landowners and their governance structures, such as trustees or incorporations, to manage and make decisions regarding the use and development of whenua Māori including papakāinga. The specific terms of reference and guidelines for papakāinga development would typically be outlined in agreements, policies, or regulations established by landowners or governing entities in accordance with Te Ture Whenua Act.

The purpose of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 facilitates the administration of rates in a manner that supports the principles set out in the preamble to Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993.

The Far North District Council have several policies in relation to whenua Māori to support Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993 and Local Government (Rating) Act 2002. Please see the list below:

- Unoccupied Māori Freehold Land – ML21/01
- Remission of Rates for Papakāinga and Other Housing on Māori Freehold Land - Part Occupied Land – ML21/02

- Enabling Housing Development of Māori Freehold Land – R23/15
- Treaty Settlement Land – R21/14
- Common use policy – R21/06

In the future, all Far North District Council whenua Māori policies will be reviewed with Te Pae o Uta Framework. However, in the interim, the Remission of Rates for Papakāinga and other Housing on Māori Freehold land - Part Occupied Land – ML21/02 needs to be reviewed immediately.

MATAPAKI ME NGĀ KŌWHIRINGA / DISCUSSION AND NEXT STEPS

To discuss the review and recommended amendments to the policy to be tabled at Council.

PĀNGA PŪTEA ME NGĀ WĀHANGA TAHUA / FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGETARY PROVISION

Nil

ĀPITIHINGA / ATTACHMENTS

1. Rating Relief Proposed Changes ML2102 - A4475267 [↓](#) 
2. Rating-Relief-Policies-2021-31 - A4475266 [↓](#) 

ML21/02 – PROPOSED CHANGES

Policy Objectives

1. To put in place processes to allow the Governing Trusts to pay their portion of rates in respect of the land that they occupy on behalf of the whānau
2. To put in place processes to allow residents with tenancy agreements, occupation licenses or other informal arrangements to pay their portion of rates in respect of the land that they occupy.

Conditions and Criteria

1. The part of the land concerned must be the subject of a Tenancy agreement arrangement for the purposes of providing residential housing for the occupier on a rental basis
2. The part of the land concerned must be the subject of a licence to occupy or other informal arrangement for the purposes of providing residential housing for the occupier on a rent-free basis.
3. The area of land covered by each arrangement must have a separate valuation issued by Council's valuation service providers and will be issued with a separate rate assessment pursuant to Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 Section 45 (3).
4. The occupier must agree to pay any rates assessed in respect of the part or division of the rating unit that is the subject of the application.
5. No portion of the service charges for utilities will be remitted.
6. Council reserves the right to cancel the remission on the portion of a rating unit upon which rates remain unpaid for a period of more than one month after the due date (due date can apply to the instalment date or an agreed payment plan).

Uniform Annual General Charges and other charges on the land will remain in remission so long as the occupation continues to comply with the conditions and criteria of this policy

ML21/02 - Māori Freehold Land used for the purposes of Papakainga or other housing purposes subject to occupation licenses or other informal arrangements

Background

The Far North District Council recognises that occupation licenses, or other informal arrangements, only provide an interim or temporary right to occupy part or all of an area of Māori Freehold Land. This right is only available to the licensee, or informal occupier and does not create an interest that can be transferred or bequeathed as part of an estate.

This form of occupation is different to an occupation order, which provides a permanent right to occupy an area of land and can be passed on to future generations.

Occupation licenses are generally used to define a specific area of Māori Freehold Land that the licensee can occupy for the purposes establishing a dwelling. At the termination of the license, the dwelling has to be removed or transferred to the owners of the land.

Informal arrangements are where a person occupies an area of Māori Freehold Land for a period of time; however, has no formal agreement and no rights to permanent occupation.

The occupier of land that is the subject of an occupation license or informal agreement is generally not required to pay any rental to the owners of the land, i.e. it is not a commercial arrangement.

There is a willingness of occupiers of land that is the subject of these types of arrangements to pay rates in respect of the area of land that they occupy. However, there is a concern that these "parts" may become liable for the UAGC and other non-service-related charges assessed on the basis of a separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit.

This policy statement has been prepared to address these issues. It recognises that papakainga and similar housing on Māori Freehold Land are generally occupied by members of owner's families and no rentals are payable.

The policy is consistent in effect to the treatment of multiple housing on general title land, where the separate parts are occupied on a rent-free basis by members of the owner's family.

To assist the occupiers pay the rates of the parts of a rating unit that are the subject of occupation licenses, Council will issue a separate rate assessment for each part as set out in Section 45 (3) and (4) of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.

Policy Objectives

1. To put in place processes to allow the residents with occupation licenses or other informal arrangements to pay their portion of rates in respect of the land that they occupy.
2. To assist Māori to establish papakāinga or other housing on Māori Freehold Land.
3. To assist Māori to establish an economic base for future development.

Scope

This policy applies only to **Māori Freehold Land**.

Policy Statement

The Far North District Council recognises that the imposition of multiple UAGCs or other non-service-related charges might act as a disincentive to Māori seeking to occupy Māori Freehold Land for housing purposes.

Council will consider applications for the remission of multiple UAGCs and other charges, with the exception of those that are set for the provision of utilities such as water, sewerage etc., in respect of separately used or inhabited parts of a rating unit where these are covered by occupation licenses, or other informal arrangements.

Conditions and Criteria

1. The part of the land concerned must be the subject of a licence to occupy or other informal arrangement for the purposes of providing residential housing for the occupier on a rent-free basis.
2. The area of land covered by each arrangement must have a separate valuation issued by Council's valuation service providers and will be issued with a separate rate assessment pursuant to Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 Section 45 (3).
3. The occupier must agree to pay any rates assessed in respect of the part or division of the rating unit that is the subject of the application.
4. No portion of the service charges for utilities will be remitted.
5. Council reserves the right to cancel the remission on the portion of a rating unit upon which rates remain unpaid for a period of more than one month after the due date (due date can apply to the instalment date or an agreed payment plan).
6. Uniform Annual General Charges and other charges on the land will remain in remission so long as the occupation continues to comply with the conditions and criteria of this policy.

6.3 REVIEW OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN COUNCIL, AND IWI AND HAPŪ

File Number: A4476213

Author: Llani Harding, Pouhautu Te Hono - Manager - Te Hono

Authoriser: Jacine Warmington, Group Manager - Strategic Relationships

TAKE PŪRONGO / PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To discuss a formal review of the current Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Council and Hapū, Iwi and Tangata Whenua partners in our hapori of the Far North district.

WHAKARĀPOPOTO MATUA / EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Te Pae o Uta framework provides an opportunity to formally review our present MoU agreements with Hapū and Iwi while providing the opportunity for engagement with other Hapū and Iwi (Tangata Whenua partners) who have not had a formal agreement with the Far North District Council (FNDC) in the past.

There are several types of agreements that the FNDC can consider when discussing the review of the current MoU. Memorandum of Understanding, Memorandum of Partnership (MoP) and Charter of Understanding (CoU) are types of relationship agreements that are all used to provide a platform for a relationship between local government and Tāngata Whenua partners (Marae/Hapū/Iwi). Each agreement type is tailored to suit the unique dynamics and objectives of their respective partnerships.

The main distinction between MoUs, MoPs and CoUs lies in their purpose and level of specificity. MoUs and CoUs are typically broader, non-binding agreements that outline cooperation or collaboration, offering flexibility and adaptability. MoPs are more focused, detailing specific procedures and participation guidelines. It is important to note that for an agreement to be legally binding, it requires certain elements, such as an offer, acceptance, consideration, and an intention to create legal relations and meet the legal jurisdiction in which it is formed.

The Council's MoUs are currently up for review, and all the existing agreements are now outdated. If these agreements remain unchanged, each of the five agreements will need to undergo an individual review and need to be signed by the CEO Guy Holroyd.

TŪTOHUNGA / RECOMMENDATION

That the Te Kuaka – Te Ao Māori Committee;
receive this report *and*

endorse the approach of developing a Charter of Understanding outlining Councils broader approach to partnership, with specific Memorandum of Partnerships (MoPs) attached and tailored to Iwi and Hapū partners.

TĀHUHU KŌRERO / BACKGROUND

There are several councils in Aotearoa that use all three different relationship types - MoU, MoP and CoU. Examples of these relationships can be found in the LGNZ Council – Māori participation agreement, please see examples below:

1. Wellington City Council has an MoU with two mandated Iwi post-settlement governance entities Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira and Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust. The new draft MoU includes capacity funding agreements.

2. The Auckland Council has a Mana Whenua relationship agreement template for the purposes of entering into relationship agreements with Mana Whenua.
3. Kāpiti Coast has an MoP in place with each three Iwi. The partnership is managed by the Council partnership committee.
4. A Charter of Understanding (CoU) was established between seven Councils (Environment Southland, Invercargill District Council, Gore District Council, Southland District Council, Queenstown Lakes, Clutha District Council and Otago Regional Council) and Ngāi Tahu ki Murihiku. Te Ao Marama Inc. represents the four Murihiku Rūnanga and is the point of contact for all resource consent applications.

It is important to note that while various Councils have distinct relationship agreements, we lack awareness of the effectiveness of each relationship agreement.

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) is a non-binding preliminary stage of an agreement between two or more parties that outline the terms and details of a specific partnership or collaboration. In addition, an MoU serves as a formal way to establish mutual goals, responsibilities, and expectations between Hapū and Iwi, without creating a legally binding document.

The Far North District Council acknowledge and respect the interests of Hapū and Iwi and uphold those obligations to Hapū and Iwi under Te Tiriti o Waitangi and sections of the Local Government Act 2002.

The Far North District Council uses MoU with Hapū, Iwi and Tāngata whenua partners in the following ways:

- To build and formalise relationships between Hapū, Iwi, Rūnanga and Iwi Chairs forum
- To outline cultural partnerships which acknowledge the significance of Te Ao Māori, He Whakaputanga 1835 and Te Tiriti (which can outline commitments to the principles of partnership, participation and protection under Te Tiriti)
- To facilitate collaboration and cooperation on various initiatives such as resource management of cultural and natural resources, economic development and social programmes including land use and conservation
- Cultural preservation of tikanga, kawa and customary practice in their area
- Collective representation to advocate the interests of their Whānau, Hapū and Iwi to protect their cultural and economic rights

Local Government Act 2002

Under section 4, Local Government Act 2002, Council must take appropriate account of the principles of Te Tiriti to maintain and improve opportunities for Māori to contribute to local government decision-making processes. Part 2, and 6 of the Act outlines the Council principles and requirements for local authorities, aiming to foster Māori participation.

Far North District Council

The Far North District Council has recently implemented its 'Te Pae o Uta Framework' which acknowledges the Council's vision of 'He Whenua Rangatira', the mission of 'He Ara Tāmata' and values of Manawatōpū. Kaitiakitanga, Mana Tāngata, Te Tiriti, Tū tāngata and Whanaungatanga. The framework also provides specific whāinga to increase key relationships between the following groups:

- Mana whenua partners (Tāngata whenua)
- Hapū working groups
- Iwi entities
- Whānau groups
- Te Kahu o Taonui
- ILGACE

- Te Oneroa ā Tohe Beach Board
- Te Kuaka

In addition, the overall framework has several distinguishing elements:

- It recognises He Whakaputanga o te Rangatiratanga o Nu Tirenī (Declaration of Independence) and Te Tiriti o Waitangi (Treaty of Waitangi) as the founding covenants of Te Tai Tokerau and Aotearoa respectively
- It acknowledges the importance of relationships both tangible and intangible e.g., ngā atua, whenua, mauri o te wai, taiao (oranga taiao, oranga tāngata)
- It focuses on the pursuit of excellence in the Te Ao Māori space
- It values Te Ao Māori and requires Far North District Council (FNDC) staff to understand key Māori concepts and practices
- It acknowledges kōrero tuku iho at FNDC by recognising Iwi and Hapū kōrero

Current MoU Agreements

The Far North District Council has entered into the following individual MoU agreements:

- Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Hine signed 13 May 2016
- Te Rūnanga o Te Rarawa signed 18 February 2015
- Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa
- Te Whiu Hapū signed 4 February 2017
- Whanaungatanga ki Taurangi signed 31 January 2019

All the above MoUs are currently outdated.

MATAPAKI ME NGĀ KŌWHIRINGA / DISCUSSION AND NEXT STEPS

It is an opportune time to conduct a review of existing but outdated MoU now that Te Pae o Uta framework has been confirmed.

The reasons for the recommendation are as follows:

- Enable greater recognition of our enduring relationship with Tangata Whenua of Te Tai Tokerau
- Align to the Long-Term Plan and Te Pae o Uta in enabling a Partnership approach alongside Iwi and Hapū
- Enable a cohesive approach to understanding and recognising enduring relationships with Iwi as opposed to an ad-hoc approach to forming relationships
- Enable better administration and collaborative approaches to monitoring work programmes and functions between partners
- Support consistency across council in how agreements are developed and implemented
- Utilise Iwi and Hapū time and experience efficiently by enabling standard communication protocols and an opportunity to hui kanohi ki te kanohi regularly.

The proposed next steps are:

1. Roadshow with Iwi and hapū organisations to establish Relationships and discuss a mutual way forward in developing the Relationship.
2. Develop a Charter that commits FNDC to honour an enduring relationship between Council and Iwi, Hapū, and Māori communities (including marae and whānau).

3. Develop MoU tailored and specific to each Iwi, hapu and whanau that wish to enter into a working relationship with Council (specific work programmes applicable).

PĀNGA PŪTEA ME NGĀ WĀHANGA TAHUA / FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGETARY PROVISION

A budget to accommodate the financial implications has been submitted for consideration in Council's long-term plan. The budget would cover both Charter development discussions (Whanaungatanga funding) and MoU discussions (Kaupapa funding).

ĀPITI HANGA / ATTACHMENTS

Nil

6.4 TE KAHU O TAONUI - TAILO PORTAL UPDATE

File Number: A4480772

Author: Imrie Dunn, Democracy Advisor

Authoriser: Casey Gannon, Manager - Democracy Services

TAKE PŪRONGO / PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to update and inform the Te Kuaka – Te Ao Māori Committee on the progress of the Taiao Portal.

WHAKARĀPOPOTO MATUA / EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A web-based Taiao Portal, presents tāngata whenua with an opportunity to improve working relationships with Council and enhance their participation in resource management and decision-making processes.

TŪTOHUNGA / RECOMMENDATION

That the Te Kuaka – Te Ao Māori Committee receive the report Te Kahu o Taonui - Taiao Portal Update.

TĀHUHU KŌRERO / BACKGROUND

As part of the Better off Funding Package, Te Kahu o Taonui, in collaboration with the Far North District Council, is to develop a web-based Taiao Portal to enable iwi/hapū/whānau to have better access to environmental data and to facilitate engagement on other environmental matters.

MATAPAKI ME NGĀ KŌWHIRINGA / DISCUSSION AND NEXT STEPS

The engagement component of the project began with the contracting of 8 people from the 12 Te Kahu o Taonui iwi. The kaupapa is supported by a Kaumātua Kāhui and more recently a Taiao Technical Table of resource management specialists has been included.

The Taiao Portal is a website that aims to support taiao practitioners via a range of specific resources to enable their input and participation in Resource Management (RM) matters regarding, but not limited to, Te Mana o te Wai and Te Oranga o Te Taiao.

In supporting taiao practitioners the underlying kaupapa is twofold:

1. Providing access to a range of tools and templates; and
2. Building capacity and capability.

The portals construction is ongoing and will evolve as more tools and templates are developed (See Figures 1 & 2).

Based on learning from our engagement processes, there are many facets to building capacity and capability. For example, feedback from taiao practitioners has resulted in Te Kahu o Taonui hosting three introductory geographic information system (GIS) workshops to learn the foundational skills of working with GIS systems online.

Supplementary to the above, Te Kahu o Taonui is currently collaborating with Council's GIS Unit to provide access to better spatial data as they develop more effective resource consent (RC) maps.

The purpose of this project is to put RCs on a map so that users can see the spatial relationship between individual RCs in an area of interest. Map pop ups provide a brief summary of the RC application (See Figure 3).

Council is in the process of developing GIS Spatial Data for current RC applications.

Next Steps:

By the end of March there will be up to five resource pages completed, with good progress towards the GIS mapping components to provide more transparency for resource management processes. Over the same period engagement will occur with the Resource Management Units of two iwi to test the portal and further guide its development.

Te Kahu o Taonui will provide updated developments to Te Kuaka at their February 2024 Committee meeting.

PĀNGA PŪTEA ME NGĀ WĀHANGA TAHUA / FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGETARY PROVISION

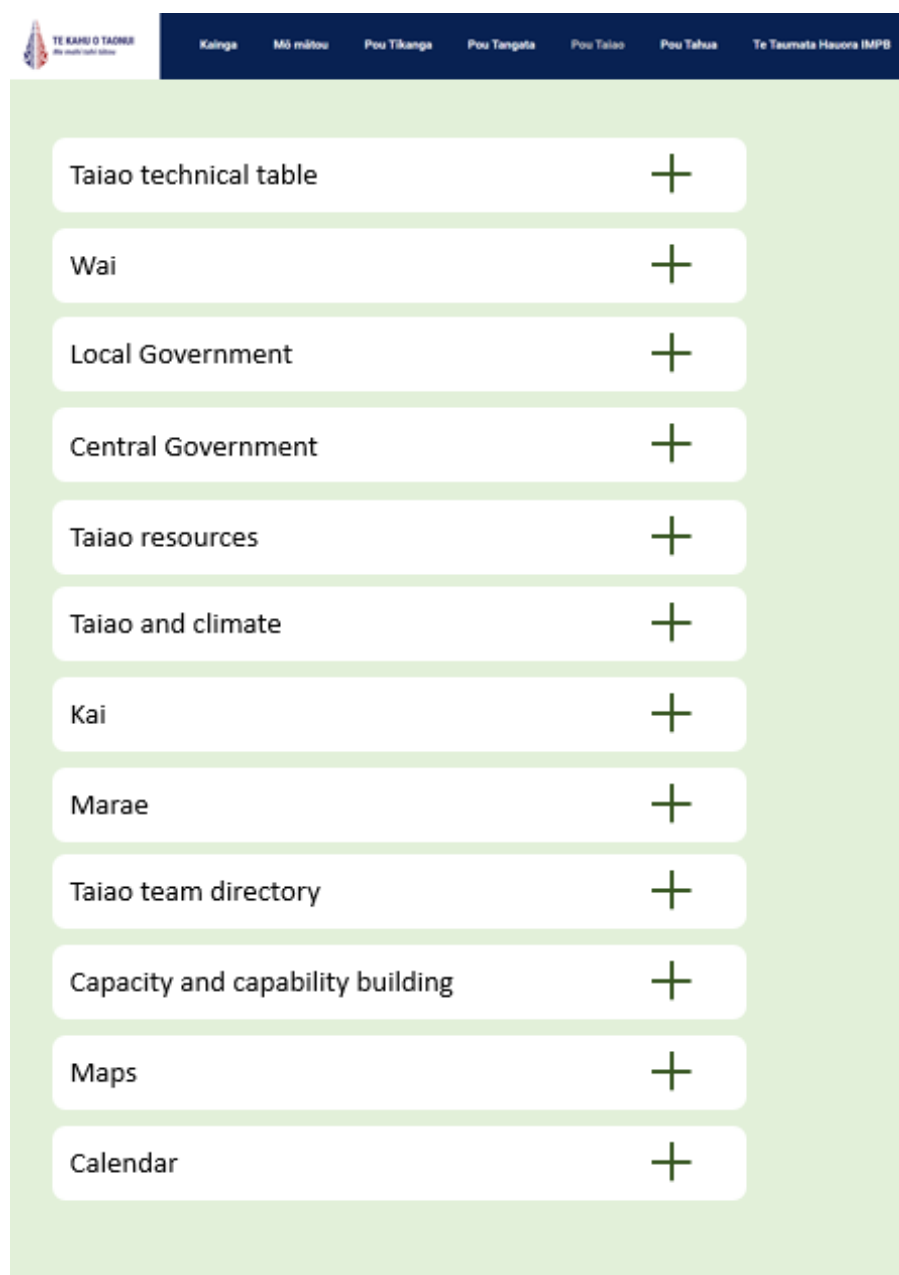
There are no financial implications for Council and collaboration to maintain synergies with Te Hono is ongoing.


CONCLUSION

While other Better off Funding projects are focussed on the necessary infrastructural improvements, this project focuses on improving systems and processes to enable tāngata whenua to be more effective (and efficient) in resource management decision-making processes.

ĀPITI HANGA / ATTACHMENTS

1. **Figure 1- Portal mock identifying range of potential resources - A4484228**
2. **Figure 2-The marae page of the portal (under development) - A4484226**
3. **Figure 3- GIS Spatial Data re Resource Consents since 2019 (under development) - A4484225**





TE KAITIAKI
Te Kaitiaki o Te Kaitiaki

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Marae Resilience


This page explores the impact of Cyclone Gabrielle on Marae and explores how marae may again be at the centre of vibrant kāinga.

The Covid 19 pandemic reminded the community of the importance of Marae as community hubs, especially in rural areas. That reminder was dramatically reinforced with the arrival on these shores of Cyclone Gabrielle. She is the most devastating weather event in living memory, eclipsing the impact of Cyclone Bola.

These environmental challenges coincide with the return of people to their kāinga. The urban drift of the second half of the twentieth century has reached full tide and is now receding. Another trend is the increasing availability of remote work enabling those with the skills to work from home. This confluence presents the opportunity not only to further equip Marae for emergency preparedness, but also to rebuild local economies around the marae and to revitalise our rural communities.

Image: Flooding of Naumai Marae, north of Ruawai during Cyclone Gabrielle. Credit Kelly Retimana.





Marae Emergency Preparedness and Response

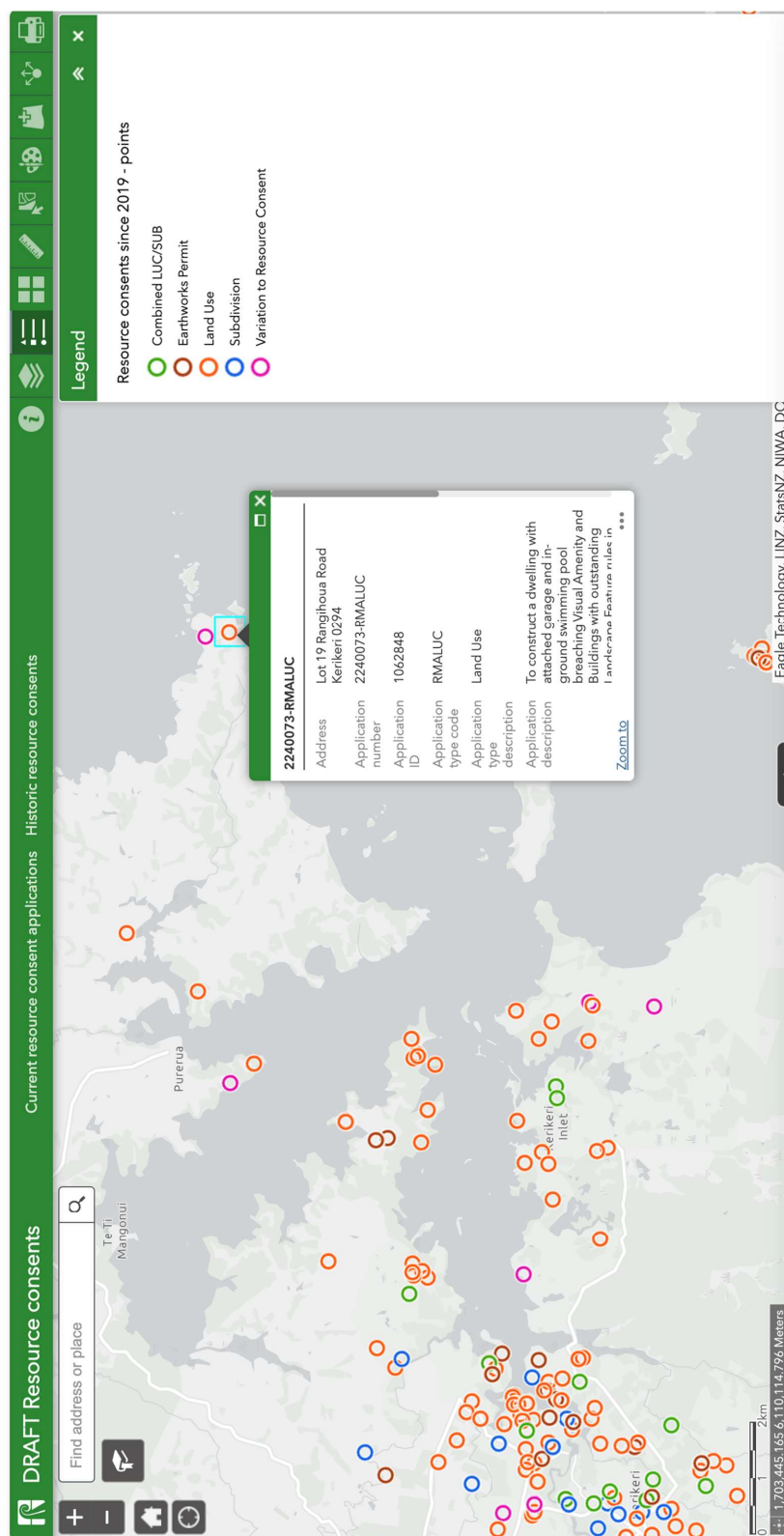
Celebrating Marae and how they responded to Cyclone Gabrielle, including resources of learnings from the cyclone.

Marae Futures

What might the future of our Marae look like?

Marae of Te Tai Tokerau

Te Tai Tokerau has over 180 Marae. Want to know more? Maori Maps, and Te Puni Kōkiri have GIS maps with information about each Marae.



6.5 NGA TAKE MAORI / MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE TO MAORI

File Number: A4483426

Author: Marlema Baker, Democracy Advisor

Authoriser: Jacine Warmington, Group Manager - Strategic Relationships

TAKE PŪRONGO / PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To provide the Te Kuaka Te Ao Māori Committee (Te Kuaka) with bi-monthly (every 2nd month) updates on Ngā Tāke Māori / Matters of Importance to Māori, as a mechanism to communicate progress.

WHAKARĀPOOTO MATUA / EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Te Kuaka is committed to ensuring that the work of the Committee is carried out in a way that enhances the social, economic, cultural, and environmental wellbeing of the Far North District and assist Council as appropriate in conducting and maintaining effective, good faith working relationships with the Māori community.
- Ngā Tāke Māori / Matters of Importance to Māori are raised at Council meetings and/or by the Kahika/Mayor and Councillors, Te Kahu o Taonui Iwi Representatives or members of the public. This report serves as a mechanism to provide Te Kuaka Committee with regular updates on those matters.
- Updates will be provided bi-monthly as requested by the Committee.

TŪTOHUNGA / RECOMMENDATION

That the Te Kuaka – Te Ao Māori Committee receive the report Nga Take Maori / Matters of Importance to Maori.

TĀHUHU KŌRERO / BACKGROUND

At the 15 December 2022 Council meeting, a resolution was passed to establish Te Kuaka - Te Ao Māori Committee (Te Kuaka) and that a Terms of Reference (ToR) be prepared for adoption by Council at a later date. Using information from a staff facilitated workshop held 16 May 2023 which included the Mayor, Councillors and representatives from Te Kahu o Taonui (TKoT) a Terms of Reference (ToR) was developed and then adopted by Council on 29 June 2023.

The purpose of Te Kuaka Te Ao Māori Committee is to strengthen a Te Ao Māori perspective within Council decision making across policies and strategies. Its responsibilities include:

- Ensure that the work of Te Kuaka is carried out in a way that enhances the social, economic, cultural, and environmental wellbeing of the Far North District
- Mahi ngātahi mā te huihui, wānanga – recommend to Council, aspects of importance to Māori for incorporation into the development of the Strategic documents (e.g., Te Ao Māori Framework, Annual Plan, Long Term Plan, District Plan)
- Manaaki – to assist Council as appropriate in conducting and maintaining effective, good faith working relationships with the Māori community (e.g., Iwi Hapu Environmental Management Plans).
- Recommend to Council aspects that the Far North District Council could pursue to develop and or enhance Māori capacity to contribute to Council's decision-making processes.

MATAPAKI ME NGĀ KŌWHIRINGA / DISCUSSION AND NEXT STEPS

This is to provide an update on items previously considered at Te Kuaka Te Ao Māori Committee meetings.





Resource Consent Conditions – Kohukohu / Opononi

- After a workshop was held in August 2023 with Te Kuaka, new proposed consent conditions were sent out for feedback from submitters ([Microsoft Word - Minute 2 - FNDC - 6 July 2023 \(nrc.govt.nz\)](#) (*Attachment 8*))
- The Hearing that was adjourned in May this year was reconvened online by the Hearing Commissioners ([Microsoft Word - Minute 3 - FNDC - 2 Oct 2023 \(nrc.govt.nz\)](#) (*Attachment 9*)) and Far North District Council (FNDC) had the opportunity to prepare a right of reply. The right of reply was submitted to the Northland Regional Council (NRC) on Friday 27th October 2023.
- On Wednesday 8th November 2023, the Commissioners closed the hearing. NRC's Consents Administrator advised that the decision on the applications by the Commissioner's should be issued within statutory timeframes which we understand to be no later than Thursday 30th November 2023. Therefore, on 30 November 2023, the NRC must ensure that a copy of the decisions on the applications for resource consents, and a statement of the time within which an appeal against the decision may be lodged, is served on the FNDC as the Applicant.
- Notice of the decision and a statement of the time within which an appeal against the decision may be lodged must also be served on submitters, and any other persons and authorities that NRC considers appropriate. The notice served on submitters must;
 - make a copy of the decision available (whether physically or by electronic means) at all NRC offices and all public libraries in the region; and
 - include information on the places where a copy of the decision is available; and
 - send or provide, on request, a copy of the decision within 3 working days after the request is received.
- Where possible, future updates will be provided to Te Kuaka until a resolution has been reached and this matter has been concluded.

PĀNGA PŪTEA ME NGĀ WĀHANGA TAHUA / FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGETARY PROVISION

There are no financial implications or the need for budgetary provision as a result of this report.

ĀPITI HANGA / ATTACHMENTS

1. **Attachment 1 - Nga Take Maori - Resource Consent Conditions - KohukohuOpononi - Minute-no 2 - A4486314**  
2. **Attachment 2 - Nga Take Maori - Resource Consent Conditions - Kohukohu-Opononi - Minute-no 3 - A4486317**  

NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT
COMBINED HEARING OF RESOURCE CONSENT APPLICATIONS
APP.003839.01.03 AND APP.002667.01.04
BY THE FAR NORTH DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTE #2 OF THE HEARING COMMISSIONERS

1. The function of this Minute is to give notice for resumption of the combined hearing of resource consent applications APP.03839.01.03 and APP.002667.01.04 for the Ōmāpere/Opononi and Kohukohu wastewater treatment plants at **11 am on Thursday 12 October 2023** at the South Hokianga Memorial Hall, Opononi, to hear from the Northland Regional Council's (NRC) Reporting Officer and the Far North District Council's right of reply.
2. The Far North District Council has advised revised sets of proposed conditions addressing matters raised during the hearing will be provided to the NRC by **Friday 11 August 2023**.
3. The NRC will promptly circulate the revised proposed conditions to submitters for their consideration and written comment. Any written comments from submitters relating to the revised conditions must be provided to the NRC by **Friday 22 September 2023**.
4. As discussed during the hearing, submitters may wish to take this opportunity to provide written comments on the revised conditions or to suggest alternative conditions to address adverse effects, but this is not a requirement. All submissions received and appearances made at the hearing in May 2023 will be taken into consideration in determining the consents sought regardless of whether further written comments are provided on the revised conditions. It is acknowledged that any written comments received will not negate any submissions made or change the relief sought, unless otherwise stated in further written comments on conditions. Submitters must provide written comments on the revised conditions only and avoid restating submissions made at the May 2023 hearing.
5. As stated at the May 2023 hearing, any focus on proposed conditions of consent at the hearing is undertaken on a 'without prejudice' basis and does not indicate any predetermination that consents sought will be granted by the Hearing Panel.
6. At the reconvened hearing on 12 October 2023, we will hear from the Far North District Council in relation to any further written comments on conditions received from submitters, followed by the NRC Reporting Officer. The NRC Reporting Officer will have the opportunity to address further written comments on conditions from submitters and to provide updates to the s42A report and recommendations. The Far North District Council will then have the opportunity to provide a right of reply addressing any matters raised. The hearing will then be adjourned to enable us to undertake our deliberations and provide our written decision on both applications.

7. If any party wishes to seek further clarification in relation to this Minute or the hearing process please contact Ms Sluys in the first instance, by email: alissas@nrc.govt.nz or phone 09 4701200 or toll free on 0800 002 004.

DATED 7 July 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. McGarry', is written on a light yellow rectangular background.

Sharon McGarry (Chair)
On behalf of the Hearing Commissioners

NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT
COMBINED HEARING OF RESOURCE CONSENT APPLICATIONS
APP.003839.01.03 AND APP.002667.01.04
BY THE FAR NORTH DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTE #3 OF THE HEARING COMMISSIONERS

1. The Hearing Panel has received the revised sets of proposed conditions from the Far North District Council ('the Applicant') addressing matters raised during the combined hearing for the above resource consent applications.
2. The Hearing Panel has subsequently received further written comments on the revised condition sets from 25 submitters to the applications.
3. The Hearing Panel acknowledges the amendments made to the proposed condition sets and the significant reduction of the consent terms sought from 35 years to 3 years in response to submissions made at the hearing.
4. As outlined in Minute 2, the Hearing Panel gave notice of its intention to resume the combined hearing on 12 October 2023 to hear from the Northland Regional Council's (NRC) Reporting Officer and the Far North District Council's right of reply. However, having considered the extent of the Applicant's proposed amendments and the further written comments received from submitters, the Hearing Panel considers the hearing process can be efficiently and effectively completed in writing without resuming the hearing.
5. In making the decision to complete the hearing in writing, the Hearing Panel has had regard to the principles of natural justice and whether any party would be prejudiced by taking this approach. The Hearing Panel concludes that receiving a written response from the NRC Reporting Officer and a written right of reply from the Applicant is appropriate and will avoid the costs of reconvening the hearing.
6. The Hearing Panel directs the NRC Reporting Officer to provide a written Addendum to the s42A Report addressing matters raised in the hearing, the revised sets of conditions, further comments from submitters and a final recommendation by **Friday 13 October 2023**. The Hearing Panel highlights matters raised in the hearing in relation to the relevant objectives and policies of the Proposed Regional Plan for Northland 2017 (particularly Policies D.1.4, D.4.1, D.4.3, D.4.4 and D.4.7A) and requests the Reporting Officer provides an updated analysis of the amended applications. The Hearing Panel also requests an update of the most up to date plan version and any appeals.
7. The Hearing Panel directs the Applicant to provide a written right of reply and a final sets of proposed consent conditions by **Friday 27 October 2023**. The Hearing Panel requests that the Applicant includes a summary of the any works undertaken at the WWTPs since the adjournment of the hearing and an update of any compliance monitoring undertaken.

8. If any party wishes to seek further clarification in relation to this Minute or the hearing process please contact Ms Sluys in the first instance, by email: alissas@nrc.govt.nz or phone 09 4701200 or toll free on 0800 002 004.

DATED 3 October 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. McGarry', is displayed on a light yellow rectangular background.

Sharon McGarry (Chair)
On behalf of the Hearing Commissioners

- 7 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA / CLOSING PRAYER**
- 8 TE KAPINGA HUI / MEETING CLOSE**