

## Council Briefing Agenda

**Date:** Wednesday, 5 February, 2020

**Time:** 9:00 am

**Location:** Council Chamber  
Forum North, Rust Avenue  
Whangarei

**Elected Members:** Her Worship the Mayor Sheryl Mai  
(Chairperson)  
Cr Gavin Benney  
Cr Vince Cocurullo  
Cr Nicholas Connop  
Cr Ken Couper  
Cr Tricia Cutforth  
Cr Shelley Deeming  
Cr Jayne Golightly  
Cr Phil Halse  
Cr Greg Innes  
Cr Greg Martin  
Cr Anna Murphy  
Cr Carol Peters  
Cr Simon Reid

For any queries regarding this meeting please contact  
the Whangarei District Council on (09) 430-4200.

**1. Apologies**

**2. Reports**

2.1 Climate Change Briefing

1

2.2 Update on Whangarei District Growth Strategy

11

**3. Closure of Meeting**

## 2.1 Climate Change Briefing

<b>Meeting:</b>	Council Briefing
<b>Date of meeting:</b>	5 February 2020
<b>Reporting officers:</b>	Tony Horton (Manager - Strategy) Bernadette Aperahama (Senior Strategic Planner) Hamish Sykes (Graduate Strategic Planner)

### 1 Purpose

- To update elected members on recent central government activity on climate change;
- Familiarise elected members with the climate change work that Council has undertaken to date;
- Share the key messages that have been developed to support consistent climate change messaging across Te Tai Tokerau;
- Note discussions regarding an inter-council climate change Joint Standing Committee; and
- Seek feedback from the elected members on the proposed approach to develop a Climate Action Plan.

### 2 Background

In 2017, Council directed staff to develop a two-part climate change strategy incorporating a Corporate sustainability strategy and a climate change adaptation strategy. Since then staff have delivered a Corporate Sustainability Strategy and have begun working on climate change adaptation strategies at both a regional and district level. There have been recent changes to the government's climate change programme that the climate change work programme must address.

### 3 Central Government activity

New Zealand's climate change programme includes both reducing greenhouse gas (GHGs) emissions (mitigation) and preparing for changes we are already seeing and will continue to experience (adaptation). There have been a number of recent developments in this area.

#### 3.1 Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019.

Below are the key components of the recent amendments to the legislation:

- a new statutory domestic GHGs reduction target for New Zealand to:
  - reduce net emissions of all GHGs (except biogenic methane) to zero by 2050
  - 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
- establish emissions budgets to act as stepping stones towards the long-term target;
- the Government is required to develop and implement policies for climate change adaptation and mitigation;
- the establishment of an independent Climate Change Commission to provide expert advice and monitoring to help keep successive governments on track to meeting long-term

mitigation and adaptation goals. The permanent membership of the Climate Change Commission was established in mid-December.<sup>1</sup>

### 3.2 Climate Change Response (Emissions Trading Reform) Amendment Bill

The New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme (the NZ ETS) is New Zealand's main tool for reducing GHG emissions. The changes proposed by the Bill was introduced to Parliament in October 2019 and aim to strengthen and improve the operation of the ETS. You can read the detail about proposed amendments to the ETS here:

<http://www.legislation.govt.nz/bill/government/2019/0186/latest/d9470768e2.html>

Other policy actions by central government include phasing out off-shore oil and gas exploration; promotion of electric vehicles; improvements to public transport, walking and cycling infrastructure; investments in forestry; establishment of a \$100m green investment fund, New Zealand Green Investment Finance, to promote commercial co-investment in companies, projects and technologies that facilitate or provide lower emissions benefits.<sup>2</sup>

## 4 Whangarei District Council Decisions and Actions

Council has been working on aspects of climate change for many years but stepped up its programme in 2017. A timeline of actions taken and decisions made by Council in relation to climate change are provided in **Attachment One**.

## 5 Whangarei District Council current work programme

Council's work programme covers both mitigation and adaptation. This approach aligns with advice from Local Government New Zealand and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that (transformative) mitigation action and complementary adaptation action is required<sup>3</sup>.

### 5.1 Adaptation

Adaptation is the process of adjustment to actual or expected climate change and its effects. It is the actions taken to manage the unavoidable impacts of climate change which will be cultural, economic, environmental, social. Local government has responsibilities for managing natural hazard risks, land use and infrastructure planning and civil defence preparation.

Due to past emissions, a certain amount of change has already occurred and will continue to occur for some time. New Zealand and Northland is already experiencing change. You can read more about that from these sources:

- <https://www.mfe.govt.nz/climate-change/likely-impacts-of-climate-change/likely-climate-change-impacts-nz>
- <https://niwa.co.nz/climate-change>

There is uncertainty about the exact amount of warming and when it will happen. Despite the uncertainty, Council needs to be informed and prepared in order to manage associated risks - this is the basis for adaptation planning.

Councils own a lot of assets. These assets support our communities and come at a cost. As an example, in a scenario where we experience 0.5m of sea level rise (SLR), the estimated

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.mfe.govt.nz/climate-change/zero-carbon-amendment-act>

<sup>2</sup> Legal Opinion, 'Climate change risk – implications for New Zealand company directors and managed investment scheme providers', Chapman Tripp, October 2019  
<https://www.chapmantripp.com/Publication%20PDFs/Chapman%20Tripp%20Aotearoa%20Circle%20Climate%20Change%20Risk%20Legal%20Opinion.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.lgnz.co.nz/assets/Uploads/d566cc5291/47716-LGNZ-Sea-Level-Rise-Report-3-Proof-FINAL-compressed.pdf>

replacement value of Three Waters infrastructure in Whangarei will be approximately \$37million. At 1.0m SLR the cost will be approximately \$62million. These are initial estimations and do not include the true cost of fixing the lost functionality of the network in those SLR scenarios or consequences such as the loss of habitable housing for our community.

Adaptation plans and reporting are mandatory for Councils through the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon Bill) Amendment Act. We require a range of adaptation responses that can be tailored to how climate impacts pan out such as:

- Accommodate (e.g. infrastructure and community resilience – ‘safe to fail’)
- Protect (e.g. sea/flood walls)
- Retreat (e.g. managed retreat)
- Avoid (e.g. planning restrictions)

To help us make effective decisions we need to gather data and undertake risk assessments, we need to understand the information that we collect; and we need a decision-making framework (methodology for planning and implementation).

In response to these requirements, two key projects are underway:

### **Adaptation Project 1: Regional adaptation strategy**

Established in July 2018, the Tai Tokerau Councils Climate Change Adaptation Group includes staff from the four Northland Councils, the Four Waters Advisory Group, the Northland Transport Alliance and more recently representatives from iwi and hapu within Tai Tokerau. The group reports to the Chief Executive’s forum. The group aims to:

- Ensure consistent approaches to climate change adaptation (including responses to government policy)
- Share resources / avoid duplication / coordinate actions
- Identify and address shared priorities
- Develop a draft climate change adaptation strategy & implementation plan.

The main aims of the strategy are to:

1. Describe adaptation measures and approaches to building resilience
2. Identify priority areas for action, based on an assessment of risks to our environment, economy, infrastructure and social and cultural wellbeing
3. Propose resourcing requirements to be considered through individual Councils Long Term Plan process.

If supported the strategy will be worked through with respective councils and released as a draft for public and community input in conjunction with the councils 2021 Long Term Plans. The strategy will be reviewed and updated as we learn more about climate change impacts and risks.

### **Adaptation Project 2: District adaptation strategy**

The initial risk assessments at a regional level will identify priority areas to focus on at a District level. The regional adaptation strategy will also define the methodology and data sets that we use at District level to ensure we have greater consistency across the three Northland District Councils.

With the risk areas identified and the data and methodology in place, we will work with elected members on the direction we take to adaptation and how we work with communities of the priority areas to develop finer grained information, identify options in response and discuss how those options will be resourced.

While the regional strategy is in development, our first step at a District level is a stock take of climate change related work currently underway in our business. We want to know where climate change is currently being considered in our business and where it should be considered.

This work programme will help inform planning decision making and the direction of future Long Term Plans.

## 5.2 Mitigation

The term ‘mitigation’ refers to human intervention to reduce the sources or enhance the sinks or removal of greenhouse gases.<sup>4</sup> Mitigation limits the magnitude of future warming.

### Why is mitigation an important action for Local Government?

Local and regional councils across New Zealand are taking urgent action towards reducing the GHG emissions of their organisations and their communities.<sup>5</sup> In Whangarei, Council is a large employer, consumer, customer, major owner of assets and a major energy user in a growing district so our ability to support and coordinate action in Whangarei to transition to zero carbon future is extensive. Other Councils (such as Auckland Council) see the next few years being critical as major changes take time to implement and decisions that we make now can lock us into high emissions for a long time. Through amendments to the NZETS, organisations will be responsible for the GHG emissions they produce. Reducing our GHG emissions will ensure we do our part to avoid the worst impacts of climate change while opening other co-benefits such as reduced costs, improved health outcomes, waste minimisation, improved amenity and the creation of new jobs and skills. These essentially add to the liveability of the District.

Two key projects address mitigation.

- 1) Corporate Sustainability Strategy – adopted Nov 2018
- 2) District Climate Action Plan

## 5.3 Approach to develop a Climate Action Plan.

Council committed to developing an action plan through the declaration of a climate emergency. Recognising the emergency situation and the collective effort needed to correct the trajectory of our future, the action plan must be transformative, exercise all avenues available to us through our operations and importantly, co-developed with our hapū partners and the community.

By involving more people we get diversity of ideas of other participants. Our community have a strong awareness of climate change and this is therefore a good opportunity for them to engage on this issue. Generally, there is also an expectation of public input into the development of the action plan<sup>6</sup> as has happened in the work of councils such Queenstown Lakes District, Dunedin City, Nelson, Auckland<sup>7</sup>

Since 2017 staff and Elected Members have been building relationships with sector representatives who work in the climate change realm. These relationships will be important when inviting those sectors to join the engagement, buy in, develop and commit to the action plan. It is clear that responding to the climate emergency requires a collective effort. In recognising the urgent need to act, local organisations such as Northland District Health Board and Northland Regional Council are already committed to significantly cutting their emissions<sup>8</sup>. By working across

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.lgnz.co.nz/assets/Uploads/6ed34721bd/LGNZ-2019-CC-guidance-document-FULL.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <https://our.nelson.govt.nz/media-releases-2/climate-actions-speak-louder-than-words/>  
[http://infocouncil.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/Open/2019/06/ENV\\_20190611\\_MIN\\_6851.PDF](http://infocouncil.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/Open/2019/06/ENV_20190611_MIN_6851.PDF)  
[https://infocouncil.dunedin.govt.nz/Open/2019/06/CNL\\_20190625\\_MIN\\_1017.PDF](https://infocouncil.dunedin.govt.nz/Open/2019/06/CNL_20190625_MIN_1017.PDF)

<sup>6</sup> Email from Extinction Rebellion to Council dated 22 August 2019.

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.dunedin.govt.nz/dunedin-city/climate-change>  
<https://www.qldc.govt.nz/your-council/your-views/draft-climate-action-plan/>  
<http://www.nelson.govt.nz/environment/climate-change/what-council-is-doing-about-climate-change/>  
<https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/have-your-say/topics-you-can-have-your-say-on/auckland-climate-action-framework/Documents/aucklands-climate-action-framework.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> For the 4th year in a row Northland District Health Board has reduced its emissions by 16% compared with 2016 (a further reduction of 7% compared with 2018) avoiding almost 1,500 tCO<sub>2</sub>e entering the atmosphere. Northland District Health Board has strengthened its carbon reduction target. The new target is halve its emissions in 2030 compared to 2016. Northland Regional Council's solar panels are powering 500km of EV travel per day.

the community, we can include some of the biggest emitters and employers in the district, and if we manage to influence at a household level then we amplify the impact of our action.

The development of an action plan could be achieved at an affordable cost as its essentially crowd-sourced. Through collaboration, there is less demand on additional resources and instead a focus on finding synergies in existing workflows.

**Attachment Three** is an example template based on the approach proposed in the Te Tai Tokerau Climate Change Action Plan, developed by communities across Northland.

After seeking public input, elected members will review and make decisions on all actions that will be owned and delivered by Council. Advice will be provided as to the likely cost, benefits and achievability of the actions. Any action plan would be dependent on funding, which would need to be considered through the Long Term Plan process. Further detail of how Council may approach the development of the action plan will be provided for discussion in the briefing presentation.

## 6 Consistent climate change messaging across Te Tai Tokerau

Consistent climate change messaging across the region is vital to give our community confidence, certainty and for simpler engagement. **Attachment Two** contains proposed high level messages to provide a baseline for communications staff across the four Northern Councils. Staff across the four Northern Councils will be sharing the key messages with the Elected Members from their respective Councils.

## 7 Consideration of an inter-council climate change adaptation Governance Group

The Northland Regional Council now has a Climate Change Working Party comprised of equal numbers of staff, councillors and Tai Tokerau Maori Advisory Committee.

The Tai Tokerau Councils Climate Change Adaptation Group currently reports to the CE's forum. Establishing a governance group for the inter-council climate change adaptation work programme has been raised several times.

Options for this will be discussed at the CE's forum on 3rd February with advice then being provided to the respective councils.

## 8 Attachments

1. Whangarei District Council Timeline
2. Key messages
3. Climate Action Plan Example



## Attachment One

### Timeline of Whangarei District Council climate change specific actions & decisions

**2017:** Council directed staff to develop a two-part climate change strategy incorporating a Corporate sustainability strategy and an adaptation strategy.

**Mid 2018 and ongoing:** recognising the importance of regional consistency and collaboration, the CE's forum established a regional group focussed on climate change adaptation.

**November 2018:** Council adopted the Corporate Sustainability strategy. It is an internally focussed strategy and action plan to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions generated by our operations. You can read it here:

<http://www.wdc.govt.nz/PlansPoliciesandBylaws/Plans/SustainabilityStrategy/Documents/Sustainability-Strategy.pdf>

A Notice of Motion including the following components:

*That as they are developed or existing are due for review and renewal, the Whangarei District Council adopts and promotes where possible new policies, plans and strategies that prioritise more sustainable practices and return improved social, financial and environmental outcomes for the Whangarei District, it's current and future residents and the Whangarei District Council as an organisation; and*

*That Staff report to Council for consideration through the next Annual Plan process the benefits and implications of the Whangarei District Council in terms of its operations seeking to become the most sustainable Council in New Zealand.*

You can read the minutes here:

<https://pub-wdc.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=889>

**March 2019:** Council became a signatory to the LGNZ Local Government Leaders' Climate Change Declaration. You can read the minutes here:

<https://pub-wdc.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=1060>

**9 May 2019:** Report 'Benefits and implications of becoming the most sustainable Council in New Zealand' was provided to Council for consideration alongside the 2019-2020 Annual Plan deliberations:

<https://pub-wdc.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=1069>

**27 June 2019:** Council approved the submission to central government on the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Bill including an amendment seeking that 'the emission target be achieved by the year 2030'. You can read the report and submission here:

<https://pub-wdc.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=1143>

And the minutes here:

<https://pub-wdc.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=1198>

**25 July 2019:** Council declares a climate emergency and directs the Chief Executive to have staff develop an action plan to support the declaration of a climate change emergency and report back to Council. You can read the report here:

<https://pub-wdc.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=1185>

And the minutes here:

<https://pub-wdc.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=1240>

**6 November 2019:** Representatives of Te Huinga join staff to collaborate on climate change actions.

**January 2020:** Corporate Sustainability Officer position is created and advertised.

**Key outstanding deadline:**

**30 April 2020:** Council has committed to delivering a climate action plan. This was a commitment through the declaration of a climate emergency.

## Attachment Two

### Proposed Climate change key messages:

The numbered key messages function as headlines which can be unpacked in further detail.

1. Climate change represents one of the greatest risks to our communities, biodiversity, economy and the life-supporting capacity of our planet. The effects of climate change are being felt across the country. Here in Te Tai Tokerau, Northland, our communities are already experiencing real changes.
2. The future physical impacts of climate change are likely to be significant and wide-ranging, and will affect our diverse communities, industries and natural environments differently.
3. Urgent action is required at all levels of government to reduce the risk of further harm. Firstly by reducing emissions that cause climate change (known as climate change mitigation) and secondly by building capacity within our communities to adapt to the effects of climate change (known as climate change adaptation).
4. Local government have an obligation to reduce their organisational greenhouse gas emissions, and central government is responsible for measures to reduce emissions of all sectors, via the Zero Carbon Act.
5. Local Government Authorities have an important role to play in climate change adaptation, including providing education and advice, as well as planning and implementing adaptation responses at a local and regional level.
6. A collaborative approach is underway to ensure an effective and coordinated response to the challenges of climate change in Te Tai Tokerau; the main output in 2020 will be a climate change adaptation strategy.
7. Together with hapū and iwi partners, our communities and central government councils need to plan for and manage impacts on the things we value and to help local communities to become more resilient.
8. For our communities to thrive into the future, we must gear up for change.

## Attachment Three

### Climate Action Plan Template Example

Theme	Action	Examples of Local Solutions	Owner/partnership	WDC role	Achieved by when?	Resourcing	How is measured?
<b><i>A theme to categorise the actions</i></b>	<b><i>Contains details of the action</i></b>	<b><i>Examples of where the action has been or could be applied with Whangarei</i></b>	<b><i>Outlines who will own the action and whether there will be delivery partners</i></b>	<b><i>Describes Whangarei District Councils role in the delivery of the action</i></b>	<b><i>Timeframe for delivery</i></b>	<b><i>What resourcing is required and who will provide it</i></b>	<b><i>How we will measure success</i></b>
Energy	Replace existing infrastructure and appliances with energy efficient models at the end of their lifespans.	Upgrading of street lights to LED	WDC	WDC owns and maintains infrastructure	Ongoing (outlined in AMPs/Infrastructure Strategy)	WDC funding through 2018-28 and 2021 – 31 LTP	Energy efficiency

## 2.2 Update on the Whangarei District Growth Strategy

<b>Meeting:</b>	Council Briefing
<b>Date of meeting:</b>	5 February 2020
<b>Reporting officer:</b>	Tony Horton (Manager – Strategy) Alicia Lawrie (Strategic Urban Designer)

### 1 Purpose

To provide an update to elected members on the Draft Whangarei District Growth Strategy and specifically the Spatial Planning Programme.

### 2 Background

Updates on the Draft Whangarei District Growth Strategy were provided to elected members at Council Briefings on the 4 December and 11 December 2019. These briefings included the following matters:

- Outline the purpose of the growth strategy
- Overview of the process and public engagement
- Overview of central government reforms
- Summary of proposed changes to the draft strategy
- Spatial planning programme

The briefing on the 11 December included a report back on key issues raised by elected members on 4 December. This included:

- Approach to affordable housing with support for this to become a separate programme of work due to its complexity and scale
- Urban stormwater with recognition that this is an ongoing work programme link to the Freshwater reforms and climate change
- Highly productive soils acknowledging our proposed approach is to continue the direction set in Sustainable Futures 30 / 50 (our current growth strategy)
- Further detail on the spatial planning programme, including two options for how to proceed:
  - 1 Officer recommended list of priority locations
  - 2 Pilot programme in Hikurangi and Parua Bay first, then begin on the recommended list of priority locations

### 3 Discussion

The proposed Spatial Planning Programme is one of the key tools to implement our Draft Whangarei District Growth Strategy and ensure we have a mechanism to plan for future development in key locations across the District. Its aim is to fill a current gap between our high-level District wide strategy and the more detailed regulatory tools of our District Plan and the implementation of infrastructure projects. It is also an important tool to enable our communities to shape how their community will develop in the long term.

The programme will be developed through a multidisciplinary project team, and alongside external stakeholders as necessary.

In order to begin developing the spatial plans, we need certainty on the programme for our stakeholders and community. At the Council Briefing on 11 December two options were put forward, with option 1 being recommended by staff.

### **Option 1 – Priority locations based on Criteria included in the Draft Whangarei District Growth Strategy for public Consultation**

This option outlines priority list of locations based on a series of criteria which were included in the Draft Whangarei District Growth Strategy. We consulted on this strategy and specifically ask for feedback on the Spatial Planning programme.

The criteria we use includes a mix of current and past trends as well as future focus on opportunities for a community or place:

- Population growth
- Future development opportunity/issues
- Infrastructure issues/opportunities
- Previous planning
- Community readiness/willingness

Based on this assessment the following list of priority locations was developed:

- Tikipunga
- Waipu
- Kensington
- Marsden/Ruakaka
- Maunu
- Parua Bay
- Onerahi
- Hikurangi
- Kamo
- Raumanga/Otaika

### **Option 2 – Pilot programme**

This option proposes that a pilot plan is developed before starting on other locations in the spatial planning programme. The purpose of the pilot is to test and refine the methodology of the programme before rolling out to other locations in District.

Once the pilot plan has been completed, the programme would then work through the locations as set out in Option 1.

Parua Bay and Hikurangi have been identified as suitable locations for a pilot for the following reasons:

- Through public feedback, both communities have strongly advocated for the spatial planning programme and have begun planning for the future of their community
- Smaller scale and less complex compared to areas such as Tikipunga and Marsden/Ruakaka
- Known issues and opportunities through recent work with the community and the village plan programme and community development plans.

The Option 2 proposal is as follows:

- Parua Bay / Hikurangi – PILOT
- Tikipunga
- Waipu
- Kensington
- Marsden/Ruakaka
- Maunu
- Onerahi
- Kamo
- Raumanga/Otaika

### **Timing of the Spatial Planning Programme**

Timeframes will be dependent on several factors. Therefore, each spatial plan will not necessarily take the same amount of time and resources. Factors include:

- Size of area
- Community interest and consultation
- Complexity of issues and degree of consensus on solutions

It is proposed that each plan will take between 8 – 12 months to complete and 1-2 plans will be worked on per year.

### **Approach to Marsden/Ruakaka**

Council will be aware that central government are currently considering a potential move of all or parts of Ports of Auckland functions to Northport. A decision on whether a move will take place is expected in April 2020.

If a move is given the 'green light' it is recommended that the Marsden/Ruakaka area is removed from this programme and a larger scale and more detailed planning exercise is pursued. This may look similar to the planning currently being undertaken between Auckland and Hamilton, known as the Hamilton to Auckland Corridor Plan. This is a multi-stakeholder plan with representation and governance from the local government, iwi, government departments and the NZTA. A key benefit of this planning approach is that all stakeholders involved are committed to outcomes reached.

### **Next Steps**

Direction will be sought from elected members on the preferred option through an agenda item at the Strategy, Planning and Development Committee.

Following this decision, elected members will receive regular updates as the plans progress.





# Draft Whangarei District Growth Strategy Update

Council Briefing 5 February 2020



## Overview

1. Recap from 4 December and 11 December Briefings
2. Direction sought on a way forward with spatial plans
3. Next steps in the process

## Recap from 4 December Briefing

At the 4 December briefing we covered the following topics:

- Outline and purpose of the growth strategy
- Overview of the process and public engagement
- Overview of central government reforms
- Summary of proposed changes to the draft strategy
- Spatial planning programme



## Recap from 11 December Briefing

At the 11 December briefing we covered the following topics:

Report back on issues raised at the 4 December Briefing:

- Approach to affordable housing with support for this to become a separate programme of work do to its complexity and scale
- Urban stormwater with recognition that this is an ongoing work programme link to the Freshwater reforms and climate change
- Highly productive soils acknowledging our proposed approach is to continue the direction set in Sustainable Futures 30 / 50 (our current growth strategy)

## Recap from 11 December Briefing

At the 11 December briefing we covered the following topics:

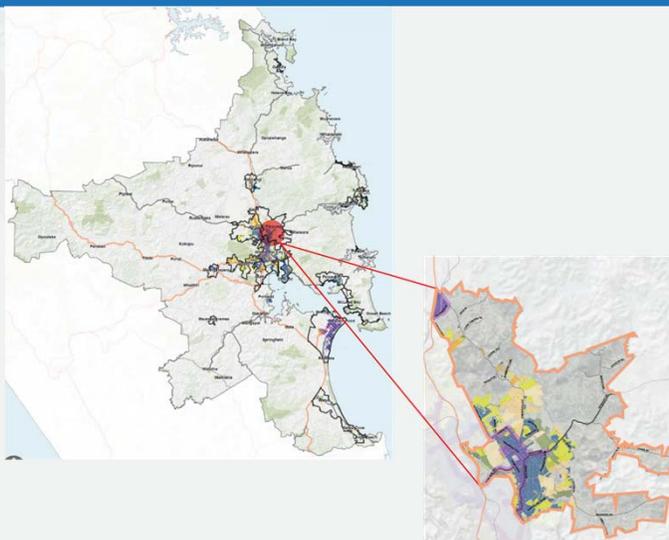
Proposed Spatial Planning programme:

- Recap of what it is and why we need spatial plans
- High level process of creating a plan
- Two options for how to proceed
  1. Officer recommended list of priority locations
  2. Pilot programme in Hikurangi and Parua Bay first, then begin on the recommended list of priority locations

## Overview of the Spatial Planning Programme

### Why do we need Spatial Plans

- Currently we have a gap between our high-level District Wide strategy and our regulatory tools (District Plan) and infrastructure implementation
- Limited ability for the community and stakeholder to shape the long term future of their neighbourhood
- Identify future development and infrastructure opportunities
- Collaborative tool for Council, Community and stakeholders
- Spatial Plans may be mandated by RMA reforms
- This type of plan was identified in Sustainable Futures 30 / 50 but were not fully implemented



## Delivery of spatial plans

### Prioritisation

To guide the delivery of the spatial planning programme and to give community and stakeholders certainty we need a prioritised list of locations.

Two options were proposed at the 11 December Briefing for Elected Members to consider, with a prioritised list based on criteria in the consultation draft of the Growth Strategy (Option 1) recommended.

## Option 1: Prioritised list based on criteria in the public consultation Draft Strategy

- Criteria was included in the Draft Strategy which we consulted on
- Criteria are a mix of future/opportunity focused as well as existing issues and constraints
- Population growth is not the main driver – infrastructure, design and amenity as well as community readiness are considered.
- Marsden/Ruakaka will be removed from the programme if the Port of Auckland is relocated to Northport.

Area
Tikipunga
Waipu
Kensington
Marsden/Ruakaka*
Maunu
Parua Bay
Onerahi
Hikurangi
Kamo
Raumanga/Otaika

## Option 2: Pilot programme.

- Pilot the programme to test/refine methodology
- Once Pilot is complete, the programme will continue as per Option 1.
- Parua Bay and Hikurangi have been selected because both locations:
  - Have willing communities and support for further planning
  - Have experienced a lot of growth and/or have considerable development opportunity
  - Are spatially well defined smaller locations
  - Have known issues to address

Area
<b>Pilot: Hikurangi / Parua Bay</b>
Tikipunga
Waipu
Kensington
Marsden/Ruakaka*
Maunu
Onerahi
Kamo
Raumanga/Otaika

## Marsden / Ruakaka

- If the port move is given the green light it is recommended that Marsden/Ruakaka is removed from this programme.
- Instead, we recommend a more detailed and comprehensive plan is undertaken.
- This could be similar to the *Hamilton to Auckland Corridor Plan* – a plan driven by multiple stakeholders to better facilitate growth between the two major centers



## Next Steps

1. Direction will be sought on whether to proceed with Option 1 or Option 2 at the February Strategy, Planning and Development Meeting
2. Based on the preferred option, work will begin on the Spatial Planning Programme. Elected members will receive regular briefings/workshops as the plans progress.
3. Council will be presented with a revised draft of the Whangarei District Growth Strategy for consideration as to whether there is comfort to adopt or a need to reconsult.
4. Monitoring report on the housing market, housing development and subdivision will be provided to elected members