

Strategy, Planning and Development Committee Agenda

Date: Thursday, 16 May, 2024

Time: 9:00 am

Location: Civic Centre, Te Iwitahi, 9 Rust Avenue

Elected Members: Cr Ken Couper (Chairperson)
Cr Scott McKenzie (Deputy Chairperson)
His Worship the Mayor Vince Cocurullo
Cr Gavin Benney
Cr Nicholas Connop
Cr Jayne Golightly
Cr Phil Halse
Cr Deborah Harding
Cr Patrick Holmes
Cr Marie Olsen
Cr Carol Peters
Cr Simon Reid
Cr Phoenix Ruka
Cr Paul Yovich

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

1. Declarations of Interest / Take Whaipānga	
2. Apologies / Kore Tae Mai	
3. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Strategy, Planning and Development Committee Meeting / Whakatau Meneti	
3.1 Minutes Strategy, Planning and Development Committee 18 April 2024	7
4. Decision Reports / Whakatau Rīpoata	
4.1 New Private Access Road Name – RMA Consents – Davies – SD2300124	11
5. Information Reports / Ngā Pūrongo Kōrero	
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5.2 Operational Report – Strategy, Planning and Development April 2024	23
6. Public Excluded Business / Rāhui Tangata	
6.1 Confidential Minutes Strategy, Planning and Development Committee 18 April 2024	
7. Closure of Meeting / Te katinga o te Hui	

Recommendations contained in the agenda are not the decisions of the meeting.

Please refer to minutes for resolutions.

Strategy, Planning and Development Committee – Terms of Reference

Membership

Chairperson Councillor Ken Couper

Deputy Chairperson Councillor Scott McKenzie

Members His Worship the Mayor Vince Cocurullo
 Councillors Gavin Benney, Nicholas Connop, Jayne Golightly, Phil Halse, Deborah Harding, Patrick Holmes, Marie Olsen, Carol Peters, Simon Reid, Phoenix Ruka and Paul Yovich

Meetings Monthly

Quorum 7

Purpose

To oversee planning, monitoring, education and enforcement activities, and guide the economic and physical development and growth of Whangarei District.

Key responsibilities

- Regulatory and compliance
 - Environmental health
 - General bylaw administration
 - Animal (dog and stock control)
 - Hazardous substances and new organism control
 - Parking enforcement (vehicles registrations and warrant of fitness)
 - Noise control
 - Food Act
- Building Control
 - Property Information and Land Information Memoranda
 - Consents and inspections
 - Monitoring and compliance
- Resource Consents
 - Subdivision, land use and development control
 - Development contributions
 - Monitoring and compliance
- District Plan
 - Plan changes
 - District Plan administration

- Strategic Planning
 - Place based strategies (city centre), functional strategies (climate change)
 - Climate Adaptation
 - Growth planning
 - Urban design
 - Strategic alignment of infrastructure
 - Reporting strategic trends and analysis
- Economic Development
 - District marketing and promotions
 - Developer engagement
- Marinas
- Airport
- Forestry
- Operational accountability of performance including:
 - Health and Safety
 - Regular reporting on service delivery
 - Compliance
 - Sustainability
 - Finance
- Reporting on capital projects.
- Operational reporting for the Strategy and Democracy and Planning and Development groups within Council where their functions are not covered by other Committees.
- Procurement – general procurement relating to the areas of business of this committee, within delegations.
- Shared Services – investigate opportunities for Shared Services for recommendation to council.
- Council Controlled Organisations (CCOs) – monitoring the financial and non-financial performance of CCOs whose functions would otherwise fall under the scope of this committee. Includes trading CCOs (CCTOs) and those CCOs exempted under the LGA. Responsibilities include:
 - advising on the content of annual Statement of Expectations to CCOs
 - agreement of the Statement of Intent
 - monitoring against the Statement of Intent
 - for exempted CCOs, monitoring and reporting as agreed between Council and the organisation
 - quarterly reporting on performance

CCO accountable to this committee:

- Whangarei District Airport – CCO

Delegations

- (i) All powers necessary to perform the committee's responsibilities, including, but not limited to:
 - a) the approval of expenditure of less than \$5 million plus GST.
 - b) approval of a submission to an external body.
 - c) establishment of working parties or steering groups.
 - d) adoption of strategies and policies relating to the key responsibilities of this committee (except for those that cannot be delegated by Council under Clause 32(1)(f) of Schedule 7 of the LGA).
 - e) the power to adopt the Special Consultative Procedure provided for in Section 83 to 88 of the LGA in respect of matters under its jurisdiction (this allows for setting of fees and bylaw making processes up to but not including adoption).
 - f) the power to delegate any of its powers to any joint committee established for any relevant purpose under clause 32, Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002.

The Committee does not have:

- i. The power to establish sub-committees.
- ii. The powers Council is expressly prohibited from delegating as outlined in Clause 32(1)(a)-(h) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002; being:
 - the power to make a rate
 - the power to make a bylaw
 - the power to borrow money, or purchase or dispose of assets, other than in accordance with the long-term plan
 - the power to adopt a long-term plan, annual plan or annual report
 - the power to appoint a chief executive the power to adopt policies required to be adopted and consulted on under the Local Government 2002 in association with the long-term plan or developed for the purpose of the local governance statement
 - the power to adopt a remuneration and employment policy.

Strategy, Planning and Development Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, 18 April, 2024
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Civic Centre, Te Iwitahi, 9 Rust Avenue

In Attendance

Cr Ken Couper (Chairperson)
Cr Scott McKenzie (Deputy Chairperson)
His Worship the Mayor Vince Cocurullo
Cr Gavin Benney
Cr Nicholas Connop
Cr Jayne Golightly
Cr Phil Halse
Cr Deborah Harding
Cr Patrick Holmes
Cr Marie Olsen
Cr Carol Peters
Cr Simon Reid
Cr Phoenix Ruka
Cr Paul Yovich

Scribe

D.Garner (Democracy Adviser)

1. **Declarations of Interest / Take Whaipānga**

Item 6.2 Marina Updates.

2. **Apologies / Kore Tae Mai**

There were no apologies.

3. **Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Strategy, Planning and Development Committee Meeting / Whakatau Meneti**

3.1 **Minutes Strategy, Planning and Development Committee 21 March 2024**

Moved By Cr Carol Peters

Seconded By Cr Scott McKenzie (Deputy Chairperson)

That the minutes of the Strategy, Planning and Development Committee meeting held on Thursday 21 March 2024, having been circulated, be taken as read and now confirmed and adopted as a true and correct record of proceedings of that meeting.

Carried**4. Decision Reports / Whakatauripōata****4.1 New Private Access – RMA Consents – Habitat for Humanity – SL2200031****Moved By** Cr Ken Couper (Chairperson)**Seconded By** Cr Scott McKenzie (Deputy Chairperson)

That the Strategy, Planning and Development Committee:

1. Approves the name of a Private Access off Te Mai Road, Maunu as Warren Place.

Carried*Cr Nicholas Connop joined the meeting at 9:02am during item 4.1.***5. Information Reports / Ngā Pūrongo Kōrero****5.1 Operational Report – Strategy, Planning and Development March 2024****Moved By** Cr Deborah Harding**Seconded By** Cr Paul Yovich

That the Strategy, Planning and Development Committee notes the Strategy and Democracy and Planning and Development Operational reports for March 2024.

Carried*His Worship the Mayor joined the meeting at 9:04am during item 5.1.***6. Public Excluded Business / Rāhui Tangata****Moved By** Cr Carol Peters**Seconded By** Cr Nicholas Connop

That the public be excluded from the following parts of proceedings of this meeting. The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC		
Move/Second		
That the public be excluded from the following parts of proceedings of this meeting. The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:		
General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for passing this resolution
1.1 Confidential Minutes Strategy, Planning and Development Committee 21 March 2024 1.2 Marina Updates	Good reason to withhold information exists under Section 7 Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 198	Section 48(1)(a)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, are as follows:		
Item	Grounds	Section
1.1	For the reasons as stated in the open minutes	
1.2	To enable Council to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage commercial activities.	S7(2)(h)
	To enable Council to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).	S7(2)(i)

Carried

7. Closure of Meeting / Te katinga o te Hui

The meeting concluded at 9:57am.

Confirmed this 16th day of May 2024

Councillor Ken Couper (Chairperson)

4.1 New Private Access Road Name – RMA Consents – Davies – SD2300124

Meeting: Strategy, Planning and Development Committee

Date of meeting: 16 May 2024

Reporting officer: Ricardo Zucchetto – RMA Post Approval Officer

1 Purpose / Te Kaupapa

To name a private access in the Whangarei district to assign unique addresses for properties to be readily locatable by emergency service responders and service delivery providers.

2 Recommendation/s / Whakataunga

That the Strategy, Planning and Development Committee:

1. Approve the name of the private access off Whangarei Heads Road as Kiwi Rise.

3 Background / Horopaki

A road naming application has been received to satisfy conditions of a subdivision for Colleen & Owen Davies to name a private access off Whangarei Heads Road, Whangarei. The proposed names are considered in accordance with Council's Road Naming Policy 2009.

The applicant supplied the following names:

- Kiwi Rise – We do have wild kiwi on our property often and hear them calling at night. The neighbours have sighted them very close.
- Willow Rise – Our driveway is on a rise, and we have a lovely old willow tree on our boundary that suites our bird life well.
- Quail Way – Ever since we have lived here, we have had Quail visit often and bring their babies as well. With no cats around here now, the numbers have grown.

4 Discussion / Whakawhiti kōrero

Consultation has been undertaken between the developer and five other affected property owners that have a vehicle entrance off the private access way as their situation address will be changed. Four of the property owners and the developer preferred Kiwi Rise, with one property owner preferring Willow Rise. Kiwi Rise is recommended.

5 Significance and engagement / Te Hira me te Arawhiti

The decisions or matters of this Agenda do not trigger the significance criteria outlined in Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, and the public will be informed via Agenda publication on the website.

6 Attachments / Ngā Tāpiritanga

Attachment 1 – Road Naming Application

Attachment 2 – Location Name Map

Application for Road Naming

Thank you for making an application to name a proposed road.

Points to remember when making an application

- ❖ Please print clearly to ensure the form is easy to read.
- ❖ We will respond in writing to every application received. Please ensure that you provide appropriate contact details so that our response gets back to you.
- ❖ Your application will not be returned to you once it is lodged with Council. Please keep a copy for your reference.

Important Considerations

- ❖ Please refer to the **Road Naming Policy** and **Road Naming Index** prior to making your application. These documents will be helpful when proposing road names. Both documents can be found on the Council website at www.wdc.govt.nz

How to get this application to us

Mail to: Attn: Administration Team Leader – Resource Consents
Whangarei District Council
Private Bag 9023
WHANGAREI 0148

Fax to: 09 438 7632

Email to: mailroom@wdc.govt.nz

Applicant Details

First name(s) Colleen + Owen

Last name Davies

Postal address 2315 Whangarei Heads Rd
RD4 Whangarei 0174

Best day-time phone number 021 2861788 Mobile _____

Email cdandod@gmail.com

Resource Consent Details

Resource Consent application number SD2300124

Agent Details

Name of Agent Simpson Shaw Agent ref 22-157

Agent postal address PO Box 631 Whangarei 0140

Best day-time phone number 09 4387170 Mobile _____

Email sarah@simpsonshaw.co.nz

Proposed Road Name Details

Please indicate whether the road is Public or Private (✓ box)

Public Private

Proposed road name 1 Kiwi Rise

Reason

We do have wild kiwi on our property often and hear them calling at night. The neighbours have sighted them very close.

Proposed road name 2 Willow Rise

Reason

Our driveway is on a rise and we have a lovely old willow tree on our boundary that suits our bird life well

Proposed road name 3 Quail way

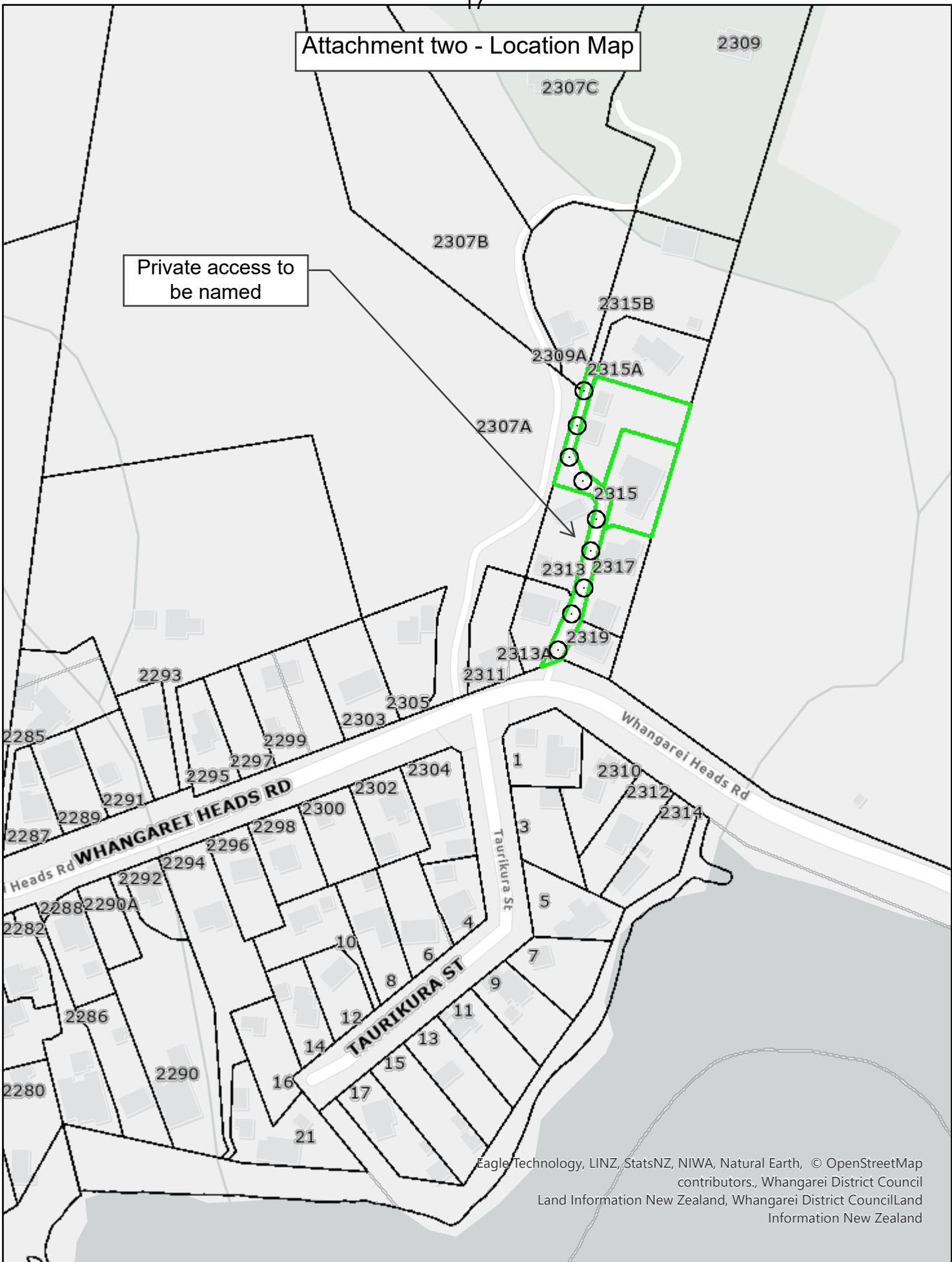
Reason

Ever since we have lived here we have had Quail visit often and bring their babies as well. With no cats around here now the numbers have grown

❖ Please supply a scheme plan map in Black and White with Road or ROW clearly marked when submitting your application.

Attachment two - Location Map

Private access to be named



Eagle Technology, LINZ, StatsNZ, NIWA, Natural Earth, © OpenStreetMap contributors., Whangarei District Council Land Information New Zealand, Whangarei District Council Land Information New Zealand

GIS Maps Print

Friday, April 19, 2024

Scale 1:2,257



Projection: NZGD2000 / NZTM 2000

Original Sheet Size 210x297mm



The information displayed is schematic only and serves as a guide. It has been compiled from Whangarei District Council records and is made available in good faith but its accuracy or completeness is not guaranteed.

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5.1 Submission on the Fast-Track Approvals Bill

Meeting: Strategy, Planning and Development Committee
Date of meeting: 16 May 2024
Reporting officer: Aaron Taikato (General Manager – Strategy and Democracy)

1 Purpose / Te Kaupapa

To inform the committee that a submission on the Fast-Track Approvals Bill was approved under delegation and has been submitted.

2 Recommendation/s / Whakataunga

That the Committee notes a submission on the Fast-Track Approvals Bill was approved under delegation and submitted to the Environment Committee on 19 April 2024

3 Background / Horopaki

The Fast-Track Approvals Bill proposes to establish a permanent fast-track approvals regime for projects of national and regional significance. The Bill was introduced to the House and public submissions were being accepted by the Environment Committee. Submissions closed on Friday 19 April 2024, and this submission was approved under delegation by the Chair and two committee members. This report is to inform the committee of the submission.

4 Significance and engagement / Te Hira me te Arawhiti

The decisions or matters of this Agenda do not trigger the significance criteria outlined in Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, and the public will be informed via Agenda publication on the website.

5 Attachments / Ngā Tāpiritanga

Attachment 1 – Fast-Track Approval Bill Submission by WDC

18 April 2024

Committee Secretariat
Environment Committee
Parliament Buildings
Wellington

Rust Avenue, Whangārei
Private Bag 9023, Te Mai,
Whangārei 0143, New Zealand
P +64 9 430 4200
E mailroom@wdc.govt.nz
www.wdc.govt.nz/ContactUs

Submission – Fast-Track Approvals Bill

Whangarei District Council would like to acknowledge the Fast-Track Approvals Bill that Government has introduced for the purpose of enabling development.

We recognise that there is a need to simplify the consents process to expedite development, and that the current process is inefficient and expensive.

Although we acknowledge the potential benefits the Fast-Track Bill could provide both locally and nationally, we do seek assurance that the proposed process will not result in unintended consequences to our environment or sites of cultural significance. We also suggest that the FT B considers Council's infrastructure strategy, regional priorities, and that direct communication is undertaken with relevant councils, providing sufficient time to react accordingly. Additionally, the Bill does not result in the consequential, unfunded enabling of infrastructure provided by a third party or local government.

We also suggest that a 'Fast-Track Process' is built into the review of the RMA and therefore is not a separate planning instrument.

We are confident that if the above concerns are proactively addressed, the Bill will be able to expedite development in a way that benefits all stakeholders of our communities.



Vince Cocurullo
Mayor

5.2 Operational Report – Strategy, Planning and Development April 2024

Meeting: Strategy, Planning and Development Committee
Date of meeting: 16 May 2024
Reporting officer: Dominic Kula (General Manager – Planning and Development)
 Aaron Taikato (General Manager – Strategy and Democracy)

1 Purpose / Te Kaupapa

To update the committee on the operations of the services that the Strategy and Democracy Group, and the Planning and Development Group are responsible for.

2 Recommendation / Whakataunga

That the Strategy, Planning and Development Committee notes the Strategy and Democracy and Planning and Development Operational reports for April 2024.

3 Background / Horopaki

The purpose of the Strategy, Planning and Development Committee is to update Councillors on operational matters relating to the Strategy and Democracy and Planning and Development Groups.

4 Significance and engagement / Te Hira me te Arawhiti

The decisions or matters of this Agenda do not trigger the significance criteria outlined in Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, and the public will be informed via Agenda publication on the website.

5 Attachments / Ngā Tāpiritanga

Attachment 1 – Operational Report – Planning & Development – April 2024

Attachment 2 – Operational Report – Strategy & Democracy – April 2024

Operations Report Planning and Development

April 2024

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1. District Plan

1.1 Health and Safety

Nothing to report.

1.2 Current Priorities

1.2.1 Maintenance and Review Work

Maintenance and review work for the District Plan has continued in accordance with the requirements of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). The following have been key priorities over the past month:

- **PC1 - Natural Hazards**

Council officers have continued drafting a right of reply and work in response to directions issued by the commissioner's post hearing. These directions require:

- Expert conferencing between expert planners (council planners and those that provided expert evidence on the topic at the hearing) to see if a permitted activity rule framework can be developed in relation to land use activities on sites that are susceptible to a natural hazard.
- Further analysis of mapping where submitters have either provided further technical or other evidence as part of their evidence, or due to material/presentations presented at the hearing.

A recommendation of the hearing panel will follow completion of this work and is expected around mid-2024.

- **Matters of Importance to Māori**

We have circulated a scoping request to iwi and hapū, seeking expressions of interest to partner with Council in work required for the Matters of Importance to Māori plan reviews. The Māori Outcomes team are now working with us to ensure appropriate follow-up messaging to iwi and hapū about what we are looking for in a response to this scoping request.

Project overview:

The Matters of Importance to Māori project is a review the following topics to inform future Plan Changes:

- Tangata Whenua Policies;
- Sites of Significance to Māori; and
- Indigenous Biodiversity.

Some matters of importance to Māori, such as the Papakāinga chapter or rezoning, are not in scope for this plan review because they are not currently topics in the review programme.

This project will support iwi and hapū mātauranga and values to be reflected in future changes to the District Plan.

Iwi and hapū partners will be supported to:

- Identify and, where appropriate, map physical and metaphysical values and strategic objectives;
- Participate in the review of current provisions in the District Plan; and
- Participate in consultation with the wider community, including landowners.

Partnership and participation:

This project aims to achieve genuine partnership with iwi and hapū at every stage of the process. Council staff are seeking direct partnership with iwi and hapū to co-design and execute the project to achieve two-way learning and competency building, and enhance working relationships between Council and iwi and hapū partners. Partners will be fairly compensated

for their time and services. All partners will be required to enter into a data sovereignty agreement to ensure all information is managed and protected in a mutually acceptable manner.

Council staff are now seeking expressions of interest from iwi and hapū to participate in the project. Council staff are proactively engaging with potential partners to discuss the project before formal responses are submitted.

In the event there is greater interest in participation than time and budget currently allow, Council staff will prioritise partnerships with iwi and hapū based on:

- Development pressure within rohe
- Readiness and availability of iwi hapū to participate
- Extent to which Iwi/ Hapū have work underway/ planned that would inform or be informed by this project
- Extent to which participation provides opportunities for two-way learning and capacity building

Iwi and hapū that do not participate in this phase of the plan review will still have an opportunity to participate in any proposed Plan Changes that are notified. The Council will also seek to partner with any iwi and hapū that do not participate in this project at later opportunities as the District Plan is periodically reviewed.

Processes and timescales:

From the initial circulation of the Scoping Request, Council will be available to answer questions about the document and provide support to interested iwi and hapū prior to the close of the period.

Some key dates are as follows:

- Interested iwi and hapū to submit expressions of interest by early June 2024.
- Council officers to review expressions of interests by late mid-June 2024.
- Council officers to work with partners to enter into contracts and sign data sovereignty agreements by early August 2024.

• **General Amendments**

The preparation of documentation to support notification of a general amendments plan change has continued this month. This work will progress in the coming months prior to council officers seeking a decision of the Strategy Planning and Development committee to notify the plan change in the middle part of this year.

1.2.2 ePlan

The development phase of ePlan has continued apace this month. Officers have completed the setup of ePlan with District Plan provisions. However, due to unforeseen issues with the Council GIS data associated with District Plan maps, we have delayed the delivery of the ePlan to our customers. Improvements to council GIS data will ensure better accuracy of the information displayed in ePlan upon searching a property address.

1.2.3 RMA Monitoring

We are required to monitor our contribution towards the sustainable management of natural and physical resources regarding specific RMA functions. These include:

- the state of the environment
- the effectiveness and efficiency of the district plans
- the efficiency and effectiveness of processes
- the exercise of any delegated or transferred functions, powers, or duties
- the exercise of resource consents

Officers are currently reviewing our monitoring processes to ensure monitoring obligations under the RMA are being effectively discharged.

We are specifically required to ensure that there is sufficient development capacity in respect of housing and business land to meet the expected demands of the district (RMA S.31(1)(aa)). Monitoring obligations under the National Policy Statement for Urban Development (NPS: UD) requires us to prepare a Housing and Business Capacity Assessment (HBA) every three years to provide information on the demand and supply of housing and of business land, and the impact of planning and infrastructure decisions on that demand and supply.

We are due to publish our second HBA in mid-2024. Officers have commenced work with MRCagney to update our evidence base and the HBA is on track to be published in mid-2024. Following the publication of the HBA, we are required to publish key performance indicator relating to land supply on an annual basis that will inform future iterations of our HBA.

1.3 Performance Measures and Compliance

Develop, implement, and maintain a District Plan in accordance with the RMA whilst reflecting the desires of the community and issues of sustainability.

Performance Measure	2023 – 24 target	Compliance
Plan changes are researched, proposed, consulted and reported on as required by Council in accordance with the relevant statutory requirements.	100%	Achieved

1.4 Current Challenges/Issues

There are three main challenges in the work programme of the District Plan as outlined below.

1.4.1 Natural Hazards Plan Change

The Northland Regional Council (NRC) are in the process of amending flood hazard mapping to account for the impact of stormwater infrastructure on flood levels. We are also aware that the NRC may make other changes to the maps for a variety of reasons as new information comes to light. Council officers are currently reviewing the proposed map amendments, and continue to maintain regular contact with the NRC.

In the case that the NRC map amendments are published, it would be necessary to incorporate amended hazard mapping into the District Plan in accordance with the requirements of the Northland Regional Policy Statement. The map amendments if published may be incorporated via a variation to Plan Change 1 or a new Plan Change a later date. The statutory process used will depend on the nature, extent, and timing of published changes.

1.4.2 Sites of Significance to Māori and Significant Natural Areas

Data sovereignty issues associated with the proposed Sites of Significance Plan change and the Significant Natural Areas (SNA) work required under the NPS: IB must be well managed, along with the strategy to produce the work in a partnered and co-designed way. This plan change requires hapū to identify and offer their knowledge into the process. This requires a level of trust around the sharing of this knowledge, and a clear and shared understanding around how this knowledge will be used.

Managing this matter in the procurement of this work, along with ensuring the engagement strategy provides equal opportunity for all hapū to be involved in this mahi, are fundamental to the success of this work.

1.4.3 ePlan

As reported last month we have missed the 1 April 2024 deadline for delivery of ePlan. To manage risk around this, we contacted the Ministry for the Environment to advise that while we will not achieve 1 April 2024 date, we are very close to delivery. Whilst we have not yet received a

response, it is not anticipated that there will be any consequences for Council of missing this deadline.

1.5 Overview of Operational Activities

1.5.1 Risk to the Tiriti Relationship

The Sites of Significance to Māori and Significant Natural Areas challenge noted above has the potential to pose a risk in this space if the work is not well managed. However, both of these plan changes have the potential to mitigate risk at the consenting stages if implemented in partnership (i.e. through identifying sites of significance and providing protection through the District Plan rather than having concerns raised through the consenting stages, as has often been the case).

1.5.2 Delegated Financial Authority Policy

Nothing to report.

1.6 Legislation Changes or Updates

The central government have released the following Resource Management reform timeframes:

1. **May 2024: Introduction of RMA Amendment Bill #1** – indicatively will cover changes to current legislation / policy direction for aquaculture, freshwater and indigenous biodiversity.
2. **August 2024: Introduction of RMA Amendment Bill #2** – Indicatively will cover changes to current legislation / policy direction for: Electrification; Housing; Forestry; Farming; Highly productive land.
3. **RMA replacement legislation is planned to be in place by early 2026**

Current signals are that the May changes will impact how we deliver planned work around the review of our District Plan Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity topic. As we are at the 10-yearly review point of this topic, we are currently working on an 'Options Paper' to determine best method to approach this work (if at all at this stage). Once we understand the direction of Amendment Bill #1 in May/June, we plan to present this paper to the SP&D committee to determine how we proceed (if at all) with this work.

1.7 Future Planning / What's Coming Next?

We continue to actively monitor any proposed changes to national direction to ensure ongoing alignment with our current priorities as outlined in Section 1.2.1. We will also look to bring in new work as appropriate as resourcing levels permit.

2 *District Development*

2.1 *Health and Safety*

Nothing to report.

2.2 *Current Priorities*

- **Regional Economic Development Strategy**

The Department is acting as a conduit between Northland Inc., the Steering Group for Te Ōhanga Rautaki Whānui o Te Tai Tokerau, Te Tai Tokerau's Regional Economic Development Strategy and wider Council staff to ensure Council's workstreams and strategies are taken into consideration for the development of this strategy. While this was initially proposed to come back to Council in October 2023 for adoption, delays in the process mean it will now be in the first quarter 2024.

- **Business Friendly Council Initiatives**

Staff have commenced engagement with selected departments to assess how they enable our communities to meet their aspirations by consistently and proactively delivering positive experiences through all interactions. With recent changes in staffing levels, the Department is now in a position to recommence this initiative.

- **Parihaka Transmission Mast**

The structural strengthening project is continuing.

During the recent Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) site visit, Staff explored the possibility of connecting the uppermost cable stay directly to the foundation of the small Chorus hut. To further assess the feasibility of this Staff have been working with Chorus and the findings of this assessment and final designs are due early May and construction work also commencing May.

- **Joint Regional CCO for Economic Development (JREDC)**

Staff continue to work with Northland Inc over shareholding implications and documentation and have provided feedback to Northland Regional Council over the proposed shareholder agreement from a legal perspective.

- **Hihiaua Peninsula Consultation**

A meeting between the Trust and interest hapū is scheduled for mid-May. It is intended that following this meeting the matter will be able to be brought back to the May Council meeting to complete leasing requirements and building sales within this financial year.

2.3 *Current Challenges/Issues*

All staff vacancies were filled throughout April and following an onboarding period through May, staff will be in a position to address the paused workstreams in order to progress or complete them.

2.4 *Overview of Operational Activities through to April 2024*

2.4.1 *Economic Development*

- **Te Rerenga – Economic Development Strategy**

While this was scheduled to come back to Council in October there were delays that now mean that it is likely to be before Council in the first half of this year.

- **Business**

Business trading conditions remain difficult, there has been some closures within the CBD and staff are receiving information to suggest that there may be further closures forthcoming.

- **Whangārei District Airport**

- **Airport Rescue Fire Service (RFS) Building Project**

The construction contract has been signed and work is due to commence in the near future

- **Airport Operations**

Airport Operations are running as normal and in compliance with all CAA regulations. Airport management is working on implementing a new electronic Safety Management System called OneReg, which is replacing the current IRIS system. OneReg is now operating with the front-end interface enabling staff to do what they need to do on a daily basis.

Obstacle Limitation 5 yearly Survey has now been completed. It has identified some issues with some trees on the airport boundary and Airport staff are working with Council to establish how to manage this and at whose cost.

An aeronautical study is being undertaken to review the need for approach lighting. As these lights were put in around 1990, when there were predominantly smaller aircraft, no IFR, Computers or GPS technology in the aircraft, guidance lighting was required for aircraft to be able to get into the aerodrome. Technology has moved on and the need for a circling approach lighting system in the harbour is likely to now be outdated. The aeronautical review will inform future requirements, as well as ensuring that through this review, whatever changes the study advises we could make, ensures that we still comply with all requirements from Annex 14 and Rule 139 as a certified aerodrome.

Noise

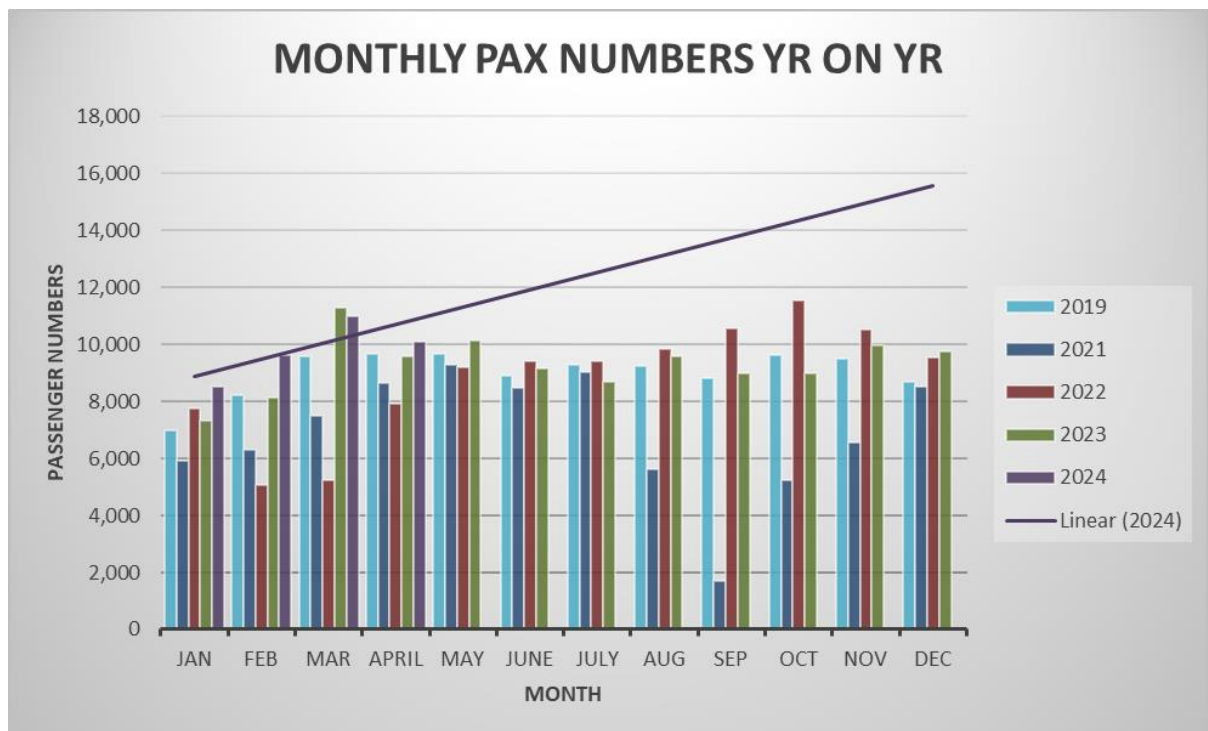
We had no noise complaints during the month of April.

- **Scheduled flights**

Air New Zealand flights have been running to schedule and are now operating to their normal time table. There have been few disruptions this month.

- **Passenger Numbers December**

Passenger numbers for April 2024 were 10,080, up from 9,587 for April last year.



- **Parking**

Parking revenue for April 2024 was \$15,163 slightly down on April last year which was \$15,716. This was most likely due to cancellation of flights.

- **District Promotions**

The District Development coordinator has been filled as of late April and following an induction period will be reviewing current projects and reporting to ensure it aligns with role and is integrated with work projects of other departments across the organisation.

Guest Nights

Mar-24	Whangārei	Far North	Kaipara	Northland	
2024	54,800	116,000	27,300	198,100	
2023	49,400	99,200	18,400	167,100	
2022	25,200	53,600	13,600	92,300	
2021	33,200	77,300	13,300	123,800	
2020	NA	NA	NA	NA	No Guest Night statistics available
2019	53,581	124,412	13,828	191,821	Pre-COVID

Sources: Accommodation Data Programme <https://freshinfo.shinyapps.io/ADPReporting/>

Visitor Origin

Mar-24	Whangārei	Far North	Kaipara	Northland	2019 PreCOVID (Northland)
Domestic	42,800	85,300	23,200	151,300	115,581
International	12,000	30,700	4,100	46,900	76,240

Sources: Accommodation Data Programme <https://freshinfo.shinyapps.io/ADPReporting/>

2.4.2 Risk to the Tiriti Relationship

There is ongoing engagement and discussions with Hapū as to their role in Council commercial property. Parihaka Transmission Mast's future location requires ongoing engagement with Hapū as do other proposals of both Council and third parties (i.e. Hihiaua).

2.4.3 Delegated Financial Authority Policy

Nothing to report.

2.5 Legislation Changes or Updates

Nothing to report.

2.6 Future Planning / What's Coming Next?

- **Hapū Engagement on Key Council Commercial Properties**

There are a number of commercial leaseholders who wish to freehold their properties by acquiring Council's interests. Prior to this occurring a clear and consistent pathway needs to be developed for engaging Hapū in the process.

- **Forestry Properties**

Council owns a number of forestry lots throughout the District under its commercial property portfolio (note, forestry held for recreational purposes are managed by our Parks Department, as part of the Infrastructure Group). Their performance and future use have not been evaluated for some time and will be a priority in the near future, now that roles within the team have been filled.

3 RMA Consents

3.1 Health and Safety

Nothing to report.

3.2 Current Priorities

The team is continuing to manage the processing of resource consent applications, post approval applications and the monitoring of approved consents to meet the performance measure targets in the Long-Term Plan and Annual Plan, as detailed below.

3.3 Performance Measures and Compliance – Year to Date

Council will process resource consent and associated applications within statutory timeframes.

Performance Measure	2023 – 24 target	Compliance
Percentage of non-notified resource consent applications processed within statutory timeframes.	≥95%	94%
Percentage of Section 223 and Section 224 applications [processed] for subdivision consents under the RMA within statutory timeframes.	≥95%	100%

Council will ensure compliance with land-use consents by monitoring consents issued.

Performance Measure	2023 – 24 target	Compliance
Percentage of land-use consent conditions monitored.		
<i>Note: timeframes will be dependent on priorities based on potential environmental risk associated with non-compliance.</i>	100%	100%

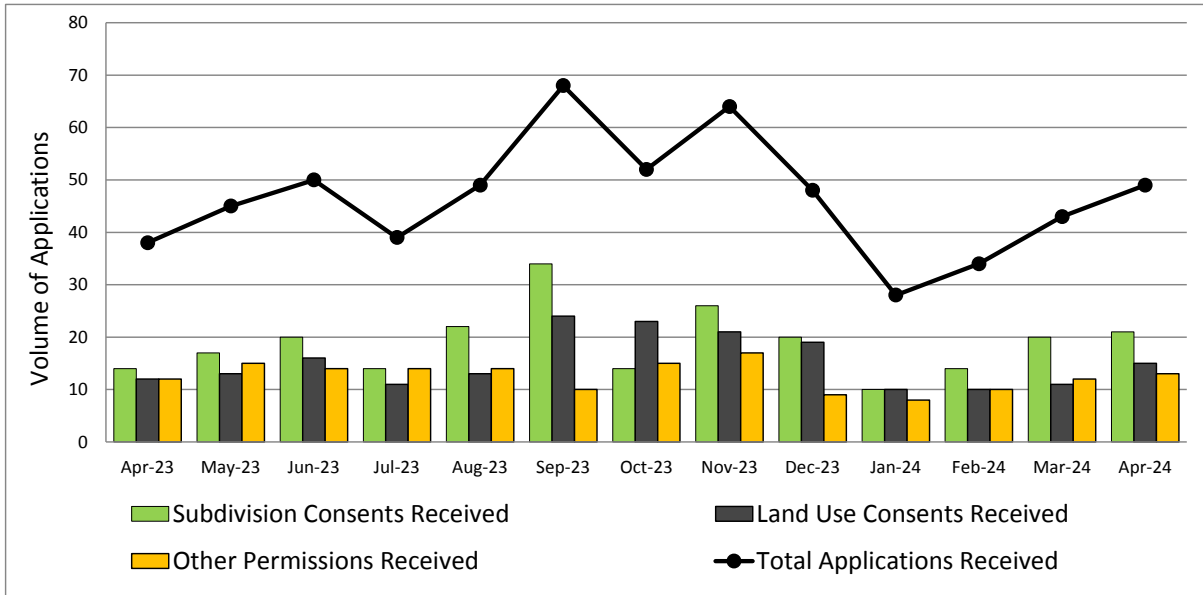
3.4 Current Challenges/Issues

The recently approved tsunami warning towers have resulted in some negative publicity for the RMA Consents team as they are constructed.

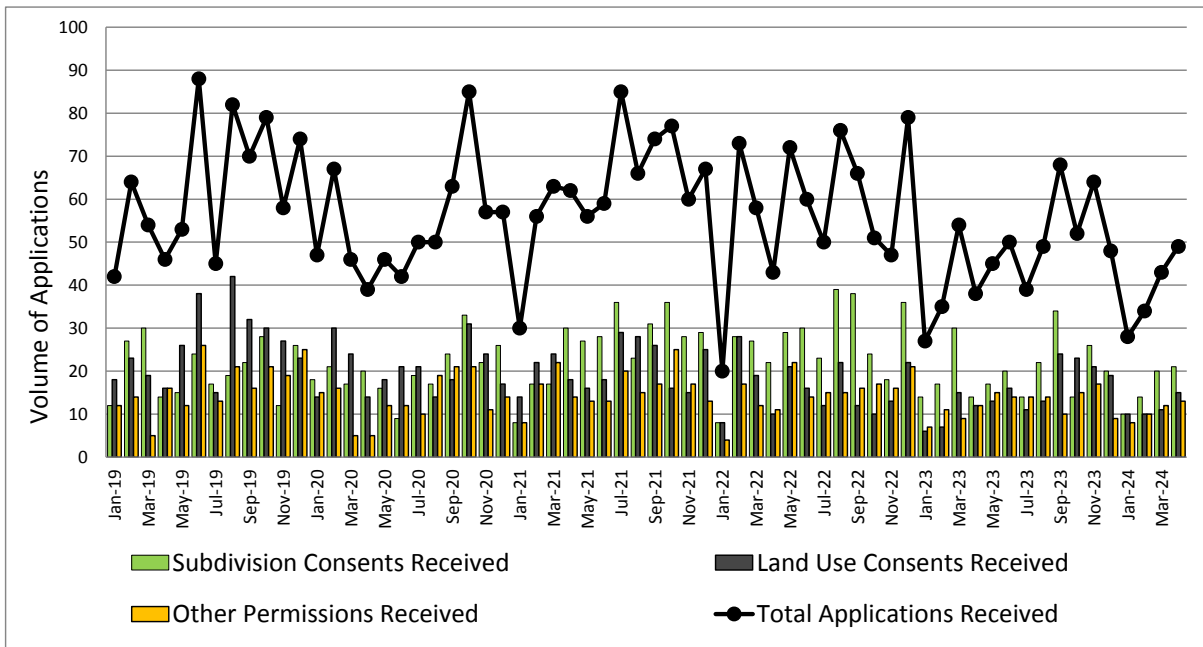
3.5 Overview of Operational Activities for April 2024

The number of applications received in April continued the upward trend of the last few months. Applications of note received in this period include a 32 residential unit development for Kainga Ora and a 17 unit residential development also for Kainga Ora at Weaver Street, Whau Valley. An application for an industrial/commercial building containing 15 tenancies in Waiwarawara Drive was also received.

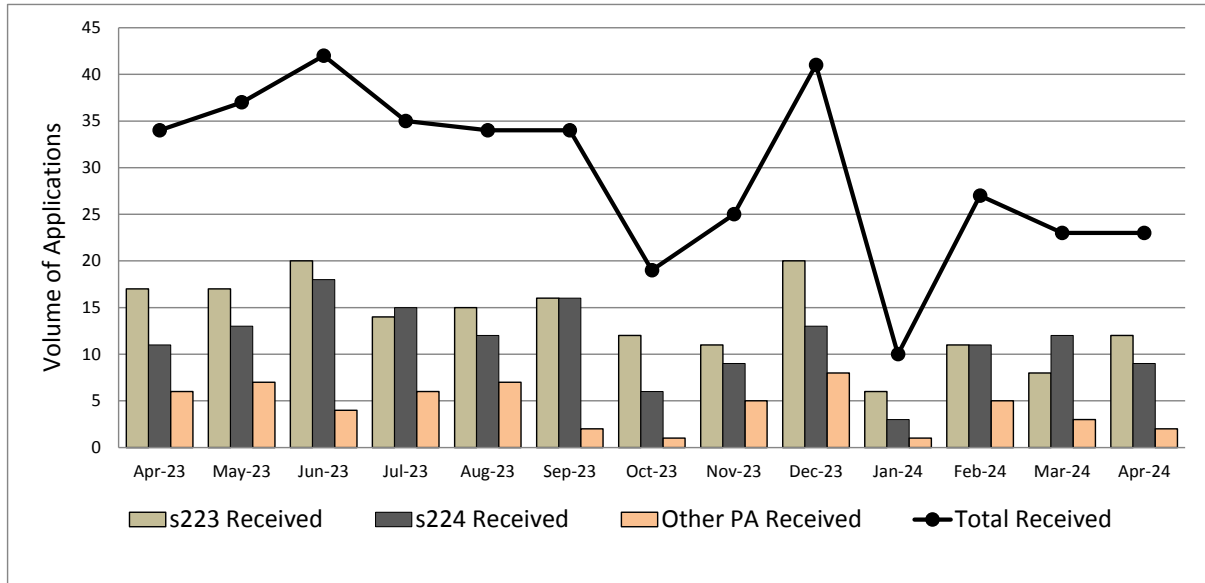
Total number of applications received over last 12 months



All applications received over the last 5 years



Number of post-approval applications received over the last 12 months



3.5.1 Risk to the Tiriti Relationship

The RMA Consents team is working on building stronger treaty partnerships with local iwi and hapū. It is noted that the resource consent process can cause friction with iwi/hapū.

3.5.2 Delegated Financial Authority Policy

The RMA Consents team is currently in the process of establishing a procurement panel for planning consultants to ensure that use of consultants meets best practice guidelines.

3.6 Legislation Changes or Updates

Nothing to report.

4 Building Department

4.1 Health and Safety

On-going risks include vehicle safety, staff working alone, staff visiting potentially dangerous buildings/members of the public (compliance) and staff inspecting construction sites.

4.2 Current Priorities

The on-site audit of our Building Consent Authority accreditation occurred 15-18 April 2024, Following the initial audit findings, we are currently preparing our plan to address issues identified followed by implementation of the plan.

4.3 Performance Measures and Compliance

Council will responsively and accurately manage the building consents and compliance process.

Performance Measure	2023 – 24 target	Compliance
Percentage of building consents applications processed within statutory timeframes.	≥96%	93%
Percentage of inspections completed within two days.	≥95%	96%

4.4 Current Challenges/Issues, IANZ Audit

As mentioned earlier IANZ have completed the on-site component of the BCA audit. At time of writing this report we had not received their final report, but have got their interim report. Comments from the auditors were generally complimentary but did identify some areas of non-compliance which will be addressed. Areas of non-compliance include management of the statutory clock, some inconsistencies in compliance schedules, the ability of applicants to withdraw an application or consent and consents being issued under the name of the processor rather than the manager.

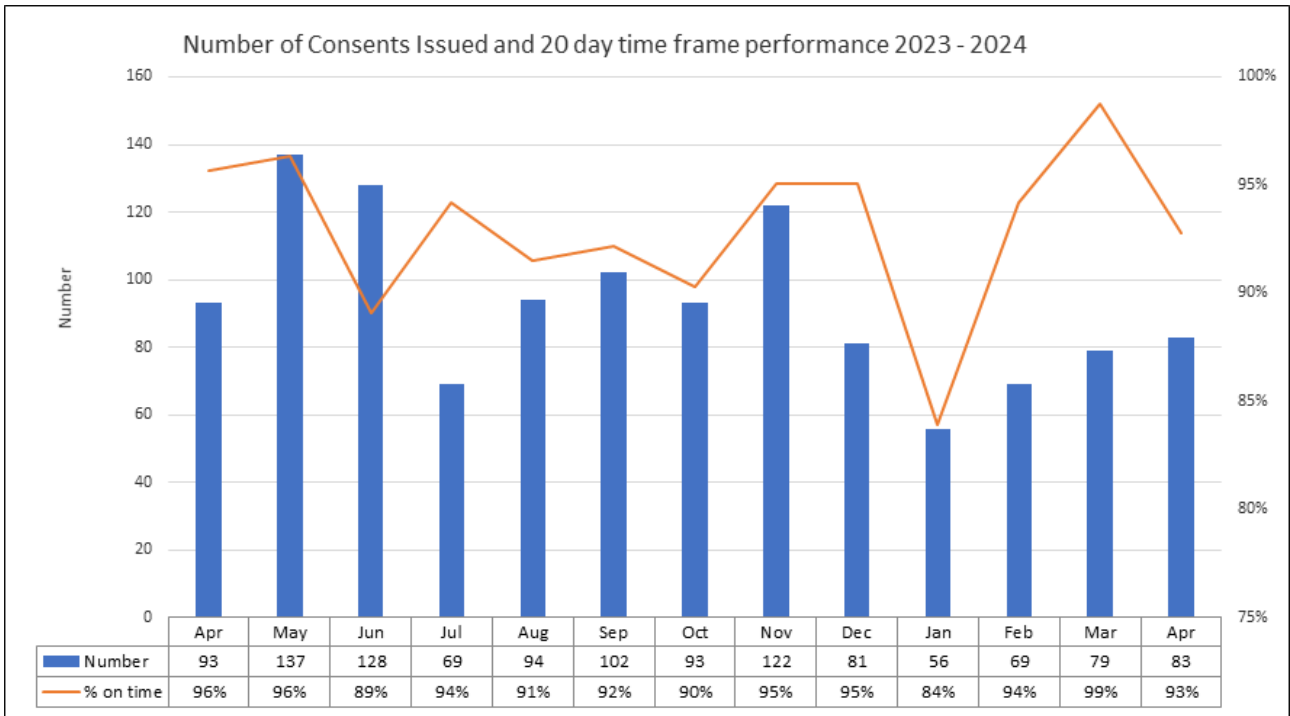
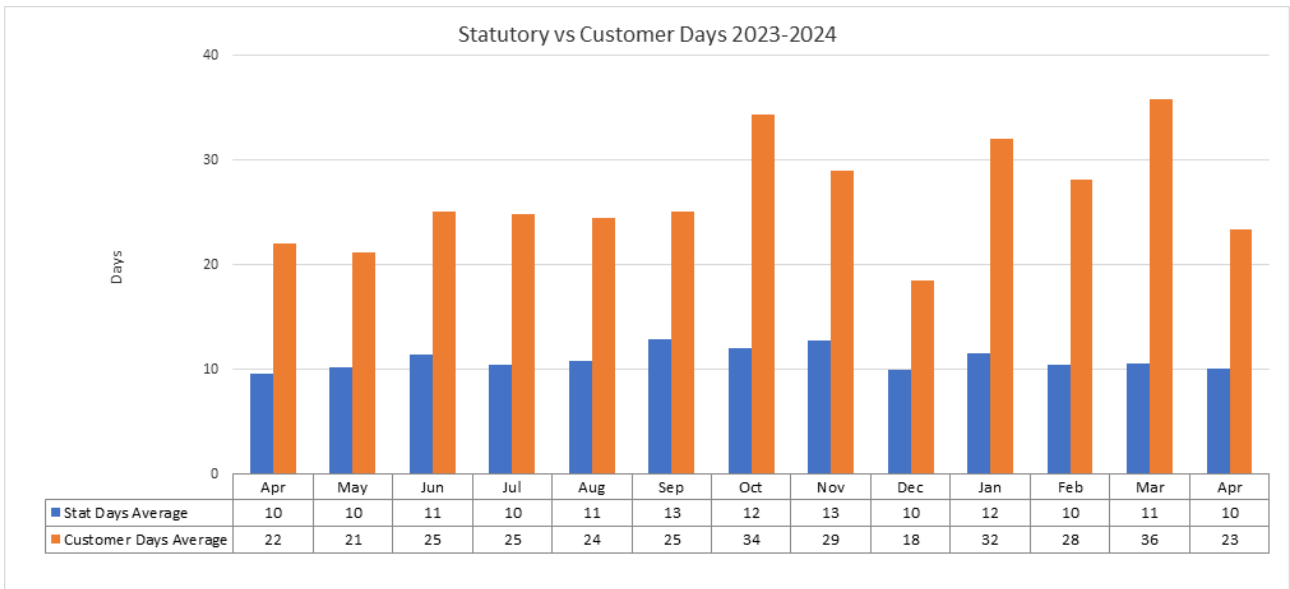
Unfortunately, due to the compliance schedule issue being raised during the last audit, this is classified as a Serious Non-Compliance (which is automatic for a recurrence) and as such we are likely to be classified as medium risk. To potentially achieve low risk we need to have our improvement plan approved by the auditors within 4 weeks of receiving their final report and a further 2 months to demonstrate that we have successfully implemented the improvement report.

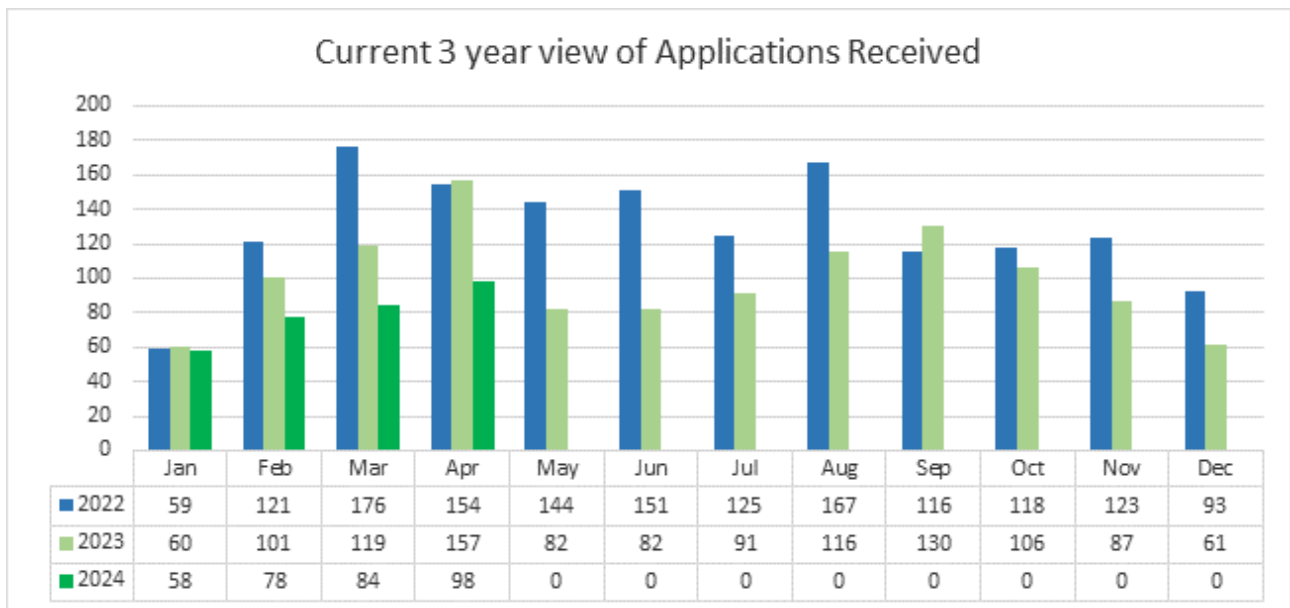
4.5 Overview of Operational Activities for April 2024

The number of applications received in April was 98. Whilst being the highest month do far this calendar year, it is still is a low number, being significantly less than the 154 & 157 received during March in the preceding 2 years. This is a reflection of the current economic conditions being experienced and continues the downwards trend of application numbers experienced from last year.

74 consents were granted with 97% being approved within the 20 working day requirement. Average working days per consent was 10, with customer days (total days) being 23. The customer days is a significant reduction from March's result of 36 days.

437 inspections were undertaken in April, which shows that there is still a reasonably high level of building work continuing at present, but it is anticipated that these numbers may fall in the future. The drop in volume is having a material impact on our revenue. We are actively managing expenses relative to this, with a view to taking corrective action in the short to medium term if necessary.





4.5.1 Risk to the Tiriti Relationship

The activities of the building department are not considered to be a risk to the Tiriti relationship.

4.5.2 Delegated Financial Authority Policy

No contracts have been let in April 2024.

4.6 Legislation Changes or Updates

There have been no changes during March.

4.7 Future Planning / What's Coming Next?

The current priority of the Department is clearing issues raised during the audit. The Department will continue to focus on preparing for the next building increase through upskilling of staff. Technical vetting has been implemented and some remote inspections are being undertaken. This will increase when additional resources are deployed into this area.

5 Health & Bylaws

5.1 Health and Safety

Nothing to report and no additions to the organisational risk register this month.

5.2 Current Priorities

Both the Environmental Health team and Regulatory Enforcement Services contractor, Armourguard are continuing to focus on their core functions aiming to achieve their individual performance measures, as highlighted below.

5.3 Performance Measures and Compliance

Council will ensure responses to complaints relating to parking, excessive noise, dogs, stock, and bylaws are carried out within contracted timeframes.

Performance Measure	2023 – 24 target	Compliance
Percentage of complaints responded to within contracted timeframes.	≥85%	April 2024 = 91% Year to date average = 92.44%

Council will protect and promote public health by monitoring those premises, which under the Health Act 1956 require annual registration and inspection.

Performance Measure	2023 – 24 target	Compliance
Percentage of Health Act registered premises inspected annually.	100%	Annual measure

Council will promote food safety by registering and verifying those food businesses which the Food Act 2014 specifies that local authorities can register and verify.

Performance Measure	2023 – 24 target	Compliance
Percentage of food businesses verified within timeframes as specified by the Food Act 2014.	100%	Annual measure

Council will aim to reduce alcohol-related harm by annually inspecting alcohol licensed premises to ensure compliance with the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 and licensing conditions in general.

Performance Measure	2023 – 24 target	Compliance
Percentage of alcohol licensed premises inspected annually.	100%	Annual measure

5.4 Current Challenges/Issues

There are currently no challenges or issues.

5.5 Overview of Operational Activities for March 2024

Council's Regulatory Enforcement Services contractor, Armourguard has had a successful month during March 2024 with 91% of all complaints lodged, responded to within required response time frames (target is 85%).

5.5.1 Risk to the Tiriti Relationship

Nothing to report.

5.5.2 Delegated Financial Authority Policy

Nothing to report.

5.6 Legislation Changes or Updates

No changes or updates to report.

5.7 Future Planning / What's Coming Next?

Below follows what going forward will be a monthly update on where we've at with the construction of Council's new animal shelter (dog pound).

Project	Current Stage	Estimated Construction Start Date	Estimated Completion Date	RAG Status
New Animal shelter construction	Construction	Sep-22	Aug-24	

Status updates:

Kennel blocks A, B & C are erected and lined. The kennel block services installation will begin in May. The completion date is the end of July.

The services are 70% complete in the administration building, and the exterior lining has started. The internal lining begins once the services are complete. The administration building is forecasted to be complete by end of July.

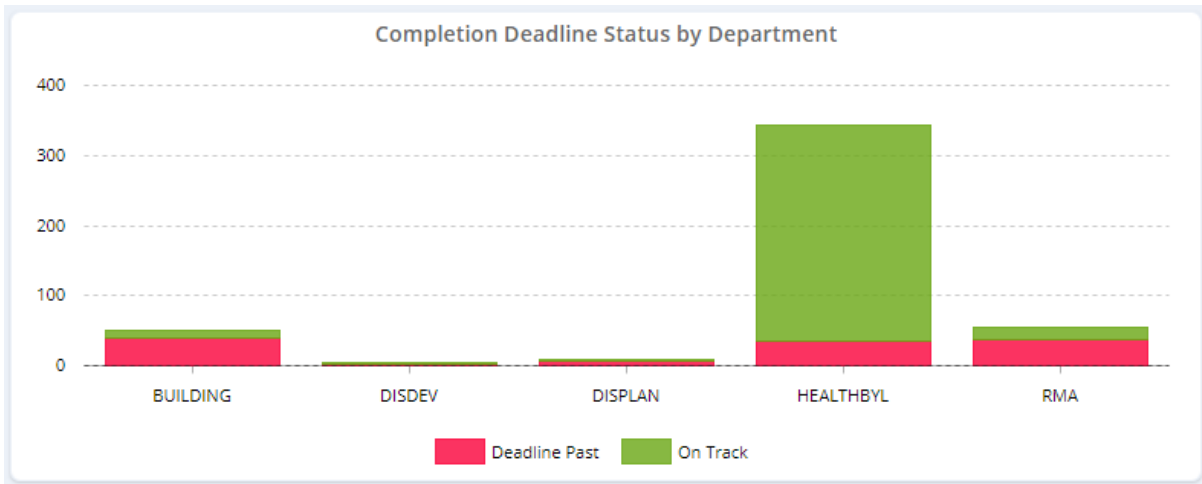
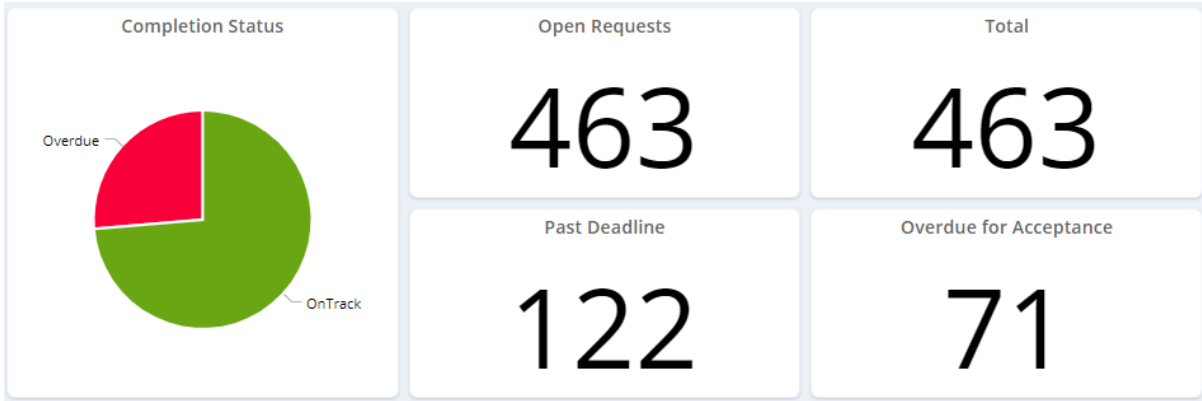
The landscaping and carpark are schedule to start end of June.

Staff are investigating "nice to have" items to remove from the project scope.

6 Group Requests

The Group has continued to make steady progress reducing the volume of open and overdue requests, with CRM numbers for April seeing a significant decrease. Open requests reduced 16.2% over that period (from 553 to 463), with requests past the deadline reducing 20.2% (from 153 to 122). While this is an excellent result there is still work to do to reduce the number of requests past deadline.

April 2024 – CRM Request Performance Dashboard



Operations Report Strategy and Democracy

May 2024

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1. Democracy and Assurance

1.1 Health and Safety

No physical Health and Safety issues due to the nature of the work but continuing to monitor wellbeing of staff as workload continues to exceed available resources.

1.2 Current Priorities

- Managing the increased schedule of Council meetings to support the Long Term Plan process.
- Adhering to Legislative requirements. This includes meeting the LGOIMA requirements for Council meetings (agenda preparation and public notices) as well as responding to LGOIMA requests.
- Dealing with ad-hoc request for advice to the Legal team in a timely manner.

1.3 Performance measures and compliance

Our Democratic functions are transparent and meet the legislative requirements.

Performance Measure	2023 – 24 target	Compliance year to date
Responses to requests for information made under the Local Government Official Information Act 1987 and the Privacy Act 2020 are provided within relevant statutory timeframes.	95%	98.48%

Performance Measure	2023 – 24 target	Compliance year to date
Percentage of Council, committee and hearing agendas that meet relevant legislative timeframes.	100%	100%

1.4 Current challenges/issues

Business as usual for the Democracy Team.

1.5 Overview of Operational Activities for February

The Democracy Team supported one Council meeting, eight Committee meetings, three Council Briefings and three Council Workshops in April. Thirty-three alcohol license applications were processed through the District Licensing Committee.

Official Information Requests

The following information is based on Official Information Requests received to date, as at 29 April 2024.

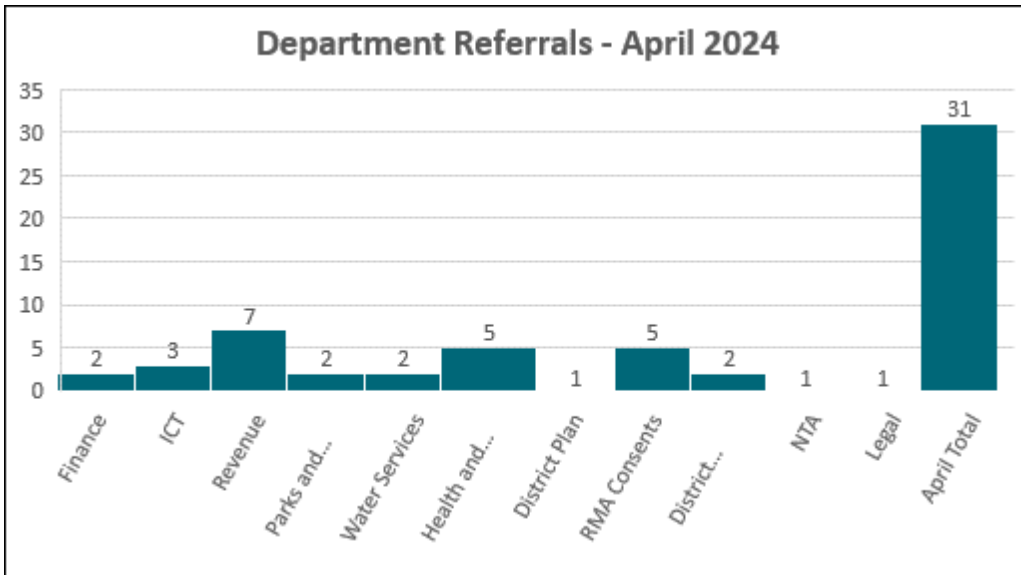
Council received 35 Official Information requests. 8 requests have been closed and the remaining 27 are in the process of being completed. All closed requests have been completed within the legislative deadlines. The legislative timeframe to respond to an official information request is 20 business days.

Requests vary in complexity, and therefore the amount of staff time required to respond to them. While some requests are straightforward other requests may seek substantial amounts of information from multiple departments and contractors, or raise issues that need to be addressed by the relevant department outside of the LGOIMA process.

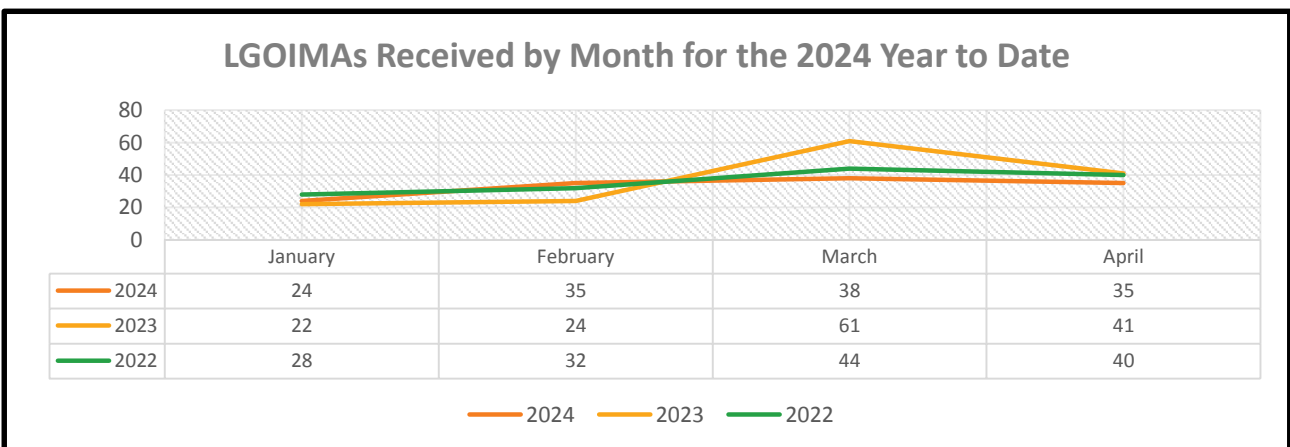
Staff have reviewed the 8 requests received and completed for April 2024 to provide the following information. The table below outlines the number of days requests took to complete.

Number of days to complete	Number of Requests
0-4 Days	7
5-9 days	1
10-14 days	-
15-20 Days	-
Over 20 days	-

Different departments are responsible for requests that fall within the scope of their functions, and in some cases, multiple departments are involved. In April, the 35 requests received were referred to the following departments (shown as graph). Some requests include more than one department. The numbers shown on the graph may not be the same as the number of requests received in any given month.



Tracking graph of LGOIMA requests received by month in relation to previous years.



Council Controlled Organisations, and Council Controlled Trading Organisations (CCOs/ CCTO)

The draft Statements of Intent (SOI) and half yearly reports to December 2023 for Council's CCOs, Whangarei Art Trust, Northland Events Centre (2021) Trust and Whangarei District Airport, and CCTO, Northland Regional Landfill Limited Partnership, are in the process of being published on Council's website.

The final SOI for all the CCOs/CCTO, must be presented before 1 July 2024.

The Northland Events Centre (2021) Trust have recently appointed Brent Markwick as its new Chief Executive. His local knowledge and previous leadership experience in an operating environment, made him an excellent candidate for the role.

Risk Management

The role of Risk and Audit Chairperson is now vacant due to the resignation of Richard Briggs. The position is being advertised to seek applicants, and then the interview process can begin.

The Risk Management Framework is being updated and will be workshopped with Elected Members later this year.

Privacy

A privacy officer presented to Customer Services in April to raise awareness on privacy law.

Insurance

Council's public liability and professional indemnity insurance policy is due to renew on 30 June 2024. Preliminary discussions with Council's insurance broker Marsh began in April.

Professional indemnity insurance is currently a challenge for the local government sector. Insurers are becoming disinclined to provide this coverage due to recent case law holding local authorities liable for losses resulting from weathertightness issues, and the issuing code of compliance certificates. This may raise issues for the placement of insurance coverage and insurance premiums at the renewal. Staff will continue working with Marsh throughout May to monitor this situation and progress the insurance renewal.

A Council Briefing is scheduled for 19 June 2024 in which Marsh will provide an update on the insurance renewal, and any issues.

1.5.1 Risk to the Tiriti Relationship

For Democratic, Legal and Assurance operational services, at an operational level there are no current risks to the Tiriti Relationship that have been identified.

1.5.2 Delegated Financial Authority Policy

The current Delegation Financial Authority Policy has been reviewed and a draft policy, along with any changes to the Delegation Register, will be taken to Council in May 2024.

1.6 Legislation changes or updates

Staff will continue to advise Council based on current legislation and are monitoring legislative changes that are coming through parliament for implementation. There are a lot of changes that are being signalled by the Government but until they are in place, or open for consultation, Council is unable to act upon the proposals. We regularly review what legislation is open for consultation and ensure that Council provide submissions on items of relevance to the district.

1.7 Future Planning / What's coming next?

The Democracy and Assurance department is a department which has a reoccurring, rolling programme of work relating to the Council meetings and legislative deadlines. The other areas of the team work on a request basis so workloads fluctuate. This includes preparing to support the Long Term Plan hearings and associated Council meetings.

Staff are currently working through a review of the delegations register and the delegations that have been made by Council. Once this is complete it will come to Council for approval.

Council's Insurance brokers are beginning discussions on the renewal for the 2024 Public liability and professional indemnity insurance, which renews in June. A briefing has been arranged for 19 June to discuss the upcoming renewal of our policies, specifically public liability, and professional indemnity insurance.

The Risk Management Framework requires an update, and a workshop will be arranged with Elected Members for feedback.

2. Strategy

2.1 Health and Safety

One health and safety incident from within the department and was logged formally in April following an accident during the commute of a team member.

The existing team workload is high with no additional capacity. Staff have been working overtime consistently to meet existing work demands. Overtime demands have increased further to respond to unplanned requests from Council and challenges around the submissions system. Other departments are also impacted by the workload of the department in particular the Democracy and Communications staff.

2.2 Current Priorities

Current priorities for the team include:

- Preparation for the hearings, issues and options and deliberations processes.
- Supporting the deliverables for non-financial performance measures for the Annual Report (monthly and annual reporting) including confirming readiness of departments to begin reporting. Planning for the Annual Report has commenced.
- Progressing the development of the Future Development Strategy and meeting project milestones.
- Completing the Placemaking Plans for Waipu and Parua Bay to present to Council for adoption and the community.
- Preparing for statutory consultation through May on the proposed Dog Management Policy and Bylaw, Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy and Psychoactive Substances Policy.
- Preparing a Statement of Proposal to amend the proposed Alcohol Control Bylaw and alcohol ban areas for adoption at the May 2024 Council Meeting, enabling public consultation in June 2024.
- Contributing to the progress of other cross-Council projects including the Knowledge Precinct, the Northern Growth Area (Springs Flat), Waka Kotahi's State Highway 14 Indicative Business Case (SH14 IBC) and the Housing and Business Capacity Assessment.
- Progressing LTP through to adoption on the 9 July.

Further detail is provided on these projects and workstreams below.

2.3 Performance measures and compliance

Our policies and strategies remain up to date and relevant to the community.

Performance Measure	2023 – 24 target	Compliance
Percentage of policies, bylaws and strategies that are reviewed within the relevant statutory timeframes.	100%	Review of organisation-wide compliance has been completed. 43 statutory documents: 10 – due / overdue for review and review is underway. 33 – compliant.

2.4 Current challenges/issues

2023/24 work programme

Statutory work, including corporate planning, bylaws, and the Future Development Strategy, has been prioritised for delivery. This work is adjusted pending the unplanned requests upon staff. Non-statutory work that is already underway will continue. The proposed approach to the future work programme has been shared with Elected Members through the LTP Briefings and

demonstrates adjusted timeframes over the LTP according to the resourcing demands of statutory projects. The exception to this, is the reprioritisation of department staff to support the development of the Northern Growth Area project, SH14 IBC and the recent progressions pertaining to the Knowledge, Education and Arts hub.

Monitoring of Non-Financial Performance Measures – Annual Report

The inputting of the majority of measures is progressing well. However the underlying issue with data for Wastewater is ongoing. Staff have made plans to address this, ICT and Water staff have met and GMs have been alerted but it is still a concern.

2.5 Overview of Operational Activities for April 2024

Corporate Planning

2024-34 Long-Term Plan (LTP)

Consultation was completed on 25 April 2024 and submission volumes have been produced for Elected Members. The ICT built submissions processing system in Sharepoint worked well. The compressed timeframes meant that it was in some ways a “live-testing” environment. There were challenges encountered during the process resulting in processing delays but staff collaborated and responded well to any issues while also achieving the milestones.

There were around 420 submissions and almost 90 people wish to be heard.

2023-24 Annual Report

Partially addressed in ‘Monitoring of Non-Financial Performance Measures – Annual Report’ above. Project meetings have commenced.

Spatial Planning

City Centre Programme: Knowledge Precinct Plan

Pending the ongoing discussions with Elected Members, scope for this project may change.

However, staff continue procurement and scope discussions with a consultant for this project. LTP options will include a request for additional funding to support this work, which is consistent with the earlier budget allocation for the project.

Placemaking Programme: Parua Bay and Waipu

In late April, staff met with the Councillors for Waipu – Cr Cooper, Cr Halse and Cr Harding – and the Councillor for Parua Bay – Cr Holmes. The meetings were intended to get early impressions and feedback on the Final Drafts of the Placemaking Plans to better prepare the presentation at Council Briefing.

On 23 April, staff presented the Draft Placemaking Plan for Parua Bay and Draft Placemaking Plan for Waipu at the Council Briefing. Feedback received at the briefing will be included in the last review of the plans prior to get the final documents prepared for adoption in June 2024.

Future Development Strategy (FDS)

The preparation of the Strategy and supporting documents including the FDS Technical Report and Engagement Report are being finalised.

The preliminary draft collective Hapū Aspirations Statement on behalf of Ngā Hapū o Whangārei has been completed. A joint hui for all our hapū delegations across the Whangārei District and within Taitokerau was held on the 24th April to update hapū on the work undertaken since the previous meeting in December 2023 and to socialise and review the preliminary Hapū Aspirations Statement.

Statutory Policies & Bylaws

Alcohol Control Bylaw

Staff have been working on incorporating the feedback from Elected Members at the Council Briefing on 26 March 2024 into a decision report for the May Council Meeting.

Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy

Council adopted a Statement of Proposal at the Council Meeting on 24 April 2024. Statutory consultation is scheduled to run from 1 May to 3 June.

Psychoactive Substances Policy

Council adopted a Statement of Proposal at the Council Meeting on 24 April 2024. Statutory consultation is scheduled to run from 1 May to 3 June.

Dog Management Policy and Bylaw

Council adopted a Statement of Proposal at the Council Meeting on 24 April 2024. Statutory consultation is scheduled to run from 1 May to 3 June.

Climate Change

General Engagement

Community members are making good use of the Council climate change education resources to support teachers and students.

Climate Adaptation Programme - Whangaruru Ōākura catchment

The recruitment of the role Climate Change Adaptation Programme Manager is now complete and the new staff member will join Council in early June 2024.

Punaruku flood mitigation – Better Off funding

Business Case completed. Water modelling work and report completed. Presentation to Te Karearea Strategic Forum is scheduled for 20th May.

Hapū led adaptation - Better Off Funding

Communication on this fund is being prepared for it to go live shortly.

2.5.1 Risk to the Tiriti Relationship

The Department work programme presents risks to Council's relationship with its Te Tiriti partners, primarily due to project timeframes and resourcing impacting the ability to have meaningful engagement. Project teams, facilitated by Māori Outcomes, have communicated the benefits of working together while also communicating the constraints and risks transparently to hapū.

At the April 2024 LTP meeting for hapū, attendees spoke to significant demand on hapū time and resources with insufficient support from Council. This reiterates the issues raised within the March meeting of Te Karearea at Ngararatunua Marae where the haukainga identified a multitude of Council initiated or led projects seeking engagement with tangata whenua. Ngāti Kahu o Torongare committed approximately 5000 hours to these projects over 12 months. The majority of the projects were led by the Strategy department.

Hapū have expectations that they are involved in decision making on significant matters within their rohe and the District. Decision making that excludes them such as major developments within the urban area is a significant risk to the relationship of Council and hapū.

2.5.2 Delegated Financial Authority Policy

Nothing to report for April 2024.

2.6 Legislation changes or updates

Central Government has announced the intention to introduce legislation to Parliament in May 2024 and have it passed by the end of the 2024. The operational report of the District Plan department addresses this further.

The Repeal of Good Friday and Easter Sunday as Restricted Trading Days (Shop Trading and Sale of Alcohol) Amendment Bill has been drawn from the ballot of private members' bills at Parliament. If the bill becomes law, it could annul Council's Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy.

2.7 Future Planning / What's coming next?

Corporate Planning

2024-34 Long Term Plan:

Preliminary work on the Issues and Options report (10 May) is in hand. This work is leading to Council deliberations (21 May) which will be the final opportunity to make adjustment prior to audit, production, and adoption of the LTP throughout June and into early July (9th).

Annual Report

Data entry for the 2023-24 financial year remains the focus.

Spatial Planning

City Centre Programme: Knowledge Precinct Plan

Staff are continuing work to link consultant teams for the Knowledge Precinct Plan with ongoing Forum North work. A governance structure was approved by Council in early May 2024. Options are also being explored, as well as programming out the next steps for the project.

Placemaking Programme: Parua Bay & Waipu Placemaking Plans

Staff are working on the completion of the final Placemaking Plans for each location. The following steps are the focus during May 2024:

- Final amendments to the texts in line with feedback received from Elected Members.
- Proof-reading of the documents.
- Proof-reading of Te Reo used in the documents.
- Translation of titles to Te Reo.
- Adding Mihi and acknowledgements.
- Adding Mayor's foreword.
- Graphic design.

Staff are aiming for adoption of the plans in June (noting the project lead is on leave in May). Adoption dates that fit within a compressed political calendar will be identified.

Future Development Strategy (FDS)

Staff will continue to finalise the preparation of the Strategy and supporting documents including the FDS Technical Report and Engagement Report. The preliminary draft collective Hapū Aspirations Statement will continue to be reviewed and amended.

Staff will present the Draft FDS to Elected Members on the 22nd May.

A final draft FDS will then worked through alongside the FDS Working Group. The FDS and supporting attachments will be presented to WDC and NRC in June for adoption to proceed with the Special Consultative Procedure as required by the National Policy Statement on Urban Development.

Northern Growth Area

The project is aiming to set out an engagement process with hapū. Further project planning and scoping is also continuing with internal teams, particularly to understand what Council's "appetite for change" is.

State Highway 14 Indicative Business Case (SH14 IBC)

The project is led by Waka Kotahi – New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) as part of Pihi Kaha the Whangarei Hospital redevelopment. Council staff from Strategy are involved to ensure alignment with the FDS, and as a precursor to any upcoming work in Raumanga.

Policies & Bylaws

Alcohol Control Bylaw

Staff will prepare consultation material including a Statement of Proposal for adoption at the Council Meeting on 23 May 2024 with a view to consulting with the public on the proposed Bylaw and alcohol bans in June.

Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy

Statutory consultation until 3 June.

Psychoactive Substances Policy

Statutory consultation until 3 June.

Dog Management Policy and Bylaw

Statutory consultation until 3 June.

Climate Change

Climate Adaptation Programme - Whangaruru Ōākura catchment

Aiming to restart work in June 2024 once the new Climate Change Adaptation Programme Manager is on board.

Punaruku flood mitigation – Better Off Funding

Work progressing on securing funding to deliver the first steps recommended in the Business Case. WSP engaged by NTA to progress river scour protection design of Russell Road section. NRC progressing with river clearance and stop bank construction around Punaruku bridge

Hapū led adaptation - Better Off Funding

No update.

3. Māori Outcomes

3.1 Health and Safety

No work environment related issues raised, continue to monitor workload.

3.2 Current Priorities

Ongoing priority is enhancement of organisational cultural capability and engagement with Māori.

Māori Outcomes have also been supporting the setup for what has been a long-standing item from the Whangārei Tribes being a Treaty of Waitangi audit. This will take a staged approach within the current term with the first stage to be conducted through May to June.

3.3 Performance measures and compliance

Council will take appropriate account of the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi by maintaining and improving opportunities for Māori to contribute to local government decision-making processes.

Note: Due to no service level indicators in the Long-Term Plan 2021-2031, following measures reflect responsibilities of Māori Outcomes until the LTP 2024-34 comes into effect.

Performance Measure	2022 – 23 target	Compliance
Collaborate and lead the development and continuous improvement of tools, frameworks, and materials that enhances organisational cultural understanding, capability, and improved delivery.	100%	The cultural capability survey has been reviewed and has provided good data to inform the cultural capability framework.
Develop a framework to increase Council's competency and understanding of effective engagement with Māori including developing capability around Māori culture and traditions, enhancing processes to support Māori outcomes and to develop Māori capacity to contribute.	100%	Operating in lieu of an engagement framework and without budget, the framework design remains in suspension. Internal Māori engagement guidelines have been drafted
Enhance the Māori Community's understanding of council business and operations through establishing and maintaining effective working relationships with their representatives.	100%	Ongoing for urban and coastal based whānau/hapū & three of the six tribal entities who sit across the district. Due to little Council activities for inland rural whānau/hapū, relations are being grown within Whangārei-wide initiatives and activities.
Work alongside hapū/iwi to ensure they have effective opportunities to engage meaningfully with the Council in respect of their environmental, co-governance, wāhi tapu, kaitiakitanga and other aspirations.	100%	Ongoing for urban and coastal based whānau/hapū & three of the six tribal entities who sit across the district. Due to little Council activities for inland rural whānau/hapū, relations are being grown within Whangārei-wide initiatives and activities.
Lead the provision of advice and guidance from a Māori perspective on policy, technical and development issues undertaken by	100%	Ongoing, with Koha and Payment policy sitting in draft.

management and council committees.

Work collaboratively at a strategic level to ensure that WDC's response to upcoming changes within Local Government are reflective of its commitment to long term effective partnership with mana whenua.	100%	With a new government formed, this now sits in suspension. With a new government now formed, this work will now to be reviewed and implemented as it becomes available.
Provide expert advice on the impact of changing legislation relating to Māori on internal processes and protocols.	100%	With a new government formed, this now sits in suspension. With a new government now formed, this work will now to be reviewed and implemented as it becomes available.
Lead the proactive facilitation of opportunities and challenges between Māori and council to enhance relationships and outcomes.	100%	Ongoing for urban and coastal based whānau/hapū & three of the six tribal entities who sit across the district. Due to little Council activities for inland rural whānau/hapū, relations are being grown within Whangārei-wide initiatives and activities.

3.4 Current challenges/issues

Māori Outcomes have reported for nearly two years now its responsibility for developing frameworks for both Cultural Capability and Māori Engagement. With no existing framework in place to build on, and many associated cultural and engagement facets requiring ongoing support, Māori Outcomes capacity has been engulfed in total to act in lieu of formal frameworks to support both Council and the Whangārei Hapū.

Where Māori Outcomes have over the last two years provided support to the coordination and facilitation of engagement with Whangārei Hapū, to remedy delayed responsibilities such as the frameworks, Māori Outcomes were directed to limit operational support to pre-engagement advisory only. Current works affected include engagement for the Long-Term Plan (LTP) and the District Plan Review.

Other than a strong showing from hapū for the joint hapū meeting for the Future Development Strategy, which Māori Outcomes supported across eight (8) engagement meetings in 2023, only one family and a single member fronted for a total of two of all the Whangārei hapū for the LTP consultation. The District Plan review has been on hold for several years, which due to the importance of the matters important to Māori cannot be left to standard Council engagement methods.

While curious as to how decades have passed with no cultural capability or Māori engagement guidelines, and widespread cultural and engagement knowledge gaps across every tier of both operations and governance, despite significant evidence from Whangārei Hapū to remediate, the challenge for Māori Outcomes surrounds how it can develop frameworks while the organisation manages multiple consents, works, activities and projects in deficit of cultural and Māori engagement understanding. While Council will largely always survive the pitfalls of flawed engagement, hapū are the consequence in an already resource, information and knowledge deprived engagement position.

The implication for Whangārei Hapū and Council has been significant when comparing its standard form of engagement to what system changes have been supported over the last two years to

better inform Whangārei Hapū as to the workings of Council. The standard form of engagement has been primarily determined and driven by Council timelines and processes and a heavy reliance was placed on hapū individuals to inform how Council should engage hapū and who Council should or should not engage.

With personnel in Māori Outcomes who have intimate knowledge of the Whangārei Hapū, their place within the wider relationships of Northland and Māoridom, including a sound knowledge of the Māori world and person, coupled with ongoing understanding of how Council works, has enabled Māori Outcomes to incrementally enable both Council and the Whangārei Hapū to better equip and organise respectively to progress towards informed and proactive engagement.

In terms of the two long outstanding framework development, Māori Outcomes are now developing business cases to outline what is required to bring the two frameworks into existence, which centres on dedicated resource and personnel.

3.4.1 Risk to the Tiriti Relationship

Māori engagement is layered with cultural, historical, relational, and societal complexities which require a level of local intelligence to ensure effective relations. Māori engagement for Whangārei District Council aligns to both the general and Treaty orientated statutory obligations regarding the 'views', 'diversity', and 'interests' 'of all its communities', while maintaining and improving 'opportunities for Māori to contribute to local government decision-making processes.' Māori engagement is fostered across the three tiers for which Whangārei district-based hapū are represented.

NGĀ HAPŪ O WHANGĀREI | TE HUINGA | TE KĀREAREA

- The Te Kārearea Strategic Partnership Standing Committee is the Council committee which half of the membership of eight members is made up by hapū appointments.
- Te Huinga is a hapū forum established to provide an interface with Whangārei District Council who also facilitate hapū member appointments to Te Kārearea now in their second term as a standing committee in the Council's governance structure.
- While both Te Huinga and Te Kārearea are the two Whangārei hapū representation bodies for the full collective of Whangārei district-based tribes, not all hapū are active members within Te Huinga nor participate in the appointment process to Te Kārearea. To this end, and Whangārei District Council's prioritisation of hapū agency via mandated hapū delegates/delegations provides wider engagement coverage. Within this space an informal forum allows for all hapū of Whangārei to engage priority Council matters of importance, programs, and activities.

However, while three representative tiers might appear robust for Māori engagement purposes, capacity-and-capability within non-resourced based working spaces for hapū, coupled with vastly various levels of urban and rural based priorities and activities, adds further complexity to providing full coverage and therefore prior and informed engagement.

3.5 Overview of Operational Activities for February

Cultural Capability support for:

- Internal whakatau
- Tiriti Training planning
- Cultural Works Ceremony | Kioreroa Mains Replacement project

Māori Engagement support for:

Hapū/Iwi Engagement

- Māori Wellbeing Fund
- Papakāinga Contestable Fund
- Marine and Coastal Area Act Hearings
- Airport CVA Facilitator
- Northern Growth project
- Ngāti Wai | Adaptation climate plan
- Boat Ramps
- Pensioner Housing
- Parua Bay projects
- Ruakākā Cemetery Development
- Punaruku Access and Flooding Mitigation

Hapū Engagement

- Resource Management Consents
- Ngunguru Seawall Project
- Triage Patuharakeke consents
- Oakura Catchment | Climate Adaptation Pilot Program

Internal Meetings

- Infrastructure Planning
- Resource Management
- Infrastructure Capital Programmes
- Papakāinga contestable fund
- Homelessness | Operational Meeting

Te Kārearea | Standing Committee

- April meeting.

3.5.1 Delegated Financial Authority Policy

Nothing to note.

3.6 Legislation changes or updates

The new government has been quick to work on a suite of legislative changes largely rolling back significant initiatives implemented by the previous government affecting local government. While the previous government were committed to strengthening the nation's Tiriti o Waitangi responsibilities, the new coalition government have signalled a different approach to how it sees the nation's responsibilities under the Tiriti o Waitangi.

3.7 Future Planning / What's coming next?

Ongoing development and improvement of tools, frameworks, and materials that enhance organisational cultural understanding, capability, and improved delivery.

Continued development of a framework to increase Council's competency and understanding of effective engagement with Māori, including developing capability around Māori culture and traditions, enhancing processes to support Māori outcomes, and to develop Māori capacity in decision-making.

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC**Move/Second**

That the public be excluded from the following parts of proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for passing this resolution
1.1 Confidential Minutes Strategy, Planning and Development Committee 18 April 2024	Good reason to withhold information exists under Section 7 Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987	Section 48(1)(a)

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

Item	Grounds	Section
1.1	For the reasons as stated in the open minutes.	

Resolution to allow members of the public to remain

If the committee wishes members of the public to remain during discussion of confidential items the following additional recommendation will need to be passed:

Move/Second

“That _____ be permitted to remain at this meeting, after the public has been excluded, because of his/her/their knowledge of Item _____.

This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matter to be discussed, is relevant to that matter because _____.