

I hereby give notice that a meeting of Horizons Regional Council will be held on:

Date: Tuesday, 22 September 2020
Time: 10.00am
Venue: Tararua Room, Horizons Regional Council
11-15 Victoria Avenue
Palmerston North

REGIONAL COUNCIL

AGENDA

MEMBERSHIP

Chair	Cr RJ Keedwell
Deputy Chair	Cr JM Naylor
Councillors	Cr AL Benbow
	Cr EM Clarke
	Cr DB Cotton
	Cr SD Ferguson
	Cr EB Gordon
	Cr FJT Gordon
	Cr WM Kirton
	Cr NJ Patrick
	Cr WK Te Awe Awe
	Cr GJ Turkington

Michael McCartney
Chief Executive

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Full Agendas are available on Horizons Regional Council website
www.horizons.govt.nz

for further information regarding this agenda, please contact:
Julie Kennedy, 06 9522 800

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SERVICE CENTRES	Kairanga Cnr Rongotea & Kairanga-Bunnythorpe Rds, Palmerston North	Marton 19-21 Hammond Street	Taumarunui 34 Maata Street	Woodville Cnr Vogel (SH2) & Tay Sts
REGIONAL HOUSES	Palmerston North 11-15 Victoria Avenue	Whanganui 181 Guyton Street		
DEPOTS	Levin 120-122 Hokio Beach Rd	Taihape 243 Wairanu Rd		
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| PX6 | Chief Executive Interim Performance Review
<i>Report No: PX20-137</i> | |
| PX7 | Council to consider whether any item in the Public Excluded minutes can be moved into the public domain, and define the extent of the release. | |

AGENDA

1 WELCOME / KARAKIA

2 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

At the close of the Agenda no apologies had been received.

3 PUBLIC FORUMS: Are designed to enable members of the public to bring matters, not on that meeting's agenda, to the attention of the local authority.

DEPUTATIONS: Are designed to enable a person, group or organisation to speak to an item on the agenda of a particular meeting.

Requests for Public Forums / Deputations must be made to the meeting secretary by 12 noon on the working day before the meeting. The person applying for a Public Forum or a Deputation must provide a clear explanation for the request which is subsequently approved by the Chairperson.

PETITIONS: Can be presented to the local authority or any of its committees, so long as the subject matter falls within the terms of reference of the council or committee meeting being presented to.

Written notice to the Chief Executive is required at least 5 working days before the date of the meeting. Petitions must contain at least 20 signatures and consist of fewer than 150 words (not including signatories).

Further information is available by phoning 0508 800 800.

4 SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS

To consider, and if thought fit, to pass a resolution to permit the Committee/Council to consider any further items relating to items following below which do not appear on the Order Paper of this meeting and/or the meeting to be held with the public excluded.

Such resolution is required to be made pursuant to Section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (as amended), and the Chairperson must advise:

- (i) The reason why the item was not on the Order Paper, and
- (ii) The reason why the discussion of this item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.

5 MEMBER'S CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of the items on this Agenda.

Minutes of the ninth meeting of the eleventh triennium of Horizons Regional Council (Live Streamed) held at 10.00am on Tuesday 25 August 2020, in the Tararua Room, Horizons Regional Council, 11-15 Victoria Avenue, Palmerston North.

PRESENT Crs RJ Keedwell (Chair), AL Benbow, EM Clarke, DB Cotton, SD Ferguson, EB Gordon, FJT Gordon, WM Kirton, JM Naylor, NJ Patrick (via audio visual link), WK Te Awe Awe, and GJ Turkington.

IN ATTENDANCE

Chief Executive	Mr MJ McCartney
Group Manager	
Corporate and Governance	Mr C Grant
Committee Secretary	Mrs JA Kennedy

ALSO PRESENT At various times during the meeting:

Dr N Peet (Group Manager Strategy & Regulation), Dr J Roygard (Group Manager Natural Resources & Partnerships), Mr R Strong (Group Manager River Management), Mr G Shirley (Group Manager Regional Services & Information), Ms C Morrison (Media & Communications Manager), Mr A Smith (Chief Financial Officer), Mr S Mancer (Management Accountant–via audio visual link), Mr T Bowen (Principal Advisor Strategy & Policy), Dr A Lennard (Environmental Data Analyst), Mr K Russell (Operations Manager River Management), Mr E Lloyd (Senior Health & Safety Advisor), a member of the public, and a member of the Press.

WELCOME

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited Cr Te Awe Awe to say a Karakia.

APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

PUBLIC FORUMS / DEPUTATIONS / PETITIONS

There were no requests for public speaking rights.

SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS

There were no supplementary items to be considered.

MEMBERS' CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 23 JUNE 2020

20-117 **Moved** **Clarke/Turkington**

That the minutes of the Regional Council meeting held on 23 June 2020 as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.

CARRIED

IWI MATTERS UPDATE

Report No 20-105

Dr Peet (Group Manager Strategy & Regulation) provided an update on progress with iwi and hapū matters in the region, including Treaty settlements. He referred Members to the two proposed appointments outlined in recommendations d. and e.

20-122 **Moved** **B Gordon/Clarke**

It is recommended that Council:

- a. *receives the information contained in Report No. 20-105 and Annex.*
- b. *agrees to the inclusion within the Ngāti Maniapoto Deed of Settlement, of the requirement for the Maniapoto post settlement governance entity and Horizons to work together to develop a relationship agreement;*
- c. *notes that the drafting of a relationship agreement with Te Korowai o Wainuiārua will be completed, but is not included within their Deed of Settlement;*
- d. *appoints Mr Ross Brannigan to represent Horizons on the Surface Water Activities Collaborative Group; and*
- e. *notes the appointment of Mr Chris Kumeroa to the Coordinating Executive Group.*

CARRIED

SHOVEL READY FLOOD PROTECTION PROJECTS

Report No 20-106

This item requested Council approval of the 'shovel ready' flood protection projects (excluding Kumeroa Quarry) recently confirmed by central government for funding. It also requested approval to commit the balance of the funding required for the projects to proceed. Mr Strong (Group Manager River Management) outlined the nature of the projects and associated requirements, and highlighted the local share component Council needed to commit to access the funding on offer from central government.

20-123 **Moved** **Cotton/Benbow**

It is recommended that Council:

- a. *receives the information contained in Report No. 20-106;*
- b. *notes the additional funding assistance provided for the Foxton Flood Mitigation project;*
- c. *endorses the high level concept as it relates to the Rangitikei River Enhancement shovel ready project and approves an additional loan against the Rangitikei Scheme of \$1.3M to meet the local share requirement;*
- d. *endorses the high level concept as it relates to the Lower Manawatu Flood Protection Resilience shovel ready project and approves an additional loan against the Lower Manawatu Scheme of \$3.75M to meet the local share requirement;*
- e. *endorses the Palmerston North Flood Protection shovel ready project and approves an additional loan of \$1.75M to meet the local share requirement;*

- f. delegates authorisation to the Chief Executive to enter into funding agreements with Crown Infrastructure Partners, the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment or whichever government department or crown entity is the vehicle for providing central government funding.

CARRIED

SAFETY AND WELLBEING REPORT AS AT 30 JUNE 2020

Report No 20-107

Mr Lloyd (Senior Health & Safety Advisor) provided Council with a summary of safety and wellbeing related activities and performance for the financial year up to 30 June 2020.

20-124 **Moved** **Clarke/Turkington**

It is recommended that Council:

- a. receives the information contained in Report No. 20-107 and Annex.

CARRIED

COUNCILLORS' WORKSHOP ATTENDANCE - 10 JUNE TO 18 AUGUST 2020

Report No 20-108

This item noted the Councillors' Workshop Attendance from 10 June to 18 August 2020.

20-125 **Moved** **Naylor/Patrick**

It is recommended that Council:

- a. receives the information contained in Report No. 20-108 and Annex.

CARRIED

AFFIXING OF THE COMMON SEAL

Report No 20-109

This paper reported on documents to which Horizons Regional Council's Common Seal had been affixed.

20-126 **Moved** **Naylor/Patrick**

That the Council:

- a. acknowledges the affixing of the Common Seal to the below mentioned documents.
- Warrant Cards
 1. Biosecurity Act
 - Craig Davey – replacement
 - Dave Alker – replacement
 - Robert Bashford – replacement
 - Malinda Matthewson – replacement
 - Jack Keast – replacement
 - Robbie Sicely – replacement

PROCEDURAL MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

20-129

Moved

Keedwell/Naylor

THAT the public be excluded from the following part(s) of the 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 follows.

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 and section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, as follows:

CARRIED

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
PX1 Confirmation of Public Excluded Meeting held on 23 June 2020	s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
PX2 Confirmation of Public Excluded Meeting held on 21 July 2020	s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
PX3 Kumeroa Quarry Shovel Ready Project	s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities. s7(2)(i) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations). To protect the privacy and current arrangements Horizons has with the landowner but also to give Councillors the freedom to discuss what public/ private partnership model would work	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.

	best (should Council be of a mind to proceed with the project). It also contains some fairly frank views around the current commercial landscape as it applies to aggregate production.	
PX4 Reid Line Floodway Property Purchase	s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities. The item contains commercially sensitive information related to the proposed purchase of a property.	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
PX5 Council / Committee to consider whether any item in the Public Excluded minutes can be moved into the public domain and define the extent of the release		

The meeting adjourned to the Public Excluded part of the meeting at 11.49am and resumed at 2.08pm.

The meeting closed at 2.09pm.

Confirmed

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

CHAIR



CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT TO COUNCIL

Tuesday, 25 August 2020
Michael McCartney – Chief Executive

Introduction

1. This report updates Members on key organisational activities and also serves to brief Members on key national and sector issues of relevance to Horizons Regional Council. In support of that objective a number of annexed items are supplied as part of this report, they are:
 - Annex A Council Update
 - Annex B Manawatū-Whanganui (Post COVID-19) Economic Recovery Strategy
 - Annex C Cover Agenda - Regional and Unitary Chief Executive Officers' August 2020 meeting
 - Annex D Cover Agenda - Chief Executives' Environment and Economy Forum August 2020 meeting
 - Annex E Draft Cover Agenda - Regional Sector August 2020 Meeting
 - Annex F Regional Sector Special Interest Group August 2020 Newsletter
2. Members are asked to view the upcoming activities in the Council Update (Annex A) and advise us of any meetings/events that may be of interest.

Planning and Policy

3. The dual areas of primary focus currently are the ongoing 2021-31 Long-term Plan (LTP) work and Plan change 2 regulator process.
4. In terms of the LTP, Council continues to hold detailed workshops designed to explore current and future policy and operational options for the LTP. The project programme commenced with the detailed discussion on the Council's Vision and Community Outcomes. These will form the anchor for all policy and activity discussions that will follow. Currently, we are covering the activities of Horizons and inviting conversations around the relevance of those activities to the Vision, and where priorities may fall as part of the 2021 Long-term Plan.
5. Plan change 2 is at the stage of what is called expert conferencing. This is where technical experts on subjects ranging from RMA planning, to economics, to water quality, meet and identify areas of agreement and disagreement. These meetings are facilitated. Council reporting officers will shortly be submitting their material to the panel. The hearing is scheduled for 12 October 2020 and will last 5-10 days.

2019-20 Annual Report

6. Preparations for the 2019-20 Annual Report are well underway with the original timelines for completion largely uninterrupted by the COVID-19 lockdown. At this stage we anticipate the Draft Annual Report being presented to the Audit, Risk & Investment Committee on 25 September 2020, with the final adoption set for the October 2020 Council meeting. One of the challenges is to ensure the audit process is completed in line with these timelines and we are in regular contact with Council's auditors to ensure their timelines are not elongated thereby placing pressure on Horizons for adoption. While we anticipate some fiscal and operational

impact on our business due to COVID-19, we are hopeful that the impact will not be as significant as initially believed.

Transport

7. The key activity in the Passenger Transport (PT) area has been the roll-out of the Bee Card. There has been very good uptake of the Bee Card in Whanganui – currently running at 84%. Palmerston North, which was only launched in July, is currently at 43%. For more details on the Bee Card stats across the region and other current issues related to PT, I refer members to the Hub and have a read of the presentation given by staff at the 18 August 2020 Passenger Transport Committee workshop.
8. The period continues to be very challenging for the Transport team, both in terms of resetting PT post the first COVID-19 lockdown and now dealing with COVID-19 level 2 including planning for level 3 and above planning. The other key activity of work is related to the Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP). The 17 August 2020 workshop presentation provided helpful coverage of progress and timeframes for the RLTP.
9. Matters related to major transportation infrastructure activity are covered more fully in the section of COVID-19 Recovery and Accelerate25.

Regulatory

10. The regulatory activity has returned to a pre-COVID-19 level with increased demand in both consenting and compliance areas. The recent Environment Committee meeting outlined the activity in this area in greater detail. One of the major consenting activities relates to the Te Ahu a Turanga: Manawatū Tararua Highway roading project. The other very significant consenting activity in play relates to the Whanganui Port River Training project. This process will following a unique pathway in order to ensure Te Awa Tupua values are provided for.

River Management

11. As Members are aware there is an item on the agenda related to the prospect of government funding of around \$26 million for several river management projects. The advocacy for government investment in flood infrastructure has been going on for approximately two years with the Sector completing a think-piece on flood management in New Zealand, with a resilience lens. The COVID-19 recovery investment (spade ready) presented an opportunity to enhance that advocacy. The net result is that the Sector as a whole will receive around \$211 million. Horizons' \$26 Million represents a very good percentage of this quantum.
12. As mentioned earlier, the other key river management project from a construction, as opposed to a regulatory, point of view is the Whanganui Port. This project will be the first major coastal marine/river engineering works Horizons has undertaken. The engineering design and construction elements are complex. That added to the Te Awa Tupua approach makes this an exciting project.

COVID-19 Recovery

13. As Members are aware, there has been considerable activity in the COVID-19 recovery space. This has been accentuated by the flow of funding from both the Jobs for Nature (JFN) and Spade Ready infrastructure. The Regional Economic Task Force (Task Force) met last week to receive a briefing on the status of projects in the Accelerate25 (A25) and recovery space. At Annex B Members will see the Recovery Strategy document that has guided the

work of the Task Force. Attached to that strategy is a project by project status report. Note that the project list reflects a point in time. Just this last week there have been several new funding announcements for the region not explicitly covered in the Annex.

14. Looking forward, it's likely that the Task Force will be rolled into a refreshed A25 Lead Team, as there is considerable duplication across the two entities. Given both A25 and the Task Force report to Regional Chiefs, the decision on any such change will be made by that governance group.
15. All-in-all the region is faring well in an economic recovery sense, with recent reports revealing that the Manawatū-Whanganui region is doing much better than many other regions.

COVID-19 Resurgence

16. At the time of writing this report, the region had moved back into COVID-19 Level 2, with Auckland in Level 3. This has meant that the Emergency Co-ordination Centre (ECC) has moved into a state of readiness for potential resurgence. While the ECC has not been formally activated there is an increased workload in responding to the national directives. Craig Grant is operating as Resurgence Preparedness Controller, supported by a small number of staff working in Te Ao Nui. National and regional briefings are taking place throughout the week and resurgence planning both regionally and locally is well underway.
17. Part of the National directive emerging from COVID-19 wave 2 has been the requirement to set up a Regional Leadership Group (RLG) to support and guide the resurgence planning and recovery in an economic and social context. The leadership group is made up of our region's Mayors and Chair, Iwi leadership, district health board chief executives, Ministry for Social Development (MSD), Defence and Police. The group is co-chaired by the CE of Horizons and the Commissioner of MSD. A summary of the key roles and functions of the RLG will be provided at the meeting – the key one being the development of a regional strategy.

Organisation Resurgence Response

18. With the benefit of the experience of the first COVID-19 lockdown the Organisation is operationally well prepared for a Level 3 or Level 4 lockdown. We have established core functional needs for differing levels (i.e. essential services). In addition, a twin response team approach has been stood up if an ECC activation is required. This twin team system is designed to protect the teams from response impact if an outbreak were to occur with one of the teams. If we were to move to a Level 3 response Te Ao Nui will be restricted to only those in the respective teams. Concurrent work in simultaneous event planning, organisational business continuance, and recovery will be operated out of Regional House in the event of a Level 3 scenario.

Sector/National Issues

19. During the period the Regional and Unitary Chief Executive Officers and Chief Executives' Environment and Economy Forum meetings have taken place. A copy of the agenda cover for these meetings is attached at Annex C and D respectively. Not surprisingly, the meetings focussed on recovery (JFN), freshwater reform, and Three Waters reform.
20. The Regional Sector is due to meet on 28 August 2020 where one of the key items will be a workshop on the Sector's briefing to the incoming government. A copy of the draft cover agenda for the meeting is attached at Annex E.

21. In addition to summarising matters 'Sector', I have included at Annex F a copy of the Special Interest Group Newsletter, recently sent to the wider Sector membership.

ACTIVITIES

Ruapehu

Natural Resources & Partnerships

1. Ngā Wai Ora o te Whangaehu Freshwater Improvement Fund Governance Group meeting was held on 23 July 2020.

River Management

2. Hui held with Ngāti Hāua on 1 July 2020 to begin a conversation around the Ruapehu District Wide River Scheme
3. Hui held with Ngāti Rangī on 2 July 2020 to begin a conversation around the Ohakune River Scheme and Ruapehu District Wide River Scheme.
4. Hui held with Uenuku on 2 July 2020 to begin a conversation around the Ruapehu District Wide River Scheme.

Strategy & Regulation

5. 2 July 2020 – meeting with Ruapehu District Council on LTP, strategic issues and upcoming plan changes.

Whanganui

River Management

6. 6 August 2020 – site meeting with various iwi/hapu representatives around training structures at the rock stockpile site off Morgan Street and the work proposed for the North Mole.

Regional Services & Information

7. 20 July 2020 – fare charging on buses reinstated. Currently a simplified temporary fare structure with a move back to normal fares from 28 September 2020.
8. 29 July 2020 – road safety roadside seatbelt & cell phone operation checks undertaken in collaboration with Police on Anzac Parade.
9. 10-16 August 2020 – rail safety week, school visits, local advertising and media activities occurred. Information handouts and face to face discussions with community at supermarket (near to a railway crossing) in Whanganui delayed due to move to COVID-19 Alert Level 2.
10. 18 August 2020 – presentation to Whanganui District Council (WDC) Councillors' workshop on public transport.

Strategy & Regulation

11. 3 July 2020 – Te Awa Tupua Technical Advisory Group meeting.
12. 15 July 2020 – meeting with Ngāti Tamaūpoko to discuss the LTP, Climate Change and Freshwater work.
13. 22 July 2020 – meeting with hapū of Ngāti Tūpoho to discuss the LTP, Climate Change and Freshwater work.
14. 30 July 2020 – relationship meeting with Ngāti Tūpoho.
15. 5 August 2020 – Te Kōpuka nā Te Awa Tupua meeting.
16. 14 August 2020 – Te Awa Tupua Technical Advisory Group.
17. 27 August 2020 – Ngāti Tūpoho relationship meeting.

Manawatū

Natural Resources & Partnerships

18. A Manawatū Freshwater Improvement Fund Governance Group meeting was held in Palmerston North on 24 July 2020.

River Management

19. 29 July 2020 – Lower Manawatu scheme meeting.

Regional Services & Information

20. 20 July 2020 – fare charging on buses reinstated as part of the launch of the new public transport electronic ticketing system (Bee Card). At this stage a simplified temporary fare structure is being used with a move to normal fares planned from 28 September 2020.

Strategy & Regulation

21. 6 August 2020 – meeting with Rangitāne o Manawatū on the LTP, climate change and freshwater regulation.
22. Ngā Manu Taiko meeting.

Tararua

River Management

23. 7 July 2020 – Alfredton Community Planting Day.

Regional Services & Information

24. 10-16 August 2020 – rail safety week, local advertising and media activities occurred. Information handouts and face to face discussions with community at supermarket and library in Dannevirke delayed due to move to COVID-19 Alert Level 2.
25. 18 August 2020 – Dannevirke Community Vehicle Trust AGM.

Strategy & Regulation

26. 16 July 2020 – meeting with Rangitāne o Tamaki nui a Rua to discuss the LTP, Climate Change and Freshwater work.
27. 15 August 2020 – meeting with Tararua District Council on LTP development.
28. Attended the formal signing of the Alliance Agreement with NZTA for the Te Ahu a Turanga Project.

Palmerston North City

River Management

29. 29 July 2020 – Lower Manawatū scheme meeting.
30. 21 July 2020 – initial visit to Aokautere School to discuss possible restoration project options.
31. 31 July 2020 – Urban Eels Viewing Platform official opening.
32. 7 August 2020 – briefing from KiwiRail on the Palmerston North Freight Hub project.

Regional Services & Information

33. 14 July 2020 – Emergency Management Office (EMO) facilitated meetings of CDEM Welfare Coordination & Rural Coordination Groups.
34. 15 July 2020 – Minister of Civil Defence visited Te Ao Nui Emergency Coordination Centre
35. 20 July 2020 – fare charging on buses reinstated as part of the launch of the new public transport electronic ticketing system (Bee Card). At this stage a simplified temporary fare structure is being used with a move back to normal fares from 28 September 2020.
36. 27 July 2020 – EMO facilitated a planning exercise for NZTA Journey Managers.
37. 7 August 2020 – EMO facilitated Regional COVID-19 Debrief.
38. On 8 August 2020 – PNCC completed the Square East section of its 'Streets for People' programme. Since the work began in January 2020 half of the Palmerston North bus network has been detouring around the ring road. On 10 August 2020 these services returned to normal operation travelling through the newly reopened section of road.

Strategy & Regulation

39. 13 August 2020 – follow up meeting with PNCC on LTP and spatial planning.
40. Continued work on consenting for the Te Ahu a Turanga Project.
41. Attended the Karakea for the Site Office associated with the Te Ahu a Turanga project.

Horowhenua

River Management

42. Demolition of Whirikino Trestle Bridge ongoing.

Regional Services & Information

43. 16 July 2020 – update on the launch of the new electronic bus card (Bee Card) given to Horowhenua District Council's (HDC) Older People's Forum.
44. 20 July 2020 – fare charging on buses reinstated as part of the launch of the new public transport electronic ticketing system (Bee Card). At this stage a simplified temporary fare structure is being used with a move back to normal fares from 28 September 2020.
45. 10-16 August 2020 – rail safety week, local advertising and media activities occurred. Information handouts and face to face discussions with community at Queen Street rail crossing in Levin delayed due to move to COVID-19 Alert Level 2.

Strategy & Regulation

46. 13 August 2020 – meeting with HDC on LTP, strategic projects and plan changes.
47. Meeting with HDC regarding proposed works in the Foxton Loop.

Rangitikei

Natural Resources & Partnerships

48. Staff attended a Three Waters Reform Programme Workshop on 4 August 2020.

River Management

49. 1 July 2020 – hui held with Ngāti Waewae to discuss Rangitikei River Scheme Strategy and resource consent applications.
50. 13 July 2020 – hui held with Ngāti Apa to discuss Rangitikei River Scheme Strategy and resource consent applications.
51. 22 July 2020 – Rangitikei Scheme meeting.
52. 23 July 2020 – meeting with Raukawa/ Kauwhata regarding river management work.

Strategy & Regulation

53. 7 July 2020 – attended Te Roopu Ahi Kāa meeting to discuss Climate Change.
54. 7 July 2020 – relationship meeting with Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Hinemanu me Ngāti Paki ki Mōkai Pātea.
55. 31 July 2020 – relationship with Ngāti Kauwhata, Te Reureu and Raukawa hapū on the Rangitikei to discuss various matters, including the Rangitikei Catchment Group.
56. 14 August 2020 – Ngā Puna Rau o Rangitikei.

CORPORATE & GOVERNANCE UPDATE

57. Extraordinary Council meeting held 21 July 2020.
58. LTP workshop held 21 July 2020.
59. Rangitikei River Control Scheme meeting held 22 July 2020.
60. LTP workshop held 28 July 2020.
61. Lower Manawātū Scheme meeting held 29 July 2020.
62. Strategy and Policy Committee meeting held 11 August 2020.
63. Councillors' LTP workshop held 11 August 2020.
64. Discussion on LGNZ Remits held 12 August 2020.
65. Environment Committee meeting held 12 August 2020.
66. RTA Forum held 13 August 2020.

67. Rates mail out commences 17 August 2020.
68. PTC workshop held 18 August 2020.
69. Councillors' LTP workshop followed by Councillors' workshop on Lake Rakau Hamama held 19 August 2020.
70. LGNZ AGM held 21 August 2020.
71. Council meeting held 25 August 2020.
72. Audit, Risk and Investment Committee meeting held 25 August 2020.
73. Councillors' LTP workshop held 26 August 2020.
74. Regional Sector meeting held 28 August 2020.

Number of FTEs

75. The total number of FTEs is: 256.

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

76. 3 July 2020 – staff planting day, Bulls Bridge in conjunction with Rangitīkei District Council, Clifton and Bulls Schools, and Bulls Community Trust.
77. 20 July 2020 – Bee Card launch event, Main Street Terminal, Palmerston North.
78. 24 July 2020 – staff planting day, Betty Tripe Reserve, Ohaumoko Road, Rangitīkei.
79. 18-19 August 2020 – Conservation Week activities run by Environmental Educator at Bushy Park, Whanganui.
80. 23 August 2020 – Lake Horowhenua sediment trap planting day with Manawatū Turbos.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

River Management

81. 18 August 2020 – briefing to WDC.
82. 21 August 2020 – Te Arakura Road stopbank alignment technical workshop.
83. 27 August 2020 – briefing to Rangitīkei District Council on Rangitīkei Scheme management strategy and shovel ready project.

GENERAL

Natural Resources & Partnerships

84. The Freshwater & Partnerships Team have been involved in the following planting days;
 - a. Waituna West School (Manawatū Accord community grant)
 - b. Source of the Manawatū (Manawatū Accord community grant)
 - c. Higgins in Waituna West (Manawatū Accord community grant)
 - d. Norsewood School
 - e. Horizons' staff planting day at Bulls Bridge.
 - f. Te Kāuru Hapū Collective (Manawatū Accord community grant)
 - g. Huntly School
 - h. Russell Heald planting with Dannevirke South School
 - i. Readlands planting with Dannevirke High School
 - j. Horizons' staff planting day in the Rangitīkei
 - k. Te Keo wetland planting in Alfredton (Manawatū Accord community grant)

River Management

85. 2 July 2020 – announcements by Minister Jones around Provincial Growth Fund funding for the Foxton Loop and for the Lower Whanganui River training structures (part of the wider Te Puwaha project).
86. 9 July 2020, 4 August 2020 and 13 August 2020 – national River Managers' Group champions' meetings.

87. 20 July 2020 – meeting with Infrastructure Commission representatives.
88. 30 July 2020 – meeting in Dannevirke with Hawkes Bay Regional Council River Management staff.
89. 31 July 2020 – River Management strategy session

Regional Services & Information

90. 28-29 July 2020 – EMO staff attended National Emergency Management Agency COVID-19 Debrief in Wellington.
91. 13 August 2020 – EMO resurgence planning for COVID-19 and subsequent reactivation of Emergency Coordination Centre.

Strategy & Regulation

92. 14 July 2020 – Manawatū-Whanganui Rural Coordination Group meeting – debrief on COVID-19 and drought survey.
93. 23 July 2020 – meeting with Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet about Wellbeing measurement and systems change.
94. 4 August 2020 – discussion with Ministry for Primary Industries on paper on barriers to implementation of freshwater policy.
95. Prehearing meetings for plan change 2 were completed in July 2020, and a number of expert conferencing sessions were also held.

Report No.	20-131
Decision Required	

NATIONAL WILDING CONIFER CONTROL PROGRAMME

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. To inform Council of Horizons' current involvement with the **National Wilding Conifer Control Programme** (NWCCP) and to seek approval to sign a second contract for this programme as the first four-year term expired June 30 2020.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1. Pest conifers transform a wide range of environments into densely forested land. Horizons' approach to managing pest conifers is to control wilding established stands and the historic sources, including shelter belts, forests etc. Horizons has a long history of managing pest conifers dating back to the 1980s. Horizons Pest Plant Management Plan 2017, included management of only *Pinus contorta* and the current **Regional Pest Management Plan** (RPMP) 2017-2037 added an additional three pest conifers (*P.sylvestris*, *P.mugo*, *P.unciata*) to better protect our most vulnerable habitat. The programme completes work in an active management zone (Figure 2), predominately in the northern part of the region and also along the western Ruahine ranges and surrounding areas. The active management zone represents 17% of the region and the programme has a strong collaborative approach working with landowners, other organisations including neighbouring regional councils and Central Government.
- 2.2. Nationally, the National Wilding Conifer Strategy (2015-30) was released in 2015. This has been the guiding document for recent Central Government investment in the management of wilding conifers across New Zealand. The structure for the delivery of this funding provides for coordination New Zealand-wide by the NWCCP (a diagram of the structure is provided in the paper (Figure 3). The structure includes a governance group with Central Government, Regional Council, Federated Farmers, New Zealand Forest Owners Association and others that provides the overall governance.
- 2.3. A national programme team involving the **Ministry for Primary Industries** (MPI) reports to the governance group and several advisory groups report to the national team. There are now eight Regional Councils and Territorial Authorities, including Horizons, which have a fund manager role for regional delivery. Horizons acted as the fund manager for delivery in the Horizons, Hawkes Bay and Waikato regions, with funding passed through to those regional councils upon delivery of works programmes. The **Department of Conservation** (DOC) (Taupo, Whakapapa and Napier offices) is the other partner that received funding for work via the MPI/Horizons contract. The **New Zealand Defence Force** (NZDF) is a key stakeholder in pest conifer control in the region but received no funding from the NWCCP.
- 2.4. Overall, the national funding for the programme from 2016-20 was \$36 million, of which \$2,189,200 (6%) was contracted to Horizons as recipient and Chair of the **Central North Island Coordination Group** (CNICG). Horizons as the recipient and thus fund manager for this group, administered the apportioning of funding under the first contract for this work. Of that budget, \$249,200 was allocated to Horizons for expanded RPMP operations within our active management zone and was added to Horizons' operational budget of \$172,000. DOC was allocated \$1,736,000; all for works outside of our region. A breakdown of the previous four years and next year's funding splits are included in Table 1. The total Crown contribution for work in the Horizons region was solely the Horizons allocation of \$249,200, with the remaining \$1,940,000 for work outside the region going to DOC (Napier and

- Taupo) \$1,736,000; Waikato Regional Council (WRC) \$19,000; and Hawkes Bay Regional Council (HBRC) \$185,000.
- 2.5. The contribution for DOC in the first NWCCP contract was for the areas directly north and east of our region; protecting Horizons longstanding work programmes from seed from neighbouring areas. The plan for the next four years sees the NWCCP supporting additional DOC and Horizons conifer control. DOC Whakapapa will be managing operations in the DOC estate within our region, at Hihitahi, Raketapauma, Tongariro Forest, and the full Tongariro National Park. These operations will enable the removal of all target pest conifer species from the Central Plateau.
- 2.6. As the recipient, Horizons provided significant in-kind contribution to the NWCCP of an average of 300 hours per year across two staff. This included chairing the CNICG and acting as fund manager for the Central North Island Region. Horizons staff also function as management unit managers for partner organisation oversight and project managers for operational management. These functions are delivered by Horizons' Biosecurity Plants Team. To put the funding in context, the total annual funding for the Biosecurity Plants Team in 2019-20 via rates is \$1,861,298 of which \$791,547 is budgeted for external expenditure. The 2020 NWCCP will add an additional \$329,100, a 41% increase of annual budget for external biosecurity pest plant team work in our region this financial year. Much of the work in the first year of the project is surveillance to establish the extent and size of the conifer infestation and this information will assist in prioritising areas for subsequent control in years two to four of the control programme.

Table 1: Summary of the previous and proposed contracts for wilding conifer control as a part of the Central North Island Regional Coordination Group.

Crown Contribution (via MPI) to	Initial 4-year contract (2016 to 2020)	Proposed new contract year 1 of 4 (Sept 2020 to 2021)
National programme	\$36 million	\$40 million
Horizons as recipient contract total	\$2,189,200	\$1,191,350
Horizons' allocation for works	\$249,200	\$329,000
DOC allocation for works within Manawatū- Whanganui Area	\$0	\$154,000
DOC allocation for works outside the Manawatū-Whanganui area	\$1,736,000	\$605,250
Hawkes Bay Regional Council allocation	\$185,000	\$40,000
Waikato Regional Council allocation	\$19,000	\$63,000

- 2.7. This item seeks Council's approval for Horizons to enter into a further contract for the Central North Island Regional Coordination Group. The national tranche of funding allocated for wilding conifer control is significantly higher than the previous round, increasing from \$36 million from 2016-2020 to \$100 million over the next four years. Allocation of these funds has been determined by the Governance Group and consideration was given to expanding the effort in the North Island (Table 1). The Central North Island funding has increased from an average of \$550,000 per year to \$1,191,350 in the first year. The NWCCP contracts are for four years, with the first-year amount noted, while years two to four are determined from operational planning and agreed by the Governance Group via annual variations. Horizons is not required to commit a fixed amount for co-funding, however there is an expectation partners align operations and support the goals of the NWCCP. Given the NWCCP supports and expedites the goals of our RPMP and Horizons has been managing and funding pest conifer control for many years, ongoing protection of the government investment is assured. Horizons has allocated rate funding of \$109,500 within the existing 2020-21 budget for wilding conifer control to

align with the contract amount of \$329,100 from MPI. Overall, \$438,600 is budgeted to be spent externally on wilding conifer control in 2020-21. An additional \$40,000 is budgeted for in-kind project management. Of the total programme (\$478,000) in year one of the contract, Horizons is contributing 31 percent of the cost (all from existing budgets). The additional work programme size is a large expansion of delivery within the existing biosecurity plants programme; however, it can be delivered within the existing resources but may require this work to be prioritised over some other potential biosecurity plants activity.

- 2.8. This paper seeks to delegate to the Chief Executive to enter into the contract and to delegate to the Chief Executive and General Manager of Natural Resources and Partnerships to manage the annual variations to the contract and the financial components as part of the contract.

3. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council:

- a. receives the information contained in Report No. 20-131;
- b. approves delegation of the Chief Executive and Group Manager of Natural Resources and Partnerships to enter into the contractual arrangement for the wilding conifer project over four years including annual variation and the delegation to manage the project, including financial delegations.

4. FINANCIAL IMPACT

- 4.1. This item has a financial impact as additional funds will be received and managed by Horizons, including administering funds for work that will be completed by other agencies and the additional funding requiring Horizons to undertake additional activity. Horizons' supporting share is from baseline budgets and does not require additional rate funding. The in-kind component of the programme will be greater than for the previous four years, given the additional scale of the work. In-kind support includes staff time to meet planning and reporting obligations, contract management and travel expenses to attend meetings to maintain a level of participation with the NWCCP, likely in the order of 350-400 hours. This is deliverable within existing budgets; however, it will require prioritisation of this activity over other potential biosecurity work.
- 4.2. Over the last four years we have entered into annually adjusted variations and operated as the fund manager to enable money from MPI to be distributed to partners to be spent within and outside Horizons region. To date, Horizons have received \$249,200 to support our control operations and we expect to receive approximately \$1 million over the next four years.
- 4.3. If Council decides Horizons should cease to act as recipient for the NWCCP, MPI will have to establish another regional council as recipient as DOC are not able to act in this manner.
- 4.4. If Council approves entering into this contract, it is recommended that the budgeted income and expenditure be included in the Long-term Plan, noting the amounts from MPI year one to three of the Plan will only be estimates until the annual contract variations are determined.
- 4.5. This is a public item and Council may deem that sufficient in terms of community engagement. Nationally, the issue of wilding conifers and the increased funding for work has been subject to some media releases. The work to deliver wilding conifer activity involves engagement with multiple agencies and landowners, which contributes to some community engagement. Horizons' management of pest conifers and involvement in the

NWCCP allows for a greatly expanded control programme and interaction with the community benefiting from this work. Horizons' approach via our RPMP goes beyond the NWCCP focus on wilding conifers.

- 4.6. If Council approves entering the contract, a dedicated section of the Environment Committee report on Biosecurity Plants Activity will be added for reporting on the wilding conifer work programme.

5. SIGNIFICANT BUSINESS RISK IMPACT

- 5.1. This item is not considered to have significant business risk. As with all multi-agency projects involving administration of Central Government funding there is reputational risk around delivery and health and safety management. Horizons is exposed to additional liability through the NWCCP's hierarchy, which requires all partners to the programme have robust and rigorous programme-compliant operational and health and safety systems. Health and safety management will be a key part of the subcontracting arrangements and will require ongoing management during the course of the contract.

6. CLIMATE IMPACT STATEMENT

- 6.1. Controlling pest conifers reduces carbon sequestering trees and the control of these is likely to result in an increase in greenhouse emissions. The primary source of the emissions will come from turbine-powered helicopters used in the control of wilding conifers, support vehicles and ground operations which require travel to sites.
- 6.2. The table below summarises the estimated emissions for an hour's average flying time for each of the helicopter models used in conifer control. The majority of the flying uses Hughes 500 D/E and 520N helicopters due to their manoeuvrability, performance at altitude, reliability and safety record.

Helicopter Model	Nitrogen Oxides (Kg/Hour)	Unburned Hydro Carbons (Kg/Hour)	Carbon Monoxide (Kg/Hour)	Fuel – Jet A1 (Kg/Hour)
Bell Jet Ranger	0.63	0.7	0.86	101
Hughes 500 D/E	0.64	0.8	1.02	112.3
Hughes 520N	0.61	0.82	1.03	109.5
AS350B Squirrel	1.16	0.57	0.7	146.5

- 6.3. The full report from which this information was drawn can be found at <https://bit.ly/32ykczc>
- 6.4. There are currently no alternative options in helicopter models to undertake this activity and the most effective methodology for wilding conifer control in extensive landscapes is by using helicopters for surveillance and control.
- 6.5. Ground control using contractors would also increase emissions due to motorised travel to and from the extensive treatment area over a longer timeframe.
- 6.6. Removal of wilding conifers will reduce the amount of carbon sequestered from the atmosphere; however, leaving these pest plants uncontrolled will within a decade transform extensive landscapes into a contiguous conifer forest which negatively impacts biodiversity.

7. BACKGROUND

- 7.1. Horizons has long been a facilitator of coordinated control programmes against pest conifers within our region, and a champion of this approach outside our region.

- 7.2. Pest conifers spread many kilometres from source plantings and, once established, transform most habitats to forests with a tree density so great that all else is excluded. They are landscape-scale transformers and costly to remove once established. Without a shared cross-boundary approach to control, one organisation's cleared asset can be lost due to the significant spread potential of tress left uncontrolled.



Figure 1 Our unique natural heritage – without wilding conifer control this landscape would be an impenetrable forest (Photo by C.Davey).

- 7.3. The first species targeted in our Region was *Pinus contorta*. Catchment boards that were incorporated into Horizons nominated this species for government noxious plant status in 1982. Forming the **Pinus Contorta Control Committee** (PCCC) the year prior with representatives from partner organisations such as the New Zealand Defence Force and the Lands and Survey Department, set Horizons on a collaboration and facilitation path which it continues today. Meeting biennially, the group advocated for Central Government funding of legacy planting control and mopping up spread. This successfully delivered \$666,000 in the early 1980s for control on the slopes of Mt Ruapehu.
- 7.4. Horizons facilitate information exchange and desire for collaborative and aligned control across the Central Plateau and sees it as the Chair of the renamed PCCC, the Central North Island Wilding Conifer Group, to this day.
- 7.5. Horizons initially struck rules on occupiers for control of *P.contorta* through to 2007, then took control in-house for non-Crown land to ensure we could reach the regional goals and reflect the regional benefit of eliminating pest conifers. Our 2017 **Regional Pest Management Plan** (RPMP) listed three additional pest conifer species – *P.sylvestris*, *P. mugo* and *P.uncinata* – for complete removal from a mapped **Active Management Zone** (AMZ) (Figure 2). There are also specific rules for these species in the Karioi Forest Zone, a subset of the AMZ, and we advocate for Crown land control via our collaborative/aligned approach with DOC and NZDF. Horizons will not conduct control of the named pest conifers outside of the AMZ with the exception of prioritised sites of high value and site-led initiatives. There are no rules on Occupiers within the Good Neighbour Process Zone.

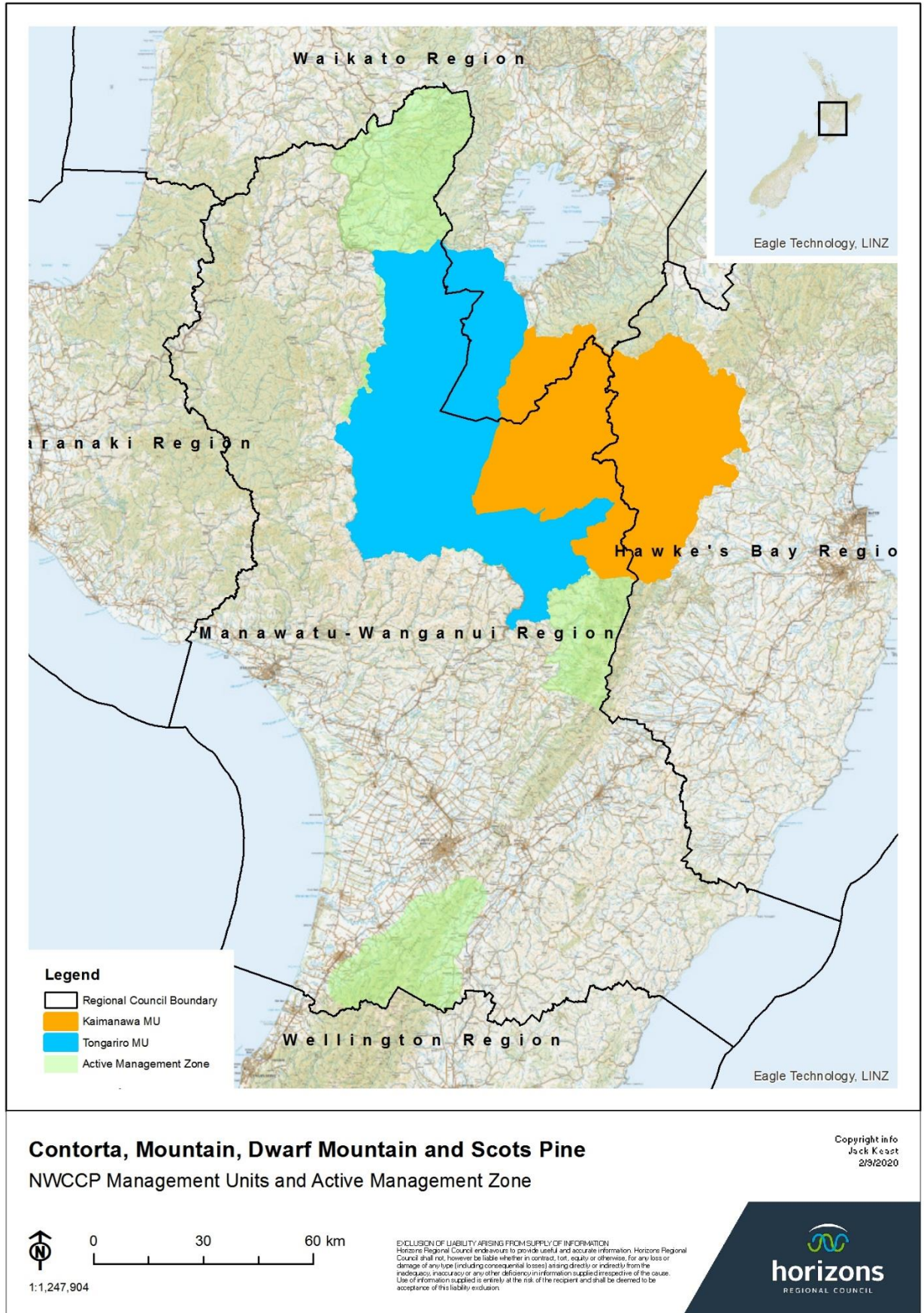


Figure 2 Horizons region pest conifer control – AMZ is the green shaded areas, which includes the area within the region under the NWCCP Management Units in blue and orange.

- 7.6. Pest conifers can be beaten with sufficient time and money. The collective spend against pest conifers in the Central North Island since the 1970s is probably well over \$50 million, not accounting for the countless hours of early attempts at the Waiouru military training ground nor the effort by groups such as the Whanganui Tramping Club which, at more than 50 years, have the longest-running single-focused community group pest control operation still operating.
- 7.7. Since 2007 Horizons has been spending approximately \$100,000-150,000 surveying for, spraying and cutting down the last of the pest conifers in the AMZ. We received more ratepayer funding following the new RPMP in 2017 for the expanded species targets as this meant further shelter row removal was required.
- 7.8. The NWCCP has been a welcome source of Central Government funding focussed on containing and removing scattered wilding conifers to prevent further spread and to protect farmland, biodiversity, important natural landscapes and sensitive water catchments. During the first four years (2016-2019) the NWCCP Horizons operations were within the AMZ in an area described as the Kaimanawa Management Unit (MU) (Figure 2 and 5) and were supported with \$249,200 from the fund. Over the next four years the area will expand to include the Tongariro MU (Figure 2 and 5) and a forecast MPI contribution to be spent by Horizons in our region is approximately \$1 million. Horizons likely to contribute some \$400,000 of external spend plus in-kind management in the order of 350-400 hours across three staff at an estimated cost of \$40,000 per year. This is all within existing budgets.
- 7.9. The MPI funding allocated for programme expenses in the Central North Island over the next four years is approximately \$3 million. The approximate split across management agencies is Horizons \$1 million, DOC \$1.2 million, Hawkes Bay Regional Council \$400,000, and Waikato Regional Council \$400,000.

8. DISCUSSION

- 8.1. Horizons' participation with the NWCCP and the functions it performs is the subject of this paper.
- 8.2. The NWCCP structure is displayed in Figure 3. Horizons is chair of one of the Regional Steering [Central North Island Coordination Group] Groups and we also participate as a member of the Operational Advisory Group.

WILDING CONIFER CONTROL PROGRAMME - STRUCTURE

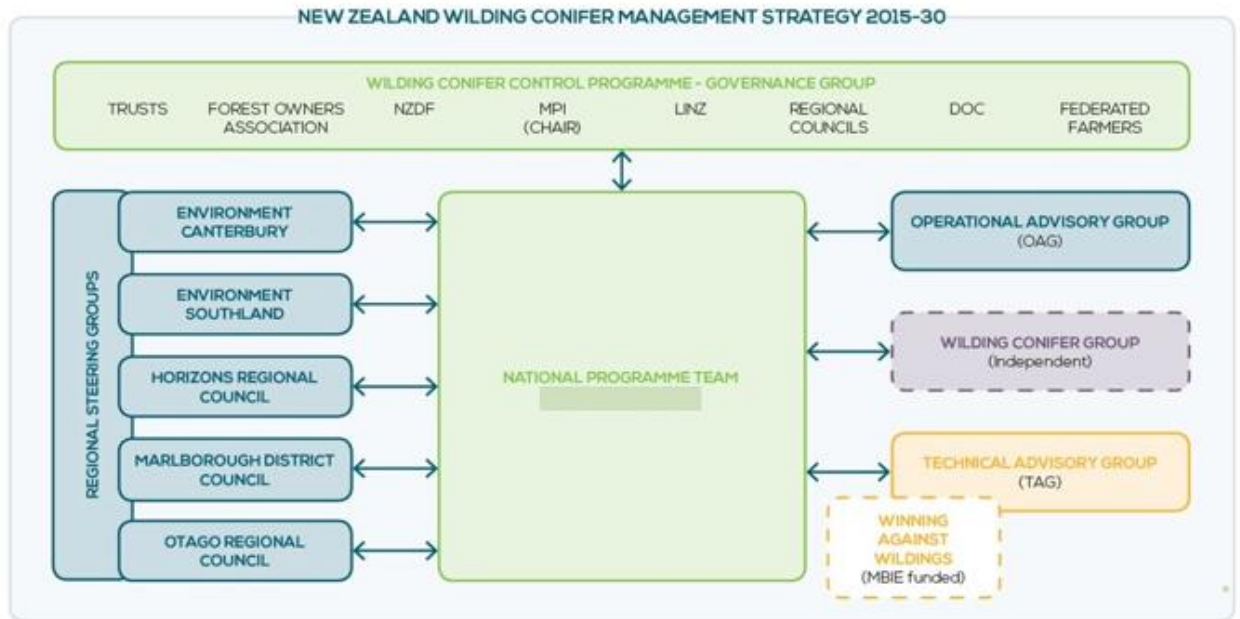


Figure 3 National Wilding Conifer Control Programme structure.

- 8.3. Recipient councils sign a multi-year funding agreement contract with the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) which defines roles and responsibilities and sets activities and deliverables to be met, among other conditions. The fund manager role requires chairing a regional coordination group, distributing funds to partner organisations and reporting to MPI. In following years, the recipient signs a letter of variation which captures the yearly amount to be managed on behalf of the NWCCP. Operational planning is a yearly process begun in February and finished in April, in time for the drawdown of funds early in the new financial year. Once signed, the funds are immediately released on invoice from Horizons for eventual dispersal to our partner organisations, typically at the end of each partner’s operations.
- 8.4. The 2020-23 contract is revised from the original to better capture the roles within the programme and place a sharper focus on health and safety management. Horizons facilitated a coordinated regional council legal assessment of the contract. Legal teams from Otago, Waikato and Bay of Plenty Regional Councils were asked to scrutinise and provide feedback to the body of fund managers and then on to MPI.
- 8.5. Horizons previously created a separate sub-contract with each partner organisation that contracts out operational work. Given we have a revised contract, we will be establishing a new sub-contract and this time we are using the Bay of Plenty Regional Council legal team to draw it up. This is a saving to Horizons of a few thousand dollars. This Horizons/partner contract carries with it the requirements of the MPI contract to ensure Horizons only acts in an oversight role for partners’ operations and deliverables such as NWCCP-compliant health and safety management. The contract also details how payment from the fund occurs once Horizons as fund manager is satisfied all NWCCP requirements are met.
- 8.6. The new contract has a very strong focus on health and safety management. The NWCCP has established a Health and Safety Charter, and MPI establishes a unique health and safety risk management plan (HSRMP) with each fund manager. Horizons also establishes a HSRMP plan with each of its partners, as Persons Conducting Businesses or Undertaking (PCBUs), and no NWCCP operations can start until these are established. These HSRMPs address the Governance Group-endorsed Critical Risks and capture the full considerations and actions of contract management allowing transparency through the programme, from what happens on the hill to MPI in Wellington.

- 8.7. The NWCCP has designated roles and responsibilities for each of these to ensure there are clear hierarchies for health and safety and operational reporting and planning.
- Fund Managers
 - **Management Unit Managers** (MUM)
 - Project Managers

However, almost all regional council fund manager systems are different across the country. The South Island are entirely single regional council to partner relationships i.e. DOC, trusts and **Land Information New Zealand** (LINZ), etc. The MUMs and project managers can be either regional council or partner staff. Both Horizons and for 2020 Bay of Plenty Regional Council, have fund manager roles to multiple regional council partner relationship. This is a reflection of the across-landscape collaborative North Island approach as well as the relatively smaller footprint of the NWCCP in the North Island.

- 8.8. The fund manager contracts partner organisations who then contract the operations. Another function is to establish and chair a regional coordination group. This group's terms of reference are to ensure existing conifer groups and organisations are represented and to ensure the RCG meets periodically to oversee the prioritising, aligning, planning and assessment of work completed (or to be completed) under the National Programme in that region. Craig Davey, for Horizons, is chair and currently the group meet biannually.
- 8.9. The multiple partner operations are overseen for planning/reporting purposes by a Management Unit Manager. This role has more frequent contact for operational and health and safety communications with partners.
- 8.10. Project managers are the on-the-ground contractor managers who are also responsible for data collection and input, and the initial providers of information for planning reporting and health and safety management.
- 8.11. Programme reporting was previously monthly but through the operational season NWCCP is migrating to a different format using phone and the online geographical information system developed by LINZ, the **Wilding Conifer Information System** (WCIS). WCIS reports infestation details to show change over time, as well as activities such as survey and control. Input can be mobile but is normally done via desktop. For 2020-21, the MUM is required to validate all data entered and ensure activity and infestation change updates have occurred prior to payment by the fund manager. WCIS is also the 'near-miss' and 'incident' health and safety reporting tool.
- 8.12. A geographical hierarchy within NWCCP describes where work occurs. New Zealand has been divided into Management Units (Figure 4, and 5 for the CNICG catchment) with large areas prioritised around vulnerable, valued landscapes. Within these, Operational Areas (Figure 6) describe discrete bundles of work against infestations which enable long-term measuring and reporting.



Figure 4 New Zealand by Management Unit.

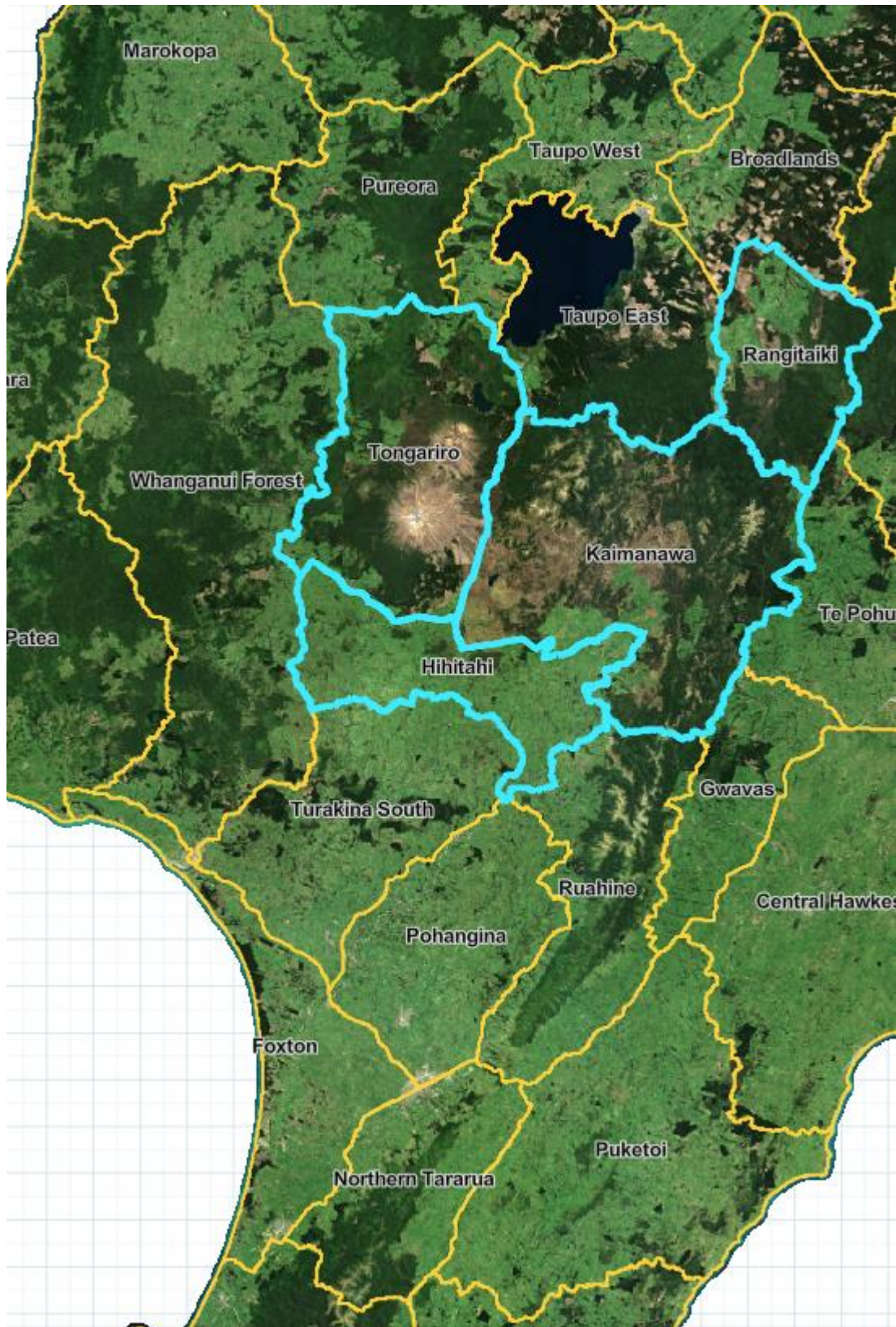


Figure 5 Currently funded Management Units of the Central North Island Regional Coordination Group; note the Hihitahi and Tongariro MUs are now combined under the name Tongariro, and Rangitaiki is under Bay of Plenty Regional Council's fund management. Please refer to figure 2 for regional boundaries.

- 8.13. For the first four years (2016-20) of the NWCCP, approximately 19 Management Units were funded nationally as they were formed around an initial prioritisation of wilding and source infestation size, vulnerable land and existing work programmes. The existing programme factor was important as there was an obvious established need and a management pool to draw from within DOC and regional councils. Given the 2020-21 eight-fold increase in allocation, the NWCCP has been able to expand into new territory and spread the funds to areas like Tasman, Bay of Plenty and Northland.
- 8.14. In the first contract the NWCCP funded the CNIRCG only for the Kaimanawa Management Unit (Figure 5, Figure 6). From 2020-21, the CNIRCG also has funding for the Tongariro MU (now includes the Hihitahi MU), and the Rangitaiki MU which is under the Bay of Plenty Regional Council's fund management.
- 8.15. Receiving the NWCCP funding has allowed Horizons to treat infestations more frequently and thoroughly, which will enable our goals of zero-levels of pest conifers in the AMZ to be reached sooner. The significant in-kind contribution to manage programme funds and remain compliant with programme requirements for our own programmes, as well as oversight of other partners' work, is recognised in regular reporting and noted by MPI.

9. SUMMARY / NEXT STEPS

- 9.1. Following Horizons' success in managing the first tranche of NWCCP funds, staff are seeking Council's approval to enter into a new four-year contract. Expenses and staff time are allocated for this purpose from within existing budgets. While this is bigger than the first contract, the expanded programme involves more staff and is within our capability. The extra funds have the potential to realise landscape change on a large scale and enable the asset of cleared areas to be protected, as well as continuing Horizons established role of facilitation within the Central Plateau.
- 9.2. The MPI contract is expected to be signed by recipients in September.

10. SIGNIFICANCE

- 10.1. This is not considered to be a significant decision according to the Council's Policy on Significance and Engagement.

Craig Davey
COORDINATOR – PEST PLANTS

Jon Roygard
GROUP MANAGER NATURAL RESOURCES & PARTNERSHIPS

ANNEXES

There are no attachments for this report.

Report No.	20-132
Decision Required	

CLIMATE CHANGE: ORGANISATIONAL EMISSIONS

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. At the request of Council this report provides advice on organisational **greenhouse gas (GHG)** emissions reduction targets and on work required to quantify associated costs. Members have sought advice on timing and costs of an organisational emissions inventory and plan.
- 1.2. The paper identifies costs and options around progressing work this financial year (currently unbudgeted) or progressing work as part of its upcoming Long Term Plan subject to public consultation.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1. With the passage of the Zero Carbon Act and changing public expectations, GHG emissions are increasingly a factor in long-term business planning. Many organisations, including councils, are responding by setting corporate emissions reduction targets.
- 2.2. Should Council wish to adopt targets for emissions associated with Horizons' activities, it may consider starting with an 'interim' target aligned to the Zero Carbon Act – a 30 percent reduction by 2030, for example. This would help guide corporate planning, including the **Long-Term Plan (LTP)**, and could be reviewed once emissions reduction options (and associated costs) had been established.
- 2.3. The cost of achieving targets will depend in part on our organisation's current emissions profile. Completing a corporate emissions inventory and reduction plan would establish a baseline, identify abatement options, and allow costs to be quantified. This project would require up to \$80,000 and an investment of staff time – currently unbudgeted. Were resource to be made available this financial year, targets could be reviewed and measures to reduce Horizons' emissions integrated into the LTP before it is adopted in May/June 2021.
- 2.4. The elements described above – targets, inventories, reduction plans, and operational and policy changes to reduce emissions – together form an organisational GHG reduction strategy. Should resource not be available to begin this work this financial year, Council may wish to include development of such a strategy in year 1 of the LTP, with provision for its implementation in subsequent years.

3. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council:

- a. receives the information contained in Report No. 20-132.
- b. notes that a reduction in emissions of 30 percent by 2030 broadly aligns with the national target of carbon neutrality by 2050.
- c. notes that further information is required on our current emissions, and options to reduce emissions, in order to quantify costs associated with any target adopted.
- d. notes that action to reduce organisational greenhouse gas emissions would benefit from a strategy and investment through the Long-term Plan.
- e. adopts a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions associated with Horizons' activities of 30 percent by 2030 as an interim target.
- f. agrees to:
 - i. commit up to \$80,000 of unbudgeted expenditure this financial year to better inform long-term planning.

OR

- ii. consider the funding for an organisational emissions inventory and reduction plan as part of the Long-term Plan process.

4. FINANCIAL IMPACT

- 4.1. Funding is not currently allocated to work described in this report. The report presents Council with the option of committing unbudgeted expenditure this financial year of up to \$80,000 or consulting on proposed expenditure during its Long Term plan process.
- 4.2. Alternatively Council may wish to consider funding via the LTP process.

5. CLIMATE IMPACT

- 5.1. This report contributes directly to Horizons' climate change response, by providing advice on targets to reduce emissions associated with our operational activities.

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- 6.1. Climate change is an area of strong interest to many members of the community. Community engagement on other aspects of our climate change response is currently underway.
- 6.2. No public engagement has been conducted in producing this advice. Council may choose to consult on corporate targets through the LTP or other means.

7. SIGNIFICANT BUSINESS RISK IMPACT

- 7.1. Setting targets without first establishing current emissions levels or reduction pathways potentially exposes Horizons to unquantified costs. Should action to reduce emissions not be adequately integrated into the LTP, there would be a heightened risk that targets would not be met. Perceived failures of financial planning or operational delivery carry reputational risk to the organisation.
- 7.2. Conversely, a perceived failure to act decisively in setting targets could undermine Horizons' credibility with stakeholders. In the longer term, the absence of a plan to reduce

emissions from our operations may expose the organisation to greater costs, as opportunities to take the initiative are lost.

8. BACKGROUND

8.1. New Zealand's national framework for reducing GHG emissions, as part of a global effort to tackle climate change, is set through the Climate Change Response Act 2002. Amendments in 2019 (commonly referred to as the Zero Carbon Act) established national targets:

- Zero net emissions of all GHGs except biogenic methane (methane emissions from waste and agriculture) by 2050.
- Reduce emissions of biogenic methane to 24–47 percent below 2017 levels by 2050, including a 10 percent reduction by 2030.

8.2. The Act requires that the Minister for Climate Change set five-year emissions budgets to chart progress toward national targets. The first three of these (through to 2035) are to be gazetted by the end of 2021.

8.3. National reduction plans are to be published to meet emissions budgets. They are to include overarching strategies and sector-specific policies to reduce emissions, increase removals, and support the changes required. The first national reduction plan is also due to be produced by the end of 2021. In the interim, the form Government strategies and policies will take is not clear; the Act acknowledges that they will impact on employees and employers, regions, iwi and Māori, and wider communities. Even if Horizons sets no corporate emissions reduction targets of its own, regulatory and market changes will have an effect on our activities and associated costs.

9. ORGANISATIONAL TARGETS

9.1. At present, organisational emissions targets and reduction plans are not required in New Zealand. Many organisations, including local authorities, have nonetheless found it useful to set targets. Corporate targets demonstrate a commitment to action; they allow change to be planned for and proactive decisions made. A simple internet search shows that:

- Bay of Plenty Regional Council and Environment Canterbury are working towards GHG emissions reductions of 30 percent by 2030;
- Greater Wellington Regional Council has a target of becoming carbon neutral by 2030;
- Waikato Regional Council has a target of reducing corporate emissions by 45 percent by 2030, and becoming carbon neutral by 2050.

9.2. Like national targets, corporate targets can take the form of a date for carbon neutrality (e.g. 2050) and / or a rate of reduction by a given date (e.g. 30 percent by 2030). Using 2020 as a starting point, 30 percent by 2030 is roughly the rate required to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.

9.3. Targets, budgets, and reduction plans could be set to align with LTP cycles. In many cases, emissions reductions are linked to energy efficiency and cost savings; over time, new technologies are likely emerge that are not available (or not affordable) today. Nonetheless, we should expect that reducing our carbon footprint will require investment. How much will depend on the distance between our targets and our starting point.

10. ORGANISATIONAL EMISSIONS INVENTORY

10.1. Over the past few years, Horizons has made incremental improvements that we believe have improved the carbon efficiency of our operations. We also contribute significantly to

tree planting across the region and, consequently, carbon sequestration. We do not know how those reductions and removals compare to our total emissions.

- 10.2. An emissions inventory would give us a baseline of the GHG emissions our activities generate. It would identify emissions-intensive parts of our operation and clarify the extent to which corporate emissions are offset by removals (e.g. our contribution to tree planting). This would help to quantify the scale of the task before us.
- 10.3. Corporate inventories cover both 'direct' and 'indirect' emissions arising from an organisation's activities – fuel and energy use, business travel and waste, as well as offsets from forestry. Following these established methodologies ensures transparency, rigour, and public confidence. Internationally recognised standards include ISO14064-1:2018 and the GHG Protocol Corporate Standard. An overview is provided in Ministry for the Environment guidance here:

<https://www.mfe.govt.nz/publications/climate-change/measuring-emissions-guide-organisations-2019-detailed-guide>

11. EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

- 11.1. Some reductions will be driven by regulatory or market mechanisms (e.g. electricity pricing); others (like procurement policies) would require conscious choices. Some reductions impose additional business costs (e.g. adoption of more expensive technologies); others may result in cost-savings through improved energy efficiency or innovative practices. To date, Horizons has taken an ad hoc approach, considering individual initiatives to reduce emissions on their merits as they present themselves.
- 11.2. In order to move toward emissions targets, many organisations develop emissions reduction plans. These allow actions to be costed, agreed, and put into practice. Inventories are typically updated on a regular basis to track progress.
- 11.3. The relationship between targets, the inventory, reduction plans, and action is illustrated in Figure 1 below.

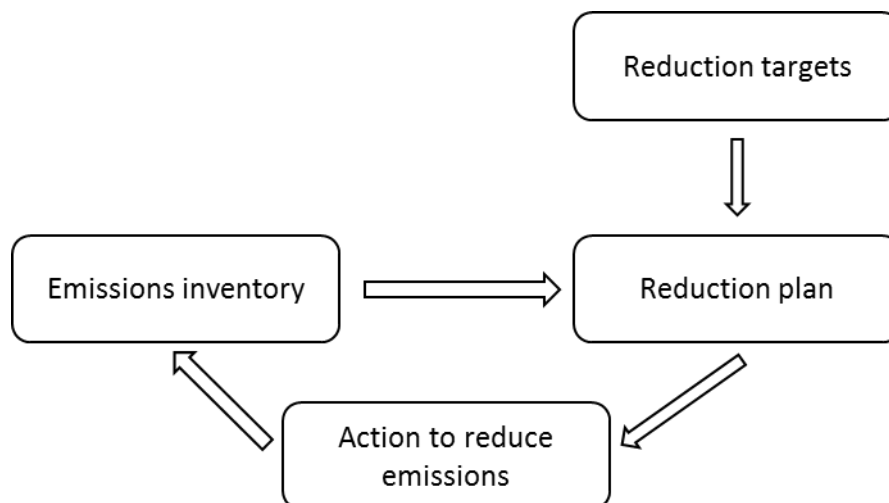


Figure 1: Elements of an emissions reduction strategy

12. 'CARBONMARK' CERTIFICATION

- 12.1. Independent certification is available through the Toitū carbon reduce / carbon zero scheme (formerly known as CEMARS). Certification is not essential, but provides a greater level of public assurance through annual audit and review. Some councils have committed to the certification scheme; others report periodically without pursuing formal certification. Council may wish to consider certification over the course of the LTP.

13. RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS

- 13.1. Indicatively, completion of a corporate emissions inventory and reduction plan may cost up to \$80,000. In addition to expert contractor support to produce the inventory and advice on emissions reduction options, we would likely engage fixed-term staff to compile data (fuel and energy use, travel, waste, etc) from the various sources and systems where it is held. This would keep the commitment of staff time to a manageable level, to provide guidance and oversee the process.
- 13.2. Resource requirements would reduce significantly for subsequent inventories. Data compilation becomes more efficient once processes are in place, and many organisations update their inventories without contractor involvement.
- 13.3. The above figures do not include costs of actions to reduce emissions over time. Changes to our procurement policies, corporate practices, etc, would need to be factored into longer-term business planning.

14. OPTIONS

- 14.1. Horizons’ draft Climate Action Strategy includes an objective of supporting the transition to a carbon-neutral regional economy by 2050. Members could choose to set an ‘interim’ organisational target to match that trajectory – 30 percent by 2030, for example. Since this reflects the change required of the country as a whole, there would be relatively little risk in committing to that pathway. Work to quantify current emissions and begin to make reductions could be funded through the forthcoming LTP.
- 14.2. Alternatively, Members may consider that Horizons should aim to do more than meet the national average. More ambitious reduction targets would likely mean a greater commitment of resource. Members may wish to receive advice on current emissions and options to reduce them before committing to specific targets. The option also exists to consult on targets through the LTP.
- 14.3. A third option, perhaps also including public consultation, would be to develop an organisational emissions strategy in FY2021/22. This would allow resource to be allocated to complete an inventory, develop a reductions plan, provide advice on organisational emissions reduction targets, and make associated changes to corporate policies and procedures.
- 14.4. These approaches are outlined in the Table 1 below. Variations are possible – in particular, Members may wish to combine ‘interim’ targets with further work this financial year to inform ‘firm’ targets and long-term planning.

Approach	Target setting	Inventory & reduction pathways	Action to reduce emissions
Match national targets	Possible now	Unbudgeted expenditure FY20/21	Fund through LTP
More ambitious targets	Consider consultation through LTP	Unbudgeted expenditure FY20/21	Fund through LTP
Targets contained in emissions strategy	Consider once more information is available	Fund through LTP	Fund through LTP

Table 1: Options for target setting

15. CONSULTATION

- 15.1. This advice has been developed internally by staff from the Corporate and Strategy groups.
- 15.2. It is also informed by information from potential consulting service providers, and discussion with staff at other councils.

16. NEXT STEPS

- 16.1. Council may wish to commission a one-off corporate GHG inventory and advice on options to reduce our emissions. This would provide a baseline to inform targets. Subject to Council's approval of unbudgeted expenditure, this work could be commissioned within the next few weeks.
- 16.2. Realistically it would take a number of months to compile the data for a corporate inventory. This is partly due to limited staff capacity, and partly reflects the inevitable delays in locating and accessing data for the first time. Reduction options can only be properly explored once the inventory has been produced. Further advice would likely not be available to Council before February 2021.

17. SIGNIFICANCE

- 17.1. This is not a significant decision according to the Council's Policy on Significance and Engagement.

Tom Bowen
PRINCIPAL ADVISOR, STRATEGY & POLICY

ANNEXES

There are no attachments for this report.

Report No.	20-133
Information Only - No Decision Required	

COUNCILLORS' WORKSHOP ATTENDANCE - 19 AUGUST TO 14 SEPTEMBER 2020

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. This item is to note the Councillors' Workshop Attendance from 19 August to 14 September 2020.

2. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council:

- a. receives the information contained in Report No. 20-133 and Annex.

3. SIGNIFICANCE

- 3.1. This is not a significant decision according to the Council's Policy on Significance and Engagement.

Craig Grant
GROUP MANAGER CORPORATE & GOVERNANCE

ANNEXES

- A Councillors' Workshop Attendance

HORIZONS REGIONAL COUNCIL
COUNCILLORS' WORKSHOP ATTENDANCE
(for the period)
19 August to 14 September 2020

Date / Time	Details	Councillor Attendance
19 August – 9.30am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LTP - Lake Rakau Hamama 	Present: Cr AL Benbow Cr EM Clarke Cr DB Cotton (audio visual link) Cr SD Ferguson Cr EB Gordon Cr FJT Gordon Cr RJ Keedwell Cr WM Kirton Cr JM Naylor Cr NJ Patrick (audio visual link) Cr WK Te Awe Awe Cr GJ Turkington
26 August – 9.30am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LTP Workshop 	Present: Cr AL Benbow Cr DB Cotton Cr SD Ferguson Cr EB Gordon Cr FJT Gordon Cr RJ Keedwell Cr WM Kirton Cr JM Naylor Cr NJ Patrick Cr WK Te Awe Awe Cr GJ Turkington Apology: Cr EM Clarke

Date / Time	Details	Councillor Attendance
8 September – afternoon	- LTP Workshop	Present: Cr AL Benbow Cr EM Clarke Cr DB Cotton Cr SD Ferguson Cr EB Gordon Cr FJT Gordon (audio visual link) Cr RJ Keedwell Cr WM Kirton Cr JM Naylor (audio visual link) Cr NJ Patrick (audio visual link) Cr WK Te Awe Awe Cr GJ Turkington

Report of the second meeting of the eleventh triennium of the Audit, Risk and Investment Committee held at 3.00pm on Tuesday 25 August 2020, in the Tararua Room, Horizons Regional Council, 11-15 Victoria Avenue, Palmerston North.

PRESENT Crs AL Benbow (Chair), EM Clarke, RJ Keedwell, SD Ferguson, JM Naylor, NJ Patrick (*via audio visual link*), and GJ Turkington.

IN ATTENDANCE Councillors B Gordon, F Gordon, W Kirton
Chief Executive Mr MJ McCartney
Committee Secretary Mrs KA Tong

ALSO PRESENT At various times during the meeting:
Mr C Grant (Group Manager Corporate and Governance),
Mr G Shirley (Group Manager Regional Services & Information),
Dr J Roygard (Group Manager Natural Resources & Partnerships),
Dr N Peet (Group Manager Strategy & Regulation), Mr R Strong
(Group Manager River Management), Mr A Smith (Chief Financial
Officer), Mr E Lloyd (Senior Health & Safety Officer) and
Ms C Morrison (Media & Communications Manager).

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

PUBLIC FORUMS / DEPUTATIONS / PETITIONS

There were no requests for public speaking rights.

SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS

There were no supplementary items to be considered.

MEMBERS' CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

ARI 20-5 **Moved** **Clarke/Turkington**

That the Committee:

confirms the minutes of the Audit, Risk and Investment Committee meeting held on 26 November 2019 and the minutes of the Extraordinary Audit, Risk and Investment Committee meeting held on 1 May 2020 as a correct record, and notes that the recommendations were adopted by the Council on 17 December 2019 and 26 May 2020.

CARRIED

PROCEDURAL MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the public be excluded from the following part(s) of the 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 follows.

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 and section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
PX1 Confirmation of Public Excluded Meeting held on 26 November 2019	s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
PX2 Risk Register Update	s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities. The report refers to areas of risk which may be of a commercially sensitive nature.	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
PX3 Financial Performance for the Year Ending 30 June 2020	s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities. The financial reports have not been audited and are subject to a number of year end adjustments and audit review before being released to public.	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
PX4 Covid-19 Update / Discussion	s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7

PX5

Council / Committee to consider whether any item in the Public Excluded minutes can be moved into the public domain and define the extent of the release

The meeting adjourned to the Public Excluded part of the meeting at 3.03pm and resumed at 3.28pm.

The meeting closed at 3.29pm.

Confirmed

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

CHAIR

Report of the fourth meeting of the eleventh triennium of the Regional Transport Committee held at 10.35am on Tuesday 1 September 2020, in both the Tararua Room, Horizons Regional Council, 11-15 Victoria Avenue, Palmerston North, and also via audio visual link due to Covid-19.

PRESENT

At Horizons Regional Council: Crs RJ Keedwell (Chair), Ms E Speight (New Zealand Transport Agency)

Via audio visual link: SD Ferguson, Mayor B Wanden (Horowhenua District Council), Mayor H Worboys (Manawatu District Council), Mr P Hancock (Palmerston North City Council), Mayor A Watson (Rangitikei District Council), Mayor D Cameron (Ruapehu District Council), Mayor T Collis (Tararua District Council), Mayor H McDouall (Whanganui District Council), Mr E Christiansen (Road Users), Inspector D White (New Zealand Police), Mr S Walker (Road Transport Association), Mr L Hammond (KiwiRail), Dr S Lampkin (Active Transport/Public Transport).

IN ATTENDANCE

At Horizons Regional Council:

Group Manager Regional Services and Information	Mr G Shirley
Manager Transport Services Committee Secretary	Mrs R Hewitt Mrs KA Tong

ALSO PRESENT

At Horizons Regional Council: Ms L Shirley (Senior Transport Planner), Ms C Morrison (Media & Communications Manager).

Via audio visual link: Mr R l'Anson (New Zealand Transport Agency), and a member of the Press.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mayor G Smith (Palmerston North City Council).

PUBLIC FORUMS / DEPUTATIONS / PETITIONS

No members of the public were granted public speaking rights.

SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS

There were no supplementary items to be considered.

MEMBERS' CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RT 20-22 **Moved** **Speight/Cameron**

That the Committee:

confirms the minutes of the Regional Transport Committee meeting held on 3 June 2020 as a correct record, and notes that the recommendations were adopted by the Council on 23 June 2020.

CARRIED

ROAD SAFETY STRATEGY

Report No 20-114

This report advised members of plans to develop a Regional Road Safety Strategy and sought support for the concept for developing the document. Mrs Hewitt (Manager Transport Services) introduced the item and highlighted that the intent of the Regional Road Safety Strategy was to set out a framework for the coordinated delivery of multiple agency road safety interventions across the region.

RT 20-23 **Moved** **Collis/Cameron**

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. receives the information contained in Report No. 20-114.
- b. supports the development of a Regional Road Safety Strategy as set out in Report No. 20-114 Road Safety Strategy.

CARRIED

REGIONAL LAND TRANSPORT PLAN DEVELOPMENT: UPDATE AND CONFIRMATION OF STRATEGIC COMPONENT

Report No 20-115

Ms Shirley (Senior Transport Planner) introduced the item which was for the Committee to confirm the strategic component of the Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP) 2021-2031 which was currently being confirmed. Ms Shirley highlighted that since the report was written, the due date for the RLTP was extended to 30 June 2021 and produced an amended updated timeline.

RT 20-24 **Moved** **McDouall/Ferguson**

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. receives the information contained in Report No. 20-115.
- b. approves for inclusion in the draft Regional Land Transport Plan 2021-2031, the issues (problems) listed in paragraph 8.1 of this report.
- c. approves for inclusion in the draft Regional Land Transport Plan 2021-2031, the vision, covered in paragraph 8.2 of this report.
- d. approves for inclusion in the draft Regional Land Transport Plan 2021-2031, the objectives listed in paragraph 8.3 of this report.
- e. approves for inclusion in the draft Regional Land Transport Plan 2021-2031, the strategic priorities (10 year investment priorities) listed in paragraph 8.4 of this report.

f. confirms the amended updated timeline provided at the meeting.

CARRIED

ROAD SAFETY UPDATE

Report No 20-116

Mrs Hewitt (Manager Transport Services) introduced this report which provided Members with an update on road safety trends in the region and advised members of road safety education activities undertaken by Horizons Road Safety Coordinators over the last five months. Ms Hewitt mentioned the impact of Covid-19 restrictions which meant not all programmes were able to be fully completed with a further fifteen programmes partially or not achieved.

RT 20-25

Moved

Wanden/Collis

That the Committee recommends that Council:

a. receives the information contained in Report No. 20-116 and Annex.

CARRIED

GENERAL UPDATE AND SUBMISSIONS

Report No 20-117

Ms Shirley (Senior Transport Planner) introduced this item which provided members with updates on various documents and consultation items released by Central Government and Agencies. Ms Shirley also mentioned the recent release of Arataki Version 2.0 and the imminent release of the Government Policy Statement on Land Transport (GPS).

RT 20-26

Moved

Cameron/Worboys

That the Committee recommends that Council:

a. receives the information contained in Report No. 20-117 and Annex.

CARRIED

APPROVED ORGANISATION QUARTERLY UPDATE

Report No 20-118

This report updated Members on significant regional roading, public transport, road safety and planning activities within the Horizons region. Mayors and representatives of the local authorities in the region introduced their reports, highlighted activities of note and responded to questions of clarification.

RT 20-27

Moved

Keedwell/McDouall

That the Committee recommends that Council:

a. receives the information contained in Report No. 20-118 and Annex.

CARRIED

WAKA KOTAHI NZ TRANSPORT AGENCY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Report No 20-119

Ms Speight (New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA)) spoke to a powerpoint presentations which provided Members with an update on the Waka Kotahi NZTA's regional and national activities, and the Investment Prioritisation Method for the 2021-24 National Land Transport Plan (NLTP).

RT 20-28

Moved

Worboys/McDouall

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. *receives the update from the Director Regional Relationships (Lower North Island), Waka Kotahi, NZ Transport Agency and Annex.*

CARRIED

The meeting closed at 12.06pm.

Confirmed

MANAGER TRANSPORT SERVICES

CHAIR

Report of the sixth meeting of the eleventh triennium of the Strategy and Policy Committee (Live Streamed) held at 10.00am on Tuesday 8 September 2020, in the Tararua Room, Horizons Regional Council, 11-15 Victoria Avenue, Palmerston North.

PRESENT Crs RJ Keedwell (Chair), AL Benbow, EM Clarke, DB Cotton, SD Ferguson, EB Gordon, FJT Gordon (via audio visual link), WM Kirton, JM Naylor (via audio visual link), NJ Patrick (via audio visual link), WK Te Awe Awe, and GJ Turkington.

IN ATTENDANCE Chief Executive Mr MJ McCartney
Acting Group Manager
Corporate and Governance Mr D Neal
Committee Secretary Mrs KA Tongs

ALSO PRESENT At various times during the meeting:
Dr N Peet (Group Manager Strategy & Regulation), Dr J Roygard (Group Manager Natural Resources & Partnerships), Mr R Strong (Group Manager River Management), Mr G Shirley (Group Manager Regional Services & Information), Mr T Bowen (Principal Advisor), Dr A Matthews (Science & Innovation Manager), Dr A Lennard (Environmental Data Analyst), Mr A Smith (Chief Financial Officer), Mr G Bevin (Regulatory Manager) and Ms C Morrison (Media & Communications Manager).

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited Cr Te Awe Awe to say a Karakia.

APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

PUBLIC FORUMS / DEPUTATIONS / PETITIONS

Due to being in Covid-19 Alert Level 2, no members of the public were granted public speaking rights. The Chair presented a document to Members which had been received from Mr Charles Rudd. The document addressed Mr Rudd's concerns with regard to the use and meaning of various Maori words in reports prepared by Horizons Regional Council.

SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS

There were no supplementary items to be considered.

MEMBERS' CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

SP 20-27 **Moved** **Turkington/Ferguson**

That the Committee:

confirms the minutes of the Strategy and Policy Committee meeting held on 11 August 2020 as a correct record, and notes that the recommendations were adopted by the Council on 25 August 2020.

CARRIED

IMPLEMENTATION OF GOVERNMENT'S FRESHWATER REFORM PACKAGE

Report No 20-120

The report informed Council of the release of the Government's freshwater reform 'Action for Healthy Waterways' package. Dr Peet (Group Manager Strategy & Regulation), outlined the proposed approach to implementation in the Horizons Region, and Dr Matthews (Science & Innovation Manager) mentioned the preliminary discussions and engagement both with iwi and the community in regard to freshwater and other organisational priorities. The Chair separated out the recommendations. A division was called for recommendation c.

SP 20-28 **Moved** **Patrick/Ferguson**

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. *receives the information contained in Report No. 20-120 and Annex.*
- b. *endorses the proposed approach and implementation programme outlined in this report.*

CARRIED

- c. *approves additional expenditure of up to \$200,000 to support the first year of the implementation programme. If approved, this budget will come from general rate reserves, with expenditure to occur over the 2020-21 financial year.*

Against: Crs Cotton, B Gordon, Kirton, Turkington

For: Crs Benbow, Clarke, Ferguson, F Gordon, Patrick, Naylor, Te Awe Awe, Keedwell

CARRIED

NATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE RISK ASSESSMENT

Report No 20-121

Dr Lennard (Environmental Data Analyst) introduced the report which outlined the findings of the Ministry for the Environment's National Climate Change Risk Assessment (NCCRA) and its implications for the Horizons region. Dr Lennard highlighted the ten most significant risks from the NCCRA findings, which were prioritised by the level of urgency and consequence associated with them.

SP 20-29 **Moved** **Clarke/Ferguson**

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. *receives the information contained in Report No. 20-121;*
- b. *notes that the National Climate Change Risk Assessment has been completed; and*
- c. *notes the opportunity to engage with central government through the development of the National Adaptation Plan, to ensure effective recognition of local issues and workability at a local level.*

CARRIED

LONG TERM PLAN - PROPOSED VISION AND COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

Report No 20-122

Dr Peet (Group Manager Strategy & Regulation) spoke to the report which identified a proposed vision statement and set of community outcomes as part of progress towards Council's Long-term Plan 2021-2031 (LTP). Following consideration by Members of the proposed wording of the vision statement and set of community outcomes, wording amendments to the vision statement and community outcome 1 were suggested.

SP 20-30 **Moved** **Naylor/F Gordon**

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. *receives the information contained in Report No. 20-122.*
- bi. *approves the proposed vision to be included in the draft Long Term Plan 2021-2031, as amended at the meeting:*
 - *Vision Statement:*
Tō tātou rohe – taiao ora, tangata ora, mauri ora.
Our place – a healthy environment where people are thriving.

CARRIED

Moved **F Gordon/Ferguson**

- bii. *approves the proposed community outcomes to be included in the draft Long Term Plan 2021-2031, as amended to Outcome 1 at the meeting:*
 - *Community Outcome 1.*
Our region's communities are resilient to the impacts of natural hazards and climate change.
Communities understand natural hazards and our changing climate and are supported to respond and adapt.
 - *Community Outcome 2.*
Our region's ecosystems are healthy.
From the mountains to the sea a full range of healthy ecosystems are valued for their intrinsic worth and can provide sustainably for communities.
 - *Community Outcome 3.*
Our region's transport networks are effective.
Safe, sustainable public transport and infrastructure planning that connect communities and reduce the region's carbon emissions.

- Community Outcome 4:
Our region's economy is thriving.
A sustainable economy that supports communities to thrive socially, culturally and environmentally.
- Community Outcome 5.
Our region's communities are vibrant and empowered.
Communities are enabled to participate meaningfully in decision making and take action to benefit our collective wellbeing.

CARRIED

Moved

Naylor/F Gordon

- c. *notes that consultation on the proposed vision and community outcomes will form part of the Long-term Plan process.*

CARRIED

REPORT OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT REVIEW PANEL - SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS FOR HORIZONS

Report No 20-123

Dr Peet (Group Manager Strategy & Regulation) provided the Council with a summary of the findings of the Resource Management Review Panel, and set out the potential implications for Horizons Regional Council.

SP 20-31

Moved

Benbow/Turkington

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. *receives the information contained in Report No. 20-123 and Annex.*

CARRIED

The meeting closed at 11.38am.

Confirmed

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

CHAIR

RIVER AND DRAINAGE ENGINEERING REPORT

Report No 20-124

Mr Strong (Group Manager River Management) reported on progress with river and drainage activities for the period June to August 2020. A powerpoint presentation was shown which illustrated items covered in the report.

COP 20-25 **Moved** **B Gordon/Kirton**

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. receives the information contained in Report No. 20-124.
- b. approves the cost share change for the Pohangina-Oroua as it relates to bank protection work from 60:40 landowner-scheme to 50:50.

CARRIED

PRESENTATION: DEVELOPMENT OF AN ANZAC PARADE FLOOD RESILIENCE STRATEGY

Report No 20-126

Massey University Professor and EQC Chair in Natural Hazards Planning Bruce Glavovic and post-doctoral fellow Dr Martin Garcia, guided Members through a presentation on the development of a resilience strategy for the part of Anzac Parade in Whanganui exposed to Whanganui River flooding.

COP 20-26 **Moved** **Patrick/Cotton**

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. receives the information presented in the Development of an Anzac Parade Flood Resilience Strategy.

CARRIED

PRESENTATION: MANAWATU DRAINAGE NETWORK INVESTIGATIONS

Report No 20-125

Mr Bell (Investigations & Design Manager, Horizons Regional Council) introduced Mr Hamish Smith, Water Resources Engineer with Tonkin & Taylor Ltd who took Members through a presentation on a Flood Hazard Model for the Manawatu Drainage Scheme, which would become a useful tool for Horizons.

COP 20-27 **Moved** **B Gordon/Ferguson**

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. receives the information in the Manawatu Drainage Network Investigations presentation.

CARRIED

Public Excluded Section

RECOMMENDATION

That the public be excluded from the remainder of the Council meeting as the general subject 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 follows.

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

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
PX1 Confirmation of Public Excluded Meeting held on 25 August 2020	s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
PX2 Report of Audit, Risk & Investment Committee Meeting - Receive and Adopt Resolutions and Recommendations – 25 August 2020	s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
PX3 Lake Rakau Hamama	s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities. The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
PX4 Wilding Conifer Control Procurement	s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.

	The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	
PX5 Totara Reserve Poplar Removal Procurement	<p>s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.</p> <p>The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.</p>	<p>s48(1)(a)</p> <p>The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.</p>
PX6 Chief Executive Interim Performance Review	<p>s7(2)(a) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of a deceased person.</p> <p>This report should remain confidential because it includes information about the performance and employment terms of an identifiable individual.</p>	<p>s48(1)(a)</p> <p>The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.</p>
<p>PX7 Council / Committee to consider whether any item in the Public Excluded minutes can be moved into the public domain and define the extent of the release</p>		