

PROGRESS REPORT FROM HOROWHENUA DISTRICT COUNCIL ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MANAWATŪ-WHANGANUI CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN

Reporting Period: September to March

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	Activities undertaken in previous 6 months	Activities planned for next 6 months
Empowering communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council delivered a Climate Change Action Workshop with the Horowhenua Youth Empowerment Project (yEP) after successfully applying for funding from the Climate Impact Fund. The workshop was designed to engage and empower rangatahi with tools for climate action. In December, Horowhenua was awarded a sixth Green Flag Award for Jubilee Park in Levin, along with the reconfirmation of our five other Green Flags. The Green Flag Award is a prestigious international award. This is due to the passion and dedication of our Parks & Property Team in collaboration with green spaces contractors and community groups. Council's social media lead visited Shannon School (Te Kura o Hanana) to see their zero-waste practices. Led by Principal Nick Julian, it encompassed minimal food packaging, efficient food waste management, self-sustainable gardening, active recycling initiatives, community involvement, and the recent addition of chickens to their sustainable ecosystem. We shared their exemplary efforts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awaiting direction from the 2024-2044 Long Term Plan. Horowhenua is working in partnership with the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee across projects that ensure future development planning is taken with a strategic approach. A key aspect of this planning is the Regional Emissions Reduction Strategy that outlines an approach to transition to a zero-carbon environment, working together to make the most impact. The strategy is currently with graphic designers and will be taken to the WRLC for endorsement in the next 6 months. As we consult on the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan, we have created a social media campaign focused on environmental sustainability to engage our community and promote behaviour change.

	<p>on social media with the wider community aiming to inspire others to embrace sustainable practices.</p>	
Working with nature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion of sustainable water supply over summer months through sharing education on social media, schools and tips on how to conserve. The Waitārere Beach Surf Life Saving Club opened 2 December 2023. This facility has been designed to be resilient to future environmental impacts, and enables safe use and access to Waitārere Beach. Throughout October/November the Parks & Property Team have undertaken a number of community planting days at various sites on Horowhenua's coast. This is to plant spinifex and pingao, foredune plants that appreciably build resilience on our coastal townships by stabilising the interface between land and sea. These recent plantings at the tail end of spring are the culmination of this year's programme of planting, which includes approximately 12,000 spinifex plants and 500 pingao plants. This programme is great news for our biodiversity, providing habitat for wildlife with the support of ecologically minded community who embraced helping on this work. Council has engaged with a nature-based solutions expert to understand potential outcomes for Horowhenua, that will be incorporated into the draft Climate Action Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awaiting direction from the 2024-2044 Long Term Plan.
Addressing known issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Waste Management and Minimisation Plan has been updated and will be consulted on as part of the LTP process (15/3-15/4). This plan paves the way forward, considering 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council aim to implement the proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw, following community consultation and amendments to the Self-contained Motor Vehicles Act in June 2023. The

	<p>current economic climate, government legislation, affordability, integrated policy frameworks and the Horowhenua District vision, with an overarching suite of guiding goals and objectives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Levin Domain & Salisbury St Stormwater Upgrade-Renewal has gone out to tender. This upgrade is occurring to make Horowhenua's stormwater more resilient to intense weather events caused by climate change. 	<p>proposed bylaw empowered the Council to address freedom camping issues by identifying appropriate areas and protecting places of environmental, cultural significance, health and safety risks, and other practical considerations.</p>
Supporting good decisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Report taken to Council in October. Council has included budget in the 2024-2044 Long Term Plan to invest in the implementation of the Climate Action Plan. A Climate Action Plan is being drafted which will outline and guide Horowhenua's response to environmental change. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tara-Ika implementation plan is being drafted to support the delivery of Plan Change 4, enabling the potential for 3,500 more homes in Levin. The Implementation Plan will align infrastructure, cultural frameworks and ecological outcomes ahead of development. Draft Climate Action Plan to be taken to Council for direction. Implementation plan for the Climate Action Plan if adopted by Elected Members.
Other comments		