
Regional Council

Terms of Reference

Statutory References

The more important legislation affecting Horizons Regional Council (HRC) is:

- Biosecurity Act 1993;
- Civil Defence and Emergency Management Act 2002;
- Land Transport Act 1998;
- Local Authorities (Members Interests) Act 1968;
- Local Electoral Act 2001;
- Local Government Act 1974;
- Local Government Act 2002;
- Local Government (Rating) Act 2002;
- Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987;
- Maritime Transport Act 1994;
- Resource Management Act 1991;
- Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Act 1941;
- Transit New Zealand Act 1989;
- Transport Services Licensing Act 1989.

The Council also administers the Manawatū River and Tributaries Navigation and Safety Bylaws 2004.

Mission Statement

The Mission Statement of the Council is:

“To create opportunities for the Region to grow economically and socially in a way that preserves or enhances agreed environmental and cultural values.”

Statement of Purpose

The role of the Council is to make policy, authorise and monitor the overall allocation of resources and set priorities. It determines and monitors the levels of services to be provided and monitors the decisions of its Committees.

The overall priorities are set out in the Council's Strategic and Financial Management documents. A statutory Long-term Plan (LTP) detailing significant activities, objectives, policies, outputs and performance measures, as well as budgeted input requirements, will be approved before the end of June every three years; an Annual Plan will be produced in years two and three to provide financial updates to the LTP. An Annual Report on the Council's performance over the past 1 July to 30 June year is produced around September each year.

The Council also undertakes the functions, duties and powers of a territorial authority under Part XXIX of the Local Government Act 1974 for those areas of the former drainage districts deemed drainage areas constituted under section 504 of the Local Government Act 1974 (ie. the former Moutoa, Makerua, Manawatū, Oroua, and Sluggish River Drainage Districts).

Meeting Quorum

The quorum for a meeting of the Council is:

- Half of the members present (in-person or on-line), where the number of members (including vacancies) is even; or
- A majority of the members present (in-person or on-line), where the number of members (including vacancies) is odd.

Meeting Schedule

Generally on a monthly basis excluding January and July each year or as required basis.

Objectives

- Employ a Chief Executive.
- Take the necessary initiatives to develop and adopt regional strategic objectives and policies.
- Determine council policy on its activities.
- Formulate the Council's activities through the LTP.
- Establish priorities for resource allocation within the Manawatū-Whanganui Region, including the allocation of government grants, environmental grants and regional rating policies.
- Provide the means for regional issues that are the responsibility of the Council to be assessed, addressed and determined.
- Ensure Council's shareholding interests in CentrePort Limited are effectively managed.
- Ensure the formulation of public relations objectives for the Council.
- Act quickly and positively in response to events and circumstances that could affect the Region.
- Ensure a timely and positive response in regard to civil emergencies in the Region.
- Encourage, establish and maintain effective cooperation and coordination with territorial and special purpose authorities, government departments and other public and private organisations.
- Delegate to its Committees and the Chief Executive such powers and responsibilities as are appropriate for the maximum efficiency of operation.
- Monitor the implementation of Council policy.

- Monitor and appraise the performance of the Chief Executive.
- Consider and decide on contracts over \$1 million (GST included).