

**WHANGANUI
RURAL
COMMUNITY
BOARD**



AGENDA

**Whanganui Rural Community Board
Meeting
4 November 2020**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Meeting of Whanganui Rural Community Board Rural Community Board will be convened on:

Date: Wednesday, 4 November 2020

Time: 3.30pm

**Location: Council Chambers
101 Guyton Street
Whanganui**

**Kym Fell
Chief Executive**

Whanganui Rural Community Board**Membership**

Grant Skilton (Chairman), David Wells (Deputy Chairman),
Bill Ashworth, Michael Dick, Alistair Duff, Sandra Falkner, Peter Oskam.
Councillor Representatives – Crs Charlie Anderson and Brent Crossan

Terms of Reference

The Whanganui Rural Community Board is a body established by Order in Council. The powers delegated to the Community Board are within the scope defined by the terms of the Local Government Act 2002:

The role of a community board is to—

- a) represent, and act as an advocate for, the interests of its community; and
- b) consider and report on all matters referred to it by the territorial authority, or any matter of interest or concern to the community board; and
- c) maintain an overview of services provided by the territorial authority within the community; and
- d) prepare an annual submission to the territorial authority for expenditure within the community; and
- e) communicate with community organisations and special interest groups within the community; and
- f) undertake any other responsibilities that are delegated to it by the territorial authority.

Whanganui District Council has delegated the following additional responsibilities to the Rural Community Board:

- Exercise delegated authority to determine temporary rural road closure applications.
- The power to make submissions to Government and other agencies (such as local or regional authorities) on issues that fall within the area of responsibility of the Board.
- Make submissions to any organisation relating to matters of interest to the Board in respect of the Board's area (a copy of any such submission is to be given to the Chief Executive).
- To develop and adopt a strategic plan.
- To make submissions to Council on all matters pertaining to the District Plan which impact on the Board's community.

To support information sharing and encourage direct input from the Rural Community Board into Council activities, the Council will appoint a representative of the board to each of the following committees:

- Strategy and Finance (member)
- Infrastructure, Climate Change, and Emergency Management (member)
- Property and Community (member)

In addition, a representative of the community board will have speaking rights at Council and Youth Committee meetings.

Order Of Business

1	Apologies	5
2	Declarations of Interest	5
3	Confirmation of Minutes	6
3.1	Minutes of the Whanganui Rural Community Board Meeting held on 23 September 2020	6
4	Public Forum	14
5	Reports to Board	15
5.1	Community Partners Update	15
5.2	Adoption of Rural Directions 2020-2030.....	16
5.3	Maintenance costs of the Mangamahu Bridge Security Camera	36
5.4	Strategy and Policy Update	40

1 APOLOGIES

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Whanganui Rural Community Board members will be provided with the opportunity to declare any disclosable pecuniary or other non-pecuniary interest in any matter to be considered at this meeting, or declare any new conflicts that have arisen since last completing the Elected Members' Interests Register.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 MINUTES OF THE WHANGANUI RURAL COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING HELD ON 23 SEPTEMBER 2020

Author: Hayley Fitzgerald - Democracy Support Officer

Authoriser: Kate Barnes - Senior Democracy Advisor

References: 1. WRCB Minutes 23 September 2020

Significance of decision – In terms of the Significance and Engagement Policy 2018, the recommended decision is not significant.

Recommendation

That the minutes of the Whanganui Rural Community Board Meeting held on 23 September 2020 are confirmed as a true and correct record.



MINUTES

Whanganui Rural Community Board Meeting

23 September 2020

Order Of Business

1	Apologies	3
2	Declarations of Interest	3
3	Confirmation of Minutes	3
3.1	Minutes of the Whanganui Rural Community Board Meeting held on 12 August 2020.....	3
4	Public Forum	4
5	Reports to Board	4
5.1	Community Partners Update - September 2020.....	4
5.2	Strategy and Policy Update	4
5.3	Whanganui District Council Annual Dog Control Report 2019-2020.....	5
5.4	Whanganui and Partners Agribusiness Survey Results; Rural Internet, Mobile Connectivity and Technology	5
5.5	Portfolio Update - September 2020.....	6

Whanganui Rural Community Board Meeting Minutes

23 September 2020

**MINUTES OF THE WHANGANUI RURAL COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING
HELD IN THE NAGAIZUMI-CHO ROOM, 101 GUYTON STREET, WHANGANUI
ON 23 SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 3.30PM**

PRESENT: Chairperson Grant Skilton, Deputy David Wells, Member Bill Ashworth, Member Sandra Falkner, Member Michael Dick, Cr Brent Crossan, Cr Charlie Anderson, Member Peter Oskam

APOLOGIES: Nil

ABSENT: Member Alistair Duff

IN ATTENDANCE: Marianne Cavanagh (Group Manager - Customer Experience), Hayley Fitzgerald (Democracy Support Officer), Kate Barnes (Senior Democracy Advisor), Louise Davies (Policy and Risk Support Officer), Colleen Sheldon (Whanganui and Partners – Strategic Lead Agribusiness), Brent Holmes (Senior Roading Engineer), Justin Walters (Senior Policy Analyst), Warrick Zander (Compliance Operations Manager), Angus Murray (Communications Officer)

1 APOLOGIES

Nil

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No new declarations of interest had arisen since Board members had last completed the Elected Members' Interests Register.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

**3.1 MINUTES OF THE WHANGANUI RURAL COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING
HELD ON 12 AUGUST 2020**

Author: Hayley Fitzgerald - Democracy Support Officer

Authoriser: Kate Barnes - Senior Democracy Advisor

Significance of decision – In terms of the Significance and Engagement Policy 2018, the decision is not significant.

Committee Resolution WRCB/2020/26

Moved: Member Peter Oskam

Seconded: Cr Charlie Anderson

That the minutes of the Whanganui Rural Community Board Meeting held on 12 August 2020 are confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED**4 PUBLIC FORUM**

No requests to speak in public forum were received.

5 REPORTS TO BOARD**5.1 COMMUNITY PARTNERS UPDATE - SEPTEMBER 2020**

Author: Hayley Fitzgerald - Democracy Support Officer

Authoriser: Kate Barnes - Senior Democracy Advisor

Discussion

Russell Simpson (Chief Executive of the Whanganui District Health Board) gave an update to the Board about health board matters relevant to the rural community. Mr Simpson noted the way technology had been embraced by the community during COVID-19 and it was now seen as an enabler to good health in that patients were able to video conference their doctor and did not need to visit the clinic. Board members agreed it was beneficial to the rural community, but only if they had sufficient internet access.

Mr Simpson advised that in conjunction with Iwi and other agencies the DHB is in discussions with the Resource Recovery Centre and there are plans to repurpose a community house at Ranana with better technology to be used as a 'community hub'; it is hoped to provide a similar service at Pipiriki and Upokongaro. A defibrillator is being installed at Upokongaro and training is being offered to that community.

5.2 STRATEGY AND POLICY UPDATE

Author: Louise Davies - Policy & Risk Support Officer

Authoriser: Stephanie Macdonald-Rose - Policy & Governance Manager

Discussion:

Louise Davies (Policy and Risk Support Officer) gave the following updates:

The Policy and Risk Support Officer confirmed the Board had been sent an invite to Climate Change Strategy Workshop on Tuesday the 29th and that the Board's attendance is encouraged.

The Street Infrastructure Bylaw has been adopted.

Formal consultation for the Local Approved Products Policy closes on 9th of October and the current consultation on the Durie Hill Land Purchase closes on 30th September.

Rural Broadband - Iwi approval has been given at the Mangamahu site and construction is due to start late November.

Committee Resolution WRCB/2020/27

Moved: Member Sandra Falkner

Seconded: Member Michael Dick

That the Whanganui Rural Community Board receive the report – Strategy and Policy Update.

CARRIED

5.3 WHANGANUI DISTRICT COUNCIL ANNUAL DOG CONTROL REPORT 2019-2020

Author: Warrick Zander - Compliance Operations Manager

Authoriser: Hamish Lampp - Group Manager - Regulatory & Planning

Discussion

Warrick Zander (Compliance Operations Manager) confirmed report was taken as read and added that there had been a notable increase in stock worrying and wandering dog incidents and a general lack of microchipping of rural dogs delays some of the resolutions available.

Committee Resolution WRCB/2020/28

Moved: Member Sandra Falkner

Seconded: Cr Charlie Anderson

That the Whanganui Rural Community Board receive the report – Whanganui District Council Annual Dog Control Report 2019-2020.

CARRIED

**5.4 WHANGANUI AND PARTNERS AGRIBUSINESS SURVEY RESULTS;
RURAL INTERNET, MOBILE CONNECTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY**

Author: Hayley Fitzgerald - Democracy Support Officer

Authoriser: Kate Barnes - Senior Democracy Advisor

Discussion

Colleen Sheldon (Whanganui and Partners – Strategic Lead Agribusiness) presented the latest results from the Agribusiness Survey in relation to Rural Internet, Mobile Connectivity and Technology. The report was taken as read. Strategic Lead Agribusiness noted that results showed a desire amongst farm owners to use compliance assistance apps. Board members reiterated the ongoing issue of poor mobile coverage in Whanganui rural areas and said it was important to remind people that it is still possible to call 111 without mobile coverage.

Committee Resolution WRCB/2020/29

Moved: Member Michael Dick

Seconded: Deputy David Wells

That the Whanganui Rural Community Board receive the report – Whanganui and Partners Agribusiness Survey Results; Rural Internet, Mobile Connectivity and Technology.

CARRIED

5.5 PORTFOLIO UPDATE - SEPTEMBER 2020

Author: Hayley Fitzgerald - Democracy Support Officer

Authoriser: Kate Barnes - Senior Democracy Advisor

Discussion:

Board Member Sandra Falkner attended the Property and Community Services Meeting and commented that the Airport Café is due to re-open and the Durie Hill Land Purchase is currently out for consultation.

Board Member Michael Dick reported that Colin Cashmore is offering a new waste collection service in Whanganui. Cameras are being installed at fly tipping hot spots including William Birch Pool. Board members discussed how they can best support security initiatives at areas prone to fly tipping.

Members David Wells, Michael Dick and Bill Ashworth attended the Rural Halls Trust meeting in relation to the Fordell Hall, the Hall has an earthquake rating of 15% and repairs have been estimated at \$110,000-\$130,000, it would be more cost effective to build a new hall. Member David Wells questioned whether this was an issue the Board can help with. It was agreed that the Rural Halls Trust would be the lead on this matter and it would have the support of the Whanganui Rural Community Board. A representative of the Fordell Community could be invited to speak at a future WRCB meeting and let the Board know what they would like to do.

Board Member Grant Skilton attended last week's Council Meeting where submissions were heard on Waste Collection and 5G.

Board members were advised that there is a Local Young Farmers Club District Event at Okoia on the 10th of October and this may be a good opportunity to meet young local farmers and promote the Board.

A tour of the Port is to be arranged for November the 9th.

The Meeting closed at 4.50pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Whanganui Rural Community Board Meeting held on 4 November 2020.

Whanganui Rural Community Board Meeting Minutes

23 September 2020

CHAIRPERSON

Page 7

4 PUBLIC FORUM

No requests to speak were received for this meeting.

5 REPORTS TO BOARD

5.1 COMMUNITY PARTNERS UPDATE

Author: Hayley Fitzgerald - Democracy Support Officer

Authoriser: Kate Barnes - Senior Democracy Advisor

Various rural community partners are invited to provide a verbal update.

This week, the following organisations have been invited;

Gavin Pryce, FENZ - confirmed

Carol Teutscher and/or Claire Atkins – Rural Women’s Group – confirmed

Keith Butters, New Zealand Police – unconfirmed

Paul Mackintosh, Federated Farmers – unconfirmed

Jason Griffin, Beef and Lamb – unconfirmed

5.2 ADOPTION OF RURAL DIRECTIONS 2020-2030

Author: Hayley Fitzgerald - Democracy Support Officer

Authoriser: Kate Barnes - Senior Democracy Advisor

References: 1. Rural Directions 2020-2030

Significance of decision – In terms of the Significance and Engagement Policy 2018, the recommended decision is not significant.

Recommendation

That the Whanganui Rural Community Board adopt the updated strategic plan “Rural Directions 2020-2030”.

Executive summary

The Whanganui Rural Community Board 10 year strategic plan “Rural Directions” has been reviewed and updated and is now ready to be adopted by the Board.

Background

In 2008/09 the Whanganui Rural Community Board held a series of meetings to identify the needs and priorities of the rural community. As a result, the Board developed Rural Directions, a Ten Year Plan for the Board that covers the rural district and aligns with Whanganui District Council’s planning processes. Rural Directions was reviewed in 2013, 2017 and now in 2020 to reflect the changing needs of rural communities and aims of the Whanganui Rural Community Board.

Key issues

The Rural Directions Strategic Plan sets out a vision for the Whanganui rural community, records the six focus areas that will drive the board’s projects, and provides a basis for the board’s submissions on key documents including the Council’s Long Term Plan and Annual Plan. The new plan records the actions the board continue to have an interest in including rural waste and rural roads and reflects the ongoing success of the Rural Security Camera initiative.

Options

Option 1: Adopt the updated strategic plan Rural Directions 2020-2030. The plan sets out a vision for the rural community, sets out a mission for the board and provides a basis for the boards decisions on key documents including WDC and Horizons Regional Council annual and long term plans.

Option 2: Decline the updated strategic plan Rural Directions 2020-2030. Rural Directions is a living document and it is necessary that it is monitored and reviewed regularly. Failing to adopt this plan would mean the Boards Strategic Plan is out of date and no longer relevant.

Summary of Considerations

Fit with purpose of local government

Provides a guiding document and framework for the Board and its community.

[Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002](#)

Fit with strategic framework

Select checkboxes to indicate whether the decision / report contributes, detracts or has no impact

	Contributes	Detracts	No impact
Leading Edge Strategy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Long-Term Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Infrastructure Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Economic Development Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Policies or Plans -	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Rural Directions supports the Leading Edge strategy.

[Leading Edge Strategy](#)

Risks

The recommended decision has a very minor degree of risk.

The following risks have been considered and identified:

- Financial** risks related to the financial management of Council and the ability to fund Council activities and operations, now and into the future
- Service delivery** risks related to the meeting of levels of service to the community
- Reputation / image** risks that affect the way the Council and staff are perceived by the community - nationwide, internationally, by stakeholders, and the media
- Legal compliance (regulatory)** risks related to the ability of management to effectively manage the Council, comply with legal obligations and avoid being exposed to liability
- Environmental** risks related to the environmental impacts of activities undertaken by the Council. Includes potential or negative environmental and / or ecological impacts, regardless of whether these are reversible or irreversible
- Health, safety and wellbeing** risks related to the health, safety and wellbeing of Council staff, contractors and the general public when using Council's facilities and services
- Information technology and management** risks related to the integrity of the Council's IT network, including security, access and data management
- Infrastructure / assets** risks related to the inability of assets to provide the required level of service in the most cost effective manner
- Project completion** risk of failure to complete on time, on budget and to plan

[Risk Management Policy](#)

Policy implications

None identified.

Financial considerations

N/A

Nil

Approved in LTP / AP

Unbudgeted \$

Legislative considerations

None identified.

Significance

The recommended decision is considered not significant as per Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

[Significance and Engagement Policy 2018](#)

Engagement

The purpose of Rural Directions is to provide a framework to enable future engagement with the rural community.

[Significance and Engagement Policy 2018](#)

PRE-ENGAGEMENT Community groups / stakeholders	Date / Status	Techniques to engage

CONSULTATION Community group / stakeholder	Level of engagement on spectrum	Techniques to engage



Rural Directions

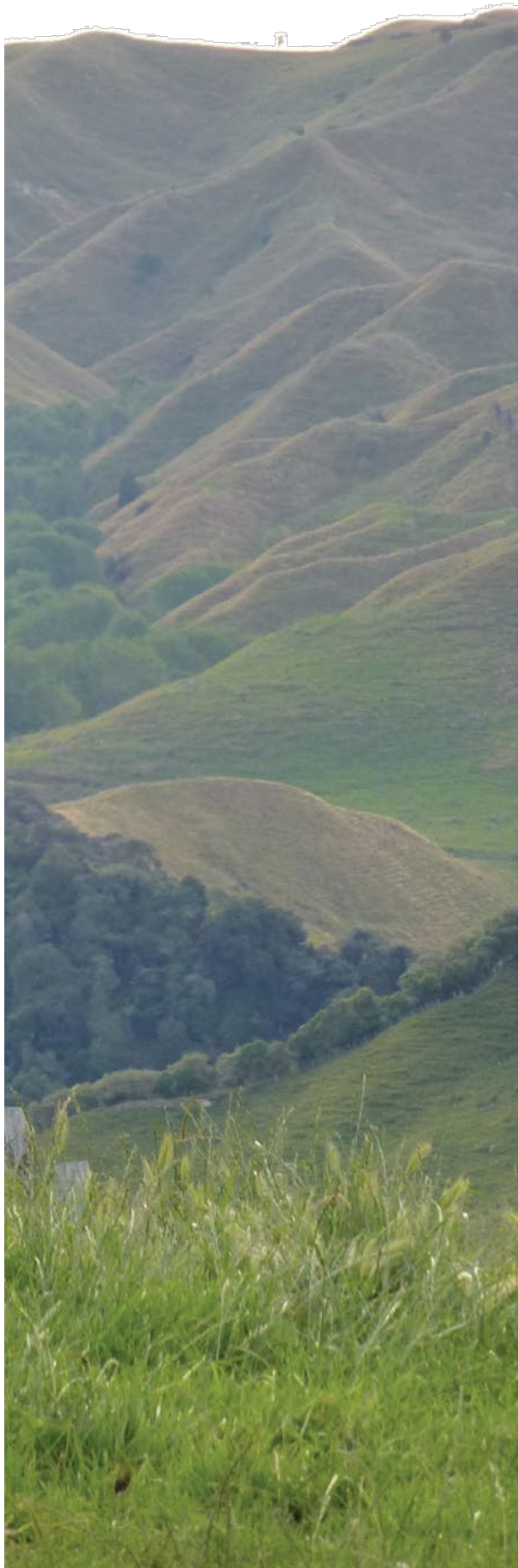
Whanganui Rural Community Board Strategic Plan 2020-2030

'For the Whanganui rural community to be prosperous, connected, safe and happy'



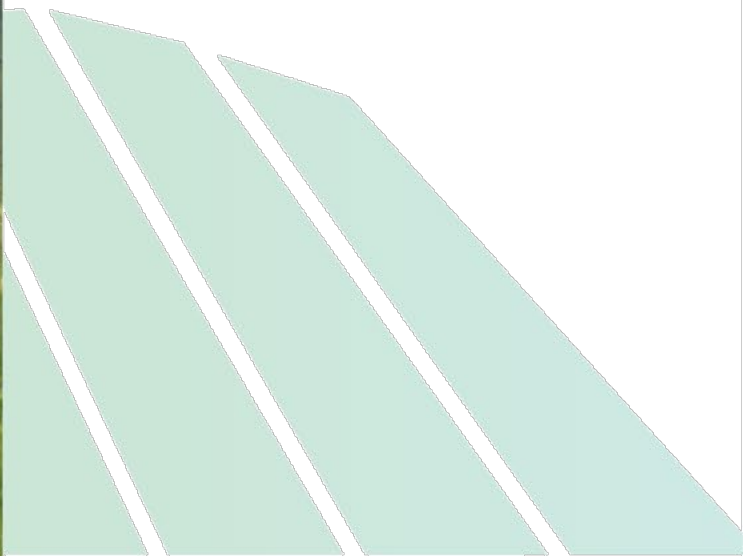


FRONT COVER IMAGE SUPPLIED
INSIDE IMAGE: GINNIE MATTHEWS KINDER



Contents

Whanganui Rural Community Board 2020	4
Introduction to Rural Directions	5
Board successes / Representation across our diverse communities	6
Map of subdivisions	7
Whanganui District Council - Leading Edge	8
Focus area 1 - Community partnerships	9
Focus area 2 - Rural economic growth	10
Focus area 3 - Infrastructure	11
Focus area 4 - Community wellbeing	12
Focus area 5 - Communication	13
Focus area 6 - Representation	14
Appendix 1 - Whanganui Rural Community Board portfolios	15



RURAL DIRECTIONS

Whanganui Rural Community Board Strategic Plan 2020-2030

Whanganui Rural Community Board 2020

The Whanganui Rural Community Board is made up of three subdivisions. The subdivisions, members representing them and contact details are listed below – turn to page 7 for a map of subdivisions.

Grant Skilton – Board Chair
grant.skilton@whanganui.govt.nz
027 245 8067
Kai Iwi subdivision



David Wells – Deputy Chair
david.wells@whanganui.govt.nz
027 289 5112
Whanganui subdivision



Bill Ashworth
bill.ashworth@whanganui.govt.nz
06 342 7704
Kaitoke subdivision



Michael Dick
michael.dick@whanganui.govt.nz
027 462 177
Kai Iwi subdivision



Alistair Duff
alistair.duff@whanganui.govt.nz
0220 844 020
Kaitoke subdivision



Sandra Falkner
sandra.falkner@whanganui.govt.nz
021 069 0276
Kai Iwi subdivision



Peter Oskam
peter.oskam@whanganui.govt.nz
027 285 8603
Whanganui subdivision



**WHANGANUI DISTRICT
COUNCILLOR APPOINTEES
TO THE BOARD**

- Cr Charlie Anderson
- Cr Brent Crossan

Introduction to Rural Directions

In 2008-2009 the Whanganui Rural Community Board held a series of meetings to identify the needs and priorities of the rural community. As a result, the board developed Rural Directions 2020, a 10-year plan for the board that covers the rural district and aligns with Whanganui District Council's planning processes.

Rural Directions 2020 was reviewed in 2013 when its name was changed to **Rural Directions**.

In 2017 and again in 2020 it was reviewed and updated to reflect the changing needs of rural communities and aims of the Whanganui Rural Community Board.

In this document the Whanganui Rural Community Board will be referred to as the "the board" while the Whanganui District Council will be referred to as "the council".

As a guiding document, the purpose of **Rural Directions** is to:

- Set out a vision for Whanganui's rural community.
- Set out a mission for the board.
- Set out six focus areas that will drive the board's projects.
- Provide a basis for the board's submissions on key documents including, but not limited to, Whanganui District Council and Horizons Regional Council's annual and long-term plans.

Context

Rural Directions is a living document that is monitored and reviewed regularly.

The Whanganui Rural Community Board is a body established by statute. Its responsibilities and powers are delegated by the Whanganui District Council.

It advocates for the rural sector, but also represents the Whanganui community on wider issues that are not specifically rural.

The role of the board is to:

- Represent and act as an advocate for the interest of the community.
- Consider and report on all matters referred to it by the council, or any matter of interest or concern to the community.

- Maintain an overview of services provided by the council within the community.
- Prepare an annual submission to both the regional and district councils for expenditure and levels of service within the community.
- Prepare submissions on central government legislation where there are implications for the rural community.
- Communicate with community organisations and special interest groups within the community.
- Exercise delegated authority to determine rural road closure applications.
- Undertake any other responsibilities that are delegated to it by the council.

RURAL DIRECTIONS

Whanganui Rural Community Board Strategic Plan 2020-2030

Board successes

- The board won the 2019 Leadership Trophy at the New Zealand Community Boards Conference recognising its leadership in rural crime prevention. The board implemented a strategy to fund and install security cameras throughout Whanganui’s rural roading network. To date, 13 cameras have been installed.
- Incorporating youth views by inviting two representatives of the council’s Youth Committee to board meetings and giving them speaking rights.
- The board has gained speaking and voting rights at the council’s main committee meetings, giving the rural community a stronger voice. The board now contribute to discussions and vote on matters at the highest level within the council.
- The Rural Broadband Initiative has resulted in improved internet coverage at Fordell, Mangamahu and areas of the Parapara Road (SH4). The Rural Broadband group continue to make good progress identifying new sites for improvement.

Representation across our diverse communities

Whanganui’s rural sector is not a single community of interest. Geographically, the district’s rural area is significant and communities are diverse in terms of farming practice, lifestyle, access, culture, employment, education, opportunities and other issues such as levels of crime.

One part of the community could have significant differences and desires from another. For example, Mowhanau is significantly different from Mangamahu. It is important the board takes into account the multiple communities of interest and the various issues associated with each, so that each is adequately represented.

There is a growing community of lifestyle property owners in the Whanganui rural sector, lifestyle properties now make up about 27 percent of properties outside the urban boundary.

The number of lifestyle properties – based on property area between 0.5 hectares and 4ha – is about 1700 and the number of farms is 4575.



IMAGE: SHIV MARSHALL

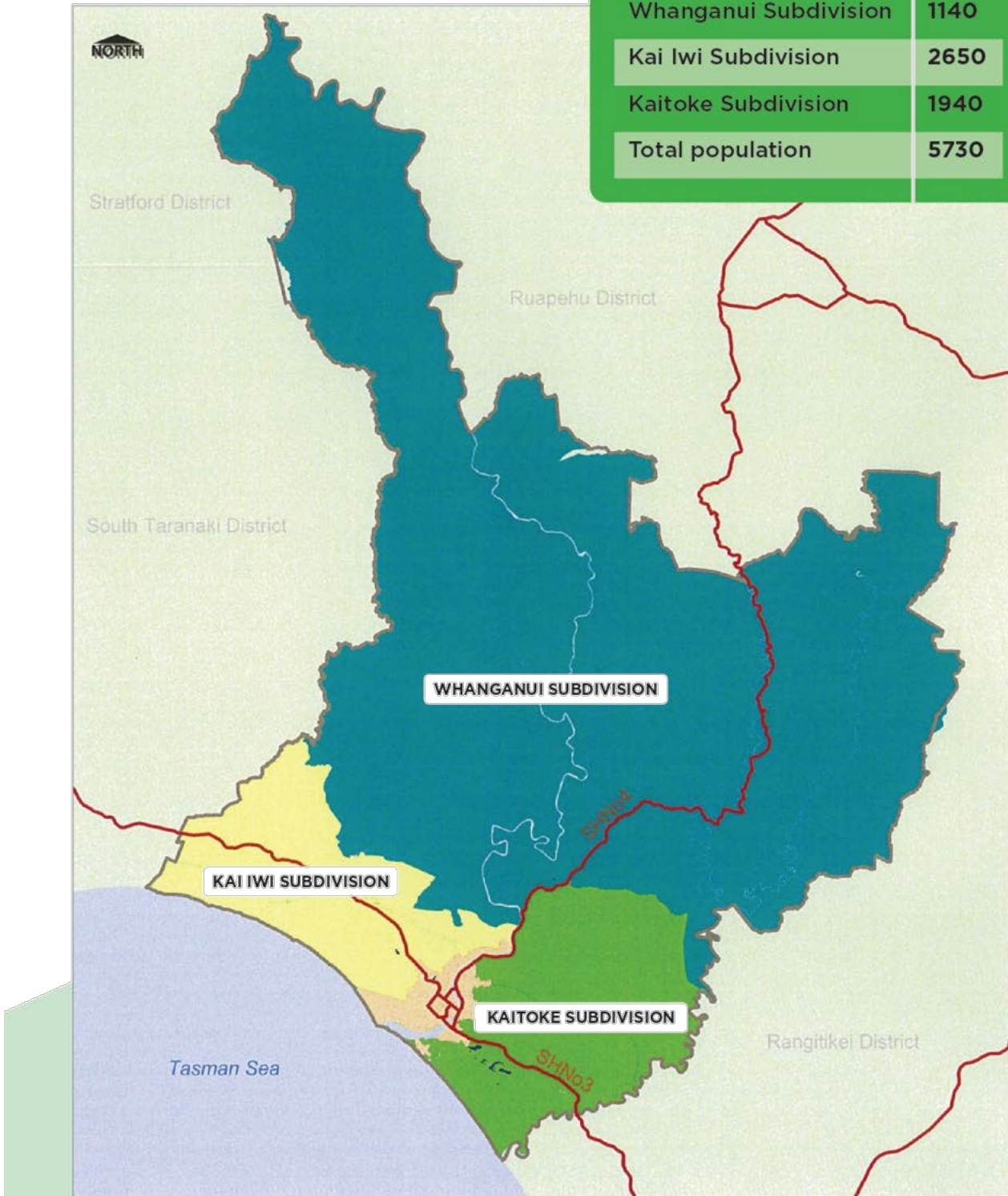
In the rural general zone there are 772 lifestyle properties and 2376 farms, in the rural lifestyle zone 405 lifestyle properties and 1015 farms, and in the rural production zone 553 lifestyle properties and 1184 farms.

Rural properties contribute \$10.671 million of the total \$71.911M rates (incl GST) which is about 15 percent of the total district.

NB - For this definition, rural properties include any property outside of the city boundaries. This data is from the 2020-2021 rates database

Map of subdivisions

Populations	
Whanganui Subdivision	1140
Kai Iwi Subdivision	2650
Kaitoke Subdivision	1940
Total population	5730



RURAL DIRECTIONS

Whanganui Rural Community Board Strategic Plan 2020-2030

Whanganui District Council - Leading Edge

The Leading Edge strategy acts as the council's overarching strategic document that sets the vision for the district and outlines high-level aspirational objectives.

Given its district-wide focus, a collaborative approach is required in order for it to be successful.

This is driven by the following vision:

To be an energised, united and thriving district offering abundant opportunities for everyone.

The strategy is supported by these five strands:

- **COMMUNITY - A deeply united community:**
Working in partnership, shaping a district that celebrates and champions its cultural and social diversity as well as its community spirit.

- **CONNECTED - A dynamic, broadly connected district:** Accessible, linked-in and known for it.

- **CREATIVITY - Innovative and creative:**
A knowledge economy driven by innovation and humming with cultural personality.

- **ENVIRONMENT - Safeguarding our place:**
A district that safeguards its natural resources and provides an environment with a sense of place, identity and vitality.

- **ECONOMY - Works for everyone:** An easy-living place of choice for all, flourishing with employment and development opportunities.

The Whanganui Rural Community Board's vision and purpose

The board supports the council's Leading Edge vision. In addition, the board also supports being "business friendly".

The board's vision is: For the Whanganui rural community to be prosperous, connected, safe and happy.

The board's purpose is: To promote sustainable economic growth and community wellbeing in rural Whanganui.

The board has identified six focus areas to achieve its vision and fulfill its purpose:

Focus areas

1. Community partnerships
2. Rural economic growth
3. Infrastructure
4. Community wellbeing
5. Representation
6. Communication

Focus area 1 – Community partnerships

Partnering with community groups and agencies ensures the rural sector develops and maintains strong relationships and is connected to growth opportunities, industry changes and social wellbeing.

Objective

To promote strong and meaningful relationships within and beyond the Whanganui District.

Actions

Identify and engage regularly with key community partnerships. These include, but are not limited to:

- Iwi representatives
- Whanganui District Council including the council's economic development agency, Whanganui & Partners
- Horizons Regional Council
- Federated Farmers
- Selected advocacy groups
- Rural village communities
- Territorial authorities within the Manawatu-Whanganui region
- Zone 3 community boards
- Government departments
- Rural schools / New Zealand Young Farmers.

The board acknowledges that every key partner has varying needs and determines how best to build and/or maintain a positive relationship.

This includes who, how, when, why. Examples of "how" include, but are not limited to:

- Inviting community organisations to board meetings
- Presenting at partners' board/agency meetings
- Being issues-driven
- Identifying areas for mutual support and help
- Having a presence at rural events with visible branding.



IMAGE: SHIV MARSHALL

RURAL DIRECTIONS

Whanganui Rural Community Board Strategic Plan 2020-2030

Focus area 2 – Rural economic growth

The rural sector is a significant contributor to the Whanganui economy, providing primary produce that supports major Whanganui industry and ancillary services.

Important value-added products and associated cutting-edge technology advancements in Whanganui are heavily associated with the rural sector. It is vital that the rural sector adapts to changing community expectations, environmental constraints, markets, and economic times. Essentially, Whanganui's economy is rural based.

This is particularly so in the export area with the largest sector being meat and meat-product manufacturing.

NB – The table below sets out the top rural-related activities and their contribution to Whanganui District's gross domestic product (GDP) in 2019.

Industry	GDP 2019 (\$ millions)	Share of total GDP 2019
Horticulture and fruit growing	\$7.5	0.4%
Sheep, beef cattle and grain farming	\$42.1	2.3%
Dairy cattle farming	\$18.4	1.0%
Poultry, deer and other livestock farming	\$7.2	0.4%
Forestry and logging	\$40.8	2.2%
Fishing and aquaculture	\$1.5	0.1%
Meat and meat-product manufacturing	\$44.5	2.4%
Dairy product manufacturing	\$27.8	1.5%
Fruit, cereal and other food-product manufacturing	\$24.4	1.3%
Textile, leather, clothing, footwear manufacturing	\$20.6	1.1%
Wood-product manufacturing	\$13.6	0.7%

Objective

To work alongside Whanganui & Partners to promote economic growth in Whanganui's rural sector.

Actions

Identify economic trends, R&D projects and obstacles and opportunities in the rural sector and monitor industry changes and potential developments. Also:

- Examine value-added opportunities for local products.
- Support tourism as a key aspect of rural economic development.

- Examine irrigation issues and opportunities.
- Continue to advocate for ultrafast broadband throughout rural Whanganui.
- Support projects and initiatives such as the Rural Enterprise Project.
- Provide input into key council strategies and policies.

Focus area 3 – Infrastructure

Reliable and efficient infrastructure is vital to the economy, safety and connectedness of the rural sector. The contribution towards roading rates by the Whanganui rural community is \$3.251 million of the total \$9.274M (including GST), which is about 35 percent of the total roading rate.

Infrastructure includes, but is not limited to:

- Roads including bridges and culverts
- Digital
- Power
- Water
- Communication infrastructure
- Security cameras
- Other community facilities such as rural halls.

Key issues facing rural roads include:

- **Network vehicle volume** – low-volume roads considered “uneconomic”; impacts of increasing levels of heavy traffic, eg: forestry; increases in heavy vehicle weight capacity.

- **Localised roading conditions** – drainage; speed; safety and maintenance concerns regarding effects of increased heavy traffic on marginal and narrow pavement width; aggregate quality is marginal with a high cost to import quality aggregate to remote areas; weak geological structure; slip prone.
- **Financial** – increase in emergency works (eg: flood damage); higher expectations from stakeholders/road users; increasing operational costs and fluctuating raw material costs; decreasing subsidies from Waka Kotahi NZTA and the Funding Assistance Rates review.
- **Bridges and culverts.**

Objective

To promote the importance of reliable and efficient infrastructure to rural Whanganui and ensure quality infrastructure systems are developed and maintained in a manner that reflects their inherent value to the wider district.

Actions

- Assist with developing, monitoring and reviewing the council's Rural Road Strategy.
- Continue working with other territorial authorities (local government) and forestry owners to determine a solution for managing the costs and options associated with the effects of forestry harvesting on rural roads.
- Advocate for maintaining acceptable levels of service levels on rural roads.
- Continue to advocate for ultrafast broadband throughout rural Whanganui.
- Lobby central government on various issues that relate to the provision of quality infrastructure.



IMAGE: ANGUS MURRAY

RURAL DIRECTIONS

Whanganui Rural Community Board Strategic Plan 2020-2030

Focus area 4 – Community wellbeing

Rural areas are geographically isolated from services, which means rural residents and businesses have restricted access to the support they need to ensure community wellbeing.

Rural areas are geographically isolated from services, which means rural residents and businesses have restricted access to the support they need to ensure community wellbeing.

Constraints include reduced access to:

- Healthcare services including mental health and wellbeing support

- Education
- Welfare
- Fast, affordable broadband
- Entertainment and events
- Postal delivery
- Other issues related to community wellbeing include emergency management and community facilities.

Objective

To promote and support rural community wellbeing in the Whanganui District.

Actions

Consider rural services and initiatives including, but not limited to:

- Security and Police including security cameras.
- Council services such as library, animal control and so on
- Postal services

- Good-neighbour awareness
- Family events such as rural children's initiatives and school events
- Continued liaison with the Fire and Emergency New Zealand, with a particular focus on Enlarged Rural Fire Districts

- Active participation in the Manawatu-Whanganui (Horizons Region) Rural Co-ordination Group for a co-ordinated emergency management response to an emergency event
- Representation at the Safer Whanganui forum.



IMAGE: ANGUS MURRAY

Focus area 5 – Communication

Successful engagement with the community is critical to the effectiveness of the board. Effective two-way communication between the board and its stakeholders will contribute to effective rural representation and advocacy.

Objective

To raise the profile of the board, both locally and nationally; and to increase the public's understanding of the board's purpose. Also, to increase the social media presence of the board.

Actions

- Consider the look and feel of *Hotwire*; also consider distribution channels for extended reach. Copies of *Hotwire* published to the council's website and the board's Facebook page
- Distribute *Hotwire* every six months
- Board Chair and members to contribute to the *Whanganui Chronicle* supplement, *The Country*
- Use *The Country* to promote upcoming *Hotwire* publications
- Organise media releases and good news stories for key rural issues.
- Include selected rural issues in *Community Link*, the council's weekly public newsletter that appears in the *Midweek* community newspaper
- Ensure rural issues are included on the council's website
- Hold public meetings with Whanganui rural communities, as and when appropriate
- Make submissions to relevant organisations on key rural issues
- Collate information on funding opportunities – including possible new funding opportunities post COVID-19 – and publish in the board's bi-annual *Hotwire* newsletter
- Website coverage on the council and Local Government New Zealand's websites
- Introduce board members to council staff through Pātāi
- Use social media to highlight and promote rural issues, as well as to promote and grow the board's Facebook page.



IMAGE: GINNIE MATTHEWS KINDER

RURAL DIRECTIONS

Whanganui Rural Community Board Strategic Plan 2020-2030

Focus area 6 – Representation

The Whanganui Rural Community Board is elected by the rural community to represent and act as an advocate for that community.

Seven board members are elected in these areas:

- Kai Iwi subdivision – three members
- Kaitoke subdivision – two members
- Whanganui subdivision – two members.

Whanganui District Council also appoints two Councillors to the board to increase the cohesion between the two bodies.

The young people of Whanganui are also represented through the appointment of two members of the council's Youth Committee. Federated Farmers, Tamaūpoko Community-Led Trust, Horizons Regional Council and the New Zealand Police are invited to provide updates on a regular basis.

Objective

To represent the Whanganui community on issues of significance, and to advocate for Whanganui's rural community on a wide range of matters.

Actions

- Submit to the council's Representation Review.
- Consider the council's draft annual and long-term plans and make a submission.
- Consider Horizons' draft annual and long-term plans and make a submission.
- Keep a watch on Government legislation and make submissions on issues of importance.
- Build a process that ensures the board has input into relevant policy and strategy decisions.
- Strengthen ties with Whanganui iwi through the council's Iwi Working Party meetings.
- Continue to strengthen ties with the council's Youth Committee.
- Attend relevant "know-how" courses through Local Government New Zealand.
- Strengthen ties with other community boards within Zone 3.
- Consider projects for best-practice awards.



IMAGE SUPPLIED

Keeping on track

Successful engagement with the community is critical to the effectiveness of the board. Council staff will table quarterly reporting at Whanganui Rural Community Board meetings, providing an update on the progress of the board.

APPENDIX 1 – Whanganui Rural Community Board membership

Board members attend a range of council-related meetings to represent rural views:

Committee	Members responsible
Council meetings	Grant Skilton
Property and Community Services	Sandra Falkner (full committee member)
Strategy and Finance	David Wells (full committee member)
Infrastructure, Climate Change and Emergency Management	Michael Dick (full committee member)
Tamaūpoko Link	David Wells
Youth Committee	Alistair Duff
Whanganui District Rural Community Halls Trust	Bill Ashworth, Michael Dick and David Wells



IMAGE: GINNIE MATTHEWS KINDER



Rural Directions

Whanganui Rural Community Board Strategic Plan 2020-2030

'For the Whanganui rural community to be prosperous, connected, safe and happy'



WHANGANUI
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera a Rohe o Whanganui

101 Guyton Street
(06) 349 0001
PO Box 637, Whanganui 4500
✉ yourcouncil@whanganui.govt.nz
🌐 www.whanganui.govt.nz
📘 @WhanganuiRCB
🏠 @whanganuidistrictcouncil

5.3 MAINTENANCE COSTS OF THE MANGAMAHU BRIDGE SECURITY CAMERA

Author: Hayley Fitzgerald - Democracy Support Officer

Authoriser: Kate Barnes - Senior Democracy Advisor

References: Nil

Significance of decision – In terms of the Significance and Engagement Policy 2018, the recommended decision is not significant.

Recommendation

That the Whanganui Rural Community Board fund the maintenance of the Mangamahu Bridge Rural Security Camera at a cost of \$800 per annum.

Executive summary

This report proposes that the Whanganui Rural Community Board be responsible for the maintenance costs of the Mangamahu Bridge Security Camera at a cost of \$800 per annum.

Background

The Whanganui Rural Community Board has made funding available to support rural residents and organisations to set up security cameras. The Board makes a contribution to the cost of the installation.

In February 2020 it was identified that the security cameras required regular maintenance and the Board passed a resolution to fund the ongoing maintenance of the 13 rural security cameras it had initially contributed to the installation of.

The installation and maintenance of the Mangamahu Bridge Security Camera was funded by the Mangamahu Special Rate Payers Fund, however the purpose of the Mangamahu Special Rate Payers Fund is to contribute towards roading in the Mangamahu area. Therefore, it is proposed that maintenance costs are now covered by the Whanganui Rural Community Board. The maintenance costs of this Camera are more than that of the other cameras, however Town and Country - TV and Surveillance Solutions advise that this camera is difficult to reach and requires substantially more time and effort.

Key issues

Although the Mangamahu Bridge Security Camera did not come about through the same method as the 13 rural security cameras, the initiative remains the same and the camera continues to contribute to the safety and security of the Mangamahu Rural Community.

Options

Option 1: The Whanganui Rural Community Board fund the maintenance of the Mangamahu Bridge Rural Security Camera.

Option 2: Do not fund the maintenance of the Mangamahu Bridge Rural Security Camera with the consequence being that the camera is no longer maintained.

Summary of Considerations

Fit with purpose of local government

Enable democratic decision making

[Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002](#)

Fit with strategic framework

Select checkboxes to indicate whether the decision / report contributes, detracts or has no impact

	Contributes	Detracts	No impact
Leading Edge Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Long-Term Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Infrastructure Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Economic Development Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other Policies or Plans -	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The WRCB security camera initiative aligns with the board's Rural Directions Strategic Plan to provide reliable and efficient infrastructure which is vital to the economy, safety and connectedness of the rural sector.

[Leading Edge Strategy](#)

Risks

The recommended decision has a very minor degree of risk.

The following risks have been considered and identified:

- Financial** risks related to the financial management of Council and the ability to fund Council activities and operations, now and into the future
- Service delivery** risks related to the meeting of levels of service to the community
- Reputation / image** risks that affect the way the Council and staff are perceived by the community - nationwide, internationally, by stakeholders, and the media
- Legal compliance (regulatory)** risks related to the ability of management to effectively manage the Council, comply with legal obligations and avoid being exposed to liability
- Environmental** risks related to the environmental impacts of activities undertaken by the Council. Includes potential or negative environmental and / or ecological impacts, regardless of whether these are reversible or irreversible
- Health, safety and wellbeing** risks related to the health, safety and wellbeing of Council staff, contractors and the general public when using Council's facilities and services
- Information technology and management** risks related to the integrity of the Council's IT network, including security, access and data management
- Infrastructure / assets** risks related to the inability of assets to provide the required level of service in the most cost effective manner

<input type="checkbox"/> Project completion <i>risk of failure to complete on time, on budget and to plan</i>
Risk Management Policy
Policy implications N/A
Financial considerations <input type="checkbox"/> Nil <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved in LTP / AP <input type="checkbox"/> Unbudgeted \$
Legislative considerations N/A
Significance The recommended decision is considered not significant as per Council's Significance and Engagement Policy. Significance and Engagement Policy 2018
Engagement Significance and Engagement Policy 2018

5.4 STRATEGY AND POLICY UPDATE

Author: Louise Davies - Policy & Risk Support Officer

Authoriser: Stephanie Macdonald-Rose - Group Manager - Corporate

References: 1. Strategy and Policy Update - October 2020

Recommendation

That the Whanganui Rural Community Board receive the report – Strategy and Policy Update.

Executive Summary

The Strategy and Policy Update – October 2020, is attached.

WHANGANUI LEADING EDGE

Strategy and Policy Update
October 2020

The Strategy and Policy Update provides information on projects the Community, Policy and Research team is currently leading on or assisting with. This includes work that is underway or due to begin shortly to enable early opportunities for engagement and involvement.

Note: When this work is finished the information will be removed from this update.

Project & Description	Status	What's new?	Overview	Responsible Officer
2021-2031 Long Term Plan	Underway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-engagement with the community is underway and we are seeking feedback on community aspirations. Officers are attending a series of events and are also connecting through online surveys regarding the community outcomes, aspirations and the Leading Edge Strategy. Formal consultation will occur with a submissions period in early 2021. Workshops continue to be held with Council and these will occur through until the plan is adopted mid-2021. <p>https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/Your-Council/Have-Your-Say/Consultations/Long-Term-Plan-2021-2031</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Planning for the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan commenced earlier this year. This is a 12-month process and we will continue to workshop different components of the Long Term Plan with elected members as items shape up. Background work has started to support the development of this work, such as looking at our strategies, understanding key assumptions to make. 	Jasmine Hessel and Stephanie Macdonald-Rose.
Climate Change Strategy This strategy will guide Council's response to climate change, from both a mitigation and adaptation perspective	Underway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A workshop with representatives from the rural sector was held in October, and feedback from this session has been incorporated into the drafting of the strategy. Representation from this group will be invited to the final joint climate change workshop that is being planned. Thank you to those who were able to attend the rural conversation at short notice. Drafting of the strategy is well progressed and it is hoped that it will be approved for public consultation late 2020 or early 2021. A Whanganui community carbon footprint was completed, and these have been completed across all Districts within the Horizons Region. Horizons Regional Council (HRC) climate change work is currently focussed on the Regional Climate Risk Assessment, and community engagement for this work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A discussion document was approved for community engagement. Community engagement took place in September and October 2019. Multiple workshops have been held as we work to achieve a strategy. 	Charlotte Almond/ Jasmine Hessel

1

Project & Description	Status	What's new?	Overview	Responsible Officer
		has been undertaken. The key contact point at HRC is Tom Bowen.		
Dog Control Policy and Bylaw This bylaw regulates the keeping of dogs and dog access in public places.	Underway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work is underway with initial research and internal workshops. Formal consultation is expected to commence in late 2020. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A review of the bylaw is underway. 	Justin Walters
Town Centre Regeneration Economic and social regeneration strategy focused on delivering improvements to the town centre.	Underway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whanganui Walls Festival We will be holding this event in March 2021. Planning is underway. Drews Avenue Arts Precinct Project. Work is progressing on The Innovating Streets project. Lower Victoria Avenue. Funding has been approved by the Innovating Streets fund to create a dining zone in Lower Victoria Avenue. Stakeholder workshops are in the process of being planned. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tramshed Fence and toilet – Toilet is installed. The fence tenders closed on 21 October with a building date yet to be finalised. 	Ellen Young
Development Contributions Policy (Mill Road Manufacturing Zone) This policy will set out a framework for securing development contributions for the expected growth in the Mill Road manufacturing zone.	Underway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A draft policy is currently being finalised. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-engagement with stakeholders has been undertaken. 	Justin Walters/ Damien Wood
Heritage Strategy This strategy will identify priorities and actions which will help improve outcomes for heritage (primarily built) in Whanganui District.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An online survey is now live and available on the Council's website. Statistics taken from this survey will help to inform the Council's heritage strategy which is currently being worked on. Promotion of the survey and strategy has been conducted through presence at the River Traders Market and Heritage Month events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding has been allocated towards a strategic document to improve outcomes for heritage in Whanganui District. Significant background work has been completed prior to this, notably in the form of the Town Centre Regeneration Strategy. Potential exists to bridge with existing and underway strategies, and connect with actions within them. 	Scott Flutey
Gambling Venues Policy The Gambling Venues Policy outlines Whanganui District Council's regulation of Class 4 venues and TAB venues, specifically, where these venues are permitted to locate and total gaming machines allowed.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A review of this policy has been conducted and presented to Elected Members. Formal consultation is ongoing and will end 20 November 2020. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy must be reviewed every 3 years in accordance with the Gambling Act 2003. 	Will Johnston

Project & Description	Status	What's new?	Overview	Responsible Officer
Local Approved Products Policy This policy regulates where any psychoactive substances that may be approved for sale in NZ can be sold within the Whanganui District.	Underway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A review of this policy is underway. Formal consultation closed on 9 October 2020. Hearings and deliberations were held on 22 October 2020. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy must be reviewed every 5 years in accordance with the Psychoactive Substances Act 2013. 	Justin Walters
Cemeteries and Crematoria This bylaw provides for the management of the Council's cemeteries and crematoria by allowing certain activities and conduct to take place within them.	Underway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main part of the review will be starting in late 2020. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council has been approached by members of the Hindu community about cremations and some of the rituals associated with the water and ashes and a meeting between Ngā Tāngata Tiaki and representatives of the Hindu community took place on 16 March 2020. 	Justin Walters
Parks and Open Spaces Strategy This intent of this strategy is to ensure that Council provides quality parks that meets the needs of the current and future community.	On hold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A workshop with elected members was held on 12 March, looking at the critical issues identified in the existing strategy. Limited work has occurred on this item through the COVID-19 response. Staff changes and COVID-19 have pushed the delivery of this work out. Strategy effort has been prioritised for coming months to work on Climate Strategy and the Long Term Plan. This work will recommence when capacity permits. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A review of this strategy commenced in 2018 and will recommence when in-house capacity permits. Further public engagement will need to occur. 	Charlotte Almond / Wendy Bainbridge

District Plan Updates – The District Plan policy work programme and consultations are available on the Council's Have Your Say page: <https://www.wanganui.govt.nz/our-district/have-your-say>

Current Consultation

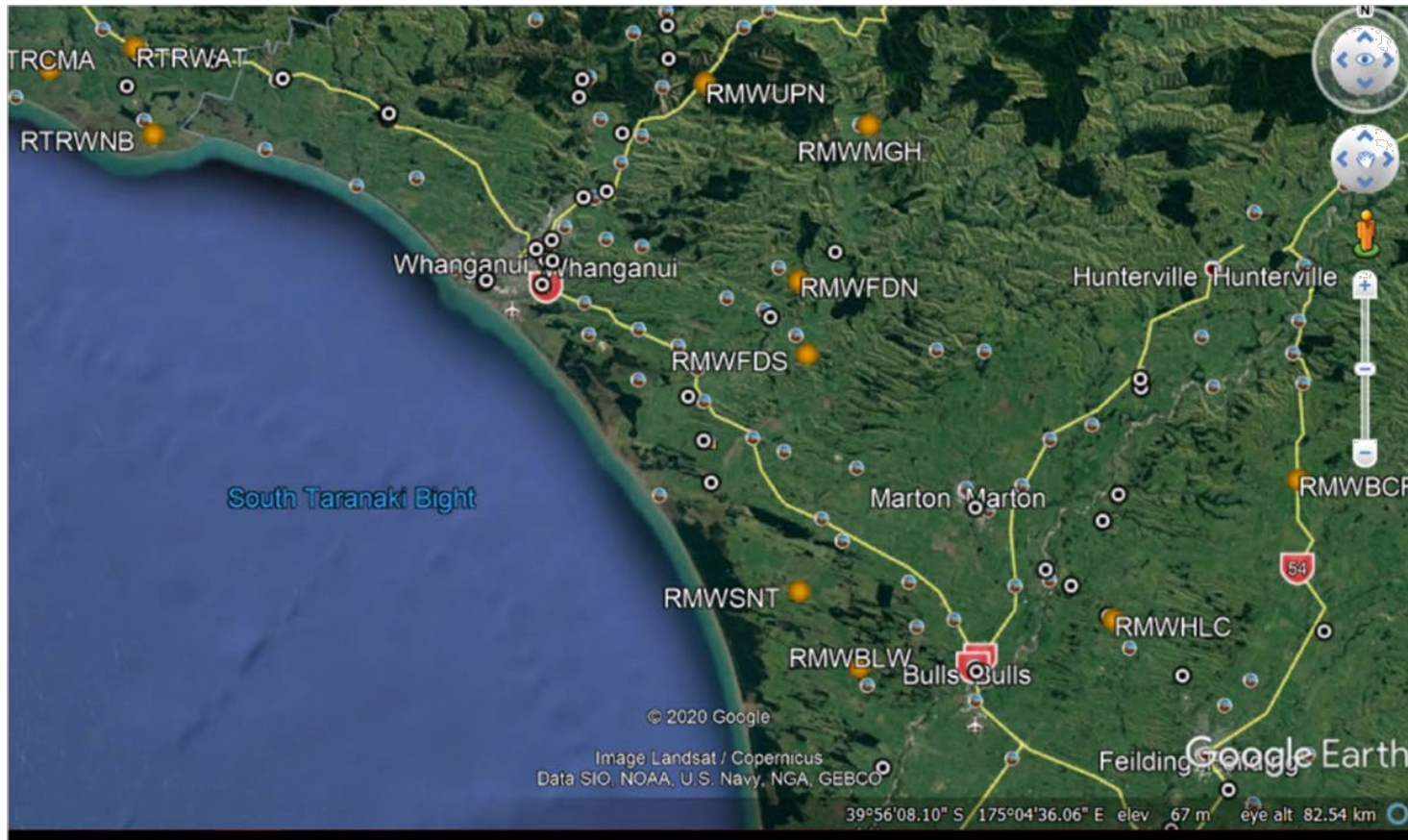
- Gambling Venues Policy: Consultation period 14 October – 20 November 2020.
- Long Term Plan 2021-2031 surveys
- Whanganui District Heritage Survey

Closed Consultation

- Land Purchase at Durie Hill: Consultation closed 30 September 2020
- Review of Psychoactive Substances – Local Approved Products Policy: Consultation closed 9 October 2020

Rural Broadband and Mobile Black Spots rollout

<p>Repeater Installation – RBIZ and MBSF Rural Broadband and Mobile Black Spots rollout</p>	<p>Underway</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upokongaro North: this site went live on 5 May with both 3G and 4G services. As well as providing broadband and mobile services to over 40 residents, it also covers 7.8kms of State Highway 4. • Mangamahū: lwi approval has been given for the site location. Scheduled to start a build in early December 2020. • Fordell North: build is complete and the site went live 23 September 2020. • Fordell South: build is complete and the site went live 26 August 2020. This site is located just on the Rangitikei side of the district boundaries. • In the South Taranaki District, the Waitotara site went live in April 2020 and the Waiinui Beach and Coleman Avenue sites are both expected to be live by February 2021. • A copy of the site map is included below. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase Two of the network upgrade is due to be complete by 2021 (Business Partnership Agenda New Zealand Government, 28 August 2018). 	<p>Louise Davies</p>
--	-----------------	--	--	----------------------



- Key:**
- RMWUPN – Upokongaro North
 - RMWMGH – Mangamahu
 - RMWFDN – Fordell North
 - RMWFDS – Fordell South
 - RTRWAT – Waitotara
 - RTRCMA – Coleman Avenue – South Taranaki District
 - RTRWNB – Waiinu Beach – South Taranaki District
 - RMWBLW – Bulls West – Rangitikei District
 - RMWSNT – Santoft – Rangitikei District