



KOMITI AHUREA ME NGĀ RANGAPŪ COMMUNITIES, CULTURE AND PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE

17 June 2025

Order Paper for the meeting to be held in the
Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, 30 Laings Road, Lower Hutt,
on:

Wednesday 25 June 2025 commencing at 2:00 pm

The meeting will be livestreamed on Council's YouTube page.

Membership

	Cr K Brown (Chair)
	Cr K Morgan (Deputy Chair)
Mayor C Barry	Cr G Barratt
Cr J Briggs	Deputy Mayor T Lewis
Cr C Parkin	Cr N Shaw
Cr G Tupou	

For the dates and times of Council Meetings please visit www.huttcity.govt.nz

Have your say

You can speak under public comment to items on the agenda to the Mayor and Councillors at this meeting. Please let us know by noon the working day before the meeting. You can do this by emailing DemocraticServicesTeam@huttcity.govt.nz or calling the Democratic Services Team on 04 570 6666 | 0800 HUTT CITY

KOMITI HAPORI AHUREA ME NGĀ RANGAPŪ COMMUNITIES, CULTURE AND PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE

Chair:	Cr Keri Brown
Deputy Chair:	Cr Karen Morgan
Membership:	Mayor Campbell Barry Deputy Mayor Tui Lewis Cr Glenda Barratt Cr Josh Briggs Cr Chris Parkin Cr Naomi Shaw Cr Gabriel Tupou Refer to Council's Standing Orders (SO 31 Provisions for Mana Whenua)
Quorum:	Half of the membership
Meeting cycle:	Meets on an eight-weekly basis or at the requisition of the Chair
Reports to:	Council

OVERVIEW:

This committee assists Council to ensure healthy, vibrant and resilient communities through partnerships and the development and management of relevant plans, strategies and functions.

The committee is aligned with the Neighbourhoods and Communities Directorate and Te Tira Māori.

Its areas of focus are:

- Major neighbourhoods and communities projects
- Arts and culture
- Community funding
- Community development
- City/community safety
- Emergency management
- Housing needs
- Open spaces and places (parks and reserves, sport and recreation, community facilities and hubs)
- Social procurement
- Relationships with the seven marae
- Te Ao Māori
- Treaty partnerships
- Rangtahi | Youth engagement
- Oversight of the Pito-one projects
- Oversight of the Disability Advisory Group (if established)

PURPOSE:

To develop, implement, monitor and review strategies, policies, plans and functions associated with community, social and cultural activities. This includes making the city a desirable, safe and attractive place, providing facilities and recreational opportunities that support quality living and healthy lifestyles, and supporting the cultural well-being of residents.

DELEGATIONS FOR THE COMMITTEE'S AREAS OF FOCUS:

- All powers necessary to perform the committee's responsibilities including the activities outlined below.
- Develop required strategies and policies. **Recommend draft and final versions to Council** for adoption where they have a city-wide or strategic focus.
- Implement, monitor and review strategies and policies.
- Oversee the implementation of major projects provided for in the Long Term Plan (LTP) or Annual Plan.
- Oversee budgetary decisions provided for in the LTP or Annual Plan.
- Advocate for strong relationships with Council's Mana Whenua partners as outlined in the Tākai Here agreements ensuring the outcomes of the committee are in line with the aspirations of the partners.
- Advocate for the best interests of Māori communities in Lower Hutt having regard to the committee's goals.
- Ensure the committee is operating in a way that is consistent with various pieces of legislation that provide for Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- Oversee the development and implementation of plans and functions associated with community, social and cultural activities.
- Oversee the social/broader outcomes through the delivery of Council's contracts.
- **Recommend to Council** the brief (alignment of projects, opportunity, community engagement) for the Pito-one projects.
- Maintain an overview of work programmes carried out by Council's Neighbourhoods and Communities Directorate.
- Advocate in conjunction with relevant community organisations on matters related to housing needs and the health and social/cultural well-being of communities.
- **Recommend to Council** the acquisition or disposal of assets unless the acquisition or disposal is provided for specifically in the LTP.
- Approve and oversee monitoring around Community Funding Strategy grants.
- Matters arising from the activities of Community Houses, other than those in the Harbour and Wainuiomata Wards, which are delegated to the community boards in those areas.
- Conduct any consultation/engagement processes required on issues before the committee.
- Approve and forward submissions (other than those delegated to the District Plan Review

Committee).

- Any other matters delegated to the committee by Council in accordance with approved policies and bylaws.
- The committee has the powers to perform the responsibilities of another committee where it is necessary to make a decision before the next meeting of that other committee. When exercised, the report/minutes of the meeting require a resolution noting that the committee has performed the responsibilities of another committee and the reason/s.
- If a policy or project relates primarily to the responsibilities of the Komiti Hapori Ahurea me ngā Rangapū | Communities, Culture and Partnerships Committee, but aspects require additional decisions by the Komiti Hanganga | Infrastructure and Regulatory Committee and/or Komiti Kaupapa Taiao | Climate Change and Sustainability Committee, then the Komiti Hapori Ahurea me ngā Rangapū | Communities, Culture and Partnerships Committee has the powers to make associated decisions on behalf of those other committees. For the avoidance of doubt, this means that matters do not need to be taken to more than one of those committees for decisions.

Additional Parks and Reserves Delegations:

- Adopt, and agree amendments to, open space or reserve management plans.
- Make any decisions under open space or reserve management plans that are not otherwise delegated.
- Grant leases, licences, rights of way and easements in terms of Council policy for Council owned properties that are either open space under the District Plan or reserve under the Reserves Act 1977. This delegation, except the granting of leases and licences to Council owned community houses/centres in the Harbour and Wainuiomata Wards, is sub-delegated to the community boards in those areas.
- Official naming of parks, reserves and sports grounds within the provisions of Council's Kaupapa Here Tapanga Naming Policy, other than those in the Harbour and Wainuiomata Wards, which are delegated to the community boards in those areas, except where the sites have a high profile, city-wide importance due to their size and location and/or cross ward or community boundaries.
- Removal and/or planting of street trees within the provisions of Council's Operational Guide for Urban Forest Plan, other than those in the Harbour and Wainuiomata Wards, which are delegated to the community boards in those areas.

HUTT CITY COUNCIL

KOMITI HAPORI AHUREA ME NGĀ RANGAPŪ

COMMUNITIES, CULTURE AND PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE

Meeting to be held in the Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, 30 Laings Road, Lower Hutt

on

Wednesday 25 June 2025 commencing at 2:00 pm.

ORDER PAPER

PUBLIC BUSINESS

1. OPENING FORMALITIES - KARAKIA TIMATANGA

Kia tau ngā manaakitanga a
te mea ngaro
ki runga ki tēnā, ki tēnā o
tātou
Kia mahea te hua
mākihikihi
kia toi te kupu, toi te mana,
toi te aroha, toi te Reo Māori
kia tūturu, ka whakamaua
kia tīna! Tīna! Hui e, Tāiki e!

*Let the strength and life force of
our ancestors
Be with each and every one of us
Freeing our path from obstruction
So that our words, spiritual power,
love, and language are upheld;
Permanently fixed, established and
understood! Forward together!*

2. APOLOGIES

Mayor Barry

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Generally up to 30 minutes is set aside for public comment (three minutes per speaker on items appearing on the agenda). Speakers may be asked questions on the matters they raise.

4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as a member and any private or other external interest they might have

**5. RECOMMENDATION TO TE KAUNIHERA O TE AWA KAIRANGI
COUNCIL - 31 July 2025**

Adoption of the Reserves Investment Strategy

Report No. CCPC2025/3/165 by the Head of Parks and Reserves

8

CHAIR'S RECOMMENDATION:

"That the recommendations contained in the report be endorsed."

6. PROPOSAL FOR LONG TERM LEASES ON RESERVE LAND

Report No. CCPC2025/3/167 by the Leasing Coordinator 77

CHAIR'S RECOMMENDATION:

"That the recommendations contained in the report be endorsed."

7. PETONE WHARF UPDATE

Report No. CCPC2025/3/169 by the Head of Parks and Reserves 80

CHAIR'S RECOMMENDATION:

"That the recommendations contained in the report be endorsed."

8. PETONE GRANDSTAND OPTIONS

Report No. CCPC2025/3/168 by the Head of Parks and Reserves 86

CHAIR'S RECOMMENDATION:

"That the recommendations contained in the report be endorsed with part (3) to read: (3) considers divesting the remaining budget and structure to a non-profit community organisation (eg sports clubs based at the ground) under a development agreement that required the organisation to complete the remediation/rehabilitation of the structure to Council's specification and manage and maintain it thereafter under a lease arrangement."

9. PARKS AND RESERVES WORKPLAN 2025-2026

Report No. CCPC2025/3/170 by the Head of Parks and Reserves 92

CHAIR'S RECOMMENDATION:

"That the recommendations contained in the report be endorsed."

10. NEIGHBOURHOODS AND COMMUNITIES DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Report No. CCPC2025/3/171 by the Head of Parks and Reserves 101

CHAIR'S RECOMMENDATION:

"That the recommendations contained in the report be endorsed."

11. INFORMATION ITEM

Communities, Culture and Partnerships Committee Work Programme 2025

Memorandum dated 3 June 2025 by the Democracy Advisor

130

CHAIR'S RECOMMENDATION:

"That the recommendation contained in the memorandum be endorsed."

12. QUESTIONS

With reference to section 32 of Standing Orders, before putting a question a member shall endeavour to obtain the information. Questions shall be concise and in writing and handed to the Chair prior to the commencement of the meeting.

13. CLOSING FORMALITIES - KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

Mai te tohi rangi, ki te tohu
nuku,

Tiaho I roto, mārama I
roto,

Tupu mauri ora ki te whai
ao ki te ao Mārama

Haumi e, hui e tāiki e

Of heavenly and terrestrial
blessings may it twinkle and shine
within me and allow my being to
grow out into the work of life and
light

Draw together!

Affirm!

Vanessa Gilmour
DEMOCRACY ADVISOR

Report no: CCPC2025/3/165

Adoption of the Reserves Investment Strategy

Purpose of Report

1. The Reserves Investment Strategy is a critical piece of work that helps officers focus on works necessary to improve the liveability of Lower Hutt communities. It provides an agreed list of projects that the team will complete within the Long-Term Plan (LTP) Cycle. The list is reviewed every three years in line with the LTP Cycle.
2. Whilst the Strategy has been comprehensively consulted on and has in principle been endorsed by Council it hasn't yet gone through a formal adoption process. Council's Parks and Reserves business unit wish to have the Strategy formally endorsed in light of the upcoming LTP cycle 2027-2030 where it will serve to inform the forthcoming project cycle.
3. Whilst the Strategy provides a framework to agree reserve project works with Council and the community there are occasions where additional works may need to be completed outside the three-year program. This report seeks to also address that matter.

Recommendations

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- (1) receives and notes the report;
- (2) notes the feedback from submissions outlined below (Consultation) and further notes that no submissions arising from the original consultation disagree with the project list which was circulated as part of the Long Term Plan consultation;
- (3) notes that where requests have been made to simplify and provide the Strategy in different languages it will be considered in future iterations of the Strategy;
- (4) approves the existing project list outlined in Appendix B of Appendix 1 attached to the report of the Reserves Investment Strategy;
- (5) approves the triennial review of the project list in line with the Long Term Plan cycle as set out in the original document;

- (6) approves that variations to the cost and scope of existing projects will be identified as they arise through individual reports;
- (7) approves that new projects that may arise as high priority can be included by exception within the Annual Plan and funded from the Reserves Purchase and Development Fund. Such a process will be subject to a separate report to Council and contingent upon the necessary resolution and subsequent public consultation; and
- (8) adopts the Reserves Investment Strategy, attached as Appendix 1 to the report.

Background

- 4. In September 2023 the Communities, Culture and Partnerships Committee approved the draft Reserves Investment Strategy and a Proposed Projects List to provide budget certainty for the draft LTP 2024-34.
- 5. Proposed projects were to be funded from the Reserves Purchase and Development Fund. The budget was approved for inclusion in the draft LTP by the Long Term Plan/ Annual Plan Subcommittee in October 2023.
- 6. The draft Reserves Investment Strategy, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, was re-presented to the Long-Term Plan/ Annual Plan Subcommittee on 27 March 2024 containing the list of projects previously agreed with some minor amendments.
- 7. At the Long-Term Plan/ Annual Plan Subcommittee meeting they recommended that Council:
 - 1) *notes changes made to the Proposed Project List since the last update in September 2023, outlined in point 8, a – f in Report No. LTPAP2024/1/71;*
 - 2) *notes the feedback provided to officers on the Draft Reserves Investment Strategy and Proposed Projects List attached as Appendix 1 to Report No. LTPAP2024/1/71;*
 - 3) *endorses a holistic, place-based approach to reserves investment as set out in the strategy;*
 - 4) *agrees for the Reserves Investment Strategy and the Proposed Project list to proceed to draft LTP consultation; and*
 - 5) *directs officers to group multiple projects in one neighbourhood where appropriate to ensure maximum benefits for the local community.*
- 8. The officers report for 27 March 2024 stated. *“The Projects List will be reviewed and adjusted every three years in line with the LTP process.”* This provision also exists within the text of the Reserves Investment Strategy as well.
- 9. As Council moves toward the LTP cycle for 2027-2030, officers are eager to have the Strategy adopted to enable early planning for the next round of projects.

10. To this effect the initial submissions to the Strategy have been assessed and are discussed below (in Consultation).
11. The Reserves Investment Strategy provides a framework of Reserve typologies in its Appendix A of Appendix 1 including:
 - a) Neighbourhood Reserve;
 - b) Suburban Reserve;
 - c) Sports Park Reserve;
 - d) Destination Park;
 - e) Nature Reserve;
 - f) Recreation and Ecological Linkage;
 - g) Civic Space; and
 - h) Cultural Heritage.
12. Appendix B of Appendix 1 lists a range projects prioritised along the spectrum of immediate; short-term; medium term; and long term. They cut-across all reserve typologies.

Discussion

13. Since the start of the current LTP 2024-2027 officers have been progressing projects according to the priority rating contained within the framework outlined. Hence, High Street Reserve; Delaney Park; and Bell Park which were designated for immediate work were completed in 2023-2024.
14. Currently (24-25) projects designated as short-term are being progressed including Hugh Sinclair Park; Moera Hub Landscaping; Te Whiti Enhancements; and Frederick Wise Changing Facilities.
15. Officers are also working on some medium-term projects including Avalon Park improvements (new toilet facility); Hall Crescent (Stage 2); and Colson Street which is being progressed to improve the Reserve configuration and supply some much needed housing stock.
16. Whilst good progress is being made on the projects identified under the Strategy some are being rescoped as they either:
 - a) Provide significant opportunity to be a transformative improvement to a community (eg Black Creek).
 - b) Will provide a sub-optimal outcome under the existing budget (eg Hugh Sinclair Park).
 - c) Will be of significant interest to the community and stakeholders and may not have been consulted on sufficiently (eg Mitchell Park).

- d) Or need to be integrated into a wider strategy such as the Indigenous Biodiversity Strategy (eg Naenae Park Biodiversity improvements).
17. In addition to the projects contained within the Reserves Investment Strategy which may require to be varied in relation to optimising service outcomes, cost, consultation or strategic outcomes, there will be other projects that may need to be introduced or accelerated for financial or strategic reasons.
18. In terms of new projects there is a pressing need to reinstate the Taitā netball courts. This will provide benefit outside the netball community as the organisation has agreed the facility can be marked out as a multi-sports surface which would mean it would be available for informal community use outside netball's playing schedule. However, there is currently no recognition of the project within the Strategy's project framework and as such there is no current budget.
19. In terms of a strategic opportunity, it has been identified that the installation of 2.8 km of deer fencing (approx. 90-100k) would permanently protect 640ha from large herbivore browsing. This includes one of the Hutt City Key Native Ecosystem sites, an approximately 120ha area of high ecological value. This approach is in line with the Indigenous Biodiversity Strategy and would remove deer as a nuisance species for residents on the Eastern Hills.
20. Another indirect benefit of protecting this forest is that a healthy understory would greatly increase water retention without deer browsing. Healthy native bush should be able to hold 60% of rainfall, which should reduce runoff and flooding in the lower valleys, and in so doing reduce the risk of slips.
21. Where officers seek to progress such projects outside the three-yearly reassessment of the Reserves Investment Strategy, they will be the subject of a separate report to Council, gaining a resolution, and subject to public consultation.
22. The Reserve Purchase and Development Fund from which the existing and proposed works would be funded currently is forecast to be \$29,291,000 as of 30 June 2025.
23. Whilst the draft Reserves Investment Strategy has been thoroughly consulted on and endorsed by Council as a strategic document it has not yet been adopted. This provides some risk in terms of the proposed project list.
24. It is the intention of officers to have the document adopted so that the projects initially described in Appendix B of Appendix 1 are completed, unless future iterations arising from successive LTP cycles remove them.
25. Officers are keen to confirm the current project list as identified in Appendix B of Appendix 1 so that they might serve as the basis for the upcoming review of projects for the upcoming LTP Cycle in 2027-2030.

26. As has been indicated in the discussion a number of the proposed projects may need to be varied in terms of optimising service outcomes, cost, consultation or strategic outcomes, there may also be the need to introduce new projects outside of the triennial review where there are good reasons to do so for financial or strategic reasons.

Options

27. Council may choose to adopt the Strategy given it has been well-consulted on through the 2024-34 LTP and no concerns were expressed with the general principles of the Strategy, or project list (Appendix B of Appendix 1).
28. Council may choose not to adopt the Strategy and request Officers to consider a different option.

Climate Change Impact and Considerations

29. The matters addressed in this report have been considered in accordance with the process set out in Council's [Climate Change Considerations Guide](#).
30. Retaining and providing new reserve can support the concept of sponge cities. There are soft engineering opportunities to develop and redevelop parks and reserves to provide landscapes and surfaces that are permeable and can cope with some stormwater inundation.
31. A well-landscaped urban environment reduces the amount of water that is being piped and directed into stormwater infrastructure which may not always cope well with the increased levels, particularly in areas of medium and high residential density.
32. It is also likely to reduce the risk of stormwater run-off with an increasingly impermeable surface due to housing densification and attendant risks of erosion and flooding.
33. Biophilic principles; nature-based solutions and energy-efficient design can aid in adaptation to climate change impacts such as heat waves, floods and drought.

Consultation

34. The Reserve Investment Strategy consultation process was delivered within the LTP Public consultation in 2024, where Council received a total of 40 responses from the community.
35. Submissions were in six general categories being:
- a) Maintenance submissions
 - General proposals for maintenance were lodged.
 - Maintenance of the current recreational reserves across the city, mainly on amenities such as public toilets, walkways and playgrounds.

b) Cultural, social and environmental submissions

- The need to provide facilities focused on rangatahi mainly for practicing rugby
- Investment in a Community Ranger.
- Preservation and investment in natural parks and reserves.
- Investment in pest weed and predator free projects.
- Invest in reserves located in the most deprived suburbs and neighbourhoods.

c) New project proposals

- Four of the projects proposed by the community are already covered across the document as part of strategic focus areas defined in the strategy.
- Improvement of Petone Wharf was mentioned in the consultation, this project is already in the current Long-Term Plan, within budget and programmes allocated.
- Playground and tiny forest proposal in the area of the Wainuiomata Marae land.
- Investments in fitness facilities across playgrounds, action already in scope for some of our reserves.
- Invest in Stoke Valley Cricket Club and Holborn Drive Park.

d) Financial submissions

- Re focus the investment on new reserves towards maintaining the current reserves network.
- More transparency in how the funds are invested in the reserves network.

e) Other submissions not directly related to the RIS

- Maintain current infrastructure to keep increases in rates low.
- Prioritise water infrastructure.

f) Comments on the document

- Rewriting the document to improve clarity.
- Provide a version for non-English language speakers.

36. No submissions were made against the project list identified as Appendix B of Appendix 1 in the Strategy.
37. Those matters raised in relation to maintenance are/will be resolved as part of Business as Usual through conversation with the relevant service providers.
38. In terms of those matters raised in terms of cultural, social, or environmental context:
 - a) both the reserves and drainage investment programs seek to ensure playing fields are of a serviceable standard for the longest period of time which suggests the submission is in line with the draft Strategy in its current format.
 - b) The adoption of the Indigenous Biodiversity Strategy and employment of a Community and Bio-diversity Ranger addresses to a large extent those queries raised in relation to ecology and environmental submissions.
 - c) Projects identified in the Reserves Investment Strategy are primarily targeted at areas of high urban density including Taita, Stokes Valley, Wainuiomata, Moera, and Naenae which may have been considered as lower socio-economic neighbourhoods historically, although improved provision is proposed across the portfolio.
39. New projects and innovations are either being addressed through the current project list or will be subject to further consideration as part of the triennial review of projects as they relate to the LTP cycle.
40. In terms of those matters raised relating to finance the majority of projects being undertaken in the Reserves Investment Strategy are on existing reserves rather than new reserves, whereas Council is making separate provision to deal with water issues.
41. Other submissions not directly related to the Reserves Investment Strategy are managed as part of the long-term or annual plans, which may or may not include changes to the funding levels of the Reserve Purchase and Development Fund.
42. The submissions specifically angled to the document did not disagree with the proposals contained within the Reserves Investment Strategy but suggested a simplification of language and the possibility of providing copies in alternative languages. Both will be considered in future iterations of the document.

Legal Considerations

43. Reserves Investment Strategy decisions will need to meet the requirements of the Resource Management Act, Reserves Act and other relevant legislative or regulatory instruments. Reserves Financial Contributions are collected in accordance with the District Plan and Development and Financial Contributions Policy.

Financial Considerations

44. Absence of an investment strategy may result in a reduction or further loss of resourcing (financial and/or staffing) to maintain public open space. Without a strategy, the District Plan will not have a formal strategic position which justifies taking Reserve Financial Contributions.
45. As new lots and dwellings are developed, Council collects additional rates. A proportion of the rates from these new lots and dwellings should be directed at operations where possible.
46. Although the capital cost of acquisition can be covered by the Reserves Purchase and Development Fund and thus eases pressures on ratepayers, ongoing operational cost are likely to require additional budget. Or reductions in LoS in the future. This will be clarified through future Annual and LTP budget reviews.
47. While all efforts will be made to ensure new assets are low-maintenance, Council should anticipate the need to increase operational budgets or reduce Levels of Service as the investment programme is rolled out.

Appendices

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Author: Arthur Nelson
Head of Parks and Reserves

Approved By: Andrea Blackshaw
Director Neighbourhoods and Communities

Draft Hutt City Reserves Investment Strategy

Division	Parks and Recreation
Date created	November 2023
Publication date	
Review period	
Owner	Hutt City Council
Approved by	Andrea Blackshaw-Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities

Version	Author	Date	Description
V 1.0	Samantha Strong Thrive Spaces and Places	November 2023	First Draft
V 1.0	Nicole Peurifoy-Hutt City Council	November 2023	First Draft-Review
V 2.0	Samantha Strong Thrive Spaces and Places	December 2023	Second Draft
V 2.0	Nicole Peurifoy-Hutt City Council	December 2023	Second Draft-Review
V 3.0	Samantha Strong Thrive Spaces and Places	January 2024	Third Draft
V 3.0	Nicole Peurifoy Hutt City Council	February/March 2024	Third Draft-Review

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He Mihi – He Pao

Taku raukura rauna i te puata
Hei tomokanga i te mea ngaro e
Tākiri taku raukura haere ki runga rā
Hei kāuru mō Te Awakairangi e

Tō tātou awa ko te rangimārie

Hei puna waiora mō Te Āti Awa kuao e

E kore tātou e taea te wehewehe

Toitū te kupu o te raukura e

My raukura encircles the early dawn
As an entrance way to the spiritual realm
I cast my raukura high above
As a headwater in which Te Awakairangi
flows

Our river is likened to a tributary of peace
and goodwill

A spring that provides sustenance for the
people of Te Āti Awa

Our connection as people will never be
undone

As we uphold the principles of the raukura

These words of welcome come to you by way of this pao, a song composed for the purposes of this kaupapa. This pao acknowledges the Raukura, a symbol that for generations has been a guidepost for the people of Te Āti Awa and Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko-o-te-Ika. One of the symbols that encapsulates the Raukura is a plume of three albatross feathers, which encapsulates the relationship between celestial and terrestrial realms, and humankind's relationship within these realms.

The connection of the Raukura to this kaupapa is all encompassing. It highlights a unique spiritual relationship between mana whenua to our river, Te Awakairangi. It highlights how our river flows and nourishes the holistic wellbeing of all our communities and the environment in which we all reside. It acknowledges our responsibilities as a community to being stewards of wellbeing, to reside in balance and harmony within the environment that sustains us all. It calls our communities to action to uphold and advance the principles of the Raukura so that our environment for successive generations can be nurtured, nourished, and thrive.

Best wishes to you all as we undertake this journey together. Nāu te rourou, nāku te rourou ka ora ai te whenua me te iwi – With each of our contributions the land and its people shall thrive.

Setting the Scene– Mana Whenua

The iwi of Te Āti Awa and Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko-o-te-Ika have exercised mana whenua authority throughout the Hutt Valley, Wellington and Cook Strait regions since their arrival in the 1820s to the present day. Te Āti Awa and their iwi relations, namely Ngāti Mutunga, Ngāti Tama, Taranaki and Ngāti Ruanui, settled these regions after a series of migrations that took place from their original homelands located throughout Taranaki. These iwi are recognised collectively under the name, Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko-o-te-Ika, because of this relationship. The relationship is not only genealogical, but connects these iwi at political, cultural, economic, and social levels.

One of the things that initially attracted the Taranaki people to these regions was the sighting of a European ship on the Cook Strait during their participation in the taūa of predominantly northern iwi who came down the west coast of the North Island and into Te Whanganui a Tara in 1818-19. This highlighted the potential strategic and political opportunities of engagements and relationships between Māori and Pākehā, and the impact of this on lands, forestry, fisheries and estates for Māori.

It was in 1839 that Te Wharepouri, a rangatira of Te Āti Awa, laid out the mana whenua boundaries to colonial settlers whilst uttering the following whakatauhāki (proverbial phrase) upon the Pito One foreshore:

“Tumutumu pareā, rākau pareā. Whānui te ara ki a Tāne.”

“Ward off post and weapon so that the expansive path of mankind is opened up.”

Te Wharepouri, like his counterparts, saw the benefits of building positive relationships with the colonial settlers and working together towards common goals and initiatives. Hence, Te Wharepouri's statement acknowledged the bringing together of different peoples, and the importance of overcoming obstacles and issues together to achieve outcomes of mutual interest. On 29 April 1840, Te Tiriti o Waitangi was signed upon the Ariel in the Wellington harbour by 34 rangatira, including Te Wharepouri. This re-affirmed the status of mana whenua within these regions and their authority over their environs. However, challenges to this authority persisted soon after its signing through ongoing land acquisitions of the New Zealand Company on behalf of government to support the tide of colonial settlers entering these regions. This in turn created much unrest between mana whenua, the government, and colonial settlers.

Despite these significant challenges, Te Wharepouri carried his hopes for unity to his death bed, where in 1842 it is said that his dying message was:

*“I muri nei kia pai ki aku taonga Māori, taonga Pākehā,
kia tae ake te haruru o tō reo ki ahau i Te Reinga.”*

*“After I have gone be good to my Māori people and my European people,
let the thunder of your voice reach me in the spirit land.”*

For the generations of mana whenua descendants since, these histories and statements continue to be guideposts for their aspirations, where the importance of working together to support objectives and goals of significance is as pertinent today as it was then. The term itself, Mana Whenua, acknowledges the significance of land and its environs to Māori, and the duty of kaitiakitanga to protect and nurture its natural environment, health, and wellbeing for successive generations to come. Hence, the following phrase encapsulates this principle:

“Toitū te whenua, whatungarongaro te tangata.”

“When man is gone, the land remains.”

This statement highlights an intimate connection which gives meaning to what it is to be mana whenua. It is a relationship which transcends arguments of ownership in a commodity sense; a relationship which reinforces a sense of belonging shared between those who have passed on, the living and those yet to be born. It is a sacred connection; represented through the dual meanings of whenua to both nourish the people, and to nurture the growing new life of the unborn child.

With this sense of identity as a foundation, it is important to understand the aspirations of mana whenua for their land, forestry, fisheries, and estates, and how these environs be retained and used to enable the appropriate passing onto future generations.

Executive Summary

Reserves support the well-being; physical and mental health of our communities and they contribute to the protection of ecosystem services and indigenous biodiversity. Our communities need access to a range of reserves that offer amenities and recreation opportunities.

The Reserves Investment Strategy (the 'Strategy') recognises the incredible opportunity Hutt City Council ('HCC' or 'Council') has to provide better quality reserves to help address the effects of growth. As the city's population grows and urban areas intensify, the role of reserves becomes even more important. The Strategy outlines why we need to grow, adapt and activate our green network to help meet the rapidly growing demand created by more residents living more densely. The Strategy also provides a needs and opportunities analysis with a provisional metric framework tailored for Hutt City Council that provides tactical direction for future provision.

Council is able to collect Reserve Financial Contributions as part of the resource consent process for development (primarily residential subdivision) under the Resource Management Act and District Plan. These contributions are managed as the Reserve Purchase and Development Fund (RPF or the 'Fund').

The Fund can be used to:

- Purchase land for reserve purposes to respond to effects from population growth and urban intensification
- Undertake reserve development, redevelopment or enhancement work on reserve land to respond to effects from growth and intensification.

Council is committed to:

- Working alongside Mana Whenua to improve outcomes for Māori and protect sites that are significant to Iwi
- Establishing a separate Reserve Land Purchase Fund to enable officers to respond quickly when property acquisition opportunities arise to close gaps in reserve provision and address equity
- Adopting a 10 year programme of projects which will be funded from the Reserves Purchase and Development Fund
- Preventing existing gaps in reserve provision from widening
- Addressing the quantity and quality of our green network, especially in urban areas to meet the anticipated needs and expectations of changing land use
- Implementing the Reserve/Open Space Provision Typology Framework and Best Practice Design Guide to inform decisions about the provision and development of reserves.

Section 1: Introduction

Our lifestyles are better when our whānau have access to quality reserves. As the population grows and we live in more densely developed residential areas, access to quality reserves becomes more critical. In our urban settings especially, the open spaces in between and around buildings are extensions of our green network and provide spaces for gathering, relaxation, or a simple place to get away from a bustling environment.

We will grow and nurture our reserve network upholding the mana of tangata whenua to better protect taonga and our urban ecosystems and support the health and well-being of our communities. The network connects communities, supports their diverse needs and abilities, and provides access to recreation opportunities. Like other cities in New Zealand, we are facing big challenges, a fast-growing population, rapid residential development, and climate change.

Whakakitenga: Our Vision

"A reserve network that connects people to place; is valued for protecting the natural environment, and its role in contributing to the health and wellbeing of the people of our city"

The Reserves Investment Strategy has four overarching goals related to community and the environment with the aim to fulfil four focus outcomes:



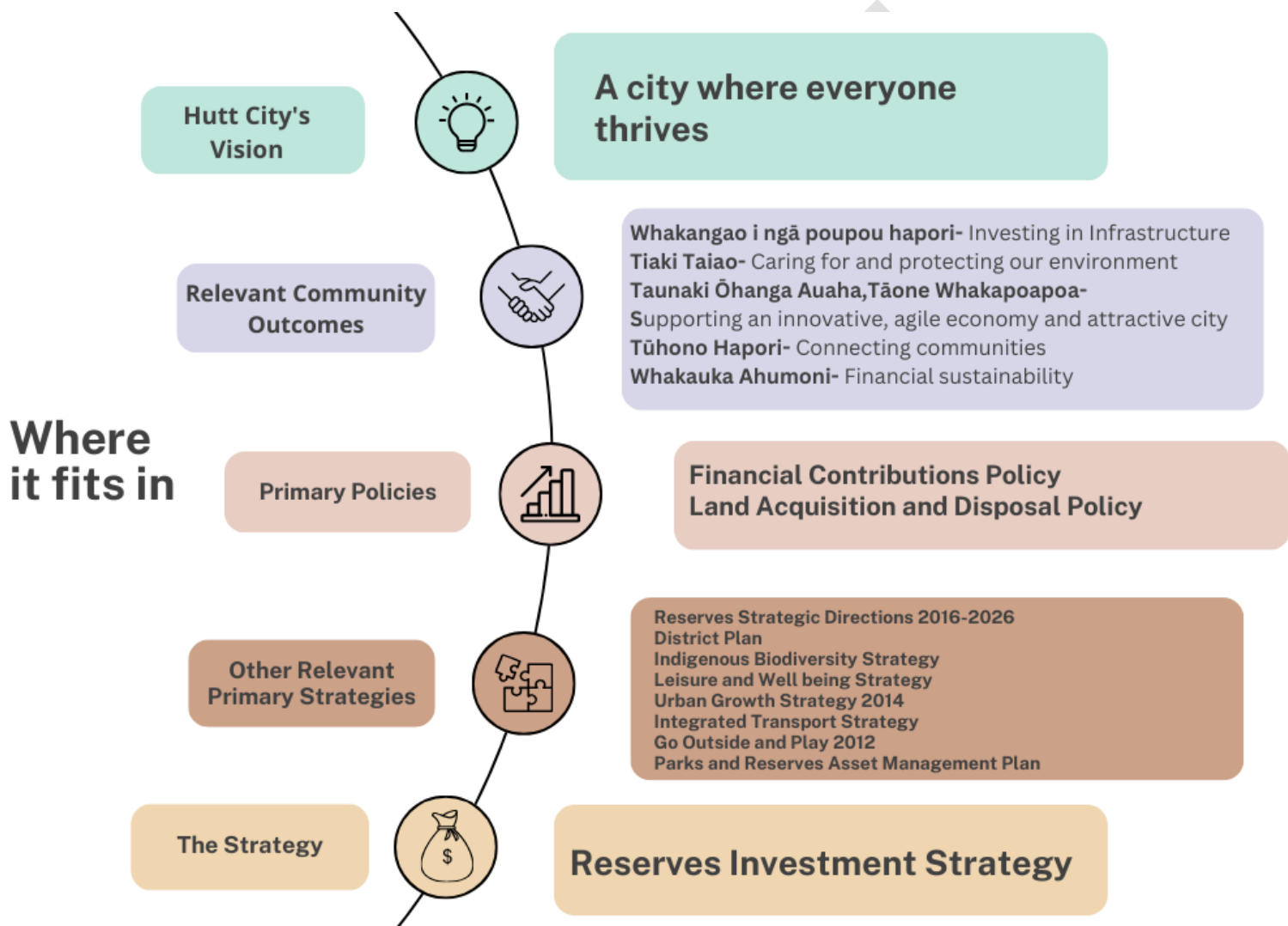
Why this strategy is needed

Like other cities experiencing rapid intensification due to population growth, there has been a reduction of private open space. This growth in Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai Lower Hutt is partly a response to urban development centred National Policy Statements and legislation introduced by Central Government.

Our reserves are areas that offer opportunities to support the re-indigenising of our city, as well as encouraging people to be active, and build social capital. They aid in offering accessible greenspace for a variety of recreation and leisure opportunities, bringing people together with similar interests, values, and offer preventative healthcare for communities.

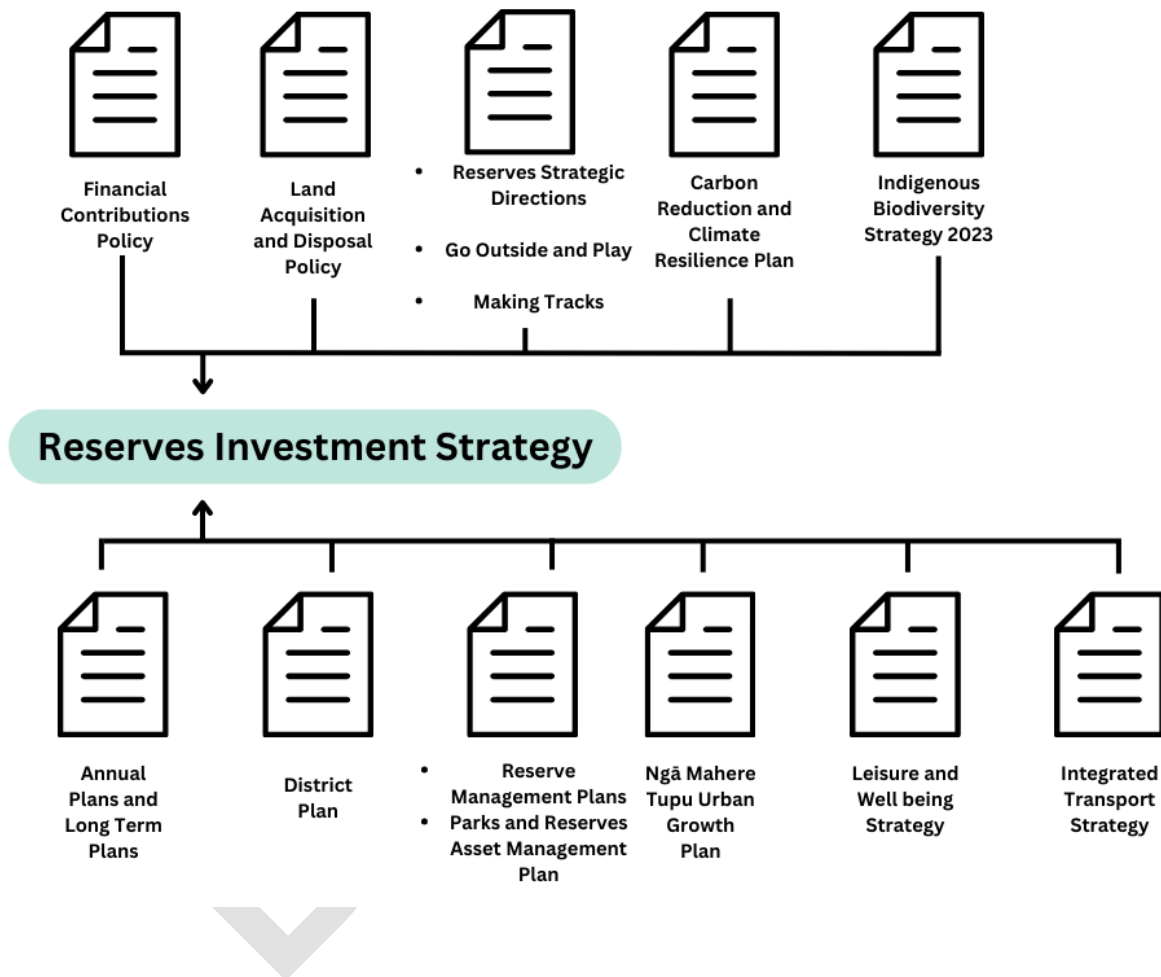
The Reserves Investment Strategy outlines why we need to improve our reserve network as our city's needs change. Investment includes the monetary and legislative resources we put into development or improvement to reserves. It is also about the protection of environmental, cultural, social, and economic values that will support future generations. This Strategy acts as a comprehensive roadmap, outlining an integrated approach to deliver balanced reserve land use planning and investment within Lower Hutt. This means helping activate our community by providing open space options that are accessible to everyone, offer a variety of experiences, are safe, and encourage people to recreate and get outside to connect with nature.

Horopaki kaupapa here o tā tātou rautaki: The Policy Context of our Strategy



Anga Rautaki Strategy Framework

This Strategy sets out a vision, goals, and focus outcomes that will influence existing and future projects. It aligns with and reinforces, other documents and plans that are already in use, as outlined here.



Pou Urungi o tā tātou rautaki: The Drivers of our Strategy

There are a number of strategic challenges and issues that drive our response as we manage and improve our parks to make a more accessible open space network.

What do we mean by Equity of Access?

All of Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai Lower Hutt residents can access a reserve without social, geographical, or economic barriers. Council will work towards lifting the quantity and quality of the reserve network with a focus on areas where there are pragmatic solutions to address under provision, in comparison to the provision typology.

The presentation and maintenance of reserves will need to be delivered at a level that enables the open space network to perform the intended functionality, that include using Universally Designed amenities. Communities have varied requirements, depending on factors like age, ethnicity, local topography, local levels of development/intensification, local preferences – there isn't a recipe for the perfect reserve.

Population growth and Intensification

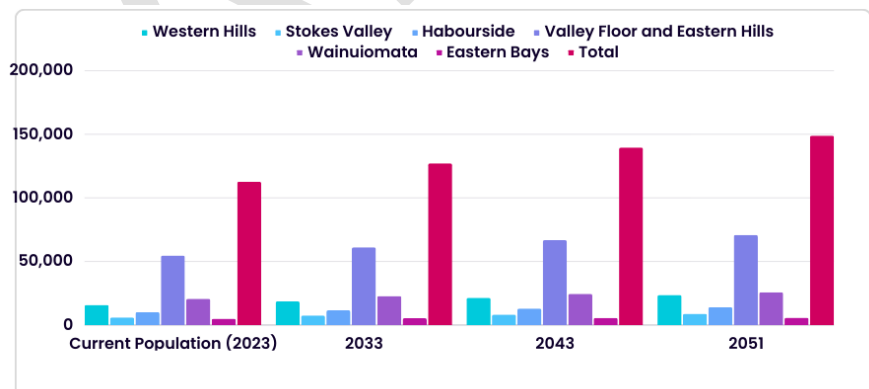


Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai Lower Hutt has been experiencing strong population growth in recent years. In 2023 the resident population count of 112,683 had already surpassed earlier projections for 2030. Hutt City's population is expected to increase between 2 and 5% per

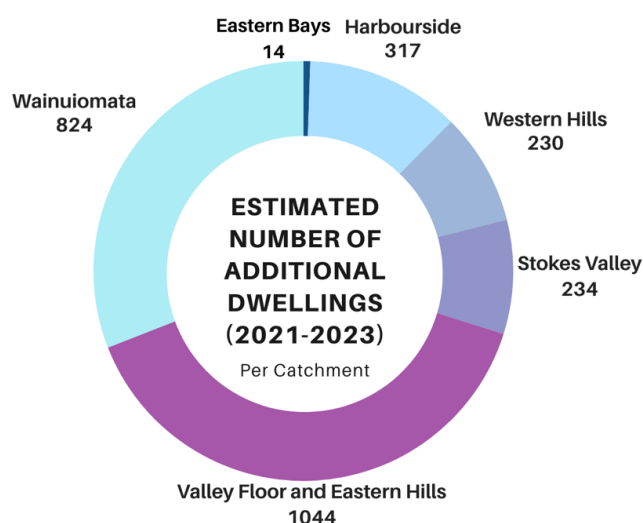
year, while the average age will also reduce (SensePartners and NZ Stats). This population growth (as shown in the graph on the right) creates carrying capacity issues across the reserve network.

Underprovision is

already a factor in some areas of Lower Hutt. Additionally, private open space is reducing in residential areas. Across the city there will be increasing pressure on our existing reserve network unless we invest in growth and the changing needs of our community.



Future development is expected to primarily consist of medium and high-density residential housing, including townhouses and multi-story apartment buildings built within already existing residential areas. In terms of future planning, the Strategy acknowledges the increasing population and diversified demographics of the region. There is a reasonable expectation of increased participation in some sports and



recreation and having access to spaces and places to support this demand becomes crucial. Increasing density may also lead to a decrease in overall site permeability. Sites with less permeability can exasperate the effects stormwater overflow and flooding. This anticipated increase in population and intensification through infill, brownfield, and greenfield development will drive the need to increase both the quality and quantity of reserves as a response to growth. The chart above illustrates recent

residential development across Hutt City.



Human & Environmental Health and Wellbeing

The health and wellbeing of Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai Lower Hutt residents and the environment are at the forefront of the decision-making process. As cities grow, higher intensification translates to less outdoor space for people to actively choose to recreate, socialise and connect with. Air and water pollution, invasive exotic plant and animal species, changes in land use, and climate change have decreased ecosystem services. Reserves support human and environmental health by supporting opportunity for incorporating mātauranga Māori in relation to the whenua. Protection of traditional places for gathering and harvesting will contribute to meeting the current and future needs of nourishing our people while providing kaitiakitanga of the natural environment.

Many cultures, including indigenous peoples, recognise the importance of open space and the connection with nature for well-being. We are not running parallel with the environment, but are intertwined with Papatūānuku moving as a singular unit. Some reserves contain spaces that are spiritually significant to Māori. They are considered places of healing, reflection, and connection to the land and ancestors. These spaces provided opportunities for cultural practices, ceremonies, and the preservation of traditional knowledge.

By focusing on community-wide access to open space we improve our quality of life, helping individuals connect, thrive, and be stewards to our environment. The concept of well-being in relation to open spaces and nature goes beyond physical health. It encompasses mental, emotional, and spiritual aspects. Being in and engaging with nature has been associated with stress reduction, improved mood, increased creativity, and a sense of belonging and connectedness.



Evolving Levels of Service

Recent investigations, including the Nuku Ora Regional Sports Field Report (2023), have revealed that the existing reserve network under-provided for training and competition spaces for some clubs/codes. Current provision needs to address gaps (under provision) and meet the growing and changing needs of our community. This may be addressed by investing in new and existing assets (including choosing assets with long lifecycles or low maintenance) and infrastructure to support the growth and/or improving existing spaces to increase the carrying capacity.

Installing or improving sports field drainage will help to provide the community with grounds that can meet demand. Provision of more or better assets may require additional operational funding. In order to maintain or extend an asset's life, sufficient operational expenditure (Opex), and renewal funding (Capex) is required to realise the full value of capital investment. Theoretically a small portion of rates from each new property is directed at operational budgets for reserves, however, Council had many funding priorities and sufficient budget is not always possible. Poorly maintained reserves are less appealing and are less likely to be used by the community. In order to meet incoming Capex, Opex must be matched proportionally in order to maintain the new levels of service.



Climate Change and Resilience

In the past decade, Aotearoa New Zealand has experienced a spectrum of climate induced disasters. Intense flooding, drought, erosion, erratic and abnormal weather, and unpredictable seismic activity have placed many regions' green network under threat. Sustainability, resilience, and equity have now become a focal point for many regions and are a leading consideration for planning and design decisions. The management of wai is especially critical in protecting and improving mauri. Mana Whenua's concept is to put water first – te Mana o te Wai.

Ka ora te wai – If the water is cared for.

Ka ora te Whenua – The land will be nourished.

Ka ora te Whenua – If the land is nourished.

Ka ora te tāngata – The people will prosper.

For Hutt City, this means planning and designing a network that can withstand climate induced changes, and provide the community with the services they need, particularly flood and inundation protection. Having more permeable surfaces and sustainable stormwater management can help mitigate these risks.

Having the right trees in the right place can help to mitigate climate change effects and sequester carbon. Retaining and planting new trees can reduce the Urban Heat Island Effect. Reserves provide spaces where large native and exotic trees (7 to 15m+ height at maturity) can thrive and this helps to sequester carbon and lower greenhouse gas emission to the atmosphere. Part of adapting to climate change includes designing and encourage

sustainable multimodal transportation to reduce the city's carbon footprint. Providing appealing neighbourhood reserves within a 10-minute walk of dwellings in residential areas is one way Council can support carbon reduction.



Relevant Legislation & Policy-Development and Financial Contributions Policy

The Reserve Financial Contributions system (enabled under the Resource Management Act 1991), allows Council to collect financial contributions through the application of the District Plan. This such helps fund growth related reserve improvement, provision and offset adverse environmental or other cumulative effects from residential, industrial or commercial development. The Reserve Purchase and Development Fund (RPDF) collects Reserve Financial Contributions, Hutt City Council's *Development and Financial Contributions Policy (2021-2031)* supports the District Plan, and typically undergoes review every 3 years to review how contributions are collected and invested in. Development contributions, required under the Local Government Act (LGA), fund planned and budgeted capital expenditure related to growth for activities and assets listed in the policy's schedule, and are separate from Reserve Financial Contributions.

Financial contributions, on the other hand, are enabled under the Resource Management Act (RMA) and apply to reserves and other capital expenditure not covered by development contributions. Financial contributions may be imposed as conditions of resource consents. The specific rules for Reserve Financial Contributions are set out in the District Plan. This Strategy utilises the RPDF to propose open space improvements and developments primarily during the Long Term Plan process, which undergoes review every 3 years.

Land Acquisition and Disposal Policy

The 2016 Land Acquisition and Disposal Policy was created to guide the acquisition and/or disposal of land managed as reserve when Council is contemplating sale or another use. The Council follows the Acquisition and Disposal Methodology and is used in conjunction with Māori Design Principles and the Open Space Best Practice Design Guide. This policy helps to mitigate any issues Council may face when considering changes to the reserve network. For some acquisitions and disposals, the inclusion of advice from professionals like landscape architects and ecologists is required and in other cases consideration with Mana Whenua.

Open Space Zones (Sport and Active Recreation Zones, Natural Open Space Zone, and Open Space Zone)

Open Space Zone (OSZ): The OSZ contains many of Hutt City's smaller sized reserves. OSZ reserves are characterised by open spaces with limited infrastructure and are utilised for both passive and active recreation, conservation, and community activities, and cemeteries. The zone primarily provides for the operation and development of parks, open space reserves, gardens, and community facilities owned and/or administered by Council and Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC)

Natural Open Space Zone (NOSZ): The NOSZ is focused on setting specific objectives, policies, and rules for natural open spaces that contain high natural, ecological, and historical values allowing for both passive and active recreation, conservation, cultural, and community activities. The zone primarily provides for the operation and development of larger greenspace owned and/or administered by Council, GWRC or the Department of Conservation (DOC).

Sport and Active Recreation Zone (SARZ): The SARZ is focused on sports fields and facilities and include those areas that are used for organised sports and that are used for information active recreational within urban areas. This zone primarily applies to public parks that are used for active recreation such as sports fields, golf courses and larger reserves with play features.



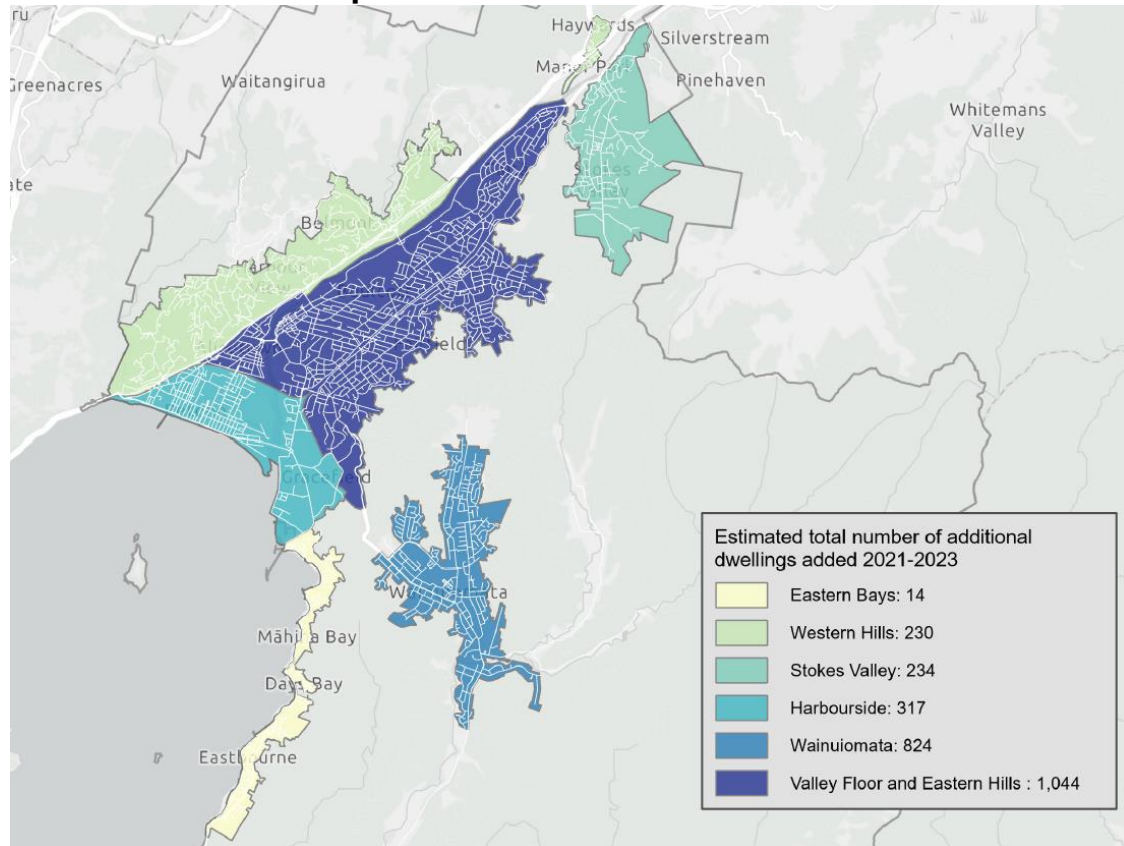
Land Use Changes

Hutt City's ability to acquire well located property of sufficient size and useful shape and terrain can be challenging, especially in parts of the city where residential, commercial and industrial uses are already established. The Parks and Reserves Asset Management Plan (2023) outlines development strategies to help address the growing need for reserves. Reserve acquisition, improvement, or enhancement, funded by Reserve Financial Contributions, may include the provision of new or upgraded assets that are required to amend levels of service. These reserve financial contributions can be separated into:

- Growth – development of new assets responding to population growth, cumulative and adverse environmental effects and residential/commercial activity;
- Level of service improvement – development or upgrade required to meet specified levels of service. This may also include renewals that have been more impacted by usage due to growth.

The Strategy, coupled with the Open Space Best Practice Design Guide, aims to outline how potential land acquisition or existing reserve improvement may occur when a need for development has been identified. The thematic map below illustrates catchments of increased dwelling density throughout Hutt City. Areas with the highest growth in dwelling numbers are the Valley Floor and Wainuiomata.

Dwelling density across catchments–additional dwellings from subdivision and development 2021–2023



He urupare Hapori–What our community has told us Nuku Ora Report–Regional Sports Field Report

The Nuku Ora Survey was completed in September 2023 and focused on traditional turf codes/clubs and some indoor sporting facilities across the Wellington region. The study analysed the supply and demand of those sports fields in the region as a whole, rather than focusing on individual councils or codes. As the population increases and diversifies, there is an expectation for increased participation in various forms of physical activity, including sports that utilise sports fields.

This increased demand puts pressure on existing facilities and necessitates the need for planning and investment decisions to meet the growing demand. The study identified that Lower Hutt was missing a total of 88.4 hours of provision. Primarily significant deficits were identified for football and rugby league. Some of the main challenges identified with the provision of sporting fields and equitable access to sporting field infrastructure across the region included:

1. Existing grounds in Hutt City are unable to meet the demand for training and competition. Ground conditions and drainage are issues limiting carrying capacity
2. Inadequate infrastructure, such as changing rooms, toilets, and shower blocks
3. Limited access to lighting for sports training
4. Difficulty in accessing fields during non-traditional times due to conflicts between matches and development activities
5. Shared ownership of assets like lighting, fencing, and ongoing maintenance costs.

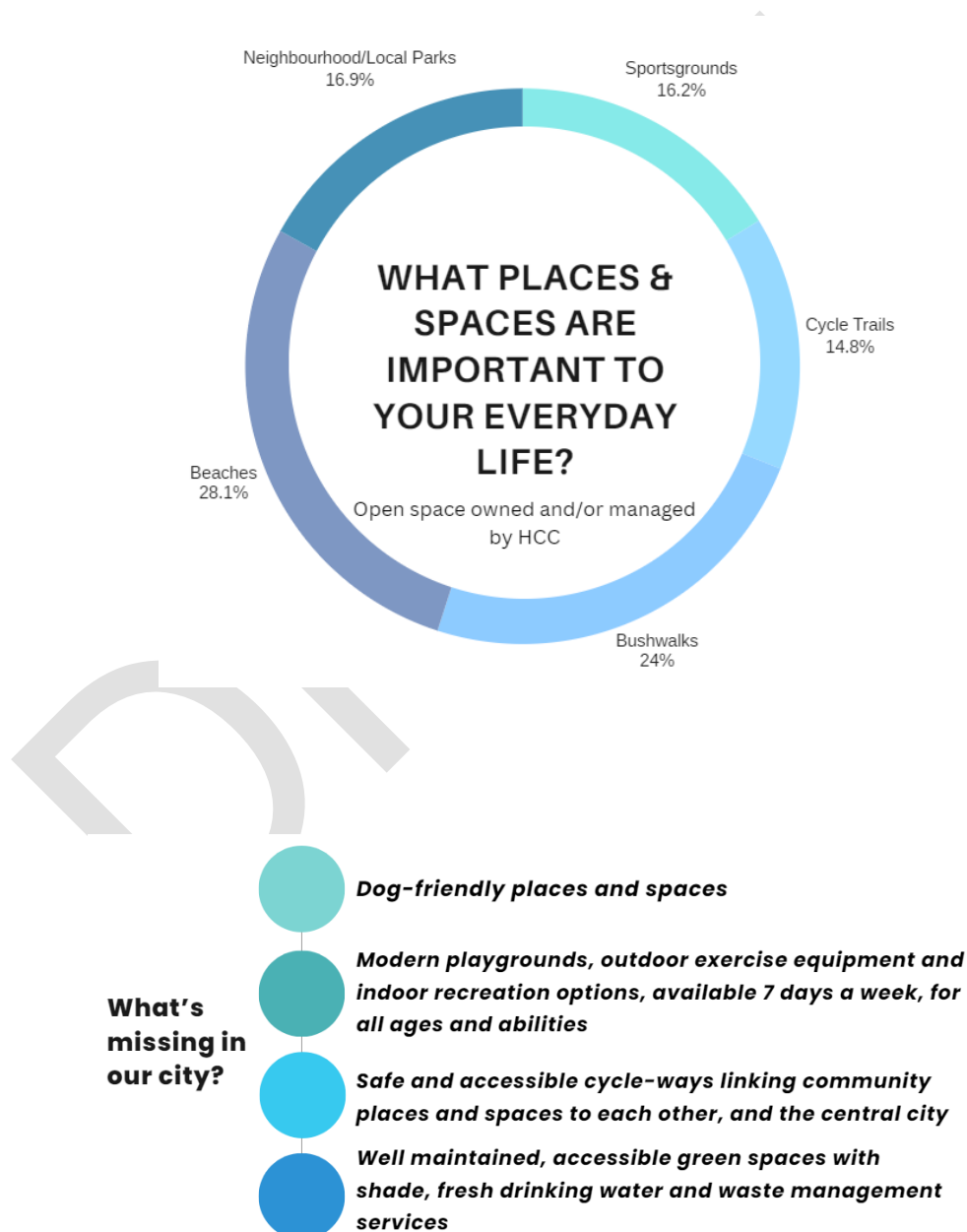
To address gaps and future plan, key recommendations were made around some potential solutions to mitigate further gaps. Shared themes include:

1. Maximising the use of available fields: This involves maintaining and improving the current network by reallocating existing fields and prioritising upgrades to facilities such as drainage, floodlights, amenities, and sand-carpeting;
 - a. Making more effective use of sports fields through adjusting code allocations and use schedules.
2. Repurposing spaces in the region;
 - a. Increasing the supply of sports fields by repurposing existing land or acquiring new land.
3. Develop new sports fields in areas where there is a lack of availability (this could be done through the Reserves Investment Strategy).

These implementations of these recommendations would increase the capacity of existing sports fields and optimise their use. However, it is important to consider their feasibility, cost, and long-term sustainability in the context of population growth and development. Implementation would be required by Hutt City Council and others.

2023 Places and Spaces Engagement Survey

In March 2023, a survey was conducted to better gauge how residents interact with Hutt City's owned and/or managed assets (parks, playgrounds and features, buildings, and facilities). Many respondents indicated that Council operated reserves and the amenities within them were important features in their neighbourhood. Below are some critical highlights from the survey results.



2023 Residents Satisfaction Survey

The Residents Satisfaction Survey is an annual survey with the purpose of determining levels of satisfaction Hutt City residents have with Council services, facilities, and decision-making to identify possible future improvement opportunities. With respect to parks and open space, residents shared what aspects they valued and appreciated within the network shown in the diagram below. Overall, these factors contribute to residents' positive experiences and appreciation of parks and open spaces in Hutt City.



Wānanga Tuarua: Tūāhua onāianeī-

Section 2: Take o te wā: Our current situation

Our Reserves Network

Hutt City's reserves play a key role in connecting our communities, and providing spaces for people of all ages to recreate, socialise and relax. They also present venues for community activity, celebrating local identity, increasing native biodiversity, strengthening ecosystem services, and offer alternative transportation options. It is evident that existing open space is an asset and decisions on its future need to be considered very carefully.

Using the bespoke Open Space Provision Typology Framework (The 'Framework') (Appendix A) assessing all reserves managed or owned by the Parks and Reserves Team, Hutt City Council currently has an estimated 2,996 ha of land managed as reserve. Of these 2,996 ha, approximately 337 ha are actively maintained reserves. There is an additional 16,000 ha of open green space managed primarily by Greater Wellington City Council and Department of Conservation.

Note: The assessment was primarily based on existing site access, size and existing function. Increasing amenity and overall fit of some reserves is required in order to meet the designated priorities of the framework.

The quantity of open space provided in urban areas (actively maintained) is well below similar territorial authorities in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Typology in Hutt City	Hectares (ha)
Neighbourhood	65
Suburb	121
Sports Park	111
Destination Park	19
Nature	2,391
Recreation & Ecological Linkage	66
Civic Space	2
Cultural Heritage	65
Other Reserves	155
Grand Totals	2,996

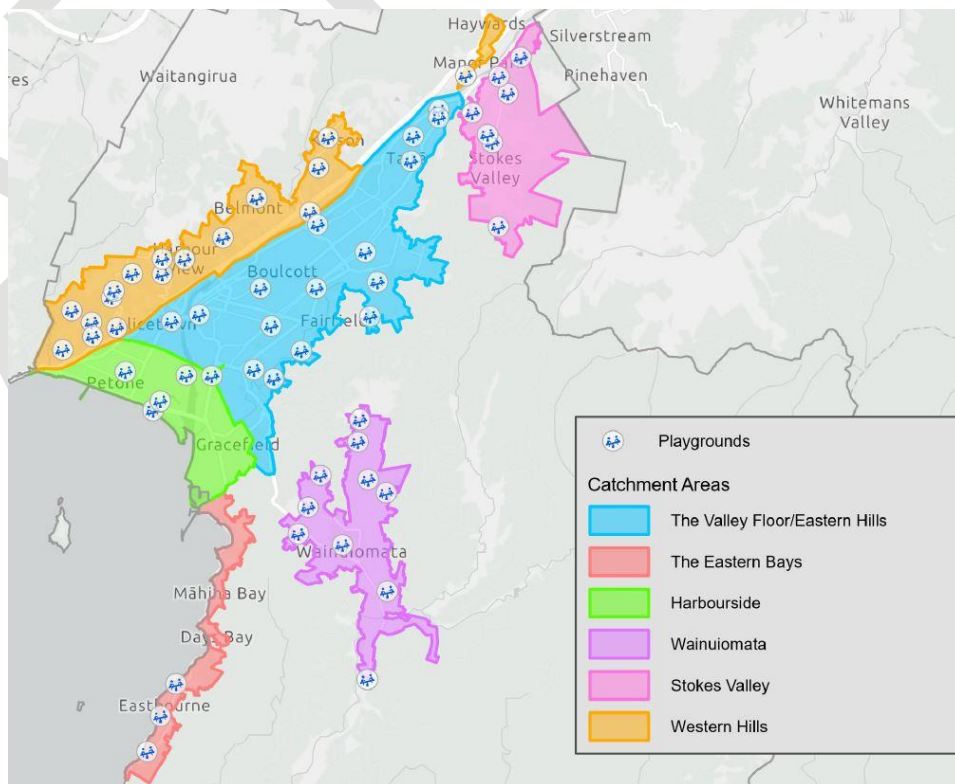


regular renewal and maintenance, there is opportunity to improve these sites to meet increasing levels of service, and to incorporate Universal Design and non-traditional play features for all ages (including space for caretakers) w/varying abilities. Within Lower Hutt, there are noticeable gaps in playground provision across some catchments, particularly in the Valley Floor and Stokes Valley. The demographics of these catchments tend to be of growing and diverse families and young first-home buyers or renters, most suited to needing access to playgrounds or play features.

Using the Framework, Council's reserves have been assessed to categorise quantity of reserve typologies (image on the left). However, 21 outlining reserves did not fall within the category framework as their general design characteristics, size, amenities, and proximity to residential areas do not comfortably match a provision level. However, these 21 reserves provide open space that is publicly accessible, and may provide other social, cultural, or environmental values. The Strategy paired with the Open Space Best Practice Design Guide will help to guide future provision of reserves so that all reserves fit into a typology and are fit for purpose.

Existing Playground Provision

There are 57 playgrounds that currently exist across Lower Hutt (map on the right). As these playgrounds are scheduled for



How does the Open Space Provision Typology Framework help to manage reserves provision across the city?

The Open Spaces Provision Typology Framework provides Council with high level guidance around reserve provision and which investments should be funded from the Reserve Purchase and Development Fund. Applying this framework, paired with the Open Space Best Practice Design Guide (2024), and the Land Acquisition and Disposal Policy will help to close existing and anticipated gaps in reserve provision across Hutt City.

The Framework (Appendix A) outlines the eight levels of provision hierarchy: Neighbourhood Reserve, Suburb Reserve, Sports Park, Destination Park, Nature Reserve, Ecological Linkage or Corridor, Civic Space and, Cultural Heritage Reserve. The concept is an adaptation of the New Zealand Recreation Association (NZRA) Parks Categories Framework to suit Hutt City Council. The Framework is a set of metrics based on five specific criteria. These standards ensure residents have good access to a range of reserves and a variety of open space experiences. Detailed typologies are in Appendix A. The open space planning criteria include:

1. **Provision Typologies** – categorises reserves to be categorised based on their purpose, size, and location
2. **Access** – outlines how residents are expected to access the park, reserve, or open space, normally categorised by time,

distance, and mode of transport, which underpins raising levels of equity

3. **Population-ratio/Catchment Size** – refers to the ideal number of residents the space serves, based on its purpose, size, and intended access. Often the level of provision is in relation to the level of population and a typical guideline has been 4 hectares/ 1000 people in Aotearoa New Zealand
4. **Size/Area Percentage** – a specified quantity of land to be reserved for open space depending on the expected use of the reserve
5. **General Design Characteristics** – the development that makes a space fit for purpose, or what are the key design characteristics needed in a space of that size and purpose for it to be effective.

Hutt City also follows additional performance measures outlined in the Open Space Best Practice Design Guide when it is evaluating projects to determine whether they could be funded by the Reserves Purchase and Development Fund because they are growth related. These fine grain measures ensure that reserves are fit for purpose, depending on the function and anticipated use. Mana Whenua aspirations are considered. The considerations are:

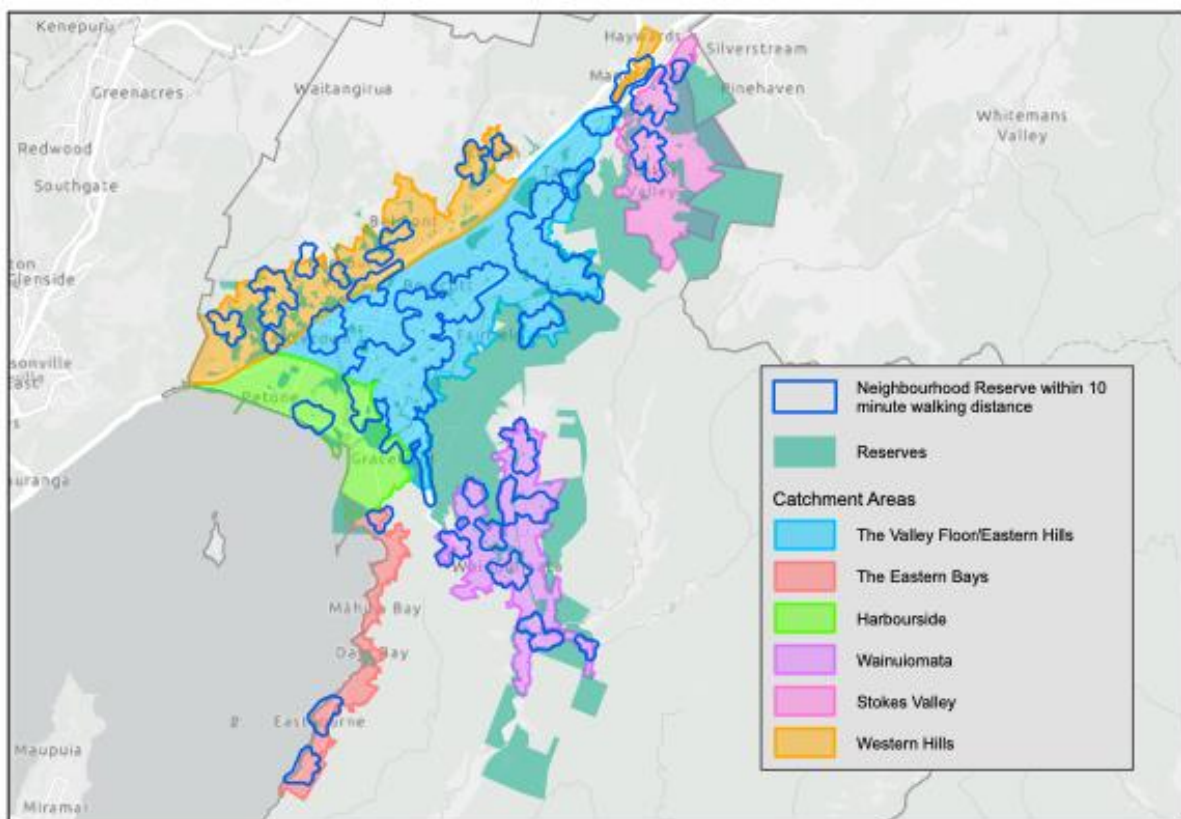
1. Quality and performance (fit for purpose)
2. Health and wellbeing
3. Environmental protection and enhancement
4. Cost effectiveness and fiscal responsibility (align with Council's Asset Management Principles).

Are we providing the right spaces? Provision trends across Lower Hutt

Hutt City has an extensive natural bush reserve lands in the surrounding mountains, but it is not evenly distributed throughout the city, and in some areas does not adequately serve the growing population. Distance (walking distance/time) and size (ha) are the main two factors when considering the provision of open space within a city. Focusing on three key types of public reserves: Neighbourhood (Study Area 1), Suburb (Study Area 2), and Sports Park (Study Area 3), we can test the network against the existing size (ha) and access (walking distance/time) within the Typology Framework to the existing reserve network.

Study Area 1: Neighbourhood Reserve Provision

Neighbourhood Reserves are appealing local spaces that meet every day needs of nearby residents. Some households may treat them as an alternative to private greenspace,



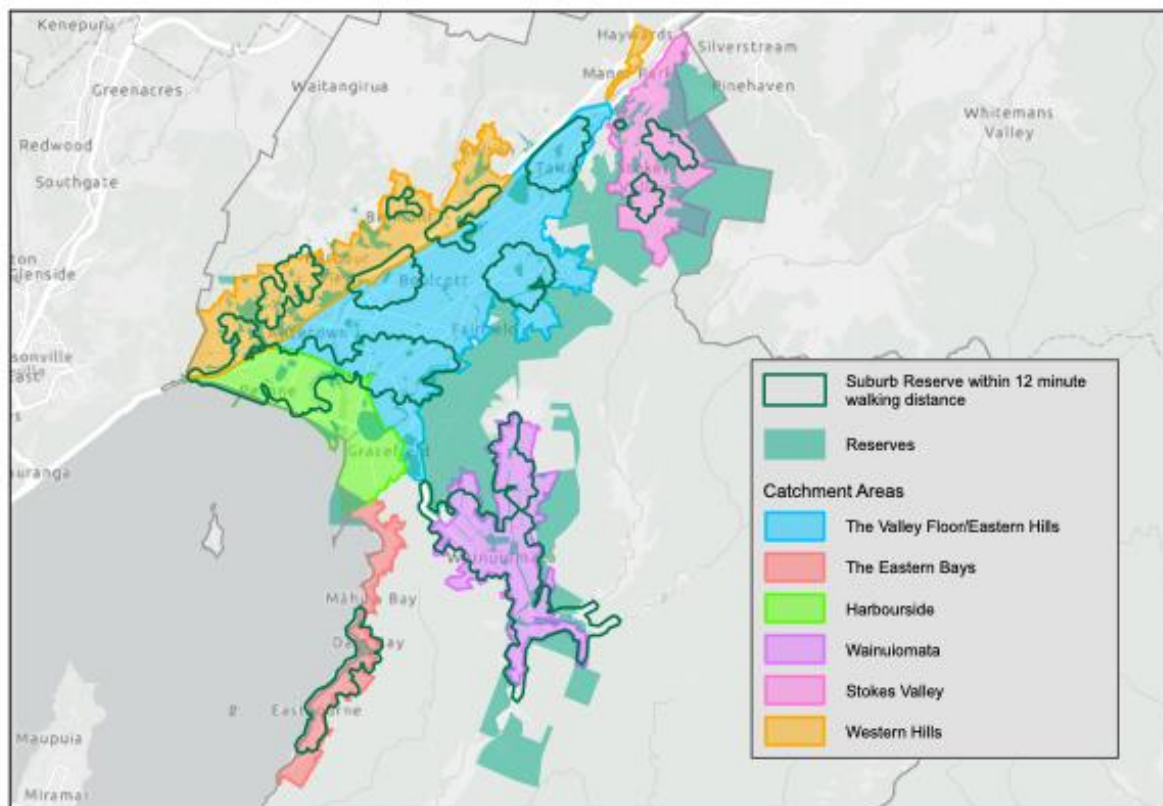
essentially and extension of their homes. Neighbourhood Reserves tend to have few buildings and simple landscapes. Areas inside the blue lines indicate the location of reserves that are within 10-minute walking distance of a neighbourhood reserve. The map illustrates clear gaps in provision, demonstrating the need for additional reserves in residential areas.

Notable gaps in neighbourhood provision are:

1. Valley Floor/Eastern Hills- Large pockets of minimal to no provision, centralised in the areas of Fairfield, Taitā, Alicetown, Avalon, and Naenae
2. Eastern Bays – Limited neighbourhood provision. Some neighbourhood reserves are limited in amenities and only offer basic or single function. Although there are significant gaps in neighbourhood provision, coastal beach reserves and large suburb reserves exist as primary outdoor space.
3. Wainuiomata – Low to minimal provision of neighbourhood parks and underdeveloped neighbourhood sites (there is a high reliance on and limited access to only natural and native bush reserves)
4. Western Hills – Gaps of neighbourhood provision between Belmont and Kelson, as well as lower Korokoro and parts of Normandale (there is a high reliance on and limited access to only natural and native bush reserves)
5. Harbourside – Minimal to no provision across the whole catchment, most noticeably in the Petone and Gracefield area
6. Stokes Valley – Low provision for in the Southern part of the catchment, although high concentration of neighbourhood provision in the North end of the valley.

Study Area 2: Suburb Reserve Provision

Suburb reserves are important pieces in the reserve network because they are larger and provide for a wider range of experiences and greater multi-purpose functionality than what is found at neighbourhood reserves. Suburb reserves tend to be in prominent locations and may be near commercial activity and potentially contain community facilities. The area



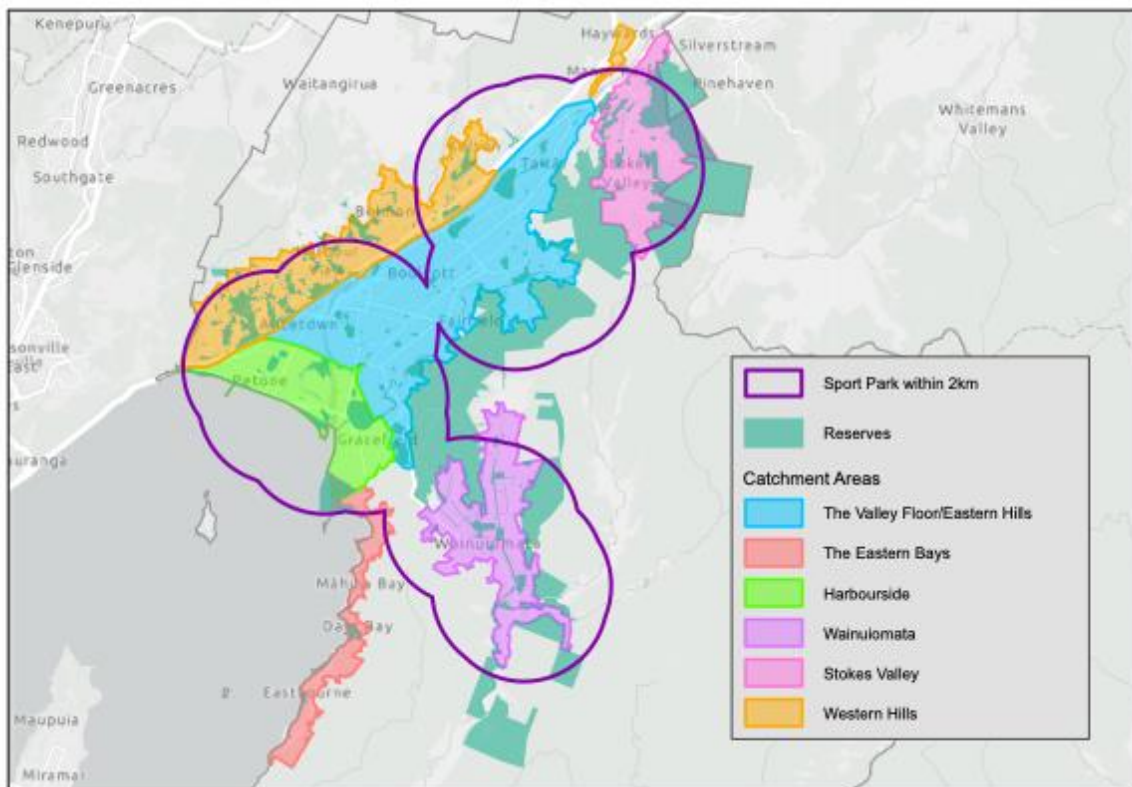
inside the green lines indicates urban areas located within a 12-minute walking distance of a suburban-sized reserve.

Notable gaps in suburb provision are:

1. Valley Floor and Eastern Hills - Limited to nil provision within the Eastern suburbs in the Valley Floor including Waterloo, Boulcott, Epuni, Fairfield, and Waiwhetu. With ongoing intensification, there will be a growth in population.
2. Harbourside - Small gaps of no provision, mainly in Grace field and Seaview (although it is noted that this area has a high concentration of industrial dwellings). However, areas growing in residential density such as Moera will be missing larger suburb reserves.
3. Western Hills - There is a large gap north of Tirohanga, between Belmont and Harbourview that has no suburb reserve provision. Residents rely on the many natural reserves surrounding the catchment, but they have limited access points and are not accessible to many residents because of the topography of the area)
4. Stokes Valley -Suburb-sized reserves appear to be more concentrated centrally, with a gap in South Stokes Valley, and the tip of the North.

Study Area 3: Sports Park Provision

Sports Parks are focused on organised sport and recreation. They cater to both local residents and citywide or regional population (for competition purposes). The purple lines indicate access to a sports park within a 2km, 15–30-minute reach, typically through private transportation. These parks are typically larger open green spaces with formal outdoor sports surfaces (natural turf, artificial turf and hard surfaces). Some sports fields host indoor sporting facilities that include court spaces, indoor training and clubrooms. Sports Parks



provide the community with benefits beyond sporting surfaces and facilities through multi-purpose functionality for exercise and informal sport competitions and practice.

Notable gaps in sports parks provision are:

1. Eastern Bays- Although there are suburb reserves that provide areas for playing and training on fields, the catchment has no larger sports parks that cater sufficiently to multiple clubs/codes.
2. Stokes Valley- There are notable gaps in turf field provision, specifically football fields. Junior football participation has increased significantly in recent years as the population grows, creating higher demand for longer performing turf and need to make sport parks more multi-purpose (such as tracks and play areas for growing families). Although a sport park is largely within 2km of residential, there is only 1 primary sport park that carries organised sport.
3. Western Hills- Low sports park provision within the areas of Belmont, Tirohanga, and Harbourview. The topography of this area doesn't easily provide for larger sporting facilities.

What kind of open space is in each catchment? Existing Reserve Provision

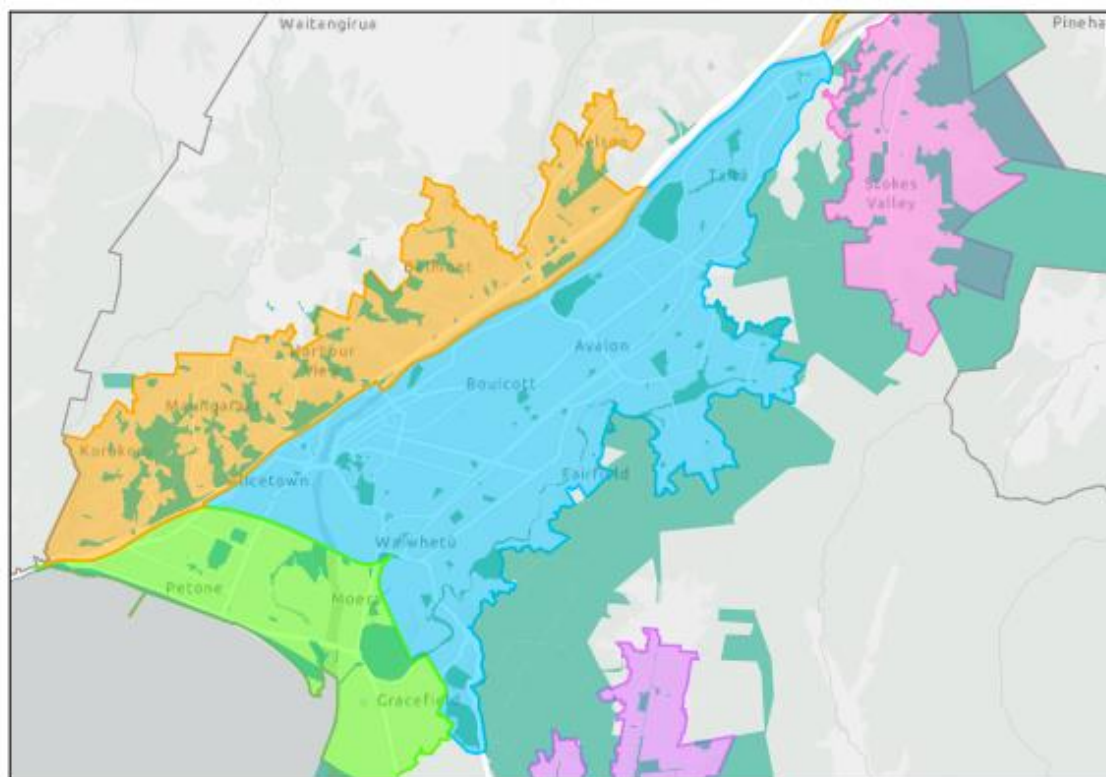
The Valley Floor and Eastern Hills

The Valley Floor and Eastern Hills (in blue) is the most heavily populated and dense catchment with a current population of 64,930 people and has a projected population growth to 75,890 by 2051 (SensePartners, 2021). Most residents live in the suburbs of Waterloo, Naenae, and Taitā. There is a total of 419 ha of both active and passive reserves to serve these communities. Te Awa Kairangi/ The Hutt River Corridor is virtually free of development and provide public open space and opportunities for recreation.

There are 39 neighbourhood reserves, 6 suburb reserves, 4 sports park reserves, 13 nature reserves, 20 recreation and ecological linkages, 3 destination parks, 7 civic spaces and 4 cultural heritage reserves. The Hutt River Corridor, which is managed by Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) is not included in the figures used in the Strategy. This catchment also currently contains the highest levels of social and economic deprivation within Hutt City.

Suburbs within the catchment:

- Waiwhetu
- Alicetown/Melling
- Boulcott
- Avalon
- Fairfield
- Taitā
- Naenae
- Waterloo
- Woburn
- Hutt Central
- Boulcott
- Epuni



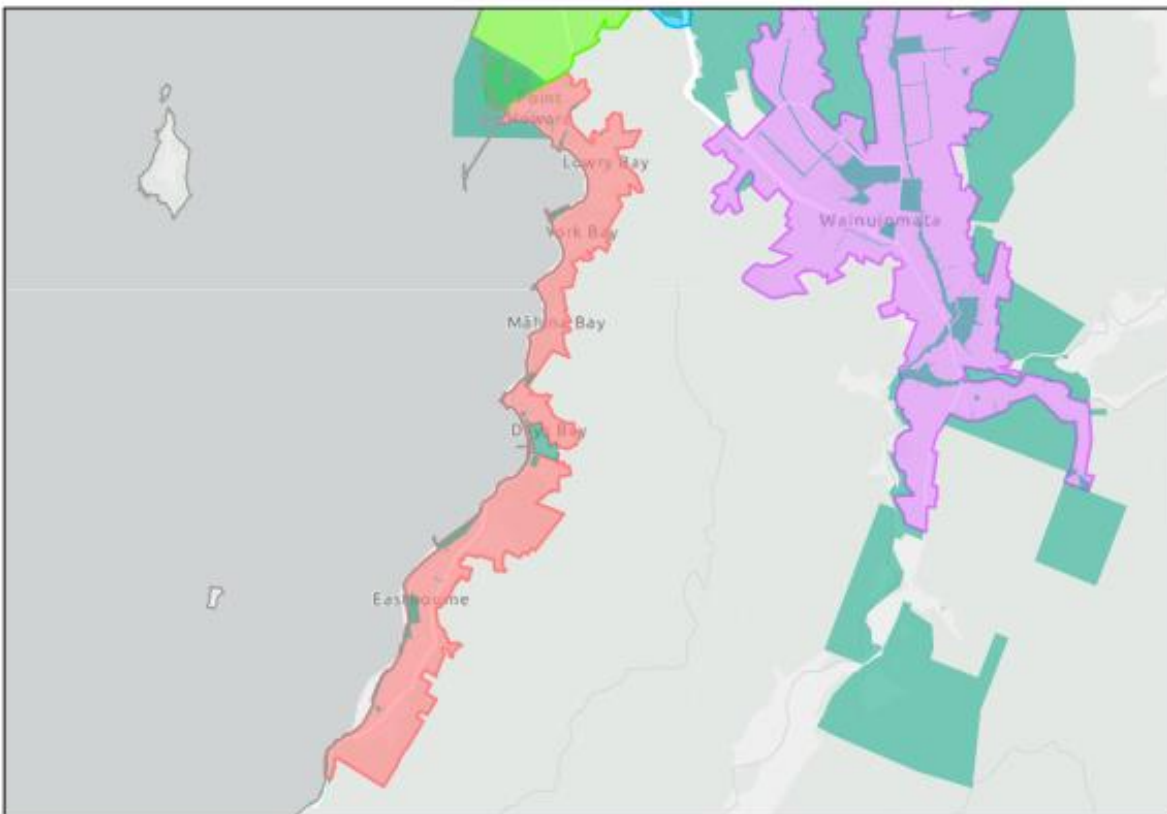
The Eastern Bays

The Eastern Bays catchment (in red) is the smallest of the catchments, with most of the population centred in Eastbourne. There is a total of 19 ha of passive and active reserves. However, East Harbour Regional Park (managed by GWRC) sits parallel to the Eastern Bays and provides large areas for walking of cycling, tramping, and other recreational activities). The area has a high reliance on native bush for reserve provision but is also home to a few neighbourhood and suburb reserves. Land within East Harbour Regional Park is not included in the 19 ha stated above.

There are some recreational and ecological connections, primarily along the coastline. The current population is 5,039 and the proportion of elderly people is going to increase to approximately 20.9 % of the total catchment population over the next 15 years. There are 4 neighbourhood reserves, 3 suburb reserves, 9 nature reserves, 4 recreation and ecological linkages and 2 civic spaces.

Suburbs within the catchment:

- Lowry Bay
- York Bay
- Mahina Bay
- Sunshine Bay
- Days Bay
- Eastbourne



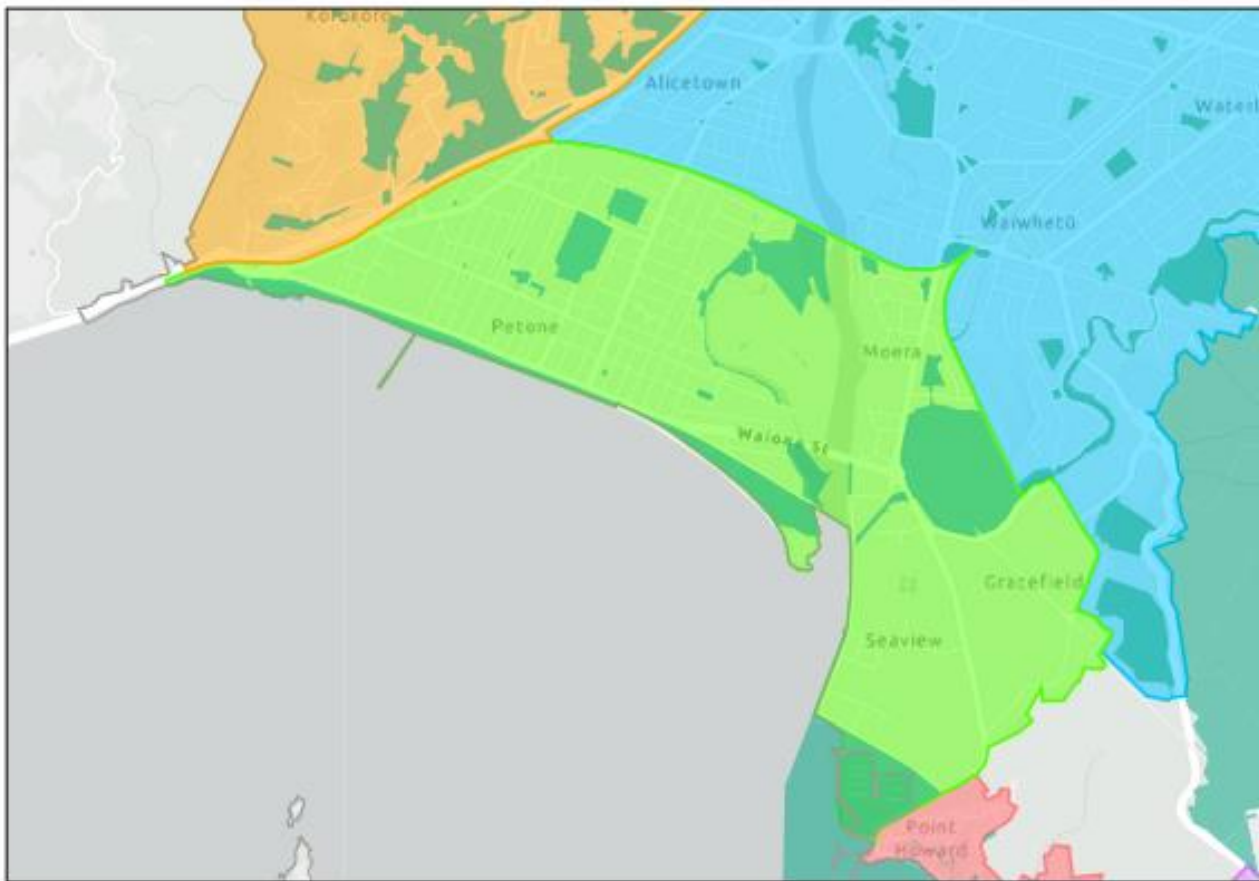
Harbourside

The Harbourside catchment (in green) hugs the northern edge of Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington Harbour. The population of Petone is expected to increase from 10,148 to 13,980 residents within the next 30 years. The average age of Petone residents will drop. There is a total of 125 ha of passive and active reserves in the Harbour Catchment.

There are 4 neighbourhood reserves, 4 sports park reserves, 1 cultural heritage reserve, 3 suburb reserves, 2 nature reserves, 2 civic spaces and 7 recreation and ecological linkages.

Suburbs within the catchment:

- Petone
- Moera
- Seaview
- Gracefield



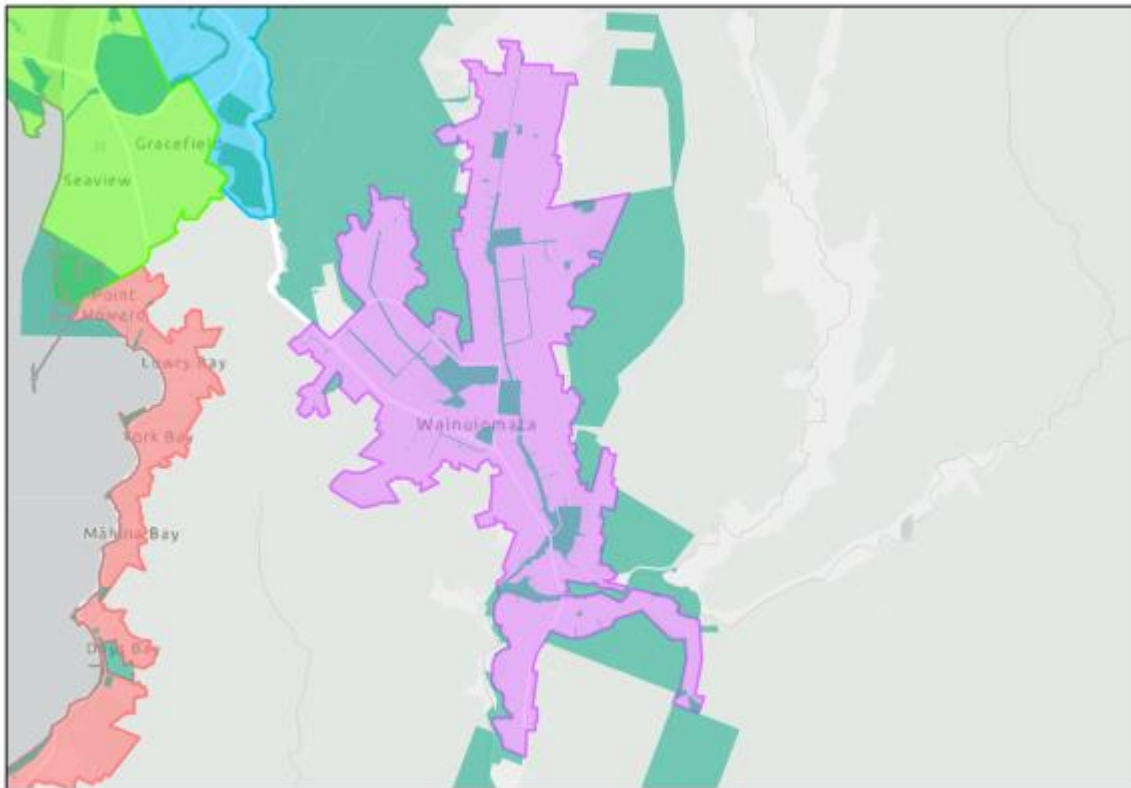
Wainuiomata

The Wainuiomata catchment (in purple) is surrounded by East Harbour Regional Park, the Eastern Hills and the Remutaka Forest Park. There is a total of 837 ha of both active and passive reserves, excluding the Regional Park and the Forest Park. The large concentration of natural areas provides users with many outdoor recreational opportunities and offers some ecological linkages.

There are 13 neighbourhood reserves, 7 suburb reserves, 2 sports park reserves, 12 nature reserves, and 19 recreation and ecological linkages. Some assets are sports parks and supporting facilities and play features. The area is currently home to approximately 20,025 residents and forecasted to increase by 4,000 people by 2051. There is a higher concentration of younger people with the average age ranging between 15–39 years old.

Suburbs within the catchment:

- Wainuiomata West
- Arakura
- Glendale
- Homedale East & West
- Wainuiomata Central
- Pencarrow & Rural



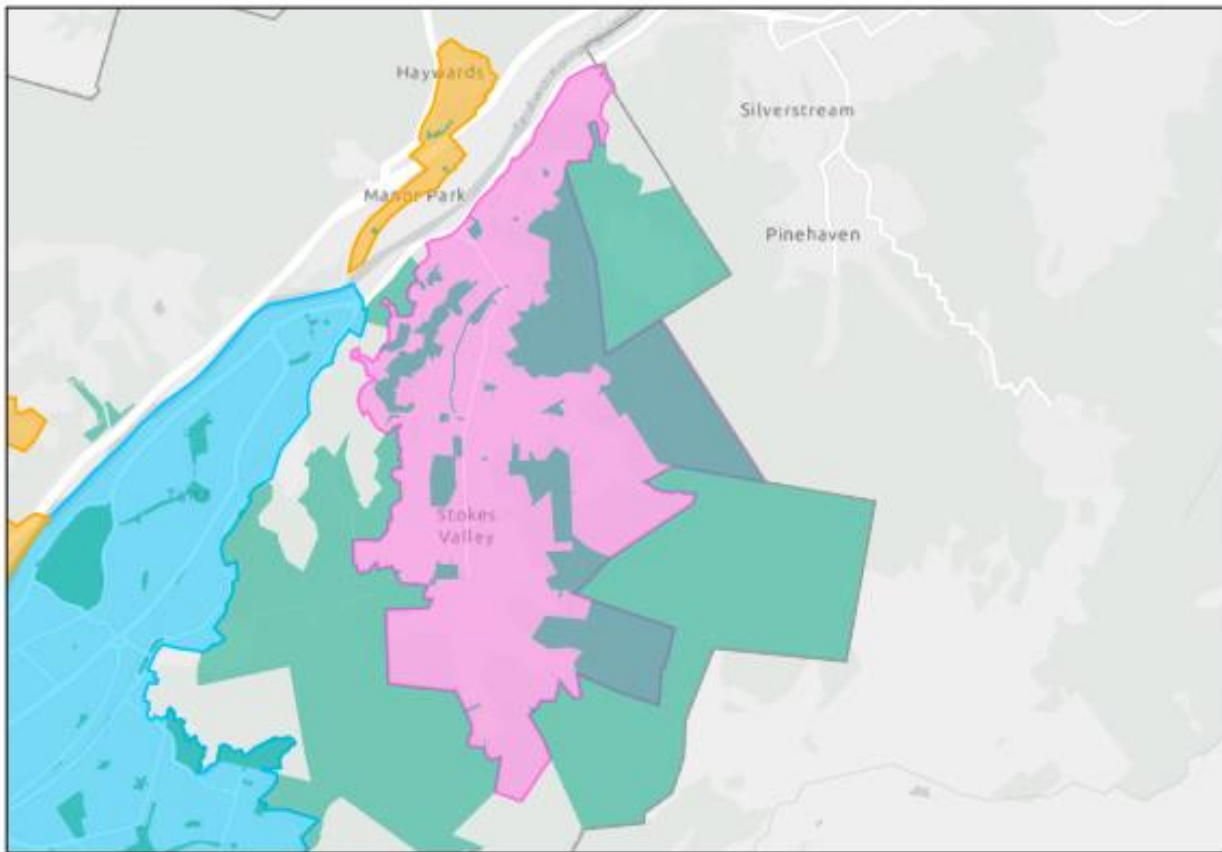
Stokes Valley

Stokes Valley is a diverse catchment that is home to around 6,058 people and contains 1,378 ha of active and passively maintained reserves (primarily large swaths of nature bush reserves) with a variety of amenities including trail networks (primarily in the hills), play features and local parks.

There are 10 neighbourhood reserves, 3 suburb reserves, 11 nature reserves, 1 civic reserve, 1 sports park reserve and 2 recreation and ecological linkage. Stokes Valley overall has less green corridor connection to move from the public open spaces, and a lack of various sport parks for both informal and formal organised sport (there is only 1 primary formal sport ground).

Suburbs within the catchment:

- Stokes Valley North & Central

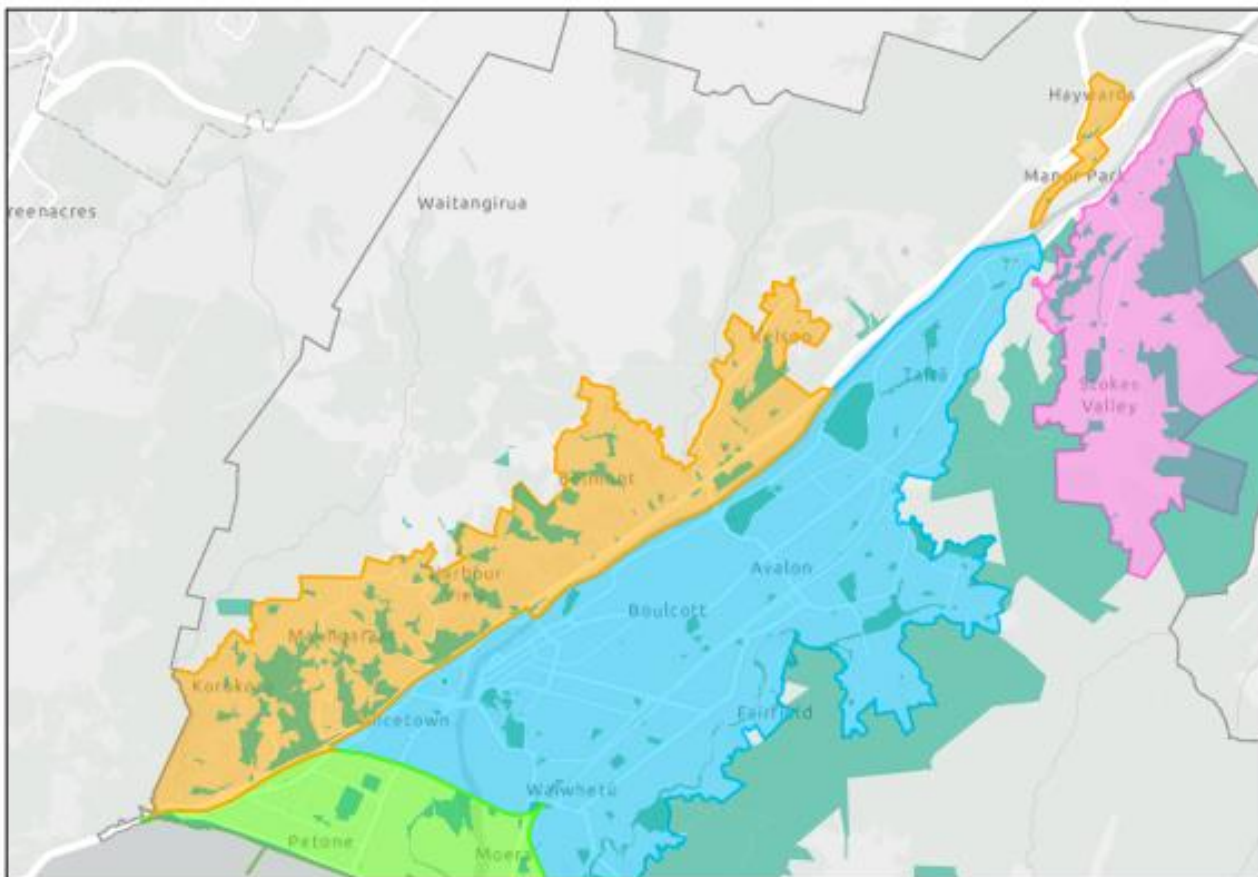


The Western Hills

The Western Hills catchment (in orange) has a current population of 14,991 and is set to increase by 5,000 by 2051 (SensePartners, 2021). There is a higher number of elderly people, which is steadily increasing. The reserve network consists of 15 neighbourhood reserves, 5 suburb reserves, 48 nature reserves, 2 recreation and ecological linkages, and 2 civic spaces. With an undulating landscape comprised of residential areas, forest, some pasture and bush gullies, the catchment is home to approximately 217 ha of active and passive reserves. The figure excludes Belmont Regional Park. Belmont Regional Park (managed by GWRC) forms the western edge of this catchment, providing significant protection of indigenous biodiversity and recreational opportunities which attracts locals and the wider community.

Suburbs within the catchment:

- Korokoro
- Tirohanga
- Belmont
- Kelson
- Maungaraki
- Normandale



Section 3: Our Future –Principles and Outcomes

In line with the Leisure and Wellbeing Strategy, the Reserves Strategic Directions, Go Outside and Play, the Parks and Reserves Asset Management Plan, the Strategy will also support the activation of Council to support growth and urban intensification by providing open space (green and built) opportunities for recreation, play, physical activity, relaxation, gathering and connecting with nature.

Ngā Mātāpono: Guiding principles

The vision, principles, and focus outcomes of this strategy will underpin future decisions to fund projects from the Reserves Purchase and Development Fund. Hutt City has a fiscal responsibility to provide a reserve network that:

- a. Provides the community with sufficient and quality spaces and services; and
- b. Is funded and operated in a sustainable way at standards that meet the expectations of the community

To achieve this, we have adopted six principles to guide planning, design, and management of the reserves;

1. Community Driven
2. Being Proactive
3. Connectedness-Supporting our Communities
4. Quality at the Core
5. Environmental Stewardship: Te Taiao-Protecting and Enhancing the Health of our Environment
6. Partnership Approach

These principles require Council to make conscious and targeted decisions when planning, working alongside Mana Whenua, the community, and individuals involved in property development for the reserves network.

Guiding Principles– what do these mean for Hutt City?

<p>Community Driven</p> <p>Council supports a community led approach. This incorporates community preferences and priorities for reserves. This, alongside understanding the known gaps in provision being filled, will increase equity of access. At a design level, we will provide opportunities for communities to participate in the decision-making process, including tamariki, rangatahi.</p>	<p>Be Proactive</p> <p>We will improve the network so that it can cope with growth and urban intensification and be more resilient to climate change. Being proactive in the design and development of our reserves will lead to a more resilient network that meets the needs of communities. Evidence based decision-making and best practice will underpin decisions about reserve development and documents such as the Nuku Ora Sports Field Strategy will influence provision decisions.</p>	<p>Supporting our Communities</p> <p>Communities are at the heart of our reserve network. The design and allocation of current and future reserve assets must be strategic to connect diverse communities that may include medium to high residential areas. Our spaces should promote kaitiakitanga and foster connectedness among users. Ultimately, the network will be designed to support accessibility, considering all mobilities and abilities and cater to all ages and stages as the site and resources allow.</p>
<p>Quality at the Core</p> <p>Council is continually challenged to resource ordinary ongoing operational maintenance and renewals. Capital investment may create assets which need ongoing operational budget to deliver the intended benefits to the community. Sustainability and equity are also key to providing quality spaces. Hutt City sets out the resourcing requirements in the Parks and Reserves Asset Management Plan and this informs the budget set in the Long-Term Plan.</p>	<p>Environmental Stewardship: Te Taiao–Protecting and Enhancing the Health of our Environment</p> <p>Urban and peri-urban reserves and open spaces are becoming more important in addressing climate induced challenges. Reserves provide a variety of spaces for indigenous biodiversity to flourish and will help to deliver some outcomes outlined in the 2023 Indigenous Biodiversity Strategy. Identifying, protecting, and managing indigenous biodiversity requires active tangata whenua relationship, engagement, and sufficient resourcing. Utilising mātauranga Māori to help make evidence-based decisions for planning and protecting green space. Connection with nature in outdoor can help encourage people to take stewardship of the space.</p>	<p>Partnership Approach</p> <p>Implementation will be ongoing and progress will largely depend on projects approved in the Long Term Plan process. Some projects will best be coordinated with other agencies, community groups, Codes, Mana Whenua or internal Council teams. Actions will be taken to recognise the importance of the Te Tiriti o Waitangi to ensure Māori values and perspectives are reflected within the design and implementation of the reserve network and partnership with Mana Whenua is maintained to achieve this.</p>

Focus Outcomes

The project list (Appendix B) contains many opportunities for collaborative partnerships, and this requires developing relationships with Mana Whenua, neighbourhoods, schools, codes, community and interest groups.



Focus Outcome One: Spaces for recreation that inspire play

Goal: A reserve network that offers an accessible spectrum of traditional and alternative play and recreation experiences for all people, including space for tamariki and rangatahi to have meaningful play *Te ao taiohi- with young people we explore wisdom.*

There are physical and mental benefits of recreation and play. Regular participation in recreation, play and leisure pursuits helps to reduce stress and alleviate mental health issues by providing an outlet for relaxation and enjoyment. This is not limited to young people, but to people of all ages and abilities.

The focus is to create a diverse network of appealing spaces where people can have fun and express themselves, exercise, gather to help support strong and healthy neighbourhoods. There is also an need to address gaps for people with disabilities to use traditional and natural play spaces, universal design best practice will be critical. This outcome supports the Go Outside and Play Strategy, the Leisure and Wellbeing Strategy and the Reserves Strategic Directions, aiming to increase participation and inspire play by providing easily accessible opportunities for organised and informal play and recreation for all people.



Focus Outcome Two: Spaces that prioritise nature

Goal: A reserve network that contains a resilient and thriving range of ecosystems that supports species and habitat protection, maintains, and restores indigenous biodiversity and enables communities to connect with nature. *Kaitiakitanga - stewardship of the natural environment is an integral part of history and describes the inherent responsibility of care of the land, the land needs to be treasured, protected, and nurtured for current and future generations to enjoy.*

The best opportunities to connect with native biodiversity are typically beyond the edges of urban areas, however, urban reserves will offer nearby residents' outdoor settings that have natural qualities. Our reserves need to be appropriately developed and well-managed to provide opportunities for people to connect with nature in places close to their home. Enhancement of the natural values in our reserves will maintain a balance between public use and protection of ecological and landscape values, and natural character.



Focus Outcome Three: Spaces that support community

Goal: A reserve network that is people-focused, connecting people to their communities, are easily accessible and provide landscapes and experiences that encourage people to stay and enjoy the spaces. *Manaakitanga- care of our whānau and community at the centre.*

Creating an accessible and inclusive network involves reducing barriers to reserve access and increasing participation in activities, ultimately creating 'something for everyone'. Developing a reserves network inclusive of diverse spaces for the community requires an emphasises on providing active and passive spaces that cater to all needs and abilities, focusing on the functionality of our reserves and the amenities (both built and natural) offered. Reserve development and enhancement projects will also need to be cognisant of the Council's Micro Mobility Programme and consider how reserves benefit from and support active transport routes, moving people safely through our city. This is beneficial from a social and climate change perspective.



Focus Outcome Four: Spaces that create connection

Goal: A reserve network that provides spaces for people to connect with nature, connect with culture, heritage or city, whenua history inspiring a sense of belonging, and connecting the wider community.

In line with a Mana Whenua and te ao Māori worldview, reserves play a pivotal role in fostering connections between people, place, and the environment, both in physical and theoretical dimensions. Physically, these green spaces offer a tangible link between individuals and nature, providing opportunities for outdoor activities, exploration, and appreciation of biodiversity. The shared experience of enjoying reserves promotes a sense of community and shared ownership of the environment, creating a collective bond among users.

Reserves also serve as symbolic representations of our commitment to environmental conservation and sustainable living. They embody the idea that humans are an integral part of the ecosystem, emphasizing the interconnectedness between individuals and their surroundings. The presence of these protected spaces encourages environmental awareness and a sense of responsibility, fostering a connection between people and the need for ecological preservation. Ultimately, reserves act as dynamic settings where both physical interactions and community understanding converge, promoting a harmonious relationship between people, place, and the environment.

Project List

Projects are organised by Focus Outcome. Hutt City Council will primarily oversee each proposed project. This List of Projects (Appendix B) is arranged over a 10-year programme. Projects could be approved outside of the Long-Term Plan if they appropriately comply with the Strategy and supplementary documents.

Project Term Start/ LTP 2024–2027, 2024 through to 2034
Immediate start (previously approved by Council in March 2023)
Year 1–3+/Short
Year 2–3+/ Medium
Year 3+/ Long

Budget

The budgets provided against each project are estimates only and are not fully costed or based on design. There is a degree of data uncertainty, and budgets are subject to change upon further investigation and stakeholder engagement.

Long Term Plan (LTP)

The current LTP iteration concerns the 2024–2027 review cycle. During each 3 yearly LTP review, there is opportunity to propose new projects for the next 10 years. The projects below have been ordered in terms of which year they can feasibly fit into the current iteration. Projects may overlap, be staged, or extend into multiple years. Projects have been based on predicted feasibility, demand, and previous public engagement. Projects outlined in the Reserves Investment Strategy will be fully or partially funded from the Reserves Purchase and Development Fund, of which the Reserve Land Purchase Fund is a subset.

Most projects will require further investigation, design, costing, and public consultation. Additional resourcing for project management (from the Parks and Reserves team and externally) will be required and this could be funded from capital project budgets. Additional assets will typically require additional operational and renewal funding. The first few years of additional operational maintenance could be potentially handled as a project cost and funded from the Reserves Purchase and Development Fund. However, it is important to note that Opex must proportionally meet the Capex.

Reserve Land Purchase Fund

A Reserve Land Purchase Fund (a subset of the Reserve Purchase and Development Fund) will be established to purchase qualifying land for reserves as it comes onto the market. The fund (with a preliminary proposal of \$10m) will enable officers to purchase suitable property as acquisition opportunities arise. Delegations will be amended to allow officers to act on prudent opportunities to take advantage of opportunities presented by willing sellers or the real estate market. Establishing delegations will be reported on in mid-2025.

Wāhanga Tuawhā: Whiria te Muka Tangata: Section 4: Coordinating our approach

Whārikihia te Kaupapa: Implementing the Strategy

Encouraging people to rethink what an open space network looks like, including understanding;

- the differences in how people may participate in recreation
- the importance of the habitats that support indigenous biodiversity and provide ecosystem services
- the requirement for additional reserve land that is well distributed
- reserves need to be activated for multi-uses and multi-users

Partnership with Mana Whenua

It is imperative to partner collaboratively with Mana Whenua. Part of this coordinated approach is in joint kaitiakitanga, supporting aspirations and providing guidance. This will align with Council's Te Tira Māori team who work with Mana Whenua for best Kaupapa and tikanga practice. The alignment of Council and iwi aspirations is reflected in Council's Tākai Here (Memoranda of Partnership) and The Strategy's Guiding Principles, to weave them throughout. Protecting te taiao, wai quality, and the provision of open space to

improve outcomes for Māori and the whole community is a key strand of The Strategy plus the supplementary Framework and the Guidelines.

What can we do about it

The Reserves Investment Strategy enables Mana Whenua to establish priorities for reserve improvement, and recommend projects and programmes of interest to Māori and Iwi that aid in the overall wellbeing of the open space network. Collaborative projects may include:

1. Actions to protect spaces that support māhinga kai and customary practices like gathering and foraging that are connected to traditional forms of active recreation, art, and leisure.
2. Work that improves the vitality of Te Awa Kairangi and other waterways and aquatic ecosystems, as recommended in the Strategy *Te Mahere Wai o Te Kāhui Taiao*, for the Greater Wellington Region.
3. Acquiring additional reserve land that encompass Māori sites of significance
4. Through relevant regulatory mechanisms, create contemporary rules and policies to reflect Mana Whenua priorities for protecting, conserving, and enhancing overall open space network
5. Create places to engage in traditional Māori games and recreation practices.

Ngā Uara Māori: Māori values

As an aspect of the partnership Mana Whenua have assisted with the development of The Strategy. They have with the development of the statement below.

Te Ōhākī o Te Wharepōuri

"I muri nei kia pai ki aku taonga Māori, taonga Pākehā, kia tae ake te haruru o to reo ki ahau i Te Reinga"

"After I have gone be good to my Māori people and my European people, let the thunder of your voice reach me in the spirit land"

This Ohaki provides us with our guiding principles as mana whenua in this takiwa. Bequeathed to us by our tupuna Te Wharepouri, it serves as the foundation for our deliberative processes within ētehi o nga iwi o Taranaki ki te upoko o te ika.

These principles bestow upon us the responsibility of being kaitiaki or guardians, compelling us to not only safeguard and manaaki our own people but also extend our care to those who have chosen this whenua as their home. The stewardship of te taiao, the natural environment, in implementing the knowledge's and tikanga developed over generations regarding the health of the environment and its connection to the health of living beings is integral to breathing vitality into perpetuating the legacy of

kaitiakitanga. With our unwavering commitment to these overarching objectives shaping our decision-making, as mana whenua, we are committed to engaging in collaborative endeavors with the Hutt City Council.

This collaboration seeks to ensure that the outcomes derived benefit the broader community and the environment while remaining aligned with the core values inherent in the Ohaki. Facilitating co-decision making will fortify this partnership, fostering an environment of mutual advantage for mana whenua, HCC, the wider community, the whenua, awa and te taiao.

Section 5: Monitoring & Governance Planning

Monitoring is important for evaluating the progress of each project. A range of measures can be used to gauge if projects have implemented the vision of the plan, including user levels and satisfaction, well-being measures biodiversity indicators, improved access, resident satisfaction, and human and environmental health related indices. A supporting Best Practice Open Space Design Guide will be utilised for monitoring. The Parks and Reserves team, alongside other appropriate and relevant council teams will be responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of work undertaken to implement the strategy using the Reserves Purchase and Development Fund.

Review

This document will be reviewed every three years, prior to the preparation of each draft Long-Term Plan. Proposals to alter the Strategy, which will all have been discussed with Mana Whenua, require approval from the relevant Committee of Council. A partial review may be triggered earlier. Due to supporting documents having more flexibility for review and amendments, these could be reviewed more frequently whereas this Strategy will be more enduring.

Monitoring and Evaluation

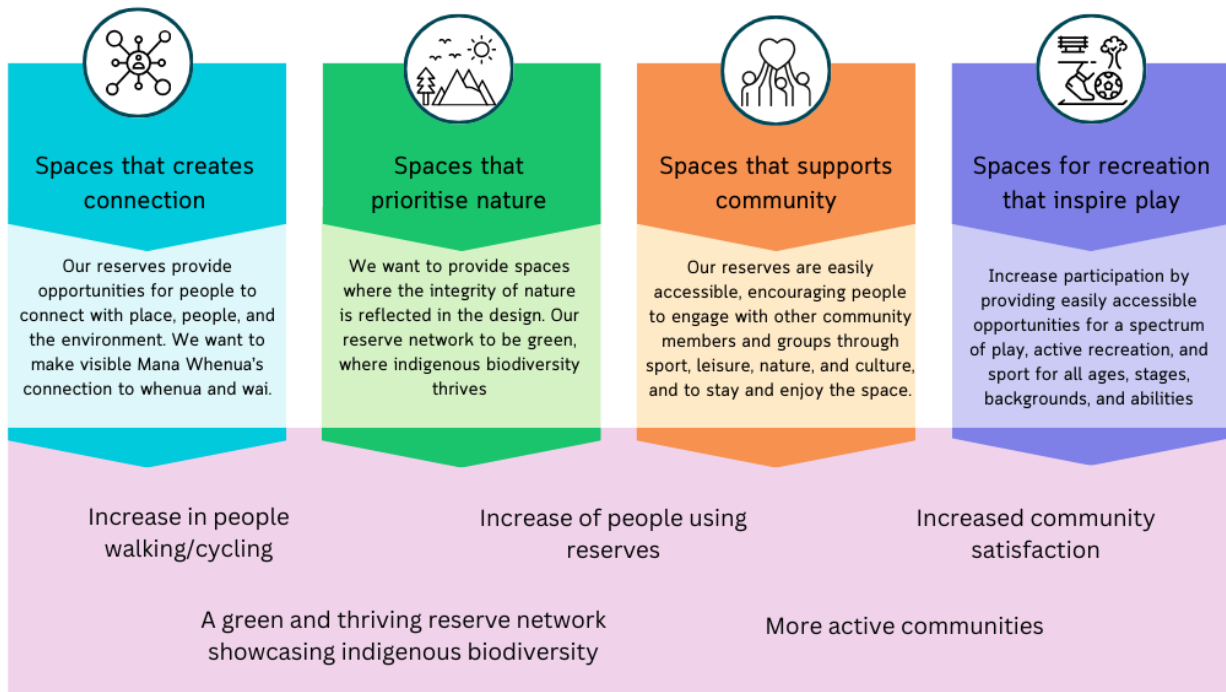
Tracking measures of success lets us know how we are doing on meeting our goals while utilising the Reserve Purchase and Development Fund. A mix of qualitative and quantitative reporting will be used when measuring indicators of success (shown below) utilising surveys, community consultation, and management. Some specific examples items that may be measured are:

1. The reduction of provision gaps identified in the catchments
2. Compliance with metrics set out in Provision Framework (Appendix A)
3. Application of the Open Space Best Practice Design Guide critical success elements to projects
4. The rate of delivering of the Project List
5. Cessation of capping system for Reserve Financial Contributions and revenue into the Reserves Purchase and Development Fund
6. The level (increase or decrease) of protection of sites of significance, landscapes, and trees
7. Increased Levels of Service and retained Operational Expenditure allocation

Monitoring progress and reporting will be done annually, with the first 2 years being used to establish a baseline.

OVERARCHING OBJECTIVES

INDICATORS OF SUCCESS



Risk of Inaction

The main risks in not implementing the outcomes:

Degradation of Green Spaces: Without a clear investment plan, parks and reserves might suffer from decreased safety, poor visitor experience, and potential loss of biodiversity. Limited amenity provision will deter user numbers and reduce community satisfaction with reserves.

Economic Risk: Open space and social infrastructure support economic and other commercial activity. Appropriate provision of reserves is associated with prevention benefits i.e., crime prevention, and preventable disease which the benefits of are well documented internationally. Not activating the Strategy properly could also result in increased stress on Council budget to meet overdue or outdated levels of service, which in affects rate payers. It is also well documented that businesses are attracted to well-functioning and inviting locations for relocation and sustaining businesses and their staff, and other financial resources.

Lack of Further Funding/Resourcing for Growth: Absence of an investment strategy may result in a reduction or further loss of resourcing (financial and/or staffing) to maintain public open space. Without a strategy, the District Plan will not have a formal strategic

position which justifies taking Reserve Financial Contributions. This could jeopardise revenue for Fund and hinder the development of the reserves network and challenge Council's ability to provide reserves that are sufficient to meet the needs of a growing population living in more intensively developed urban areas.

Missed Opportunities: Not being proactive within the development phase (there is an assumption that Council has to be reactive), which will lead to a failure to act on opportunity. Reserve land acquisition is constrained by funding, policy, and legislative barriers. Upgrading facilities, introducing new amenities (Including the gap of Operational Expenditure for maintenance) and acquiring new reserve land might be delayed or overlooked, impacting the overall quality and utility of these spaces which theoretically should serve more people.

Environmental Impact: Reserve investment could reduce some negative effects of development. Neglecting investment in parks and reserves can mean missing opportunities to prevent habitat loss, decreased biodiversity, reduced ecosystem services and increased severe flooding risk.

Inability to Meet Future Needs: Without a strategy for investment, Council may fail to have the right response to growth. Reserves may not adapt to changing community needs, technological advancements, or environmental challenges. This could render these spaces less relevant and less functional in the long term.

Reputational Risk (Council): The reputational risk associated with the failure to implement the Strategy could be substantial. Failure to follow through on planned initiatives may lead to public scepticism, erode trust, and damage Hutt City Council's brand. Residents and stakeholders may perceive the Council as ineffective, raising concerns about its ability to address community reserve needs. Additionally, a lack of strategic implementation can hinder progress on crucial issues, resulting in dissatisfaction among constituents who expected positive outcomes. Such reputational damage can impact Council's relationships with the community, Mana Whenua, other governing bodies, and potential collaborators, potentially diminishing its influence and ability to garner support for future initiatives. Therefore, implementing and delivering on strategies is not only crucial for achieving intended goals but also for safeguarding Council's reputation and maintaining public trust.

Papikupu Whāiti–Te reo Māori

Glossary Te reo Māori

Term	Defintion
Iwi	A Māori community or people.
Kaitiaki	A guardian or trustee, typically of an environmental area or resource
Kaitiakitanga	Is the obligation to nurture and care for the mouri of a taonga, or the ethic of guardianship or protection.
Kātao	Water.
Kaupapa	Means principles and ideas which act as a base or foundation for action. A kaupapa is a set of values, principles, and plans which people have agreed on as a foundation for their actions.
Mana Whenua	Mana Whenua are the people with the rights, authority, or jurisdiction over an area of traditional lands. Council recognises Mana Whenua have a special relationship with the land and resources of the Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai Lower Hutt.
Mātauranga Māori	Is the body of knowledge originating from Māori ancestors. This includes the Māori world view and perspectives, Māori creativity, and cultural practices.
Mouri	The mouri of Te Ara Tupua, the living relationship between the ngahere, the cliffs, the water ways, hinemoana and everything that lives within that environment have their own individual and interdependent vitality
Taonga	Refers to a treasure or something that is prized. The term can be applied to anything that is of value, including socially or culturally valuable objects, resources, phenomena, ideas, and techniques.
Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai	Māori names describe their location within the valley. Lower Hutt is Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai (next to the sea) Upper Hutt is Te Awa Kairangi ki Uta (inland).
Te Taiao	Is the environment that contains and surrounds us.
Tikanga	Customs and traditional values, especially in a Māori context.
Wai	Water.
Wai Tai, Wai Māori	The connection between the springs, streams, aquifers, rivers, and all waterways that bring with them their life, mouri and mana which eventually mingles together with Hinemoana.
Wānanga	A wānanga is characterised by teaching and research that maintains, advances, and disseminates knowledge and develops direction

Whenua	Land.
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Papakupu Whāiti Te reo Pākehā

Glossary English

Term	Definition
Asset Management Plan (AMP)	A plan for managing an Council parks and reserves assets to deliver an agreed standard of service. An Asset Management Plan sets out the level and timing of funding required to deliver services that the community needs.
Brownfield	Brownfield development <i>occurs on land that has already been developed and therefore has.</i>
Catchment	The area in which a certain grouping of people live. Can include specific mesh blocks and suburbs.
Carrying capacity	The amount of people that can use an allocated amount of space and can be sustained by the provided environment (park) without any level of service standard (such as enjoyment) being minimised.
Codes	Clubs of organised sport or other organised community activity
Development Contribution	Contributions can be required under the LGA to help fund planned and budgeted capital expenditure related to growth for the activities and assets listed in the development contributions schedule as outlined in Hutt City Council's Development and Financial Contributions Policy 2021-2031.
District Plan (DP)	A main document that sets the framework for managing land use and development within Lower Hutt territory.
Ecosystem Services	Natural creation of services; 'provisioning', like food and freshwater; 'regulating', such as air and water quality, 'cultural' such as recreation and sense of belonging; and 'supporting', such as soil quality and natural Habitat (Dymond 2013)
Edge Effects	Changes in flora and fauna population or community structures that occur at the boundary of two or more Habitats (e.g. parks, reserves, and open spaces)
Greenfield	Greenfield development is <i>a property development project that utilises this bare, undeveloped land to build.</i>
Green space	Any area of grass, trees, or other <u>vegetation</u> set apart for recreational or aesthetic purposes in an otherwise urban environment.
Housing density	The number of developed units in a specific area of land.
Intensification	Locales that Have an increased land use, usually regarding development of a site at a higher density than currently exists. This may occur through development, redevelopment, infill, expansion or conversion of existing buildings or property.
Infill	The insertion of additional housing units into an already-approved subdivision or neighbourhood.
Key Native Ecosystem (KNE)	The Key Native Ecosystem (KNE) programme (GRWC) aims to protect some of the best examples of native ecosystems in the Wellington region. It is working to achieve this by managing, reducing, or removing threats to their values.

Level of Service (LoS)	Specific parameters to meet minimum requirements for service performance quality.
Local Government Act 2002 (LGA)	An Act from central government that directs local governments (councils) to provide for democratic and effective governance to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities.
Long Term Plan (LTP)	A Council's LTP provides focus and directions for decisions and activities regarding a city's infrastructure, finances, and programmes outlining the activities a Council does and how these activities fit together. The plan is set over a 10-year cycle which is reviewed every 3 years. The LTP also provides accountability to the community – Having considered their feedback during the LTP consultation period.
Open Space Network	An interconnected system of public open space within Lower Hutt territory. This open space may include natural and modified areas, patches, or corridors.
Population density	The number of individuals inhabiting an area in relation to the geographical size of that location.
Provision	The supply of services or space, or a combination of both
Reserve	A property which is owned or managed by the Council to provide for the public's use and enjoyment or to protect ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity. Sites described as Reserve, include parks, urban reserves, bush reserves, coastal areas and cemeteries. Open Space is a similar term and refers to land that is not intensively developed.
Residential Density Standards	A collective term in accordance with the Housing Supply Act 2021 that directs requirements and rules for housing.
Reserve Financial Contribution	Contributions can be required under the RMA in line with the provisions set in the District Plan. These contributions are required for reserves and where development may impact capital expenditure that is not planned or recovered from Development Contributions.
Reserves Purchase and Development Fund (RPDF)	The purpose of the fund is to provide both an audit trail and a holding account that allows for a specific code/line item to enable Council to transact revenue and expenditure as a result of the Development and Financial Contributions Policy. This also allows for Council to operationally carry out land transaction work where it is maximising the benefit of land use and revenue for the community from a variety of sources.
Resource Consent	A written decision from Hutt City Council about an activity that may affect the environment or community. A resource consent is typically needed for subdividing land or undertaking site activities that may not fully comply with rules and standards of the District Plan.
Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA)	The Act sets direction and rules to manage natural and physical resources sustainably.
Reserves Act 1977 (RA)	The Act sets direction to acquire, preserve and manage areas for environmental, public recreational, educational, or cultural values.

Territorial Authority (TA)	A city council or a district council as scheduled in the Local Government Act 2002
Urban Heat Island Effect	A by-product of a built environment, heat emitted from the sun becomes trapped and amplified in less permeable spaces.
Universal Design	A philosophy that aspires to deliver services, spaces and facilities that can be used by people with a spectrum of abilities, including people of all ages, with physical and mental disabilities or sensitivities. This includes spaces designed to be barrier-free and safe.

Appendix A-Open Space Provision Typology Framework

This framework should be utilised parallel to the Open Space Best Practice Design Guide (2024) to help further determine suitable functionality of the typology.

Parks and Open Space Provision Framework	Access	Population Ratio (conceptual)	Size/Area Percentage	General Design Characteristics
	Time to Access Method to Access Distance to Access	ha per 1000 Residents	Minimum Size (Ideal)	Character - Park aesthetic and its physical attributes Purpose - What the spaces intended use is Level of Service - Standard of Provision
Neighbourhood Reserves Provision is focused on the immediate local community, covering multiple mesh blocks set within residential areas. <i>Note: Neighbourhood level provision encompasses all spaces that may be classified under the following typology and include neighbourhood parks, local parks, public gardens, city/district reserve, and amenity parks.</i>	8.5min-10min Majority is through walking or alternative active transport modes such as scooter or cycling or powerchair 400m (high-medium density residential) - 600m (all other residential)	1ha per 1000 residents	Minimum size 0.04 ha Average Between 0.1 ha to 2 ha	Priority provision may Include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Informal recreation, sporting, play and leisure activities for a few small groups of visitors at a time Play features and family-based activities with Universal Design elements Multi-user functionality (site fit for multiple purposes e.g., kick-a ball, outdoor yoga and relaxing with a book) Multiple access points with at least 1 street frontage Thriving specimen trees (native or exotic) that provide 7m+ quality specimens at maturity Canopy cover- natural (tree coverage) or artificial (pergola) Examples of amenities that could be provided include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Furniture (e.g., benches, picnic tables) Landscaping and gardening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safe and universally accessible pathways Small to medium sized lawn areas (ability to host small community events) Proximity to commercial or other economic activity. <i>Neighbourhood Reserves are expected to have lower ongoing operational costs</i>
Suburb Reserves Provision is focused on the wider community (which includes several neighbourhoods) and	17min-25min Majority is through walking or alternative modes such as scooter	2ha per 1000 residents	Minimum size 2 ha	Suburb provision will need to have low operational costs to meet growing capex demand. Priority provision may contain some of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-purpose functionality Informal and formal sporting activities Play opportunities and whānau activities with Universal Design elements

<p>their needs. They cater to both high and medium density residential areas. They may be in prominent locations helping to identify specific areas</p> <p><i>Note: Suburb level provision encompasses all spaces that may be classified under the following typology and includes suburb park, community parks, and district parks.</i></p>	<p>or cycling or powerchair 800m (high-medium density residential) – 1200m (all other residential)</p>		<p>Average Between 2 ha to 8 ha</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family and community gatherings Structures to support small events Safe and universally accessible pathways and seating Open street frontage Public toilet block Available water source <p>High-level amenity examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilities Possibly indoor space provided by Council or others Car parking on site or on street Proximity to commercial or other economic activity. <p>Larger informal recreation attractions may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playful features for multiple age and user groups Landscaping, including multiple specimen trees Hardcourts Skateparks Public art. <p>Suburban spaces may also be connected through active modes such as walking and cycling tracks.</p>
<p>Sports Park Reserves</p> <p>Provision is focused on the community's formal and informal sport and recreation needs. Sports parks are located within groupings of suburbs, catering to a designated catchment of residents and the citywide population.</p> <p><i>Note: Sports Park level provision encompasses all spaces that may be classified under the following typology and include sport and recreation park, district sport precinct, sportsground parks (community), sportsground parks (premier), and citywide sport precinct.</i></p>	<p>15min–30min Multimodal transport (Public Transport and/or private passenger cars travelling) 2km</p>	<p>4 ha per 1000 residents</p>	<p>Ideal: size 8 ha Unless for a specific sport or activity (i.e., Walter Nash Centre, tennis codes/club, bowling codes/club)</p> <p>Average in HCC 1–10ha</p>	<p>Usually, large precincts and are formal spaces developed and designed with priority to provide at :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-sport playing surfaces for turf and court sports (competition and recreation size) Built sporting facilities with supporting infrastructure. Spaces designed for informal, casual use for sports or other activities Open street frontage w/multiple access points. <p>Other amenities may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public toilets Changing facilities Clubhouses Car parking Lighting owned or managed by HCC Hospitality or other concessions

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indoor spaces and facilities provided by council or others High-grade Natural Turf <p>Buildings HCC owned and managed or leased (or a combination of either).</p>
<p>Destination Park</p> <p>Provision is focused on a citywide and visiting population. They usually provide recreation spaces for visitors to enjoy high amenity and green infrastructure. Visitors to destination parks often travel by private vehicle from further away or outside Hutt City. The carbon emissions associated with destination parks can be large compared to non-destination parks.</p> <p><i>Note: Destination Park level provision encompasses all spaces that may be classified under the following typology and include destination park, civic park, public garden, and outdoor adventure park.</i></p>	Multimodal transport, typically within a 10–30-minute timeframe	N/A	Minimum size of 1 ha	<p>Utilise the natural and modified environments with priority to provide some the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection of ecological values Natural or modified waterways, coastal edges or bodies of water Provide wildlife corridors and/or fish passage Specialist landscapes and/or designed water features All abilities and ages play features, with Universal Design features <p>Small hospitality or retail or other commercial services may be provided. Built or modified infrastructure for multi-purpose that may be included are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Destination or special built play features (water play) Sport infrastructure (e.g., frisbee golf), Heritage and or cultural features Active modes; Cycle and walking tracks Short tramping tracks. <p>Larger amenity spaces for larger events or social gatherings including BBQ and picnic facilities, car parking, and toilets.</p>
<p>Nature Reserves</p> <p>This level of provision is focused on a citywide and visiting population. Nature Reserves provide recreation and leisurely spaces for large numbers of visitors. They offer diverse recreation opportunities such as biking, walking, water activities and providing connections with natural features and the bush.</p> <p>Regional parks are considered to be Nature Reserve, although they are primarily owned and managed by the Regional Council and the Department of Conservation.</p> <p><i>Note: Nature Reserve level provision encompasses all spaces that may be classified</i></p>	Multimodal transport, typically within a 10–30-minute timeframe	N/A	No minimum size	<p>Utilising the natural environment with priority to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural features such as indigenous biodiversity Protection or enhancement of ecological values or services Natural waterways, coastal edges, bodies of water with riparian planting and/or pathways Wildlife corridors and/or fish passage Infrastructure built for multi-purpose recreation activities (i.e., mountain bike trails, tramping tracks). Proximity to Key Native Ecosystems (KNEs). <p>These areas can include recreational facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boat launch Campgrounds or huts Distinct natural heritage and or cultural features Networks of active modes; cycle and walking tracks

under the following typology and include nature, scenic, esplanade, bush, and natural reserve				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tramping and backpacking tracks. <p>Link to larger amenities blocks for larger events or social gatherings including BBQ and picnic facilities, car parking, public toilets.</p>
<p>Recreation and Ecological Linkages</p> <p>This provision is focused on providing contiguous networks of (natural or modified) open space that establish recreational, walking, cycling and ecological connections integrated within an urban/residential area.</p> <p><i>Note: Recreation and Ecological Linkage provision encompasses all spaces that may be classified under the following typology and include track linkage, wildlife corridor (habitat and traversing), eco corridor.</i></p>	No Quantity Guidance Dependent on the functional needs of an area	N/A	Minimum 20m width	<p>The primary focus is to support linkage between two locations, usually separated by residential or commercial buildings or a natural feature such as a waterway. They activate active multimodal transport and can be a part of the pedestrian and cycle networks.</p> <p>Utilise the natural and modified environment with priority to include at following: include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection of ecological values and services Waterways and riparian planting and/or pathways wildlife corridors and/or fish passage Proximity to Key Native Ecosystems Animal habitat support (weta hotels) Safe and universally accessible pathways. <p>Can include areas for minor recreation and low-level amenities such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Benches or seats Viewing platforms Paths or tracks and associated structures like bridges and boardwalks Educational signage and/or displays.
<p>Civic Space</p> <p>This provision is focused on the immediate community and caters to a more concentrated population density, providing spaces for people to meet and connect, covering multiple mesh blocks set within medium to high density residential areas.</p> <p><i>Note: Civic space provision encompasses all spaces that may be classified under the following typology and include community hall, town hall, clubhouse, public gardens, city/district reserve, and amenity parks.</i></p>	No Quantity Guidance Dependent on the area and its needs	N/A	No minimum size	<p>Areas of open space often provided within or adjacent to central business districts. Built infrastructure may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community or town halls Civic buildings Squares and ceremonial places Hubs Accessible amenities Public Gardens (primarily managed by Parks and Reserves Team) Memorials and public art Proximity to commercial or other economic activity. <p>They are developed to provide a space for social gatherings, meeting places, relaxation, and enjoyment. However, some spaces may require user fees. Management of these facilities does not fall under Parks and Reserves Team (Directorate of Neighbourhood and Communities). Educational signage and/or displays may be provided to enhance understanding of site or features.</p>

<p>Cultural Heritage</p> <p>This provision is primarily focused on the immediate community and caters to a concentrated population density, covering multiple mesh blocks set within medium to high density.</p> <p><i>Note: Cultural Heritage provision encompasses all spaces that may be classified under the following typology and include: cemetery(s), marae, historical landmark, cultural landmarks, culturally significant areas (CSA), and places of remembrance.</i></p>	<p>No Quantity Guidance Dependent on the area and its needs</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>No minimum size</p>	<p>Areas that protect and enable us to experience built cultural and historical sites, and/ or provide for heritage conservation, education, commemoration, mourning and remembrance.</p> <p>May include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cemeteries (primarily managed by Parks and Reserves Team) Historic Heritage Areas (per the District Plan) Commemorative items that communicate special historic local events Hubs and museums Sites of Remembrance (Memorials, public art etc) Culturally Significant Areas (CSA). <p>Primary management of these facilities does not fall under Parks and Reserves Team (Director of Neighbourhood and Communities). Educational signage and/or displays may be provided to enhance understanding of site or features.</p>
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Appendix B-Project List

Focus Area One: Spaces for recreation that inspire play

Project	Description	Reasoning	Proposed Timeframes	Indicative Cost
High Street Reserve Development (Taita)	To improve the presentation and range of recreation opportunities available for the local neighbourhood.	Previous public engagement has strongly indicated that the neighbourhood is interested in modest improvements to improve the functionality of the site as a playscape and a place to meet and gather. Locals have also expressed interest in a loop walking track.	Immediate	\$200K Funded 23/24 \$300k 2027/2028
Delaney Park Drainage (Stokes Valley)	Drainage to be improved for ground conditions and enhance year-round playability of the field.	This will directly address the growth in junior football in Stokes Valley. Previous engagement with local clubs/codes and field users Have indicated high urgency for remediation.	Immediate	\$400K Funded 23/24
Hugh Sinclair Park (Wainuiomata) re-development	Enhancement to meet the appropriate level of service for the neighbourhood. To meet demand, the reserve will improve pathways,	The immediate vicinity has experienced recent commercial and residential growth and has an impending population influx with a predicted trend of families and young professionals. Current	Short Term	\$600K

	play areas, drainage, aesthetic, connection and recreation function.	population trends of the area indicate and aging population and changing diversity.		
Moera Hub Landscaping	Landscaping design around hub in Moera includes decking, paving and levelling.	The current library is being replaced by a sustainable building which will act as a neighbourhood hub. Moera has seen considerable residential growth.	Short Term	\$800k
Mitchell Park (Epuni)	The predominant profile would alter from a traditional amenity horticulture display to a site reworked to include recreational and social experience while maintaining a soft landscape dominated by mature specimen trees.	The 2013 "Review of the Valley Floor Reserves" states that "housing density is increasing in areas of the valley floor... the likely result is growing demand for reserves close to people's homes." This statement is still relevant in 2023, as Epuni is one of the fastest intensifying suburbs in Lower Hutt. To meet the changing demographics, there is opportunity for Mitchell Park to expand beyond its current predominant function that connects multiple user groups and the community together to enjoy green open space, play and recreate. There is an opportunity to align with Reserve Strategic Directions and Leisure and Wellbeing Strategy.	Medium Term	\$600K
Enchanting' play areas	A series of small projects to provide 'enchanting' and playful spaces. Enchanting may look like providing spaces that cause positive emotional effect from a modified environment. Play spaces may be natural in areas to renewing playground infrastructure to meet appropriate level of service for a growing population.	Lower Hutt's increasing density highlights the need for the provision of enchanting public spaces that encourage play and recreation amongst all ages. This series will begin with further investigation and public engagement to better mark sites that needs to meet the appropriate level of service for the neighbourhood or suburb due to current and predicted growth. There is an opportunity to align with Reserve Strategic Directions and Leisure and Wellbeing Strategy. Staged development of enchanting play spaces and areas. Investigations and planning will begin in the short term, while development will be long term- around 10 years.	Long Term	\$400k
All ability play & Recreation spaces	A series of small projects to provide all abilities play. All ability may include space for children, youth, caregivers and adults. who have a mild to severe mental or physical disability.	Existing play areas in areas of high growth have a shortfall of all access designed spaces. Lower Hutt Central has impending density changes from Ch. 56 in the District Plan, as well as the Central Development Opportunity which aims to build 3,500 homes in the Central Business District. This intensification will directly affect the current demographic, including changing user groups. This series	Long Term	\$1m

		will begin with further investigation. There is an opportunity to align with Reserve Strategic Directions and Leisure and Wellbeing Strategy. Staged development of enchanting play spaces and areas. Investigations and planning will begin in the short term, while development will be long term- around 10 years.		
Streetscape Skate Features (Central)	These skate features will be considered from Ewen Bridge through the CDB to provide a skateable route through the Hutt CDB. The features will be incorporated specifically on High St, Dudley St, Andrews Ave and Margaret St and seek to coordinate, and link with the existing Riddiford Garden features. The features will all be hard landscape (concrete etc) with no to minimal ongoing maintenance costs.	Originally the Riverlink Project included a replacement skatepark within the consent designation. Due to a variety of issues the skatepark has been relocated to Avalon Park outside of the Riverlink Designation. By relocating the skatepark we can provide a better overall solution for the Hutt residents however the loss of local skate features in the CBD area needs to be addressed. It is proposed to incorporate skateable features within Riverlink Streetscapes project and associated active modes routes.	Long Term	\$1.6m

Focus Area Two: Spaces that prioritise nature

Project	Description	Reasoning	Proposed Timeframes	Indicative Cost
Specimen tree planting city-wide on existing open spaces	Plant specimen trees on existing reserves to improve character and amenity in urban areas. New trees will become large and magnificent trees once they mature.	The Urban Forest Plan sets out strategies for the city's natural areas, urban parks, and street trees. There has been a decrease in overall canopy cover throughout Lower Hutt territory. Growth, especially in the Valley Floor has caused decreased vegetation, and adding more canopy cover will also moderate the Urban Heat Island Effect.	Immediate	\$400K Funded 23/24
The Petone Esplanade Masterplan	Further strategic development of the Esplanade to increase environmental and social value. Redevelopment to be informed by Pito-One Steering Group work. Timing would be influenced by cycleway and Cross Valley Link Plans. Budget could be increased when scope of project is confirmed.	Due to intensification and already existing density, this project will respond to growth and its impact on the Petone Esplanade. To further protect the dune ecosystem from increased usage from visitors and animals, there is a need to create other inviting and interesting spaces for visitors to enjoy the beach space whilst minimizing Harm to the environment. There is also an opportunity to partner with Mana Whenua and create a real presence on the Esplanade consistent with the work being done at Honiana Te	Medium Term	\$300K

		Puni Reserve. Work may be split into 2 pieces of work; the first on the north side of the seawall, coordinating with the cycleway and Cross Valley Link work. The second, on the south side of the seawall with an urban ecology focus. Year 2-3 would be allocated for planning, engagement, and infrastructure investigations- to create a Masterplan framework		
Waiwhetu Stream Master Plan creation and implementation	Waiwhetu stream stems from a large catchment, from Eastern Hutt hills, above Wingate and Naenae suburbs. Providing pedestrian/cycleway connections, improving water quality, stormwater mitigation, bank protection, and sediment control.	With an increase in subdivision, earthworks and resident population, there is greater risk to watercourses, Waiwhetu is especially culturally significant and has been in decline post contact. Although there are restoration efforts, there is an opportunity to respond to growth directly by providing a Master Plan. Project partners may include GW, WWL, Friends of Waiwhetu Stream, Mana Whenua and the local community.	Medium Term	\$400K

Focus Area Three: Spaces that support community

Project	Description	Reasoning	Proposed Timeframes	Indicative Cost
Bell Park Redevelopment (Waiwhetu)	To improve the presentation, install a connecting path and create an appealing community space on the northern portion of Bell Park.	Investigation by both internal and external consultants have found that the reserve has been experiencing higher demand for a more community oriented, multi-user space to accommodate a growing and changing population.	Immediate	\$500K Funded 23/24
Wainuiomata Town Centre Streetscape Project	Thoughtfully designed landscaping, additional furniture and basketball court components on the Queen Street Reserve which forms a part of the Wainuiomata Town Centre.	Previously approved from Council for resource allocation to this project, Parks and Reserves have received a contribution to upgrade the centre.	Immediate	\$500K Funded 23/24
Drainage level of service Year 1 is for investigation and preliminary works. Drainage work will	Outside of the yearly sport budget, drainage will be installed at several sites.	This is the growing need to continue upgrading from natural drainage to in ground drainage, due to heavier use because of growth. Artificial turfs will need carpet replacement to continue function and maintain level of service. This will benefit the wider community by having improved all around drainage, instead of just field users.	Short Term	\$2 Million

continue for 10 years.				
Te Whiti Enhancement (Waiwhetu)	This enhancement will be designed through place making; cultural narratives, Mana Whenua engagement and community aspirations will be central to this. The developed project will invite people in to learn, connect and appreciate the space. Kaupapa Māori will be critical to this enhancement, working closely with the Iwi of Te Whiti for design direction.	Te Whiti lies in the Valley Floor and Eastern Hills catchment- the most rapidly growing and intensifying catchment. The area has seen a rise in residential dwellings and Te Whiti provides green open space including existing provision for organised sport. However, with the increased dwelling density and reduction of canopy cover, raising the levels of service is critical to connect residents to this area of significance.	Short Term	\$250k
Frederick Wise Ancillary services (Wainuiomata)	Toilet block, changing rooms and showers for public use, sportsground users	According to Nuku Ora report, there is inadequate infrastructure, such as changing rooms, toilets, and shower blocks. Hutt Valley is forecasted to underserve in sportsgrounds provision. Frederick Wise Park has seen a rise in users and demand for adequate facilities for both formal and informal code use, including casual play.	Short Term	\$1.5m
Naenae Park recreation, amenity and biodiversity improvements	The reserve to primarily perform as a quality casual sportsground but is accessible and accommodating to various user groups. There is opportunity to extend recreational (incorporating experience like enchanting and playful spaces) and ecological linkages including connection to nearby suburban parks and Waddington Drive.	Naenae has been experiencing a changing demographic with increased intensification. Historically, the neighbourhood has lacked quality open space that meets an appropriate level of service for residents.	Medium Term	\$680K
Avalon Park re-development (Avalon)	Expanding the functionality of the reserve to accommodate and respond to growth directly. Improved functionality will better suit various user groups and provide quality recreational and social experience to emphasise the space is for community.	This is a direct response to intensification and provides opportunity to align with Council wide infrastructure projects like Riverland and the Central Development Opportunity. Trends show an increasing demand for recreational space that provides social value for the community. Aligns with Leisure and Wellbeing Strategy and Reserves Strategic Direction and would provide opportunity to further implement actions from reserve management plan.	Medium Term	\$600K
Queen Street Toilet Block addition (Wainuiomata)	Installation of a new toilet block. Community Use – A well-maintained and accessible public toilet facility is not only essential for tourists but is	The community of Wainuiomata has recently experienced significant increase in housing development, including a major upgrade to the main street and adjacent reserve.	Medium	\$800k

	also crucial for the local community. Residents who frequent the reserve for recreational activities, exercise, or community events will greatly benefit from the convenience of Having clean and modern toilet facilities on site.	This development reflects a commitment to improving the infrastructure and amenities of the area, promoting economic growth, and enhancing the quality of life for its residents. The next logical step in this process is the installation of a new public toilet in the town centre.		
Hall Crescent Reserve Development (Epuni)	Development to lift amenity and experience. Detailed design to stem from public consultation. Consultation may begin in Year 1 provided there is capacity.	Lack of developed reserves in Epuni 'do not invite use' per Review of Valley Floor (2013). Current trends indicate that there is an even more urgent need to address growth and lack of quality space for residents. Historically, Epuni has marked deprivation and requires a level of greater equity.	Medium	\$400K
Phil Evans Reserve enhancement with acquisition of street frontage (Waterloo)	Phill Evans provides opportunity for either disposal pending criteria fit and security of obtaining a superior space to develop a reserve. This should be part of the conversation around the Waterloo CDO project. If retained, there is still suitability to improve street frontage and enhanced value. This improvement would require professional and detailed landscape design. Possibly acquisition of a property facing Oxford Terrace or Waterloo Road is a solution.	The "Review of Valley Floor Reserves Eastern Suburbs" in 2013 states that Fairfield and Waterloo have a reserve shortfall within a proposed zone of intensification, around the intersection of Waiwhetu and Waterloo roads. Currently, this shortfall has not improved, and existing reserve space lacks inviting quality to create a sense of community, social or environmental value. Alongside this shortfall, Waterloo has seen an unprecedented level of resource consent applications. Impending District Plan changes will also see a population increase and subsequent demand for accessible green open space.	Medium	\$3 million
Purchase property or properties for new reserve land (Waterloo/Epuni, Taita)	Development of new neighbourhood reserve between Brunswick Street and Waterloo Road, or obtaining frontage off of Farmer's Crescent, in close proximity to the train station.	The Valley Floor has the highest increase of subdivision and resource consents. With limited space, it is imperative to provide quality green open space.	Medium	\$5 million

Focus Area Four: Spaces that create connection

Project	Description	Reasoning	Proposed Timeframes	Indicative Cost
Black Creek all-weather path (Wainuiomata)	Construction of an all-weather path along Black Creek to link streets, bridged and cul-de-sacs and establish a convenient off road route to schools,	Drainage reserves with wide grassed verges, Black Creek and Wainuiomata River provide a unique opportunity to develop safe pathways for walking and cycling. These routes are flat and	Immediate	\$1.02m Funded 23/24

	reserves and the town centre for bicycles, push chairs, wheelchairs, mobility scooters and pedestrians. This will be a staged project.	suitable for people wanting a short walk or bike ride as well as those wanting a longer trail. Wainuiomata has experienced high intensification, leading to urgent demand for more connected spaces.		
James Grove Reserve track link (Stokes Valley)	Development of to provide a community space and nature benefit. Walking track connection to Horoeke Street Reserve	Stoke's Valley demographics have been changing, reflecting intensification and the need for growth response. Providing residents connection to natural space aligns with The Urban Forest Plan and Indigenous Biodiversity Strategy. With a decrease in provided outdoor space for new residents, there is an opportunity to provide track connections	Medium Term	\$300k
Riddiford Garden landscape re-development (Central)	Upgrading existing pathways and bridges to meet current levels of service from increased usage and to address lack of accessibility for people with limited mobility. To maintain perception that Riddiford Gardens provides a quality setting, safety and amenity features will be addressed.	High intensification area, with a changing population, including a growing number of rangatahi. With increased usage, assets are becoming more impacted and subject to heavier wear. There is an opportunity to respond to growth through detailed design and community engagement. Year 2 is set up for public engagement, consultation, and investigation. Works are predicted to fall between Year 2 and 3.	Medium Term	\$600K
Colson Street Reserve re-development (Avalon)	Extent of development will be contingent upon practicality of land purchase for reserve expansion to create more inviting street frontage OR; upon engagement and further consultation, Colson Street may be best suited for increased enhancement to fit current and predicted level of service.	Immediate vicinity has existing shortfall of quality and accessible open space. Avalon has been experiencing high intensification, including changing demographic trends. Urban Plus is continuing to provide social housing directly adjacent to the reserve with a predicted influx of working-class families, singles, and aging seniors. There is opportunity to better align with the Go Outside and Play, Indigenous Biodiversity Strategy and Reserves Strategic Directions.	Medium Term	\$400K
Wainuiomata Village Linear Recreation	Staged project to create safe pedestrian and cycling connections along Hine Road, Harry Todd Reserve, Rotary Park, Richard Prouse, Main Road, Leonard, and Wood Reserves. Project will provide an accessible link for school children and their caregivers. Land acquisition would secure long, legal route.	Wainuiomata is experiencing the highest rate of subdivision, and there is a trending need to respond to this growth through outdoor recreational provision. This provision will also need to meet environmental and social values and provides the opportunity to align with Leisure and Wellbeing Strategy, Reserves Strategic Directions, and past reviews from consultants highlighting the need to meet the appropriate level of service. Providing better and safer connection through Wainuiomata will also be well situated	Long Term	\$700K

		for increasing native biodiversity. Year 3 may be actual works while Years 1-2 are for planning and engagement		
Taita Track–Old Farm Track re-development	The trail could have a distinctive identity, use pedestrian and raised crossing points in the few locations where roads need to be crossed, and activities and points of interest in reserves.	Demand for more connections from Naenae to outer suburbs. A trail linking reserves and along streams would encourage physical and social activity. The looped routes could be different lengths for variety.	Long Term	\$300K
Naenae Riser Track up to ECNZ Track	Similar to proposed Taita track, the trail could Have a distinctive identity, use pedestrian and raised crossing points in the few locations where roads need to be crossed, and activities and points of interest in reserves.	Demand for more connections from Naenae to outer suburbs. A trail linking reserves and along streams would encourage physical and social activity. The looped routes could be different lengths for variety	Long Term	\$400k

References

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- Hutt City Accessibility and Inclusiveness Plan 2017–2027 (2017)
- Nuku Ora Report– Regional Sports Fields Report (2023)
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- NZ Stats–Hutt City Population Projections (2023)
- Open Space Provision Policy, Auckland City Council (2016)
- Veal, A. J. (2013) Open Space Planning Standards in Australia: in Search of Origins
- Parks and Reserves Asset Management Plan, Hutt City Council, (2020 and 2023)
- Places and Spaces Survey, Hutt City Council (2023)
- Projected Population Stats, Hutt City Council (2022)
- Public Open Space Planning in Australia Developer Contributions to Open Space, Parks and Leisure Australia (2019)
- Parks and Reserves Review of Valley Floor Suburbs, PAOS (2015)
- Taita and Avalon
 - Naenae
 - Alicetown, Melling, Petone
 - Central Suburbs: Epuni, Boulcott, Hutt Central, Woburn
 - Fairfield, Waterloo, Waiwhetu, Moera
- Parks and Reserves Review of the Valley Floor, Wainuiomata PAOS (2015)
- Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2021–2051, Matamata-Piako District Council (2021)
- Reserves Strategic Directions 2016–2026, Hutt City Council (2016)
- Residents’ Satisfaction Survey–Hutt City Council (2023)
- SensePartners– Hutt City Population Projections (2023)
- Te Āti Awa; Shamia Makarini, Hami Love, Ben Ngaia

Te Mahere Wai o Te Kāhui Taiao for Greater Wellington Regional Council, Toa Rangatira,
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Wellington Tenths Trust; Vicki Hollywell and Richard Te One

Yardstick Data, Hutt City Population Projections Xyst (2022)

DRAFT

14 May 2025**Report no: CCPC2025/3/167**

Proposal for Long Term Leases on Reserve Land

Purpose of Report

1. This report seeks the Committee's approval to grant a long-term lease over Council reserve land for the following organisations:
 - a) Hutt Valley Model Engineering Society at Hikoikoi Reserve
 - b) Wainuiomata Rugby Football Club at William Jones Park
 - c) Wainuiomata Squash Club at William Jones Park
 - d) Stop Out Sports Club at Hutt Park

Recommendations

That the Committee:

- (1) notes and receives the report; and
- (2) approves the granting of long-term leases subject to standard Council terms and conditions to Hutt Valley Model Engineering Society, Wainuiomata Rugby Football Club, Wainuiomata Squash Club and Stop Out Sports Club.

For the reason that granting these leases would provide continued non-profit community activities on Council land.

Background

2. Each organisation has utilised long term lease agreements in the past with Council and are now seeking a new agreement as each lease have reached final expiration and thus require entering into a new agreement.
3. The organisations seeking a long-term lease have long been entrenched in the local and wider community to provide important sporting, hobby, social and cultural services and opportunities for both member and non-members.

Discussion

4. The table below highlights the primary details of each proposed lease.

Lease Duration	Lessee	Land Legal Description	Purpose
10 years with no rights of renewal	Hutt Valley Model Engineering Society	Part of Section 709 Hutt District, 24 Marine Parade, Petone, known part of Hikoikoi Reserve	To continue Club activities including building and operating of model locomotives, yachts, stationary internal combustion engines, 3d printing, electronics, computer aided design, and model making in general for club members and enjoyment of the public.
10 years with no rights of renewal	Wainuiomata Rugby Football Club	PT LOT 122 PT 106 DP 14338, 99 Main Road, Wainuiomata, known as William Jones Park	To continue Club activities, including implementing various and diverse youth programmes, with inclusivity for people with disabilities, and working with local organisations and schools to provide for senior and junior sporting activity in the valley.
10 years with no rights of renewal	Stop Out Sports Club	LOTS 1 - 4 PT 5 DP 24038 LOT 2 DP 35086, 93 Hutt Park Road, Moera, known as Hutt Park	To continue Club activities including developing players into being better footballers across all levels and having numerous men's, women's, youth, junior and Masters teams competing.
10 years with no rights of renewal	Wainuiomata Squash Club	PT LOT 122 PT 106 DP 14338, 99 Main Road, Wainuiomata, known as William Jones Park	To continue Club activities, including membership for social and competitive games, tournaments and championships.

5. Regarding fees and charges, the organisations will be charged based on the non-profit entity formula, from current pricing that came out of the Long-Term Plan 2024-2034.

Options

6. The options are to:

- a) approve granting of the proposed long-term leases (recommended); or
- b) not approve the leases, however, accept a shorter initial term.

Climate Change Impact and Considerations

7. The matters addressed in this report have been considered in accordance with the process set out in Council's Climate Change Considerations Guide.

Consultation

8. In accordance with section 119 of the Reserves Act 1977, Council has provided public notice on its intention to grant the long-term leases.
9. No submissions have been received.

Legal Considerations

10. Under section 54 of the Reserves Act 1977 and section 303 of the Local Government Act, Council, as the territorial authority, may enter into a private lease agreement over Council owned land.

Financial Considerations

11. Other than officer time for processing the applications, there are no other predicted budget implications.

Appendices

There are no appendices for this report.

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Reviewed By: Arthur Nelson
Head of Parks and Reserves

Approved By: Andrea Blackshaw
Director Neighbourhoods and Communities

Report no: CCPC2025/3/169

Petone Wharf Update

Purpose of Report

1. To update the Committee on the project and advise of the proposed next steps to move the project forward.

Recommendations

That the Committee:

- (1) notes the report including the outline workplan attached as Appendix 1;
- (2) notes that officers will continue to engage with stakeholders and the community as it moves forward with the proposal; and
- (3) notes that the project will report to the Pito One Projects Steering Group and the Major Projects Steering Group quarterly, and to the Communities, Culture and Partnership Committee at key milestones and decision-points.

Background

2. The Communities Culture and Partnership Committee at its meeting of 30 April 2025 agreed to progress partial remediation and partial demolition of Petone Wharf, within the \$12M capped budget.
3. This option was supported by the Petone Community Board, the Pito One Steering Group and the Save the Wharf Campaign.
4. The Committee further directed *“Officers to make immediate arrangements for a pre-consent lodgement meeting with a view to clarifying the types of consent required for repairs and whether a split consenting approach is viable, with a repair component first and a demolition component later, and the associated risks”*. And further required *“that two representatives of the Save the Wharf campaign be included in the meeting to represent the community”*.
5. The pre-consent lodgement meeting was held on 12 May 2025 with the project team, both consenting authorities (Council and Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC)), their respective Heritage Advisers, two coopted members from the community and other officers, including the Council’s Director Neighbourhood and Communities and Head of Parks and Reserves.

6. The issue around a two-stage consent initially put forward by Save the Wharf for (a) a repair, and (b) demolition was discussed. Initially GWRC indicated that it may be possible, but they had serious concerns around managing the cost and risk of the proposed repair process. Another significant concern was that they would need to consider very carefully where a repair might cross over into a demolition. For example, where original elements might be removed and replaced by other materials. Council was unequivocal in stating that the process would require resource consent.
7. On this basis the group (including Save the Wharf) accepted a 'repair' consent was not realistic. The group consensus resulted in the view that the approach adopted should be a two-part process being:
 - a) an initial consent for rehabilitation and remediation that would apply to the approach; and
 - b) a separate process that dealt with the rehabilitation/demolition of the head.
8. Both consenting authorities indicated that ensuring the Heritage aspects of the application met requirements would facilitate an expeditious Resource Consent application.
9. The Long Term Plan/Annual Plan Subcommittee at its meeting on 16 May 2025 received feedback from officers on the pre-planning meeting. It noted the report brought forward from the Communities Culture and Partnership Committee from its meeting of 30 April 2025 and further noted "*the positive outcome of the meeting with general agreement on the preferable way forward, which officers will now progress while continuing to work closely with community.*"

Discussion

10. Following Council's decision and direction to officers to go forward with option 2 - repair / remediation of reduced wharf, and the consenting authority's strong advice that the consent timeframe will be heavily influenced by ensuring the proposal covers off Heritage matters, officers attended an additional pre consent application meeting to cover off the Heritage requirements. This was set up for 28 May 2025 and the matters arising from the meeting are recorded below.
11. Those present included Council's Project, Building Consents and Planning team's, Council's Conservation and Heritage Adviser; representatives from the Planning team at GWRC including its Heritage Adviser; representative from Save the Wharf; Lianne Cox, Heritage Architect, Studio Pacific Architecture (advising P&R); and the Planning Manager and Conservation Adviser from Heritage New Zealand.
12. Heritage New Zealand indicated that the project should engage an archaeological assessment to determine whether an application for an Archaeologic Authority is required. However, this was further clarified that the proposal was likely low risk and that any issues may therefore be covered off with an Accidental Discovery Protocol.

13. Purpose of the wharf remediation is for Recreation only there is no plan for commercial / passenger boating activity upon re-opening of the wharf.
14. Council's Planning team noted that for building consents, they would most likely need to see what is currently existing compared to future use and function of the structure. It was further noted that the existing handrails do not need to be upgraded as a matter of compliance with the Building Code. Overall, it was confirmed that the existing handrail would remain, with minor repairs being made.
15. Council's Heritage Architect commented that the current wharf is viewed from many locations and as such the proposed jacketing should be of a contiguous style and form and set at a desired height to minimise visual effects. However, there was acceptance that there may be some variation dependent on-site conditions.
16. Heritage New Zealand requested that a model be generated that indicates the appearance of the wharf once finer details were established following the condition assessment. There was some discussion about the colour of the jackets with the tone being suggested to be a 'darkish concrete'.
17. In terms of the replacement of structural elements new hardwood timbers (piles) will be generally imported from Australia. New piles would not be jacketed for aesthetic or heritage reasons. However, this can be revisited if thought necessary when the number and location of new piles is known after the Condition Survey. It was noted by the P&R heritage advisers that replacement elements should be date-stamped to differentiate between older and newer parts of the structure.
18. It was explained that the concrete deck at the wharf head would need to be removed as there has already been seismic damage. Similarly existing under wharf, in-plane/horizontal bracing will be removed in this bay. Detailed design will reveal further design elements.
19. Two seismic breaks are required – one half-way along the approach, and the other where the approach meets the head. Stainless-steel cantilever beams may be partially visible but will look not overtly obtrusive. They will not be visible from the pedestrian surface, but there will be a 1.2m long stainless-steel checker plate element across the full width of the approach which will be entirely visible.
20. GWRC confirmed that Rule 194 applies as the seismic breaks require some demolition but is not significant enough to push the wharf into being a publicly notified consent. In this particular situation and given the short length of the gaps it will probably negate any demolition concerns. There is a precedent allowing for some demolition when it is well justified.

21. Councils Heritage advisers indicated that ideally the gate designs from the older 1908 photos and original drawings should be installed. This approach was also supported by GWRC. Save the Wharf noted that community will most likely want gates to remain open and they may therefore be omitted to prioritise the major works. It was confirmed that Council, as consent applicant, is able to choose whether to restore the gates as they are not currently present. Consequently, reinstatement as per original cannot be required through a consent process
22. In terms of the likely extent of demolition to the wharf head as part of the second stage of works GWRC reported that the consent conditions would require some form of documentation. High resolution photography before and after should be acceptable.
23. Enhancements – lighting, seating, etc whilst desirable would not materially affect the consent applications. However, it was suggested that the Harbour Master may have a view around lighting on the wharf from the perspective of navigation.
24. The consenting authorities indicated no specific requirements on landscaping, but that removal of any vegetation may need to consider impact on lizard habitats. The avifauna report is more about the wharf being reopened for roosting birds and noted that there will be disturbed lizard procedures covered under the Council consent.
25. GWRC indicated there are no restriction around vehicle access to Petone Beach on its Natural Resources Plan. Council advisers confirmed there would be construction conditions on the Council consent.
26. Save the Wharf enquired about reinstating the removed blue shed but noted this would not be addressed in the initial stage (Approach Consent). It was confirmed the original shed is in very poor condition and that its remediation was not included in the estimated / prices or schedule of work.
27. Heritage New Zealand queried whether Barrier Free NZ or Accessibility organisations have been involved. The Project Manager confirms they have not been at this stage. Save the Wharf noted that during its community consultation that people with mobility and other conditions were in support of opening the wharf again as provides safe and accessible access to the water.
28. The boat-jetty lower platform was discussed with GWRC noting it is not original so does not feature in the heritage assessment. Save the wharf indicated it was useful to the community. It was decided to revisit the issue following the condition survey.
29. Officers are proposing to engage Dunning Thornton (Adam Thorton) to provide an offer of service for a detailed condition survey of the wharf structure, and technical support in regard to the preparation of the tender process. Dunning Thornton is also being considered to develop a detailed design for the seismic gaps to be introduced into the structure, for the purpose of gaining building consent.

30. Align (Bernie Warmington) has been approached to provide an offer for the preparation and support for resource consent application.
31. Investigations are ongoing to identify service provider to initiate an avifauna report.
32. An outline work schedule is attached as Appendix 1 to the report.

Options

33. Only one option is proposed and that is to proceed with partial demolition and remediation of the wharf in two separate consent processes one being for the wharf approach and a second one for the remediation/demolition needs relating to the wharf head

Climate Change Impact and Considerations

34. No site specific hydrological or other assessments have been undertaken to determine the potential impact of climate change on the existing structure given it is a renewal project that requires a high emphasis on heritage and culture. Climate change impacts and risks were noted in reports leading up to the making of this decision and will now be managed and mitigated where possible.

Consultation

35. A full communications and engagement plan will be developed including consultation with all stakeholders as the project progresses.

Legal Considerations

36. The selected option will require resource and building consent.

Financial Considerations

37. Budget has been set at 12M for 2024-2034 Long Term Plan. Further financial information is included in the body of the report.

Appendices

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1	Appendix 1: Petone Wharf Outline Workplan	85

Author: Arthur Nelson
Head of Parks and Reserves

Approved By: Andrea Blackshaw
Director Neighbourhoods and Communities

Appendix 1: Proposed Outline Work Plan Petone Wharf

work plan Petone Wharf																					
action	2025								2026												
	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
clarification requirement resource consent																					
appointment engineers support																					
avifauna report																					
detailed condition survey wharf																					
detailed design wharf																					
application resource consent GWRC - approach																					
Application resource consnet HCC - approach																					
Tender process																					
contract appointment remediation approach																					
start physical works approach																					

Communities, Culture and Partnerships Committee

03 June 2025

Report no: CCPC2025/3/168

Petone Grandstand Options

Purpose of Report

1. Officers have completed their initial evaluation of the options available to strengthen and remediate the Petone Grandstand as directed by the meeting of Council's Long Term Plan/ Annual Plan Subcommittee (May 2024). All options assessed are outside the established funding envelope of \$3M dollars. There is as such a need to seek direction from the Communities, Culture and Partnerships Committee.

Recommendations

That the Committee:

- (1) receives and notes the report and the update from the community meeting;
- (2) notes that initial assessments suggest that all three options proposed are outside the initial budget of \$3M identified for the project;
- (3) seeks direction from the Committee on how to proceed:
 - a) investigates the potential cost of demolishing the existing grandstand and installing a pre-fabricated building that would maintain access to changing facilities for those utilising the park; OR
 - b) considers divesting the remaining budget and structure to a non-profit community organisation (eg sports clubs based at the ground) under a development agreement that required the organisation to complete the remediation/rehabilitation of the structure to Council's specification and manage and maintain it thereafter under a lease arrangement.

For the reason that the Long Term Plan/ Annual Plan Subcommittee in May 2024 allocated an overall budget of \$3M for the development and strengthening of the Grandstand including the toilets and changing rooms. \$200,000 of that was allocated in 2024/2025 to develop options for the grandstand and identify likely strengthening costs.

Background

2. The Petone Grandstand was built circa 1939, some structural improvement circa 1979 and some seismic strengthening circa 2014 were completed. The Grandstand is constructed of heavy materials such as reinforced concrete and masonry, with some lightweight elements such as the roof and the level 1 clubrooms.
3. Council engaged Sawrey Consulting Engineers Ltd (SCEL) to undertake a Detailed Seismic Assessment (DSA) of the structure. The scope of the report was looking solely at the existing building's structure.
4. The results of this DSA indicated the building's earthquake rating to be 20% of the New Building Standard (NBS) as an Importance Level 3 Building (IL3) as assessed in accordance with the guidelines. This has resulted in it being assessed as seismic Grade D. This represents a high risk to occupants and neighbours, and it is equivalent to 10 to 25 times the risk expected for a new building under a moderate earthquake
5. The seating area of the grandstand was subsequently closed for public use due to Health and Safety concerns. Since then usage of the Grandstand has been limited to the ground floor level which includes the club changing facilities.
6. Whilst the seating has been closed for health and safety reasons there is evidence (photos) that spectators have been removing barriers and utilising the seating during Petone Rugby Club fixtures against the closure advice. The Chief Executive has sent a letter to the Petone Rugby Club to ask them to cease this activity. Given the seismic report in relation to this structure, and the additional issues arising from the steel corrosion officers are looking at other options to deter unauthorised access including changing of locks and more substantial hoarding.
7. The Long Term Plan/ Annual Plan Subcommittee (May 2024) allocated an overall budget of \$3M for the development and strengthening of the Grandstand including the toilets and changing rooms. \$200,000 of that was allocated in 2024/2025 to develop options for the grandstand and identify likely strengthening costs. The resolution stated that Council *"agrees to budget \$3M in the LTP 2024-34 for Petone Recreation Ground Grandstand and directs officers to report back on options for the grandstand, including the toilets and changing block."*

Discussion

8. Subsequently officers re-engaged with Sawrey Consulting Engineers to consider options for strengthening the Grandstand in line with Councils direction.

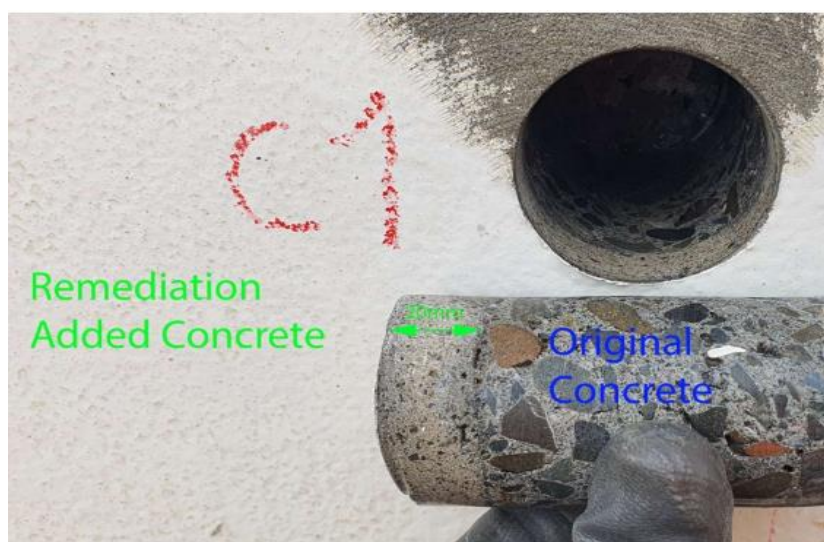
9. After initial discussions with the stakeholders three options were proposed:
 - a) Option 1: Seismic strengthening / rehabilitation of the existing building without any loss of functionality. (retains existing covered seating capacity and continued use of existing spaces);
 - b) Option 2: Seismic strengthening / rehabilitation of the existing building with reduced covered seating capacity from 1120 to 300 persons. Includes use of the long rooms and other associated rooms where financially viable (reduction in capacity reduces the importance level to IL 2 and reduces cost given an additional fire escape would not be required); and
 - c) Option 3: Seismic strengthening / rehabilitation of the changing rooms and incorporation of a new roofing system. No seating, but where budget allows separate seating could be provided.
10. An initial desk-top exercise was undertaken to understand the likely strengthening cost of the facility to 67% NBS for each of the options indicated above. All three options under the initial desk-top analysis were within budget at around \$1.8M.
11. However, this initial assessment did not include an assessment on the likely cost of other works required to ensure the building met the requirements of the Building Act in relation to accessibility, and fire access and egress. It also did not consider the reinstatement works necessary to the building in respect of replastering, refitting, and decoration.
12. In addition, the desk top exercise did not consider treatment for the evident concrete spalling and steel corrosion of the structure.
13. Given the obvious issues around spalling and corrosion an intrusive inspection to identify the level of the problem was undertaken by Concrete Structure Investigations Limited. During the investigations bars were exposed and found to have been severely corroded as per below.

Images 3-6: Severe Corrosion to Reinforcing Bars.



14. The report anticipates the original corrosion was significantly contributed to by a lack of concrete cover. The report states. *"During the investigations it became apparent that large parts of the building have been remediated to some extent."*
15. The remediation consisted of applying an additional layer of dense aggregate concrete, which the report notes. *"The values indicate that no active corrosion is occurring. It is likely that the reinforcement was corroded before the remedial layer was added, and that corrosion has been slowed down or halted."*

Image 7: Concrete Remediation



16. The consulting engineer has subsequently provided detailed drawings for the three options listed above and has completed a more detailed estimate for each of the proposed options which incorporate accessibility and fire access and egress requirements under the Building Act. The estimates exclude:
 - a) External plastering of Building.
 - b) Making good following strengthening works.
 - c) Asbestos removal.
 - d) Site establishment costs.
 - e) There is no allowance for an additional escape route that will be required for Option 1 under the Building Act.
 - f) Other cost related to the project such as project management, club relocation cost and other non-construction related cost.
17. However, the Consulting Engineer has suggested further intrusive condition assessments are likely to be needed to assess the relative strength of the vertical supporting columns in the structure. There is some concern that these were installed poorly which could have an impact on the underlying structural calculations. The cost for such additional investigation has not been included in the estimates provided.

18. The Updated costs for each option are indicated below in Table 1. The updated costs allow for a contingency factor of 15%.

Table 1: *Updated Cost Estimates Petone Grandstand*

Option 1	Building in its current layout without any loss of functionality (does not include additional fire escape which will be required under the Building Act)	\$ 3,091,719
Option 2	Reduction of seating area to 300 pax	\$ 3,161,551
Option 3	Removal of existing roof	\$ 2,932,254

19. The budget allocated to the investigative work (\$200k) has already been expended, leaving \$2.8M. This means none of the options are within budget.

Options

20. Given all Options appear to be outside the financial envelope proposed Council may want to consider other options which may include:
- Demolition of the existing structure and reinstall a new modular structure to provide a changing facility. Very early discussions have indicated a new structure of around 425m² (which is around 37.5% smaller than the 680m² footprint of Petone Grandstand) might be constructed for around 1.7 million. Additional budget would be required to transport, site and connect the structure. Any remaining budget would be used to provide a small amount of seating as a separate permanent structure. Currently there is temporary seating for 80 at the ground; OR
 - Consider divesting the remaining budget and structure to a non-profit community organisation (eg sports clubs based at the ground) under a development agreement that required the organisation to complete the remediation/rehabilitation of the structure to Council's specification and manage and maintain it thereafter under a lease arrangement. This option aligns with Council's approach to managing assets adopted as part of the current LTP. This would include a caveat that Council could not be approached for additional funding during an agreed term.

Climate Change Impact and Considerations

21. The matters addressed in this report have been considered in accordance with the process set out in Council's Climate Change Considerations Guide.
22. There are no specific climate change implications.

Consultation

23. The results of the initial assessment have been shared with the Petone Community including the Rugby Club, Petone Community Board, and the Pito One Projects Steering Group.

Legal Considerations

24. No specific legal implications have been identified.

Financial Considerations

25. Budget has been set at \$3M for 2024-2034 Long Term Plan. Building consents and resource consents may extend the timeframe for commencement of physical works.

26. The initial assessment suggests that no options are currently affordable within the existing financial package.

Appendices

There are no appendices for this report.

Author: Arthur Nelson
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Approved By: Andrea Blackshaw
Director Neighbourhoods and Communities

Report no: CCPC2025/3/170

Parks and Reserves Workplan 2025-2026

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to:
 - a) present the Parks and Reserves work plan for 2025/26 to provide visibility of the tasks the team intends to undertake in line with budgets in the Annual Plan. The Report also notes a number of risks which will continue to put pressure on operational budgets in the Long-Term Plan (LTP) 2024/34; and
 - b) seek decisions on two specific matters in the current work programme.

Recommendations

That the Committee:

- (1) receives and notes the report;
- (2) notes the risks associated with Parks and Reserves operating budgets that choices will continue to need to be made between increasing grounds maintenance budgets or reducing service levels;
- (3) agrees to option 1 (paragraph 29 of the officers report) to decline the community request for Council to acquire the historic Eastbourne Police Cell; and
- (4) agrees to option 2 (paragraph 35 of the officers report) to develop a high-lightly accessible toilet of Council's own design on the Bay Street site and manage access through a pin number controlled by Council.

For the reason that Parks and Reserves wish to advise the Communities, Culture and Partnership Committee of its planned works for 2025-2026 and wishes to bring to the attention of the committee ongoing challenges to the service that may result in level of service adjustments over the forthcoming financial year.

Background

2. The Parks and Reserves team presents its work plan annually to elected members to provide visibility of the work the team intends to deliver in line with the Annual Plan and LTP budgets.

Discussion

3. A significant piece of work for the team in the upcoming workplan (2025/26) will be negotiating and awarding the Horticultural Parks, Cemeteries and Street Gardens contract and then embedding the new contractor into the service.
4. Other strategic work will include:
 - a) Continuing to develop a leasing database;
 - b) Investigate, in partnership with the Assets Team, an asset management system (Year 4 Go Digital) and develop a renewals program based on condition surveys across the service;
 - c) Develop a strategic workplan for the management of noxious weeds and pest animals and seek to connect predator control groups where possible;
 - d) Work with partners (Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) & Department of Conservation (DoC)) to contribute to the development of Puketahā sanctuary and embed an aspiration for Lower Hutt to become Predator Free;
 - e) Work with Iwi to get the draft Reserve Management Plan for Honiana te Puni adopted by Council;
 - f) Get the draft Best Practice Guide for Parks adopted by Council as a policy document;
 - g) Complete the review of Council tracks and update the Making Tracks Policy document;
 - h) Develop a Policy/Strategy to manage the public art works that P&R is responsible for;
 - i) Divestment/demolition of Fraser Park buildings being the Lower Hutt Football Club building and the former Taitā Cricket Association building;
 - j) Divestment of the Seaview Marina breakwaters to Seaview Marina through a process of sale and long term lease; and
 - k) Demolition of two Riddiford Garden Structures (orchid house and conservatory) should there be no community interest in divestment; and
 - l) Assist the Eastbourne Bowling Club with its public consultation for the proposed relocation of the club.

5. The 2025/26 Parks and Reserves capital work programme is attached as Appendix 1 to the report. It anticipates a total capital investment of around \$21M comprising of:
 - a) Continued roll out of the sports field's drainage programme with renewals of around \$3.8M and drainage improvements of about \$1.4M;
 - b) \$15M for Reserves with \$11.19M for renewals (including Petone Wharf at \$6.8M), with the balance (approximately \$3.9M) on developments (primarily relating to the Reserves Investment Strategy);
 - c) \$0.23M for tracks (approximately 50:50 on renewals/new works); and
 - d) \$0.62M on other projects (toilet upgrade; decarbonisation; minor other works).

Reserves Investment Strategy realignment for 2027/37 Long Term Plan

6. The Reserves Investment Strategy project list is reviewed every three years as part of the LTP process and realigned to Council's priorities and community need. Going forward the Parks and Reserves team is looking to take a more integrated and longer-term approach to this strategic investment opportunity.
7. There are two projects in the 2024/25 work programme that are being considered with a view to developing a far more integrated and holistic outcome to meet the needs of the local community. These include the redevelopment of Hugh Sinclair Park and Black Creek, both in Wainuiomata which will come back to Council for a decision on increased investment from the fund as part of the LTP realignment in 2025-2026.
8. Hugh Sinclair Park provides an opportunity to develop a significant recreational resource at the heart of Wainuiomata that provides significant added value for the community it serves. A masterplan is currently being developed with input from the community.
9. Black Creek runs through the spine of Wainuiomata and potentially offers a significant opportunity to develop an active transport corridor that will provide a high level of off-road connectivity to various destinations in the village. The stream itself potentially offers significant opportunities for gains in terms of indigenous biodiversity with the incorporation of a range of wetlands. Initial scoping work is continuing.
10. Additional pieces of work that have been identified for potential RIS investment include:
 - a) The renewal of Taitā Netball court surfaces; and
 - b) Development of a 2.8km deer fence in the Western Hills to improve biodiversity outcomes. (noted in the report to the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee in April 2025)

11. There are also a number of projects that are being led by the community and require support from Parks and Reserves. These include the proposed relocation of the Eastbourne Bowls Club and the relocation of an historic jail cell from Williams Park in Eastbourne.

Honiana Te Puni Reserve development

12. The work plan also includes the development of a Reserve Management Plan for Honiana Te Puni Reserve, in partnership with Taranaki Whānui. Taranaki Whānui own the reserve, and Council is responsible for ongoing operational maintenance.
13. In light of the planned development of the reserve as part of Te Ara Tupua, Taranaki Whānui is seeking to change the way the area is managed, with a collaborative co-management approach aimed at ensuring the preservation, protection and enhancement of the reserve for future generations. Similar approaches have been used to develop Te Rōpū Tiaki for the Parangarehu Lakes (with GWRC) and for Te Whiti Park (with Council), which reflect a shared commitment to Te Tiriti.
14. Officers are currently providing feedback on the proposed draft plan provided by Taranaki Whānui, which will go to the Communities, Culture and Partnership Committee for adoption at some point in the future (2025-2026). Any associated budget request will be presented by Taranaki Whānui through the LTP process.

Artificial Turf development

15. The LTP has a budget of \$971K in 2026, \$2.5M in 2029 and \$2.9M in 2032 earmarked for renewals of existing artificial turfs and the development of one further turf in Council's network to meet community need.
16. Wainuiomata's Wise Park was identified as the most appropriate location for the new turf should analysis suggest it go ahead. This was to have been part of the Sportville Project in Wainuiomata which did not progress. Current population growth and gap analysis work suggests this is still likely the most appropriate location.
17. As part of the 2025/26 work programme officers will undertake scoping work on this project, with the intent of requesting to bring budget forward to 2026/27 for delivery should the analysis suggest a pitch is required.

Risks

18. Key risks associated with capital investment delivery are:
 - a) Officer capacity to support engagement and consultation with the community during the project planning phases, which may extend project timeframes;
 - b) Uncertainty about the timing and scope for the Petone Wharf and Petone Grandstand projects;

- c) The timeliness of building and resource consents which are delivered by others;
 - d) The availability of consultants and contractors; and
 - e) Additional, as yet unknown, projects which may arise across the financial year.
19. An emerging issue for Parks and Reserves is the increased level of subdivisions generating street gardens, some of which are required as part of Resource Consents.
 20. There is an assumption that the team will pick up ongoing maintenance. Given officers have been directed to work within existing operational maintenance budgets it may not be in a position to accept new developments. Or it might be able to adopt new developments subject to reducing or stopping levels of service on existing assets.
 21. Parks and Reserves are responsible for a number of Public Works of Art located on public land. A report has been completed by the Head of Arts and Culture that identifies a range of artwork requiring regular maintenance and remediation. These have not previously been accounted for in Asset Management plans and were out of scope for the work which informed the 2024-34 LTP budgets, awaiting a stocktake.
 22. Thirteen of twenty-seven pieces were estimated at \$1,451,998 in 2020 which in 2024 would equate to \$1,748,746. There is currently no defined budget to meet maintenance and renewal needs, which given the value of the installations, community expectation, and aesthetic is problematic. Options for managing this will be presented to Council in the future and options for budget/service level changes will come through the LTP process.
 23. In addition to the above there are a number of unknowns regarding maintenance and renewals arising from the forthcoming tender for Horticultural Parks, Cemeteries, and Street Gardens.

Options

24. There is an option to direct officers to make changes to the workplan for 2025/26. Any suggested additions would need to be accompanied by direction on what should be removed.

Other matters requiring decisions

Historic Eastbourne Police Cell

25. In 2023, the Eastbourne Community Board and the Historical Society of Eastbourne sought Council's approval to restore the historic Eastbourne Police Cell and move it to a new location in Rona Bay. The building has been held on reserve land in Days Bay for several years by the Parks and Reserves team, while a community effort to restore it was progressed, led by Mr Gibbons. Council does not own the asset, and has been holding it on behalf of community, at the request of elected members.

26. Council granted approval for the relocation and agreed to pay the costs of the move, however advised that Council would not be able to fund any part of the restoration and ongoing maintenance.
27. Officers have been working with Mr Gibbons since then to develop an agreement and lease for the asset to be on public land. Unfortunately this has not been agreed. Mr Gibbons is still of the view that Council should take responsibility for the asset and ongoing costs.
28. The acquisition of this asset would not align with Council's approach to assets adopted in the 2024/27 LTP which requires a strong business case for any strategic acquisition of assets, and where buildings have reached the end of life, provides for divestment to community or demolition. Conversations are underway with a number of groups around potential divestment of other assets in this category. Additionally, Council does not have budget for the costs associated with owning this asset. Council officers do not support the community's preferred location for the asset, which is close to the sea which is likely to result in faster deterioration and higher maintenance costs. However, officers had conceded on this point on the basis that community would be responsible for these costs.
29. Council has two options:
 - a) Option 1: Decline the community request for Council to acquire this asset. If no community group steps forward to take on the asset it would be disposed of (recommended); or
 - b) Option 2: Agree to acquire the asset and agree to additional budget to cover these costs, or reprioritisation of other projects.

Changing Places toilets

30. In 2018 Council agreed to the development of a Changing Places toilet for the city. Changing Places New Zealand works with Councils and others to provide fully accessible bathroom facilities in public places. A Changing Places bathroom enables people with multiple or complex disabilities to get changed in a safe, clean environment. It has facilities for toileting, showering, and changing for adults or children who might have more than one caregiver with them. This is similar to the facilities provided at Te Ngaengae Pool.
31. The Changing Places organisation supports design development of such bathrooms (charge of \$10k), provides and manages a swipe card system for access (\$2500 annual subscription), and monitors quality control based on feedback from users. Owners are also required to fund up to three site visits by Changing Places each year as part of the MOU. Changing places charge users \$150-\$300 for a lifetime membership, some of which can be recovered through disability grants. Changing Places manage access to ensure protection for those using the facilities and for the specialised equipment.

32. After some deliberation the current Bay Street toilets in Petone were selected as the most appropriate available site. The start of the project was delayed by work required on underground pipes and additionally the discovery that the current building was not fit for renovation and would have to be completely replaced. The expected cost of the project, which will include a highly accessible bathroom and other toilets for the general public, is \$800K. Given the specialised equipment there will also be significant ongoing maintenance and renewal costs.
33. Since this decision was made, the financial challenges for Council have increased and officers have been directed to constrain operational costs wherever possible, including ongoing maintenance contracts. In light of this direction, officers have reconsidered whether installing a Changing Places facility is still the best value for money way to achieve the outcome Council is seeking. Some in the local disability community have noted that requiring people to buy a swipe card for access could be a significant barrier. The outcome we are seeking, providing a fully accessible bathroom facility for people with multiple or complex needs, could be achieved in a way that enabled a greater number of people to access it and required less rate payer funding in the future.
34. The preference of the Changing Places organisation is that continue with the original plan. They have cited there may be IP issues should Council decide to take this alternate approach. Officers consider this type of amenity to be widely available outside of the Changing Places programme.
35. Council has two options:
- a) Options 1: Continue with a Changing Places facility which requires additional ongoing costs and the purchase of swipe cards for access; or
 - b) Option 2: Develop a high-lightly accessible toilet of our own design on the Bay Street site and manage access through a pin number controlled by Council.

Climate Change Impact and Considerations

36. The matters addressed in this report have been considered in accordance with the process set out in Council's Climate Change Considerations Guide.
37. The Parks and Reserves team's work plan aims to increase carbon sequestration and support biodiversity by:
- a) Planting native vegetation contributes to biodiversity in forest and coastal areas;
 - b) Ongoing dune planting and restoration helps with stabilising the coastline and inland property during storm events;
 - c) Parks and Reserves staff consider materials and practices to help mitigate the negative effects of climate change in new contracts and workstreams;
 - d) Sustainable resources and technology are considered alongside cost-effectiveness, durability, and wider outcomes during the procurement process of both operational and capital programmes;

- e) Officers engage with suppliers to change delivery methods and use technology to reduce reliance on fossil fuel; and
- f) Pest animal control work reduces damage to vegetation and helps to reduce emission of carbon from the soil to the atmosphere when the soil surface is exposed. And thriving vegetation on hillsides helps to prevent slips and degradation of waterways.

Consultation

- 38. Corporate Leadership Team and Culture, Community and Partnerships Committee.

Legal Considerations

- 39. There are no legal considerations to consider.

Financial Considerations

- 40. Financial considerations are noted through the report. This work plan outlines the most significant tasks being undertaken by the Parks and Reserves team in 2025/26. Smaller projects and ordinary operational work have not been included in this report.
- 41. The foundation of this work plan is the LTP 2024-34.

Appendices

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1	Appendix 1 Parks and Reserves Capital Projects 25-26	100

Author: Arthur Nelson
Head of Parks and Reserves

Approved By: Andrea Blackshaw
Director Neighbourhoods and Communities

APPENDIX 1: PARKS AND RESERVES CAPITAL WORK PROGRAM 2025-2026

Project	Proposals	LTP Year 2 Budget 25/26
Sportsgrounds		
Petone Grandstand	Physical works	\$ 2,800,000
Artificial Playing Service	Replacement of surface	\$ 971,000
Naenae Bowls Renewal	Physical works	\$ 22,000
Ricoh Sports Centre renewals	Physical works	\$ 78,000
Sportsfield Drainage Improvements		\$ 1,405,000
Reserves		
Playground renewals	Various playground renewals subject to condition	\$ 1,161,000
Petone Wharf	Consent and repair/remediation of approach	\$ 6,490,000
Parks Signage & Interpretation	Various parks subject to condition	\$ 65,000
Reserve Developments	As per Reserves Investment Strategy Yr 2	\$ 3,856,000
Hard Surface Renewals	According to the existing condition assessment	\$ 1,296,000
Bollards	To deter anti-social behaviour (cars)	\$ 10,000
Park Building Renewals	Aviary, Gibbes Watson Glasshouse, and Tutukiwi Orchid House works	\$ 1,807,000
Black Creek Development	Footpath works	\$ 150,000
Jubilee Park Drainage	Drainage	\$ 41,000
Mountain Bike Park	Renewals	\$ 57,000
Parks & Reserves Security Improvement	Change current lock system	\$ 164,000
Cemeteries		
Taita Cemetery Improvements	Renewals	\$ 51,000
Track Work		
New Tracks and track upgrades	Additional improvement works	\$ 111,000
Track renewals	Renewals	\$ 114,000
Other		
Toilet Upgrade	Bay Street Toilet (accessible & public units) Install	\$ 150,000
Korohiwa Bus Barn	Renewals	\$ 29,000
Decarbonisation Parks	Physical works to remove existing fossil fuel heating and replace with electric	\$ 440,000

04 June 2025

Report no: CCPC2025/3/171

Neighbourhoods and Communities Director's Report

Purpose of Report

1. To update the Committee on work across the Neighbourhoods and Communities team.

Recommendation

That the Committee receives and notes the information.

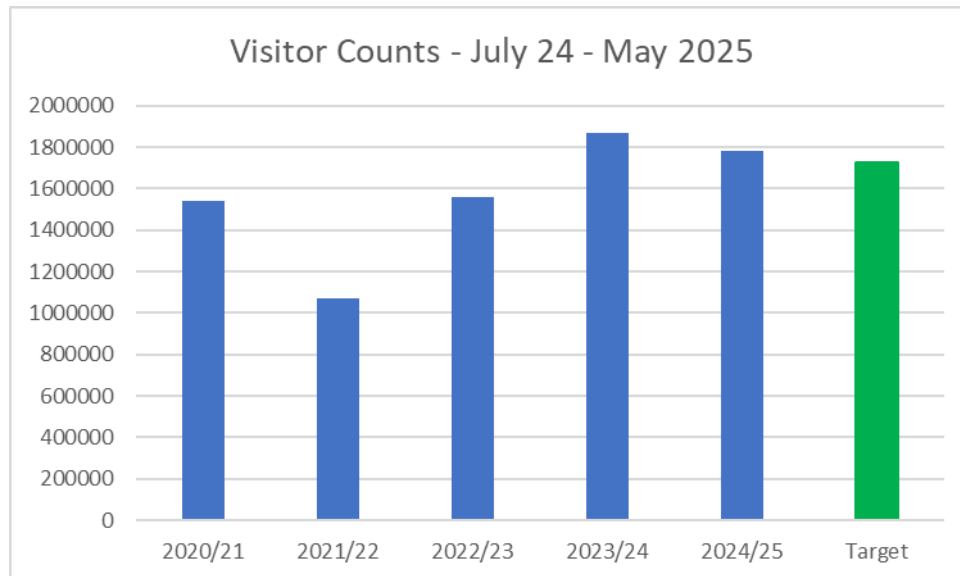
Highlights

2. A number of Council's facilities have recently been recognised in regional and national awards. On 13 June Te Ngaengae Pool and Fitness received an Excellence Award at the Property Council of New Zealand Awards in the Tourism and Leisure section.
3. Te Ngaengae Pool and Te Mako (Naenae Community Centre) were both earlier recognised in the Wellington Architecture Awards 2025, and Te Mako has also been recognised with a Master Builders Gold Award in the Commercial Project Awards category.
4. The new Motutawa Skatepark has also taken out the Active Park or Sportsground of the Year Award at the Parks Awards 2025.
5. Visitor numbers to Council's hubs and museums continue to be steady, however attendance at pools has been impacted by the recent cryptosporidium outbreak. Visitor numbers to hubs is expected to fluctuate in the coming year due to major refurbishment projects, and Annual Plan KPIs will be harder to achieve.

Neighbourhood Hubs

Visits

6. Visitor numbers to Council's hubs continue to be steady. Numbers for July–May 2024/25 reached 1,783,875, exceeding the year-to-date target by 3.4%. This is 4.4% lower than the same period last year.



Changes to visitor patterns expected

7. Upcoming renewals to neighbourhood hubs will likely affect visitation patterns unpredictably.
8. There are some internal renewals to the library side of Walter Nash. This will mean a short period of minor disruption to staff and visitors for a few weeks in July, however the space will better support community programming. Replacement of aged furniture is part of this refresh.
9. Planning for Petone Library's repair works is underway. Heritage collections will temporarily be moved to Walter Nash from July for the duration of the works. The library and NZ Post services will relocate once a temporary site is found in Petone CBD.
10. War Memorial Library visitation will be affected by closure for repairs in 2026-2027 and potentially also by the central city disruption.

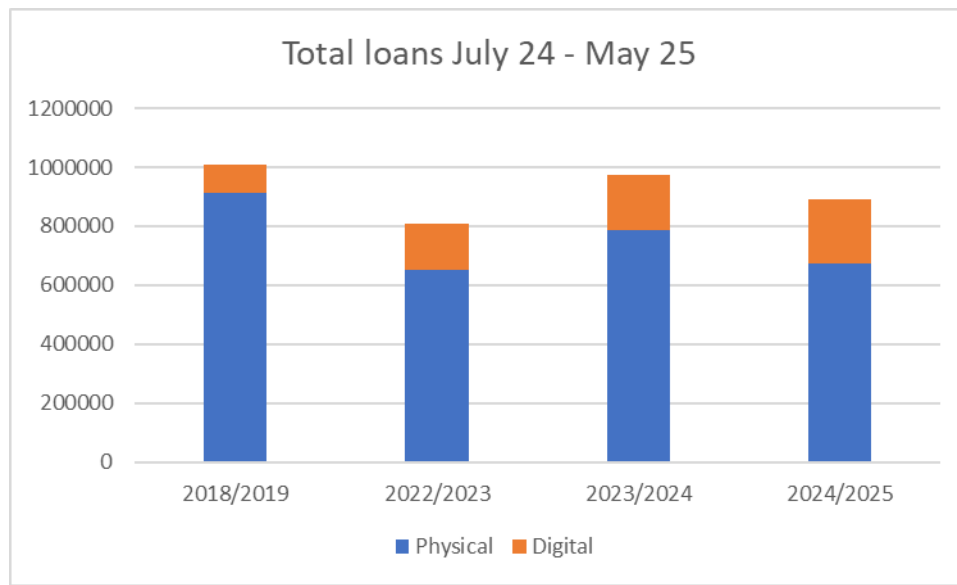
Programming

11. All hubs continue to deliver a solid range of programming to neighbourhoods and communities of interest. From July 2024 – May 2025 neighbourhood hubs hosted 5,706 sessions attended by 90,447 people. Koraunui Stokes Valley, War Memorial Library and Wainuiomata each hosted around 900 events each, followed closely by Naenae.

Library Services

Loans

12. For the period from July 2024 to May 2025, total loans were 827,272 against a target of 724,167 – 14% above target, although 5% less than last year. Digital loans account for 26% of total loans up from 24% last year and from 20% in 2021/2022.



Grants and Funds

Community Climate Action Fund

13. Twenty Round 2 funding applications, totalling \$203,450, were received to the Community Climate Action Fund (CCAF) in April 2025. Approval decisions are in train – Community Boards and the CCAF Panel have considered applications that fall within their jurisdictions, and in June 2024 Community Boards further considered their share of multi ward applications. It is expected that applicants will be advised of the outcome of their funding application in June 2025. One final funding round for the triennium is planned for July/September.

Creative Communities Scheme (CCS) Fund

14. Creative Communities Scheme Round 2 of 2024/2025 received 34 applications requesting a total of \$182,728.00, with available funds of \$31,887.45. The CCS Panel accepted 19 applications with a focus on: Access and Participation (7), Diverse Cultural Traditions (3) and Enabling Young People (9).

Recreation Sport and Play

Sanitarium Weet-Bix TRY Challenge

15. The Sanitarium Weet Bix TRY Challenge provided an opportunity for Lower Hutt Tamariki to participate (and compete) in a free fun, outdoor-based physical activity. The Challenge is a structured and stewarded obstacle course that provides a fun, safe and meaningful and inclusive environment for youth participants. The Challenge also included breakfast with all participants received a medal, certificate and T-Shirt.
16. Supported through funding and resources provided by Sanitarium, Nuku Ora and Council the event was delivered on 8 May 2025 at Naenae Intermediate and 9 May 2025 at Wilford Primary School. The Wilford school event on Friday was postponed due to rain and went ahead on Monday 12 May.
17. Participating schools were Naenae Intermediate, Kimiora, Rata Street, Maranatha, Waterloo, Maungaraki, Hutt Central, Petone Central and Wilford. The Sanitarium team also delivered an event round for the Kimiora school for Tamariki with high needs. In total, from the 9 schools, 589 students participated in the events.



Services and activities to support wellbeing

Social Drama Classes for Seniors

18. Sally Richards receives support through Council's community funding to run her social drama programme for seniors. Her groups in Petone and Naenae are well attended, and officers have supported the Naenae group to move from Wesley Rātā Village to Te Mako in 2025.
19. One participant, Nancy, shares that *"The social drama classes are a highlight of my week. It has been huge for my mental health. We have created new friendships and we support each other through life changes and health issues. We laugh and laugh."*



Takiwātanga whānau hui

20. Your Way/Kia Roha is one of the organisations funded through Council's Mauri Ora Fund. The group organized a hui on 24 May 2025, where whānau of autistic/takiwātanga tamariki and professionals gathered at Wainuiomata marae to share experiences, build understanding, and explore solutions for improved support. The hui was facilitated by Hanna Randall and included workshops, discussions, and activities for tamariki and their caregivers.
21. Whānau shared barriers they face in accessing culturally safe services, including exclusion from kapa haka and lack of visibility of families like theirs. For some, this was the first time their tamariki were welcomed onto a marae. The hui created opportunities for families to connect, build networks, and identify service gaps.
22. Many participants had previously engaged with Autism NZ's now-defunded Māori diagnostic service and expressed a preference for culturally safe models of support. They called for regular support groups, wraparound services based at marae, and housing solutions for those with higher needs. Hui organisers will continue to work with and advocate for these needs.
23. This initiative demonstrates the impact of Council's role in enabling community-led solutions and the positive impact of targeted investment in addressing equity for Māori whānau raising autistic/takiwātanga tamariki.



Accessibility at Daly St

24. As part of the wider development of the Daly Street site, Council's Urban Development team has implemented a range of accessible features developed in close consultation with the local disability community; particularly clients and staff from MASH Trust's Living Plus service located on Daly Street. A highlight has been the installation of prototype planter boxes designed for wheelchair access. On 12 April, clients and staff from MASH Trust joined council officials in preparing the site, getting the planters ready for the official opening the following day. They were delighted to discover that their wheelchairs fit comfortably beneath the planters, and they have since taken on the role of tending to them. The designs for these planters are now available to be implemented at other sites across the city.
25. Additional features at the site include wheelchair-accessible picnic tables and the installation of a Core Communication Board to support those with communication challenges. These bilingual boards, developed by TalkLink Trust and personalised for Hutt City, align with inclusive design practices already adopted by other councils across the motu and likewise are available to be included in future council projects.



Recognition of Foodbanks and Pātaka Kai

26. In May a morning tea was held in the Mayor's office to recognise Foodbanks and Pātaka Kai. The event aimed to recognise and support emergency food providers in Lower Hutt, who face increasing demand, limited funding, and few opportunities to connect or advocate for their needs.
27. The event provided a platform for a range of food providers to share experiences, build connections, and discuss challenges directly with elected members. Feedback highlighted the value of the event in strengthening relationships and acknowledging the work of providers.
28. Key outcomes included increased visibility of funding and operational challenges, showcasing of successful models such as the Stokes Valley kai network, and reinforcing the need for Council's continued role in enabling community-led food security initiatives and supporting resilience in the sector.

Arabic Calligraphy Workshops: A Welcoming Communities Initiative

29. During the April school holidays, War Memorial Library and Moerā Library hosted an Arabic calligraphy workshops in Lower Hutt. The sessions were delivered by local artist Naina Zainab, with support from Council's Welcoming Communities Coordinator.
30. Council provided funding, venue support, and logistical assistance to ensure the workshops could proceed. These included promoting the sessions, setting up library spaces for the activity, and liaising with the artist to ensure a successful delivery.
31. The workshops attracted over 90 participants, including families from across the Greater Wellington region. Feedback highlighted that Arabic calligraphy workshops were a new experience for many attendees, and several expressed interest in future sessions.
32. This initiative provided an opportunity for participants to learn about a different art form and its cultural significance. It also created a platform for diverse cultural expression in a public setting, supporting the goals of the Welcoming Communities programme.
33. The positive community response suggests there is strong interest in further events that explore different cultures and creative practices. Council will explore opportunities to build on this success by continuing to support similar community-led arts and culture initiatives in the future.



Awa-side Grassroots Up – Community Arts Network

34. This initiative was developed in response to a need for stronger collaboration within the local creative community. Many emerging and established artists lacked a shared, accessible space to connect, share knowledge, and build relationships.
35. The series targeted local artists, creative practitioners, and community members, with support from partners including Community Arts, Hutt Art Centre, The Learning Connexion, Neighbourhood Hubs, and The Dowse Art Museum. Quarterly events were held across various venues, featuring artist talks, remunerated panel discussions, shared meals, and networking opportunities, including direct engagement with Council.
36. Since 2023, the series has reached approximately 120–150 participants. Feedback highlighted increased connection, information sharing, and recognition of artists' contributions. Artists appreciated equitable payment, and the events were acknowledged for nurturing collaboration and a sense of community.
37. Key learnings included the importance of regular networking, equitable artist remuneration, and delivering events in diverse and accessible locations. The value of working through community-led or artist-run spaces to ensure accessibility also emerged.
38. Future plans include securing sustainable funding, expanding venue options, and deepening engagement with underrepresented groups, including Māori, Pasifika, LGBTQ+, refugee and migrant, senior, and disabled arts communities.



2023 – 2025 *Awaside Grassroots Up*, Community Art Network at Dowse Museum, Wainui Hub, Coco Pop Up Naenae, Hutt Art Centre

Books and Bass - DJ Shan

39. In May 2025, the Connected Communities team partnered with DJ Shan from the Aotearoa DJ Academy to deliver Books n Bass, a youth-focused programme at the War Memorial Library. Funded by Council, the initiative provides Rangatahi with access to professional-grade DJ equipment and training in music creation, mixing, and performance.
40. Weekly sessions, led by DJ Shan, are supported by experienced students from Hutt Valley High School, who act as mentors for new participants. This peer-to-peer learning model encourages collaboration and skill-sharing, helping to build a supportive community for youth.
41. Since its launch, Books n Bass has engaged eight regular participants, with additional youth attending as walk-ins. The programme builds on the earlier "Give it a Go!" initiative run through Council's Clubhouses, providing a more structured and ongoing opportunity for rangatahi to develop creative and technical skills.
42. Council's role includes funding the programme, providing a public venue, and supporting community-led initiatives that foster creativity and resilience in young people. The initiative has created a safe, inclusive space for rangatahi to explore music, develop new skills, and connect with their peers and mentors.

Te Ranga Kairangi - Student Network

43. Over the last few months, a small group of driven Rangatahi have co-designed a community based kaupapa with Council's Rangatahi Community Facilitator that can act as the Student Network, as per the Rangatahi Action Plan. Meeting regularly at different hubs throughout the city, this rōpu set the dates, times, goals, intentions and schedules for this rōpu moving forward. They also helped develop a group agreement to ensure the kaupapa has some structure to follow.
44. This kaupapa has been gifted the name "Te Ranga Kairangi" by Council's Tumuaki Māori. The rōpu will meet for the first time on the 9 June, and hope to deliver their first project by August.
45. Te Ranga Kairangi is a collective of young people from around Lower Hutt, who are passionate about advocating for local Rangatahi. They will collect feedback and ideas from local Rangatahi and deliver this feedback to Council and other community groups. This will help the community to include younger voices in important conversations, and make sure young people feel seen and heard.

Healthy Families: Cull To Plate

46. Cull to Plate continues to gain momentum as a systems-change initiative addressing food insecurity and environmental impact in Te Awa Kairangi. To date, over 250 venison parcels have now been delivered to the Wainuiomata Pātaka Kai, supporting local whānau with nutritious kai through partnership with a local hunting provider.

47. Officers have started engaging with Mangaroa Farms to explore butchery and processing infrastructure that is both compliant and accessible. Establishing these systems locally would increase the speed and scale of kai redistribution, reduce reliance on emergency food pathways, and move us closer to a resilient, self-sustaining food system.
48. Council's role has focused on connecting across sectors – hunters, landowners, regulators, community leaders – to influence the conditions that currently restrict access to this natural resource.

Kia Haumaru – Safety for Lower Hutt Businesses

49. In April, Council in collaboration with First Retail group and NZ Police, delivered Kia Haumaru to fifty shop owners/workers within Queensgate Mall. Local Constable Stephen Cross was able to connect with the attendees and provide great advice on situational awareness and how to deal with theft within their stores as well as being able to talk to previous events within the mall and what they often get called to.
50. The event was greatly supported from Queensgate mall staff with them providing prizes and morning tea for attendees. Adding to the success of the event was the location. Having the event at Queensgate mall in the food court allowed staff to attend the early morning event before needing to open their stores. The mall management was also a great support in encouraging staff to attend.
51. Attendees including Queensgate Mall management expressed strong support and requested future sessions.



Parks and Reserves

Operational

52. The tender for the New Horticultural Parks, Cemeteries and Street Gardens contract closes on 6 June 2025 with evaluation to be undertaken the following week (9 June 2025).
53. The tender received positive feedback with six well-established grounds maintenance Providers providing tenders at the Expressions of Interest (EOI) Stage.

54. Of those six Providers, five passed the initial pre-contract requirements and were provided with the Request for Price (RFP) document. Responses will be getting assessed over the next two weeks with award shortly thereafter in preparation for a commencement date of 1 October 2025.
55. Repairs have been undertaken on the old railway sleepers at Thousand Hand Park. The wood was rotting and becoming a tripping hazard. The old railway sleepers were removed, and exposed aggregate was poured in its place to eliminate this concern.
56. The Point Howard Wharf demolition is now completed. The last of the wood from the demolition is now getting processed, this work has been undertaken to remove asbestos. The materials that have been retained will be put aside to be used, if possible, for the rebuild of the Petone wharf and selected use in the community.

Wood Salvaged form Point Howard Wharf.



Horticultural Parks

57. During the 2025 Green Pavlova annual parks conference, organised by Recreation Aotearoa Hutt City won the award for the Active Park/ Sportground of the year. The award was presented on 21 May. This award is for spaces that bring communities together through active recreation and sport. Motutawa was competing against two other finalists Maclean Park Skatepark in Paraparaumu and Te Wahi Tākaro o Motupōhue Adventure Park in Invercargill.
58. The new sign has been installed at the skate park and 1,527 native plants were planted into the skatepark gardens on Monday 26 May by Downers Greenspace team. The landscape was designed by Isthmus and the mixture of grasses, ground cover and shrubs will enhance the parks already vibrant colours.

Motutawa Skate Park Sign.



Motutawa Planting



Cemeteries

59. At the new Akatārawa cemetery extension project, a blessing took place delivered on Thursday 29th May 2025 by Tautoko Ratu from Upper Hutt City Council (UHCC). Resource consent and the outline plan have been approved, allowing UHCC to commence with 41,500m² of vegetation clearance to open up space for earthworks, hoping to commence this coming summer.

Akatārawa Cemetery Blessing



Reserves

Pōmare Park Upgrade

60. The Pomare reserve development has now been completed and includes a new perimeter pathway, half basketball court, nature play features, specimen tree planting, garden areas, and resurfaced open space to support informal sporting activities. Fencing will remain in place until the new grass has fully established.
61. The project has been a community-led success, grounded in the voices of local residents who called for a safer, better-equipped space for whānau connection, tamariki play, and neighbourhood pride.
62. A blessing and celebration I being led by Pōmare Taitā Community Trust with support from a number of teams from Council.



Picture: Contractors from JFC, Key stakeholders from Pōmare Taitā Community Trust & Te Whatu Ora and Cr Shaw. Taken at the completion of Phase One.

Hall Crescent

63. Construction is set to begin in early June on the next stage of the Hall Crescent reserve development. This project includes a new shared pedestrian and cycle pathway, park furniture, nature play elements (including a tunnel and swing), landscaped gardens, and specimen tree planting. The design of the reserve reflects input gathered through engagement with the community and key stakeholders.
64. Project signage has been installed on-site, and stakeholders have been notified of the upcoming works. Construction is expected to take approximately 20 weeks, with completion anticipated in October, weather permitting.

Hall Crescent Reserve Plan



65. Recent drainage improvements have been completed on Meadowbank Reserve to enhance the usability of the grassed areas. This work has significantly improved ground conditions, making the space more suitable for informal sports and recreational activities.
66. Officers will soon begin construction of an all-weather, accessible pathway ranging from 1.6 to 2.5 metres in width. This new path will provide improved access into Meadowbank Reserve for all users. Work is scheduled to commence in early June, with completion expected within approximately six weeks, weather permitting.

Hugh Sinclair Park

67. The Hugh Sinclair Park (Wainuiomata) masterplan is proceeding with input from the community.
68. Redevelopment of the playground was one of the projects included in the initial Reserves Investment Strategy, with a budget of \$600k. Subsequent site investigation has found significant issues with drainage, in part relating to run off from new developments near-by. The project scope will need to be re-visited to factor this additional cost in. This will come to the Committee as part of the Reserves Investment Strategy re-set next year. The Masterplan being developed is taking a longer-term view and will propose the playground renewal and drainage improvements as a first phase, with additional phases to be funded over the term of the next LTP.

96. Development of the masterplan focuses on:

- a) Enhancing recreational opportunities for all ages and abilities;
- b) Addressing poorly functioning site drainage;
- c) Strengthening ecological and cultural values and ensuring a sustainable and meaningful landscape; and
- d) Creating a safe, vibrant, inclusive public space that fosters community connection and engagement.

70. The next stage of engagement includes a community open day at the park to collect further feedback and engagement with local schools.

Playground Renewals

71. Maungaraki Road Playground had very old non-compliant surfacing, as it had reached its end of life, it has now been replaced. During the works it became evident that the springy ride on playground equipment was too close to the stormwater outlet to allow for compliant surfacing specifications, so it was repositioned on site.

Maungaraki Road Playground

Before



After



Sportsfield Improvements

72. The Naenae Park Drainage Project has progressed as planned, with the drainage system and surface levelling now complete. Sowing and fertilising were completed ahead of forecast rain, and the site has now entered the grow-in phase. Turf establishment will continue over the winter months.

Naenae Park Improvement Works



73. The drainage projects at Hutt Park and Richard Prouse have now been completed. Council received positive feedback that the drainage is doing its job and working well. Impressively, games were played on the fields the day after severe weather in late April and early May, with little to no impact on field conditions. These improvements are already proving beneficial to sportsground users by providing more reliable and consistent access to quality playing surfaces.

Hutt Park



74. The barrier renewal project at Richard Prouse Park is progressing well and is already making a noticeable difference to the park's appearance, significantly enhancing the first impression upon entry. The project is expected to be completed in June.
75. Work has been carried out in stages to avoid disrupting sport ground users' activities. Once complete, the renewed barriers will contribute to a safer, more welcoming environment for park users. The works were necessary to prevent unauthorised access to the fields by vehicles.

Barrier Replacements Richard Prouse



Mouri Tupu

76. On Wednesday 7 May, Parks officers collaborated with Greater Wellington Regional Council Enviroschool community facilitators to organise the first official Mouri Tupu planting day of the year at Petone Kindergarten.
77. Officers delivered 21 plants of five different species as requested by the Kindy, along with an assortment of gardening tools and accessories to carry out the working bee on their grounds. Officers laid out the plants for the teachers along their back fence, hoping to spruce up their boundary and attract birds over from the nearby river.
78. The kids and councillors got amongst planting and learning the tricks of the trade to proper plant techniques. Worms were the star of the show for the children, who understood that worms were an indicator of a healthy soil and provide great benefits to the soil and consequently plants. After the planting was completed, officers and councillors helped with weeding and sweeping at the front of the very green and lush natural play space.

Petone Kindergarten



79. On Saturday 17 May, Parks officers went to join Petone Beach Kindergarten on one of their semi-regular weekend weed buster working bees. Council supplied 28 plants to fill in available slots in the gardens including a Griselinia hedge.
80. Teachers, kids, and their parents including Cr Chris Parkin and Karen (Kaz) Yung from the Petone Community Board were hard at work clearing away weeds and replacing with shrubs supplied. Officers were also able to clean out two smaller box gardens ready for them to fill in with strawberries and swan plants to attract caterpillars.

Petone Beach Kindergarten



Hard Surfaces

81. Officers are undertaking renewals of various hard surfaces in the coming weeks to repair degraded surfaces and continue to provide adequate access to public open space. The following sites will be complete by the end of June:
 - a) Muritai Road/Pencarrow (Eastbourne) – cleaning, repair and resurfacing of the end of Muritai Road/beginning of Pencarrow Coast Road. The area has become degraded due to its difficult marine environment. This work will provide a new surface to allow vehicle, pedestrian and bicycle access. Cleaning work has begun to remove storm debris, with repair and resurfacing work to be completed by the end of June;
 - b) Hikoikoi Reserve/Boat House accessway (Petone) – the existing access behind the boat houses at Hikoikoi Reserve (which also forms a part of the Remutaka Cycle Trail) has degraded and is very rough. This work will reshape the accessway and provide a new asphalt surface. This work is scheduled to begin on the 3 June and be completed within a week;
 - c) Frederick Wise Park (Wainuiomata) – a new amenity block is being constructed next financial year. To tie in with this, the car-park adjacent will be resurfaced. This will include repair of various areas that have degraded and resurfacing of the eastern end of the car park, including linemarking. This work is scheduled to be completed before the end of June; and

- d) Bryan Heath Park (Wainuiomata) – the existing surface has various issues including potholes and edge degradation. The surface will be paired and resurfaced prior to the end of June.

Tracks

- 82. The Tawhai walking track is located in Stoke Valley, beginning at the end of Tawhai Road and finishing at the ridgeline on Arvo Road. The track renewal project has taken longer than originally anticipated and has been delayed further by poor weather in recent weeks, However, it is still anticipated this important track will be completed by the end of June. This has been a technically challenging build, particularly the final section, which required helicopter support to transport materials and lay the aggregate. The Parks and Reserves team are grateful for the support received from the neighbouring company, Guildford Timber who have generously assisted by providing access and a set-down area for materials and helicopter operations. Their cooperation has been instrumental in progressing to this stage of the project.
- 83. Park Hill track renewal was completed in April and is a great local connection between Hill Road and Park Road in Belmont. The track is well used by community and was a welcomed improvement.

Park Hill Track



- 84. Jungles Track renewal is 80% completed. This track is a main upwards mountain bike trail for the Wainuiomata mountain bike park. The track renewal is being undertaken by trail builders SouthStar.
- 85. As part of this renewal the Wainuiomata Trail Project volunteers took part in inviting the mountain bike community and Wainuiomata locals to help with graveling the track. Many people turned out to helped and managed to get 400 metres gravelled which was a great effort. The track will be completed mid-June.

Jungles Track Renewal



Toilet Renewals

86. A new public toilet is being installed at Belmont Domain. The existing public toilet has reached the end of its useable life and will be demolished. A new fit-for-purpose Exeloo style toilet will be installed near the Rhododendron Dell, adjacent to the car park at Belmont Domain. Works are due to begin at the start of June and be completed by the end of June.
87. The new toilet has now been installed at Avalon Park and on Saturday 22 March, a group of 20 skaters – ranging in age and including Cr Andy Mitchell – generously provided their skateboards, roller skates and a scooter to be photographed for a vinyl gloss wrap design. This artwork now features on the new double toilet facility at the Fairway Drive carpark, which replaces the former single-unit toilet. The result is a creative expression of community pride, designed to be proudly shared with visitors and park users alike.
88. The wrap was printed and successfully applied to the toilet on Friday 23 May, as shown below. The toilet is set to open early June.

Avalon Toilet Wrap



Leases

89. New leases issued by the team include a Family run Pasifika food truck following a successful trial at Frederic Wise Park. They are now trialing a further food truck at Petone Esplanade.
90. A new licence has been issued to Onyx Coffee to set-up a mobile coffee kitchen at Avalon Park, and a taste of Sri-Lanka is also available at Avalon Park.

New Food Truck Licences.



91. Officers are in the process of issuing a Memorandum of Understanding for the Greater Wellington Disc Golf Club to establish a course at Poole Crescent Reserve in Wainuiomata. The course will be free for anyone to use and will help the community to remain active.
92. Council and Wesley Community Action have held a long-term partnership and have recently refreshed their MoU for continued shared kaitiakitanga of the Rata Street Loop Track, including brand new wayfinding signage, and a collaborative vision for biodiversity improvement and restoration. The track is behind the newly re-developed Wesley Rātā Village and has been a neighbourhood treasure for 20 years.

View from Rata Street Loop Track.



Arts and Culture

Museums Visitation

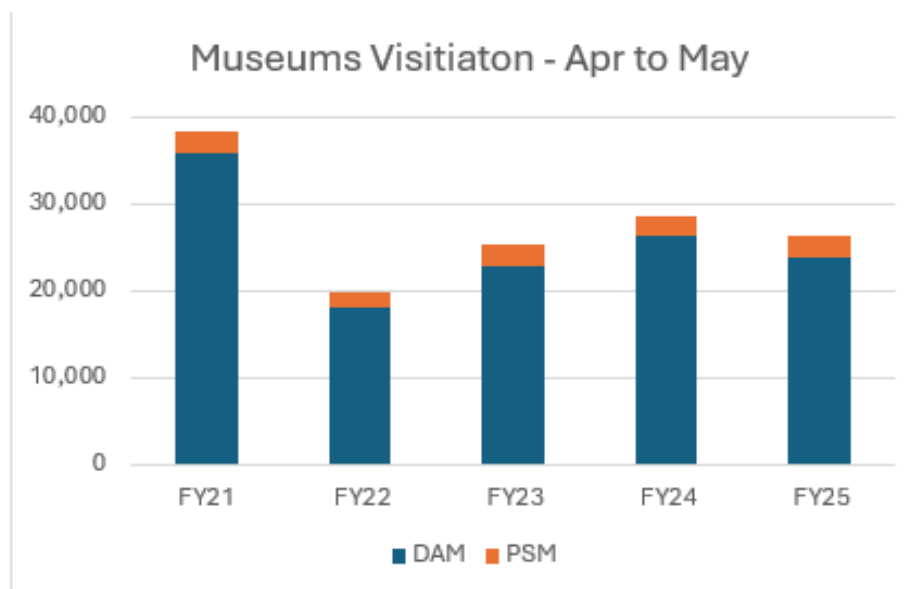
93. Total visitation April/May is 26,169, down slightly on the same period in the previous financial year. Not included is visitation for offsite exhibitions which will be included in the EOY visitation results.
94. Petone Settlers Museum YTD visitation is 11,256 which is 160% of EOY target. This is made up largely of visitation by school groups for targeted education programmes related to local history.
95. 86% of those surveyed would recommend The Dowse to others, which is down slightly on Q3 results, and 61% say The Dowse is the reason they came to the Hutt which is up 11% on last quarter.
96. Visitor survey feedback continues to be positive:

"Love how interesting, weird and varied the dowse is. So special to have such a exceptional gallery in the hutt valley";

"The staff are brilliant, the spaces are lovely, the facilities are great, and the curation POPS";

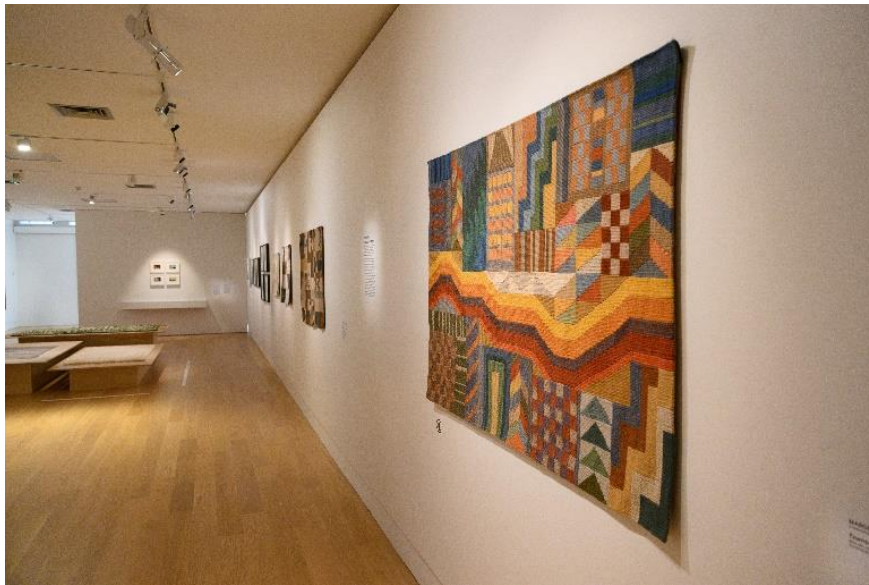
"Staff are great. Great balance of being informative but not overbearing. Really enjoyed the range of exhibitions today. Best visit for ages.";

"Hard to improve on what's on offer. Great asset to Lower Hutt and the wider community"



Programmes

97. Over the reporting period the Dowse opened 2 exhibitions, Margery Blackman and Well-Heeled.
98. Margery Blackman: Weaving, Life exploring loom weaving from across the artists career and including works from the Dowse collection, private collections and loans from other institutions (opened 10 May).



Installation view of Margery Blackman exhibition

99. Well-Heeled: Shoes with Personality highlighting private collections from three shoe collectors – Nigel Borell, Lisa Reihana and Karepa Wall (opened 17 May)



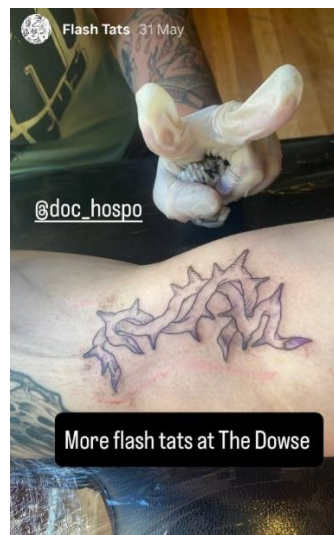
Installation detail from Well-Heeled: Shoes With Personality exhibition

- 100 In the Coping Mechanisms all day programme over 230 people were encouraged to get off screens and come together to engage in some of the common stress coping mechanisms we all lean on. From candy and tattoo, to internet clips, wool craft and artist workshops there was something for everyone. An audience favourite was getting the chance to learn and make with artist Iann An currently featured in The Brood exhibition.



Artist Iann An making sculptures with visitors during the Coping Mechanisms all day programme

101. One of the activities as part of Coping Mechanisms was a *Flash Tatts Tattoo* pop-up that invited 4 local tattoo artists from the exhibition *Flash Cats* to share the art of tattoo. 26 people got new tattoos on the day while nearly 70 people were given an opportunity to gain insight into the practice through the pop-up event.



Instagram post during the Flash Tatts event

102. The Arts and Culture team continue to work alongside the community to make sure everyone has what they need to access all that arts and culture have to offer. During the reporting period officers supported visitors through tours for those with mental health and autism and are currently working with Connected Communities and the Facilities team to address some of the physical impediments accessing Council facilities.

Partnerships

103. Alongside the Dowse Foundation, the Arts and Culture Business Unit hosted the Hutt Valley Chamber of Commerce networking event. Attended by over 100 local business people this is the third year the event has been at The Dowse, with the largest turnout to date. Attendees were given the opportunity to preview *Well-Heeled* with private tours by the Head of Arts and Culture.
104. Working in partnership with The Dowse Foundation officers have secured three new annual sponsors. Tuatara, who are about to move their operations to Brewtown in Upper Hutt, and Almighty, the Wellington-based sparkling flavoured water producer, have come on-board to provide product for all of the Dowse and Dowse Foundation events. Officers have also had an offer of PR expertise which again will assist across both The Dowse and Dowse Foundation. Officers have also just renewed the long-term relationship with Dulux.
105. The ongoing partnership with Chamber Music New Zealand on the *Mai Te Uira* multi-media performance series and collaboration between Tiki Taane and Kereama Taepa is about to head to its multi-venue season in the South Island.



Instagram promotion for Mai Te Uira

106. The Arts and Culture team have partnered with English language providers and migrant/refugee communities to create and deliver tours and workshops at The Dowse and Petone Settlers Museum designed to explore ideas of belonging by building understanding of the culture and history of the Hutt and support settling in Hutt Valley with opportunities for connection and participation. There were 70 participants over the reporting period. One of the participants said:

"This was a great opportunity for the learners to be creative through participating in some art activities especially the weaving with harakeke as weaving is an important part of some of their traditional cultures also - ELP Hutt City".

107. Partnered with the Wellington Film Society to screen The Brood film in conjunction with The Dowse exhibition of the same name. Over 420 tickets were sold for the one-off screening and supported Arts and Cultures commitment to growing new audiences
108. Partnered with Kia Mau Arts Festival led by Tāngata Whenua, Tāngata Moana, and Indigenous voices. Programmes at The Dowse included Ngāi Tahu poetry and local Cook Island dancers. Participant feedback included: *"Poetry isn't something I usually attend but it was such a warm and open invitation from The Dowse team and I loved it!"*.

Media

109. Radio: Arts and Culture have an ongoing relationship with Radio Active including a regular bi-weekly interview on the Friday Breakfast show. They will also be doing a live broadcast from The Dowse in June. There have been multiple features on Radio New Zealand over this period with Julian Wilcox on the Māpuna programme and with Mark Amery on Culture 101. As well as interviews on Radio Waatea.
110. TV: Arts and Cultures relationship with Breakfast has continued over the reporting period with live segments for both the Pōhatu Roa and Well-Heeled exhibitions over consecutive weeks. Pōhatu Roa was also featured on Whakaata Māori (Māori Television).
111. Print Media: Alongside regular advertising in arts magazines, Arts and Culture have also had numerous editorial coverage over the reporting period including 3 large articles in The Post, as well as editorial in the New Zealand Herald Viva Magazine, and a feature in the international fashion magazine Lucire.

Boulcott Memorial

112. As reflected in the previous report - based on strong feedback from the kaupūrakau the Boulcott Memorial Project team have needed to reassess the approach to the final outcomes and timeframes of the project.
113. The team are also working more closely with the Council's Planning team to utilise internal processes that align to the project.

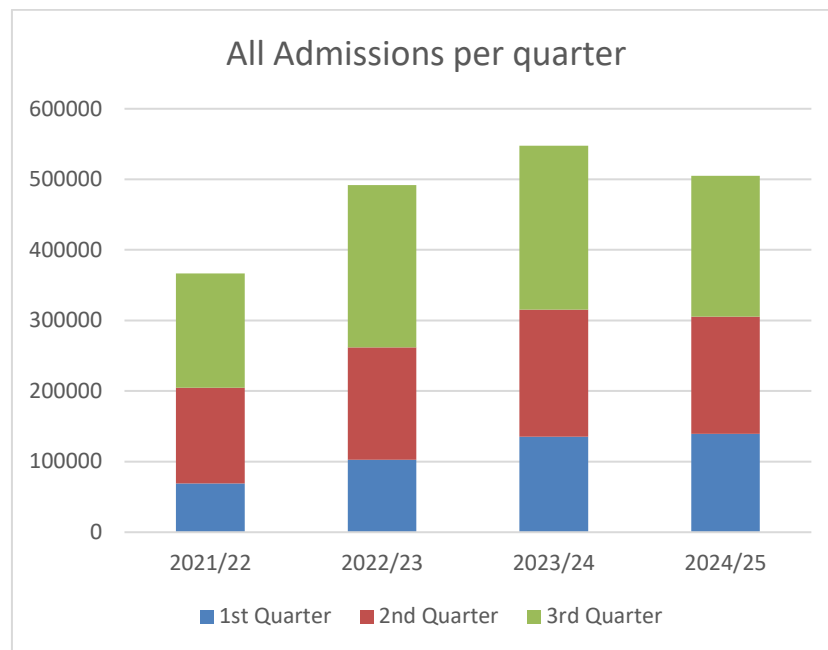
Workplan (Draft)

Kaipurākau hui – reengagement with Stage 2	August – September 2024	Complete
Visitor goals and project parameters confirmed	August - September 2024	Complete
Kaipurākau hui - open brainstorm visual ideas/ artist input/digital solutions	October – November 2024	Complete
Residential Community and internal council engagement	December 2024 – September 2025	Ongoing
Graphic Designer contracted	December – January 2025	Complete
Artist wananga	July 2025	
Scope delivery, get quotes and begin design work	June - September 2025	
Kaipurākau check-in on progress	June – September 2025	
Residential Community and internal council check-in on progress	September - December 2025	
Final deliverables	December 2025	

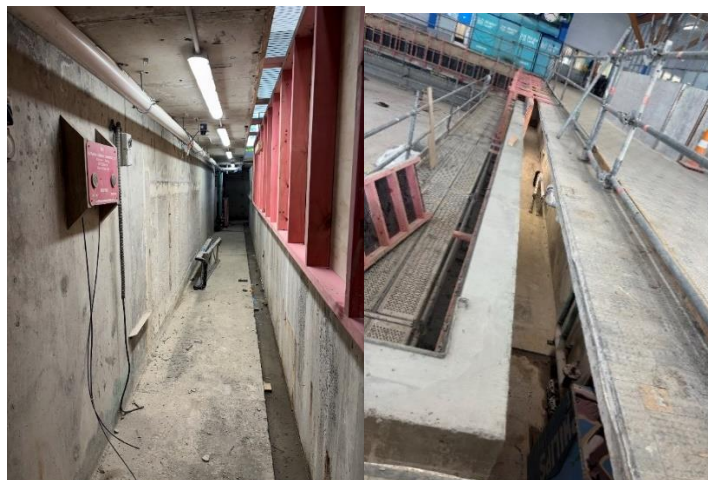
Aquatics

114. Officers continue to work closely with Public Health on the regional cryptosporidium outbreak. Over the course of the outbreak twenty-six people who tested positive for crypto identified that they had attended Council's pools. The number of cases has dropped significantly in the last month. Public Health advise they are close to declaring the outbreak finished, but that a few cases may continue to show up in the community.
115. Public Health have been very happy with Council's response to the outbreak, and particularly Council's proactive responses to their requests. Learnings from this event will be incorporated into operating procedures where appropriate.
116. Since the opening of Te Ngaengae Pool, Council have responded to public comments that the drop off from the wheelchair ramp into the 50mtr pool is too deep for less confident swimmers. In response Council have installed a stainless-steel handrail so that swimmers can hold on to it to provide support to get to the movable floor. Council are also awaiting delivery of a removable stair ramp which can be used to access the other deep parts of the 50mtr pool.

Pool attendance:



117. Pool attendance across all pools has been lower than last year. The main contributors to this has been a very cold summer effecting the first two months for the summer pools and the regional Cryptosporidium outbreak, detailed above, where Council closed certain pools for up to a week at a time. The main impact was on the Swim City classes at Huia and there will be an impact on our revenue when this is reported at the end of the financial year. Monitoring of numbers at Te Ngaengae prior to, during and after crypto showed that there was a drop in attendance afterwards of about 15%. This lasted for several weeks however we now see that numbers have once again picked up in the latest month.
118. Council are now fully engaged in the refurbishment of the Huia Main pool. The first two images below show the under-croft tunnel under the pool deck with the drainage gutters and pool wall removed, boxed and ready for concreting, and then looking down into the tunnel with the wall concreted.



The images below show the main pool tank with the movable floor removed and the spa pool stripped of tile and ready to reinstate. The new movable floor will be like the Te Ngaengae floor. The sides of the pool will be stainless steel and the bottom a rubberised compound similar to Te Ngaengae.



119. The work on the pool will completely remove our reliance on Natural Gas and the work on the pool tanks and pipework should rectify issues that we have had with water loss. It will remove a mish mash of pumps and filters that have been added under the pool deck, and this will streamline all the water and filtration systems.
120. The programme is running on time, but the risk presently is the timing of the components for the floor, channels, walls and liner as these are coming from Europe. No date has been set for re-opening however the construction programme was projecting completion towards the end of the year. Council are hopeful for a December reopening – caveated on the timely delivery of the major components.

Appendices

There are no appendices for this report.

Author: Arthur Nelson, Head of Parks and Reserves

Author: Joann Ransom, Head of Neighbourhood Hubs and Library Services

Author: Karl Chitham, Head of Arts and Culture

Author: Iain Brown, Head of Aquatics

Author: Adrienne Moor, Head of Connected Communities

Approved By: Andrea Blackshaw, Director Neighbourhoods and Communities

TO: Chair and Members



Communities, Culture and Partnerships Committee

FROM: Vanessa Gilmour

DATE: 03 June 2025

SUBJECT: COMMUNITIES, CULTURE AND PARTNERSHIPS
COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2025

Purpose of Memorandum

1. To provide the Communities Culture and Partnerships Committee (the Committee) with a Forward Programme of work planned for 2025.

Recommendation

That the Forward Programme 2025 for the Communities, Culture and Partnerships Committee be received and noted.

Background

2. The Terms of Reference for the Committee require the Committee to develop, implement, monitor and review strategies, policies, plans and functions associated with community, social and cultural activities. This includes making the city a desirable, safe and attractive place, providing facilities and recreational opportunities that support quality living and healthy lifestyles, and supporting the cultural wellbeing of residents.
3. The Forward Programme for 2025 provides a planning tool for both members and officers to coordinate programmes of work for the year. The programme is attached as Appendix 1 to the report.

Executive Summary

4. The Forward Programme is a working document and is subject to change on a regular basis.

Appendices

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Author: Vanessa Gilmour, Democracy Advisor

Reviewed By: Kate Glanville, Senior Democracy Advisor

Approved By: Kathryn Stannard, Head of Democratic Services

Komiti Hapori Ahurea Me Ngā Rangapū | Communities, Culture and Partnerships Committee Work Programme 2025

Description	Officer	Cycle 4 2 Sep	Pending
Committee Work Programme 2025	Democracy Advisor	✓	
Director's Report (update on 2024/25 work programme)	Director Neighbourhoods and Communities	✓	
Neighbourhoods and Communities focus area (topic tbc)	Head of Connected Communities	✓	
City Safety Update	City Safety Manager	✓	
Emergency Management Update	Emergency Management Lead	✓	
Homelessness Oversight Advisory Group; Homelessness Strategy SMART indicators; Homelessness Strategy Proposed Methodology.	Policy Advisor	✓	
Te Herenga Kairangi - Rautaki Māori/ Māori Strategy	Te Tira Māori	✓	
Parks and Reserves Workplan 2025/26	Head of Parks and Reserves	✓	
Mouri Ora Fund	Head of Connected Communities	✓	
Six monthly update: Rangatahi	Community Facilitator - Rangatahi	✓	
Smokefree Outdoor Public Places Policy	Policy Advisor	✓	