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# MATAMATA-PIAKO

LIFESTYLE. OPPORTUNITIES.

HOME.



**LONG TERM PLAN  
2018-2028**

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# WELCOME

## A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

### WE HAVE A NEW VISION

We have a new vision to make the Matamata-Piako District the 'place of choice' for lifestyle, opportunities and home. This new vision is driving us to make some changes over the next 10 years, with the aim of making our district an even better place to live, visit, and an attractive place to invest.

### WE'VE GOT A GOOD HEAD START

Our district is already a good place to live - Council is in a good financial position, the population is predicted to grow steadily over the next 10 years, we have plans and infrastructure to manage that growth, and we don't have too many major upgrades planned to our core infrastructure. These things, together with the great local people and services, make our district an attractive place to live.

### WE ARE GOING TO DO MORE

While the road ahead is looking good, we want to make it even better. We will continue to deliver all our core services (like water, waste and roading), but we're also going to do more in a number of areas - such as increasing support for economic development, upping our game in waste minimisation, revitalising our town centres and committing money to improving our services.

You can find out more about our plans, as well as how they will affect your rates by reading the rest of this Plan. We are making these changes because we believe they will help make our district the 'place of choice' - both for current residents and ratepayers, and for anyone looking to move or set up business here.

Our total rate increase for 2018/19 is budgeted at 3.07%, and averages 3.30% (including inflation) over the next 10 years.

I would like to thank those of you who shared your thoughts with Council during the consultation process. As a result of this feedback Council have made some big decisions which effect the future of our district.

“We have a new vision to make the Matamata-Piako District the 'place of choice' for lifestyle, opportunities and home.”



JANET E BARNES  
MAYOR



# WHAT YOU TOLD US...

During March/April we sought your feedback on our plan for the next 10 years. We received 198 submissions, with 37 also choosing to present their submission to Council at a Hearing in May. Councillors considered all this feedback and made the following decisions.



**OUR FINANCES** - We are in a good financial position and we plan to keep it that way. Following feedback (54% in support, 33% not in support and 13% 'other') we have decided to stick with our plan to; maintain or improve the services we currently provide, limit rate increases to 4% and actively seek to live within this limit, and limit debt to 150% of our annual revenue. We feel our plan maintains our resilience, and strikes the right balance between affordability and other demands such as environmental standards, a growing population, people's expectations and the pressures that tourism puts on our infrastructure.



**ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES** – The majority of feedback (70%) indicated support for increasing economic development in our community so we have decided to proceed with our proposals to employ an economic development resource using existing budgets, invest in regional economic development. Other economic development proposals include increasing funding to Morrinsville Chamber of Commerce and Matamata Public Relations Association, marketing and promotion for the Hauraki Rail Trail, funding the planning of re-vitalising our town centres and encouraging events in our community by providing funding to support them.



**VIBRANT CULTURAL VALUES** – This is about having a district where everyone feels included, connected and welcome. The majority of feedback (67%) backed our proposal to do more to support our vibrant cultural values. So we have decided to proceed with providing funding for the Matamata-Piako Volunteer Youth Ambassadors, increasing grants to a range of community groups and working closer with iwi.



**CONNECTED INFRASTRUCTURE** – Following feedback (52% in support, 27% not in support and 21% 'other') Council have decided to progress the Matamata bypass by budgeting for feasibility studies, design work (depending on the outcome of the feasibility studies) and the net purchase of land. This still gives us the opportunity to review the need if the Waikato Expressway alleviates pressure on Matamata's roads.

We have decided to remove the designation for the Morrinsville bypass.



**ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY** – The majority of submitters (60%) agreed with our decision to up our game in waste minimisation, which includes changes to how we fund rubbish and recycling to a more 'user pays' system. This includes users purchasing official rubbish bags for \$2 from retailers or Council offices rather than paying for the bags through their rates. Targeted rates will go down (from \$153 to around \$30). This means if you buy 52 rubbish bags (the same number you were previously allocated) you will be paying less overall for rubbish and recycling services. This also includes increasing the transfer station fees to help cover more of the costs of the facilities. This change in funding will give people more control and encourage them to reduce their waste. There was a common concern through the submissions that this change to a more 'user pays' system may increase illegal dumping within the district. We will develop strategies to reduce this risk.

We will also develop a business case for a joint waste minimisation position within the Eastern Waikato, improve the recycling facilities at our three transfer stations, look at the viability of a resource recovery facility, and extend the EnviroSchools programme in the district.



**HEALTHY COMMUNITIES** – Following feedback, (49% in support, 32% not in support and 19% 'other') we have decided to proceed with 'focusing on the little things' (such as rubbish bins, toilets, and gardens) that make our district an attractive place. We will also be going ahead with extending the cycleway to points of interest, then from Matamata to Piarere. We have also decided to complete major renewals to Headon Stadium as planned and allocate a further \$2 million for an indoor stadium for Matamata, this will depend on the results of the feasibility study.

During the hearing and deliberations Council made decisions on all submissions, these decisions have been communicated back to the relevant submitters and where required have been incorporated within this plan. Some of these noteworthy decisions include:

- The inclusion of funding for a playground in Waharoa, \$75,000 in 2018/19.
- The living wage will be adopted for Council staff as the minimum median (100%) rate for all roles effective from 1 July 2018.
- Inclusion of funding for Equipment for Event/Civic Centres, up to \$50,000 in 2018/19.
- A grant of \$4,000 per year to Creative Waikato who provide support, build capability and advocate in respect of arts for our community
- A grant of \$1,000 per year to the Friends of Local Community Rapurapu Reserve Committee to maintain the Rapurapu reserve

# DID YOU KNOW?

WE RECEIVED A  
**198**  
TOTAL OF  
SUBMISSIONS TO OUR  
LONG TERM PLAN  
CONSULTATION  
2018-28



# MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

Council has established the following governance structure:

## COUNCIL

The Matamata-Piako District is divided into three wards: Matamata, Morrinsville and Te Aroha. Our Council consists of 11 Councillors, elected by their respective wards, and the Mayor, elected by all voters throughout the District. The Councillors and Mayor are elected to represent their communities and make decisions for the District. The elected representatives are supported by the Council's Chief Executive Officer and staff who provide advice, implement Council decisions, and look after the District's day to day operations.

## THE CORPORATE AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

This committee is made up of the Mayor and all 11 Councillors. Council has delegated all of its responsibilities, duties and powers to the Corporate and Operations Committee, except for the ones it can't delegate under the Local Government Act 2002 (like adopting an Annual Plan or Report).

## TE MANAWHENUA FORUM MO MATAMATA-PIAKO

The Te Manawhenua Forum mo Matamata-Piako (Forum) is a standing committee of Council who advise on cultural, economic, environmental and social issues of significance to Manawhenua groups. The Forum also provides advice to Council about issues that affect Maaori in our District, and provides feedback when we are developing plans and policies, such as the Long Term Plan or District Plan.

The Forum includes representatives from Council, Ngaati Hauaa, Ngaati Rahiri-Tumutumu, Raukawa, Ngaati Maru, Ngaati Whanaunga, Ngaati Paoa and Ngaati Hinerangi. Ngaati Tamatera also have the ability to join.

## THE HEARINGS COMMISSION

The Hearings Commission is responsible for hearing and determining applications for resource consents under the Resource Management Act 1991, granting exemptions to fencing requirements under the Fencing of Swimming Pools Act 1987, and hearing and determining objections under the Dog Control Act 1996. The Hearings Commission is made up of five Councillors.

## THE DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

Council has a District Licensing Committee to consider and determine applications under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012. The District Licensing Committee considers and makes decisions on alcohol licences (including club, special, on and off licences and manager's certificates). The District Licensing Committee is chaired by a Councillor. Members of the committee are appointed from a list of appropriately qualified people, which may include Councillors, and two of these members sit on the District Licensing Committee.

## THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

The Audit and Risk Committee ensure we have appropriate risk management and internal and financial control systems. This committee includes an independent chairperson, the Mayor and five elected members.

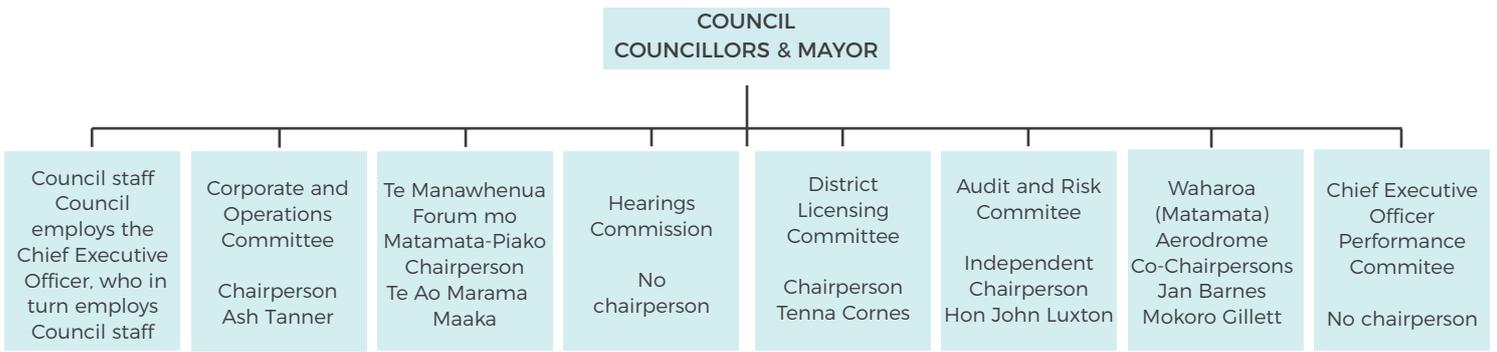
## THE WAHAROA (MATAMATA) AERODROME COMMITTEE

The Waharoa (Matamata) Aerodrome Committee is a committee that was established in 2015 by legislation under the Ngaati Hauaa Claims Settlement Act 2014. The committee comprises of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, one Council appointed member and three members appointed by the Ngaati Hauaa Iwi Trust Board trustees. The functions of the Waharoa (Matamata) Aerodrome Committee, as set out in the Ngaati Hauaa Claims Settlement Act 2014 are to:

- make recommendations to Council in relation to any aspect of the administration of Waharoa Aerodrome land
- make final decisions on access and parking arrangements for the Waharoa Aerodrome land that affect Raungaiti Marae
- perform the functions of the administering body under section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977 in relation to any review of the reserve management plan that has been authorised by Council
- perform any other function delegated to the committee by Council.

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

Chief Executive Officer Performance Committee undertakes a review of the performance and remuneration of the Chief Executive Officer on an annual basis in accordance with the Chief Executive Officer's employment agreement. The Committee includes the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and three Councillors.



**JANET E. BARNES**  
MAYOR



**TEENA CORNES**  
TE AROHA WARD



**PETER JAGER**  
TE AROHA WARD



**ASH TANNER**  
TE AROHA WARD



**BRIAN HUNTER**  
MATAMATA WARD



**JAMES SAINSBURY**  
MATAMATA WARD



**KEVIN TAPPIN**  
MATAMATA WARD



**ADRIENNE WILCOCK**  
MATAMATA WARD



**JAMES THOMAS**  
DEPUTY MAYOR  
MORRINSVILLE WARD



**DONNA ARNOLD**  
MORRINSVILLE WARD



**PAUL CRONIN**  
MORRINSVILLE WARD



**NEIL GOODGER**  
MORRINSVILLE WARD

# LONG TERM PLAN GUIDE

The Long Term Plan sets our direction for the next 10 years; outlining our key aims, objectives and priorities for the Matamata-Piako District.

## THIS PLAN

- Describes the type of district our communities have told us they want - our community outcomes.
- Identifies the key projects to take place over the next 10 years.
- Provides an overview of each activity we will carry out and the services we provide for the next 10 years.
- Determines how much this will all cost and how we will fund it.

## WHY PRODUCE A LONG TERM PLAN?

Under the Local Government Act 2002, we have to set out long term plans for the community. We also do it to give our community the opportunity to have a say on where we are heading and to ensure our planning is robust. In completing the plan we are required to do a number of things, including:

- Take a sustainable development approach to promote community interests.
- Carry out our business in a clear, transparent and accountable manner.
- Operate in an efficient and effective manner, using sound business practices.
- Take into account community views by offering clear information and the opportunity to present views.
- Provide opportunities for Maaori to contribute to decision making.
- Collaborate and co-operate with other agencies and councils to achieve desired outcomes.

## ANNUAL PLAN

We produce an Annual Plan in the two years that we don't produce a Long Term Plan. The Annual Plan highlights any changes or variances from the Long Term Plan for the coming year. If the proposed Annual Plan does not include significant differences from the content of the Long Term Plan for that year then we are not required to consult the community on it.

## ANNUAL REPORT

We produce an Annual Report every year. This reviews our performance, letting the community know whether we did what we said we would. It also checks financial performance against the budget and Financial Strategy.



# MATAMATA-PIAKO

# THE PLACE OF CHOICE

LIFESTYLE. OPPORTUNITIES. HOME.

As part of our work for the Long Term Plan we have created a new vision and set of outcomes for the District. We want to offer a unique town and country lifestyle and provide opportunities for growth and investment. Most importantly Matamata-Piako is home - a place we love, a place we are proud of and a place where we belong.

## OUR VISION AND COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

Early on in the development of this Long Term Plan, we reviewed our community outcomes, which form the basis of Council's vision for our community.

To do this we looked at:

- our existing community outcomes and vision to assess whether they are still relevant to the community needs, and whether they matched with Council's areas of focus and aspirations
- our issues and challenges
- our priorities for the future
- discussed our vision and outcomes with the Te Manawhenua Forum Mo Matamata-Piako.

The outcome of this process was a new 'strategic direction', which is outlined below:



Our vision is to make Matamata-Piako ‘the place of choice’, this vision will provide guidance and inspiration for Council’s activities for the next 10 years and beyond. To make this vision a reality we see ourselves enabling the community in five key areas, with 15 specific outcomes we want to achieve.

**OUR COMMUNITY OUTCOMES**

**CONNECTED  
INFRASTRUCTURE**



Infrastructure and services are fit for purpose and affordable, now and in the future.

Quality infrastructure is provided to support community wellbeing.

We have positive partnerships with external providers of infrastructure to our communities.

**ECONOMIC  
OPPORTUNITIES**



We are a business friendly Council.

Our future planning enables sustainable growth in our District.

We provide leadership and advocacy is provided to enable our communities to grow

**HEALTHY  
COMMUNITIES**



Our community is safe, healthy and connected.

We encourage the use and development of our facilities.

We encourage community engagement and provide sound and visionary decision making.

**ENVIRONMENTAL  
SUSTAINABILITY**



We support environmentally friendly practices and technologies.

Development occurs in a sustainable and respectful manner considering kawa/ protocol and tikanga/customs.

We engage with our regional and national partners to ensure positive environmental outcomes for our community.

**VIBRANT  
CULTURAL  
VALUES**



We promote and protect our arts, culture, historic, and natural resources.

We value and encourage strong relationships with Iwi and other cultures, recognising waahi tapu and taonga/significant and treasured sites and whakapapa/ ancestral heritage.

Tangata Whenua with Manawhenua status (those with authority over the land under Maaori lore) have meaningful involvement in decision making.

You can read more about how each of Council activities contributes to these community outcomes in Section 6 Part 3 of the Long Term Plan.

**WE HAVE IDENTIFIED SOME STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR COUNCIL TO FOCUS ON FIRST; THESE WILL BE REVIEWED EACH YEAR:**

- Planning for and providing affordable infrastructure that is not a limiting factor in our District’s growth.
- Developing and implementing an economic strategy that encourages and supports economic growth in our District.
- Reviewing the provision and suitability of sporting and recreational facilities in the District.
- Supporting environmentally friendly practices and technologies.
- Building relationships with Iwi and other groups within our community that represent our cultural diversity.
- Advocating for services on behalf of our communities.

## IT'S ALL ABOUT BALANCE...

As a community we face a range of external factors that can influence our decision making. As part of our long term plan we have Strategic Priorities - So what's most important? We have identified four challenges that have an impact across all of our activities -



**Affordability** - our communities are ageing, which means more people on fixed incomes, there is also a limit as to what our community in general can afford to pay for. This means that with all of the decisions we make as part of this long term plan, we have to ask "can we afford to pay for this?"



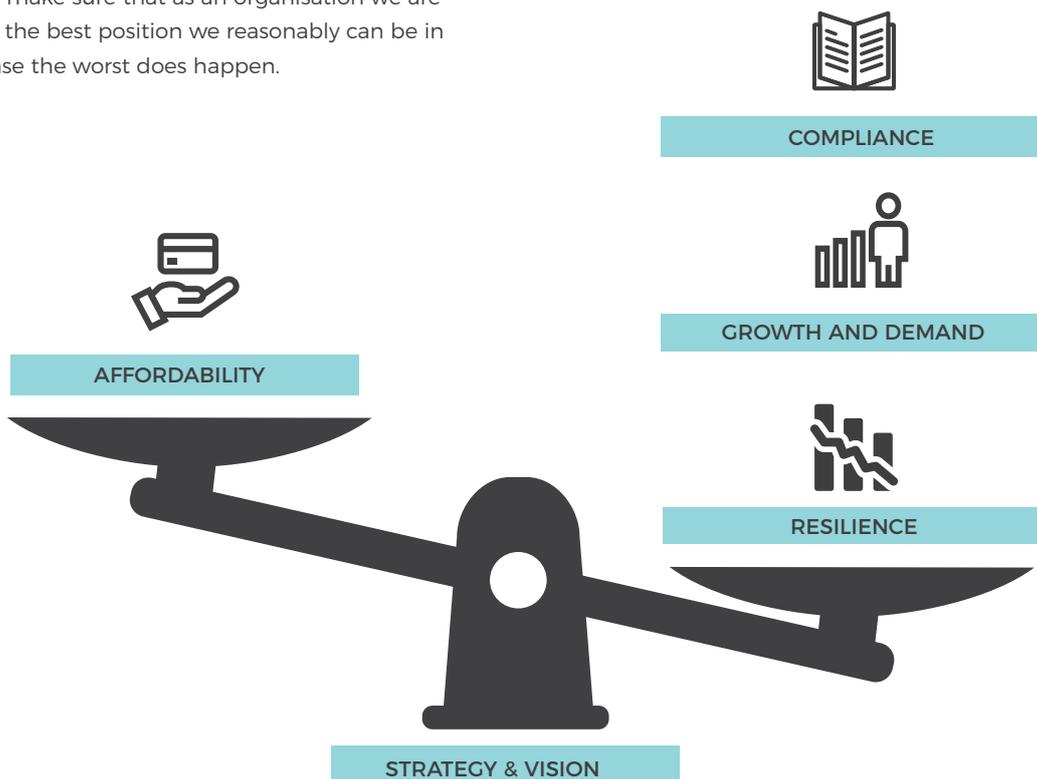
**Growth and demand** - Although our population is ageing, we are also experiencing steady population growth in our urban areas, while rural areas remain static or will decline over time. We also experience demand from industries that want to locate themselves in our District. Our communities also have different priorities which we need to balance.



**Resilience** - events such as the Christchurch and Kaikoura earthquakes, and the Edgumbe flooding event are natural disasters that have tested the strength and resilience of the affected communities. The global financial crisis in 2008, and the recent dairy downturn are examples of economic conditions that have also challenged communities across New Zealand. We need to make sure that as an organisation we are in the best position we reasonably can be in case the worst does happen.



**Compliance** - we face increasing pressure in the need to comply with increasing environmental, health and other standards. How we meet those standards and the cost of doing so is a challenge that we have to manage.



## THE ROAD AHEAD – HOW ARE GOING TO GET THERE?

The Infrastructure Strategy and Financial Strategy are two of our key strategies that aim to ensure we can provide quality infrastructure while maintaining a healthy financial position well into the future. It's important that these strategies' responses align with our vision, our priorities and what we are trying to achieve for our community. The diagram below shows the relationship between our key strategies, and how they address our future challenges.

