

Te Manawhenua Forum Mo Matamata-Piako



Kaupapataka Wātea | Open Agenda



Notice is hereby given that an ordinary meeting of the Te Manawhenua Forum Mo Matamata-Piako will be held on:

Ko te rā | Date: **Tuesday 10 February 2026**
Wā | Time: **10:00**
Wāhi | Venue: **Council Chambers**
35 Kenrick Street
TE AROHA

NGĀ MEMA | MEMBERSHIP

Tiamana Chairperson:	Hinerangi Vaimoso	Mema Tūturu Principal Member:	Mema Tautoko Alternate Member:
Ngāti Hauā	Te Ao Marama Maaka	Rangitionga Kaukau	
Ngāti Hinerangi	Dianna Vaimoso	Hinerangi Vaimoso	
Ngāti Maru	Craig Solomon	Waati Ngamane	
Ngāti Rāhiri-Tumutumu	Jill Taylor	Norm Hill	
Ngāti Pāoa	Tahauariki Thompson	Glenice Puke	
Ngāti Whanaunga	Michael Baker	Gavin Anderson	
Raukawa	Leo Whaiapu	Andrea Julian	
Ngāti Tamaterā	Arama Ngapo	<i>Vacant</i>	

Te Kaunihera ā-rohe o | Matamata-Piako District Council

Koromatua | Mayor:
Ash Tanner
Koromatua Tautoko | Deputy Mayor:
James Sainsbury
Kaunihera ā-Rohe | District Councillor:
Rewiti Vaimoso

Waea | Phone: 07-884-0060
Wāhitau | Address: PO Box 266, Te Aroha 3342
Īmēra | Email: governance@mpdc.govt.nz
Kāinga Ipuranga | Website: www.mpdc.govt.nz

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1 Whakatūwheratanga o te hui | Meeting Opening

The Tiamana | Chairperson is to open the meeting.

2 Karakia | Prayer

The karakia is to be performed.

3 Ngā whakapāha/Tono whakawātea | Apologies/Leave of Absence

An apology from Matua Tahau Thompson has been received.

4 Pānui take ohorere | Notification of Urgent Business

Section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (as amended) states:

“An item that is not on the agenda for a meeting may be dealt with at that meeting if-

- (a) The local authority by resolution so decides; and
- (b) The presiding member explains at the meeting, at a time when it is open to the public,-
 - (i) The reason why the item is not on the agenda; and
 - (ii) The reason why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.”

Section 46A(7A) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (as amended) states:

“Where an item is not on the agenda for a meeting,-

- (a) That item may be discussed at that meeting if
 - (i) That item is a minor matter relating to the general business of the local authority; and
 - (ii) the presiding member explains at the beginning of the meeting, at a time when it is open to the public, that the item will be discussed at the meeting; but
- (b) no resolution, decision or recommendation may be made in respect of that item except to refer that item to a subsequent meeting of the local authority for further discussion.”

5 Whākī pānga | Declaration of Interest

Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of the items on this Agenda.

6 Whakaaetanga Mēneti | Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes, as circulated, of the ordinary meeting of Te Mana Whenua Forum mō Matamata-Piako, held on 9 December 2025

7 Pūrongo me whakatau | Decision Reports

7.1 Te Manawhenua Forum Work Programme Update - February

CM No.: 3130693

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the forum on the work programme.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

The work programme is a standing item for each forum hui.

Tūtohunga | Recommendation

That:

1. The information be received.

Ngā Tāpiritanga | Attachments

[A1](#). Te Manawhenua Forum Work Programme 2024-2026 - February 2026 Update

Ngā waitohu | Signatories

Author(s)	Stacey Edwards Kaitohu Kāwana Governance Advisor	
	Tuatahi Nightingale-Pene Pou Tūhono Iwi Relationship Manager	

Approved by	Tuatahi Nightingale-Pene Pou Tūhono Iwi Relationship Manager	
	Kelly Reith Hautū Rangatōpū, Tāngata me ngā Hononga Group Manager Corporate, People & Relationships	

Item (SI = Standing Item)	Frequency	Responsibility	01-Feb-26		14/04/2026 (Workshop)		09-Jun-26		04/08/2026 (Workshop)		13-Oct-26		01-Dec-26		KEY
			Status	Comment	Status	Comment	Status	Comment	Status	Comment	Status	Comment	Status	Comment	
SI - Update on Te Manawhenua Forum Work Programme	Every meeting	Iwi	Green	Complete	Yellow		Yellow		Yellow		Yellow		Yellow		
SI - Members Update	Every meeting	PPG	Green	Complete	Yellow		Yellow		Yellow		Yellow		Yellow		
SI - District Plan and Iwi Management Plans Update	Every meeting	Planning	Green	Complete	Yellow		Yellow		Yellow		Yellow		Yellow		
SI - Community Facilities Strategy and Policy Update	Every meeting	Parks and Reserves	Grey	Updates biannually	Grey		Yellow		Grey		Grey		Yellow		
SI - Partnership Project update	Every meeting	Pou Tūhono	Red	No update	Yellow		Yellow		Yellow		Yellow		Yellow		
Scheduled Reports															
Consultation Workshop	Annually	PPG	Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		
Te Rā o Waitangi/Matariki Event Planning Update	Annually	Comms	Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		
Development of Manawhenua Engagement Guide and then annual review	Annually	Iwi	Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		
Te Reo Māori Policy implementation review	Annually	Iwi	Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		
Policy/Bylaw Update	As required	Various	Green	Complete	Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		
Te Manawhenua Forum annual survey	As required	PPG	Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		
Procurement Policy	Annually	Procurement	Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		
Schedule of Meetings/Draft Work Programme	Annually	PPG	Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		
Smoke-free campaign	Ad-hoc	PPG	Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		
Future Ready Team update	Ad-hoc	GM PGR	Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		
Climate resilience team update	Ad-hoc	PPG	Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		
Emergency management update	Ad-hoc	EMO	Green	Complete	Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		
Heads of Agreement Review	Annually	Pou Tūhono	Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		
Iwi Aspirations	Ad-hoc	Pou Tūhono	Green	Workshop Item	Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		
Long-Term Plan 2027-37 Project	Ad-hoc	PPG	Green	Workshop Item	Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		
Iwi-Led Initiatives Grant Policy	Ad-hoc	PPG	Green	Complete	Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		Grey		

7 Pūrongo me whakatau | Decision Reports

7.2 Member Representatives Update

CM No.: 3130641

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is for Forum representatives to provide an update of their activities.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

Forum representatives have the opportunity to provide an update of their activities since the last meeting.

Tūtohunga | Recommendation

That:

1. The information is received.

Ngā Tāpiritanga | Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

Ngā waitohu | Signatories

Author(s)	Stacey Edwards Kaitohu Kāwana Governance Advisor	
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Approved by	Tamara Kingi Kaiārahi Kāwana Governance Team Leader	
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7 Pūrongo me whakatau | Decision Reports

7.3 Adoption of Iwi-Led Initiatives Grant Policy

CM No.: 3135079

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to:

- Present the draft Iwi-Led Initiatives Grant Policy based on direction received from Te Manawhenua Forum on 9 December 2025.
- Seek Te Manawhenua Forum feedback and/or resolution to adopt the Iwi-Led Initiatives Grant Policy.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

Council established a budget as part of the Long Term Plan to be used towards events or a series focusing on Waitangi Day and/or Matariki. It is important to note that funding is set/confirmed annually as part of Council's Long Term Plan/Annual Plan processes.

The purpose of the Policy is to set out criteria and the application and allocation process for assistance provided through grants to organisations and individuals for Iwi-Led Initiatives while funding is available.

Te Manawhenua Forum is asked to consider the draft Policy, provide feedback and/or resolve to adopt the Policy.

Tūtohunga | Recommendation

That:

1. The information be received.
2. A) Te Manawhenua Forum adopt the Iwi-led Initiative's Grant Policy to take effect 11 February 2026, understanding that funding is confirmed by Council annually.

OR

B) Te Manawhenua Forum adopt the Iwi-led Initiative's Grant Policy subject to amendments to take effect 11 February 2026, understanding that funding is confirmed by Council annually *[amendments to be specified]*.
3. Staff authorised to make minor amendments (such as inclusion of Te Reo headings) if needed prior to distributing the final Iwi-led Initiative's Grant Policy.

Horopaki | Background

At the October 2025 Te Manawhenua Forum meeting, staff workshoped with the Forum appropriate ways for Council to support key events in the calendar year. The consensus was that the Forum valued the grant process that had been implemented in recent years and would like it formalised.

This was discussed again at the December 2025 Te Manawhenua Forum meeting, with the resolution passed that:

Te Mana Whenua Forum request Council delegation of \$5000 to support iwi-lead events, programmes or initiatives related to Matariki or Waitangi Day.

This was further workshopped with Te Manawhenua Forum following the December meeting to provide direction to staff as to what members would like to see included in the Policy. This feedback has been incorporated into the Draft Policy attached for consideration.

On 17 December 2025, Council resolved to give Te Manawhenua Forum financial delegation of up to \$5,000 to support Iwi-led events, programmes or initiatives related to Matariki or Waitangi Day while funding is available. It is important to note that funding is set annually as part of Council's Long Term Plan/Annual Plan processes.

Ngā Whiringa | Options

A) Te Manawhenua Forum adopt the Iwi-led Initiative's Grant Policy to take effect 11 February 2026 understanding that funding is confirmed by Council annually.

OR

B) Te Manawhenua Forum adopt the Iwi-led Initiative's Grant Policy subject to amendments to take effect 11 February 2026 understanding that funding is confirmed by Council annually [amendments to be specified].

Ngā take ā-ture, ā-Kaupapahere hoki | Legal and policy considerations

Local Government Act 2002 (LGA 2002) Decision-making requirements Having regard to the decision making provisions in the LGA 2002 and Councils Significance Policy, a decision in accordance with the recommendations is assessed as having a low level of significance.

Policy Considerations

To the best of the writer's knowledge, this recommendation is not significantly inconsistent with nor is anticipated to have consequences that will be significantly inconsistent with any policy adopted by this local authority or any plan required by the Local Government Act 2002 or any other enactment.

Te Tākoha ki ngā Hua mō te Hapori me te here ki te whakakitenga o te Kaunihera | Contribution to Community Outcomes

Matamata-Piako District Council's Community Outcomes are set out below:

MATAMATA-PIAKO TŌ MĀTOU WĀHI NOHO OUR PLACE	MATAMATA-PIAKO DISTRICT COUNCIL TE ARA RAUTAKI STRATEGIC DIRECTION
TŌ MĀTOU WHAKAKITENGA OUR VISION	
Matamata-Piako District is vibrant, passionate, progressive, where opportunity abounds. 'The heart of our community is our people, and the people are the heart of our community.'	
TŌ MĀTOU WHĀINGA MATUA OUR PRIORITIES (COMMUNITY OUTCOMES)	

			
He wāhi kaingākau ki te manawa A place with people at its heart	He wāhi puawaitanga A place to thrive	He wāhi e poipoi ai tō tātou taiao A place that embraces our environment	He wāhi whakapapa, he wāhi hangahanga A place to belong and create

The community outcomes relevant to this report are as follows:

- A place with people at its heart
 - Prioritise community grants that enhance placemaking
 - Be the connector between our community, iwi, NGOs and government agencies
- A place to belong and create
 - Genuine partnerships with manawhenua

Ngā Tāpiritanga | Attachments

A[I](#). Iwi-Led Initiatives Grant Policy

Ngā waitohu | Signatories

Author(s)	Ellie Gray Grants Coordinator and Administration Officer	
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Approved by	Tamara Kingi Kaiārahi Kāwana Governance Team Leader	
	Sandra Harris Pou Kaupapahere, Rāngai Mahitahi me te Kāwana Policy, Partnerships and Governance Manager	
	Kelly Reith Hautū Rangatōpū, Tāngata me ngā Hononga Group Manager Corporate, People & Relationships	



te kaunihera ā-rohe o
matamata-piako
district council



Matamata-Piako District Council

[Policy Title in Te Reo] | Iwi-Led Initiatives Grant Policy 2026

Adopted by Te Manawhenua Forum

10 February 2026

Department	Policy, Partnerships and Governance, Te Ohu Tūhono
Policy Type	External
Resolution Date	10/02/2026
Document Effective From	11/02/2026
Review Frequency	Three yearly or as required
Next Review Date	11/02/2029
Engagement Required	Engagement with Te Manawhenua Forum members
Policy Supersedes	New Policy
Policy Reference	CM 3135090



Te Kaupapa I Purpose

On 17 December 2025 Council resolved to give Te Manawhenua Forum mō Matamata Piako (Te Manawhenua Forum) financial delegation of up to \$5,000 to support Iwi-Led events, programmes or initiatives related to Matariki or Waitangi Day while funding is available. It is important to note that funding is set annually as part of Council's Long Term Plan/Annual Plan processes.

The purpose of the Policy is to set out criteria and the application and allocation process for assistance provided through grants to organisations and individuals for Iwi-led initiatives while funding is available.

Kaupapa here I Policy

The Iwi-Led Initiatives Grant is available to organisations or individuals endorsed by a member of Te Manawhenua Forum, Iwi Trust Chief Executive or similar who would like to deliver an initiative largely focused on or in honour of Matariki or Waitangi Day.

The decision making committee will consist of the chair of Te Manawhenua Forum, Matamata-Piako District Council's Governance Team Leader and Pou Tūhono | Iwi Relationship Manager or a delegated representative.

Ngā kaupapa ka tautokona ā-pūtea I What we fund

The below criteria is mandatory for all initiatives:

- 1) Must be delivered within the Matamata-Piako District
- 2) Costs must be directly related to the initiative
- 3) Must be largely focussed on Matariki or Waitangi
- 4) Must fill in a completion report following the initiative, if previous funding has been provided and no completion report has been received any applications will be ineligible
- 5) Initiative costs that have already occurred
- 6) Application made by/endorsed by a member of Te Manawhenua Forum or Iwi Trust Chief Executive or similar

The below criteria is desired but will be decided on a case by case basis for all initiatives:

- 7) Maximum amount requested \$1,000
- 8) Must be delivered on or around Matariki or Waitangi
- 9) Be available to the wider public
- 10) Have free entry or very low cost
- 11) Acknowledge Council's support in some way

Me pēwhea te tuku he tononga | How to make an application

How can I apply?	An application form must be completed. Applications can be submitted via email to grants@mpdc.govt.nz . The application form is included below. Application made by/endorsed by a member of Te Manawhenua Forum or Iwi Trust Chief Executive or similar.
How much is available?	\$5,000 divided into two equal funding rounds annually. Any unallocated funds from Waitangi Day will be available to use for Matariki. Any unallocated funding from Matariki cannot be carried forward to the following financial year. Funding is subject to availability and council approval annually.
How much can be applied for?	The maximum grant amount is \$1,000 per application however any request over \$1,000 will be decided on a case by case basis.
Timeframe?	Funds must be utilised within six months of approval.
Requirements?	Successful applications may be required to complete a grant agreement prior to payment of the grant.
How will I know if funding has been approved?	You will be notified of the decision as soon as practicable, the decision of the Committee is final.
How does the payment work?	Upon receipt of invoice, payment will be made on the 20th of the following month. Funds are GST exclusive where an organisation is GST registered. If an organisation is not GST registered, no GST will be included in the fund.
Have questions?	Reach out to Council's Grants team grants@mpdc.govt.nz .

Iwi-led Initiatives Application Form

Applicant Details

Name of applicant: _____

Name of group: _____

Iwi endorsement: _____

Postal address of applicant/group: _____

Phone: _____

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Iwi endorsement: _____

Initiative Details

What is your initiative largely focussed on?

- Waitangi Day
- Matariki

In which area will the initiative take place? (please tick all that apply)

- Te Aroha
- Morrinsville
- Matamata
- Other _____

Describe the initiative

Describe how you/your group will contribute to this initiative, either financially or through volunteer time or other: (e.g. volunteer time to coordinate event, promotional material development etc)

Describe how your initiative will benefit the community:

Anticipated number of people involved (involved in the organisation of the initiative)

Anticipated number of people participating (people attending/viewing the initiative)

Amount requested \$ _____

High-level budget for initiative

Initiative costs	Detail	Amount
EXAMPLE Marae hire	0.5 day set up, 1 day event	\$150.00
Total costs		\$
Any Income		
EXAMPLE ticket sales, or grants provided by other agencies	100 tickets at \$1.00 each	\$100.00
Total Income		\$

Please attach any other supporting information you wish to include in your application, including any quotes available etc.

Declaration

I declare that I have the authority to make an application and that the information supplied here is correct. Should funding be approved, I agree to provide a completion report within 30 days of the initiative having been completed.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Please send your application and attachments to: grants@mpdc.govt.nz



8 Ngā Pūrongo Whakamārama | Information Reports

8.1 District Plan and Iwi Management Plan Update

CM No.: 3130686

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Te Manawhenua Forum members with an update on the rolling review of the Matamata-Piako District Plan (MPDP). This also includes an update on the RMA reform including exemption applications and Private Plan Change 62 Calcutta, and the progress on the receipt of six Mana Whakahono ā Rohe invitations.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

A District Plan and Resource Management Reform summary is provided below. The update specifically refers to Plan Change Exemption Applications, Calcutta (PPC62), the proposed MPDC Growth Strategy, Resource Management Act Reform (RMA Reform), Future Proof, and the progress on the receipt of six Mana Whakahono ā Rohe invitations. Jayshree Kanji and Fiona Hill are available to deliver the update and answer any questions.

Tūtohunga | Recommendation

That:

1. The report be received.

Ngā Take/Kōrerorero | Issues/Discussion

Plan Change Exemption Applications

In August 2025, the Government introduced new legislation as part of the [Resource Management \(Consenting and Other System Changes\) Amendment Act 2025](#).

A key part of this legislation is called [Plan Stop](#).

Under the Plan Stop rules, councils can ask the Minister responsible for Resource Management Reform for permission to keep working on a plan change if it meets the criteria in section 80W of the Resource Management Act.

As a consequence of these changes, on 8 October 2025, the Council decided not to notify PC61 National Planning Standards and Other Matters and to proceed with lodging two exemption applications.

PC65 Minor Matters - Exemption application

Staff have prepared an exemption application to rectify a number of matters with the MPDP. This plan change aims to fix several issues that have caused inefficiencies, unintended outcomes or challenges in applying the rules. Some of these issues were originally part of PC61 such as amending or deleting some heritage sites e.g. removing McDonald Cottage from the maps and the heritage schedule because the building is no longer there, removing the former NZ Mushroom DCP sites as the activity is no longer occurring on the site, adding and amending standards related to terrace housing in PREC1 Lockerbie.

On 19 December 2025, Staff submitted the exemption application to the Minister responsible for RMA reform, Chris Bishop. The exemption application has also been published on the MPDC [Plan Stop](#) webpage. A verbal update on any further developments will be provided at the time of the meeting.

PC49 Waharoa - Exemption application

On 8 October 2025, Council agreed to support the preparation and submission of an exemption application for PC49 to the Minister responsible for Resource Management Reform. This plan change aims to improve job opportunities and enable more flexible living options in Waharoa.

Staff are currently preparing the PC49 exemption application. In December, a meeting was held with the Governance Group. Since this time, staff have prepared the application which is currently being reviewed. Staff will also send the application to Ngāti Hauā to review. It's intended the application will be lodged with the Minister by the end of February 2026. Additionally, the application will be published on the MPDC [Plan Stop](#) webpage once it is submitted to the Minister.

Private Plan Change 62 - Calcutta

On 3 July 2025, the Council received a request for Private Plan Change 62 - Calcutta. This plan change seeks to rezone approximately 20ha of rural land along the southern side of Tauranga Road, Matamata to Industrial Zone. This is in the same location as Private Plan Change 57, however Private Plan Change 62 has a smaller footprint. Staff are reviewing the application and have issued a further information request to the applicant.

MPDC Growth Strategy

Council has given support for staff to progress this work. The Council has now received the WISE projections. A review of this information will provide direction on how much land needs to be provided in the district to accommodate future growth and where this should be provided. Work has also begun on understanding the existing capacity in the district and needs to be updated with the WISE projections.

Resource Management Act Reform (RMA Reform)

In March 2024, the Government made an announcement regarding its proposed RMA reform processes, which is occurring in three phases. The status of the phases is outlined below.

Phase	Status
1 Repealed Existing RMA Reform	COMPLETE
2 Stage 1 Freshwater and Other Matters Bill	COMPLETE
2 Stage 2 Resource Management Consenting and Other Matters Act and national policy changes	PARTIALLY COMPLETE Act passed into law. 10 national policy direction instruments came into force on 15 January 2026.
3 New Planning Act and Natural Environment Act	Bills were introduced on 9 December 2025. Submissions due 13 February.

Recent updates

On 15 January 2026, the first package of 10 national direction instruments came into force. The second package of national direction instruments is anticipated to be released later in 2026. Of the 10 national direction instruments that are in force, seven are amended and three are new.

These instruments are:

- [National Environmental Standards for Detached Minor Residential Units](#) - This NES aims to make it easier to build new detached minor residential units (granny flats) up to 70 square metres without needing resource consent, provided certain requirements are met.
- [National Policy Statement for Natural Hazards](#) – This NPS introduces a consistent approach for managing natural hazard risk in New Zealand. A new risk-consequence

matrix must be used which ensures local authorities take a risk-based approach when managing natural hazards and respond proportionately to that risk in decision making for new development.

- [Amendment to National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land](#) – The changes remove Class 3 soils from highly productive land restrictions other than for rural lifestyle. This means more land can be developed for housing while keeping protection on the most productive land for primary production (Class 1 and 2 soils).
- [Amendment to New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement](#) – The changes aim to enable priority activities in the coastal environment (ie, infrastructure, including renewable electricity generation and electricity transmission, aquaculture activities, and resource extraction), while still protecting the coastal environment.
- [Amendment to National Environmental Standards for Freshwater](#), [Amendment to National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management](#) and [Amendment to National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity](#) - The changes to these three instruments aim to better enable quarrying and mining activities affecting natural inland wetlands, significant natural areas and highly productive land.
- [National Policy Statement for Infrastructure](#) – This new national policy statement guides and enables the development, operation, and upgrade of infrastructure.
- [Amendment to National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation](#) - The changes aim to better enable development of renewable electricity projects, including small-scale and community-scale initiatives.
- [Amendment to National Policy Statement for Electricity Networks](#) - The changes provide enabling objectives and policies to enable electricity network activities, which include those relating to distribution networks (local lines companies). The changes also intend to lower costs and streamline the consent process, particularly for routine maintenance and upgrade activities.

Those national direction instruments still to come later in 2026 as part of package 2, include:

- National Environmental Standards for Papakāinga
- Amendment to National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities
- Amendment to National Environmental Standards for Electricity Transmission Activities
- Amendment to National Environmental Standards for Commercial Forestry
- Amendment to National Environmental Standards for Marine Aquaculture
- Amendment to Resource Management Stock Exclusion Regulations

MPDC RMA Webpage updates

Staff have developed and published a [Granny Flats \(small stand-alone dwellings\)](#) webpage to assist the public and developers in understanding the requirements for building a granny flat in the Matamata-Piako District.

Staff are also developing a webpage to help the public understand the scope of these new NPS and NES national direction instruments.

Phase 3 – Replacement of the RMA

The new [Planning Bill](#) and [Natural Environment Bill](#) replacing RMA legislation were released in December 2025. The closing date for submission on the Bills is 13 February 2026. At the same time, the Government has released a proposal for consultation which replaces development

contributions with development levies. Staff are currently preparing a submission on the Bills and a submission on Development Levies, which closes on 20 February 2026.

Mana Whakahono ā Rohe invitations

The Council has received six Mana Whakahono ā Rohe invitations. A Mana Whakahono ā Rohe is a binding statutory arrangement that provides for a more structured relationship under the RMA between local authorities and iwi authorities. Their intent is to improve the working relationship between tangata whenua and local authorities as well as enhancing Māori participation in resource management and its associated decision-making processes.

Council staff and elected representatives had an initial hui at the end of November and a further meeting in January. As a result, a technical working group has been established who will be meeting fortnightly to progress the drafting of the Mana Whakahono ā Rohe. The first task of the technical working group will be to produce a project management plan. A key task in the plan will be to schedule regular workshops with elected members and the Boards of the respective iwi.

Iwi Management Plans

The RMA policy team are currently drafting an approach to understand how iwi management plans are being used in Council processes. Further consultation and research will be undertaken with various teams to understand the use of iwi management plans when undertaking certain areas of work across council.

For example, these teams could involve:

- RMA Policy team
- Resource Consents team
- Compliance team
- Parks and Facilities team
- Consents Engineer team
- Assets team
- Policy team at Policy, Partnerships and Governance department

We will provide more information on this at the next meeting.

Future Proof

There are several projects currently being driven by Future Proof, which affect Matamata-Piako. The first is the Hamilton to Tauranga (H2T) spatial corridor project. The aim of this project is to ensure that future economic growth along this corridor is well-coordinated, and that the necessary transport infrastructure decisions are made with a clear understanding of a potential growth area's unique needs and opportunities. The study will provide a high-level conceptual overview of the H2T which will be used to inform the review of the Future Proof Future Development Strategy in 2026. The study will provide a 30-year vision for potential development without delving into the specifics of a masterplan or Structure Plan. The completion date for this project is early in 2026.

The second project is looking to assess the current and predicted demand for retirement villages in terms of locality, type, and price point within the Future Proof sub-region over the next 30 years. This is expected to help Future Proof partners understand retirement living preferences and needs of the aging population, determine the suitable locations for retirement living, identify specialised requirements for retirement living within the Future Proof Strategy and identify any implications for public infrastructure and services. A final report providing strategic recommendations for Future Proof's role in planning and supporting retirement village developments was presented to the Future Proof Implementation Committee in December. Its anticipated it will be added to the Future Proof website shortly.

Ngā Tāpiritanga | Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

Ngā waitohu | Signatories

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8 Ngā Pūrongo Whakamārama | Information Reports

8.2 Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM)

CM No.: 3137233

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide a quarterly update of the Civil Defence and Emergency Management function Andy BuBear and Toka Wolfswood will be in attendance to present.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

Civil Defence and Emergency Management team will be in attendance to present an update to Council on the activities carried out during the previous quarters (Q2) and highlight any matters that are impending or would have an impact on the activity. The activities include work plans, projects, legislation and the intended activities looking forward.

Tūtohunga | Recommendation

That:

1. The information be received.

Horopaki | Background

Section 64 of the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Act 2002 requires Council to:

- (1) A local authority must plan and provide for civil defence emergency management within its district.
- (2) A local authority must ensure that it is able to function to the fullest possible extent, even though this may be at a reduced level, during and after an emergency.

Council are the “Service Provider” and a “Customer” for the new Shared Service Agreement with Hauraki (HDC) and South Waikato (SWDC) both “Customers” from the 1 July 2025 for initially three years to help meet our responsibilities under this Act.

Ngā Take/Kōrerorero | Issues/Discussion

LOCAL (MPDC)

The following section is to inform Te Mana Whenua Forum about activities that we are undertaking at a local level:

- **Response**

On Wednesday 21st of January, the North Island was impacted by a Severe Weather event from 1300hrs until Thursday 22nd of January at 0600hrs.

During this time Matamata-Piako experienced the following impacts:

- 6,000+ properties without power.
- 30+ reports of roading impacts due to fallen trees and powerlines with up to 10 Local Roads closed at a time.
- Majority of Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants impacted, most relying on generator operations with some non-operational until restored.
- Spark Telecommunications down in certain areas.

- At least seven nature walks/paths/trails closed.

These impacts started from Wednesday 21st of January through to Monday 26th of January (5 days until complete restoration), during which we had Activated our EOC in Heightened Monitoring with a handful of staff coordinating the response from the Te Aroha Board Room and numerous staff supporting out in the field and from home.

We actively communicated information to the public, liaised with supporting agencies, and extended our hand for any requests of awhi from our communities. A post event debrief has been completed which identified several improvements and some learnings.

In particular our team reached out to mana whenua during the event and no issues or concerns were raised at the time. However, we welcome any comments from the Forum members.

It was a waiting game in terms of full restoration of power, but with the immense amount of mahi from our staff, Kaimai Valley Services, PowerCo, and Regional Support from the Waikato Civil Defence Group, we were able to navigate this weather event with reduced impacts to our district and without injury or worse to members of our communities.

- **Service Level Agreement (SLA)**

- The purpose of this SLA is to provide resilience across Council's in regard to CDEM as well as achieving efficiencies by doing it at scale while still maintaining local presence.
- We have had two Governance meetings to date with a number of actions to identify potential issues, opportunities for collaboration and generally how we intend to operate.

- **Work plan**

- MPDC workplan currently focused on the following strategic pillars:
 - **Pillar 1 – We are prepared**
 - **Pillar 2 – Build community resilience**
 - **Pillar 3 – Enhance our capability and capacity**
 - **Pillar 4 – Future ready (horizon scanning)**
- In the last quarter in 2025 the work plan focus has been on:
 - Finalising operational plans
 - Finalising CDEM compendium (templates and forms)
 - Annual exercise
 - Increased score to 68% - Advancing
 - Initiating Marae Response Plans
 - Operational training for CDEM staff
 - Completion of the MPDC Welfare Annual Plan
 - Controller and Recovery Actions
 - Ryan Johnston and Andrew BuBear have undertaken Controller training consisting of assignments and completion of a residential course in Wellington in November 2025.
 - Nathan Sutherland in undertaking Recovery Manager training following the same training pathway as Ryan and Andy.

- All three are completing final assessments and should be confirmed in their respective roles in the first quarter of the year.
- Work plan going forward
 - Identifying local work program priorities for the SLA Councils
 - Aligning and incorporating Group Plan Actions from October 2025 into our CDEM work program with identified roles and responsibilities across council staff.
 - There are Group Actions for Councils for iwi Māori engagement which include: marae preparedness, training, and engagement with Māori Wardens.
 - Engaging with Waikato Waters Limited to identify and understand changes for Emergency Management Roles and Responsibilities and expectations.

REGIONAL (GROUP)

The CDEM Group is a Joint Committee of the 11 Local Authorities in the Waikato Regional area and Councillor Smith is the MPDC representative. The following section is to inform Council about activities that the Waikato Group Emergency Management office (GEMO) have been involved with MPDC and other Group Members at a regional level.

Policies, Strategies and Plans:

- Group Strategic Plan 2025 – 2030
 - The Strategic Group Plan 2025–2030 came into effect 1 October 2025.
 - Initial Group Plan Actions for councils were drafted by GEMO staff and a workshop attended by CDEM Professionals identified activities for councils to be reported on.
 - The initial period was nine months (until the new financial 2026/2027 year) however discussions at CEG on 7 November 2025 confirmed the timeframe was extended to 18 months.
 - We are waiting confirmation to identify which priority Group Actions Councils will need to report on.
- Iwi participation in CDEM
 - The Waikato CDEM Group has implemented strategic frameworks to support meaningful engagement and relationships with Iwi Māori, including the Marae Preparedness Strategy (MPS) and Public Awareness and Community Engagement (PACE), which, upon review, remain robust strategies. Strengthening these strategies requires ongoing socialising, collaboration and proactive planning. Further investment may be required to enable a consistent implementation of MPS and PACE across the region. These strategies demonstrate the strong commitment from the Waikato CDEM Group regarding emergency preparedness and community resilience. Strengthening these strategies requires ongoing collaboration and proactive planning.

Marae Preparedness:

On 4th December our staff with Police, attended a hui at Te Omeka Marae to identify concerns and identify future opportunities to develop marae preparedness and planning.

Our intention is to coordinate marae through the Te Mana Whenua Forum to further help develop preparedness plans for marae addressing specific hazards and understanding capabilities and the lines of communications in times of an emergency.

Tuatahi Nightingale-Pene led initial discussions and we now have Draft Marae Preparedness Plans for Rukumoana Marae (John Te Maru) and Kai-a-te-mata Marae (George Te Huia). We continue to look for funding opportunities regarding installation of generator connections and or solar power.

We continue to work with the Waikato CDEM Group to ensure Preparedness Plan templates are fit for purpose

There were lots of learnings out of the first Marae Preparedness Plans, so we are working with the team to refine the approach, and hopefully demystify Council, Emergency Management and supporting agencies with Iwi/Māori to help everyone understand what we can provide, how we support each other and what funding/opportunities for support are available.

Operational Response Plan 3 – Factory Failure (EVONIK):

On 11 November 2025 Toka visited EVONIK with representatives from Rukumoana and Kai-a-te-mata Marae as the first steps to collaborate and align response options for our Operational Plan.

As a result of this visit our Operation Response Plan has been updated, **Evonik** have additional information for community contacts for their response planning.

We will continue to refine and test information and processes for emergency response and look for opportunities to

These engagements will provide further information to be considered, and where appropriate incorporated in the Marae Preparedness Plans for both Rukumoana Marae and Kai-a-te-mata Marae.

- Statutory Roles Advisory and Appointment Committee (STRAAC)
 - Ally van Kuijk is confirmed as a Tier 2 Recovery Manager allowing her to operate as a Recovery Manager in other Waikato Districts if needed.
- Hikurangi Subduction Zone update
 - In early December we received the second phase assessment which provides impact and consequence modelling for our district. All other Waikato Districts received their own assessment.
 - After the release of the Phase One assessments there was much discussion regarding whether or not the information in the assessments was hazard information which needed to be placed on Land Information Memorandum (LIM) Reports.
 - The Group sought a legal opinion on whether this was hazard information that required being put on LIM Reports. The opinion suggested it did not, (but can be provided if requested), however left it to each Councils to make their own decision.
 - At this stage, our decision aligns with the legal opinion and we are working on a communication plan to release this information.
- Iwi Representation on CEG
 - Group has long recognised the vital role of iwi Māori in emergency response and recovery. Marae and Māori communities often serve as frontline

responders and support hubs during crises. A strategic initiative to incorporate iwi leadership at the governance level has been implemented, resulting in three tribal authorities—Waikato-Tainui, Raukawa, and Te Nehenehenui—agreeing in principle to join the CEG. Further discussion is being held with Tu Wharetoa, Te Arawa and Hauraki iwi.

- In preparation for the next triennium, working is being undertaken on an induction programme for new JC members including the introduction of an annual workshop prior to the first meeting to ensure consistent understanding of roles and responsibilities. In

NATIONAL

The following section is to inform Te Mana Whenua about activities that are happening at a National level.

- Legislation, Strategies and Plans:

In June 2025, the Government released “Strengthening Emergency Management A Roadmap for Investment and Implementation” Cabinet agreed to this Roadmap in principle, subject to further policy work, the passage of enabling legislation, and availability of new funding through future budgets.

- It was clear from this Roadmap that the roles and responsibilities for councils will increase. This will also have long term planning and funding implications.

On 3rd December 2025, the Waikato CDEM Group provided proposed feedback on behalf of the Group for the Rates Target Model. Our staff have reviewed and contributed to the submissions which will be tabled at CEG in late January 2026.

On 9th December 2026, the Emergency Management Bill was introduced into Parliament. When passed, the Bill will replace the existing Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002.

The Bill builds on the legislative framework established by the CDEM Act. Its changes seek to:

- strengthen the role of communities and iwi Māori in emergency management
- provide for clear responsibilities at the national, regional, and local levels
- enable a higher minimum standard of emergency management
- minimise disruption to essential services
- ensure agencies have the tools to do their jobs effectively when an emergency happens.

Key changes in the Bill include:

- providing membership roles for iwi Māori, rural communities and the wider community on Coordinating Executive Groups.
- requiring engagement with iwi Māori and the wider community – particularly those who are disproportionately affected by emergencies, such as disabled people and seniors – during development of local plans and the national plan.
- introducing mechanisms to set standards and enforce compliance with those standards. Those mechanisms will also apply to essential services and infrastructure providers, like telcos and the roading network.
- updating the legislative framework for identifying essential infrastructure providers to ensure it is future proofed.
- requiring essential infrastructure providers to contribute to sector response plans.
- placing more emphasis on individual councils’ roles in their own regions and districts.

Following the first reading, the Bill will be considered by the Governance and Administration Select Committee and expected to pass in 2026

From the 9th of December 2025, Waikato Group Office staff reviewed the Bill, with submissions needing to be submitted no later than 3rd February 2026. This was a tight timeframe over the Christmas shutdown with the first draft of the Group Submission was circulated for our review on 27th January 2026.

A Subcommittee with CEG and Joint Committee Representatives was scheduled to discuss the Group submissions on the 29th of January 2026.

We will be able to expand and provide and update on the Bill and other matters during the Forum

Mōrearea | Risk

- Council's legislative responsibilities to plan for, respond and recover from the adverse effects of emergencies is outlined in the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Act 2002 (CDEMA). As outlined on the NEMA website the purpose of the CDEMA includes to: Improve and promote the sustainable management of hazards in a way that contributes to the social, economic, cultural and environmental wellbeing and safety of the public and also to the protection of property.
- Encourage and enable communities to achieve acceptable levels of risk.
- Provide for planning and preparation for emergencies and for response and recovery in the event of an emergency.
- Require local authorities to coordinate, through regional groups, planning, programmes and activities related to civil defence emergency management across the areas of reduction, readiness, response and recovery, and encourage cooperation and joint action within those regional groups.
- Provide a basis for the integration of national and local civil defence emergency management planning and activity through the alignment of local planning with a national strategy and national plan
- Encourage the coordination of emergency management, planning and activities related to civil defence emergency management across the 4Rs of Emergency Management – Reduction, Readiness, Response and Recovery across the range of agencies and organisations preventing or managing emergencies under this Act.

Council currently provides resources to meet the above legislation through the new shared service agreement with HDC and SWDC.

Last year, it was identified that failure to respond to and recover from a natural or man-made disaster is one of our top risks and controls have been put in place to monitor this risk and are reported separately to Council.

Te Tākoha ki ngā Hua mō te Hapori me te here ki te whakakitenga o te Kaunihera | Contribution to Community Outcomes

Matamata Piako District Council's Community Outcomes are set out below:

MATAMATA-PIAKO TŌ MĀTOU WĀHI NOHO OUR PLACE	MATAMATA-PIAKO DISTRICT COUNCIL TE ARA RAUTAKI STRATEGIC DIRECTION
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TŌ MĀTOU WHAKAKITENGA | OUR VISION

Matamata-Piako District is vibrant, passionate, progressive, where opportunity abounds. 'The heart of our community is our people, and the people are the heart of our community.'

TŌ MĀTOU WHĀINGA MATUA | OUR PRIORITIES (COMMUNITY OUTCOMES)

			
He wāhi kaingākau ki te manawa A place with people at its heart	He wāhi puawaitanga A place to thrive	He wāhi e poipoi ai tō tātou taiao A place that embraces our environment	He wāhi whakapapa, he wāhi hangahanga A place to belong and create

All of the Council community outcomes are relevant to the activity of Civil Defence and Emergency Management.

Pānga ki te pūtea, me te puna pūtea | Financial Cost and Funding Source

The costs associated with the SLA for Civil Defence and Emergency Management is within existing budgets.

Ngā Tāpiritanga | Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

Ngā waitohu | Signatories

Author(s)	Andy BuBear Pou Whakahaere Whakararu Emergency Management Manager	
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Approved by	Ally van Kuijk Hautū Tipu me te Whakamatua Group Manager Growth & Regulation	
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8 Ngā Pūrongo Whakamārama | Information Reports

8.3 Policies, Plans and Bylaws Update February 2026

CM No.: 3134525

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the upcoming consultation on a number of Council policies, plans and bylaws, and seek the Forum's feedback.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

The policies, plans and bylaws currently being reviewed and prepared for public consultation are:

- Policy on Dogs
- Dog Control Bylaw
- Land Transport Bylaw
- Local Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy
- Fees and Charges 26/27
- Annual Plan 26/27 (to be confirmed)

Tūtohunga | Recommendation

That:

1. The information be received.
2. The Forum provide feedback on any opportunities to engage with manawhenua during the consultation period *[feedback to be specified]*.

Horopaki | Background

The following policies, plans and bylaws are currently being reviewed and prepared for public consultation which will take place during the period 23 February to 13 May (submissions open 23 Feb-19 April, oral submissions 12-13 May).

Policies, Plans and Bylaws	Status
Policy on Dogs and Dog Control Bylaw	Due for approval for public consultation at Council meeting February 11 th .
Land Transport Bylaw	Approved for public consultation.
Local Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy	Approved for public consultation.
Fees and Charges 2026/27	Currently being developed. Due for approval for public consultation at Council meeting March 4 th .
Annual Plan 2026/27 (to be confirmed)	Currently being developed. Decision on consultation to be made at Council meeting February 11 th .

In addition, there are some other policies, plans and strategies which will go out for consultation in the coming months, but require further work to be completed prior to consultation. These include:

- The Draft Climate Resilience Strategy;
- Policy reviews required as part of the transition to Waikato Waters Ltd: Revenue and Financing Policy and Rates Remission and Postponement Policy;
- Bylaw compliance reviews: Water Bylaw, Wastewater Bylaw, Stormwater Bylaw.

Ongoing engagement with the Forum throughout 2025/26 has provided valuable feedback and this has been incorporated into draft documents where possible. Any further feedback is welcome on additional opportunities to engage with the community during the formal consultation period.

Ngā Take/Kōrerorero | Issues/Discussion

Consultation will consist of a number of elements including:

1) General communication via

- Council website
- Council social media
- Antenno
- Community newspapers

2) Targeted communication via

- Letters to groups who may have an interest in the consultation topics
- Contacting iwi/Māori organisations through iwi liaison team – provide offer of hui/further kōrero

3) Informal face-to-face engagement with the community by staff and elected members at

- Markets in Morrinsville (7 March), Matamata (14 March), Te Aroha (15 March);
- Community group feedback sessions organised by Council in Te Aroha (26 February), Matamata (5 March), Morrinsville (12 March);
- Other community events including Sustainable Matamata event (21 March); Dogs in Togs – Morrinsville (22 March);
- Te Aroha Business Association and Morrinsville & Matamata Chamber of Commerce Business after 5 meetings;
- Walkabouts in CBDs;
- Opportunity provided to community groups to attend meetings to discuss the topics further.

4) Formal face to face engagement with the community by elected members at

- Council meeting on 12 and 13 May (depending on the number of submitters) to hear oral submissions from the public.

The Forum are invited to share these opportunities to provide feedback with their communities and networks.

An opportunity for the Forum to kōrero and draft a formal submission on any or all of these topics will be provided at the Forum workshop to be held on 14 April (note that submissions will close on 19 April).

Mōrearea | Risk

Community engagement

If Council does not engage with the community adequately, there is a risk that the resulting documents may not reflect community needs, values, or expectations. This could result in reduced public understanding, lower compliance, negative feedback, and reputational impacts.

Mitigation measures include early and ongoing engagement with stakeholders, clear and accessible communication, and opportunities for public input at multiple stages of the review process and via different means, e.g. in person, online, interactive etc.

Ngā take ā-ture, ā-Kaupapahere hoki | Legal and policy considerations

Consultation is being undertaken in accordance with relevant legislation, including the Local Government Act and other applicable statutory requirements.

Ngā Pāpāhonga me ngā Whakawhitiwhitinga | Communications and engagement

An overview of the key consultation dates is outlined below.

Timeframes

Dates	Tasks
23 February	Policy on Dogs, Dog Control Bylaw, Land Transport Bylaw, Local Easter Sunday Trading Policy open for consultation
Mid-March	Annual Plan (TBC) and Fees and Charges open for consultation
19 April	Consultation closes (for all topics)
12 & 13 May (depending on the number of submissions)	Oral submissions heard at Council. Wednesday 13 th May will be the primary date, with Tuesday 12 th May as a back-up if required.
27 May	Council deliberations on submissions
24 June	Council adoption of policies, plans and bylaws
1 July	Policies, plans and bylaws in force

Te Tākoha ki ngā Hua mō te Hapori me te here ki te whakakitenga o te Kaunihera | Contribution to Community Outcomes

Matamata-Piako District Council's Community Outcomes are set out below:

MATAMATA-PIAKO TŌ MĀTOU WĀHI NOHO OUR PLACE	MATAMATA-PIAKO DISTRICT COUNCIL TE ARA RAUTAKI STRATEGIC DIRECTION
TŌ MĀTOU WHAKAKITENGA OUR VISION	
Matamata-Piako District is vibrant, passionate, progressive, where opportunity abounds. 'The heart of our community is our people, and the people are the heart of our community.'	
TŌ MĀTOU WHĀINGA MATUA OUR PRIORITIES (COMMUNITY OUTCOMES)	
	
He wāhi kaingākau ki te manawa A place with people at its heart	He wāhi puawaitanga A place to thrive
	
He wāhi e poipoai tō tātou taiao A place that embraces our environment	He wāhi whakapapa, he wāhi hangahanga A place to belong and create

The community outcomes relevant to this report are as follows:

- All of the above

Pānga ki te pūtea, me te puna pūtea | Financial Cost and Funding Source

Policy work encompasses the development, review, and updating of Council's policies, plans, and bylaws to ensure they remain effective, relevant, and aligned with strategic objectives and community outcomes. These activities are delivered within existing budgets through the Strategies and Plans activity as outlined in Council's Long Term Plan 2024-2034.

Ngā Tāpiritanga | Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

Ngā waitohu | Signatories

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