

Kaunihera | Council

Kaupapataka Wātea | Open Agenda



Notice is hereby given that an ordinary meeting of Matamata-Piako District Council will be held on:

Ko te rā | Date: Wednesday 24 June 2026
Wā | Time: 9:00
Wāhi | Venue: Council Chambers
35 Kenrick Street
TE AROHA

NGĀ MEMA | MEMBERSHIP

Tiamana | Chairperson: Koromatua | Mayor
Ash Tanner

Mema | Members: Koromatua Tautoko | Deputy Mayor
James Sainsbury

Kaunihera ā-Rohe | District Councillors

Vincent Andersen
Grace Bonnar
Bruce Dewhurst
Tyrel Glass
Dayne Horne
Greg Marshall
Andrew McGiven
James Thomas
Gary Thompson
Rewiti Vaimoso
Sue Whiting

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1 Whakatūwheratanga o te hui | Meeting Opening

Chairperson to open the meeting.

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

At the close of the agenda no apologies had been received.

3 Pānui i Ngā Take Ohore Anō | Notification of Urgent/Additional 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
 - (iii) 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.”

4 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.

5 Whakaaetanga mēneti | Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes, as circulated, of the ordinary meeting of Matamata-Piako District Council, held on 27 May 2026

6 Papa ā-iwi whānui | Public Forum

At the close of the agenda there were no speakers scheduled to the public forum.

7 Pūrongo me whakatau | Decision Reports

7.1 Adoption of Annual Plan 2026/27

CM No.: 3182162

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to present the Annual Plan 2026/27 to Council for adoption.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

Council is required to produce an Annual Plan each year with the exception of the years when a Long Term Plan (LTP) is produced. The Annual Plan is Council's budget for the financial year 1 July to 30 June. The Annual Plan 2026/27 represents year 3 of the 2024-34 LTP.

The Annual Plan 2026/27 document is circulated separately.

Water Reform

The coalition government's Local Water Done Well programme requires councils to prepare a Water Service Delivery Plan outlining how water services will be delivered into the future. Information about this has been included in the Annual Plan under each of the three water activities and in the Financial section under 'Critical accounting estimates and assumptions'.

Tūtohunga | Recommendation

That:

1. Council receives the report.
2. Council adopts the Annual Plan 2026/27, to come into effect from 1 July 2026.

Horopaki | Background

Annual Plan Timeline

Key milestones in the development of the Annual Plan 2026/27 are outlined below:

Date	Meeting	Topic	Decision
November 2025-February 2026	Council Workshops	Key issues and budget options Draft budgets, variances to LTP	Discussion and direction setting only
9 December 2025	Risk and Assurance	Key Risks, Issues and Timeline	Oversight and review only
11 February 2026	Council Meeting	Decision on preliminary budgets and consultation	Consultation not required
16 June 2026	Risk and Assurance	Review of Annual Plan document, assessment of legislative compliance	
24 June 2026	Council Meeting	Adoption of Annual Plan Setting of the rates	
1 July 2026		Annual Plan 2026/27 in force	

Ngā Take/Kōrerorero | Issues/Discussion

At the Council meeting in February 2026, Council approved the preliminary Draft Annual Plan budget for 2026/27.

Following review of the Significance and Materiality Assessment, Council also confirmed there were no significant or material differences from year 3 of the LTP 2024-34, and therefore no formal consultation was required, and instead an information campaign would be developed to keep the community informed.

Next steps

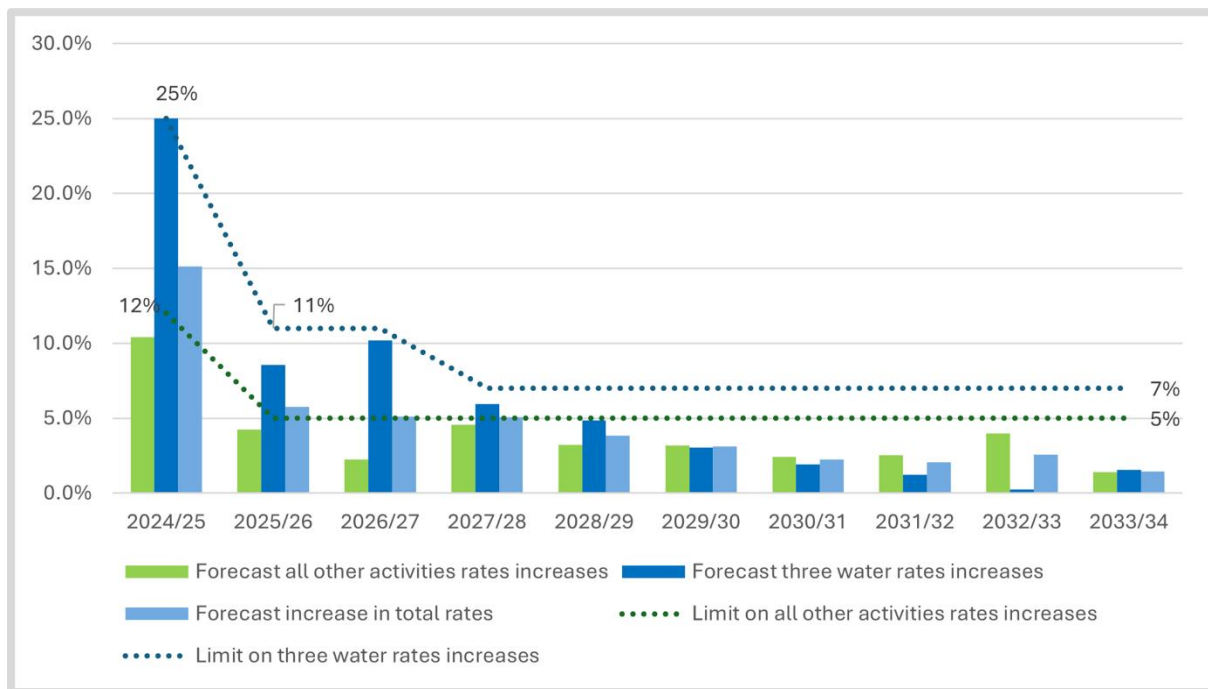
- 1) Information campaign – Initial communications around the Annual Plan were included with the recent Fees and Charges consultation. Additional communications are currently being developed.

Forecast rate increase for year 3 of the LTP

In the LTP 2024-34, Council forecast a total rate increase for 2026/27 of 5.1%.

The graph below, from the LTP, shows the forecast rate increases and limits for total rates, three water related rates, and rates for all other activities over the 10 year period.

Graph: Long Term Plan 2024-34 Forecast Rates and Limits



Draft Annual Plan 2026/27 rate increase

The following table outlines the budget figures for the Annual Plan 2026/27 and details the forecasts and limits from year 3 of the LTP.

Graph: Draft Annual Plan 2026/27 rates compared to Long Term Plan forecasts and limits

	Annual Plan 26/27	LTP Forecast year 3	LTP Limit year 3
Total rates	5.92%	5.1%	-
Waters rates	10.1%	10%	11%
Other activity rates	3.6%	2%	5%

As detailed in the table above, the Annual Plan budget has a total rate increase of 5.92%, which is slightly ahead of forecast. The Annual Plan rates for Water and other activities are also slightly ahead of forecast compared to year 3 of the LTP, but within the limits set.

Transition of Water and Wastewater Services to Waikato Waters Ltd

On 1 October 2026, Council's Water and Wastewater services will be transferred to Waikato Waters Ltd. Stormwater services will be retained in-house.

This has several policy, budgetary and administrative implications for the Annual Plan 2026/27 including:

- Projects in the Annual Plan for Water and Wastewater necessarily reflect those outlined in both the LTP and the Water Services Delivery Plan (largely aligned);
- It is a legislative requirement for Council to deliver on its Water Services Delivery Plan;
- Water and Wastewater projects will continue to be delivered, as outlined in the Annual Plan, after the 1 October transfer date;
- For the 2026/27 financial year, Council will continue to collect rates, fees and charges and development contributions in respect of the Water and Wastewater activities, and will, from 1 October 2026, pass these funds to Waikato Waters Ltd;
- The Shareholders Agreement, Transfer Agreement and other documentation set out the way that responsibilities for delivering, administering and charging for Water and Wastewater services will be managed during a transition period (1 October 2026 – 31 June 2027), and beyond;
- The Annual Plan budget and financial statements contain staff's best estimates, (based on the information available at this time) of the impact of the transition to Waikato Waters Ltd (WWL), including revenue, expenses, assets and liabilities. Noting however there are a number of significant moving parts to the equation (e.g. final assets and debt amounts to be transferred are still to be confirmed and agreed with WWL, post completion service agreements (for services that Council will provide on WWL's behalf during 2026/27) have yet to be fully developed, costed or agreed with WWL, and staff transfers to WWL are yet to be finalised. There is an unavoidable risk that our estimates may differ materially to the final outcome of the transition. Once the financial outcome of the transition is more concrete (which will be after the adoption of this Annual Plan), staff will report a re-forecasted position to Council (if significant).
- Council's accounting policies have been updated to reflect the transfer of Water and Wastewater services to WWL on 1 October 2026. New policies have been added for Council's interest in WWL (recognised as an intangible asset under PBE IPSAS 31, measured at cost being the carrying amount of the net water operations transferred, with an indefinite useful life and annual impairment testing), the Local Government Funding Agency financial guarantee for WWL's borrowings, discontinued operations under PBE IFRS 5, and revenue collected as agent for WWL during the transitional period. The discontinued operations have been reflected on the face of the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense, and the Statement of Cashflows, along with a further disclosure note explaining the discontinued operations. Staff are looking at alternative ways to present this information required by PBE IFRS 5. Existing policies for infrastructure assets, depreciation, revaluations, borrowings, receivables, employee entitlements, development contributions, and vested assets have been amended to remove water and wastewater references from 1 October 2026. The critical estimates and judgments sections have been updated to address the classification of water services as a discontinued operation, the gain or loss on transfer, and the nature of Council's interest in WWL — specifically, the assessment that WWL's Stage 2 Shares

do not meet the definition of an equity instrument under PBE IPSAS 28 (as they carry no dividend rights, cannot be transferred, and do not evidence a traditional residual interest in net assets), and are therefore recognised as an intangible asset rather than a financial instrument. This treatment is consistent with independent accounting advice obtained by the Waikato Water Done Well group of councils from KPMG in August 2025.

- The requirement under the Local Government Act 2002 to undertake an LTP amendment if there is a change to the ownership or control of a strategic asset has been amended so that changes to the ownership of waters assets does not trigger this requirement;
- Several policies related to the LTP and Annual Plan, such as the Revenue and Financing Policy and Significance and Engagement Policy are being reviewed and updated as required.

Annual Plan 2026/27 communications approach

The plan is to take a simple “looking back / looking ahead” approach, consistent with previous Annual Plan communications.

Looking back: We will provide a brief update on progress over the past 12-17 months (from Jan 2025), including delivery of core services and key projects.

Looking ahead: We will outline what is planned for the coming year, including continuation of services and any key projects or changes.

What it means for you

We will clearly explain:

- information on the rates increase
- how rates changes are experienced by different property types
- why some properties, including commercial, may see different impacts
- practical examples to help people understand their situation

Channels and delivery

Information will be shared through a mix of channels, including:

- Council website (primary source of information)
- Council in Focus and other local media
- Social media, Antenno and e-newsletters

Mōrearea | Risk

The key risks for the development of the Annual Plan 2026/27, and the measures in place to mitigate these risks, were presented to the Risk and Assurance Committee at its meeting in December 2025.

The following risks have been identified:

- Estimates of the impact of the transition to WWL could differ materially to the final outcome of the transition, and final accounting policies as a result of the transition may change following review by the Audit Office through the 2025/26 Annual Report audit process or subsequent audit processes.
- The Executive Team are currently consulting on an organisation structure review. If confirmed, some aspects of the organisation structure review would occur in the 2026/27 year. The budget does not reflect any potential costs or savings as a result of the proposal at this time.

- Project timing and cost – there is always some risk as to whether projects are able to be completed as scheduled.
- Revenue - Overall revenue could be less than budgeted.
- Inflation – Inflation could be higher than expected, particularly affecting contract costs and the valuation and depreciation costs of infrastructure assets.
- Interest rates – There is a risk that rates could shift more than is forecast.
- Growth - Economic and other factors may result in growth being less than has been estimated.
- Legislative change - There could be legislative changes over the coming year that have an impact on Council's budget that have not been accounted for.
- If significance and materiality are not correctly assessed there is a risk of Council not fulfilling its legislative obligations to consult.

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

Under the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA), the requirements on Council in respect to the Annual Plan are to:

- prepare and adopt an annual plan for each financial year, except for the years in which a long term plan is adopted
- adopt the annual plan before 1 July
- consult on the draft annual plan unless there are no significant or material differences from the LTP
- make the annual plan publicly available within one month of adoption

Under the LGA, the purpose of an annual plan is to:

- contain the budget and funding impact statement for the year
- identify any variation from the financial statements and funding impact statement in the LTP
- provide integrated decision making and co-ordination of the resources of Council
- contribute to the accountability of Council to the community.

An assessment of the legislative compliance of the draft Annual Plan 2026/27 was completed by staff and reviewed by the Risk and Assurance Committee.

Annual Plan consultation requirements of the Local Government Act 2002

Section 95 of the Local Government Act 2002 states that councils must prepare and adopt an annual plan for each financial year. It includes the requirement, to consult in a manner that gives effect to the requirements of section 82, the principles of consultation, before adopting an Annual Plan.

In 2014, the Local Government Act 2002 was changed to not require consultation unless the Annual Plan includes significant or material differences from the content of the LTP for that financial year. This is to be determined by reference to Council's [Significance and engagement policy](#). These amendments were designed to streamline consultation to make it more useful, practical and effective, and to introduce more flexibility and discretion for Councils.





The purpose of the Annual Plan was amended to reflect the legislative changes. It is a document which identifies variance from the LTP and provides a statutory link between the LTP and the annual setting of rates.

Ngā Pāpāhonga me ngā Whakawhitiwhitinga | Communications and engagement

The Annual Plan will be made publicly available on our website, and an information campaign will take place.

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

All of the community outcomes are relevant to this report.

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

The development of the Annual Plan is budgeted within the Strategy and Plans activity.

Ngā Tāpiritanga | Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

Ngā waitohu | Signatories

Author(s)	Niall Baker Kaiārahi Tīma Kaupapahere Policy Team Leader	
	Larnia Rushbrooke Pou Pūtea, Ratonga Pakihi Finance & Business Services Manager	

Approved by	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	
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7 Pūrongo me whakatau | Decision Reports

7.2 Setting of Rates 2026/27

CM No.: 3181000

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of the report is to formally set the rates for the 2026/27 year.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

Council is scheduled to adopt its Annual Plan 2026/27, and having done so, in accordance with Section 23 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, can set the rates for the 2026/27 financial year.

Tūtohunga | Recommendation

That:

1. The report be received;
2. The Matamata-Piako District Council hereby resolves to set the following rates in this report, under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, on rating units in the district for the financial year commencing 1 July 2026 and ending on 30 June 2027, and to state the due dates and authorise penalties on unpaid rates (under section 24 and 57 and 58 respectively of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002); and
3. The rates shown below are inclusive of fifteen percent (15%) Goods and Services Tax.

Horopaki | Background

Council is scheduled to adopt its Annual Plan 2026/27, and having done so, in accordance with Section 23 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, can set the rates for the 2026/27 financial year.

Transitional Water Services Arrangements (2026/27)

For the 2026/27 financial year, Council will continue to set, assess, and collect water supply and wastewater targeted rates in accordance with the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.

From 1 October 2026, responsibility for the delivery of water and wastewater services transfers to Waikato Waters Limited. Council will collect water and wastewater-related rates for the remainder of the 2026/27 financial year and will remit the portion of revenue relating to the period from 1 October 2026 to Waikato Waters Limited in accordance with the relevant transfer and service arrangements.

Ngā Take/Kōrerorero | Issues/Discussion

The rates to be set are as follows:

Rate	
(A)	General rate A general rate set under Section 13 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 and made on all rateable land in the Matamata-Piako District, at 0.00138560 per dollar of capital value, for the purposes of funding activities as identified in Council's Annual Plan.

(B)	<p>Uniform annual general charge A uniform annual general charge set under Section 15 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 and made on all rateable land in the Matamata-Piako District, being \$1,043.09 per rating unit, for the purposes of funding activities as identified in Council's Annual Plan.</p>
(C)	<p>Stormwater targeted rate A targeted rate for stormwater drainage disposal under Section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 to fund expenditure on stormwater disposal activities as identified in Council's Annual Plan:</p> <p>(i) A uniform charge of \$94.54 per rating unit within the townships of Matamata, Morrinsville, Te Aroha and Waharoa.</p>
(D)	<p>Kerbside collection targeted rate A targeted rate for kerbside collection under Section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 to fund expenditure on kerbside collection services as identified in Council's Annual Plan:</p> <p>(i) A uniform charge of \$311.27 per separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit to which the service is available.</p>
(E)	<p>Wastewater targeted rate Differential targeted rate for wastewater disposal under Section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 to fund expenditure on wastewater disposal activities as identified in Council's Annual Plan:</p> <p>(i) A uniform charge of \$1,049.12 per rating unit in respect of each single residential house connected to the service.</p> <p>(ii) The following scale of charges will apply for non-single residential and non-residential properties connected to the service: A uniform charge per rating unit for the first pan on all connected properties of \$1,049.12, and An additional uniform charge per pan (excluding the first pan) of \$1,049.12, for properties with up to 4 pans, or An additional uniform charge per pan (excluding the first pan) of \$891.75, for properties with up to 10 pans, or An additional uniform charge per pan (excluding the first pan) of \$839.30, for properties with up to 15 pans, or An additional uniform charge per pan (excluding the first pan) of \$786.84, for properties with up to 20 pans, or An additional uniform charge per pan (excluding the first pan) of \$734.39, for properties with more than 20 pans.</p> <p>(iii) A uniform charge for properties within 30 metres of Council's wastewater reticulation network of \$524.56 per rating unit to which the service is available (but not connected).</p>
(F)	<p>Water supply targeted rate Differential targeted rate for water supply under Section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 to fund expenditure on water activities as identified in Council's Annual Plan:</p> <p>(i) A uniform charge of \$784.14 per separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit to which the service is connected and provided.</p> <p>(ii) A uniform charge for properties within 100 metres of Council's water reticulation network of \$392.07 per separately used or inhabited part of a</p>

	rating unit to which the service is available (but not connected).
(G)	Water supply targeted rates (metered) In addition to a uniform charge per separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit to which the service is connected and provided, targeted rates for water supply under Section 19 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 to fund expenditure on water activities as identified in Council's Annual Plan, as follows:
(i)	A targeted rate for metered water supply of \$3.12 per cubic metre of water consumed (as measured by meter) over and above the first 63 cubic metres of water consumed per quarter, or the first 21 cubic metres consumed per month (excluding the water supplied as outlined in (ii) – (iv) following).
(ii)	A targeted rate for metered water supply of \$2.28 per cubic metre of water consumed (as measured by meter) over and above the first 63 cubic metres of water consumed per quarter, or the first 21 cubic metres consumed per month from the Pohomihī water line.
(iii)	A targeted rate for metered water supply of \$1.65 per cubic metre of water consumed (as measured by meter) over and above the first 63 cubic metres of water consumed per quarter, or the first 21 cubic metres consumed per month, for Braeside Aquaria.
(iv)	A targeted rate for metered water supply of \$3.12 per cubic metre of water consumed (as measured by meter) over and above the first 63 cubic metres of water consumed per quarter, or the first 21 cubic metres consumed per month, for Matamata farm properties that contain the Matamata trunk main from Tills Road. A 50% discount will be applied to this rate if the invoice is paid by the due date.
(H)	Rural hall targeted rates Targeted rates for rural halls under Section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 to fund expenditure on rural halls as identified in Council's Annual Plan, as follows:
(i)	Tauhei Hall: a targeted rate of \$0.00013671 per dollar of land value of all rating units within the Tauhei Hall rating area.
(ii)	Hoe-O-Tainui Hall: a targeted rate of \$0.00002790 per dollar of land value of all rating units within the Hoe-O-Tainui Hall rating area.
(iii)	Springdale Hall: a targeted rate of \$0.00001541 per dollar of land value of all rating units within the Springdale Hall rating area.
(iv)	Kiwitahi Hall: a targeted rate of \$0.00002030 per dollar of land value of all rating units within the Kiwitahi Hall rating area.
(v)	Patetonga Hall: a targeted rate of \$0.00003548 per dollar of land value of all rating units within the Patetonga Hall rating area.
(vi)	Wardville Hall: a targeted rate of \$0.00003332 per dollar of land value of all rating units within the Wardville Hall rating area.
(vii)	Tahuna Hall: a targeted rate of \$68.71 per rating unit on all land within the Tahuna Hall rating area
(viii)	Mangateparu Hall: a targeted rate of \$39.82 per rating unit on all land within the Mangateparu Hall rating area.
(ix)	Kereone Hall: a targeted rate of \$44.43 per rating unit on all land within the Kereone Hall rating area.
(x)	Tatuanui Hall: a targeted rate of \$72.01 per rating unit on all land within the Tatuanui Hall rating area.
(xi)	Walton Hall: a targeted rate of \$32.11 per rating unit on all land within the Walton Hall rating area.
(xii)	Okauia Hall: a targeted rate of \$0.00001930 per dollar of the capital value of all land within the Okauia Hall rating area.

	(xiii)	Hinuera Hall: a targeted rate of \$0.00001586 per dollar of the capital value of all land within the Hinuera Hall rating area.	
	(xiv)	Mangaiti Hall: a targeted rate of \$14.74 per separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit within the Mangaiti Hall rating area.	
	(xv)	Waihou Hall: a targeted rate of \$29.97 per separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit within the Waihou Hall rating area.	
	(xvi)	Elstow Hall: a targeted rate of \$25.18 per separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit within the Elstow Hall rating area.	
	(xvii)	Manawaru Hall: a targeted rate of \$38.37 per separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit within the Manawaru Hall rating area.	
(I)	Due dates for payment of rates		
	That all rates, except metered water supply targeted rates, will be payable in four instalments on the following dates:		
	(i)	First instalment	25 August 2026
	(ii)	Second instalment	25 November 2026
	(iii)	Third instalment	25 February 2027
	(iv)	Fourth instalment	25 May 2027
	That metered water supply targeted rates will be payable on the following dates:		
	(i)	Matamata, Waharoa, Hinuera & Te Poi ratepayers on quarterly invoicing cycle:	
		Quarter ending 31 July 2026	21 September 2026
		Quarter ending 31 October 2026	21 December 2026
		Quarter ending 31 January 2027	22 March 2027
		Quarter ending 30 April 2027	21 June 2027
	(ii)	Morrinsville & Tahuna ratepayers on quarterly invoicing cycle:	
		Quarter ending 31 August 2026	20 October 2026
		Quarter ending 30 November 2026	20 January 2027
		Quarter ending 28 February 2027	20 April 2027
		Quarter ending 31 May 2027	20 July 2027
	(iii)	Te Aroha ratepayers on quarterly invoicing cycle:	
		Quarter ending 30 September 2026	20 November 2026
		Quarter ending 31 December 2026	22 February 2027
		Quarter ending 31 March 2027	20 May 2027
		Quarter ending 30 June 2027	20 August 2027
	(iv)	Ratepayers on monthly invoicing cycle:	
Month ending 31 July 2026		25 August 2026	
Month ending 31 August 2026		25 September 2026	
Month ending 30 September 2026		27 October 2026	
Month ending 31 October 2026		25 November 2026	
Month ending 30 November 2026		29 December 2026	
Month ending 31 December 2026		25 January 2027	
Month ending 31 January 2027		25 February 2027	
Month ending 28 February 2027		25 March 2027	
Month ending 31 March 2027		27 April 2027	
Month ending 30 April 2027		25 May 2027	
Month ending 31 May 2027		28 June 2027	
Month ending 30 June 2027		26 July 2027	
(J)	Penalties (applicable to all rates, except metered water supply targeted rates)		
	That a ten percent (10%) penalty pursuant to Sections 57 and 58 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 be added to any amount of rates instalment unpaid by the due date above on the following dates:		
	(i)	First instalment	25 August 2026
	(ii)	Second instalment	25 November 2026

(iii)	Third instalment	25 February 2027
(iv)	Fourth instalment	25 May 2027
and that the Group Manager Corporate, People and Relationships and the Finance and Business Services Manager be delegated authority to apply the penalty.		

Mōrearea | Risk

The biggest risk Council faces with this decision is that due legal process may not be followed, which could result in the rates being invalidated. Potential additional risk arises this year relating to the transitional provisions around the transfer of water and wastewater activities to Waikato Waters Limited (WWL) and it’s impact on setting rates. However it has been confirmed that Council can continue to set, assess, and collect water supply and wastewater targeted rates in accordance with the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 for the 2026/27 year and up until WWL adopt their Water Services Strategy (expected for the year beginning 1 July 2027).

The process to set the Annual Plan budgets and associated rates has followed legislated process. At the time of writing this report, an independent legal review is being sought to confirm the Rates Calculation in the Funding Impact Statement of the Annual Plan and the Rates Resolution.

Any significant findings from this review or changes required as a result, will be tabled at this meeting. This year there has been no significant changes to the Rating Legislation or Local Government Act (as they pertain to the process of setting the rates).

Wastewater targeted rates previously charged to Fonterra and Greenlea under a 2012 agreement for their share of the Morrinsville Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade will cease from 1 July 2026, as the funding agreement has now been completed.

Other than this change, there are no significant changes to the rates being set (beyond the updated amounts), and the overall risk is therefore considered minimal.

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

Council is required to adopt an Annual Plan and set its rates prior to 1 July under the Local Government Act 2002 and Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.

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.

All Council decisions, whether made by the Council itself or under delegated authority, are subject to the decision-making requirements in sections 76 to 82 of the LGA 2002. This includes any decision not to take any action.

Local Government Act 2002 decision making requirements	Staff/officer comment
Section 77 – Council needs to give consideration to the reasonable practicable options available.	Council gave consideration to the reasonable practicable options available as part of developing the budget. The setting of the rates is an outcome of those considerations
Section 78 – requires consideration of the views of Interested/affected people	No consultation was undertaken on the Annual Plan as the changes were not

	considered significant or material change from year three LTP.
Section 79 – how to achieve compliance with sections 77 and 78 is in proportion to the significance of the issue	The Significance and Engagement Policy is considered above. This issue is assessed as having a low level of significance.
Section 82 – this sets out principles of consultation.	No consultation was undertaken on the Annual Plan as the changes were not considered significant or a material change from year three of the LTP.

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.

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

The setting of the rates allows Council to collect revenue as specified for year three of the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan.

Ngā Tāpiritanga | Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

Ngā waitohu | Signatories

Author(s)	Larnia Rushbrooke Pou Pūtea, Ratonga Pakihi Finance & Business Services Manager	
	Anne Gummer Kaitohu Kaupapahere Mātāmua Senior Policy Advisor	
Approved by	Kelly Reith Hautū Rangatōpū, Tāngata me ngā Hononga Group Manager Corporate, People & Relationships	

7 Pūrongo me whakataurua | Decision Reports

7.3 Waikato Screen - Request for funding

CM No.: 3187624

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider whether a funding request from Waikato Screen will be granted from the Economic Development budget.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

A request for funding has been received from Waikato Screen. This report provides information to Matamata-Piako District Council (Council) to assist in their decision-making.

Tūtohunga | Recommendation

That:

1. **A) Council approves a once-only funding contribution of \$_____ to Waikato Screen from the 2025/26 Economic Development budget (3063), subject to confirmation that Waikato Screen has secured sufficient financial support from neighbouring councils.**

B) Any future requests of funding by Waikato Screen must be applied for through the Long Term Plan process.

OR
2. **Council declines the request from Waikato Screen for a funding contribution and recommend the applicant apply for funding through the Long Term Plan process.**

Horopaki | Background

On 28 April 2026, Waikato Screen sent email correspondence to nine Waikato Councils with an updated regional funding model, requesting a financial contribution as part of Councils' Annual Plan, to support their long-term sustainability.

The contribution they are seeking from Matamata-Piako District Council is \$37,600, being an 8% share across the Waikato. Although no funding was identified through the Long Term Plan/Annual Plan process, Council may consider the request through any unallocated funds within the Economic Development budget.

On 17 June 2026, Waikato Screen presented to Matamata-Piako District Council in support of its funding request.

Ngā Take/Kōrerorero | Issues/Discussion

In considering this request, elected members should note that Council did not support Waikato Screen's application to the multi-year grants as part of their Long Term Plan 2024-2034 and that there is no grant funding available due to the timing of the Annual Plan 2025/26. Any payment would need to be made from the Economic Development budget.

Benefits to Matamata-Piako

Our district boasts unique and dramatic scenery including mountain and rural landscapes, and a variety of historic architecture. Waikato Screen notes that film/TV productions are of substantial benefit to the local economy including the creation of jobs, construction, retail trade, accommodation and tourism. The continued success of Hobbiton is noted as an example of the longevity of the benefits to the region.

With the requested funding, Waikato Screen aims to grow the screen industry in our area and to highlight the Matamata-Piako district prominently when presenting the region to the global industry, noting the variety of landscapes and filming opportunities.

Mōrearea | Risk

If Council approves a funding contribution there is a potential reputational risk that the community may perceive Council as approving expenditure outside of the Long Term Plan/Annual Plan process.

Ngā Whiringa | Options

Option 1

Council approves a once-only funding contribution of \$_____ to Waikato Screen from the 2025/26 Economic Development budget (3063), subject to confirmation that Waikato Screen has secured sufficient financial support from neighbouring councils.

Any future requests of funding by Waikato Screen must be applied for through the Long Term Plan process.

Option 2

Council declines the request from Waikato Screen for a funding contribution and recommend the applicant apply for funding through the Long Term Plan process.





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

The scope of work to be undertaken as part of Waikato Screen's funding request is not identified in Council's Long Term Plan. However it could potentially strengthen emphasis on economic development and attract the film industry to our region to support economic growth.

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:

- He wāhi kaingākau ki te manawa | A place with people at its heart
- He wāhi whakapapa, he wāhi hangahanga | A place to belong and create

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

Council may wish to fund this arrangement through the Economic Development budget 3063 which currently has \$27,750.00 available.

Ngā Tāpiritanga | Attachments

[A↓](#). 2026 Waikato Screen NZ Funding update



Ngā waitohu | Signatories

Author(s)	Tamara Kingi Kaiārahi Kāwana Governance Team Leader	
Approved by	Sandra Harris Pou Kaupapahere, Rāngai Mahitahi me te Kāwana Policy, Partnerships and Governance Manager	



Waikato Screen – Updated Regional Funding Model for Council

Tēnā koutou,

We are reaching out as councils move through annual plan and budget discussions, to share an update on the Waikato Regional Film Office and outline our proposed regional funding model for 2026.

The screen sector continues to grow globally, with over US\$100 billion in content investment projected across major platforms for 2026, and New Zealand is firmly positioned as a highly desirable filming destination. Domestically, the screen sector contributes \$3.5 billion to the economy, supports approximately 24,000 jobs, and continues to benefit from strong central government backing and international rebate incentives.

For Waikato, this presents a very real and immediate opportunity.

Over the past year, we have:

- Increased production enquiries by 19%
- Delivered a 36% increase in production supported
- Grown our local crew/industry professionals' database
- Continued to expand our locations library and regional visibility

This momentum is accelerating.

Recent industry developments, including the acquisition of an Auckland-based Indigenous studio by Jason Momoa, Cliff Curtis and Taika Waititi, signal significant future production activity. Given Waikato's proximity, locations, and growing capability, we are well-positioned to support this flow of work, ensuring direct benefit to our districts, local businesses, and communities.

Why this matters now

Firstly, we would like to sincerely thank each council for your support to date.

Over the past three years, regional council funding, which contributed approximately 50% of our operational base, alongside council support, enabled us to establish the film office, build capability, and deliver strong results across the region.

That foundation has been critical. However, with regional council funding no longer in place, we are now at a pivotal point.

Demand is increasing.
Opportunities are accelerating.
The sector is growing rapidly both globally and nationally.

But without a stable, regionally aligned funding base, we risk losing momentum and falling behind other well-resourced film regions across New Zealand.

At the same time, we have:

- Exceeded our initial deliverables
- Established clear pathways into the industry for our communities
- Built strong, respected national and international relationships
- Proven the value of the film office as both an economic and community driver

We are also actively strengthening our sustainability model through:

www.waikatoscreen.nz | info@waikatoscreen.nz | +6421731800



- Newly launched tiered crew and preferred business directories, creating direct opportunities for local businesses
- Ongoing community grant funding applications to support programme delivery
- The establishment of the Waikato Screen Charitable Trust, enabling access to wider funding for education, iwi engagement, and community initiatives

These contributing initiatives expand our impact — but they do not replace the need for a stable core funding structure.

Proposed Regional Funding Model (2026)

To ensure long-term sustainability, we are introducing a fair, hybrid funding model across all nine councils, establishing a \$400,000 core operational base.

Funding Structure

- Base contribution: \$20,000 per council
- Variable contribution: Scaled based on population, infrastructure, and production benefit

Illustrative Council Contributions

Council	% Share	Base	Variable	Total Contribution
Hamilton City	35%	\$20,000	\$77,000	\$97,000
Waikato District	18%	\$20,000	\$39,600	\$59,600
Waipā District	13%	\$20,000	\$28,600	\$48,600
Thames-Coromandel	10%	\$20,000	\$22,000	\$42,000
Matamata-Piako	8%	\$20,000	\$17,600	\$37,600
South Waikato	6%	\$20,000	\$13,200	\$33,200
Hauraki	5%	\$20,000	\$11,000	\$31,000
Waitomo	3%	\$20,000	\$6,600	\$26,600
Ōtorohanga	2%	\$20,000	\$4,400	\$24,400

Total Council Contribution: \$400,000

Why this model works

Stability & sustainability

- Provides a clear, structured regional funding base
- Enables consistent delivery of core services
- Supports long-term planning and capability

Economic & community impact

- Attracts production and external spend into the region
- Ensures local businesses and industry professionals benefit directly
- Creates employment, training, and career pathways

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- Supports rangatahi, emerging talent, and iwi engagement
- Strengthens regional visibility and screen tourism

This positions the film office as regional economic infrastructure with direct community impact.

The opportunity

The Waikato screen sector is gaining real traction.

We have:

- Proven delivery
- Strong growth
- Established pathways
- Increasing demand

This model ensures we can:

- Remain competitive with other regions
- Capture growing production activity
- Deliver measurable economic return
- Create lasting opportunities for our people

A regional approach

This is a shared opportunity across the Waikato.

A coordinated regional investment ensures:

- All districts benefit
- Opportunities are retained locally

Waikato is positioned as a unified, film-ready region

We would welcome the opportunity to speak further as part of your annual planning considerations and discuss how this model aligns with your district's priorities.

Thank you again for your continued support. We are seeing real results, and with the right level of regional investment, there is significant opportunity ahead.

Ngā mihi nui,

Tracy Hampton & Erin Griffiths
Co-Directors

Tracy Hampton
Film Office Manager

Erin Griffiths
Attraction & Facilitation Manager

www.WaikatoScreen.nz

www.waikatoscreen.nz | info@waikatoscreen.nz | +6421731800

7 Pūrongo me whakatau | Decision Reports

7.4 Waikato Waters Ltd Transfer Agreement

CM No.: 3132242

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval of the draft Transfer Agreement and associated subsidiary agreements with Waikato Waters Limited (Waikato Waters), and to confirm the delegations required to finalise and execute the suite of documents necessary to transition Council's drinking water and wastewater services to Waikato Waters with effect from 1 October 2026.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

On 25 June 2025, after a period of public consultation, Council agreed to join the new council-controlled waters services entity (Waikato Waters), along with 5 other Waikato District Councils:

- Hauraki
- Ōtorohanga
- South Waikato
- Waipā
- Waitomo

This commitment was formalised through the Waikato Waters Shareholders' Agreement and Council's Water Services Delivery Plan, which provide for the transfer of drinking water and wastewater services to Waikato Waters Limited (WWL) on 1 October 2026.

WWL is expected to deliver greater long-term financial sustainability, opportunities for savings in delivering planned infrastructure, improved operational resilience, and a more coordinated response to new regulatory requirements.

In order to give effect to this commitment and meet Council's obligations under the Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025 (LGWSA), Council is required to enter into a transfer agreement, transferring the responsibility for providing water services, with the content of that transfer defined throughout the agreement. Council previously confirmed that stormwater services would not transfer to WWL under the Transfer Agreement.

Council has been involved in the drafting of all documents and participated in the legal review commissioned by Waipā District Council with the outcomes and differences discussed and negotiated with WWL. The detailed appendices were validated by key staff.

Within Matamata-Piako District Council there are a number of complex waters-related property matters that require further attention. The draft Transfer Agreement allows the parties to continue working together and make amendments where needed before the transfer date. Any recommended amendments will be brought back to Council and Waikato Waters for approval before 1 October 2026.

Approval of the draft Transfer Agreement is a significant milestone for MPDC and the Waikato Water Done Well programme, which Council has been progressing over several years.

Tūtohunga | Recommendation

That:

1. **The report titled “Waikato Waters Ltd Transfer Agreement” be received.**
2. **The draft Transfer Agreement presented to Council, to give effect to the transfer of Council’s drinking water and wastewater services, associated assets, liabilities, contracts, responsibilities and operational functions to Waikato Waters Limited in accordance with the Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025 and the approved Water Services Delivery Plan be approved.**
3. **Council delegates authority to the Mayor and Chief Executive to:**
 - a) **finalise the contents of the schedules and annexures to the draft Transfer Agreement in accordance with the Transfer Principles agreed in the Shareholders’ Agreement;**
 - b) **agree to any subsequent legal mechanisms or documentation required to give effect to the terms of the draft Transfer Agreement;**
 - c) **sign the final Transfer Agreement on behalf of Council no later than 10 July 2026; and**
 - d) **take any other actions required to give effect to the draft Transfer Agreement.**
4. **Council delegates to the Chief Executive the authority to:**
 - a) **agree, approve and execute the specific services that Council will provide to Waikato Waters under the Post Completion Services Agreement and associated Service Orders; and**
 - b) **agree, approve and execute the Shared Services Agreement, documentation and associated Service Orders.**

Horopaki | Background

On 25 June 2025, Council approved Waikato Waters Done Well (WWDW) as Council’s preferred model for delivering drinking water and wastewater services for inclusion in Council’s Water Services Delivery Plan (WSDP). Stormwater is to remain with Council. Under WWDW, the shareholding councils would establish a council-controlled organisation (CCO) as a water organisation under the Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025 (LGWSA).

The decision to approve WWDW followed a period of consultation with the community in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024. That legislation required councils to develop a WSDP identifying the current state of their water services and demonstrating how those services would be delivered in a way that meets relevant regulatory standards, is financially sustainable, and supports housing growth and urban development. Waikato Waters Limited was incorporated on 24 July 2025 in accordance with the Shareholders’ Agreement and Constitution approved by council.

Under the Shareholders’ Agreement, Council committed to entering into a Transfer Agreement with WWL to transfer responsibility for drinking water and wastewater services to the company on 1 October 2026, based on the template attached to the Shareholders’ Agreement. The Shareholders’ Agreement requires the Transfer Agreement to be signed at least four months

before the transfer date. However, by mutual agreement, MPDC will sign it three months before the transfer date. Signing the Transfer Agreement also enables WWL to make offers of employment to transferring Council staff.

The requirements of the Shareholders' Agreement are consistent with the requirements of the LGWSA. Under the LGWSA, in order for Council to transfer responsibility for providing water services to a water organisation, such as WWL, it must enter into a Transfer Agreement with that organisation in accordance with the Act. Such an agreement must include the matters set out in Schedule 2 of the LGWSA and it must be adopted by resolution.

Ngā Take/Kōrerorero | Issues/Discussion

The draft Transfer Agreement has been developed from the template agreed in the Shareholders' Agreement and the requirements of the LGWSA. Over the past 12 months, Council staff have worked with Waikato Waters to provide information and finalise the detail of the draft Transfer Agreement. Some matters still require additional clarification, which is why the draft Transfer Agreement was provided to elected members on the Friday before the 24 June meeting. Final matters requiring clarification include additional drafting in relation to the land offer-back provisions, confirmation of the contracts proposed to remain with Council following the transfer date, completion of final land verification, and review of certain land-related legal provisions.

Under the draft Transfer Agreement, WWL will assume full responsibility for providing drinking water and wastewater services within the Matamata-Piako district.

The draft Transfer Agreement sets out in detail the transfer to the Company of:

- The transfer of responsibility for delivery of drinking water and wastewater assets from 1 October 2026;
- All infrastructure owned or controlled by Council that is used primarily for the purpose of providing the Transferring Water Services (including specified infrastructure) unless expressly excluded;
- Related assets and other matters necessary for the company to carry out, and be responsible for, providing the Transferring Water Services in Council's service area; and
- Relevant Water Service liabilities

The agreement also sets out in detail how the following matters will be managed:

- How Council will continue to set, invoice, and collect rates and water charges for water services for the 2026/27 financial year (with no change to current billing arrangements), followed by a transition from 1 July 2027 to an agency billing model, with billing services potentially continuing for a defined transitional period following transfer;
- How agreed Council employees will be offered employment at WWL and the agreed basis for offers.
- Which contracts will be novated to Waikato Waters;
- The payment ("settlement amount") to be made by WWL for the transfer, including the methodology for calculating this.
- How Council and WWL will work together on matters of shared interest following the transfer taking place.
- Which services Council will continue to provide to Waikato Waters for up to three years while Waikato Waters establishes its own systems.

The agreement will include completed appendices containing the detail of the assets and other matters to be transferred, including:

- Assets and Obligations

- Statutory responsibilities, functions, duties and powers;
- Operational Responsibilities
- Management Responsibilities
- Resource Consents Responsibilities

The agreement records how the settlement amount will be calculated.

- a) The Council Water Infrastructure debt
- b) The Council's share of the Establishment Costs
- c) The Council's Establishment Funding Share, including interest incurred by the Council on the Council's Establishment Funding Share
- d) Any Transitional Activity costs.

Approving the Transfer Agreement will:

- Align with decisions already made by Council under the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024.
- Align with the requirements of a transfer agreement as set out in the Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025, as confirmed by external legal review.
- Align with the implementation plan in the water services delivery plan adopted by Council, which was approved by the Secretary of Local Government on 17 September 2025.
- Allow Council to fulfil its contractual obligations to enter into a transfer agreement with Waikato Waters Limited at least 3 months prior to the agreed date of transfer, as required under the Shareholders' Agreement.
- Allow Council and Waikato Waters sufficient time to satisfy their respective preclosing obligations and achieve completion under the Transfer Agreement by 1 October 2026.

Mōrearea | Risk

At the time of writing, some aspects of the draft Transfer Agreement remained subject to final discussion and clarification with Waikato Waters. If Council does not approve the recommendations at this time, this may affect the timing of the transfer and Council's ability to meet its commitments under the Shareholders' Agreement and the WSDP. It may also delay transfer arrangements for affected staff. These matters are outlined below.

Schedule 2, number 7 of the Transfer Agreement, Completion, sets out the parties' obligations at Completion (1 October 2026) and the actions available to the Company if Council does not meet those obligations. These include completing the transfer as far as practicable, setting a new Completion Date, seeking specific performance, or requesting Ministerial intervention under the relevant legislation.

Execution of the Transfer Agreement will also enable Waikato Waters Limited to make offers of employment to affected Council staff. Some staff are intended to transfer from 1 July 2026, when Waikato Waters becomes operational. It has been agreed that the Transfer Agreement will be executed no later than 10 July 2026, with the secondment of relevant staff continuing until that date. If the agreement is not executed by then, those arrangements may need to be deferred.

There is also a risk that aspects of the Transfer Agreement remain incomplete or require refinement. This relates both to the legal form of the agreement, which has been subject to substantial legal review, and to the schedules, where work has been undertaken and is continuing to verify the information included.

- the legal form of the agreement may be deficient. This risk is currently mitigated by the substantial legal input provided by Waikato Waters and the six participating councils; and
- the schedules to the Transfer Agreement may contain incomplete or inaccurate information. Significant work has been undertaken, and is continuing, to compile and verify this information. Schedule 2, Clause 6, number 6.6 of the Transfer Agreement acknowledges that at the date of agreement, for both the Council and Company, further work is required to identify all assets, responsibilities, liabilities or contracts to transfer and both parties agree to continue to work together to identify any such additional items.
- There is also a risk that the financial components of the transfer, including loans, reserves, and cost transfers, are not yet fully complete. This work is still being finalised.

These risks have been substantially mitigated through ongoing collaboration with WWL, including legal review, verification of schedules, and continued refinement of the transfer arrangements.

Ngā Whiringa | Options

Option One – Status Quo	
Description of option	
Remain with Status Quo – do nothing.	
Advantages	Disadvantages
No immediate implementation work is required.	Do not comply with the WSDP or Shareholders’ Agreement
Council retains additional time to consider unresolved matters.	The community will not benefit from the outcomes of “Waikato Waters Done Well” as outlined in the WSDP
Option Two – Adopt the Transfer Agreement	
Description of option	
Council approves the draft Transfer Agreement to give effect to the transfer of Council’s drinking water and wastewater services and associated assets, liabilities, contracts, responsibilities and operational functions to Waikato Waters Limited, in accordance with the Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025 and Council’s approved Water Services Delivery Plan.	
Advantages	Disadvantages
Comply with the WSDP and Shareholders’ Agreement	
The community will benefit from the outcomes of “Waikato Waters Done Well” as set out in the WSDP.	
Ensures timeframes can be met to enable	

transfer to proceed by 1 October 2026	
Enables certainty for affected staff and early movers.	
Retains ability to still amend agreements if additions are required, prior to the 1 October transfer date.	

Option Three – Delay adoption of the Transfer Agreement

Description of option

Council delays the decision to approve the draft Transfer Agreement presented by Waikato Waters Limited.

Advantages	Disadvantages
Enables further work on the Transfer Agreement.	Does not comply with the Shareholders' Agreement
	Creates uncertainty for affected staff and early movers
	Risks viability of timeframes to effect transfer by 1 October 2026

Recommended option

To enable Council to meet its obligations in a timely manner, it is recommended that Council approve the draft Transfer Agreement and grant the delegations set out in the resolutions above. The Transfer Agreement needs to be finalised with Waikato Waters by 10 July 2026 to enable the transfer of staff, assets, liabilities, and relevant contracts.

If the Transfer Agreement is not signed, Waikato Waters will not be in a position to issue offers of employment to transferring staff. It would also place Council at risk of not meeting its obligations under the Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025. The approach proposed in this report is consistent with that being taken by the other early-transferring councils.

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

The overall subject matter of this report is significant because it relates to the transfer of responsibility for Council's drinking water and wastewater services. However, the broader proposal has already been the subject of consultation and earlier Council decisions under the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024.

The resolutions now sought are more limited in scope, as they give effect to decisions already made by Council and provide the approvals and delegations required to implement the transfer.

Staff confirm that option 2, adopting the Transfer Agreement, complies with the commitments in the Council and Waikato Waters Shareholders' Agreement as well as the LGWSA and accepted WSDP.

Local Government Act 2002 (LGA 2002) Decision-making requirements

Having regard to the decision-making provisions in the LGA 2002 and Council’s Significance and Engagement Policy, the subject matter of this report is significant. However, the decisions sought by these recommendations are considered proportionate to earlier consultation and Council decisions that have already been undertaken.

All Council decisions, whether made by the Council itself or under delegated authority, are subject to the decision-making requirements in sections 76 to 82 of the LGA 2002. This includes any decision not to take any action.

Local Government Act 2002 decision making requirements	Staff/officer comment
Section 77 – Council needs to give consideration to the reasonable practicable options available.	Options are addressed above in this report.
Section 78 – requires consideration of the views of Interested/affected people	Option 2 gives effect to the direction signalled through consultation by supporting a long-term approach to future-proofing essential services while prioritising the needs of the community and staff. <i>“Although the participating councils may be manageable in the short term, the longer-term risks mean a different approach is needed.”</i>
Section 79 – how to achieve compliance with sections 77 and 78 is in proportion to the significance of the issue	The Significance and Engagement Policy is considered above. This issue is assessed as having a <i>High</i> level of significance.
Section 82 – this sets out principles of consultation.	Consultation on the Waikato Waters proposal was undertaken between 5 – 25 May 2025.

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.

Ngā Pāpāhonga me ngā Whakawhitiwhitinga | Communications and engagement

Timeframes





Key Task	Dates
Publish the fully executed version of the	No later than 31 July 2026.

Transfer Agreement on Council's website (with such necessary redactions as required to protect any obligations of confidentiality and/or privacy.	
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Ngā take ā-lhinga | Consent issues
 None

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	
<p style="text-align: center;">TŌ MĀTOU WHAKAKITENGA OUR VISION</p> <p>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.'</p>			
<p style="text-align: center;">TŌ MĀTOU WHĀINGA MATUA OUR PRIORITIES (COMMUNITY OUTCOMES)</p>			
			
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:

- He wāhi e poipoi ai tō tātou taiao | A place that embraces our environment, by supporting the sustainable and resilient delivery of essential water services.

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

The costs of establishing WWL are being financed by the shareholding councils until Waikato Waters can borrow in its own right from the Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA). Councils will be providing a Deed of Guarantee to the LGFA to support Waikato Waters.

Once WWL can borrow (1 July 2026), all monies advanced by the shareholders will be repaid, including interest costs. The budget for these establishment costs was approved by the SRF in July 2025 in accordance with the delegation vested in that forum under the Shareholders' Agreement.

Ngā Tāpiritanga | Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

Ngā waitohu | Signatories

Author(s)	Susanne Kampshof Pou Rawa me ngā Kaupapa Assets and Projects Manager	
Approved by	Fiona Vessey Hautū Hanganga Rawa me ngā Whakahaere Group Manager Infrastructure, Assets & Operations	

7 Pūrongo me whakatau | Decision Reports

7.5 Access to Drinking Water Communities Assessment

CM No.: 3182998

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to present the Access to Drinking Water Communities Assessment, attached as Appendix 1, for Council to receive as an information and planning document that supports awareness of statutory requirements and future water services planning.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

The Access to Drinking Water Communities Assessment (the Assessment) provides a district-wide overview of how communities access drinking water, including both Council-supplied and non-Council-supplied sources. The Assessment identified 92 potential supplies across the district, of which 40 were assessed for the 2026 review under section 69 of the Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025. It also identifies opportunities to strengthen future reviews by improving the information base, including through inspections, further cross-checking of private community supplies, and use of the register developed through this assessment as a baseline for future updates.

The Assessment identifies communities with reliable access to drinking water services, as well as those that may face challenges relating to supply reliability, water quality, or long-term sustainability. Of the 40 supplies assessed, 26 are registered with Water Services Authority Taumata Arowai and 14 are not registered.

The Assessment has been prepared to support Council in meeting its legislative requirements relating to drinking water services, including the requirement that every territorial authority complete an assessment of drinking water services by 1 July 2026 and update that assessment at least once every three years. Council remains responsible for undertaking the assessment as the territorial authority, while operational and compliance monitoring of individual supplies generally remains with the relevant supply owner or operator, with regulatory oversight provided by Taumata Arowai.

This report presents the Assessment to Council as an information item and as a supporting evidence base for water services planning, including to inform future planning considerations by Waikato Waters.

Tūtohunga | Recommendation

That

1. Council receives the report titled *“Access to Drinking Water Communities Assessment”*

Horopaki | Background

Section 69 of the Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025 requires territorial authorities to inform themselves about the access that each community in their district has to drinking water services by undertaking an assessment of drinking water services.

The legislation requires the first assessment to be completed by 1 July 2026 and for later assessments to be undertaken at least once every three years, or earlier where there is a material change in access to drinking water services.

The purpose of requiring this assessment is to help ensure that:

- Public health is protected;
- Current and future demand for services can be met; and
- Risks to communities are identified and managed.

To prepare the Assessment, existing registers and information sources were reviewed to develop a long list of supplies, which was then refined through cross-checking of records and discussion with Council staff to create the shortlist for assessment.

The Assessment includes all Council-owned supplies and non-Council supplies registered under the Local Government (Water Services) Act, such as registered schools and private community supplies. Other non-Council supplies, including some maraes, campgrounds, industry and private supplies, were identified but not fully assessed where data availability was limited and Council visibility over their operation was limited.

In practical terms, the Assessment is intended to provide a clearer understanding of:

- Which communities have access to safe drinking water;
- The level of service being provided; and
- Any risks or gaps in access, quality, or resilience.

The Access to Drinking Water Communities Assessment has been prepared to support these requirements by providing a consolidated view of drinking water access across the district, including both Council-supplied and privately supplied sources.

Ngā Take/Kōrerorero | Issues/Discussion

Scope of the Assessment

The Assessment considers:

- Communities serviced by Council drinking water supplies;
- Communities reliant on private or self-supplied sources (e.g. rainwater, bores, springs);
- Levels of service across different communities; and
- Key risks and challenges associated with current supply arrangements.

Key Findings

The Assessment identifies that:

- Of the 92 entries identified on the long list, 40 supplies were assessed for the 2026 section 69 review;
- The 40 assessed supplies comprise 6 Council township supplies, 5 company supplies, 15 early learning centres or schools, 3 campgrounds, 2 golf clubs, 8 marae, and 1 family supply;
- Compared with the 2017 assessment, 30 supplies appear in both assessments, 10 were added, and 9 were removed, mainly due to connection to Council supply, closure, or confirmation that the supply was outside the district;

- For Council and company networked supplies with available regulatory data, drinking water monitoring requirements were generally met, with one partial exception recorded for source monitoring at Waitoa Village and Factory;
- For a number of registered self-supplied buildings and unregistered supplies, public information is limited and site verification or further information would be required to complete a more detailed assessment.

The Assessment highlights the need for ongoing improvement to the underlying supply information base, including inspections, site verification where needed, and further cross-checking to confirm private community supplies and strengthen future updates. A significant component of the work involved establishing an up-to-date register of supplies, which will provide a useful baseline for future assessments. The Assessment also notes that some matters, including registration of qualifying unregistered supplies and follow-up on outstanding information for registered supplies, sit with Taumata Arowai rather than Council. Presenting the Assessment for information does not commit Council to specific projects or expenditure.

While Council, as the territorial authority, is responsible for completing and updating the Access to Drinking Water Communities Assessment at least once every three years, responsibility for ongoing monitoring identified through the assessment will vary depending on the nature of that monitoring. Council's role is primarily to maintain sufficient information to support future assessments and inform planning. Ongoing operational and compliance monitoring of individual drinking water supplies, including water quality and supply performance monitoring, generally remains the responsibility of the relevant supply owner or operator, with regulatory oversight provided by Taumata Arowai. Where the assessment identifies gaps in information, further verification or follow-up may be required over time to support future updates.

Role of the Assessment

The Assessment is intended to:

- Provide a baseline picture of drinking water access across the district;
- Guide Activity Management Plans and future infrastructure planning;
- Support compliance with regulatory obligations;
- Help identify priorities for future work, including matters relevant to Waikato Waters' planning; and
- Reflect the statutory responsibilities of a territorial authority.

Mōrearea | Risk

The Assessment highlights that some non-Council and unregistered supplies have limited information available, and in some cases site verification, inspections, or further information gathering would be required to support more detailed future assessments. This creates an ongoing risk that future planning decisions may be made without complete data unless the information base continues to be improved over time. However, operational compliance risk for individual drinking water supplies remains primarily with the relevant supply owner or operator, with regulatory oversight provided by Taumata Arowai.

Ngā Whiringa | Options

Council has the following options in relation to the Assessment:

Option One – Receive the Assessment for information (Recommended)	
Description of option	
Council receives the Assessment as an information and planning document to support future water services planning and decision-making.	
Advantages	Disadvantages
Provides a consolidated evidence base for planning. Supports informed decision-making. Acknowledges the completed assessment and its role in informing future work.	Receiving the report for information does not in itself resolve any data gaps identified in the Assessment.
Option Two – Request further information or clarification	
Description of option	
Council receives the report and requests any additional clarification it considers helpful for future planning.	
Advantages	Disadvantages
Allows any specific questions or information gaps to be highlighted for future work.	May require additional officer time to prepare follow-up information.

Recommended option

Option One is recommended because it presents the completed Assessment as a consolidated evidence base for planning, supports informed decision-making, and acknowledges its role in informing future work without committing Council to specific actions or expenditure at this time.

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

The Assessment supports Council in meeting its obligations under section 69 of the Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025, including the requirement to complete a first assessment of drinking water services by 1 July 2026 and to update that assessment at least once every three years, or earlier where there is a material change in access to drinking water services. Section 69 requires councils to identify communities receiving drinking water services, describe the nature of those services and the characteristics of the communities served, assess sufficiency, safety, quality and public health risks, and consider future demand and the consequences of loss of service. Council's statutory role is to undertake and maintain the assessment as the territorial authority; this does not mean Council is directly responsible for all operational monitoring of individual drinking water supplies.

Local Government Act 2002 (LGA 2002) Decision-making requirements

Having regard to the decision making provisions in the LGA 2002 and Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, a decision in accordance with the recommendations is assessed as having a low level of significance.

All Council decisions, whether made by the Council itself or under delegated authority, are subject to the decision-making requirements in sections 76 to 82 of the LGA 2002. This includes any decision not to take any action.

Local Government Act 2002 decision making requirements	Staff/officer comment
Section 77 – Council needs to give consideration to the reasonable practicable options available.	Options are addressed above in this report.
Section 78 – requires consideration of the views of Interested/affected people	Formal consultation is not required, as the Assessment is an information and planning document and does not directly affect individual properties, service levels, or commit Council to specific projects or funding.
Section 79 – how to achieve compliance with sections 77 and 78 is in proportion to the significance of the issue	The Significance and Engagement Policy is considered above. This issue is assessed as having a low level of significance.
Section 82 – this sets out principles of consultation.	No formal consultation is required for this decision.

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.

Ngā Pāpāhonga me ngā Whakawhitiwhitinga | Communications and engagement

The Assessment is primarily an internal planning and evidence document. Following receipt of this report, it will be used to inform Activity Management Plans, future water services strategies, and planning for future service delivery and investment. It also establishes a baseline register of supplies to support future updates and will help guide any further information gathering, inspections, or verification work that may be required over time. The Assessment will also be provided to Waikato Waters to inform its future planning considerations.

Timeframes





Key Task	Dates
Complete and receive the Assessment	By 1 July 2026

Ngā take ā-lhinga | Consent issues

There are no consent issues arising directly from Council receiving the Assessment.

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 that embraces our environment.

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

There are no direct financial implications associated with Council receiving this report for information. However, the Assessment identifies areas where further work may be required over time, including inspections, site verification, improved supply records, and further information gathering for some non-Council and unregistered supplies. Any future work arising from the Assessment will be considered through Council's and Waikato Waters' normal planning and budgeting processes. Operational monitoring and compliance costs for individual non-Council supplies remain primarily the responsibility of the relevant supply owner or operator. The Assessment will inform Activity Management Plans and future water services strategies, support planning for future service delivery and investment, assist in identifying priority areas for further investigation or improvement, and be provided to Waikato Waters to inform its future planning considerations.

Ngā Tāpiritanga | Attachments

[A↓](#) Assessment of Communities Drinking Water - June 2026



Ngā waitohu | Signatories

Author(s)	Susanne Kampshof Pou Rawa me ngā Kaupapa Assets and Projects Manager	
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Approved by	Fiona Vessey Hautū Hanganga Rawa me ngā Whakahaere Group Manager Infrastructure, Assets & Operations	
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Assessment of Communities' Access to Drinking Water

Matamata Piako District Council





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1. Introduction

Morrison Low Advisory was commissioned to support Matamata-Piako District Council (MPDC) to meet its obligations under Section 69 of the Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025, which requires councils to assess and document how drinking water services are provided across all communities they serve.

The assignment included confirming the extent to which services meet expectations for access, quantity, quality, reliability and public health, and identifying any service limitations, risks or gaps as captured in Appendix A (Section 69 Extracted).

This report documents the methodology for completing the assessment and key findings.

The assessment will be published on Council's website under water and wastewater and will be provided to the Water Services Authority Taumata Arowai, to meet Section 70 "Obligations in relation to completed drinking water assessment".

2. Methodology

MLA undertook a structured review and assessment process to confirm the completeness, compliance and usability of the information provided.

This included:

- Reviewing existing registers and information to confirm the level of coverage across the district:
 - Several information sources were used to establish a register of supplies that are required to be assessed.
 - A longlist was developed, reviewed with MPDC's key staff and specialists, then a short list created on which to base the assessment.
- Assessing the information against legislative requirements, including access, quantity, quality, reliability and public health considerations.
- Presenting the information in a clear, structured assessment that supports reporting requirements and enables efficient future updates.

3. Assessment process

The first step in the process involved the creation of a supply register. Potential supplies were extracted from the following main sets of information to develop a longlist of potential supplies; further detail on the below list of sources is provided in Appendix B:

- MPDC_water_take_list (based on consents granted by the Waikato Regional Council)
- 1927218 MPDC Assessment of Water Services - 2017 version 3 SH1 review (the former assessment)
- Water Services Authority Taumata Arowai Registration ID (extracted from Hinekōrako)
- The list and current connection status of marae provided by Council's Iwi Liaison Officer
- Trade waste permit spreadsheet
- Ministry of Health Annual Report on Drinking-Water Quality 2020–2021.

The long list was then reduced to a short list through a process of cross checking across information both written and through client meetings with subject matter experts. Specifically, the process of reducing the long list to a short list involved the following steps.

Step 1

The MPDC_water_take_list contained a long list of water takes, not all of which were considered community supplies being used for the purpose of drinking water. Prior to detailed review, the following rules were established:

- Where the community supply type was classified as “agricultural farming,” this supply was excluded.
- Where the use of water specifically for geothermal was mentioned, this supply was excluded.
- Where the use of water specifically for pasture irrigation was mentioned, this supply was excluded.

Step 2

The list of all the information sources above was then cross checked against this list, before two meetings were held with the client to inform the remaining short list.

Step 3

The overall assessment was completed using the information sources.

Risk assessment was conducted using either:

- The methodology for risk assessment established in the 2017 MPDC Assessment of Water Services (refer to Appendix C)
- A commentary based on the Water Services Delivery Plan (2025) and the Drinking Water Regulation Report (2024), or
- Making a generic statement informed by the type of community served and the nature of the supply source.

4. Key findings

4.1. What is being identified versus assessed

Section 69 does not prescribe thresholds for non-council water services. This assessment therefore includes all council-owned and non-council water supplies that are registered under the Water Services Act, such as registered schools and private community supplies.

Other non-council water supplies within the district such as marae, campgrounds, industry or private supplies, have been identified but have not been assessed. The data availability is limited, and Council has very limited visibility over their operation.

Many of these water supplies are not registered and often serve stand-alone buildings or intermittent populations.

4.2. Shortlisted supplies assessment for 2026

The shortlisted supplies assessment is provided in Appendix D.

It should be noted that due to the large volume of information being created for water supplies since 2025, we observed inconsistencies across information sets. We have endeavoured to resolve these. However, it is possible that discrepancies between sets of information remain and would require one source of truth or integrated database management to fully resolve.

The following is a general summary of findings in that table.

- Of the 92 entries on the longlist, 40 supplies were identified for the 2026 assessment under Section 69 of the Water Services Act. Of those 40 supplies, 26 (65%) are registered with The Water Services Authority Taumata Arowai, while 14 (35%) are not registered.
- The 40 supplies assessed comprise 6 Council township supplies, 5 company supplies (including Waitoa Village & Factory (Fonterra) and two Hobbiton™ Movie Set Tours water takes), 15 early learning centres or schools, 3 campgrounds, 2 golf clubs, 8 marae, and 1 family supply.
- Comparing the 2017 and 2026 assessments, 30 supplies appear in both assessments, 10 supplies have been added to the 2026 assessment, and 9 supplies were removed from the 2017 assessment. Supplies were removed primarily due to connection to Council supplies (Waharoa Aerodrome, Raungaiti Marae, Kai-ata-Mata Marae), closure or no longer existing (Kereone School, Tamapango Marae, Rengarenga Marae), or being confirmed as outside the district (Wairoa Marae).
- Changes in the supply register between the 2017 and 2026 assessments are documented in Table 1 by category; key themes have been provided where changes have occurred.

Table 1 Update of supplies from the 2017 to 2026 assessments

Category (Nature of Service)	In 2017 only	In 2026 only	In both	Key Themes
Aerodrome	1	0	0	Connected to Council supply
Campground	0	0	3	No changes
Company	0	2	3	Hobbiton™ added (not connected to Council supply)
Council	0	0	6	No changes; all Council supplies retained
Early Learning or School	1	6	9	Kereone School closed; several new early learning centres added
Family	0	1	0	Douglas Whanau added
Golf club	2	0	2	Tahuna & Morrinsville Golf Clubs removed; connected to Council supply
Marae	5	1	7	Council connections (Raungaiti, Kai-ata-Mata); no longer exists (Tamapango, Rengarenga); not in district (Wairoa); Waiti added
Racing clubs	0	0	0	Not included in either assessment
Unknown	0	0	0	Primarily WRC Water Takes; excluded from assessment

For the 9 Council and company networked supplies with DWRR data, safety and quality information was extracted from the Taumata Arowai Drinking Water Regulatory Report (DWRR) 2024. The majority of these supplies have groundwater sources, with 3 having surface water sources (Waitoa/Fonterra from the Waitoa River, Te Aroha from Pohimihi Impoundment Lake, and Te Poi Township from Waiomou Stream). According to the report, all requirements are met for source monitoring, bacterial treatment, and distribution monitoring for all these supplies, with one exception: Waitoa Village & Factory (Fonterra) recorded "partially met" for source monitoring in the DWRR 2024.

For the 17 other registered supplies (16 self-supplied buildings plus 1 networked family supply), safety and quality data is not publicly available as the DWRR 2024 covers council supplies only (schools are recorded on the DWRR but no report information has been submitted). Compliance information for these supplies would need to be requested from Taumata Arowai or the supply operator. Source types for these supplies include groundwater (13 supplies) and rainwater collection (3 supplies: Flora and Fauna Early Learning Centre, Huimai Playcentre, and Manawaru Playcentre).

For the 14 unregistered supplies, per the 2017 assessment methodology, supplies with unverified sources or no test results available were assessed as HIGH risk. These unregistered supplies included 8 maraes, 2 golf clubs, 2 Hobbiton™ water takes, and 2 campgrounds. Site verification would be required to complete the assessment for these supplies.

Future demand for Council supplies is addressed in MPDC's WSDP 2025. For non-Council supplies, a demand assessment would be required to provide an estimate of future demands.

5. Key recommendations

Council's approach is to continue to work with suppliers to bring communities onto its public supply systems where feasible; examples of this are the three maraes that have been connected since 2017.

The following steps could be taken by Council to add detail to this assessment.

- Inspections to establish a more complete information database; this would include an additional crosscheck by MPDC that all private community supplies have been identified.
- A large part of the work required to complete the assessment related to developing an up-to-date register of supplies that would fall under this assessment requirement. Future reports should refer to the longlist provided as a starting point for referencing changes to supplies between this report and the next.

The following steps could be taken by the Water Services Authority Taumata Arowai to add detail to this assessment.

- Registration of unregistered supplies where they meet the definition of community supplies.
- Follow up on the provision of outstanding information related to registered supplies.

Appendix A Section 69 extracted

69 Assessment of communities' access to drinking water

- (1) A territorial authority must inform itself about the access that each community in its district has to drinking water services by conducting an assessment of drinking water services in accordance with this section.
- (2) An assessment of drinking water services must—
 - (a) identify each community that receives a drinking water service; and
 - (b) describe the nature of existing drinking water services to the community; and
 - (c) describe the characteristics of the community; and
 - (d) assess the extent to which the community is currently receiving, and will continue to receive, a sufficient quantity of drinking water, including a consideration of—
 - (i) the community's existing access to drinking water services; and
 - (ii) any reasonably foreseeable risks to the community's access to drinking water services in the future; and
 - (iii) the current and estimated future demands for drinking water services within the community; and
 - (e) describe the safety and quality of drinking water currently being supplied to the community, using information collected and made available by the Water Services Authority and any other organisations that the territorial authority considers relevant; and
 - (f) identify and assess any other public health risks relating to the drinking water services supplied to the community; and
 - (g) based on the assessment under paragraphs (b) to (f),—
 - (i) assess the consequences if the community loses access to drinking water services in the future, or is provided with drinking water services that are deficient in any way, including the implications for that community's public health; and
 - (ii) outline a plan to provide for the community's ongoing access to drinking water services.
- (3) A territorial authority must—
 - (a) conduct its first assessment by 1 July 2026; and
 - (b) conduct later assessments—
 - (i) at least once every 3 years after the completion of the first assessment; or
 - (ii) at an earlier date, if the authority is made aware of concerns about a community's access to drinking water services.
- (4) A territorial authority must provide opportunities for any person to alert the territorial authority at any time to concerns about a community's access to drinking water services.
- (5) For the purposes of this section,—
 - (a) the scope of each assessment must include—
 - (i) communities that receive drinking water services from the territorial authority or another water service provider; and
 - (ii) communities that do not receive drinking water services from the territorial authority or another water service provider; and

- (iii) all types of water supply arrangements, including communities (and households within those communities) that do not receive water supply services supplied by network reticulation; and
- (b) territorial authorities need not assess drinking water services that are owned or operated by a department within the meaning of section 5 of the Water Services Act 2021; and
- (c) an assessment may be carried out—
 - (i) by the territorial authority; or
 - (ii) on the authority's behalf by another appropriate organisation in the authority's district, including another water service provider or an iwi, hapū, or other Māori organisation.

Appendix B Information sources

Several information sources were used to establish a register of supplies that should be assessed under this section.

The information sources have been tabulated in Table 2.

Table 2 Information sources for the assessment

Name of document	Provider	Purpose
1927218 MPDC Assessment of Water Services - 2017 version 3 SH1 review	MPDC	Cross check submission for 2017
MPDC_water_take_list	MPDC	This was the base list provided by the three waters compliance team against which other information sources were cross checked
Public Register of Drinking Water Supplies-Hinekōrako	Water Authority of New Zealand/Taumata Arowai	This was the base list downloaded from Hinekōrako against which other information sources were cross checked
Campgrounds	MPDC	Licensed campgrounds
	Camplify	Established camping and caravan sites
	Department of Conservation	No Department of Conservation campgrounds are located within the Matamata-Piako District Council boundary.
Small and Rural Water Supplies - Council Workshop TCDC, HDC, MPDC 9.09.21		Cross check known supplies
Water Services Delivery Plan 2025	MPDC	Assessment information
Schools	Matamata-Piako District: Schools Education Counts	Cross check known supplies
Marae	MPDC	Cross check known supplies
Hinekōrako for registered supplies	The Water Authority NZ/Taumata Arowai	Registration status, source type
Drinking Water Regulation Report 2024 for Council supplies	The Water Authority NZ/Taumata Arowai	Assessment information

Appendix C Risk assessment information

The following has been extracted from Assessment of Water Services – 2017. Although it still represents a valid risk framework on which to provide a risk assessment and would enable consistency between the two evaluation periods, its limitation is that it does not express residual risk.

Residual risk would consider mitigation measures and may lower the overall assessment if evidence of those measures were captured. Accordingly, a risk assessment for the council supplies has not been provided, residual risk is considered more appropriate for those supplies.

A risk assessment was carried out using the NZS4360 model to gauge the likelihood (levels 1 – 5) and consequences of impact (levels A – E) for each hazard.

Table 8.3: Measure of LIKELIHOOD

Level	Descriptor	Description
A	Almost certain	Is expected to occur in most circumstances
B	Likely	Will probably occur in most circumstances
C	Possible	Might occur at some time
D	Unlikely	Could occur at some time
E	Rare	May occur only in exceptional circumstances

Table 8.4: Measurement of Consequences of IMPACT

Level	Descriptor	Detail description
1	Insignificant	No injuries. Little or no damage, low financial loss
2	Minor	First aid treatment, minor building damage, medium financial loss
3	Moderate	Medical treatment required, moderate building and infrastructure damage, high financial loss
4	Major	Extensive injuries, high level of building and infrastructure damage, major financial loss
5	Catastrophic	Deaths, most buildings extensively damaged and major infrastructure failure, huge financial loss

When the two tables (LIKELIHOOD and IMPACT) are combined the resultant qualitative matrix or CONSEQUENCE yields four levels of risk – Low, Moderate, High and Extreme (refer to the following table).

Table 8.5: Level of Risk

Likelihood	Consequences				
	Insignificant 1	Minor 2	Moderate 3	Major 4	Catastrophic 5
A - Almost certain	High	High	Extreme	Extreme	Extreme
B - Likely	Moderate	High	High	Extreme	Extreme
C - Possible	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme	Extreme
D - Unlikely	Low	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme
E - Rare	Low	Low	Moderate	High	High

In general, the overall risk at a site was assessed as high or extreme if they had a shallow bore and no test results were available.

Table 8.3 was of limited value to assess the consequences if a community loses access to drinking water services. Instead, the answers provided were informed by the type of community served and the nature of the supply. For Council supplies, consequence was considered in the context of the number of connections served. For schools and early learning centres, the impact on facility operations was considered. For maraes, the cultural significance and role in community events was noted. Specific consequence levels per Table 7.4 would require site-specific assessment of potential injuries, damage, and financial impact.

Appendix D Shortlisted supplies assessment against
Section 69

Community Name [s.69(2)(a)]	Describe the nature of existing drinking water services to the community [s.69(2)(b)]	Water Services Authority/Taumatā Arowā (TA) Supply Identifier	2017 Assessment	Registered with Taumatā Arowā	Changes between 2017 and 2026	Describe the characteristics of the community [s.69(2)(c)]	Assess the extent to which the community is currently receiving, and will continue to receive, a sufficient quantity of drinking water [s.69(2)(d)]	Community's existing access to drinking water services [s.69(2)(d)(i)]	Reasonably foreseeable risks to community's access in future [s.69(2)(d)(ii)]	Current (allocated) demands for drinking water services (m ³ /day) [s.69(2)(d)(iii)]	Estimated future demands for drinking water services [s.69(2)(e)]	Description of safety and quality [s.69(2)(f)]	Identify and assess any other public health risks [s.69(2)(g)]	Assess consequences if community loses access to drinking water services as well as the consequences if the community loses access to drinking water services in the future, or is provided with drinking water services that are deficient in any way, including the implications for that community's public health. [s.69(2)(g)(i)]	Outline a plan to provide for the community's ongoing access to drinking water services [s.69(2)(g)(ii)]
Opal Springs Public Motor Camp	Unregistered supply: Source not specified (Site verification required)	Not registered	Yes	No	No change	Campground serving the local community and visitors.	Unregistered supply - a quantity assessment would require site verification	Source information not available (Site verification required)	Unregistered supply - per 2017 methodology: unverified source assessed as HIGH risk	Not specified	A demand assessment would be required to provide an estimate	No data available	Per 2017 methodology: Source unverified, no test results available - assessed as HIGH risk	Loss or degradation of drinking water supply would affect visitors and staff, potentially requiring restriction or temporary closure of the facility. This may also present risks to public health if safe drinking water is unavailable.	An assessment of registration requirements and water quality would be needed
Totara Springs Christian Centre	Registered Self-supplied building (Hinekōrako)	TOT004	Yes	Yes	No change	Campground serving the local community and visitors.	Registered supply. Allocated volume: not specified. Actual consumption data not available to verify quantity adequacy.	Has access and is registered	Registered supply - copies of water safety plans were not obtained (refer to for site specific risk information)	Not specified	A demand assessment would be required to provide an estimate	Registered with TA, source is a groundwater. Safety and quality data not publicly available compliance information would need to be requested from TA or the supply operator.	Groundwater key risks: aquifer depletion, bore integrity, land use contamination, elevated levels of chemical determinands (e.g., nitrate, arsenic) - assessed as HIGH risk	Loss or degradation of drinking water supply would affect visitors and staff, potentially requiring restriction or temporary closure of the facility. This may also present risks to public health if safe drinking water is unavailable.	Ongoing registration and compliance with TA would be needed
YWAM Family Ministries NZ (formerly known as Crystal Springs)	Unregistered supply: Ground water take (WRC Water Takes)	Not registered	Yes	No	No change	Campground serving the local community and visitors.	Unregistered supply - a quantity assessment would require site verification	Source: Ground water take (WRC Water Takes)	Unregistered supply - per 2017 methodology: unverified source assessed as HIGH risk	16	Based on current allocation of 16 m ³ /day. A demand assessment would be required to provide an estimate.	No data available	Per 2017 methodology: Bore/groundwater source with no test results available - assessed as HIGH risk	Loss or degradation of drinking water supply would affect visitors and staff, potentially requiring restriction or temporary closure of the facility. This may also present risks to public health if safe drinking water is unavailable.	An assessment of registration requirements and water quality would be needed
Hobbiton™ Movie Set Tours (Consent 13149)	Unregistered supply: To take groundwater (WRC Water Takes)	Not registered	No	No	Change	Company serving the local community and visitors	Unregistered supply - a quantity assessment would require site verification	Source: To take groundwater (WRC Water Takes)	Unregistered supply - per 2017 methodology: unverified source assessed as HIGH risk	Not specified	A demand assessment would be required to provide an estimate	No data available	Per 2017 methodology: Bore/groundwater source with no test results available - assessed as HIGH risk	Loss or degradation of drinking water supply would disrupt business operations and affect staff on site. This may result in operational shutdowns and poses risks to public health where safe drinking water and hygiene cannot be maintained.	An assessment of registration requirements and water quality would be needed
Hobbiton™ Movie Set Tours (Consent 13150)	Unregistered supply: To take groundwater (WRC Water Takes)	Not registered	No	No	Change	Company serving the local community and visitors	Unregistered supply - a quantity assessment would require site verification	Source: To take groundwater (WRC Water Takes)	Unregistered supply - per 2017 methodology: unverified source assessed as HIGH risk	Not specified	A demand assessment would be required to provide an estimate	No data available	Per 2017 methodology: Bore/groundwater source with no test results available - assessed as HIGH risk	Loss or degradation of drinking water supply would disrupt business operations and affect staff on site. This may result in operational shutdowns and poses risks to public health where safe drinking water and hygiene cannot be maintained.	An assessment of registration requirements and water quality would be needed
Mackay Subdivision, Waihou	Registered Networked supply (Hinekōrako)	MAC005	Yes	Yes	No change	Company serving the local community	Registered supply. Allocated volume: 25 m ³ /day. Actual consumption data not available to verify quantity adequacy.	Has access and is registered	Registered supply - copies of water safety plans were not obtained (refer to for site specific risk information)	25	Based on current allocation of 25 m ³ /day. A demand assessment would be required to provide an estimate.	Registered with TA, source is a groundwater bore. Safety and quality data not publicly available compliance information would need to be requested from TA or the supply operator.	Groundwater key risks: aquifer depletion, bore integrity, land use contamination, elevated levels of chemical determinands (e.g., nitrate, arsenic) - assessed as HIGH risk	Loss or degradation of drinking water supply would disrupt business operations and affect staff on site. This may result in operational shutdowns and poses risks to public health where safe drinking water and hygiene cannot be maintained.	Ongoing registration and compliance with TA would be needed
Tatua Co-op Dairy Internal	Registered Networked supply (Hinekōrako)	TAT005	Yes	Yes	No change	Company serving the local community	Registered supply. Allocated volume: 6500 m ³ /day. Actual consumption data not available to verify quantity adequacy.	Has access and is registered	Registered supply - copies of water safety plans were not obtained (refer to for site specific risk information)	6500	Based on current allocation of 6500 m ³ /day. A demand assessment would be required to provide an estimate.	Registered with TA, source is multiple groundwater bores. Safety and quality data not publicly available compliance information would need to be requested from TA or the supply operator.	Groundwater key risks: aquifer depletion, bore integrity, land use contamination, elevated levels of chemical determinands (e.g., nitrate, arsenic) - assessed as HIGH risk	Loss or degradation of drinking water supply would disrupt business operations and affect staff on site. This may result in operational shutdowns and poses risks to public health where safe drinking water and hygiene cannot be maintained.	Ongoing registration and compliance with TA would be needed
Waitoa Village & Factory (Fonterra)	Registered Networked supply (Hinekōrako)	WAI049	Yes	Yes	No change	Company serving the local community	Registered supply. Allocated volume: 10000 m ³ /day. Actual consumption data not available to verify quantity adequacy.	Has access and is registered	Registered supply - copies of water safety plans were not obtained (refer to for site specific risk information)	10000	Based on current allocation of 10000 m ³ /day. A demand assessment would be required to provide an estimate.	Registered with TA, source is surface water. Safety and quality data not publicly available compliance information would need to be requested from TA or the supply operator.	Surface water key risks: drought, flooding, turbidity, agricultural runoff, algal blooms. Higher treatment requirements - assessed as HIGH risk	Loss or degradation of drinking water supply would affect the township, factory operations, and employees. This may result in operational shutdowns and poses risks to public health where safe drinking water and hygiene cannot be maintained.	Ongoing registration and compliance with TA would be needed
Hinuera Township	Registered Networked supply (Hinekōrako)	HIN002	Yes	Yes	No change	Council serving the local community	Registered supply. Allocated volume: 190 m ³ /day. Actual consumption data not available to verify quantity adequacy.	Has access and is registered	Registered supply - copies of water safety plans were not obtained (refer to for site specific risk information)	190	Future demand per MPDC WSDP 2025.	Compliant. Low complexity supply with minimal treatment requirements.	Groundwater key risks: aquifer depletion, bore integrity, land use contamination, elevated levels of chemical determinands (e.g., nitrate, arsenic)	Loss or degradation of drinking water supply would affect household access to safe drinking water. This presents direct risks to public health and may require alternative supply arrangements.	Refer to MPDC WSDP 2025
Matamata Township, Waharoa	Registered Networked supply (Hinekōrako)	MAT004	Yes	Yes	No change	Council serving the local community	Registered supply. Allocated volume: 7850 m ³ /day. Actual consumption data not available to verify quantity adequacy.	Has access and is registered	Registered supply - copies of water safety plans were not obtained (refer to for site specific risk information)	7850	Future demand per MPDC WSDP 2025.	Compliant, with treatment reporting limitations reducing assurance confidence. Significant upgrade requirements identified.	Groundwater key risks: aquifer depletion, bore integrity, land use contamination, elevated levels of chemical determinands (e.g., nitrate, arsenic). Surface water key risks: drought, flooding, turbidity, agricultural runoff, algal blooms. Higher treatment requirements.	Loss or degradation of drinking water supply would affect household access to safe drinking water. This presents direct risks to public health and may require alternative supply arrangements.	Refer to MPDC WSDP 2025
Morrinsville Township	Registered Networked supply (Hinekōrako)	MOR001	Yes	Yes	No change	Council serving the local community	Registered supply. Allocated volume: 7920 m ³ /day. Actual consumption data not available to verify quantity adequacy.	Has access and is registered	Registered supply - copies of water safety plans were not obtained (refer to for site specific risk information)	7920	Future demand per MPDC WSDP 2025.	Partially compliant, with gaps in source monitoring and bacterial treatment. Reporting limitations also present.	Surface water key risks: drought, flooding, turbidity, agricultural runoff, algal blooms. Higher treatment requirements. Groundwater key risks: aquifer depletion, bore integrity, land use contamination, elevated levels of chemical determinands (e.g., nitrate, arsenic)	Loss or degradation of drinking water supply would affect household access to safe drinking water. This presents direct risks to public health and may require alternative supply arrangements.	Refer to MPDC WSDP 2025
Tahuna Township	Registered Networked supply (Hinekōrako)	TAH001	Yes	Yes	No change	Council serving the local community	Registered supply. Allocated volume: 96 m ³ /day. Actual consumption data not available to verify quantity adequacy.	Has access and is registered	Registered supply - copies of water safety plans were not obtained (refer to for site specific risk information)	96	Future demand per MPDC WSDP 2025.	Compliant, with treatment reporting limitations. Consent risk identified.	Groundwater key risks: aquifer depletion, bore integrity, land use contamination, elevated levels of chemical determinands (e.g., nitrate, arsenic)	Loss or degradation of drinking water supply would affect household access to safe drinking water. This presents direct risks to public health and may require alternative supply arrangements.	Refer to MPDC WSDP 2025
Te Aroha	Registered Networked supply (Hinekōrako)	TEA003	Yes	Yes	No change	Council serving the local community	Registered supply. Allocated volume: 7680 m ³ /day. Actual consumption data not available to verify quantity adequacy.	Has access and is registered	Registered supply - copies of water safety plans were not obtained (refer to for site specific risk information)	7680	Future demand per MPDC WSDP 2025.	Generally compliant, with minor bacterial treatment gaps. Source and compliance risks identified.	Surface water key risks: drought, flooding, turbidity, agricultural runoff, algal blooms. Higher treatment requirements.	Loss or degradation of drinking water supply would affect household access to safe drinking water. This presents direct risks to public health and may require alternative supply arrangements.	Refer to MPDC WSDP 2025
Te Poi Township	Registered Networked supply (Hinekōrako)	TEP003	Yes	Yes	No change	Council serving the local community	Registered supply. Allocated volume: 100 m ³ /day. Actual consumption data not available to verify quantity adequacy.	Has access and is registered	Registered supply - copies of water safety plans were not obtained (refer to for site specific risk information)	100	Future demand per MPDC WSDP 2025.	Compliant, with minor distribution performance limitations.	Surface water key risks: drought, flooding, turbidity, agricultural runoff, algal blooms. Higher treatment requirements.	Loss or degradation of drinking water supply would affect household access to safe drinking water. This presents direct risks to public health and may require alternative supply arrangements.	Refer to MPDC WSDP 2025
Elstow-Waihou Combined School	Registered Self-supplied building (Hinekōrako)	ELS001	Yes	Yes	No change	Early Learning or School serving the local community.	Registered supply. Allocated volume: not specified. Actual consumption data not available to verify quantity adequacy.	Has access and is registered	Registered supply - copies of water safety plans were not obtained (refer to for site specific risk information)	Not specified	A demand assessment would be required to provide an estimate	Registered with TA, source is a groundwater. Safety and quality data not publicly available compliance information would need to be requested from TA or the supply operator.	Groundwater key risks: aquifer depletion, bore integrity, land use contamination, elevated levels of chemical determinands (e.g., nitrate, arsenic) - assessed as HIGH risk	Loss or degradation of drinking water supply would affect the operation of the facility and access to safe drinking water for occupants. This may require closure and presents public health risks where safe water and sanitation cannot be maintained.	Ongoing registration and compliance with TA would be needed
Flora and Fauna Early Learning Centre	Registered Self-supplied building (Hinekōrako)	COU005	No	Yes	Change	Early Learning or School serving the local community.	Registered supply. Allocated volume: not specified. Actual consumption data not available to verify quantity adequacy.	Has access and is registered	Registered supply - copies of water safety plans were not obtained (refer to for site specific risk information)	Not specified	A demand assessment would be required to provide an estimate	Registered with TA, source is rainwater. Safety and quality data not publicly available compliance information would need to be requested from TA or the supply operator.	Rainwater key risks: extended dry periods, roof contamination, debris, maintenance requirements - assessed as HIGH risk	Loss or degradation of drinking water supply would affect the operation of the facility and access to safe drinking water for occupants. This may require closure and presents public health risks where safe water and sanitation cannot be maintained.	Ongoing registration and compliance with TA would be needed
Huimal Playcentre	Registered Self-supplied building (Hinekōrako)	HUI005	No	Yes	Change	Early Learning or School serving the local community.	Registered supply. Allocated volume: not specified. Actual consumption data not available to verify quantity adequacy.	Has access and is registered	Registered supply - copies of water safety plans were not obtained (refer to for site specific risk information)	Not specified	A demand assessment would be required to provide an estimate	Registered with TA, source is rainwater. Safety and quality data not publicly available compliance information would need to be requested from TA or the supply operator.	Rainwater key risks: extended dry periods, roof contamination, debris, maintenance requirements - assessed as HIGH risk	Loss or degradation of drinking water supply would affect the operation of the facility and access to safe drinking water for occupants. This may require closure and presents public health risks where safe water and sanitation cannot be maintained.	Ongoing registration and compliance with TA would be needed
Inspiring Minds	Registered Self-supplied building (Hinekōrako)	INS001	No	Yes	Change	Early Learning or School serving the local community.	Registered supply. Allocated volume: not specified. Actual consumption data not available to verify quantity adequacy.	Has access and is registered	Registered supply - copies of water safety plans were not obtained (refer to for site specific risk information)	Not specified	A demand assessment would be required to provide an estimate	Registered with TA, source is a groundwater. Safety and quality data not publicly available compliance information would need to be requested from TA or the supply operator.	Groundwater key risks: aquifer depletion, bore integrity, land use contamination, elevated levels of chemical determinands (e.g., nitrate, arsenic) - assessed as HIGH risk	Loss or degradation of drinking water supply would affect the operation of the facility and access to safe drinking water for occupants. This may require closure and presents public health risks where safe water and sanitation cannot be maintained.	Ongoing registration and compliance with TA would be needed

Community Name [s.69(2)(a)]	Describe the nature of existing drinking water services to the community [s.69(2)(b)]	Water Services Authority/Taumatā Arowai (TA) Supply Identifier	2017 Assessment	Registered with Taumatā Arowai	Changes between 2017 and 2026	Describe the characteristics of the community [s.69(2)(c)]	Assess the extent to which the community is currently receiving, and will continue to receive, a sufficient quantity of drinking water [s.69(2)(d)]	Community's existing access to drinking water services [s.69(2)(d)(i)]	Reasonably foreseeable risks to community's access in future [s.69(2)(d)(ii)]	Current (allocated) demands for drinking water services (m ³ /day) [s.69(2)(d)(iii)]	Estimated future demands for drinking water services [s.69(2)(d)(iii)]	Description of safety and quality [s.69(2)(e)]	Identify and assess any other public health risks [s.69(2)(f)]	Assess consequences if community loses access to drinking water services assess the consequences if the community loses access to drinking water services in the future, or is provided with drinking water services that are deficient in any way, including the implications for that community's public health. [s.69(2)(g)(i)]	Outline a plan to provide for the community's ongoing access to drinking water services [s.69(2)(g)(ii)]
Tumutumu (Tui Pā) Marae	Unregistered supply: Source not specified (Site verification required)	Not registered	Yes	No	No change	Marae serving the local community.	Unregistered supply - a quantity assessment would require site verification	Source information not available (Site verification required)	Unregistered supply - per 2017 methodology: unverified source assessed as HIGH risk	Not specified	A demand assessment would be required to provide an estimate	No data available	Copies of water safety plans were not reviewed (refer to for site specific risk information). The risks below are generic to the type of source.	Loss or degradation of drinking water supply would affect the operation of the marae or community facility, including the ability to host gatherings. This also presents risks to public health where safe drinking water is not available.	An assessment of registration requirements and water quality would be needed
Waiti Marae	Unregistered supply: Source not specified (Site verification required)	Not registered	No	No	Change	Marae serving the local community.	Unregistered supply - a quantity assessment would require site verification	Source information not available (Site verification required)	Unregistered supply - per 2017 methodology: unverified source assessed as HIGH risk	Not specified	A demand assessment would be required to provide an estimate	No data available	Per 2017 methodology: Source unverified, no test results available - assessed as HIGH risk	Loss or degradation of drinking water supply would affect the operation of the marae or community facility, including the ability to host gatherings. This also presents risks to public health where safe drinking water is not available.	An assessment of registration requirements and water quality would be needed

Document Status

Job #	Version	Written	Reviewed	Approved	Report Date
3121	DRAFT	G.Woodward	C.Anich	C.Anich	3 June 2026
3121	FINAL	C. Anich	G. Woodward	C. Anich	16 June 2026



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8 Ngā Pūrongo Whakamārama | Information Reports

8.1 Civil Defence Emergency Management Report

CM No.: 3180886

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update Council on National, Regional and Local updates relating to Civil Defence Emergency Management.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

This report updates Council on national, regional and local Civil Defence Emergency Management matters. It includes recent national developments, including the Emergency Management Bill (No 2), Budget 2026 emergency management investment, and the National Assurance Project. It also outlines local actions for implementation of the Waikato CDEM Group Strategic Action Plan 2025–2030.

Locally, the report summarises Council's response to Ex Tropical Cyclone Vaianu in April 2026, including Emergency Operations Centre activation, staff commitment, operational readiness, and the implications for the annual CDEM exercise requirement. It also highlights emerging improvement themes from debriefs, including staff availability, EOC and Civil Defence Centre resourcing, volunteer engagement, standard operating procedures, and communications with at-risk communities.

The report further notes ongoing work to strengthen marae preparedness, welfare arrangements, iwi/Māori partnership, and community-led response planning. These areas are increasingly important as emergency management expectations grow and severe weather events become more frequent.

The report is provided for information and awareness and supports continued improvement in Council's emergency management capability, preparedness, and resilience.

Tūtohunga | Recommendation

That:

1. The information be received.

Horopaki | Background

National

2026 Budget Announcement

On 27 May 2026, Hon Mark Mitchell announced new investment in Budget 2026 to ensure faster, better emergency responses and make New Zealand more resilient.

He highlighted the current data and technology and said funding through Budget 2026 would address this by supporting NEMA to deliver modern technology systems for the Emergency Management Sector.

This included a Common Operating Picture to provide a single shared view of information and data such as hazard and evacuation maps, population data, infrastructure status and available resources.

In addition to the common operating picture, EMS-OS (Emergency Management Sector Operational System) led by NEMA will provide operational tools for Emergency Management staff to task, collaborate, and manage resources during response and recovery.

Implication insights for Council

What has not been mentioned is any regional or local funding. The new tools will be delivered nationally, coordinated regionally and implemented locally. This could mean local integration with existing technology, response and recovery staff will have to learn new systems and build local capability (with limited or no new funding).

Emergency Management Bill No2

Timeline

- 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.

[Emergency Management Bill \(No 2\) | New Zealand Legislation](#)

- A 'Joint Committee Submission Subgroup' was initiated with CEG and Joint Committee members and a Submission to the Bill (No2) forwarded to the Governance and Administration Committee on 13 February 2026.
- A report on the Bill from Governance and Administration was due on 9 June 2026 on 5 June 2025 a Final Report of the Governance and Administration Committee was released recommending the Bill (No2) be passed with all amendments recommended unanimously.

<https://selectcommittees.parliament.nz/view/SelectCommitteeReport/b0b31aed-4778-4053-6407-08dec1e20b6c>

Select Committee proposed amendments

The proposed amendments are intended to clarify the bill and improve its practical workability. The most significant changes relate to Emergency Management Committees, parliamentary oversight of the national emergency management strategy, modernised emergency powers, civil liability protection, compensation for property loss or damage, and amendments to related legislation including the Local Government Act 2002.

For councils, the amendments may affect emergency management governance, regional coordination, decision-making during emergencies, and the way specialist expertise is incorporated into committee work. Councillors should note that the proposed changes seek to balance effective emergency response with legal safeguards, public accountability, and clearer roles for local government.

A verbal update can be provided with more information and detail about what this may mean.

Relevance to Government Head Start

Of note in the first draft of the Proposed Bill was the introduction of Emergency Management Committees under Schedule 1.

There are numerous clauses which set out the functions, powers, and administrative rules including:

- Clause 35 enables the Minister to approve a merger of multiple Emergency Management Committees into a single Committee.
- Clause 36 sets out rules for the reorganization of Emergency Management Committee membership in the event of a local government reorganization that creates new authorities or alters relevant boundaries, districts, or region.
- This is flagged as it relates to the Head Start Pathway.

The recent proposed amendments appear to consider the reorganization of Regions, Local Authorities and boundaries.

National Assurance Project

The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) are undertaking a five-year Assurance Monitoring and Evaluation project. Phase One focussed on defining operating parameters for a self-assessment tool. It commenced mid-2025 and included Andy BuBear as one of the project team.

The project aims to provide an assessment tool for all organisations and agencies with Emergency Management responsibilities under legislation and the CDEM National Plan Order 2015. [National Civil Defence Emergency Management Plan 2015 and Guide to the Plan » National Emergency Management Agency](#)

The new assessment tool will report on capability and align with the National Disaster Resilience Strategy [National Disaster Resilience Strategy » National Emergency Management Agency](#)

The tool will also report on people, plans and procedures, tools and resources, systems and relationships and governance which are current CDEM activities we undertake.

Phase Two of the project will focus the tool development and include some CDEM Groups and Local Authorities testing the self-assessment tool. Andy BuBear is also part of this new phase starting in June 2026.

Regional

The Waikato Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Strategic Plan 2025 to 2030 is a plan that sets the direction for the group.

[Waikato CDEM Group Strategic Group Plan 2025-2030](#)

[Strategic Group Plan Actions](#)

The first Group Plan Actions were finally approved by the joint committee on 30 March 2026 and outline the priority projects and measures for Year 1 2025-2026 and year two 2026-2027.

The Local implementation of these measures commenced being reported to the Coordinating Executive Group (CEG) from 15 May 2026.

2027 – 2030 Measures

On 6 May 2026, Waikato CDEM Professional staff led by the GEMO attended a workshop to Develop the Strategic Plan Actions from 2027 to 2030, (years three, four and five).

The proposed Local implementation of these measures will be prepared for discussion at the next Coordinating Executive Group (CEG) and recommendations Joint Committee for final approval.

The proposed Projects and measures are:

Partnering with Māori Emergency Management

2027-2028 Year 3.

- Delivery of resources is undertaken to support Māori participation and operational response as outlined in the iwi/CDEM Co created work programme.

2028 -2029 Year 4.

- Iwi representation on the Joint Committee is confirmed through formal appointment or agreed governance mechanism.

2029-2030 Year 5.

- A review to confirm that Māori partnership arrangements are fit for purpose appropriately resourced and effectively supporting delivery of the agreed iwi/CDEM co - created work programme (to be developed).

Community Led Response Planning

2027- 2028 Year 3.

- Each Local Authority supports at least one community led response initiative through investment or infrastructure planning.

2028-2029 Year 4.

- Participating communities including Māori are included in at least one council or group exercise per year.

2029-2030 Year 5.

- Programme outcomes are reviewed to confirm sustainability in alignment with group objectives.

Māori Partnerships Plan

This project seeks to cement our relationships with iwi/mana whenua by implementing agreed projects that build on the ability of Māori to respond to emergencies. This encompasses a number

of smaller projects an initiative as agreed with iwi and mana whenua and includes (to be developed):

2027- 2028 Year 3.

- Review the current Marae preparedness plans and identify any improvements required. Create a Regional Marae Civil Defence Centre council assessment tool.
- Co-design work on a CDEM / iwi / Māori Communication Plan is implemented.
- Review of implementation is reported to CEG.
- Agreed welfare cost recovery processes are communicated to iwi and service partners.
- Agreed tools and processes are applied in exercises or responses.

2028-2029 Year 4.

- A review with iwi partners confirms arrangements remain fit for purpose and appropriately resourced.
- Feedback from iwi and partners informs any refinements, confirming regional processes remain fit-for-purpose. Reporting of findings to the Waikato Welfare Coordination Group.
- A review with iwi partners confirms the Communication Plan remains effective, relevant and aligned with Group and iwi communication needs.
- Lessons learned are documented and shared, providing assurance that marae integration arrangements remain effective.
- Review to confirm communication approaches remain effective for disproportionately impacted communities.

2029-2030 Year 5.

- Programme outcomes are reviewed to confirm sustainability in alignment with group objectives.
- Feedback from iwi and partners informs any refinements, confirming regional processes remain fit-for-purpose. Reporting of findings to the Waikato Welfare Coordination Group.
- Lessons learned are documented and shared, providing assurance that marae integration arrangements remain effective.
- Review to confirm communication approaches remain effective for disproportionately impacted communities.

Key proposed changes in the EM Bill supporting the work program 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.

There are visibly increased demands on council Emergency Management staff, who are responsible for operational readiness and response activities within council 24/7. These demands include (but are not limited to) iwi/Māori partnership work and community-led response planning.

The Emergency Management Bill, the wider reform programme, and the expectation for councils to increase community and iwi Māori resilience provide clear evidence that additional resourcing will be required to meet these new demands and assurance expectations.

Long Term Plan (LTP) discussions regarding funding for CDEM have started and will be formalised in the LTP Planning Process.

Local

Ex Tropical Cyclone Vaianu

Council staff responded to Ex Tropical Cyclone Vaianu from the 9th to 12th April 2026, this event required coordinated staff working in our Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) over two days and tested organisational readiness.

This event did not have the initially predicted impacts because of the weather system tracked further to the East.

The second week in April 2026 was the third major weather event this year in quick succession, which was a heavy load, both physically and mentally for council staff, partners and stakeholders.

Initial situational awareness for Cyclone Vaianu commenced earlier in the week with increased monitoring and attendance at Severe Weather Meetings from mid-week then increasing into the weekend.

Because of the variability about the predicted/forecast tracking of the cyclone, the whole of the Waikato CDEM Group area remained in scope for the impacts of the Cyclone.

On Thursday 9th April 2026, the Group Emergency Management Office (GEMO) provided some directions and an indication that a region wide Local State of Emergency was being considered and requested the following activities:

- Undertake planning at a local level, to enable Emergency Operating Centres (EOC's) to be activated and appropriately staffed from Saturday afternoon, through to Monday morning. The activation status of EOC's may differ from district to district; some may be in monitor; others may be in coordinate or direct. EOC and Group Emergency Control Centres (GECC) status will be influenced by the most up to date forecasting/tracking.
- Undertake planning at a regional level, to enable the GECC to be activated and appropriately staffed, for the same period.
- Develop, keep under-review, and deliver regionally consistent public messaging.

- Local authorities to undertake a stocktake of events that attract large numbers of spectators and/or participants.
- Local authorities to identify, and prepare, community welfare facilities that are appropriately located, in the context of known risk; and adequately resourced to meet community needs - including Marae.
- Undertake early, and ongoing, consideration of the need for a state of emergency (SOE), due to foreseeable evacuations, including any directions that may be required in relation to events that attract large numbers of spectators and/or participants.
- Local authorities to undertake local multi-agency assessments, and determine what (if any) surge support, and specialist external resources, may be required locally. For example, additional EOC staff, FENZ, Urban Search And Rescue (USAR) teams or NZ Defence Force resources.
- Given the variability of modelling, we need to be flexible/agile in terms of where the CDEM powers may be required. Therefore, I have had early (initial) high-level discussions with the Joint Committee Chair regarding the prospect of a pre-emptive region wide Local SOE.
- If there were to be a region wide SOE, it would still be a locally led response: The implementation (the how) would remain the responsibility of the Local Controllers - which is particularly important, given the local consequences, impacts and community needs will vary from district to district, and a local response is best placed to understand those unique needs.

The Group Controller consulted with Council Chief Executives, Mayors and Local Controllers and considered the region wide impacts, as well as several areas across the region that were at different phases of recovery - with land instability at a heightened level of risk across several districts.

Another consideration was whether it was reasonably foreseeable that local authorities would have decided (in advance of the cyclone) to proactively evacuate certain homes, streets, or communities for the duration of the severe weather event and need special powers under the CDEM Act 2002 to enable this.

A region wide Local State of Emergency (SOE) would provide all districts the ability to undertake these activities and use the powers if necessary. This was important because of the uncertainty of the cyclone track and early indications that it would track down the centre of the region.

On Saturday 11th April 2026, a State of Emergency in the Waikato Group area was declared by the Joint Committee Chair Cr Emma Pike, (Hamilton).

The Group Controller provided the intent for the response which was:

“Ensure our communities and Emergency Management systems are prepared for, and ready to respond to, the adverse effects of Tropical Cyclone Vaianu, to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the people impacted in our region.”

He also provided his expectations for how we would we achieve this:

Proactively plan for, and undertake, the preparatory actions that are necessary to keep people and property safe; including ensuring appropriate Emergency Management structures and personnel are ready: And resources are pre-deployed and available to those communities likely to be

impacted by the emergency. Maintain the provision of accurate and timely information to the community.

The Operational delivery of the response remained the responsibility of Local Controllers, and in the case of Ryan Johnston and Andy BuBear, (yet to be confirmed as Local Controllers) the Group Controller delegated specific powers to them Under Section 29(3) of the CDEM Act 2002 namely:

- Section 86 Evacuation
- Section 87 Entry onto premises
- Section 88 Closing roads or public places
- Section 91 Power to give direction
- Section 92 Power to carry out inspections

These powers were not required.

Our Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) was activated from Saturday morning in preparation for the cyclone with Functions Leads and other staff rostered 24/7 to cover the weekend with the main impacts forecast from Saturday night. We had reduced staff monitoring overnight through to Sunday morning.

The EOC was fully staffed for most of Sunday before being closed late Sunday evening due to the reduced impacts and no community needs outside Business-as-Usual Council activities.

The decision to move from response and transition to recovery was made Monday 13th April 2026. This was based on the minimal impacts and agreement between Local Controllers and Recovery Managers.

A breakdown of the total staff hours committed to the Ex Tropical Cyclone Vainu Response included initial Monitoring, EOC preparation and set up, attendance at Group meetings and briefings, and supporting the EOC either in person or remotely was 453 hours.

Annual CDEM Exercise

By activating the EOC and conducting the response to the extent we did, meant we did not have to undertake our yearly mandatory assessed CDEM Exercise as we had essentially exercised in real time.

The current LTP performance measure MPDC adopted from 2024 is:

The evaluation of an annual exercise (or Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) activation within 6 months of a planned exercise) as a measure of effectiveness of training.

Our MPDC exercise was scheduled for 21 May 2026 with the scenario being a Serious Weather event.

The planned exercise was initially postponed based on the following reasons:

- Cyclone Vaianu was the fourth severe weather event this year that our staff have been involved in.
- Key staff may be physically and mentally fatigued. Proceeding with an exercise too soon can increase the risk of burnout, errors, and reduced engagement. Prioritising staff wellbeing supports long-term capability and organisational resilience.
- After a severe weather event, staff may be focused on recovery activities, taking time off and returning to BAU. Running an exercise during this period may detract from this.
- An actual emergency provides valuable, fresh lessons. Cancelling or postponing the exercise allows time to complete after-action reviews, capture insights, and update plans and procedures so the future exercise can meaningfully test improved arrangements rather than outdated ones.
- Simulating a scenario (Exercise Tasman) closely resembling Cyclone Vaianu may be challenging for staff who were directly involved. Allowing time before repeating a similar scenario demonstrates organisational care and can improve participation quality when the exercise is rescheduled. This also includes our Exercise Assessors.
- Postponement creates an opportunity to redesign the exercise to better reflect the real event, test identified weaknesses and include realistic improvement actions—ultimately increasing its strategic value.

The Waikato CDEM Groups After Action Report (AAR) Policy provides direction for:

1. When an after-action report (AAR) will be required following an emergency, (defined by the CDEM Act 2002 and
2. Suggest matters to be considered in the terms of reference for such AAR.

The Coordinating Executive Group (CEG) had previously approved the Terms of Reference (ToR) for an Independent After-Action Report (AAR) in relation to the January and February 2026 severe weather events.

CEG were advised that the policy threshold was met for a further independent AAR relating to Cyclone Vaianu (April 2026). As a result, CEG agreed to extend the scope of the existing January–February 2026 severe weather AAR to also include the April 2026 event.

We are waiting for the AAR which will be conducted by an independent contractor using a combination of Face to Face and online assessment.

MPDC Debriefs and Corrective Actions

A number of internal debriefs were held both face to face and by survey which identified themes for continued improvements.

These are yet to finalised with strong themes focussed on:

- Staff availability and recognition,
- EOC resources

- Civil Defence Centre Resources
- Volunteer engagement and role clarity
- Developing Standard Operating Procedures
- Bespoke Communications Plan for at risk areas

These improvement areas are being incorporated into our workplan.

Marae Preparedness

With Cyclone Vaianu coming through and thankfully having minimal impact, it has allowed to see potential gaps or inconsistencies, whether in the planning processes and/or communications in the Iwi/Māori space, which is a focus area for Civil Defence moving forward.

Stemming from our Marae Ake Ake Ake workshops, we started the development on Marae Preparedness Planning using the old Te Puni Kōkiri template which we feel could have some improvements. The Marae Preparedness Plan Template is still being reviewed locally due to other work and reporting but should ideally be ready by the end of June.

Once developed, we are intending on providing any scientific projection information, emergency contacts, CDEM information relevant first – and then work with Marae to finalise key Marae information such as key contacts, facility information (kitchen capacity, people capacity, bedding etc), and who is the primary contact that Civil Defence will get in-touch with annually (or twice annually) to review these plans. This template will be a flip chart that can be mounted onto a wall and includes general emergency information in addition to CDEM and site-specific information.

For Communication, we have a mixed bag with some being available only through email, some only through phone, and some being specific to Facebook Group contact only.

We are wanting to help simplify/unify these contact and communication methods moving forward to help make sure that when emergency information needs to be shared that it is reaching the wider Māori communities, with any pre-event weather information being distributed to key individuals that represent Iwi/Māori and Marae to help coordinate an effective response if required. We understand that some would prefer to only be contacted by people they acknowledge/trust, which is why we are wanting to find the right path to reaching this goal.

Welfare

With the appointment of our new Welfare Manager (in training), Constanza Baigent – we are proposing that Tuesdays become our default coordinated day for CDEM Welfare actions such as community engagement, marae visits, response and preparedness planning etc.

This aligns with the Waikato's Regional Welfare Coordination Group quarterly meetings (which are also Tuesday), as well as the Te Manawhenua Forum. From 16 June (after Regional/Local Welfare meetings), we are intending on scheduling visits to Marae, Hauora centres, and the general communities with a focus on developing our relationships as well as emergency planning.





As part of this, we are engaging with our iwi partners to ensure that we have iwi/Māori representation on our Local Welfare Committee to help guide our Local Welfare Business Plan actions for the next financial year. We are also looking at options for venues for where our Local

Welfare Committees can be hosted. We are open to moving some meetings to marae to help further encourage relationship building between Local Welfare agencies, Council and Iwi/Māori.

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

The activities (proposed and actioned) supports community outcomes by strengthening local resilience, preparedness and response capability. The work programme outlined will help ensure communities are better informed, better connected and better supported before, during and after emergencies. In particular, the focus on marae preparedness, welfare arrangements, iwi/Māori partnership, community-led response planning and lessons from recent severe weather events will contribute to safer communities, stronger local relationships, and improved support for those most at risk during emergency events.

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

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	
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	Hautū Tipu me te Whakamatua Group Manager Growth & Regulation	
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8 Ngā Pūrongo Whakamārama | Information Reports

8.2 Te Manawhenua Forum Committee Report of 9th of June 2026

CM No.: 3164479

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update from the Te Manawhenua Forum Committee following its meeting on 9 June 2026.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

Te Manawhenua Forum Committee Chairperson, Hinerangi Vaimoso, in attendance to update Council on the committee business, provide an overview of the minutes and any recommendations from the Risk and Assurance Committee meeting held on 9 June 2026.

Tūtohunga | Recommendation

That:

1. The information be received.

Ngā Tāpiritanga | Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

Ngā waitohu | Signatories

Author(s)	Tayla Bamber Kai-whakahaere ā-Tūhono Iwi Relationship Advisor	
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Approved by	Tuatahi Nightingale-Pene Pou Tūhono Iwi Relationship Manager	
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8 Ngā Pūrongo Whakamārama | Information Reports

8.3 Risk and Assurance Committee Report of 16 June 2026

CM No.: 3184936

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update from the Risk and Assurance Committee following its meeting on 16 June 2026.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

Risk and Assurance Committee Chairperson, Jaydene Kana, in attendance to update Council on the committee business, provide an overview of the minutes and any recommendations from the Risk and Assurance Committee meeting held on 16 June 2026.

The update is attached to the agenda.

Tūtohunga | Recommendation

That:

1. The information be received.

Ngā Tāpiritanga | Attachments

[A↓](#) MPDC - RAC - 160626 - Chair Hui Summary



Ngā waitohu | Signatories

Author(s)	Stephanie Hutchins Kaitohu Mātāmua Kāwana Senior Governance Advisor	
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Approved by	Tamara Kingi Kaiārahi Kāwana Governance Team Leader	
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TE KAUNIHERA AA-ROHE O MATAMATA-PIAKO DISTRICT COUNCIL
KOMITI O TE MOOREAREA ME TE TUUMARU/RISK AND ASSURANCE COMMITTEE

16 JUNE 2026 - CHAIR SUMMARY

#	Item	Summary	Resolution
2	Karakia - Open	CEO Manaia Te Wiata	
3	Apologies	None	
4	Urgent Business	Council website security	The Committee added this item to the public excluded agenda.
5	Declaration of Interest	None	
6	Minutes	24 February 2026	The Committee confirmed the minutes.
8.1	Chair Update	The Committee discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant activity and changes in local government Reliance on internal audit to create efficiency of external audit Legislative requirement for annual external audit 	The Committee received the report.
8.2	Chief Executive Update	The Committee discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial – variances are monitored and reporting to Council Hedging – outside limits due to transfer to Waikato Waters Insurance – overall premium under budget however community facilities over budget Capital programme delivery – strong in renewals versus improvements and impact of delay on rates charges 	The Committee received the report.
7.1	Risk Appetite Statement	The Committee discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changing the rating scale to empower staff in decision-making Risk maturity progress Reporting on embeddedness Escalation process for risks outside appetite 	The Committee received the report, reviewed and recommends the risk appetite statement to council subject to changes to the rating scale and minor edits highlighted by staff.
8.3	Risk Update and Quarterly Risk Report – June 2026	The Committee discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk maturity level Proactive approach to potential oil shortages Climate adaption obligations KRI effectiveness in highlighting potential control failures 	The Committee received the reports.
8.4	LTP 2027-37 Risks and Issues, Quality Assurance and Progress Update	The Committee discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stress-testing the assumptions underpinning LTP Affordability for ratepayers Escalation process if LTP is off track Quality Assurance Plan 	The Committee received the report.
8.5	Annual Report 2025/26 – Project Update	The Committee discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PPE – Remedial work in preparation for 25/26 audit, Area most likely to impact audit timelines, Significant sample testing for audit assurance, lessons learned from other TA's, mitigating similar situations in the future Impact of trial balance not balancing on 25/26 audit Potential for additional audit fees 	The Committee received the reports.

8.6	Annual Plan 2026/27	The Committee discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The recommendation changing from approving to providing feedback on the legislative compliance assessment ▪ Assessment: Funding Impact Statement – General rates and targeted rates disclosures ▪ Assessment: Total land value versus Net land value 	The Committee received the report and provided minor editorial feedback.
8.7	Project Management Report	The Committee discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ More discipline in strategic planning/scope/business case – focus on what problem are we trying to solve ▪ Projects with partners - impact scope/timeline ▪ Community expectations about certain projects in the LTP ▪ Council capacity to deliver projects ▪ Benefits realisation reporting 	The Committee received the report.
8.8	Project Management – Top Project Risks	The Committee discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Focus on scope, cost and time ▪ % completion of projects, realised efficiencies ▪ Absorbing scope in timeline without impacting contingency ▪ Project commencement/construction/completion dates ▪ Photos of wall deconstruction 	The Committee received the report.
8.9	Staff culture survey update	The Committee discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Many comments stemming from uncertainty and external factors ▪ Survey approach changes – impact on comparability ▪ Use of benchmarks 	The Committee received the report.
8.10	Mayoral Fund and Mayoral Disaster Relief Fund Policies	The Committee discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conflicts of interest ▪ Enduring policy, codifying current practice ▪ Community awareness of funds and application process ▪ Current process from application to payment ▪ Consideration of a Two-step approval process ▪ Consideration of \$500 maximum and process for amounts over \$500 	The Committee received the report and provided feedback for Council considering the process for amounts over \$500 including a two-step approval process
8.11	Gift Policy	The Committee discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coverage of Elected Members (in Code of Conduct) 	The Committee received the report.
8.12	Safety and Wellness Reports	The Committee discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New staff member reflections ▪ Increase in behaviour-related incidents, staff training and scenario testing ▪ Fatigue incident logged if > 14 hours worked ▪ Awareness of workload pressure, change management concerns raised in staff culture survey 	The Committee received the report.
8.13	RAC Work Programme – Update December 2025	The Committee discussed increased transparency where scheduled items are not received	The Committee received the report.
	Karakia – Close	CEO Manaia Te Wiata	

Also, the Committee members met with Audit Office representative Rene van Zyl after the Risk and Assurance Committee agenda was completed, to discuss the upcoming audit of Council's Annual Report.

Exclusion of the Public: Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

The following motion is submitted for consideration:

That the public be excluded from the following part(s) of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution follows.

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, as follows:

C1 Council website security

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Particular interest(s) protected (where applicable)	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Privacy.	s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of a deceased person. .	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.