

Kaunihera | Council

Ngā Tāpiritanga – Pūrongo | Attachments – Reports ATTACHMENTS UNDER SEPARATE COVER

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

Ko te rā | Date: Wednesday 28 October 2026
Wā | Time: 9:00
Meeting Room: Council Chambers
Wāhi | Venue: 35 Kenrick Street
TE AROHA

TAKE | ITEM NGĀ IHINGA | TABLE OF CONTENTS

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7.1 Hearing: Draft Climate Resilience Strategy and Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2027-2033

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Public Consultation Submissions, 05 Oct 2026

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy (CLI)

Date	Name
03 Sep 2026	Joanne Coc-Kroft
15 Sep 2026	Geoff Barclay
16 Sep 2026	Stephen Cope
17 Sept 2026	I Worley
22 Sep 2026	Donald Matheson
02 Oct 2026	Federated Farmers
02 Oct 2026	Lawyers for Climate Action
02 Oct 2026	Gord Stewart
02 Oct 2026	Peter Volker
02 Oct 2026	Forest and Bird
03 Oct 2026	Sustainable Matamata Te
03 Oct 2026	Manawhenua Forum
14 Oct 2026	Ray Pooley (Late)

Matamata-Piako District Council
CLI-1815: Joanne Coc-Kroft, 03 Sep 2026

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1815
Name: Joanne Coc-Kroft

Which of these options do you support?
Option 1 (proposed option): Adopt the draft Climate Resilience Strategy as proposed

Matamata-Piako District Council
CLI-1825: Geoff Barclay, 15 Sep 2026

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1825
Name: Geoff Barclay

Which of these options do you support?
Option 1 (proposed option): Adopt the draft Climate Resilience Strategy as proposed

Matamata-Piako District Council
CLI-1828: Stephen Cope, 16 Sep 2026

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1828
Name: Stephen Cope

Which of these options do you support?

Option 1 (proposed option): Adopt the draft Climate Resilience Strategy as proposed

Additional commentsIs there anything else you would like us to consider in regard to the draft Climate Resilience Strategy?

We're all cost sensitive and we don't want this work to cost a lot. As mentioned in the draft, it is a lot cheaper to do the preparatory work up front, now, before the storm hits. Great work on this document. Please keep reducing our waste streams, building resilience, sensible zoning so we're not putting houses on flood plains, keep increasing our storm water management through rain gardens and intentional wetlands, consulting with mana whenua who have been here and seen the changing landscape over centuries, and installing solar on council buildings.

Matamata-Piako District Council

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy

CLI-1832: Donald Matheson, 22 Sep 2026

Item 7.1

Attachment A

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1832
Name: Donald Matheson

Which of these options do you support?

Option 3: Adopt the draft Climate Resilience Strategy with changes (please specify below)

Additional commentsIs there anything else you would like us to consider in regard to the draft Climate Resilience Strategy?

Overall, I think the strategy provides a strong foundation for helping the district prepare for the impacts of climate change. It is practical, locally focused, and recognises the realities of being a rural council. The strategy appropriately focuses on protecting people, infrastructure, services, and the local economy while encouraging community resilience. Also, I think it is great that the Council is developing this strategy. Great leadership folks! Keep it up!

Key Strengths - The strategy is grounded in local issues such as flooding, drought, water security, infrastructure resilience, and community wellbeing. This makes it relevant to residents and businesses. It takes a balanced and practical approach, focusing on preparedness and risk management rather than regulation. This is likely to resonate with a district where farming and rural industries are central to the local economy.

The document also focuses on areas where Council can make a meaningful difference, including land use planning, infrastructure management, emergency preparedness, and providing information to support decision-making. Another strength is its recognition of affordability and funding constraints. The strategy acknowledges that adaptation decisions involve trade-offs and that ratepayer impacts must be considered.

Key Areas for Improvement - For me, the strategy contains many actions, but it is not always clear which actions are the highest priority. A more focused approach would help ensure effort and funding are directed toward the most important actions first. The document would also benefit from clearer measures of success. While many actions are proposed, there is less detail on how progress will be tracked or how the community will know the strategy is making a difference. Finally, and this one is a bit of a biggie/tricky one, the role of agriculture and the rural economy could be strengthened. While farming-related impacts are acknowledged, the strategy could place greater emphasis on farmers as key partners in building resilience, particularly around drought preparedness, water security, and land management.

Recommendations - To improve the impact of this strategy, I would like to make the following recommendations -

- Prioritise actions by identifying a small number of short-term, medium-term, and long-term priorities.
- Strengthen connection and role of agriculture/ farming narrative - recognising the importance of the sector plays in the district's economy and resilience.
- Focus on outcomes, clearly describing how actions will benefit residents, businesses, and ratepayers.
- Include simple measures of success so progress can be monitored over time.
- Maybe as part of the roll out of the strategy, develop a one-page summary roadmap that clearly communicates the strategy's vision, priorities, and expected outcomes.

Matamata-Piako District Council
CLI-1832: Donald Matheson, 22 Sep 2026

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy

Ngaa mihi

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy

From: I and D Worley
Sent: Thursday, 17 September 2026 15:48 Info-
To: line
Subject: Climate resistance strategy

ATTENTION: This e-mail originates from outside of the council. Do not open attachments or click links unless you are sure this e-mail comes from a known sender and you know the content is safe.

I tried filling in the response on my phone but I had not been able to easily find the strategy.

With help I did get to look at it.

I liked the photos, really lovely, I liked the part that listed what you have done so far.....this should be highlighted regularly, maybe in the Te Aroha News.

I was disappointed that there was nothing about reducing car emissions by improving public transport.

At the moment it is impossible to have a few hours in Morrinsville if you live in Te Aroha, buses are so infrequent. Even one more bus would help in the middle of the day.

In conclusion I support your approach.

Isobel Worley

Matamata-Piako District Council
CLI-1839: Isaac M, 02 Oct 2026

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1839
Name: Isaac M

Do you have any files to support your submission?
6abf0a1fcaa12-submission-final-.pdf

Organisation (if applicable):
Federated Farmers

Which of these options do you support?
Option 3: Adopt the draft Climate Resilience Strategy with changes (please specify below)

Matamata-Piako District Council
CLI-1839: Isaac M, 02 Oct 2026

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy

Item 7.1

Attachment A

SUBMISSION



To: Waikato Regional Council
Via email:

Date: 30 September 2026

Submission on: (Draft) Climate Resilience Strategy

Submission by: Federated Farmers of New Zealand

PROVINCIAL PRESIDENT
CHRIS WOOLERTON – WAIKATO PROVINCIAL PRESIDENT
Federated Farmers of New Zealand

Isaac McIntyre
Senior Policy Advisor
Federated Farmers of New Zealand

-
- 1. INTRODUCTION**
- 1.1. Federated Farmers of New Zealand (FFNZ) appreciates this opportunity to submit on the (Draft) Climate Resilience Strategy (the Strategy).
- 1.2. We acknowledge any submissions from individual members of Federated Farmers and groups affiliated with FFNZ.
- 1.3. Federated Farmers advocates for flexible land use, pragmatic adaptation infrastructure, and science-driven, cost-effective regulations in its submissions on climate resilience and adaptation strategies.

Matamata-Piako District Council
CLI-1839: Isaac M, 02 Oct 2026

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy (CLI)

- 1.4. FFNZ supports that the Strategy has recognised the following:
- a. Rural communities are often isolated and more at risk of extreme climate events. In the wake of disasters, emergency response and recovery efforts can be challenging and take longer.
 - b. Climate change affects productive land, water supplies and other important resources and services that farmers and growers rely on.
 - c. Extreme weather events and climate-related risks can cause long-term disruption to rural communities, and to vital networks and support services.

2. GENERAL COMMENTS

- 2.1. Addressing climate change is a shared responsibility, but the future of the Matamata-Piako district relies heavily on its agricultural sector. Because the local economy is built on farming and horticulture, long-term wealth and resilience depend entirely on the industry's willingness to adopt sustainable practices today which is what it is doing.

FFNZ requests that the Strategy recognises that the primary industry sector is adopting change as it adapts to climate change.

FFNZ requests that the Strategy recognises the need for continued collaboration with key rural industries such as FFNZ, DairyNZ, Meat and Wool as well as Horticulture NZ.

3. PURPOSE

- 3.1 FFNZ supports the broad intent of the strategy. However, FFNZ seeks more focus within the Strategy on assisting farmers by providing coordinated local planning, risk data, and infrastructure support to manage extreme weather like floods and droughts.

4. Reducing the Community's Impact:

- 4.1 FFNZ supports the section on Reducing the Community's Impact by encouraging low impact development through the District Plan. However, FFNZ seeks that Primary Productive Activities are specifically addressed within this section of the Strategy and there is a need to collaborate with Farmers on climate adaptation methods through emerging Science and Innovation.

5. Flexible Land Use:

- 5.1 FFNZ seeks that the Strategy recognises that farmers need the flexibility to change land use as the climate evolves, avoiding rigid rules that restrict practical on-farm decisions.

6. Infrastructure

- 6.1. Page 18 of the Strategy states that Council is already responding to climate risks to ensure core services like roads are fit for purpose for changing conditions. This is particularly important for

Matamata-Piako District Council
CLI-1839: Isaac M, 02 Oct 2026

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy (CLI)

Item 7.1

Attachment A

the protection of rural transport routes, ensuring farmers can still move livestock and get produce to market after storms.

- 6.2. FFNZ seeks that the Strategy recognises investment must focus on robust rural infrastructure—including water security, drainage, and reliable energy and roading networks—to withstand extreme weather

7. Hazard Mapping

- 7.1. Ensuring district data is kept up to date. The Waikato regional Council has a lot of baseline information. Tools such as Land Information Memorandums (LIM) will enable Farmers to understand local flood, erosion, and fire risks before buying land or investing in expensive infrastructure such as dairy sheds.

FFNZ supports the Strategy on continued Hazard Mapping as this can assist with establishing future infrastructure in less hazard prone areas which creates an opportunity of resilience by reducing vulnerability.

8. District Plan

- 8.1. The National Policy Statement – Natural Hazard Decision-Making (NPS-NHD) was made operative in 2025. The Strategy refers to the NPS. The NPS requires Council to review the District Plan and give effect to the NPS.

The Council can integrate not only the NPS but also the Strategy into the MPDC District Plan by turning high-level climate and disaster goals into legally enforceable rules for land-use, subdivision, and building. This would be encouraged for domestic dwellings.

In the context of flooding, FFNZ would discourage stringent rules for farm buildings where flooding only causes temporary effects on such infrastructure but can continue operating as farming is often best suited to flood prone areas.

With regard to flooding, Hamilton City Council and Tauranga City Council both undertook plan changes whereby they undertook the approach of a management regime where, instead of fixed or static maps which can become outdated, mapping of flood prone areas is dynamic and be updated as new information becomes available. There area rules that refer to development within flood prone areas and those flood prone areas come from non-static mapping overlays for a particular area.

FFNZ would encourage MPDC to undertake this same approach when reviewing the hazard sections of the District Plan when giving effect to the NPS-NHD to avoid having to update static plans over time.

Matamata-Piako District Council
CLI-1839: Isaac M, 02 Oct 2026

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy (CLI)

Item 7.1

Attachment A

Federated Farmers thanks Waikato Regional Council for considering our submission.

About Federated Farmers

Federated Farmers is a not-for-profit primary sector policy and advocacy organisation that represents the majority of farming businesses in New Zealand. Federated Farmers has a long and proud history of representing the interests of New Zealand's farmers.

The Federation aims to add value to its members' farming businesses. Our key strategic outcomes include the need for New Zealand to provide an economic and social environment within which:

- Our members may operate their business in a fair and flexible commercial environment;
- Our members' families and their staff have access to services essential to the needs of the rural community; and
- Our members adopt responsible management and environmental practices.

This submission is representative of member views and reflect the fact that local government plans, policies and spending impact on our member's daily lives as farmers and members of local communities.



Matamata-Piako District Council
CLI-1840: Molly McDouall, 02 Oct 2026

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1840
Name: Molly McDouall

Do you have any files to support your submission?
6abf0c60883d2-2026.10.02-letter-to-mpdc-re-climate-resilience-strategy-1-.pdf

Organisation (if applicable):
Lawyers for Climate Action NZ

Which of these options do you support?
Option 3: Adopt the draft Climate Resilience Strategy with changes (please specify below)

Matamata-Piako District Council
CLI-1840: Molly McDouall, 02 Oct 2026

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy



Website: www.lawyersforclimateaction.nz/

Board members: Jenny Cooper KC (President)/
Bjørn-Oliver Magsig/ Bryce Lyall/ Debra Dorrington/
Frankie McKeefry / James Every-Palmer KC / Martin Smith/
Nicola Hedge/ Sally Gepp KC Alexandra Finlay/
Acting Executive Director: Laura MacKay/

2 October 2026

Submission on the draft Manaaki Whenua, Manaaki Tangata | Climate Resilience Strategy

- 1 Lawyers for Climate Action NZ thanks Matamata-Piako District Council (**Council**) for the opportunity to submit on its [Draft Climate Resilience Strategy](#) (**Draft Strategy**). This short submission focuses on two key points:
- (a) First, that the Draft Strategy, while focusing on resilience, is largely silent on the need and role of Council in reducing the district's emissions; and
- (b) Second, ensuring that there is a clear understanding of Council's legal obligations under the Climate Change Response Act 2002 (**CCRA**).¹
- 2 We also acknowledge at the outset that local government as a whole is in a period of significant uncertainty and rapidly evolving regulation and central government policy.

About Lawyers for Climate Action NZ

- 3 Lawyers for Climate Action is an incorporated society of lawyers who use the law to enable more effective action on climate change in Aotearoa New Zealand. We advocate for more effective climate laws, having regard to the serious threat posed by the climate crisis to all New Zealanders. You can find out more about Lawyers for Climate Action at www.lawyersforclimateaction.nz.

We welcome a strategy to increase the resilience of the local community in light of the changing climate

- 4 As the Draft Strategy recognises, communities across the country are grappling with the realities of a changing climate. The impacts of climate change are arriving fast, and adding pressure at a time of rising living costs, social strain and global uncertainty.² For example, the 2023 North Island Severe Weather Events were collectively the most severe and destructive weather events in Aotearoa New Zealand's recent history. Fifteen people lost their lives, and between NZ\$9 billion and NZ\$14.5 billion of physical damage was caused to households, businesses and infrastructure.³ The likelihood of similar concurrent, compounding and cascading extreme events is expected to increase as the climate changes.⁴

¹ As amended by the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019.

² Climate Change Commission "[Progress report: National Adaptation Plan](#)" (April 2026) at p 20.

³ Climate Change Commission "[2026 National Climate Change Risk Assessment for Aotearoa New Zealand](#)" (April 2026) at p 22.

⁴ Ibid; See also: Waikato Regional Council "[Waikato Regional Climate Change Hazards and Risks - Summary Report](#)", including that Matamata-Piako are "likely to experience more frequency and more intense cyclones" and the "highest fire danger in Waikato is projected for the Matamata-Piako and Hauraki districts" at pp 7-8, 23.

Matamata-Piako District Council
CLI-1840: Molly McDouall, 02 Oct 2026

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy



**LAWYERS FOR
CLIMATE ACTION**

Website: www.lawyersforclimateaction.nz/

Board members: Jenny Cooper KC (President) /
Bjørn-Oliver Magsig / Bryce Lyall / Debra Dorrington /
Frankie McKeefry / James Every-Palmer KC / Martin Smith /
Nicola Hedge / Sally Gepp KC / Alexandra Finlay /
Acting Executive Director: Laura MacKay

- 5 The Climate Change Commission recently explained in the National Climate Change Risk Assessment, “[c]ommunities at the frontlines of climate change can become trapped in a cycle of vulnerability, where today’s inaction creates locked-in vulnerability” - and without clear guidance and targeted actions to increase the resilience of social infrastructure and community services providers, resilience to this risk is likely to remain very low and future exposure may be ‘locked in’.⁵ The Draft Strategy is a step in the right direction.
- 6 However, the Draft Strategy appears largely silent on the need to reduce emissions across the board, and we strongly recommend this be re-centred.⁶ The scale of future impacts and costs depends on reducing emissions as fast as possible: “Adaptation is central to reducing climate risks, alongside global action to reduce emissions and limit warming”.⁷ Currently there is a lack of recognition within the draft strategy that a failure to reduce emissions will increase the level of climate-related harm faced by communities and the amount of resilience required.

Section 52N of the Climate Change Response Act 2002

- 7 Table 3 of the Draft Strategy sets out the climate response roles and responsibilities for local government.⁸ In reference to the Climate Change Response Act 2002 (CCRA), Table 3 refers to the following roles and responsibilities for local government:
- (a) “On request, Council must provide information to the Minister of Climate Change about its governance, risk identification, and management of climate change impacts”;⁹ and
 - (b) Councils must have regard to the National Adaptation Plan when changing district plans; and
 - (c) Councils must have regard to the emissions reduction plan when changing district plans.

⁵ Climate Change Commission “[2026 National Climate Change Risk Assessment for Aotearoa New Zealand](#)” (April 2026), at p 216.

⁶ We note that we understand that the Draft Strategy is not intended to be an exhaustive document capturing emissions reduction actions. - the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan that is also being consulted on currently, for example, recognises Council’s role as a provider, funder and facilitator in adopting a circular economy to reduce associated emissions (Matamata-Piako District Council “[Waste Management & Minimisation Plan: Reducing Waste and Planning for the Future 2027-2033](#)” at p 24). Reducing emissions appears to be implicit in the final focus area: “Wāhi Arotahi: Te Toitūtanga o te Kaunihera me te Hapori | Focus Area: Council and Community Sustainability”.

⁷ Climate Change Commission “[Progress report: National Adaptation Plan](#)” (April 2026), at p 5.

⁸ For completeness, we note that the Planning Act 2026 and the Natural Environment Act 2026 are now in force, with their respective transition periods. The Local Government Act 2002 has also been amended in recent weeks by the Local Government (Systems Improvement) Amendment Act 2026: While this removes reference to the ‘four well-beings’ amongst other things, it does not reduce the imperative to both reduce emissions and adapt to climate change.

⁹ CCRA, s 52W.

Matamata-Piako District Council
CLI-1840: Molly McDouall, 02 Oct 2026

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy



Website: www.lawyersforclimateaction.nz/

Board members: Jenny Cooper KC (President)/
Bjørn-Oliver Magsig/ Bryce Lyall/ Debra Dorrington/
Frankie McKeefry / James Every-Palmer KC / Martin Smith/
Nicola Hedge/ Sally Gepp KC Alexandra Finlay/
Acting Executive Director: Laura MacKay/

- 8 We recommend amending Table 3 to include reference to s 5ZN of the CCRA. Section 5ZN provides that, if they think fit, a person or body may, in exercising or performing a public function, power or duty conferred by or under law, take into account the 2050 target, an emissions budget, or an emissions reduction plan. This includes council decisions.
- 9 It is also important to note that there are also contexts where the s 5ZN matters, and wider climate change considerations are not just permissible considerations, but mandatory relevant considerations, as confirmed by the Supreme Court in *Climate Clinic Aotearoa v Minister for Energy Resources* last year.¹⁰ At a minimum, we recommend amending the Draft Strategy to ensure that section 5ZN, and the wider relevance of climate change as context demands, is recorded so that council officers, elected members, and the wider community understand the requirements as they relate to considering climate change.

¹⁰ [Climate Clinic Aotearoa v Minister for Energy and Resources](#) [2025] NZSC 197 at [89]; Whether a consideration may be taken into account or is mandatory is affected by the nature and subject matter of the decision, and other contextual matters.

Matamata-Piako District Council
CLI-1841: Gord Stewart, 02 Oct 2026

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1841
Name: Gord Stewart

Do you have any files to support your submission?
6abf236125630-mpdc-climate-strategy-submission-gord-stewart.pdf

Which of these options do you support?
Option 3: Adopt the draft Climate Resilience Strategy with changes (please specify below)

Additional commentsIs there anything else you would like us to consider in regard to the draft Climate Resilience Strategy?
My reasons for choosing Option 3 are noted in a file I attempted to attach, but it's uncertain if the attachment occurred. I will send the file to council separately.

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy (CLI)

Submission on MPDC's Draft 'Climate Resilience Strategy'

Gord Stewart, 2 October 2026

Council staff working on the climate strategy indicated that elected members made it clear that developing a deeper or shared understanding of climate science and the human impacts of warming is not a focus of the council's work. This must be at least partly why the draft strategy is one of 'resilience' and not 'action'?

It would be helpful to know why councillors do not wish to have a full understanding of the issue when making decisions about something so important. Councillors Andersen and Dewhurst have publicly confirmed their climate change denier status. Quite a number of other councillors must hold similar views. Otherwise, why would we now have such an incomplete strategy compared to those of other local councils?

Recommendations

- All of council's elected officials should publicly acknowledge where they stand on the climate crisis, as scientist now call it. (Denier? Sceptic? Don't know? Believe the science?)
- Councillors who will not base their decisions on science and the facts should be excluded from the process. (Of course, they are entitled to their views and opinions, but, surely, these should not serve as a basis for determining public policy?)
- If there is no quorum when the step noted above is followed, the process should be taken over by a citizens' assembly consisting of local residents. (This would ensure informed decision-making and a fair representation of the broad community, both of which are lacking now.)
- Turn the current strategy into something of substance. (This would mean giving proper attention to mitigation and greenhouse gas emission reductions as per TCDC and HDC plans, for example.)

Mitigation is surely an afterthought in council's current draft strategy. It is *not* acknowledged in "Our Vision" or "Our Goal" and occupies only a few pages at the end of the draft. Of the 12 points noting what "we [the council] will need to do" (*not* "what we WILL do"), eight are non-action action steps, including the likes of 'grow awareness', 'update plan', 'review processes', 'investigate ways', 'identify projects' and 'undertake an inventory'.

If amalgamation does not go ahead, then the above suggestions relate to MPDC work on its own accord. Professional staff should be given full reign to develop a strategy of which the whole district could be proud.

If amalgamation does occur, MPDC should simply get in behind the good work of the other councils it hopes to join in a new, larger jurisdiction.

Note: Council is encouraging feedback from submitters to support Option 1 (adopt the draft 'Climate Resilience Strategy' as proposed). It should be noted that the advantages/disadvantages of the two options are not complete and objective, but skewed toward the outcome council wishes. Why didn't Council simply ask respondents which option they prefer, not bias it by telling them its own preference. (This approach is not unlike the range and content of questions offered to submitters in earlier consultations.)

Matamata-Piako District Council
CLI-1843: peter volker, 02 Oct 2026

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1843
Name: peter volker

Which of these options do you support?
Option 2: Do not adopt the draft Climate Resilience Strategy

Additional commentsIs there anything else you would like us to consider in regard to the draft Climate Resilience Strategy?
Management of resources, of risk from natural hazards and other is (fortunately) part of the running of our MPDC's activities as it stands. Climate change is a topic that has been talked into the society. Extreme weather events may well have increased in frequency and severity. That needs to be recognised in the planning for - and the design of works. Able planners and designers take these into account. Making climate change a separate issue is merely a form of increasing bureaucracy, incentivised and supported by the national government. Do not present that as an advantage in your listing of Options ('Aligns with legislative requirements'). This is of no advantage at all. Do not follow the Government directions as a matter of course. It only is going to cost the MPDC residents extra money on this subject.

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy



Draft Climate Resilience Strategy: Manaaki Whenua, Manaaki Tangata
Matamata-Piako District Council

Submission

Submitted on behalf of: Forest & Bird (Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand)

Submitted by: Elvira van der Leden, Waikato & Taranaki Regional Conservation Manager

Introduction

Forest & Bird is Aotearoa New Zealand’s leading independent conservation organisation. Forest & Bird appreciates the opportunity to comment and supports Matamata Piako District Council developing this strategy with Te Manawhenua Forum and the community. Forest & Bird supports its vision, its three focus areas, and its guiding principle that Te Taiao | our environment is central to our wellbeing.

This submission focuses on ensuring the strategy gives biodiversity, indigenous ecosystems and nature-based solutions the same status as built infrastructure, as core climate resilience infrastructure in their own right. Healthy wetlands, riparian margins, native forest and urban trees and native vegetation buffer communities against the hazards the strategy identifies (flooding, drought, extreme wind, landslips, heat and wildfire) while also storing carbon and reversing biodiversity loss. At present nature-based solutions sits mainly in the third focus area (Council and Community Sustainability). Forest & Bird believes the strategy can go further in recognising and resourcing it across all three. A nature-based solutions lens over all focus areas also delivers a long term-intergenerational resilience approach.

1. Community Survey Response

In the Climate Ready Survey (140 self-selected responses), the top concerns were **weather events (70%), costs (64%) and the natural world (63%)**, followed by services (61%). The representative 2025 Residents’ Survey (382 weighted responses) found 64% of residents think it is important for Council to take a leadership role in climate response. Nature-based solutions respond to each of the top three concerns:

- **Weather events.** Wetlands, floodplains, riparian vegetation and well-vegetated slopes slow and store floodwater, support flows in dry periods and stabilise land. These are the hazards the strategy names as most significant for the district (p. 7, p. 25).
- **Costs.** The strategy says preparing now is likely to be much less costly than reacting after damage (p. 17), and that business cases should articulate the cost-benefit of resilient solutions (p. 21). Nature-based options often have lower whole-of-life costs and deliver co-benefits such as water quality, amenity, infrastructure protection and habitat. They should be assessed on that basis.
- **The natural world.** The strategy’s own risk summary identifies Kopuatai Dome, a Ramsar wetland, as at risk from water quality threats, flooding, erosion and sedimentation, with loss of vegetation

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy

affecting wildlife (p. 9). Ecosystem health is both something the community values and a key part of the district's resilience. Forest & Bird is concerned that none of the actions in the Council Resilience or Community Adaptation focus areas address this with importance.

2. Council resilience

The strategy's risk information recognises impacts on the natural environment, but the actions in this focus area are framed around infrastructure, cost and services. We ask Council to:

- a. Include in "Understanding local impacts" an assessment of the indigenous ecosystems and species exposed to each hazard, including Kopuatai Dome and its catchment, remaining wetlands, waterways and forest on the Kaimai Range, drawing on the knowledge of iwi and long-term residents. Ecological loss should be recorded and not treated as an unavoidable side-effect.
- b. Under "Building resilient assets and services", require that business cases and asset management planning assess nature-based options (wetland and riparian buffers, floodplain storage, permeable surfaces, green stormwater infrastructure) alongside engineered options, on a whole-of-life basis. Where Council trials adjusting levels of service in areas of repeated weather damage (p. 21), restoring those sites to wetland or floodplain vegetation should be one of the options considered. Investing in this type of natural restoration now will help to mitigate some of the most severe impacts later, ultimately saving long term economic costs.
- c. Recognise that the Piako catchment is under very high pressure, with water use well above sustainable levels year round (p. 12). Wetland and riparian restoration help sustain flows and water quality, and should sit alongside leak repair and metering in water security planning. We encourage Council to work with Waikato Regional Council and Waikato Water Ltd (taking over water assets on 1 October 2026) so nature-based catchment measures are part of that planning. Again, building this type of thinking and approach in to engineering and planning processes is very likely to help save costs in the long run while building natural sustainability and resilience in to council's operational and capital developments.
- d. Reduce stormwater entering the wastewater network (p. 12) through permeable surfaces, retained green space and green stormwater infrastructure (eg. Rain gardens and restored wetland pockets), as well as network upgrades. These actions will help reduce water volume, flow and perform as a natural filter.

3. Community adaptation and preparedness

- a. **Avoiding the risk.** Forest & Bird supports using updated flood modelling to guide the Growth Strategy and land use planning. The qualifier "in a way that still supports development" (p. 25) should not dilute avoidance. The areas most exposed to flooding are often those with the highest remaining ecological values, such as wetlands and floodplains. The strategy should say explicitly that avoiding development in flood-prone areas and retaining wetlands and floodplains as natural flood storage is both a resilience and a biodiversity gain. The District Plan rules should protect wetlands, riparian margins and significant natural areas accordingly.
- b. **Legislative context.** Table 3 (pp. 10–11) lists Council's climate-related responsibilities but omits its responsibilities for maintaining indigenous biodiversity under the Resource Management Act and the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity, or whatever replaces them through the RMA reform (Natural Environment Bill and Planning Bill). These should be added so

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy

biodiversity is treated as part of Council's statutory resilience role and encourages community action in this space.

- c. **LGFA Green Loans.** While Forest & Bird understands the appetite for opening streams and creating swales as example projects (p. 25), Forest & Bird asks Council to also name wetland restoration, riparian planting and floodplain reconnection as priority nature-based projects, with the same weight as flood bypasses – restoring more natural spaces and systems to control water movement.
- d. **Adaptation planning pilot (p. 26).** Ensure the pilot assesses ecosystems exposed to hazards and considers nature-based responses first, ahead of hard engineering wherever practicable. Partnership with mana whenua should be resourced and not just stated as a principle, including support for marae and papakāinga resilience projects (p. 27) in line with iwi aspirations.

4. Council and community sustainability (pp. 29–32)

Forest & Bird supports the nature-based stormwater solutions Council has already installed, the commitment to investigate improving water quality, reducing costs and increasing biodiversity on esplanade reserves, floodplain areas, parks and around drinking water sources (p. 32), and support for landowners managing slip-prone land (p. 30). We ask Council to strengthen this section by:

- a. Replacing the qualifier “where practical and economically viable” (p. 30) with a commitment to assess options on a whole-of-life basis. On that basis many nature-based actions will be economically sound, and the qualifier risks signalling that environmental action is optional. Alternative wording could be considered here.
- b. Securing long-term, dedicated funding for maintenance of nature-based sites, including weeding and pest plant and animal control. Expanding rain gardens “in a way that minimises maintenance” (p. 32) should not mean under-resourcing maintenance, because new plantings and corridors deliver far less benefit if browsing animals, predators and weeds are left unmanaged. Sustainable, cost-effective management plans for these initiatives will help ensure accountability and evidence-based reporting as to the benefits they are bringing for the community.
- c. Setting measurable goals for restoration on Council-owned land (for example area of wetland and native planting), using indigenous, locally sourced species.

Extending landowner support beyond slip-prone land to riparian fencing and planting, wetland protection and retirement of marginal land, in partnership with Waikato Regional Council, catchment groups, DOC and iwi, and ensuring the review of Council's grants (p. 30) prioritises community restoration and pest control projects. While this overlaps with WRC jurisdiction, residential land-owners could benefit from these collaborative actions in building resilience in to the urban landscape.
- d. Including urban tree canopy and native planting in community resilience advice. Shade trees reduce heat exposure with little reliance on energy, and permeable, biodiverse gardens reduce stormwater runoff.

5. Nature-based solutions as a cross-cutting lens

Nature-based solutions should not sit as one part of a single “sustainability” focus area, separate from Council resilience and community adaptation. They contribute at once to adaptation, cost control, water security, emissions reduction and wellbeing, which is the multi-benefit approach the strategy itself seeks. We ask Council to turn the guiding principle Te Taiao into a practical requirement: that nature-based

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy

options are considered first, and ecosystem impacts assessed, in every focus area and in the strategy's implementation.

6. Other comments

- a. Recognise indigenous biodiversity and ecosystem health as an explicit outcome of the strategy and not only a co-benefit of other actions.
- b. Include biodiversity and ecosystem health indicators (for example wetland extent, native vegetation cover along waterways, and area of Council land restored) in the regular, measurable reporting the strategy commits to (p. 22), alongside cost and hazard measures.
- c. Support ecological corridors and connectivity between the Kaimai Range, wetlands and waterways, so species can move as conditions change.
- d. Address new pests and diseases and wildfire, both listed as hazards (p. 7), through pest and weed management, including fire-prone weeds such as gorse, alongside native restoration.
- e. In Council's advocacy to central government on roles and funding (pp. 20–22), also call for stronger national funding and policy support for local biodiversity and ecosystem restoration, not only adaptation infrastructure.

Conclusion

Forest & Bird supports the overall direction of the Draft Climate Resilience Strategy. Residents told Council they are most concerned about weather events, costs and the natural world, and a strategy built on protecting and restoring nature responds to all three. We ask that indigenous biodiversity and nature-based solutions be given equal, high-priority status alongside built infrastructure across all three focus areas, supported by investment in sustainable management systems (ie. pest control) that contribute to the multiple benefits of looking after natural climate-resilient infrastructure as described throughout this submission.

Thank you for considering this submission.

Elvisa van der Leden
Regional Conservation Manager, Waikato and Taranaki
Forest & Bird (Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand)

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy



**Submission on Matamata-Piako District Council's Draft Climate Resilience Strategy,
October 2026**

Sustainable Matamata welcomes the release of this draft and acknowledges there are very worthwhile elements in it for ensuring our district is readied for climate impacts.

The bigger picture

We are disappointed that we cannot see a greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction target for the council's activities, nor a set of milestones and timelines it has towards reductions of its own and its communities' emissions. As we all know, GHG reductions save money, contribute to our country's international commitments and reputation, and make a small, but valued, contribution to the global need to pull back from the disastrous effects of a warming planet. We believe a tight focus is needed on this aspect of local government.

How significant are the higher temperatures so obvious on the planet today? US space agency NASA states unequivocally that the amount of carbon dioxide in Earth's atmosphere has increased sharply in the past 100 years as a result of the burning of fossil fuels (such as coal, oil, and natural gas), wildfires (we note how these are increasingly common), and volcanic eruptions.

Further, NASA calls methane a potent heat-trapping greenhouse gas. The amount of methane in the atmosphere has increased in recent decades as observed by scientific measurements, the agency says. An estimated 60 per cent of today's methane emissions are the result of human activities, it says. Also, the Ministry for the Environment reported in 2024 that over half of New Zealand's gross emissions were from methane and nitrous oxide, largely from agriculture.

Other councils

Many councils use targets to focus on reducing their own and their districts' emissions. Christchurch City Council in August this year adopted an action plan that builds on earlier actions toward its emissions reduction target of net carbon neutral by 2030. The plan includes:

- solar installations
- fleet decarbonisation
- diesel/boiler generator replacements
- electricity strategy and electricity contract renewals
- energy management systems in facilities
- reducing emissions from staff commuting, and
- reducing emissions from mowing.

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy

Item 7.1

Attachment A

Tauranga City Council has committed to net zero by 2050. It has:

- completed energy efficiency initiatives within water supply and wastewater operation
- diverted biosolids from landfill by sending them for vermicomposting
- extended solar capacity at the Mount Beachside Holiday Park, and
- brought EVs into its fleet.

TCC also plans to:

- install solar panels at feasible council and Bay Venues sites.
- phase out natural gas usage at cemeteries and the holiday park, and
- continue energy efficiency projects across assets and operations.

Closer to home, Thames-Coromandel District Council is targeting net zero emissions for council by 2050 and reducing emissions of biogenic methane by between 24 per cent and 47 per cent by 2050.

The council says: “We are progressively switching 65 per cent of our vehicle fleet to electric vehicle replacements and expect to go further when suitable alternative vehicles become available at the right prices. We will also review our use of diesel generators in ensuring continuity of service at water and wastewater treatment plants as well as cost savings...

“Improving our energy efficiency would reduce our emissions faster and help cut our electricity bills. We are already replacing streetlights and office lighting with energy efficient LED lights and our plan to reduce water loss and water demand should also reduce the amount of electricity we use to extract, treat and pump water. We could also invest in generating our own solar power on site, and this is being investigated.”

Our district’s approach

Sustainable Matamata accepts that Matamata-Piako District Council has taken a number of energy-efficiency, emissions-reducing actions. We are pleased to see the purchase of some hybrid vehicles.

But, compared with other councils, Matamata-Piako District Council’s current thinking appears more focused on preparing for climate disasters. The council has put off into the as-yet unplanned future a large number of important initiatives.

Its lists of “What’s Next” in each category in the draft plan are all extensive. While they have merit, it seems these actions will have to wait their turn for advancement in a long line of competing priorities, in an era of tight finances and uncertainty.

Interface with community groups and business

We especially welcome and emphasise the value of the following in the plan:

- support community-led sustainability initiatives that promote impactful energy and water conservation
- grow people’s awareness of the practical actions they can take at the household level to support district-wide priorities such as water conservation, protecting stormwater quality, and reducing waste

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy

- encourage low-impact development through our Growth Strategy, District Plan, and regional planning
- update the Waste Minimisation and Management Plan
- support the community with projects that could be funded through LGFA Green Loans, including those that encourage walking and cycling, increase recycling, and improve stormwater quality, and
- explore new ways to amplify sustainability action such as a sustainability category in local business awards, and social media to highlight Council's leadership in this space.

Our latest project, Electrify Matamata-Piako, informs residents on the benefits and costs of electrifying a home or business. Please watch out for our events on this theme. And, as you know, our recycling scheme takes thousands of food and beverage cartons out the waste stream each year. We are willing to expand our work in this area, "boots on the ground" permitting. We have heavily promoted cycling and other active means of transport and hope to pick this up again soon. This makes a difference to emissions and public health.

Growth and planning

Sustainable Matamata urges the council to advocate to the next Government against the fast-track legislation. It has been distressing, in particular, to see housing developments advanced through this process.

We also urge the council to do all it can to restrict access to any more rural Matamata land for residential purposes, for the obvious reasons that housing for large numbers of new residents is already being catered for across a wide area, **from where walking and cycling will likely be unusual and car travel necessary**. A large number of additional vehicles in Matamata town would create parking pressure with enormous potential costs, as well as adding extra GHG emissions.

We do not know how much land is presently zoned rural and potentially earmarked for residential as well, but we urge the council to scrutinise this.

We have previously advocated for higher-density dwellings in the central business district. Adding apartment living to a small town should be seen as an expected and interesting way to create lifestyles and amenity. We can envisage new, visually pleasing plantings, a CBD community garden, residents living above shops and in purpose-built new three-storey apartments each with balcony gardens and vertical gardens (using exterior walls), new laneway plantings and outdoor eateries...We would be proud of Matamata "going green" and standing out, attracting publicity and encouraging visitors to linger here longer.

We support the mention of low-impact development and believe that collectively, this can make a big difference to emissions. This should include council actively encouraging installation of solar energy systems, use of "green" building materials and designs, provision of systems for reducing and reusing building waste wherever possible, plus on-site water storage and native tree planting (for water and carbon absorption).

We thank you for the chance to submit.

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy

Nā

Virginia McMillan, communications officer, and Martin Louw, co-coordinator

Item 7.1

Attachment A

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy

Te Manawhenua Forum submission: Draft Climate Resilience Strategy and draft Waste Minimisation and Management Plan 2026

Overall:

The Te Manawhenua Forum endorse both the Climate Resilience Strategy and the WMMP for Council adoption.

The Forum requests that Council continue to engage with the mana whenua forum and wider iwi/hapū organisations and communicates with local groups and marae when consultations occur to allow ample time for submissions.

The Forum supports taking a long-term, intergenerational approach, rather than responding only once environmental or climate impacts have occurred.

Manaaki Whenua, Manaaki Tangata - Climate Resilience Strategy

The Forum notes the process of developing the Climate Resilience Strategy as a collaborative approach where Manawhenua were involved early on to develop the strategy alongside Council since mid 2025. In particular, the Forum acknowledges those involved in the Council working group to develop the strategy.

The Forum supports Council's proactive approach to climate adaptation and improving the resilience of communities, infrastructure and essential services and notes climate impacts will not necessarily be experienced equally across communities. Māori can face heightened climate risks because of factors including location and socioeconomic circumstances and the impacts on whenua, wai, indigenous biodiversity, wāhi tapu and other taonga can have significant impacts on cultural and spiritual Hauora, as well as mental, economic and physical.

Waste Management and Minimisation Plan

The Forum supports the WMMP's direction towards a low-waste future, including reducing waste sent to landfill and increasing reuse, recycling and resource recovery and initiatives that protect whenua and wai from contamination and inappropriate waste disposal.

The Forum encourages opportunities for Māori-led and community-led waste minimisation initiatives, including reuse, repair, recovery and local circular-economy projects and supports equitable access to waste minimisation and recycling services, including for rural communities, marae and papakāinga where appropriate.

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy - Late submission

Submission to Matamata-Piako District Council

Draft Climate Resilience Strategy Submitter:

Name Ray Pooley

I do not wish to be heard.

1. Introduction

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Draft Climate Resilience Strategy. I am a Matamata resident involved in local sport, community activities, and emergency-readiness initiatives. I support Council's intention to strengthen district-wide resilience and agree that proactive planning is essential for protecting people, property, and community wellbeing.

This submission supports the Strategy's overall direction and recommends several refinements to ensure it is practical, equitable, and aligned with national emergency management best practice.

2. Support for the Strategy

I support the Strategy's recognition of the district's key climate risks — including flooding, drought, severe weather, and heat-related impacts — and its emphasis on proactive planning, partnership with regional agencies, and long-term sustainability.

The Strategy provides a strong foundation. The recommendations below aim to strengthen clarity, implementation, and community relevance.

3. Embed the 4 Rs of Emergency Management

To improve usability and alignment with national practice, I recommend structuring resilience actions around the **4 Rs of Emergency Management**:

- **Reduction** – long-term risk reduction through land-use planning, infrastructure upgrades, and hazard mitigation.
- **Readiness** – community preparedness, education, communication systems, and capability building.
- **Response** – coordinated actions during an event, including welfare, communication, and continuity of essential services.
- **Recovery** – support for communities after an event, including social, economic, and infrastructure restoration.

Using the 4 Rs provides a clear, familiar framework that helps communities understand their role before, during, and after emergencies.

4. Adopt an All-Hazards Approach

The Strategy would benefit from explicitly adopting an **all-hazards approach**, recognising that resilience planning must address:

- climate-related hazards (flooding, drought, heatwaves),
- natural hazards (earthquakes, landslides, fire),
- infrastructure failures (power outages, water supply disruptions),
- and emerging risks (digital disruption, supply chain shocks).

An all-hazards lens ensures planning is flexible, scalable, and relevant across multiple scenarios — particularly important for rural communities and small towns with limited redundancy.

5. Strengthen Focus on the Aging Population

Matamata-Piako has a **growing aging population**, and older residents are consistently identified as a high-vulnerability group in emergency events. The Strategy should more clearly acknowledge:

- mobility and health-related challenges during evacuations,
- reliance on medical devices and power supply,
- social isolation risks,
- communication barriers for non-digital users,
- and the need for accessible safe spaces and welfare support.

Targeted planning for older residents is essential to building genuine community resilience.

6. Localised, Action-Focused Planning

The Strategy is strong on principles but light on specific, time-bound actions. I recommend:

- town-level action plans for Matamata, Morrinsville, Te Aroha, and rural settlements,
- clear priorities for flood management, water security, and critical community facilities,
- timelines, responsibilities, and measurable indicators.

This will help communities understand what will happen, when, and who is responsible.

7. Implications of Local Government Reform

The proposed **local authority amalgamation** and **removal of regional councils** will have direct consequences for how climate resilience and emergency management functions are delivered.

Regional councils currently provide essential services including:

- hazard mapping and risk assessment,
- flood protection and river management,
- water allocation and catchment planning,
- environmental monitoring and compliance,
- regional-level emergency management coordination.

If these functions are redistributed or absorbed into new entities, the Strategy must ensure:

- continuity of critical hazard and resilience functions,
- clear lines of responsibility for flood management, drought planning, and environmental monitoring,
- strong coordination mechanisms between new authority structures and local communities,
- retention of specialist capability in hydrology, emergency management, and environmental science.

The Strategy should commit to updating resilience actions once new governance arrangements are confirmed, ensuring communities are not disadvantaged during the transition.

8. Community-Led Initiatives and Support Pathways

The Strategy acknowledges community-led resilience but does not outline how groups can access support. I recommend establishing:

- a simple pathway for clubs, marae, neighbourhood groups, and rural communities to propose resilience projects,
- small grants or seed funding,
- and access to technical advice from Council staff.

This will empower local action and strengthen social resilience.

9. Monitoring, Reporting, and Review

To ensure accountability and progress, I recommend:

- clear indicators and measures of success,
- regular public reporting,
- and a scheduled review cycle aligned with the Long Term Plan.

10. Closing Statement

I support the intent of the Climate Resilience Strategy and encourage Council to strengthen it through clearer actions, an all-hazards approach, and explicit use of the

4 Rs framework. Prioritising vulnerable groups — particularly our aging population — will ensure resilience planning is equitable and effective.

I do not wish to be heard.

Thank you for considering this submission.

Ray Pooley



Draft Climate Resilience Strategy 2026 submissions summary

2 September 2026 – 2 October 2026



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What did we consult on?



Council developed a Climate Resilience Strategy to help the district prepare for climate impacts.

The Strategy recognises that events such as flooding, severe storms, droughts, extreme heat, and other natural hazards are likely to place increasing pressure on our communities, infrastructure, environment, and economy.





WE ASKED:

**WHICH OF THESE
OPTIONS DO YOU
SUPPORT?**

1. **Adopt the draft climate
resilience strategy as proposed.**
2. **Do not adopt the draft climate
resilience strategy.**
3. **Adopt draft climate resilience
strategy with changes**



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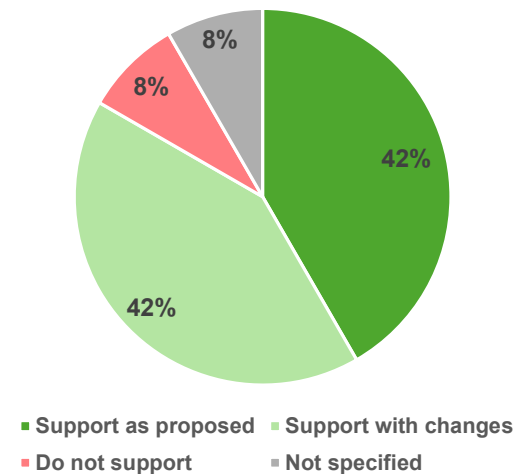
Key findings



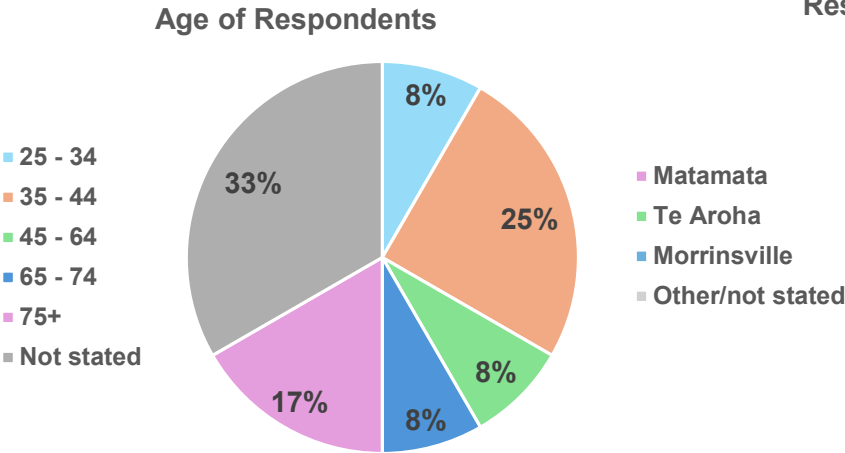
12 submissions were received in total.

- **5 supported** the Strategy as proposed
- **5 supported** the adoption of the Strategy **with changes**.
- **1 did not support** the Strategy
- **1 did not specify** an option

Agree with the draft Climate Resilience Strategy



About the respondents



Key themes



- 🌳 Nature-based solutions like rain gardens, intentional wet lands and indigenous biodiversity should be given equal, high-priority status
- 🌳 Identify short, medium and long-term priorities and set measures of success.
- 🌳 Improve recognition of agriculture/ farming given the importance of the sector to the district's economy and resilience.
- 🌳 Focus on outcomes and clearly describe how actions will benefit residents, businesses, and ratepayers.
- 🌳 Align mitigation and greenhouse gas emission reductions with Thames-Coromandel District Council and Hauraki District Council.





Public Consultation Submissions, 05 Oct 2026
Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMP)

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(WMP) Public Consultation Submissions

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(WMP) Public Consultation Submissions

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Submission Details

Submission ID: 1808
Name: Peter K A Kampenhout

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

Reducing waste sent to landfill: 8
Improving recycling and resource recovery: 8
Reducing food waste: 8
Improving transfer stations: 8
Education and behaviour change: 8
Better information about waste: 8
Supporting community initiatives: 8
Keeping costs affordable: 8

Do you have any comments on this?

Councils should band together and insist on merchants like supermarkets stop using plastic and other wasteful packaging. Go back to using glass bottles that can be returned and reused and user pays

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?

Sort of. Some are right, but not others

Do you have any comments on this?

Teach people to be tidy and not throw stuff out of their cars. Cycling along the Hauraki rail trail we always find empty cans and bottles

["8","8","8","8","8","8","8","8"]

Attachment B

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1809
Name: Helen Sparks

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

- Reducing waste sent to landfill: 7
- Improving recycling and resource recovery: 8
- Reducing food waste: 6
- Improving transfer stations: 6
- Education and behaviour change: 7
- Better information about waste: 6
- Supporting community initiatives: 6
- Keeping costs affordable: 8

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?

No. You've missed the mark

Do you have any comments on this?

We need proper soft plastics recycling as the supermarket collection points are always closed. All green waste should be shredded and composted and sold back to the community. There should be provision for plastic bottle top collection and recycling

3. Do you have any other feedback on the plan that you would like Council to consider before making a final decision?

The easier it is for people to recycle the more they will do it. Not all residents can get. To the waste centres

["7","8","6","6","7","6","6","8"]

(WMP) Public Consultation Submissions

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1810
Name: Carol Dutton

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

Reducing waste sent to landfill: 2
Improving recycling and resource recovery: 3
Reducing food waste: 4
Improving transfer stations: 1
Education and behaviour change: 5
Better information about waste: 8
Supporting community initiatives: 6
Keeping costs affordable: 7

Do you have any comments on this?

I feel all of these issues are as important as each other and all deserve a 1 to be fair

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?

Yes. The right issues are identified

3. Do you have any other feedback on the plan that you would like Council to consider before making a final decision?

Resource recovery is super important in reducing waste to landfill. A centre for this in Matamata Piako should be a priority. I take all of my resources out of our district as we have no facility close by. Paeroa and Thames have good examples of such centres. I'm pleased, though, to see the amount of different recyclable materials that can now be dropped in at Waihou eg lids and batteries. The expansion to also drop in tetra packs for recycling would be most welcome.

["2","3","4","1","5","8","6","7"]

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1811
Name: Peter Colmore-Williams

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

- Reducing waste sent to landfill: 7
- Improving recycling and resource recovery: 7
- Reducing food waste: 7
- Improving transfer stations: 6
- Education and behaviour change: 6
- Better information about waste: 8
- Supporting community initiatives: 7
- Keeping costs affordable: 8

Do you have any comments on this?
It's important that people understand the waste problem, that means everyone. Council needs to front up to people that are not following the social normal.

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?
Yes. The right issues are identified

["7","7","7","6","6","8","7","8"]

(WMP) Public Consultation Submissions

Item 7.1

Attachment B

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1812
Name: Andrea Hogg

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

Reducing waste sent to landfill: 7
Improving recycling and resource recovery: 8
Reducing food waste: 6
Improving transfer stations: 1
Education and behaviour change: 5
Better information about waste: 2
Supporting community initiatives: 3
Keeping costs affordable: 4

Do you have any comments on this?

So many people don't recycle their food waste. I only put out food waste that cannot compost ie meat, bones onion skins etc. Maybe we can educate ppl on composting at home to reduce waste, maybe create a workshop to show how easy it is.

I also don't buy plastics that cannot be recycled. I will change to a different brand that has a 1, 2 or 5 symbol so I can recycle it. I reuse as many containers as possible which helps cut down on recycling. For example, 1kg yoghurt containers for storing home made soups and casserole etc. I'm a supporter of the Future Post recycling, and would love to see more of this kind of thing in our district.

By doing this, I only put my bins out on average once every 4 weeks. If only more people made a conscious effort to reduce waste, I think we'd be a lot better off.

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?

Yes. The right issues are identified

["7","8","6","1","5","2","3","4"]

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1813
Name: Margaret Stewart

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

Reducing waste sent to landfill: 1
Improving recycling and resource recovery: 1
Reducing food waste: 1
Improving transfer stations: 1
Education and behaviour change: 1
Better information about waste: 1
Supporting community initiatives: 1
Keeping costs affordable: 1

Do you have any comments on this?

I would love to see us go back to the way things were when I was young, Everything was fresh, we had a butchers that wrapped the meat up in paper which then got burnt on the fire, the greengrocer weighed and then put all potatoes, veg and fruit in your reusable bag, the baker put the bread in a paper bag, think how much we could save by the whole country doing this instead of everything being in plastic. I would certainly use them.

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?

Sort of. Some are right, but not others

Do you have any comments on this?

Building too many houses and no infrastructure, I have to wait a month for a doctors appt as it is and they are open until 7.45pm and open Saturday and Sunday, the schools are at breaking point, the supermarkets are not up to scratch compared to other places.

3. Do you have any other feedback on the plan that you would like Council to consider before making a final decision?

Do not build any more homes it will ruin Matamata

["1","1","1","1","1","1","1","1"]

(WMP) Public Consultation Submissions

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1814
Name: Joanne Coc-Kroft

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

Reducing waste sent to landfill: 1
Improving recycling and resource recovery: 2
Reducing food waste: 2
Improving transfer stations: 4
Education and behaviour change: 1
Better information about waste: 3
Supporting community initiatives: 4
Keeping costs affordable: 1

Do you have any comments on this?

Our Matamata Transfer Station appears to be very adequate currently.

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?

Yes. The right issues are identified

["1","2","2","4","1","3","4","1"]

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1816
Name: Stephen Cope

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

Reducing waste sent to landfill: 4
Improving recycling and resource recovery: 8
Reducing food waste: 7
Improving transfer stations: 2
Education and behaviour change: 6
Better information about waste: 3
Supporting community initiatives: 5
Keeping costs affordable: 1

Do you have any comments on this?

Reducing landfill by improving education and recycling is a great goal. Costs may rise, but that is a good signal to people to re-use or find other ways to divert from landfill.

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?

Yes. The right issues are identified

Do you have any comments on this?

Yes, it's good.

3. Do you have any other feedback on the plan that you would like Council to consider before making a final decision?

There's one item I don't see considered in the list of ways to divert food waste from being sent to landfill, and that is around the provision of household chickens for food waste disposal (and free eggs).

Such schemes have been run very successfully in France and Belgium and other jurisdictions by the local council. There are some requirements around it, eg, checking the coop is suitable, ensuring people do not eat the chickens or otherwise dispose of them.

There is a great match up in what local organisations such as Franklin Farm Sanctuary are doing to rescue old chickens from commercial farms and re-homing them with locals. The requirements are much the same. That's an easy "synergy" (as much as I hate the word) that our Council could work with.

<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20250317-these-european-towns-in-france-and-belgium-hand-out-free-chickens>

(WMP) Public Consultation Submissions

["4","8","7","2","6","3","5","1"]

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1817
Name: Warren Green

Do you have any files to support your submission?
6a9ba1a1972ed-waste-management-ratepayer-submission.pdf

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

- Reducing waste sent to landfill: 1
- Improving recycling and resource recovery: 1
- Reducing food waste: 1
- Improving transfer stations: 1
- Education and behaviour change: 1
- Better information about waste: 1
- Supporting community initiatives: 1
- Keeping costs affordable: 1

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?
Yes. The right issues are identified

3. Do you have any other feedback on the plan that you would like Council to consider before making a final decision?
Hopefully my pdf is attached

["1","1","1","1","1","1","1","1"]

Feedback on Waste Management and Minimisation Plan

Submitted by a Local Ratepayer

Addressing the 53.1% of waste (Council's own figures) that can be diverted requires MPDC to shift its approach from basic waste collection to more resource recovery — which could also be a good money earner for Council!

My thoughts and suggestions are below:

1. Organic & Green Waste Initiatives (The 36.1% Opportunity)

Given that organic and green waste represents the single largest volume in our district landfills, suggested changes could be:

- **Subsidised or Free Green Waste Drop-Off:** High tip fees at Council Refuse Transfer Stations drive residents to toss green waste straight into general rubbish bins or rely on private operators to dispose of it.

Note: The other organic recycler here in Matamata is charging less for dumping, up-cycling the end product, and reselling it. This is a superior service performed at a much lower cost to the householder. MPDC could offer free or low-cost green waste drop-off days for residents, funded through the national Waste Disposal Levy (using the portion that flows back to Council).

- **Community Composting & Product Circularity:** Process kerbside food scraps (introduced via the green bin system) and transfer station green waste into high-grade compost. Council can then use this compost across district parks, sports fields, and gardens, or sell it back to residents and local farmers at a discount to offset processing costs (if not doing so already).
- **Home Composting Incentives:** Offer Council-subsidised compost bins, worm farms, or bokashi buckets (e.g., \$20 vouchers or free workshops) to divert food and garden waste at the property boundary, eliminating transport and processing costs entirely.

2. Resident Recycling & Reduction Incentives

- **Variable Bin Rates ("Pay-As-You-Throw"):** Currently, kerbside rubbish relies on set targeted rates. Shifting to a tiered system — where households using smaller red rubbish wheelie bins pay significantly lower rates than those choosing larger bins — directly rewards households that divert recyclables and organics.

- **Rates Rebates / Gamified Recycling:** Implement community recycling rewards. MPDC could partner with local businesses to offer monthly rates discounts or supermarket vouchers for neighbourhoods that register low contamination rates in their yellow and blue recycling bins.
- **Resource Recovery Hubs at RTS Sites:** Upgrade our ageing Refuse Transfer Stations into modern Resource Recovery Centres featuring a "Tip Shop." Items dropped off that are still usable (furniture, building materials, tools) can be cleaned and resold to the public rather than dumped.

3. Construction & Demolition and Business Waste Diversion

With construction and demolition waste expanding rapidly:

- **Deconstruction & Waste Audits:** Enforce site waste management plans for major commercial build/demolition consent applications (and perhaps as well for those building new houses). Provide lower RTS tipping rates for cleanly sorted building materials (clean fill, timber, metal, concrete) compared to mixed loads.
- **Local E-Waste & Battery Upgrades:** Expand the district's battery and e-waste collection sheds by offering targeted business collection drives for heavy electronics, keeping hazardous materials and valuable precious metals out of Class 1 landfills.

The above may already be in place by MPDC, but as a ratepayer, these seem like the easier targets to achieve. Give householders a practical reason to lower their emissions.

*Kind regards,
A Concerned Local Ratepayer*

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1818
Name: Brian Pascoe

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

- Reducing waste sent to landfill: 6
- Improving recycling and resource recovery: 7
- Reducing food waste: 2
- Improving transfer stations: 5
- Education and behaviour change: 2
- Better information about waste: 2
- Supporting community initiatives: 3
- Keeping costs affordable: 8

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?

Yes. The right issues are identified

["6", "7", "2", "5", "2", "2", "3", "8"]

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1819
Name: Marcus Ngatai

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

- Reducing waste sent to landfill: 4
- Improving recycling and resource recovery: 3
- Reducing food waste: 7
- Improving transfer stations: 8
- Education and behaviour change: 6
- Better information about waste: 2
- Supporting community initiatives: 5
- Keeping costs affordable: 1

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?
Yes. The right issues are identified

["4","3","7","8","6","2","5","1"]

(WMP) Public Consultation Submissions

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1820
Name: Greg Smith

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

Reducing waste sent to landfill: 4
Improving recycling and resource recovery: 5
Reducing food waste: 8
Improving transfer stations: 3
Education and behaviour change: 7
Better information about waste: 8
Supporting community initiatives: 4
Keeping costs affordable: 1

Do you have any comments on this?

Just do the basics well, keep the costs minimal for all.
Otherwise people will dispose of waste illegally.

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?

Sort of. Some are right, but not others

Do you have any comments on this?

I think you could waste too much time and effort trying to force compliance in the general waste bins...I recycle so won't affect me but we have to weigh up cost vs benefit.

["4","5","8","3","7","8","4","1"]

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1821
Name: Tony Hodges

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

- Reducing waste sent to landfill: 5
- Improving recycling and resource recovery: 5
- Reducing food waste: 8
- Improving transfer stations: 5
- Education and behaviour change: 5
- Better information about waste: 5
- Supporting community initiatives: 5
- Keeping costs affordable: 3

Do you have any comments on this?
Food bins are a waste of council resources and money

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?
Sort of. Some are right, but not others

["5","5","8","5","5","5","5","3"]

(WMP) Public Consultation Submissions

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1823
Name: Veronica Moore

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

Reducing waste sent to landfill: 5
Improving recycling and resource recovery: 4
Reducing food waste: 3
Improving transfer stations: 7
Education and behaviour change: 1
Better information about waste: 2
Supporting community initiatives: 8
Keeping costs affordable: 6

Do you have any comments on this?

I have been to several of the food waste talks by Kate ? that you have put on. So much knowledge. She sells the "why" we need to do this. But I am always so disappointed at how few people attend, and how old they are. We need to get the younger people, the parents of children, involved. How can we do that?

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?

Sort of. Some are right, but not others

["5","4","3","7","1","2","8","6"]

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1824
Name: Eve Kinane

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

- Reducing waste sent to landfill: 1
- Improving recycling and resource recovery: 1
- Reducing food waste: 1
- Improving transfer stations: 1
- Education and behaviour change: 1
- Better information about waste: 1
- Supporting community initiatives: 2
- Keeping costs affordable: 3

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?
Yes. The right issues are identified

["1","1","1","1","1","1","1","2","3"]

(WMP) Public Consultation Submissions

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1826
Name: Geoff Barclay

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

Reducing waste sent to landfill: 2
Improving recycling and resource recovery: 5
Reducing food waste: 6
Improving transfer stations: 8
Education and behaviour change: 3
Better information about waste: 4
Supporting community initiatives: 7
Keeping costs affordable: 1

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?

Sort of. Some are right, but not others

["2","5","6","8","3","4","7","1"]

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1827
Name: Jim Cover

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

- Reducing waste sent to landfill: 2
- Improving recycling and resource recovery: 3
- Reducing food waste: 4
- Improving transfer stations: 7
- Education and behaviour change: 8
- Better information about waste: 5
- Supporting community initiatives: 6
- Keeping costs affordable: 1

Do you have any comments on this?
Support waste incineration in the Waikato region

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?
No. You've missed the mark

Do you have any comments on this?
Clean burn incineration... produce electricity and whatever else can be recovered and sold. (Zero carbon religion needs to be disregarded...
C O. 2 is not the driver of climate Plants need it.)

["2","3","4","7","8","5","6","1"]

(WMP) Public Consultation Submissions

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1830
Name: Marian Wallace

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

Reducing waste sent to landfill: 6
Improving recycling and resource recovery: 7
Reducing food waste: 1
Improving transfer stations: 2
Education and behaviour change: 3
Better information about waste: 4
Supporting community initiatives: 5
Keeping costs affordable: 8

Do you have any comments on this?

I feel the food waste collections are a waste of money as only about 1 in 20 households put there bins out on collection day.
We don't use ours as we compost what we can and when we used the bin for other food eg meat before the end of the week we had maggots growing yuk.
Also the bin was disgusting to try and clean each week

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?

Yes. The right issues are identified

["6","7","1","2","3","4","5","8"]

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1833
Name: Ruairi Kelly

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

Reducing waste sent to landfill: 6
Improving recycling and resource recovery: 8
Reducing food waste: 7
Improving transfer stations: 5
Education and behaviour change: 4
Better information about waste: 1
Supporting community initiatives: 3
Keeping costs affordable: 2

Do you have any comments on this?

The new change to the fees and charges at RTS has made the process for rural residents more difficult. When visiting, if you have waste and recycling in the same vehicle there is no way to weigh how much each is (because we now pay by weight) without exiting the vehicle and taking it out of the car and off the weigh bridge (as all the cars pile up behind you -creating a safety issue). Previously we were able to say 2 bags of waste and the rest is seperated recycling ready to go - and pay the appropriate charge. last visit we were advised that we should make 2 seperate trips - extra 30 minutes driving for us, extra petrol cost and emmissions in the atmosphere. A good ideoa, but implementation hasn't been thought through.

Having a resource recovery centre is essential and needs to be prioritised for the area. other districts have had them for many years and they have been proven as a successful intervention to reduce waste. This council needs to action this, not spend time and money investuigating whether it is feasible -it is -the evidence is already there -just get on with it.

Why is there no council green waste recycling -the council using its land to take the green waste and produce compost to sell back to the public -it is a very passive activity with limited input or cost. This would be a much better, smaller circular economy, which would reduce transmissions from transporting the green waste to wherever it goes to.

Where does our green waste, food waste go to? Some public information on this would be good. Is it going to Tirohia 'Energy' Park (what a name for a landfill!!!! To be composted by Tui who then sell it? Or somewhere else?

The right community and education programmes need to be chosen -for example Paper for trees rewards the more paper used and recycled the more trees a school/centre is given -this is not reducing waste, but instead rewarding resource use. Zero Waste education provides paper booklets for each child, massive use of resources, which then is put into the bin by the parents - look carefully at community and education interventions.

(WMP) Public Consultation Submissions

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?

Sort of. Some are right, but not others

Do you have any comments on this?

As above

3. Do you have any other feedback on the plan that you would like Council to consider before making a final decision?

Deskfile review of what other district councils who are leaders in this field -why reinvent the wheel when other districts have been doing it much better than us for a while.

["6","8","7","5","4","1","3","2"]

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1834
Name: Lisa Lamberton

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

Reducing waste sent to landfill: 4
Improving recycling and resource recovery: 2
Reducing food waste: 1
Improving transfer stations: 5
Education and behaviour change: 7
Better information about waste: 8
Supporting community initiatives: 3
Keeping costs affordable: 6

Do you have any comments on this?

Reader accessibility: It would be helpful if this question referenced the relevant section of the WMP. I assume the key focus areas relate to the goals and objectives on page 6, but the wording used in this form differs from the terminology used in the Plan. My AI search also didn't locate them, so as a respondent, I'm spending extra time locating information than on writing feedback.

The key focus areas themselves are a mix of broad outcomes and some specific actions, which does make it difficult to rank them on an equal basis. For example, "reducing food waste" is measurable, whereas "improving recycling and resource recovery" is a broader concept that could encompass a range of different actions. Similarly, "improving transfer stations" might incorporate some of the same actions as "improving recycling and resource recovery".

Combining some of these focus areas for example, "improving recycling and resource recovery", and "supporting community initiatives" could enable social enterprise approaches. I encourage Council to work closely with community organisations and regional and national funding providers to help develop and deliver these opportunities.

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?

Yes. The right issues are identified

3. Do you have any other feedback on the plan that you would like Council to consider before making a final decision?

Re: Page 17 of the WMP - I support the intentions to "View waste as a resource, improving and modifying collections and facilities so that more materials and products are diverted from landfill", and "investigate the feasibility of developing community resource recovery centres for bulky goods, e-waste, rural waste and other waste streams to future-proof our Refuse Transfer Stations". I support Council exploring a local resource recovery centre, including a reuse shop, to recover and

26 of 49

(WMP) Public Consultation Submissions

sell reusable goods that would otherwise be disposed of in landfill. This would support waste minimisation, increase diversion from landfill, and contribute to a more circular local economy.

As an interim step, could Council consider working with neighbouring councils, particularly Hauraki District Council and Thames-Coromandel District Council, to establish pathways for reusable goods collected in Matamata-Piako to be redirected to existing recovery facilities in those districts. With centres operating out of both Paeroa and Thames, this could help divert reusable items from local landfill while MPDC researches the development of its own local resource recovery facility.

Note: If the amalgamated council structure includes these neighbouring districts, there may be opportunities for a natural progression towards greater collaboration and shared resource recovery services over time. It seems like a natural progression to start this conversation now.

There's currently no way of knowing how many Matamata-Piako residents are taking reusable items out of the district for reuse and recovery (I am one of them), or the quantity and value of reusable goods being diverted to centres elsewhere. Consequently, I think the level of demand for a local resource recovery facility is higher than expected.

["4","2","1","5","7","8","3","6"]

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1835
Name: Maria Evaroa

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

- Reducing waste sent to landfill: 4
- Improving recycling and resource recovery: 3
- Reducing food waste: 5
- Improving transfer stations: 8
- Education and behaviour change: 1
- Better information about waste: 2
- Supporting community initiatives: 6
- Keeping costs affordable: 7

Do you have any comments on this?

Have onsite ‘ or nearby facility ’ for those items that can be repurposed, similar to Hauraki’s Reuse & Repair

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?

Yes. The right issues are identified

["4","3","5","8","1","2","6","7"]

(WMP) Public Consultation Submissions

Item 7.1

Attachment B

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1836
Name: Pete Connolly

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

Reducing waste sent to landfill: 1
 Improving recycling and resource recovery: 1
 Reducing food waste: 2
 Improving transfer stations: 3
 Education and behaviour change: 1
 Better information about waste: 1
 Supporting community initiatives: 3
 Keeping costs affordable: 1

Do you have any comments on this?

A Seagull Centre run by a mix of staff and volunteers would be a good filter of reusable goods and items pre landfill - as I suggested a number of years ago

Use somewhere like Thames as a case study to look at

Keeping the Recycling Centre charges reasonable will minimise "fly dumping" - which is costly to rectify

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?

Yes. The right issues are identified

Do you have any comments on this?

Good work - the numbers speak for themselves

3. Do you have any other feedback on the plan that you would like Council to consider before making a final decision?

Using 'light' social media to continue to educate the likes of what can be recycled - no caps etc etc ~ using NZ videos already out there to get the message thru, to avoid contaminating a whole truckload

["1","1","2","3","1","1","3","1"]

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1837
Name: Waikato Regional Council

Do you have any files to support your submission?
6abade38c6136-wrc-mpdc-wmmp-submission-sept-2026-signed-96d908f2-551e-4916-a739-17a0ae66afe6.pdf

Organisation (if applicable):
Waikato Regional Council

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

- Reducing waste sent to landfill: 5
- Improving recycling and resource recovery: 4
- Reducing food waste: 3
- Improving transfer stations: 8
- Education and behaviour change: 2
- Better information about waste: 6
- Supporting community initiatives: 1
- Keeping costs affordable: 7

Do you have any comments on this?
Please see our submission attachment.

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?
Yes. The right issues are identified

["5","4","3","8","2","6","1","7"]

(WMP) Public Consultation Submissions

File No: 25 12 00
Document No: Error: Reference source not found
Enquiries to:



29 September 2026

Matamata Piako District Council
35 Kenrick Street, Te Aroha

Email: info@mpdc.govt.nz

Private Bag 3038
Waikato Mail Centre
Hamilton 3240, NZ

waikatoregion.govt.nz
0800 800 401

Dear Sir/Madam

Waikato Regional Council's staff feedback to the Matamata-Piako District Council Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (MPDC's DWMMP)

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on the Matamata-Piako District Council Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (MPDC's DWMMP). Please find attached the Waikato Regional Council's staff feedback on the consultation. The feedback was signed under delegated authority.

Should you have any queries regarding the content of this document please contact [redacted]

Regards,

Signature:



Name: Brent Sinclair

Director, Resource Use Directorate

(WMP) Public Consultation Submissions

Submission from Waikato Regional Council on Matamata-Piako District Council Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (MPDC's DWMMP)

29 September 2026

Introduction

1. Waikato Regional Council (WRC) thanks Matamata-Piako District Council (MPDC) for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) 2027-2033.
2. We support the overall direction of the draft WMMP and particularly welcome the plan's recognition that waste issues, infrastructure needs, and service opportunities frequently extend beyond district boundaries and require collaboration with neighbouring councils, Waikato regional partners, iwi, community organisations, central government, and the private sector.
3. The proposed vision of "enabling our community to reduce waste, use resources wisely and create positive outcomes for people and place" aligns strongly with regional objectives to reduce waste, improve resource efficiency, lower greenhouse gas emissions, and support circular economy outcomes.

Submission

4. In this case, the key areas of interest relate to support for community resource recovery centres and participation in cross regional collaboration.
5. WRC notes that waste minimisation, resource recovery and reuse activities can also contribute to reduced greenhouse gas emissions by diverting material from landfill and extending the productive use of resources. These outcomes support broader regional objectives relating to resource efficiency and environmental sustainability.
6. We support the plan's collaborative approach involving councils, iwi, businesses, community groups and households working together to develop waste minimisation services and strengthen community resilience.
7. We strongly support the draft WMMP's commitment to working with neighbouring councils and regional partners where coordinated approaches can improve outcomes, reduce duplication, improve data, and provide more cost-effective waste management services.
8. We encourage MPDC to continue actively participating in regional forums, such as the Central North Island Waste Liaison Group, and collaborative initiatives, such as the Waikato and Bay of Plenty Cross Regional Waste and Systems Infrastructure Plan project, that support more efficient use of resources across the Waikato. This is particularly relevant given the WMMP's stated intention to investigate new services and facilities that increase waste reduction, reuse and recycling outcomes. This approach is also consistent with the Waikato Regional Policy Statement, which promotes collaboration between local authorities, industry and community groups to facilitate waste minimisation and reuse initiatives and support the collection and dissemination of regional waste information to inform planning and decision making.
9. We also support the proposal to progressively transform refuse transfer stations into Community Resource Recovery Centres (CRRCs) that provide greater separation of waste streams and opportunities for community and business participation.
10. We consider CRRCs to be a key component of the region's future resource recovery network. Beyond waste diversion benefits, CRRCs can deliver significant wider outcomes for community and resource efficiency, including increased reuse and repair opportunities, greater community participation in resource recovery activities, and improved resilience through local recovery infrastructure.
11. We encourage MPDC to engage in the Waikato and Bay of Plenty Cross Regional Waste and Systems Infrastructure Plan project to consider opportunities for CRRC facilities and associated recovery services to operate as part of a wider Waikato network.

Conclusion

(WMP) Public Consultation Submissions

WMP-1837: Waikato Regional Council

12. We support the overall direction of the Draft WMMP 2027-2033 and commend Matamata-Piako District Council for proposing a plan that recognises the importance of collaboration, resource recovery, and community participation in achieving waste minimisation outcomes.
13. We particularly support:
 - The commitment to regional collaboration and cross-boundary coordination.
 - The proposed transition of transfer stations into Community Resource Recovery Centres.
 - The focus on increased waste diversion, reuse and resource recovery.
 - The collaborative approach involving councils, iwi, businesses and communities.
 - Opportunities to develop a coordinated regional resource recovery network across the Waikato.
 - Actions that support the directions of the Waikato Regional Policy Statement and Waikato Regional Plan relating to waste minimisation, resource efficiency, reuse and recycling.
14. WRC also notes that the Waikato Regional Plan promotes resource recovery, reuse and recycling through provisions that support transfer station infrastructure, hazardous waste collection systems, and composting of green waste as an alternative to landfill disposal. We consider the proposed transition to Community Resource Recovery Centres aligns with these outcomes and provides an opportunity to strengthen the region's resource recovery network through coordinated planning and investment.
15. We encourage MPDC to continue pursuing opportunities for regional collaboration and co-ordinated infrastructure planning to maximise resource recovery outcomes across the Waikato and neighbouring regions.
16. We look forward to continuing to work alongside MPDC and other regional partners to advance shared waste minimisation, resource recovery and circular economy objectives for the benefit of communities across the Waikato region.

Submitter details

Waikato Regional Council

WRC does not wish to be heard at the hearings for Matamata-Piako District Council Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (MPDC's DWMMP) in support of this submission.

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1838
Name: Keep Te Aroha Beautiful

Organisation (if applicable):

Keep Te Aroha Beautiful

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

Reducing waste sent to landfill: 2
Improving recycling and resource recovery: 3
Reducing food waste: 7
Improving transfer stations: 6
Education and behaviour change: 1
Better information about waste: 4
Supporting community initiatives: 5
Keeping costs affordable: 8

Do you have any comments on this?

Reducing litter deserves a specific category. There is a direct correlation between litter and how it affects people's enjoyment of their environment. Almost all litter will end up in waterways, helped by wind and water. The less visible impact is the affect litter has on ocean life. Having hands on clean ups and recording the types of litter etc is a great way to educate young people (primary school age) to reduce litter and learn about waste management in general. Many students have parents fishing in the Firth of Thames/ Hauraki Gulf.

The 2022 National Litter Audit conducted by Keep New Zealand Beautiful revealed that the litter problem in New Zealand is worsening. The audit found that the total number of items, weight, and estimated volume of litter at a national level all increased per 1,000 m² since the baseline audit in 2019. The most prevalent material type found was plastic, with a 72.4% increase since 2019. Despite a slight decrease in the number of cigarette butts, they remained the most frequently identified material subcategory. Glass beer bottles, less than 750 ml, all colors, continued to be the leading material subcategory in national litter weight. The audit also highlighted that illegal dumping had increased 280% since 2019.

The 2023 Litter Audit by The Packaging Forum and Be A Tidy Kiwi, contracted by The Packaging Forum, aimed to assess the success of the Litter Less Recycle More initiative. The audits were conducted in five council areas and included both Litter Less Recycle More bins and other litter bins provided by local authorities. The audits were completed in 2023 to inform the development of the Plastic Packaging Product Stewardship Scheme (PPPS). We have now soft plastic recycling at Woolworths (after lobbying by Keep Te Aroha Beautiful).

A structured litter campaign involving schools (possibly through Enviroschools), supported by Council could be considered.

Also sport clubs could be asked to take more responsibility in educating their members to reduce litter. Boyds Park is often littered with tape (to hold up socks?) rugby players discard on the field

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Item 7.1

Attachment B

after the match, which won't be appreciated by whoever of KVS is mowing the field.
 Just a number of reasons why litter could be considered in the strategy separately.

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?

Sort of. Some are right, but not others

Do you have any comments on this?

Reducing litter deserves a specific category. There is a direct correlation between litter and how it affects people's enjoyment of their environment. Almost all litter will end up in waterways, helped by wind and water. The less visible impact is the affect litter has on ocean life. Having hands on clean ups and recording the types of litter etc is a great way to educate young people (primary school age) to reduce litter and learn about waste management in general. Many students have parents fishing in the Firth of Thames/ Hauraki Gulf.

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Just a number of reasons why litter could be considered in the strategy separately.

3. Do you have any other feedback on the plan that you would like Council to consider before making a final decision?

I haven't been able to consider the plan in detail but the above comments under (1) and (2) were my first thoughts and concern.

["2", "3", "7", "6", "1", "4", "5", "8"]

Submission Details

Submission ID: 1842
Name: Sustainable Matamata

Do you have any files to support your submission?
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Organisation (if applicable):
Sustainable Matamata

1. Of the key focus areas listed below, which do you feel are most important for Council to focus on over the next six years? Please rank each area from 1 – 8, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important. Please use each number only once. For example, if you assign "1" to a focus area, you cannot use "1" again for another area. By the end, you should have used each number from 1-8 exactly once.

- Reducing waste sent to landfill: 4
- Improving recycling and resource recovery: 4
- Reducing food waste: 8
- Improving transfer stations: 6
- Education and behaviour change: 1
- Better information about waste: 2
- Supporting community initiatives: 3
- Keeping costs affordable: 5

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?
Yes. The right issues are identified

["4","4","8","6","1","2","3","5"]



Submission from Sustainable Matamata on the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan, October 2026

General comments

Sustainable Matamata congratulates Matamata-Piako District Council on this draft plan. We consider the vision, goals and objectives are designed well, with coherent actions assigned. These should head the district in a sensible and sustainable direction where waste is concerned.

We answered the council's question on priorities by choosing as our top three:

- education and behaviour change
- better information about waste, and
- supporting community initiatives.

Much of this submission discusses these three aspects.

However, we note the overarching benefits of waste minimisation. Councils lower their greenhouse gas emissions and fuel costs when they have less waste to truck around and reduce the amount of waste that emits gases from landfill. Emissions from the likes of construction reduce, and councils and residents spend less on new materials.

Working toward change

We stress the reference in this plan to promoting, encouraging and emphasising reduction, reuse and recycling. We believe that information is power, but that this is not a simple equation. Information must suit the cultural, socioeconomic and educational context in which it is presented. It must engage different audiences where they live, work, play, learn and get their entertainment. This means many venues and channels.

The messages must be repeated many times, and in different ways. As the advertising industry knows, it is only when the information provider feels that they

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have repeated the message far too many times, that the audience will be starting to hear it.

Hands-on, in-person action learning and online games seem to us to have a good chance of successfully engaging people, alongside other media such as graphical and written information.

Among the multiple problems with waste management is a still-prevalent mindset that there is an “away” where we can throw unwanted material. A large proportion of New Zealanders would appear to not think carefully about where that “away” is and how detrimental and costly it might be to keep using it.

Those who start examining their product use, reuse and recycling behaviour often find it hard to make changes. Many people feel time-poor and see dealing with their household’s waste as an extra burden. The council will be all too aware of rushed or ill-informed decisions: food-encrusted cardboard, unwashed food cartons, bread bags, milk containers with caps left on, etc, all ending up in landfill unnecessarily. (Thank you for sharing your audit data: the volumes of matter that are taken to the Tirohia landfill are eye-watering , even though our district is not among the worst “offenders” in New Zealand.)

Awareness-raising must be catchy and compelling, and planned to reach people at all stages, from those who understand a bare minimum to those making a large effort to reduce, reuse, repair and recycle.

The council's role and our role

Under Education and Engagement in this draft plan, we are pleased the council states that one of its roles is provider, facilitator and funder of education and awareness-raising.

We also appreciate that the council recognises it has a role in behaviour change interventions working alongside community groups.

Sustainable Matamata would love to contribute to district council-run waste education programmes. We are not, however, professional educators or communicators. We would need a small team of council staff to co-design programmes with us and with communities. To facilitate our involvement, the council as provider, facilitator and funder would need to work with us on goals, KPIs, plans, timelines, resources and budget to empower our volunteers.

We envisage that, to expand our (presently small-scale) work, we could in future need to pay one or two members for specific jobs, which may also mean in the longer term employing and managing workers as contractors. Such arrangements are allowed for in our constitution.

Resource recovery centres

We agree the council's transfer stations need upgrading and we wholeheartedly support the council's plan to turn all such stations in its district into resource recovery centres. We accept that investigating this matter may lead in the direction of a "greenfield" resource recovery centre or supersite (as mentioned in the draft), where scale would make it easier to provide paid employment and "run a tight ship". Our preference would be a network of smaller centres. We believe these would be easier to obtain neighbours' buy-in for, and that would pave the way to grow community involvement.

We understand that often these centres are run by a team of volunteers overseen by paid manager(s). We would hope that, in the medium to long term, central government and business involvement in product stewardship and producer responsibility (see below), will improve the viability of such enterprises. We note the success already of centres in our region, eg, [Xtreme Zero Waste](#) in Raglan and [Seagull Centre](#) in Thames.

Centres can become multi-purpose hubs

In the future, we are sure Sustainable Matamata will want to be a key player in any resource recovery centre in Matamata. We would not want to limit the scope of such a facility. It could include such services as recycling education centre; reusables retail shop; environment hub; and repurposing, creativity and repair workshop spaces. Many such sites are thriving in the likes of [New Plymouth](#) and [Wellington](#) and, in Hamilton, [GoEco](#) is growing its range of these services.

Such facilities tend to foster social connections and can involve people with disabilities.

Growing our projects

The council suggests that it will continue to provide waste minimisation project funding, which we welcome. Sustainable Matamata hopes in the short to medium term to grow as an organisation so that we can run more waste diversion and waste education. We would like to start by expanding our beverage carton recycling scheme and then adding more products (eg, plastic and metal lids).

We note that the council recognises that textile waste is a large problem. We agree. We would hope that this district can plan to provide textiles to remanufacturing

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services (perhaps [Textile Products?](#)) so that clothing can be recovered at its resource recovery centres.

The council in the draft plan refers to organic matter for compost production locally. This should be on the agenda for any/all of the district's resource recovery centres. We believe that keeping food waste solutions local will save fuel use, provide jobs and generate income, if the right decisions are made. We appreciate that this is not easy and that it requires good research and careful consultation. Such enterprises cannot be drummed up overnight. All sites have their own characteristics that differ from our district's; nevertheless, we note the examples of [Reporoa](#) and [Ōtaki](#) (waste to gas) projects.

Product stewardship and producer responsibility

Of other key themes in the draft, we underscore the importance of advocacy to central government on product stewardship and producer responsibility.

We hope that the incoming new Government will be sympathetic to advancing these schemes and container deposit schemes, as well as waste education campaigns nationally. We will advocate for that.

We note that earlier official work on product stewardship involved local product schemes run by organisations with industry, community and iwi involvement, creating a significant infrastructure. We hope this approach will be adopted and will start gradually, with pilot sites at first to test for glitches, and taking on new products in a staggered way where producer and community willingness is high.

Mana whenua

As suggested in the draft document, strong relationships with mana whenua will reap benefits in meeting the council's objectives.

Circular economy

We commend the council for recognising that the solutions lie in reframing to a "circular economy".

Uncertainty and amalgamation

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We appreciate that the council cannot be sure about many things, including fuel costs and rates capping. The council does not even know where its boundaries may sit in the short term.

The new combined district that Matamata-Piako District Council recently chose in the National-ACT-NZFirst Government's amalgamation planning would create a small to medium-sized council that would be extremely vulnerable – as a result of its additional geographies – to climate impacts on land, roads, bridges, crops and farming (and therefore incomes and council costs).

The combined council would bring to Matamata-Piako few advantages from its larger size, and yet Matamata's government would still not really be local.

We urge you, if the opportunity arises, to work instead with all the councils in the Waikato region to create a unitary body for the Waikato catchment. We would want to see this new organisation advanced with co-design input from mana whenua, initially, and with a wide range of other stakeholders.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to submit.

Nā

Virginia McMillan, communications officer, and Martin Louw, co-coordinator

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Te Manawhenua Forum submission: Draft Climate Resilience Strategy and draft Waste Minimisation and Management Plan 2026

Overall:

The Te Manawhenua Forum endorse both the Climate Resilience Strategy and the WMMP for Council adoption.

The Forum requests that Council continue to engage with the mana whenua forum and wider iwi/hapū organisations and communicates with local groups and marae when consultations occur to allow ample time for submissions.

The Forum supports taking a long-term, intergenerational approach, rather than responding only once environmental or climate impacts have occurred.

Manaaki Whenua, Manaaki Tangata - Climate Resilience Strategy

The Forum notes the process of developing the Climate Resilience Strategy as a collaborative approach where Manawhenua were involved early on to develop the strategy alongside Council since mid 2025. In particular, the Forum acknowledges those involved in the Council working group to develop the strategy.

The Forum supports Council's proactive approach to climate adaptation and improving the resilience of communities, infrastructure and essential services and notes climate impacts will not necessarily be experienced equally across communities. Māori can face heightened climate risks because of factors including location and socioeconomic circumstances and the impacts on whenua, wai, indigenous biodiversity, wāhi tapu and other taonga can have significant impacts on cultural and spiritual Hauora, as well as mental, economic and physical.

Waste Management and Minimisation Plan

The Forum supports the WMMP's direction towards a low-waste future, including reducing waste sent to landfill and increasing reuse, recycling and resource recovery and initiatives that protect whenua and wai from contamination and inappropriate waste disposal.

The Forum encourages opportunities for Māori-led and community-led waste minimisation initiatives, including reuse, repair, recovery and local circular-economy projects and supports equitable access to waste minimisation and recycling services, including for rural communities, marae and papakāinga where appropriate.



Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Strategy 2027-2033 submissions summary

2 September 2026 – 2 October 2026

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What did we consult on?



Council conducted a 'light review' of its 2021 WMMP to develop a 'refreshed' 2027-2033 WMMP.

The proposed refresh includes:

- New vision: Enabling our community to reduce waste, use resources wisely and create positive outcomes for people and place.
- New goals
- Updated targets
- Reflect current waste and trends
- Include the new national policy direction
- Place greater emphasis on resource recovery, data collection and organics diversion
- Reflect future infrastructure planning and preparation for long-term landfill challenges
- Updated priorities

Council's preferred option is to balance influencing behaviour through partnerships, education and community-led initiatives, regulate by improving waste data, monitoring and compliance and continue to provide and improve waste services, resource recovery and facilities to the community.





WE ASKED:

1. Of the key focus areas, which do you feel are most important for council to focus on over the next six years?

- 1) Reducing Waste Sent To Landfill
- 2) Improving Recycling And Resource Recovery
- 3) Reducing Food Waste
- 4) Improving Transfer Stations
- 5) Education And Behaviour Change
- 6) Better Information About Waste
- 7) Supporting Community Initiatives
- 8) Keeping Costs Affordable

2. Have we identified the right waste issues and priorities for Matamata-Piako? Is there anything you feel we have missed?

3. Do you have any other feedback on the plan that you would like council to consider before making a final decision?



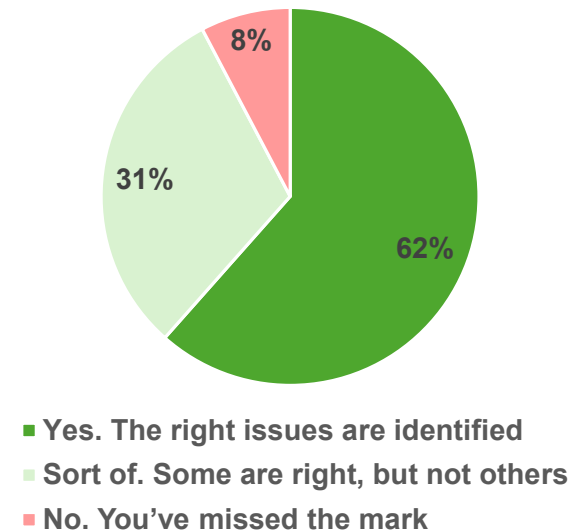
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Key findings

- **26 submissions were received in total.**
 - **16 agreed** the right issues are identified
 - **8 partly agreed** the right issues are identified
 - **5 did not agree** the right issues were identified



Agree with proposed WMMP



Priority Ranking



Of the 26 submissions, 14 submitters ranked Council’s priorities from most to least important.

The **average ranking** of the priorities shows the **lowest score as the highest priority**.

Top 3% shows the proportion of respondents who considered that priority one of their three most important priorities.

50% of respondents ranked priority one and two as their top 1, 2, or 3 priority.

	Top Priorities	Average ranking	Top 3%
1	Education and behaviour change	3.8	50%
2	Better information about waste	3.8	50%
3	Reducing waste sent to landfill	4.1	29%
4	Improving recycling and resource recovery	4.6	38%
5	Keeping costs affordable	4.6	38%
6	Supporting community initiatives	4.7	38%
7	Reducing food waste	4.9	29%
8	Improving transfer stations	5.3	29%



Key themes



-  Submitters note the work neighbouring districts (Hauraki and Thames-Coromandel) do and suggest increasing collaboration, particularly for establishing or upgrading facilities into improve resource recovery. Examples include Hauraki's 'reuse and repair', "tip shops", Thame's Seagull Centre, clean ups and education for younger people
-  Submitters wanted recycling to be convenient and locally accessible. Suggestions included better provision for soft plastics, bottle tops/lids, beverage cartons, batteries, e-waste, textiles and reusable goods. There was also concern that some residents currently need to travel outside the district to access resource recovery options.
-  Education was a common theme and submitters emphasised practical, engaging and repeated communication that target different audiences. Schools, younger people and community-based programmes were identified as particularly important opportunities



About the respondents

