



AGENDA RĀRANGI TAKE

COUNCIL

10AM, Friday 15
December 2023

The Park Hotel, Millar
Street, National Park



RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL

Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ruapehu

NOTICE OF MEETING

A MEETING OF RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL WILL BE HELD IN THE
THE PARK HOTEL, MILLAR STREET, NATIONAL PARK
ON FRIDAY, 15 DECEMBER 2023, AT 10AM

Members

| | |
|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Mayor | Weston Kirton |
| Deputy Mayor | Vivienne Hoeta |
| Councillors | Robyn Gram |
| | Janelle Hinch |
| | Channey Iwikau |
| | Fiona Kahukura Hadley-Chase |
| | Lyn Neeson |
| | Rabbit Nottage |
| | Brenda Ralph |
| | Korty Wilson |

Clive Manley
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Quorum (5)

**THE PUBLIC BUSINESS PART OF THE AGENDA IS LIVE STREAMED TO
COUNCIL'S FACEBOOK PAGE**

RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL

Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ruapehu

ORDER PAPER

A MEETING OF RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL WILL BE HELD IN THE
THE PARK HOTEL, MILLAR STREET, NATIONAL PARK
ON FRIDAY, 15 DECEMBER 2023, AT 10AM

PUBLIC BUSINESS | KAUPAPA O WAHO

1 Opening Karakia | Karakia Timatanga

2 Apologies (includes leave of absence notification)

3 Declarations of Interest

Members need to stand aside from decision-making when a conflict arises between their role as a Member of the Council and any private or other external interest they might have. This note is provided as a reminder to Members to review the matters on the agenda and assess and identify where they may have a pecuniary or other conflict of interest, or where there may be a perception of a conflict of interest. If a member feels they do have a conflict of interest, they should publicly declare that at the start of the meeting or of the relevant item of business and refrain from participating in the discussion or voting on that item.

4 Notification of Additional Items

Matters Requiring Urgent Attention as Determined by Resolution of Ruapehu District Council

Pursuant to Sections 46A(7) and 46A(7A) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, to receive the Chairperson's explanation that specified item(s), which do not appear on the Agenda of this meeting and/or the meeting to be held with the public excluded, will be discussed. The item(s) may be allowed onto the agenda by resolution of the Ruapehu District Council with an explanation as to why they cannot be delayed until a future meeting.

Minor Matters relating to the General Business of Ruapehu District Council

Any additions in accordance with Section 46A(7A) may be received and discussed, but no resolution, decision, or recommendation may be made in respect of the item except to refer it to a subsequent meeting of the Ruapehu District Council for further discussion.

5 Confirmation of Order of Meeting

The Public Excluded Business of Council will be taken before the Public Business Items. The Meeting will adjourn at 12:00PM for the presentation of the Ruapehu District Citizens' Awards and luncheon.

6 Resolution to Exclude the Public for Consideration of Council Business

(to consider and adopt confidential items)

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PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS | KAUPAPA Ā ROTO

Please Note: The contents of the Reports attached to this Order Paper have yet to be considered by Council, and officer recommendations may be altered or changed by the Council in the process of making the formal Council decisions. This Order Paper may be subject to amendment.

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| 7 Public Forum | 567 |
| A period of up to 30 minutes is set aside for public participation at the commencement of any meeting of the Council. Public forums are designed to enable members of the public to bring matters of their choice, not necessarily on the meeting's agenda, to the attention of the Council. Council standing orders do not apply. | |
| 8 Confirmation of Minutes of Council Meeting(s) | 568 |
| The minutes of the previous Council Meeting(s) will be out to the Council for confirmation. | |

REPORTS

| | |
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| 9 Deputation: General Revaluation for Ruapehu District | 579 |
| 10 Adoption Report Smokefree and Vapefree Policy | 590 |
| 11 Waste Management and Minimisation Plan Update | 611 |
| 12 Visit Ruapehu Quarterly Update: December 2023 | 666 |
| 13 Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chief Executive and Elected Members' Verbal Reports (to provide updates on upcoming events, and other matters of general interest) | 670 |

Adjournment for the Presentation of the Ruapehu District Citizens' Awards [12:00PM]

Please Note: The contents of the Reports attached to this Order Paper have yet to be considered by Council, and officer recommendations may be altered or changed by the Council in the process of making the formal Council decisions. This Order Paper may be subject to amendment.

Report to: Council

Meeting Date: 15 December 2023

Subject: Resolution to Exclude the Public for Consideration of Council Business

Report for: Decision

Author(s): Tasha Paladin **GOVERNANCE MANAGER**

Endorsed By: Clive Manley **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**



Purpose of Report | Te take mō te pūrongo

- 1 In accordance with section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act (or sections 6, 7 or 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may be) the Council has the right by resolution to exclude the public from the whole or any part of the proceedings of any meeting on one or more of the grounds contained within that Section.

Recommendation(s) | Ngā tūhunga

That the Council:

- 1 Receives the Report **Resolution to Exclude the Public for Consideration of Council Business**;
- 2 Excludes the public from the following part(s) of the proceedings of this meeting;
- 3 Notes the general subject of the matters to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds for excluding the public, as specified under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

| General subject of each matter to be considered | Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter | Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution |
|--|---|---|
| 14 Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes of the Council Meeting 22 November 2023 | For the reasons set out in the Public Business Minutes of the Council Meeting 22 November 2023. | |
| 15 Empowering Communities, Enhancing Lives Fund Applications for Allocation of Funding | s7(2)(a) To protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons. The detail of the applications and analysis of the applications needs to be confidential to protect the persons involved. s7(2)(b) To protect information which if public would; disclose a trade secret; or unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information. | s48(1)(a) the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 7. |
| 16 Confidential Briefing by the Chief Executive | s7(2)(c) To protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence where the making available of the information would be likely to: prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, where it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied; or would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest | |

Report to: Council

Meeting Date: 15 December 2023

Subject: **Public Forum: Temporary Suspension and Reinstatement of Standing Orders**

Report for: **Decision**

Author(s): Tasha Paladin

GOVERNANCE MANAGER

Endorsed By: Clive Manley

CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Purpose of Report | Te take mō te pūrongo

- 1 The purpose of this report is to enable the Council to temporarily suspend Standing Orders to allow Elected Members and the Public to address the Council.

Recommendation(s) | Ngā tūhunga

That the Council:

- 1 Receives the Report **Public Forum: Temporary Suspension and Reinstatement of Standing Orders**; and
- 2 Pursuant to Section 27(4) Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002, temporarily suspends the following Standing Orders to enable members of the Public to address Council, and members to engage in discussion in a free and frank manner:
 - (a) 21.2 Time limits on speakers | Te tepenga wā mā ngā kaikōrero
 - (b) 21.5 Members may speak only once | Kotahi noa iho te wā e āhei ai te mema ki te korero; and
 - (c) 21.6 Limits on number of speakers | Ngā tepenga mō te maha o ngā kaikōrero.

The Council received addresses as follows:

RESOLVED

That the Council:

- 1 Pursuant to Section 27(4) Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002, reinstates Standing Orders in their entirety for consideration of the Agenda.

Public Forum Guidelines

- 2 Council has adopted the following Public Forum Guidelines:
 - (a) A period of up to 30 minutes, or such longer time as the meeting may determine, will be available for the public forum at each scheduled Council meeting;
 - (b) Speakers can speak for up to **five minutes**. Where the number of speakers presenting exceeds six in total, the chairperson has discretion to restrict the speaking time permitted for all presenters;
 - (c) The Public Forum is designed for members of the public to speak about matters of interest to them to Council. It is not intended as a forum to question Council members. Council members may ask questions of speakers to clarify their statement;
 - (d) Members of the public wishing to speak must advise the Chief Executive (or delegate) at least one clear working day prior to the meeting;
 - (e) The Chairperson may refuse applications which are repetitious or offensive and may terminate a speaker in progress where the subject matter is disrespectful or offensive;
 - (f) There are not to be criticisms of individual Council members or individual staff members.

Report to: Council

Meeting Date: 15 December 2023



Subject: Confirmation of Minutes of Council Meeting(s)

Report for: Decision

Author(s): Tasha Paladin **GOVERNANCE MANAGER**

Endorsed By: Clive Manley **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Purpose of Report | Te take mō te pūrongo

- 1 The purpose of this report is to present the minutes of the previous Council Meeting(s) for confirmation as a true and correct record.

Recommendation(s) | Ngā tūhunga

That the Council:

- 1 Confirms the Public Business Minutes of the Ruapehu District Council meeting held Wednesday, 22 November 2023 as attached, as a true and correct record.

Attachment(s) | Ngā āpitihanga

- 1 Ruapehu District Council Public Business Minutes

RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL

Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ruapehu

MINUTES

THE MEETING OF RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL HELD IN THE
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 37 AYR STREET, OHAKUNE
ON WEDNESDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 2023, AT 10:01AM

PUBLIC BUSINESS | KAUPAPA O WAHO

Present | Tuhinga

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Mayor | Weston Kirton | |
| Deputy Mayor | Vivienne Hoeta | Left 12:27PM Item 11 |
| Councillors | Robyn Gram | |
| | Channey Iwikau | 10:11AM Item 6 |
| | Fiona Kahukura Hadley-Chase | |
| | Lyn Neeson | |
| | Rabbit Nottage | |
| | Brenda Ralph | |
| | Korty Wilson | |

In Attendance | I Tae Mai

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Clive Manley | Chief Executive |
| Vini Dutra | Executive Manager Infrastructure |
| Quentin Speers | Manager, Finance, Strategy & Governance |
| Pauline Welch | Executive Manager Community & Economic Development |
| Sharon Robinson | Executive Manager Regulatory & Customer Services |
| Warrick Zander | Executive Manager Regulatory & Customer Services |
| Melissa Jackson | Manager Policy & Strategy |
| Karee Cadman | Strategy & Policy Advisor |
| Tasha Paladin | Governance Manager |
| Robert Milne | Ruapehu Bulletin |

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| By Zoom | Simon Pallin | Senior Management Accountant |
| | Sonny Houppapa | Executive Manager Iwi Relationships |
| | Paul Wheatcroft | Executive Manager Communications |
| | Andrew Chambers | Emergency Management |

External Speakers

| | | |
|------------------|-----|------------------------|
| Charlotte French | GHD | Item 8 and 9 |
|------------------|-----|------------------------|

Absent | Ngaro

| | |
|------------|---------------|
| Councillor | Janelle Hinch |
|------------|---------------|

1 Opening Karakia | Karakia Timatanga

Councillor Wilson

2 Apologies

The Chairperson invited notice from members of apologies, including apologies for lateness and early departure from the meeting.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Kahukura Hadley-Chase

Seconded: Cr Ralph

That the Apologies from Councillor Hinch, Councillor Iwikau (lateness), and Councillor Hoeta (early departure) be accepted.

3 Declarations of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

4 Notification of Additional Items

There were no additional items not on the Agenda.

5 Confirmation of Order of Meeting

The order of the meeting was confirmed.

6 Public Forum: Temporary Suspension and Reinstatement of Standing Orders

Council temporarily suspended Standing Orders to allow Members and the public to address Council.

RESOLVED

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hoeta

Seconded: Cr Neeson

That the Council:

- 1 *Receives the Report **Public Forum: Temporary Suspension and Reinstatement of Standing Orders**; and*
- 2 *Pursuant to Section 27(4) Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002, temporarily suspends the following Standing Orders to enable members of the Public to address Council, and members to engage in discussion in a free and frank manner:*
 - (a) *21.2 Time limits on speakers | Te tepenga wā mā ngā kaikōrero*
 - (b) *21.5 Members may speak only once | Kotahi noa iho te wā e āhei ai te mema ki te korero; and*
 - (c) *21.6 Limits on number of speakers | Ngā tepenga mō te maha o ngā kaikōrero.*

Note: Councillor Iwikau entered the meeting at 10:11AM

Council received addresses as follows:

6.1 Karen Ngatai

Karen Ngatai addressed the Council regarding the Southern Entrance to Taumarunui and the investment in Visit Ruapehu for Destination Marketing. She requested to understand why the grass around the rhododendrons along the State Highway were not being mowed. Last year nine rhododendrons were lost due to the long grass and the volunteers are reluctant to replant due to the lack of maintenance.

She was concerned that the entrance was unsightly and would not leave a good first impression of the town and be a disincentive for businesses invest in Visit Ruapehu if they did not see the town being looked after.

Ms. Ngatai made a request for Taumarunui to be beautified and efforts made to gain repeat tourism.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Gram

Seconded: Cr Iwikau

That the Council:

- 1 *Pursuant to Section 27(4) Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002, reinstates Standing Orders in their entirety for consideration of the Agenda.*

7 Confirmation of Minutes of Council Meeting

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Neeson

Seconded: Cr Gram

That the Council:

- 1 *Confirms the Public Business Minutes of the Ruapehu District Council meeting held Wednesday, 18 October 2023 as attached, a true and correct record*
- 2 *Confirms the Public Business Minutes of the Ruapehu District Council meeting held Wednesday, 25 October 2023 as attached, a true and correct record*

8 Deputation from Community Board Chairs: Interim Speed Management Plan

Luigi Hotter, Chair of the Waimarino-Waiouru Community Board addressed Council on the recommendations arising from the deliberations of the Interim Speed Management Plan consultation. He noted he was not speaking on behalf of the Waimarino-Waiouru Community Board as the information had not previously been tabled at a Community Board Meeting. He felt the Community Board should have received the report first to be able to make recommendations to Council to feed into its deliberations.

Mr. Hotter acknowledged officers for the work undertaken to produce the detailed report. He advised Members he had approached three schools in the Community Board area to understand their opinions on the consultation; he noted that two of the schools had opted not to make a submission. It was felt that speed around schools was not an issue, however, inattentive drivers were.

Council's Manager Policy & Strategy, and Charlotte French, Technical Advisor from GHD spoke to the consultation process and mandated timeframes. They advised the consultation had been initiated by the Ministry of Transport's Road to Zero safety strategy, and that Council is mandated to develop and implement a Speed Management Plan in accordance with the Government's Land Transport Rule - Setting of Speed limits 2022.

The rule requires every Road Controlling Authority to ensure there are safe speed limits around at least 40 per cent of schools before 1 July 2024 and 100 per cent by 31 December 2027. In order to meet the Government's mandated timeframes, Council took a two-stage approach. The first stage was the interim Speed Management Plan that proposed changes to speed limits on roads around schools, and a second stage will be the development of a full Speed Management Plan for the remainder of the district. The Second stage will seek Community Board input.

The deadlines set by Waka Kotahi, New Zealand Transport Agency, requires Council to adopt the interim plan by December 2023 in order that it can undergo Waka Kotahi's six to eight week certification process and ensure signage is in place and operational before 1 July 2024.

It was acknowledged that speed management was not addressing the cause of crashes, however, the lower speed limits meant that should an accident occur it was less likely to result in the loss of life.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Ralph

Seconded: Cr Wilson

That the Council:

- 1 *Receives the Report **Deputation from Community Board Chairs: Interim Speed Management Plan** for information.*

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| 9 Deliberation Report: Interim Speed Management Plan |
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Note: Councillor Wilson left the meeting at 11:38AM and re-entered at 11:42AM.

Members received a report presenting the analysis of the submissions to Ruapehu District Council's Interim Speed Management Plan for Council's deliberation and sought approval of the recommendations to be included in the final version of the Ruapehu District Council Interim Speed Management Plan to be tabled for adoption at the 15 December 2023 meeting of the Council.

Council's Executive Manager Infrastructure, Council's Manager Policy & Strategy and Charlotte French, Technical Advisor from GHD spoke to the report and answered Members' questions. Council officers advised the report presented feedback from the consultation and hearings for Elected Members to deliberate accordingly; Council was free to make changes as it saw fit if those changes were within the spirit of what the plan is trying to achieve, however, if the Members' recommendations were completely different, officers would be required to open a further consultation process. It was acknowledged that the topic and Government mandated process was polarising.

It was noted that Council would need to work in conjunction with Waka Kotahi to implement speed restrictions along the State Highway as they sat outside of Council's area of influence; Waka Kotahi will be running its own consultation process.

Members considered that there should be more consistency in terms of speeds and drop-off and pick-up times, however council officers noted they were challenged with developing a blanket policy due to the legislated speed limits for Category 1 and Category 2 schools.

Members also felt investment in digital signage was not an appropriate investment where school attendance was minimal. Charlotte French advised that the requirement for traffic control devices was set in law through the Land Transport Rule and Council, as a road controlling authority, must have an electronic speed sign as a minimum requirement, with static speed signs in support on side roads only.

Members were advised that funding was also a considerable driver to complete the implementation before 1 July 2024, as Waka Kotahi funding beyond the current financial year was not guaranteed.

Although Members felt Council was being forced into a position under the threat of losing government funding post June 2024, they also recognised it was for Council to take responsibility and do something positive for the safety of the next generation, and therefore they decided to approve the officer recommendations to be included in the final version of the Interim Speed Management Plan with one minor change.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Kahukura Hadley-Chase

Seconded: Cr Iwikau

That the Council:

- 1 *Receives the **Deliberation Report: Interim Speed Management Plan**; and*
- 2 *Approves the following Council Officer recommendations made within this report for inclusion in the final version of the Ruapehu District Council Interim Speed Management Plan:*
 - (a) *Kaitieke School has a permanent speed limit of 40km/h with an 80km/h buffer zone;*
 - (b) *Manunui School has a Variable Speed Limit of 30km/h enforceable only during school pick-up and drop-off times outside the school with a 50km/h speed limit (excluding the State Highway) at all other times;*
 - (c) *Matiere School has a 30km/h Variable Speed Limit on Ōhura Road that is only operational and enforceable during pick up and drop off times outside the school with a 60km/h speed limit at all other times, and a permanent speed limit of 60km/h in the township of Matiere;*
 - (d) *A permanent 30km/h speed limit throughout the village of National Park (Excluding State Highway 4);*
 - (e) *Ngakonui Valley School has a permanent speed limit of 40km/h with 60km/h buffer zones, incorporating Hia-Kaitupeka Marae;*
 - (f) *Ōhura Valley Primary School has a 30km/h Variable Speed Limit on Mangaparo Road that is only operational and enforceable during pick up and drop off times outside the school with a 50km/h speed limit at all other times;*
 - (g) *Ongarue School has a permanent speed limit of 30km/h with a 60km/h buffer zone;*
 - (h) *A permanent 30km/h speed limit throughout the township of Ōwhango;*
 - (i) *St. Patrick's Catholic School has a 30km/h permanent speed limit;*
 - (j) *Taumarunui High School has a 30km/h Variable Speed Limit that is only operational and enforceable during pick up and drop off times outside the school with a 50km/h speed limit at all other times;*
 - (k) *Tarrangower School has a 30km/h permanent speed limit;*
 - (l) *A 30km/h Variable Speed Limit outside Turaki School and Taumarunui Primary School only operational and enforceable during pick up and drop off times;*

- (m) *Te Kura o Ngapuke has a permanent speed limit of 40km/h with 80km/h buffer zones;*
- (n) *Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Taumarunui has a permanent speed limit of 30km/h outside the school;*
- (o) *Tokirima School has a permanent speed limit of 40km/h, that extends closer to the intersection with State Highway 43 than the original proposal, with 80km/h buffer zones (if possible);*
- (p) *A permanent 30km/h speed limit for road areas directly outside Ruapehu College;*
- (q) *A permanent 30km/h speed limit for road areas directly outside Ohakune School, extending past Manuka Street towards Ohakune township to Conway Street (if possible);*
- (r) *A Variable Speed Limit of 30km/h speed limit for Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngāti Rangī for pick-up and drop-off times only;*
- (s) *Orautoha School has a permanent speed limit of 30km/h with 80km/h buffer zones; and*
- (t) *Raetihi Primary School has a permanent speed limit of 30km/h as originally proposed.*

Councilor Neeson requested her vote AGAINST the motion be recorded.

10 Deliberation Report: Smokefree and Vapefree Policy

Members received a report presenting the analysis of the submissions to Ruapehu District Council's draft Smokefree and Vapefree Policy for Council's deliberation and sought approval of the recommendations to be included in the final version of the Policy to be tabled for adoption at the 15 December 2023 meeting of the Council.

Council's Strategy & Policy Advisor spoke to the report and answered Members' questions. It was clarified that the policy applied to Council property only. Officers also clarified that point 6.8.1 of the report only mentioned Ngāti Rangī as the wording used in the report was a direct quote from Te Whatu Ora's recommendation; it was made clear to the submitter that Council would be working with all Iwi within the rohe.

Members were divided on the topic. Members were concerned that smoking and vaping behaviours were being normalised and encouraging for children. It was felt that whilst Council events should discourage smoking and vaping to make the behaviours less normal, Council should be supportive of businesses with outdoor areas at a time where it was difficult to garner patronage. It was agreed that Council should be pushing for an educational approach and supporting the community instead of penalisation.

Members voted for the changes as they felt the decision was about the future and doing something for betterment of all.

An Amendment was proposed that the wording of (e) be changed to remove the word "immediately"

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Gram

Seconded: Cr Nottage

- (e) *That any business currently offering outdoor dining on the footpath be included in the Policy and that this is to be implemented over the next 12 months.*

The MOTION was PUT and CARRIED with 5 votes FOR, 0 votes AGAINST, and 1 ABSTENTION.

RESOLVED

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hoeta
Seconded: Cr Kahukura Hadley-Chase

That the Council:

- 1 *Receives the **Deliberation Report: Smokefree and Vapefree Policy**;*
- 2 *Approves the following Council Officer recommendations for inclusion in the final version of the Smokefree and Vapefree Policy:*
 - (a) *That public areas in the Ruapehu District are designated smoke and vape free.*
 - (b) *That vaping is included in the Policy.*
 - (c) *That any events that Council is involved in be designated smoke and vape free.*
 - (d) *That outdoor dining areas on the footpath are designated smoke and vape free.*
 - (e) *[Amended] That any business currently offering outdoor dining on the footpath be included in the Policy and that this is to be implemented over the next 12 months.*
 - (f) *That Council take an education-based approach towards compliance with the Policy.*
- 3 *Approves an amendment to the Draft Policy to review the Smokefree and Vapefree Policy every five years effective from the date of adoption, or as determined by Council, or in response to legislative or policy changes, including any potential changes to the Smokefree Aotearoa 2025 goal (whichever arises first).*

A division was called for:

FOR: Gram, Hoeta, Kahukura Hadley-Chase, Nottage, Wilson, and Kirton (6)
AGAINST: Iwikau, Neeson, and Ralph (3)

The Meeting adjourned for lunch and a Forestry Presentation at 12:27PM and reconvened at 1:31PM

Note: Deputy Mayor Hoeta left the meeting at 12:27PM and was absent for the remainder of the meeting.

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| 11 Elected Member Appointment to Risk and Assurance Committee |
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Members received a report seeking approval of Mayor Kirton's appointment of Councillor Robyn Gram to the Risk and Assurance Committee following Councillor Channey Iwikau's decision to step down from his appointment. Mayor Kirton spoke to the report and answered Members' questions. He noted he would look to schedule a workshop in due course for the members of the committee.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Iwikau
Seconded: Cr Neeson

That the Council:

- 1 *Receives the Report **Elected Member Appointment to Risk and Assurance Committee**;*
- 2 *In accordance with Schedule 7, Clause 31 of the Local Government Act 2022, with effect from 22 November 2023, approves the appointment of Councillor Robyn Gram to the Council's Risk and Assurance Committee for the remainder of the 2022-25 triennium; and*
- 3 *Approves for the appointment to be updated on the Ruapehu District Council website.*

12 Civil Defence Training

Members received a report providing a background of Civil Defence training available and encouraging Members to undertake the foundation course via the online portal Takatū. Council's Executive Manager Community & Economic Development and Council's Emergency Manager spoke to the report and answered Members' questions.

Investigations into the Auckland flooding events earlier this year found there was a disconnect between Civil Defence Emergency Management and Council Governance hence the drive to ensure as many of Ruapehu's Elected Members are knowledgeable in the basics.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Wilson

Seconded: Cr Ralph

That the Council:

1 *Receives the Report **Civil Defence Training** for information.*

13 Financial Monitoring Report for the Month Ending 31 October 2023

Members received a report monitoring Council's financial performance against the Annual Plan 2022/23. Council's Senior Management Accountant spoke to the report and answered Members' questions. Concerns were raised over the carry forwards previously brought into the current year; Council's Chief Executive advised the projects would be reviewed and re-prioritised at the start of every Long Term Plan.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Neeson

Seconded: Cr Gram

That the Council:

1 *Receives the Report **Financial Monitoring Report for the Month Ending 31 October 2023** for information.*

14 Mayor's Monthly Report

Members received a report advising Elected Members of appointments and meetings undertaken by the Mayor during the month of October 2023. The report also outlines fee waiving applications approved (if any) by the Mayor during the same period. Mayor Kirton spoke to the report and answered Members' questions. Mayor Kirton advised he was due to meet with the Southern REAP Representative to discuss the Mayors' Taskforce for Jobs and extended an invitation to Elected Members to join him.

RESOLVED

Moved: Mayor Kirton

Seconded: Cr Ralph

That the Council:

1 *Receives and notes the Report **Mayor's Report** for information.*

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| 15 Chief Executive's Monthly Report |
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Note: Councillor Iwikau left the meeting at 2:15PM and was absent for the decision.

Members received an update of the organisation's activity over the October 2023 period. The report provides a snapshot of the wider legislative environment and focus from a regional perspective, an overview of the wellbeing of the District, and highlights key achievements and activity over the period, including significant projects from the Chief Executive's perspective since the last Council meeting.

The results of the samples collected from the Taringamotu River next to the old Taumarunui landfill have not revealed anything alarming. The analysis has since been sent to a specialist for review and the assessment is due this week. Council is looking to undertake ongoing sampling.

Council's Chief Executive advised that all Elected Members have been invited by the Lines Company to the opening of a fast charger in Taumarunui on 13 December at 4PM. The installation of the fast chargers is designed to reduce carbon footprint and charging habits for Electric Vehicles to fast charge in the day instead of loading up the system at peak times during the evening.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Nottage

Seconded: Cr Neeson

That the Council:

- 1 *Receives and notes the Report **Chief Executive's Report** for information.*

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| 16 Receipt of Minutes of the Risk & Assurance Committee |
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Members received a copy of the minutes of the Risk & Assurance Committee meeting held Thursday, 12 October 2023 for information.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Neeson

Seconded: Mayor Kirton

That the Council:

- 1 *Receives the Public Business Minutes of the Risk and Assurance Committee meeting held Thursday, 12 October 2023 as attached, for information.*

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| 17 Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chief Executive and Elected Members' Reports (Verbal) |
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Note: Councillor Iwikau re-entered the meeting at 2:27PM

Members each gave verbal updates on recent and upcoming events, and other matters of general and topical interest to the District.

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| 18 Resolution to Exclude the Public for Consideration of Council Business |
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Section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 gives the Council the right by resolution to exclude the public from the whole or any part of the proceedings of any meeting only on one or more of the grounds contained within that Section.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Wilson

Seconded: Cr Iwikau

That the Council:

- 1 *Receives the **Report Resolution to Exclude the Public for Consideration of Council Business**;*
- 2 *Excludes the public from the following part(s) of the proceedings of this meeting;*
- 3 *Notes the general subject of the matters to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds for excluding the public, as specified under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:*

| General subject of each matter to be considered | Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter | Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution |
|---|--|---|
| 19 Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes of the Council Meeting 25 October 2023 | For the reasons set out in the Public Business Minutes of the Council Meeting 25 October 2023. | |
| 20 Receipt of Public Excluded Minutes of Risk & Assurance Committee | For the reasons set out in the Public Business Minutes of the Risk & Assurance Committee Meeting 12 October 2023. | |
| 21 Confidential Briefing by the Chief Executive on local tourism matters. | s7(2)(c) To protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence where the making available of the information would be likely to: prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, where it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied; or would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest. | s48(1)(a) the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 7. |

The Public Business part of the meeting concluded at 2:35PM.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Council Meeting held this 15th day of December 2023.

Weston Kirton, JP
MAYOR

Report to: Council

Meeting Date: 15 December 2023



Subject: Deputation: General Revaluation for Ruapehu District

Report for: Information

Author(s): Michelle Austin

RATES TEAM LEADER

Endorsed By: Quentin Speers

EXECUTIVE MANAGER: FINANCE, STRATEGY & GOVERNANCE

Purpose of Report | Te take mō te pūrongo

- 1 The purpose of this report is to brief the Council on the outcomes of the General Revaluation and to advise Members that Simon Willocks of Quotable Value Limited will be in attendance to provide an overview of the process.

Recommendation(s) | Ngā tūhonga

That the Council:

- 1 Receives the Report **Deputation: General Revaluation for Ruapehu District** for information.

Discussion | He kōrerereero

- 2 Council is required to undertake a revaluation of the district every three years, with the last triennial revaluation undertaken in 2020.
 - 2.1 The new valuations have been prepared for 10,141 properties with a revised total rateable capital value of \$8 Billion (previous valuation was \$6.2 Billion). The effective base date for the 2023 revaluation is 1 July 2023. Council is required to use these valuations when setting the rates for 2024/25.
 - 2.2 The Valuer-General has subsequently approved the new valuations for the district. The new valuation notices have been posted to property owners and ratepayers, additionally are available online, and at the front counter of Council offices. Objections to the revised valuations must be lodged with Quotable Value New Zealand no later than 19 January 2024.
 - 2.3 Simon Willocks, Manawatu/Taranaki Rating Manager for Quotable Value Limited, will be present to provide an overview and explain the valuation movements across the various property types.

Attachment(s) | Ngā āpitihanga

- 1 QV Presentation



1

Agenda

- Legislation and Rules
- Process
- Revaluation results
- Objections
- Key Dates

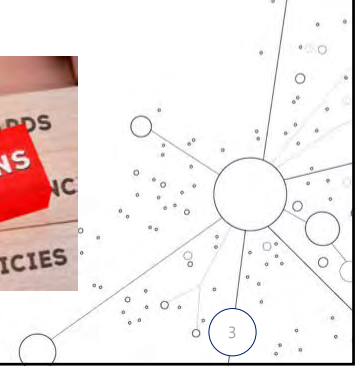
An illustration showing a cluster of buildings (houses and a taller office building) with dashed lines and circular icons above them, suggesting a data or valuation process. To the right is a network diagram with a central node and several smaller nodes connected by lines. The QV logo is in the top right corner.

2

Legislation and Rules



- Rating Valuation Act 1998
- Rating Valuation Rules 2008
- Our Auditors – The Office of the Valuer General

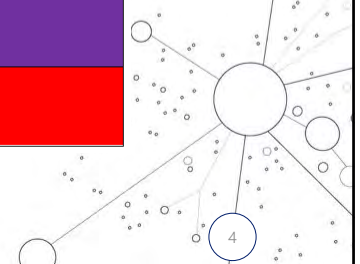


3

OVG Audit - Traffic Light System



| | |
|---|--|
| Proceed, only minor information or value modification required | |
| Marginal call at initial revaluation review between proceed and pause (Effectively green with warning on the nature and scope of work required) | |
| Pause, Delay and resubmit - moderate to high levels of information or valuation review required | |
| Marginal call at initial revaluation review between orange and stop (Effectively orange with warning on the nature and scope of work required) | |
| Stop - significant levels of information or valuation review required | |



4

Rating Valuations vs Market Valuations





Rating values are a 'snapshot' of the market at a single point in time



If market prices change, a rating valuation cannot be expected to represent the market value for an extended period



Rating values do not include plant and chattels, or trees. Rating valuations assess as freehold, not a leasehold interest




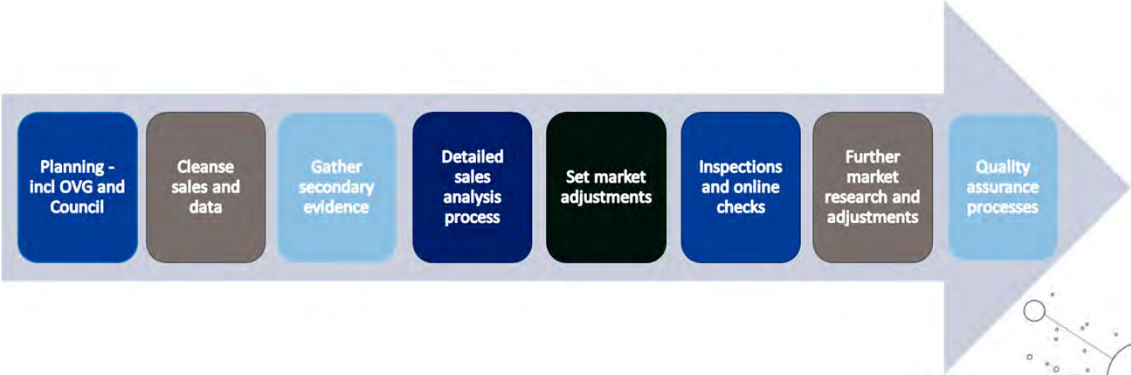
The community and market set property value levels – QV interprets this to form rating values




5

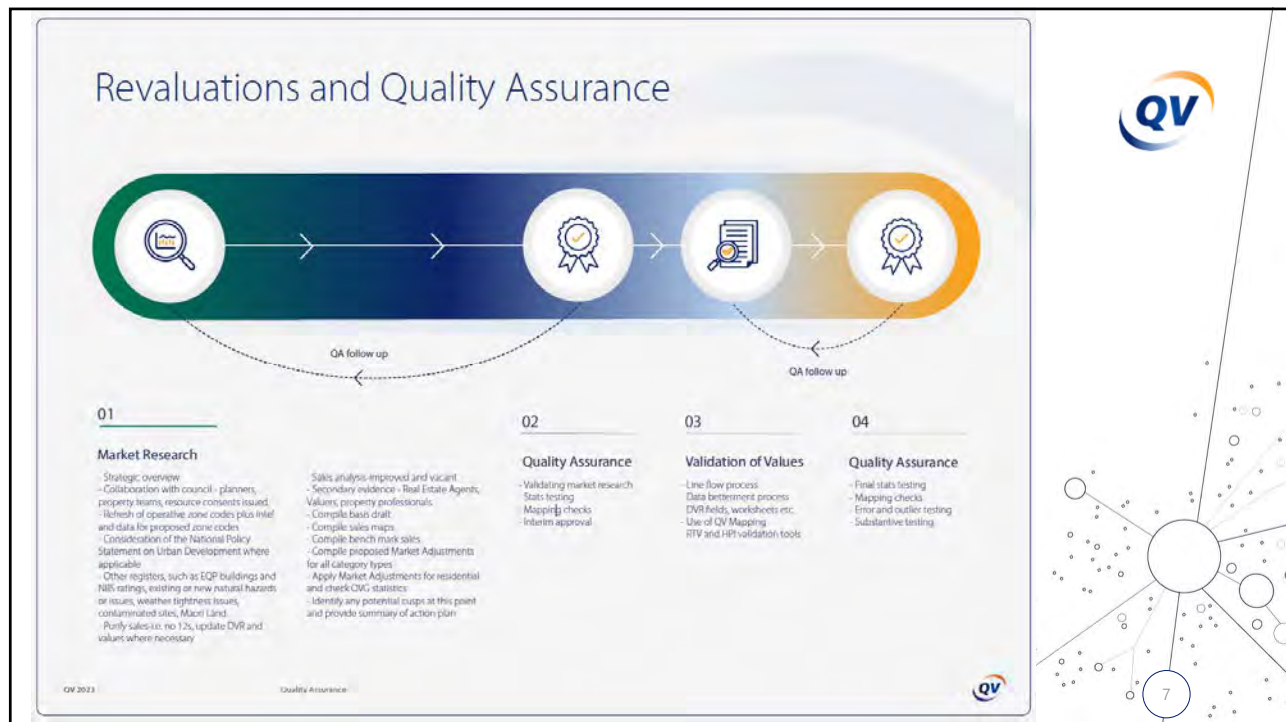
Process



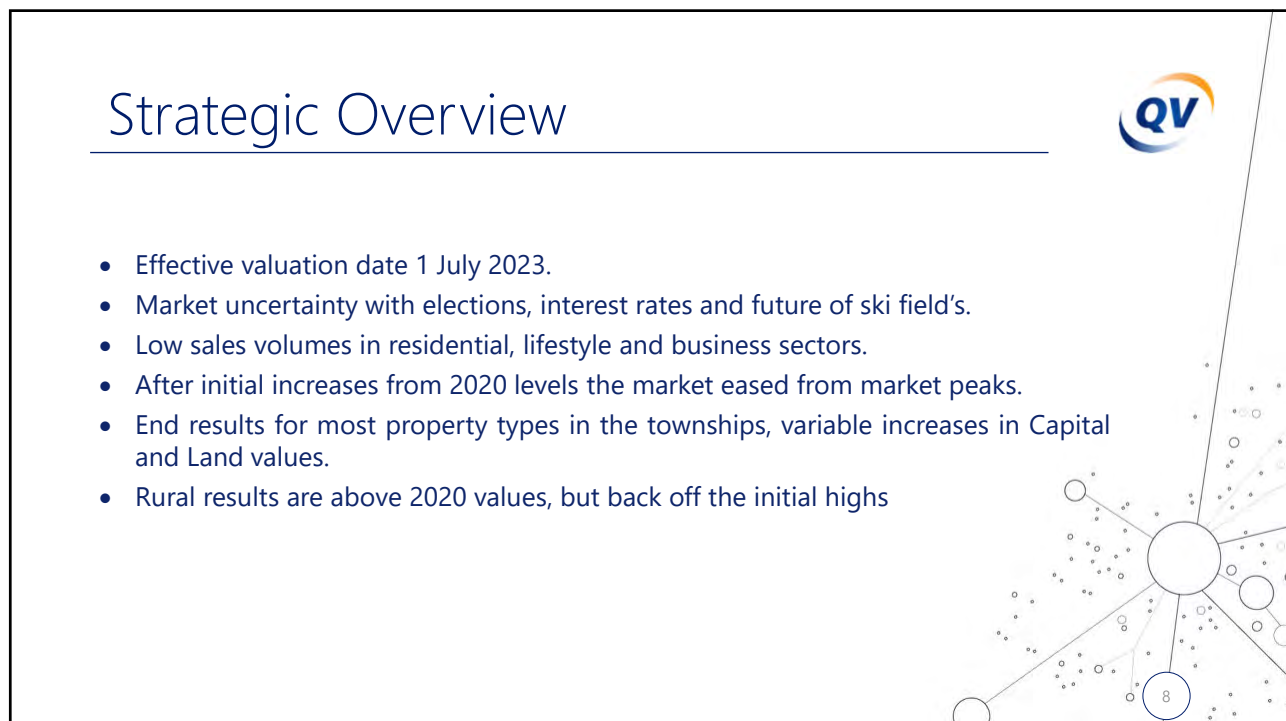




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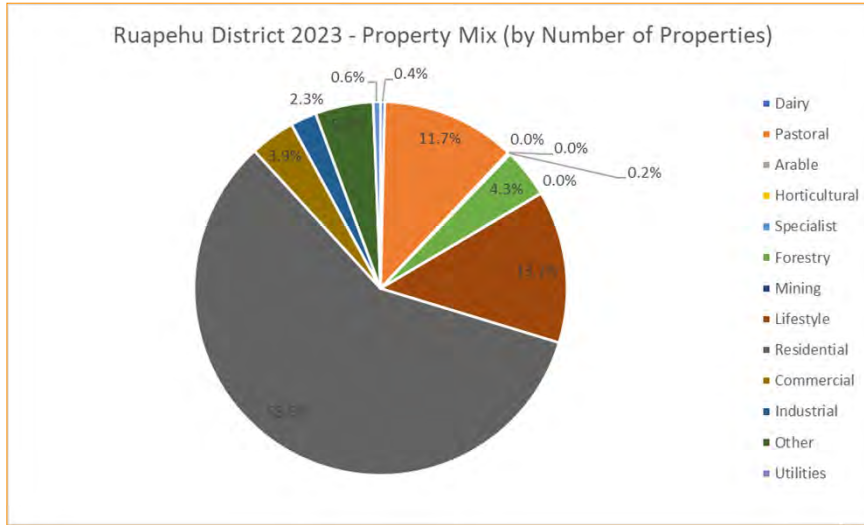


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8

2023 Property Mix



9

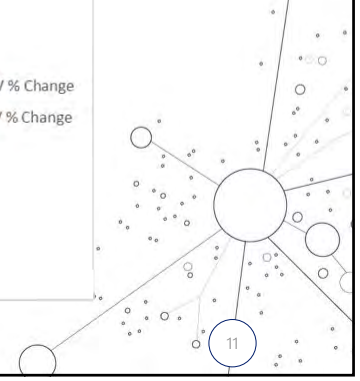
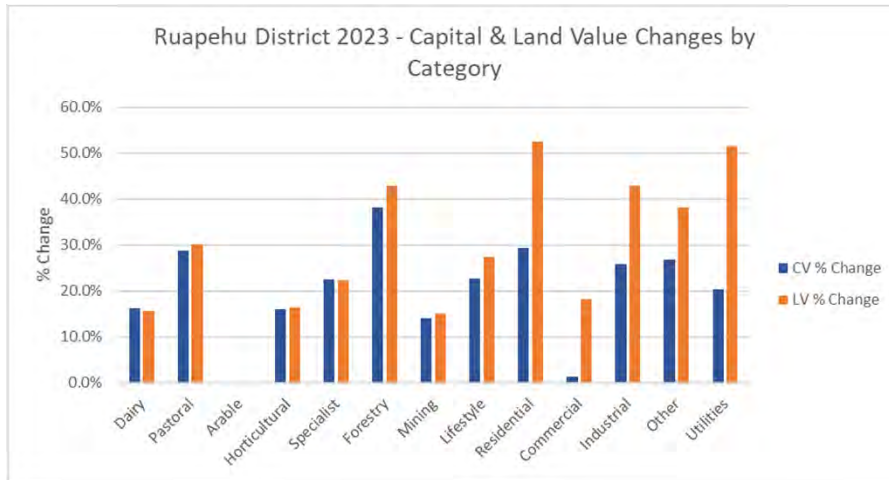
Revaluation overview



| Sector | No. Assets | 2023 CV | CV % Change | 2023 LV | LV % Change |
|---------------|--------------|------------------------|--------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Dairy | 36 | \$197,658,100 | 16.2% | \$158,517,100 | 15.5% |
| Pastoral | 1,160 | \$2,917,593,000 | 28.7% | \$2,493,432,200 | 30.0% |
| Arable | 0 | \$0 | 0.0% | \$0 | 0.0% |
| Horticultural | 3 | \$2,915,000 | 16.1% | \$940,000 | 16.5% |
| Specialist | 17 | \$29,914,000 | 22.5% | \$22,775,000 | 22.3% |
| Forestry | 423 | \$588,441,650 | 38.2% | \$537,616,450 | 42.9% |
| Mining | 1 | \$970,000 | 14.1% | \$920,000 | 15.0% |
| Lifestyle | 1,313 | \$606,507,700 | 22.7% | \$309,832,000 | 27.4% |
| Residential | 5,818 | \$1,865,886,550 | 29.3% | \$767,626,000 | 52.5% |
| Commercial | 388 | \$261,029,500 | 1.4% | \$88,269,500 | 18.1% |
| Industrial | 225 | \$93,983,500 | 25.9% | \$38,565,000 | 42.9% |
| Other | 500 | \$546,864,900 | 26.8% | \$179,005,400 | 38.1% |
| Utilities | 63 | \$618,982,000 | 20.3% | \$27,590,500 | 51.5% |
| TOTAL | 9,947 | \$7,730,745,900 | 26.6% | \$4,625,089,150 | 34.2% |

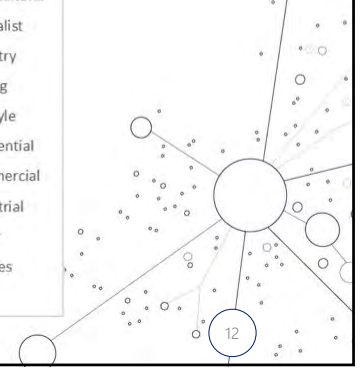
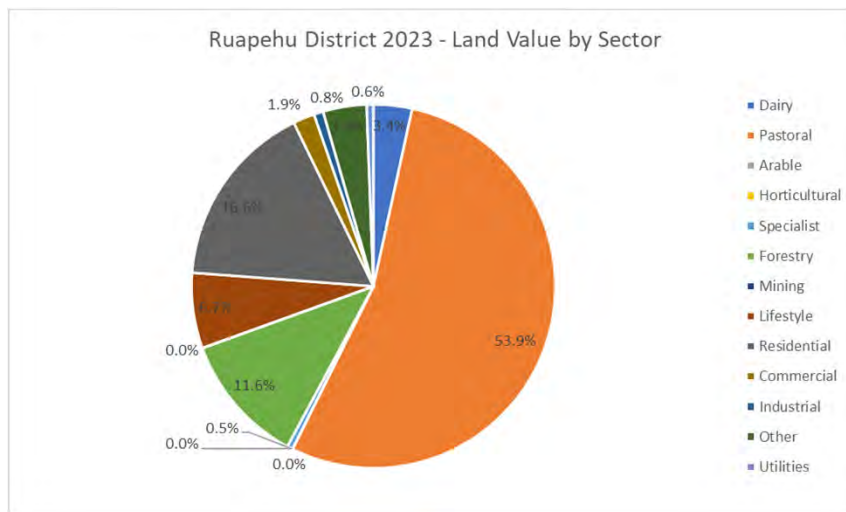
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Revaluation overview

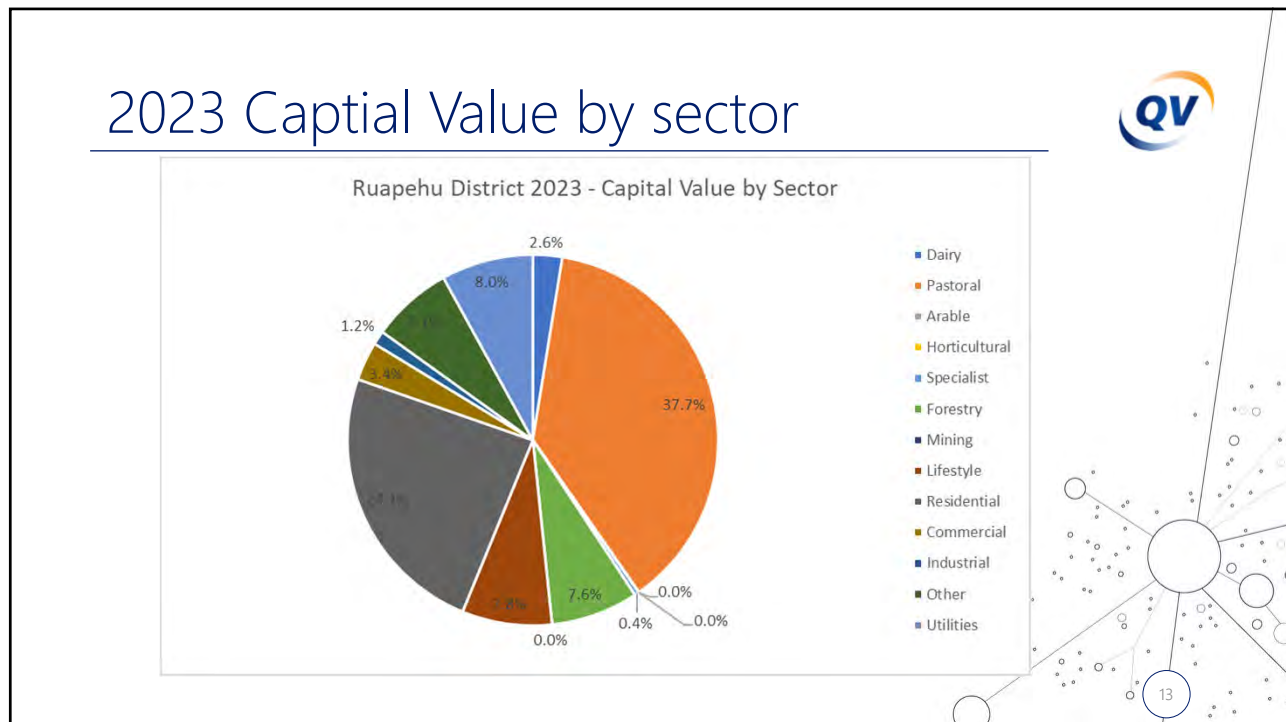


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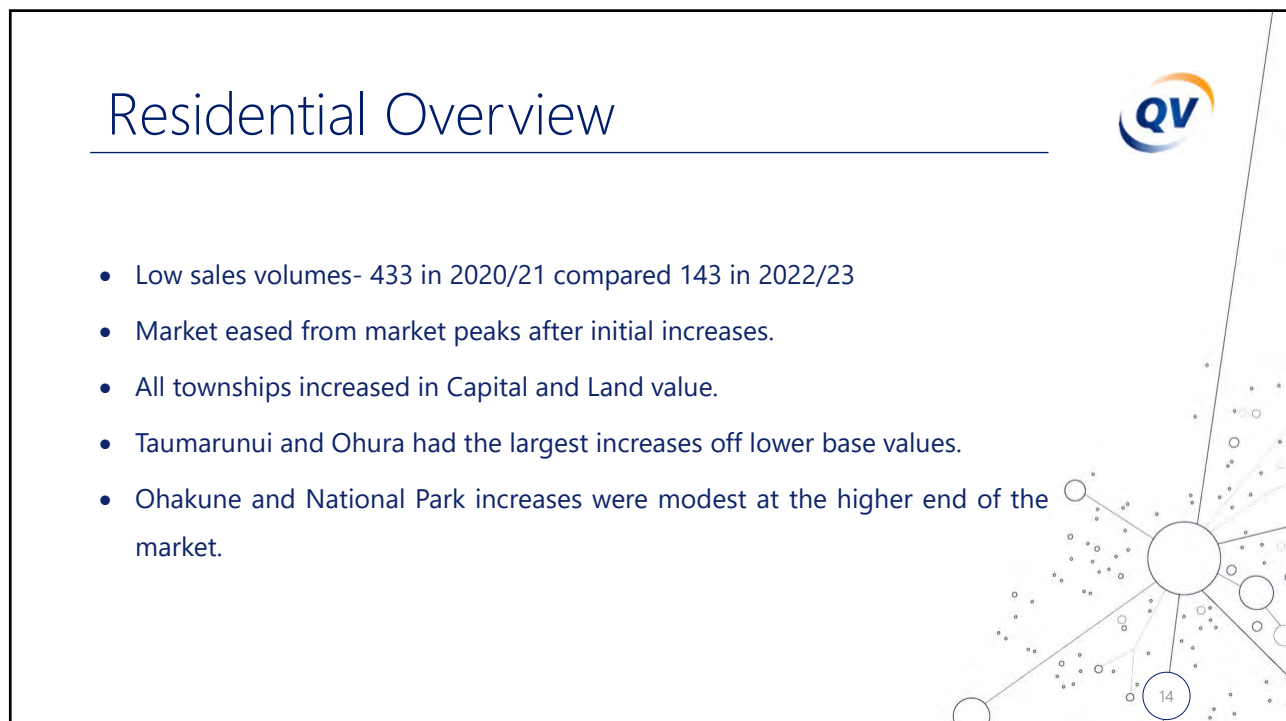
2023 Land Value by sector



12

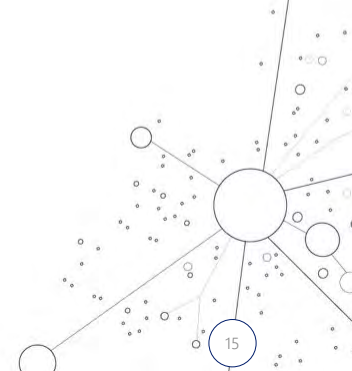


13



14

Ruapehu District house value market movement

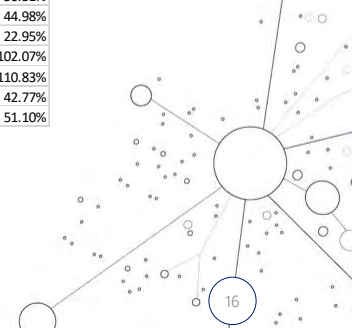


15

Residential Value summary




| Sale Group | No. of Assets | Average 2023 CV | Average 2023 LV | CV% Change | LV% Change |
|------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|------------|
| National Park Township | 251 | \$ 441,633 | \$ 173,088 | 16.44% | 33.80% |
| Ohakune Township | 1230 | \$ 446,533 | \$ 179,205 | 9.81% | 19.35% |
| Ohura Township | 77 | \$ 206,403 | \$ 61,909 | 78.90% | 273.29% |
| Owhango Township | 118 | \$ 358,432 | \$ 129,068 | 39.28% | 50.31% |
| Raetihi Township | 398 | \$ 325,420 | \$ 94,721 | 35.89% | 44.98% |
| Rangataua Town | 171 | \$ 347,953 | \$ 128,538 | 10.25% | 22.95% |
| Taumarunui Rural | 310 | \$ 325,610 | \$ 126,355 | 37.07% | 102.07% |
| Taumarunui Township | 1868 | \$ 327,605 | \$ 111,824 | 48.35% | 110.83% |
| Waimarino Rural | 132 | \$ 332,030 | \$ 119,788 | 22.71% | 42.77% |
| Overall | 4555 | \$ 365,318 | \$ 133,351 | 27.43% | 51.10% |




16

Rural/Lifestyle/Commercial Overview


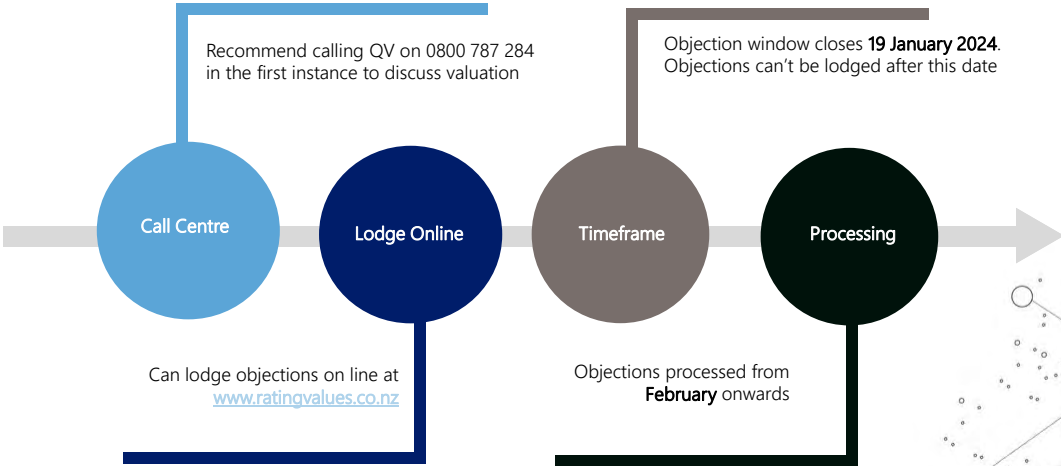


- Reoccurring theme with low sales volumes.
- Hill country increases off lower base values have increased the most, with competing forestry interests.
- Levels in 2023 have fallen off previous high, with forestry uncertainty drying up previous interest.
- Reducing commodity prices, high interest and on farm costs pressuring farm values.
- Dairy and quality gardening land with higher base values had modest increases.
- Lifestyle market growth variable across the price brackets.
- Commercial and Industrial types modest changes.



17

Objections

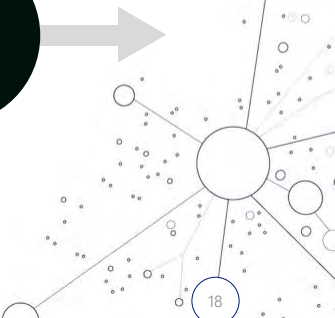



Recommend calling QV on 0800 787 284 in the first instance to discuss valuation

Objection window closes **19 January 2024**. Objections can't be lodged after this date

Can lodge objections on line at www.ratingvalues.co.nz

Objections processed from **February** onwards



18

Key Dates

Effective date of valuation: 1 July 2023

Owners notices posted from 22 November 2023

Objection period closes 19 January 2024

Used for rating purposes from 1 July 2024



19

Ngā mihi nui



20

Report to: Council

Meeting Date: 15 December 2023



Subject: Adoption Report Smokefree and Vapefree Policy 2023

Report for: Decision

Author(s): Karee Cadman STRATEGY & POLICY ADVISOR

Endorsed By: Quentin Speers EXECUTIVE MANAGER: FINANCE, STRATEGY & GOVERNANCE

Purpose of Report | Te take mō te pūrongo

- 1 The purpose of this report is to present to the Council the final Smokefree and Vapefree Policy 2023, for adoption.

Recommendation(s) | Ngā tūhunga

That the Council:

- 1 Receives the Report **Adoption Report Smokefree and Vapefree Policy**; and
- 2 Adopts the Smokefree and Vapefree Policy 2023 effective 15 December 2023.

Well-Being Outcomes

In accordance with Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA): the purpose of Local Government is to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future. Refer: [Pūwhenua ki Ruapehu Portal](#)

| | Contributes | Detracts | No Impact |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2.1 Social: Safe, healthy communities | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

The Smokefree and Vapefree Policy (the policy) contributes to safe healthy communities by encouraging behavioural changes that reflect our community values, de-normalising smoking and vaping behaviour and reducing the harm caused by smoking, vaping and tobacco use on non-smokers.

“It has to be the community. You can have the funding but it’s when the community stands up and says, ‘Hey we don’t like this’ and sending the message from their own people.”

| | Contributes | Detracts | No Impact |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2.2 Economic: Thriving economy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Hospitality and tourism are important sectors in the Ruapehu District (the District). Council Officers acknowledge concern may arise that the policy may negatively impact some businesses who have clientele who would prefer to smoke and vape in public areas, and that tourists may be deterred from visiting the District due to public areas being smokefree and vapefree.

Recent research undertaken in tourist destination Hamner Springs may provide some comfort that hospitality and tourism may not be adversely impacted by the proposed policy. The research in Hamner Springs evaluated the attitudes of local businesses, residents, and visitors regarding a trial of a voluntary smokefree and vape-free zone, that covered the central business streets. Overall, 84 per cent of responding visitors indicated that they supported the zone being both smokefree and vape-free (83% of international and 84% of domestic visitors).

A further 8 per cent of responding visitors indicated vaping should be allowed in the zone (but supported smokefree) and 9 per cent indicated both vaping and smoking should be allowed in the zone (i.e., did not support the zone).

Further, 54 per cent of responding visitors indicated that they would be more likely to visit other places with smokefree and vape-free zones, 40 per cent indicated no preference, and 6 per cent indicated that they would be less likely to visit other places with smokefree and vape-free zones.

In terms of what we do know, the economic impact to the community will be cost for new signage to identify sites that are smokefree and vape-free, however the cost of signage is expected to be funded through existing budgets.

| | Contributes | Detracts | No Impact |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2.3 Environmental: Sustaining beautiful environments | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

The policy will contribute to sustaining beautiful environments through a reduction of litter caused by cigarette butts and packaging, and disposable vapes. Additionally, it provides clean air environments free of chemicals including nicotine for the community.

| | Contributes | Detracts | No Impact |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2.4 Cultural: Vibrant and diverse living | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

The implementation of the policy in the District will promote cultural wellbeing as our tamariki and rangatahi will see less smoking and vaping in public places, thereby de-normalising smoking and vaping behaviour in public places. The hope is that this will lead to less of our population, especially Māori, taking up smoking and vaping. The Māori population of the District is 43.4 per cent significantly higher than the New Zealand average of 17.4 per cent. The level of smoking in the District's Māori population is 35.8 per cent compared with the New Zealand average of 28.3 per cent. Despite smoking rates falling since the adoption of the Smokefree 2025 target, disparities in smoking rates still exist.

Significance and Engagement | Takenga mai

- 3 This report does not trigger the Significance and Engagement Policy.
- 3.1 A significance assessment was undertaken pursuant to Council's Significance and Engagement Policy at an early stage of the policy's development, which determined the policy proposal as significant through its impact on the community.
- 3.2 Accordingly, the community was consulted regarding the policy using the Special Consultative Procedure (SCP) process outlined in Section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) and Section 87 of the LGA.

Background | Tuhinga

- 4 The policy process began in February 2023 with a report to the Council seeking its endorsement in relation to the development of a Smokefree and Vapefree Policy for the Ruapehu District. The Council gave their unanimous support in relation to the development of the policy.
- 4.1 The Policy and Strategy team then commenced development of the policy. This involved meeting with healthcare and community providers working within the smoking and vaping cessation space and attended Kāhui Ako hui in both the North and South of Ruapehu to understand the impacts of smoking and vaping on the Ruapehu District. Research was undertaken to ascertain recommended approaches to reduce vaping and smoking by Local Government.
- 4.2 The Smokefree Vapefree Statement of Proposal and Draft Policy was adopted by the Council for community consultation at the 23 August 2023 meeting of the Council.
- 4.3 Council consulted with the community regarding the policy during the month of September 2023 through community planned pop-up events, social media, newspaper campaigns and radio. The community were encouraged to share their views with Council via an online survey, which was also available as a physical feedback form at Council offices and at the community pop-up events.
- 4.4 National, regional and community health professionals, and other stakeholders were contacted and encouraged to contribute to the policy. Council received 69 submissions in relation to the policy.
- 4.5 Public hearings were held at the Taumarunui Chambers on 18 October 2023, where 3 submitters presented their views of the policy to the Council.
- 4.6 A Deliberation Report containing detailed results of the community consultation was presented to the Council at the 22 November 2023 meeting of the Council. A thorough deliberation occurred, and the Council resolved:
 - (a) That public areas in the Ruapehu district are designated smoke and vape free.
 - (b) That vaping is included in the policy.
 - (c) That any events that Council is involved in be designated smoke and vape free.
 - (d) That outdoor dining areas on the footpath are designated smoke and vape free.
 - (e) That any business currently offering outdoor dining on the footpath be included in the policy and that this is to be implemented 12 months from the date the policy is adopted.
 - (f) That Council take an education-based approach towards compliance with the policy.
 - (g) To amend the draft policy to review the Smokefree and Vapefree Policy every five years effective from the date of adoption, or as determined by Council, or in response to legislative or policy changes, including any potential changes to the Smokefree Aotearoa 2025 goal (whichever arises first).

Discussion | He Kōrerorero

- 5.1 Council Officers have amended the draft policy to give effect to the resolutions agreed by the Council at the 22 November 2023 meeting of the Council.
- 5.2 Council Officers will work with business owners over the next 12 months to phase in the new requirements that relate to outdoor dining on the footpath.
- 5.3 The final step in this process is now the formal adoption of the policy.

Next Actions | Ngā mahinga e whai ake nei

- 6 Council Officers will inform submitters about the outcome of the consultation process.
- 6.1 An internal handover and closing the loop process will be completed whereby Council's Policy and Strategy team hand the policy over to the Community and Economic Development team to implement the policy. This will involve an implementation plan the includes multiple Council teams including the Communications team, Regulatory and Compliance team and Property team.

Attachment(s) | Ngā āpitihanga

- 1 Ruapehu District Council's Smokefree Vapefree Policy 2023



Smokefree and Vapefree Policy 2023

Owner: Executive Manager
Community & Economic
Development

Review frequency: This Policy will be reviewed every five years effective from the date of adoption, or as determined by Council, or in response to legislative or policy changes, including any potential changes to the Smokefree Aotearoa 2025 goal (whichever arises first).

Date Adopted: 15 December 2023

Next review Date: See review frequency above



CONTENTS

| | |
|---------------------------------|------|
| 1. Policy Objectives | 3 |
| 2. Definitions..... | 3 |
| 3. Principles | 4 |
| 4. Policy Statement..... | 4 |
| 5 Implementation | 5 |
| 6. Annotations | 6 |
| 7. Policy Version Control | 6 |
| 8. Maps..... | 7-17 |

1. Policy Objectives

- 1.1 The aim of the Ruapehu District Council's (Council) Smokefree and Vapefree Policy 2023 (the Policy) is to declare Council owned public places and events to be smokefree and vapefree.
- 1.2 The purpose of the policy is to contribute to central government's Smokefree Aotearoa 2025 goal by discouraging smoking and vaping behaviour. The policy supports: the Smokefree 2025 goal for New Zealand, adopted by the Government in March 2011; the Smokefree Environments Act 1990, including Part 1 Smokefree workplaces and public areas; the Smokefree Environment and Regulated Products (Vaping) Amendment Act 2020.
- 1.3 To improve, promote and protect public health within the Ruapehu District as deemed the responsibility of local authorities per Section 23 of the Health Act 1956.
- 1.4 To support Council's wellbeing goal that Council's public spaces are safe and accessible for all.

2. Definitions

- 2.1 Council
Means the Ruapehu District Council as constituted by the Local Government Act 2002.
- 2.2 Smoking
The act of inhaling and exhaling the smoke of burning cigarettes, e-cigarettes, pipes, cigars or other paraphernalia. This activity includes smoking, holding, or otherwise having control over an ignited product or thing whose customary use is, or includes the inhalation from it of the smoke produced from its combustion or the combustion of any part of it. For clarity, tobacco, or herbal tobacco product and/or psychoactive substances, including synthetic cannabis, are deemed smoking products.
- 2.3 Vaping
The use of an electronic cigarette ('e-cigarette') that heats a solution (the e-liquid) producing a vapour that the user inhales or 'vapes'. The ingredients of the e-liquid may vary, but most e-liquids contain propylene glycol (also in asthma inhalers and nebulisers) and flavouring agents. Some, but not all, e-liquids contain nicotine.

2.4 Council parks

Neighbourhood parks that are generally small and provide places for informal recreation and small-scale community events and facilities. They form part of a network of open space that includes walkways and cycleways.

2.5 Playgrounds

Outdoor playgrounds provide places for recreation and play.

2.6 Public Places

Means an area that is open to or used by the public, and which is owned, managed, maintained, or controlled by the Council. Public places include, but are not limited to roads, streets, footpaths, alleys, pedestrian malls, cycle tracks, lanes, accessways, thoroughfares, squares, car parks, reserves, parks, beaches, foreshore, riverbanks, berms, verges, and recreational grounds.

2.7 Reserves

Council managed areas that are large open spaces that protect and enhance scenic, cultural, and environmental values.

3. Principles

- 3.1 The policy takes a non-regulatory approach. Compliance with the policy is not enforced by the Council. Compliance with the policy is instead encouraged by empowering the community to model and promote smokefree and vape-free behaviour in a positive manner, encouraging others to be smokefree and vape-free.

4. Policy Statement

4.1 The following public places will be smokefree and vape-free across the entire Ruapehu district:

- a. All Council-owned or managed parks, reserves, and playgrounds; skate parks; council owned or managed sports grounds, swimming complexes walking and cycle tracks.

- b. All bus stops and shelters.
- c. All Council owned public toilets.
- d. Outside the entrances/exits of all Council owned and operated buildings.
- e. Outdoor public areas within the central business districts of the townships of the Ruapehu District.
- f. All footpath dining areas within the central business districts of the townships of the Ruapehu District.
- g. All public car parks.

4.2 **Smokefree and Vapefree events**

Council recognises that public events can support the promotion of positive smokefree and vapefree messages. All Council-owned events and those receiving Council funding or support must be smokefree and vapefree. Event organisers are encouraged to share the smokefree and vapefree message leading up to and during the event.

4.3 **Smokefree and Vapefree outdoor dining**

Restaurants cafes and bars with a licence to use the street pavement for their outdoor dining should ensure these areas are smokefree and vapefree and are encouraged to display smokefree and vapefree signage.

5 **Implementation**

Successful communication and education of this policy requires a collaboration between Council, communities, businesses, and community providers.

To implement this policy Council will:

- a. Make smokefree and vapefree signage/stickers available.
- b. Display signage with smokefree and vapefree messaging at Council buildings, facilities and parks and reserves areas as signage needs to be renewed or replaced.

- c. On review, Council documents (e.g., reserve management plans), will refer to smokefree and vapefree public areas.
- d. Include a 'no smoking/vaping on premises' clause in the Council's terms and conditions for hiring any Council venue.
- e. Include a smokefree and vapefree requirement in Council contracts.
- f. Include a smokefree and vapefree requirement in all funding agreements/contracts as they are negotiated/renewed.

6. Annotations

| Date | Description |
|------------------|------------------------|
| 15 December 2023 | Adoption of new policy |
| | |

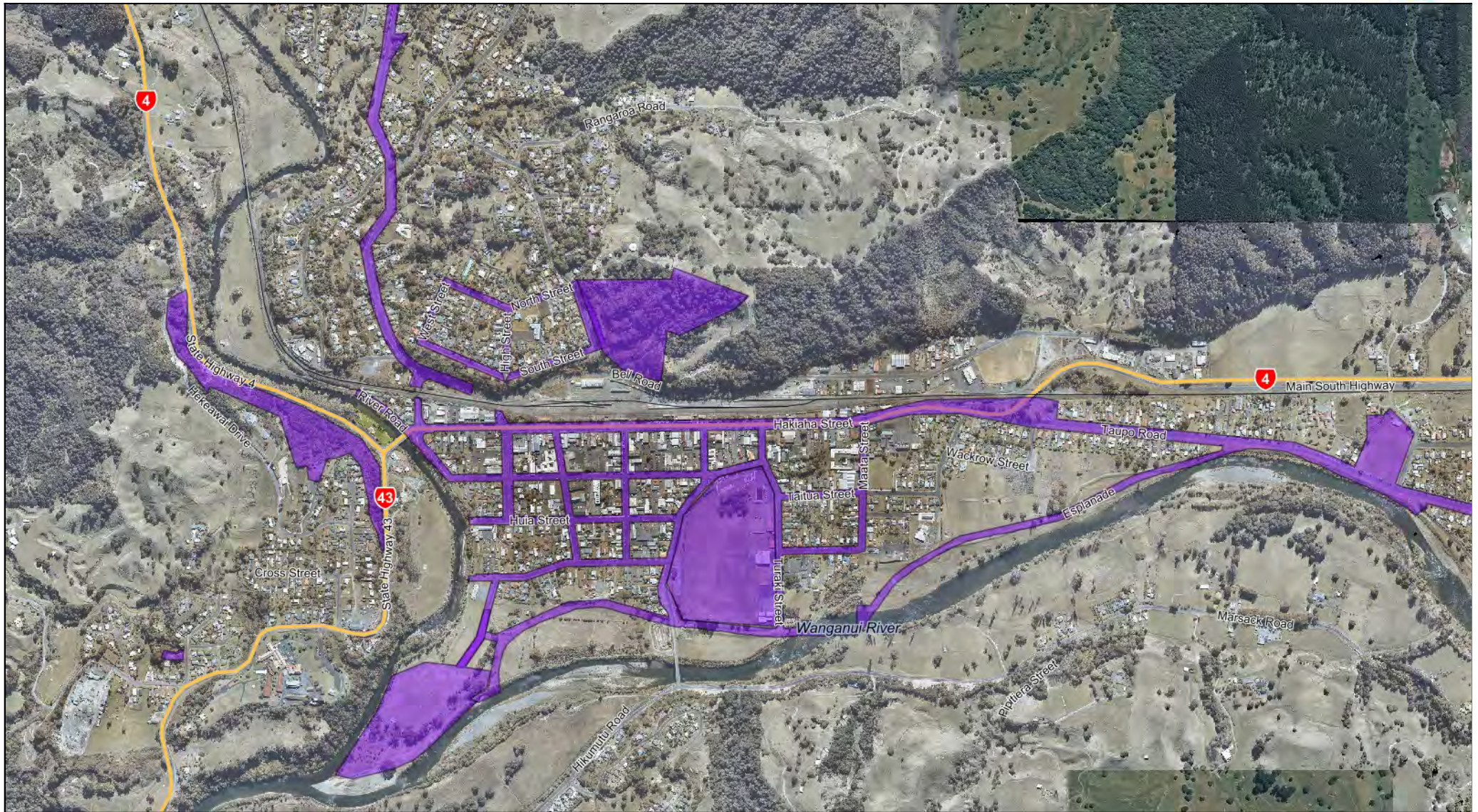
7. Policy Version Control

| | |
|---|---|
| Policy drafted by | Policy Team |
| Policy reviewed by | Acting Executive Manager Finance, Strategy & Governance |
| Policy reviewed and recommended by the Information System Governance Group (ISGG) | N/A |
| Policy reviewed and recommended by the Audit and Assurance Committee | N/A |
| Policy reviewed and adopted by Council | 15 December 2023 |



Taumarunui

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Print Time: 3:36 PM



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Original Sheet Size A4

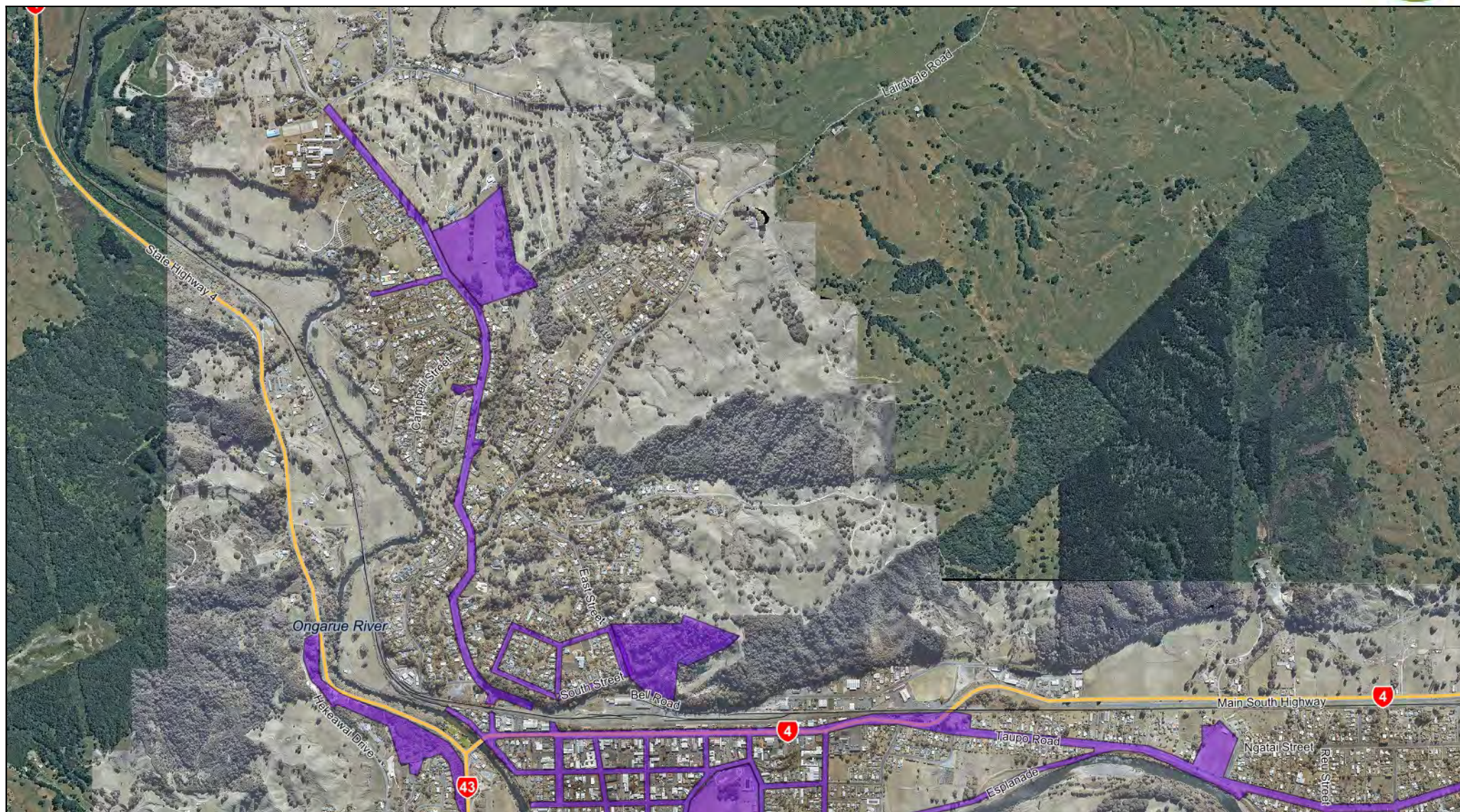
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Taumarunui

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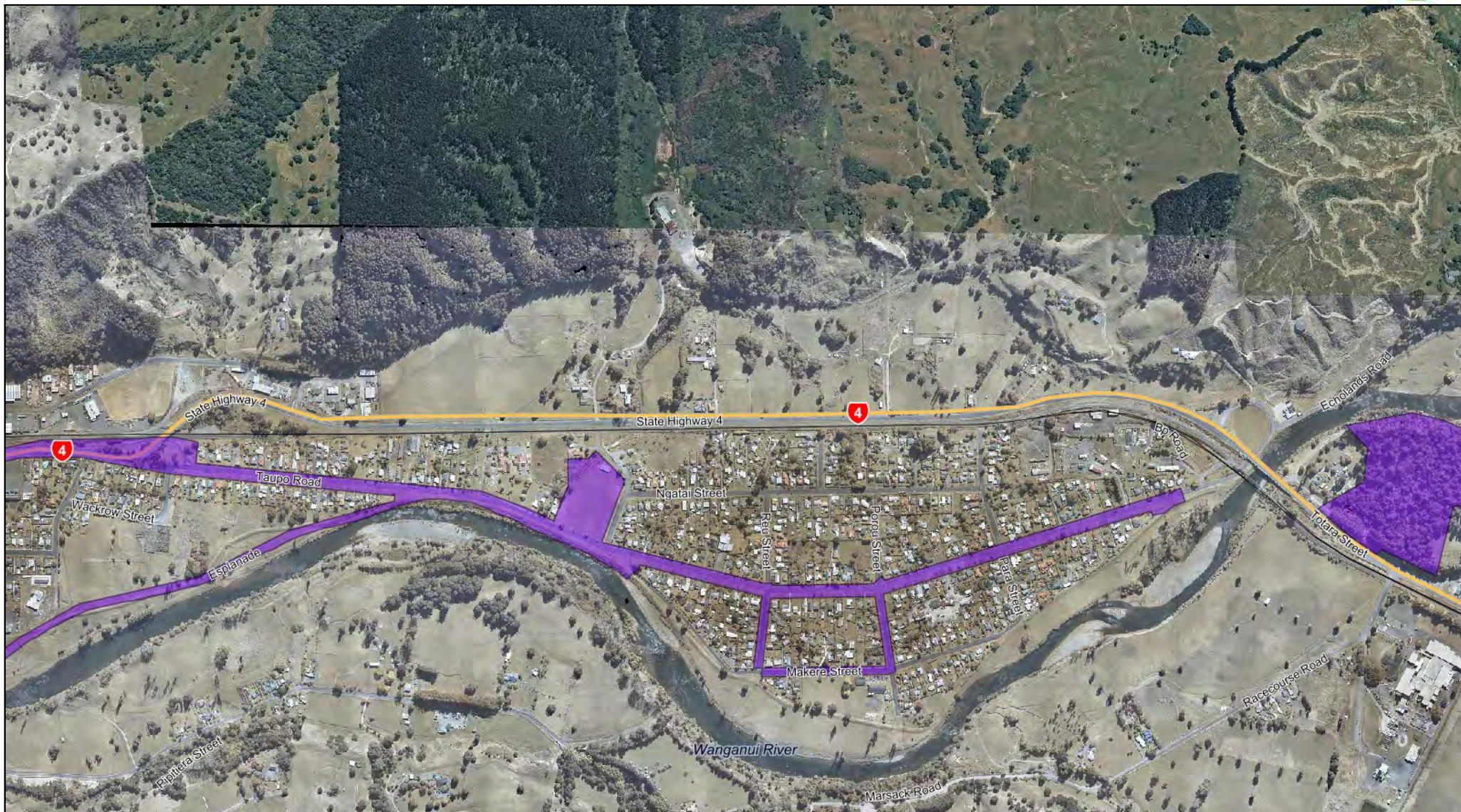
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Matapuna

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Manunui

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National Park

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Ohakune

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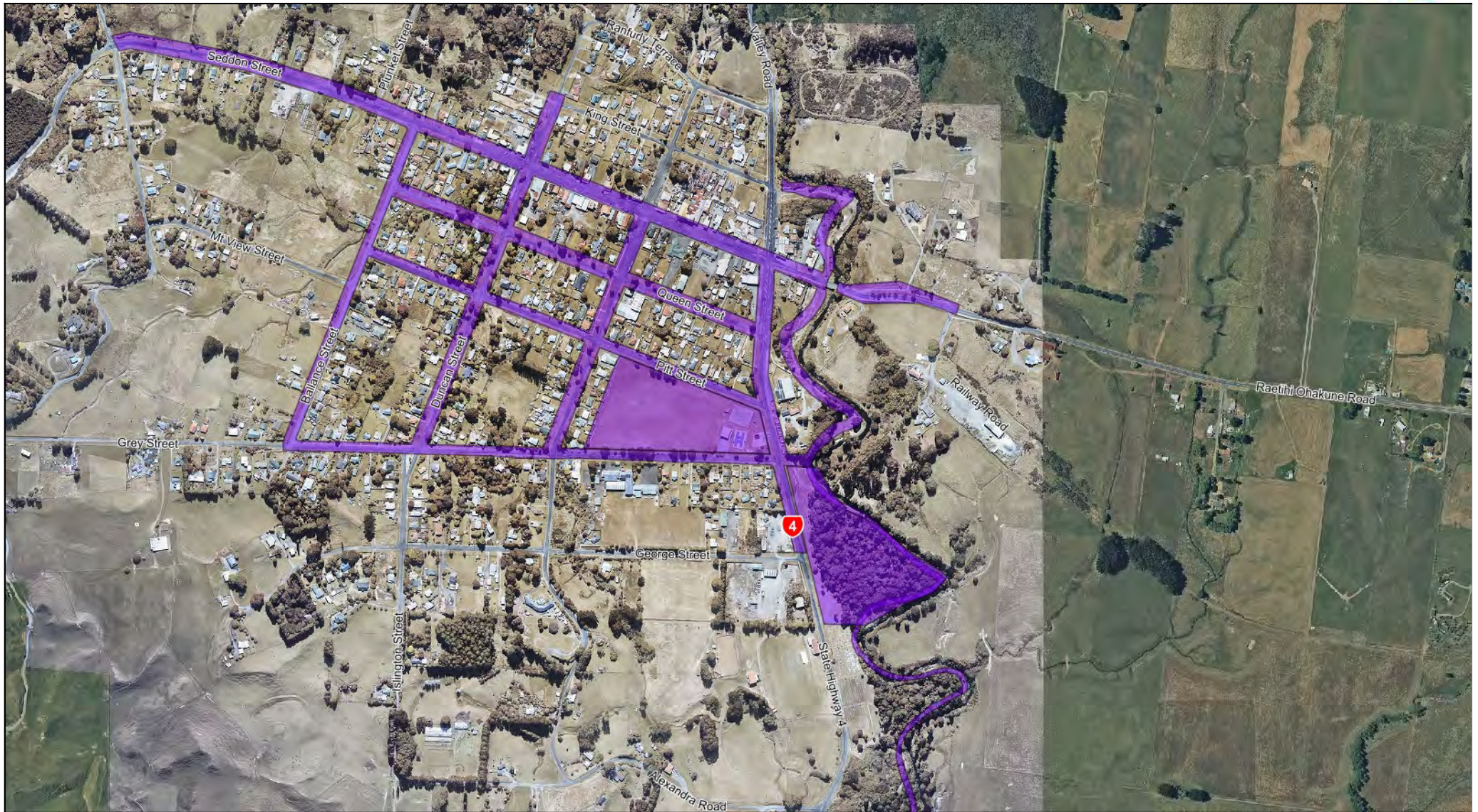
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Raetihi

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Waiouru

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Matiere

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Ohura

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Report to: Council

Meeting Date: 15 December 2023



Subject: Waste Management and Minimisation Plan Update

Report for: Decision

Authors: Anne-Marie Westcott **ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER**
Melissa Jackson **MANAGER POLICY & STRATEGY**

Endorsed By: Vini Dutra **EXECUTIVE MANAGER: INFRASTRUCTURE**

Purpose of Report | Te take mō te pūrongo

- 1 The purpose of this report is to update the Council on the progress of the review of Ruapehu District Council's Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP).

Executive Summary | Whakarāpopototanga matua

- 2.1 The Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA) requires territorial authorities (TAs) to promote effective and efficient waste management and minimisation within their district¹.
- 2.2 This is achieved by the requirement to have a WMMP² and to complete a review of existing WMMPs no later than six years after the last review³. Ruapehu District Council (Council) last reviewed its WMMP in 2018.
- 2.3 The review of a WMMP requires a Waste Assessment⁴, which was completed in August 2023. The Waste Assessment (WA) looked at all aspects of waste management in the Ruapehu district.
- 2.4 Council Officers have been working with consultants Morrison Low in relation to the review of the Council's current 2018-2028 WMMP. The results of the WA and the initial review of the WMMP were workshopped with the Council on 30 August 2023. A copy of the WA was provided to Councillors ahead of the workshop; however, it is also attached to this report for ease of reference.
- 2.5 As part of the review process, Council must consult with the relevant Medical Officer of Health⁵ within its area regarding the results of the WA. Due to the geographical location of the Ruapehu district, this part of the process involves two Medical Officers of Health: one from Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand Waikato and one from Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand Whanganui. That process has been completed.
- 2.6 Council Officers now seek the Council's endorsement to prepare a new WMMP, in accordance with section 43(3) of the WMA. The new WMMP will include consideration of the results of the WA and the Medical Officers of Health feedback.

¹ Section 42, Waste Minimisation Act 2008.

² Section 43(1), Waste Minimisation Act 2008.

³ Section 50, Waste Minimisation Act 2008.

⁴ Section 51, Waste Minimisation Act 2008.

⁵ Ibid.

- 2.7 If Council Officer's recommended option is endorsed by the Council, the 2018-2028 WMMP will be revoked and substituted with a new WMMP, in accordance with section 43(3) of the WMA, at the June 2024 meeting of the Council.

Recommendation(s) | Ngā tūhunga

That the Council:

- 1 Receives the Report **Waste Management and Minimisation Plan Update**.
 - 2 Notes that Ruapehu District Council has completed a Waste Assessment dated August 2023, as required under section 51 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008; and has consulted with the necessary Medical Officers of Health in relation to that Waste Assessment.
 - 3 Considers its 2018-2028 Waste Management and Minimisation Plan in light of the August 2023 Waste Assessment; and
 - 4A Instructs Council Officers to proceed with Option 1: the preparation of a new Waste Management and Minimisation Plan, in accordance with section 43(3) of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008;
- OR**
- 4B Instructs Council Officers to proceed with Option 2: the amendment of Council's current 2018-2028 Waste Management and Minimisation Plan, in accordance with section 43(3) of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008.

Well-Being Outcomes

In accordance with Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA): the purpose of Local Government is to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future.

Refer: [Pūwhenua ki Ruapehu Portal](#)

| | Contributes | Detracts | No Impact |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 3.1 Social: Safe, healthy communities | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Council promotes wellbeing in the Ruapehu district by providing infrastructure and services which enable waste minimisation and participation in a circular economy, rather than disposing of waste materials into the environment.

| | Contributes | Detracts | No Impact |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 3.2 Economic: Thriving economy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

The receipt of the WA is the first step in understanding how waste is generated in the Ruapehu district. The development of a new WMMP will require a mixture of capital and operational funding. Without a new WMMP, Council may not be granted its waste disposal levy from the Ministry for the Environment (MfE). Provision of new funding and revenue from the waste disposal levy has been considered in the development of the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan budget (which is yet to be workshopped with the Council at the date of writing this report). Some projects and expected actions have been scoped in later years of the Long Term Plan due to funding constraints.

| | Contributes | Detracts | No Impact |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 3.3 Environmental: Sustaining beautiful environments | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

The WMMP contributes to the vision of a sustainable circular economy and aligns to the Aotearoa New Zealand Waste Strategy. Waste to landfill reduction will reduce the emission of greenhouse gases from landfills, which are having negative effects on our climate.

| | Contributes | Detracts | No Impact |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 3.4 Cultural: Vibrant and diverse living | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

The WA sets out where waste from the Ruapehu district goes. This information enables the development of a new WMMP. The development of a new WMMP provides opportunities to work directly with Māori, and the rest of the community of the Ruapehu district, in the delivery of this recommended new plan, which will support vibrant and diverse living in the Ruapehu district.

Significance and Engagement | Takenga mai

4.1 Significance

This report triggers Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

4.2 Engagement

Notwithstanding the Council's decision to proceed with option 1 or option 2 (as outlined later in this report), the community of the Ruapehu district will be consulted regarding the WMMP⁶ using the special consultative procedure (SCP) set out in section 83 of the LGA.

Background | Tuhinga

- 5.1 The WMA requires that all TAs adopt a WMMP. The WMA requires TAs to complete a review of their existing WMMP no later than six years after the last WMMP review. A WA is also required every 6 years.
- 5.2 The review of a WMMP is a decision point⁷ on the need to change the current WMMP or to develop a new WMMP after a WA is completed.
- 5.3 Undertaking a WA informs (and includes) the review of the current WMMP. Section 51 of the WMA outlines the requirements of a WA for TAs, which must include:
- A description of the collection, recycling, recovery, treatment, and disposal services provided within the TA's area.
 - A forecast of future demands.
 - A statement of options available to meet the forecast demands with an assessment of the suitability of each option.
 - A statement of the TA's intended role in meeting the forecast demands.
 - A statement of the TA's proposals for meeting the forecast demands.
 - A statement about the extent to which the proposals will protect public health and promote effective and efficient waste management and minimisation.
- 5.4 The August 2023 WA that has been completed for the Ruapehu district is informed by central government legislation, strategy, wider government work programmes (including Aotearoa

⁶ Section 44, Waste Minimisation Act 2008.

⁷ Section 43(3), Waste Minimisation Act 2008.

New Zealand's Emissions Reduction Plan), and New Zealand's climate change obligations at a global level.

5.5 The WA also considers the regional and local planning and service context, and the extent to which waste management and minimisation protects public health.

5.6 Key in the strategic context is Te rautaki para, the revised New Zealand Waste Strategy. The vision of the 2023 New Zealand Waste Strategy is:

“By 2050, Aotearoa New Zealand is a low-emissions, low-waste society, built upon a circular economy.

We cherish our inseparable connection with the natural environment and look after the planet's finite resources with care and responsibility”.

5.7 The WMMP review recommends setting a specific vision for a new WMMP that explicitly aligns with the strategic direction of Te rautaki para, as required by legislation.

5.8 Te rautaki para is supported by requirements to standardise household kerbside recycling collections across the country, released at the same time as the national strategy. While Ruapehu household kerbside recycling collections meets these requirements, some website content and advertising brochures will need to be updated by 1 February 2024. If TAs are non-compliant by the various due dates, MfE will withhold waste disposal levy payments and retrospective payments will not be available.

5.9 The WA must also be provided to the relevant Medical Officer of Health and include their feedback under Section 51 of the WMA. The Ruapehu District extends across the Waikato and Whanganui Health Boards requiring the assessment of two Medical Officers of Health. This process has been completed and the feedback letters have been provided as attachments to this report. This completes that legislative requirement.

5.10 Under Section 50(3) of the WMA, Council must decide, by resolution, whether to continue, amend, or revoke and substitute the existing WMMP with a new WMMP, before 30 December 2023 to be compliant and meet the legislative six-year timeframe⁸. For clarity, the review process does not need to be completed by 30 December, only the decision as to what option Council prefers needs to be made by 30 December 2023.

5.11 In addition to the consideration of the results of the WA, in Council Officers' option, a new WMMP would be required due to legislative changes that have occurred since the adoption of the current WMMP, and due to the adoption of the Aotearoa New Zealand Waste Strategy. Moreover, many of the action points contained in the current WMMP have been completed so new action points are now required to ensure the Ruapehu district continues to make good progress in the waste management and minimisation space.

5.12 The proposed new WMMP will incorporate the Ministry of Health Officer letters into the draft WMMP under a public health protection section.

5.13 Council was presented with the Ruapehu Waste Assessment Report (WA) findings and a draft WMMP 2024-2030 at a workshop on 30 August 2023. This provided important guidance for inputs into the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan (LTP).

⁸ Section 50, Waste Minimisation Act 2008.

- 5.14 The WMA requires that the statutory Special Consultative Process (SCP) is used for a new WMMP (or significant revisions to an existing WMMP). This important process will be completed alongside the LTP consultation from Tuesday 2 April to Friday 3 May 2024.

Discussion | He Kōrerorero

6 REVIEW OF RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL'S 2018-2028 WASTE MANAGEMENT AND MINIMISATION PLAN

- 6.1 As advised earlier in this report, if Ruapehu District Council decides not to review the current WMMP, MfE may choose to retain the waste disposal levy funding.

6.2 Options for Council consideration:

6.3 Option 1: Develop a new Waste Management and Minimisation Plan.

- 6.3.1 This is Council Officers' recommended option. This option will enable Council to develop a WMMP which fully reflects the most recent WA for the district and maximises opportunities for collaboration across the region, while keeping public health front of mind by considering both sets of Medical Officer of Health feedback.

- 6.3.2 Furthermore, developing a new WMMP that fully reflects Te rautaki para and the wider central government work programme and strategic/legislative context will put Council in an excellent position to be able to ensure that the Ruapehu District continues to make good progress in the waste management and minimisation space.

- 6.3.3 For clarity, this option will involve the revocation of the current WMMP and the substitution of a new WMMP.

6.4 Option 2: Retain Council's 2018-2028 Waste Management and Minimisation Plan.

- 6.4.1 This is not Council Officers' recommended option. This option would involve the amendment of the current WMMP. Amending, rather than substituting the current WMMP with a new WMMP, would not allow a holistic approach to waste management and minimisation in the Ruapehu district. As discussed throughout this report, there have been considerable changes to the wider central government work programme in this space, which includes strategic and legislative changes. These changes should be included throughout the WMMP. Simply amending the current WMMP would not allow for the holistic integration of these changes.

- 6.4.2 Council has also made good progress in relation to most of the goals and objectives outlined in the 2018-2028 WMMP, so a new approach is necessary in order to ensure that the Ruapehu District continues to make good progress in the waste management and minimisation space.

- 6.4.3 If Council decides to proceed with Option 2, which may not comply with the current requirements under the WMA, this could result in Council losing its waste disposal levy funding.

7.1 CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMUNITY

- 7.2 Council is required to consult with its community when preparing, amending, or revoking its WMMP⁹. The consultation process required is the SCP set out in section 83 of the LGA.
- 7.3 It is proposed to undertake the consultation alongside the 2024-2034 LTP consultation, from Tuesday 2 April through to Friday 3 May 2024.
- 7.4 To meet the principals of consultation under Section 82 of the LGA the following steps will be taken:
- (a) Access to relevant information will be provided to the community regarding the WMMP in a clear and timely manner.
 - (b) Options and analysis will be provided to the community to form their decision.
 - (c) Affected parties will be provided the opportunity to be heard.
 - (d) Views of the public will be received with an open mind and given due consideration.
 - (e) A clear record and description of the decisions made by Council will be made accessible to all parties.
- 7.5 A consultation plan is in development and will include targeted consultation with the Ruapehu district's Māori community.

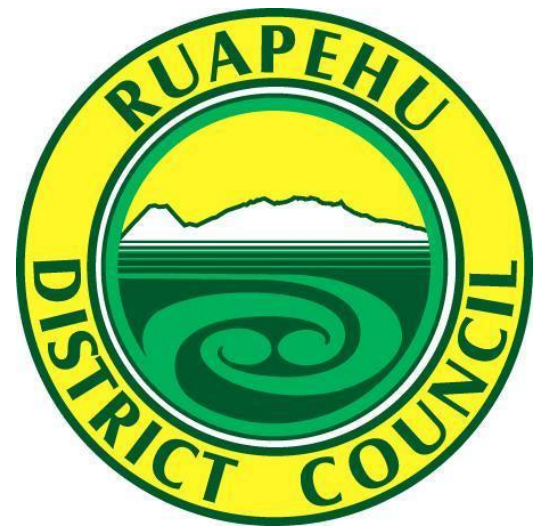
Next Actions | Ngā mahinga e whai ake nei

- 8.1 Council Officers will proceed with the necessary work required to execute the Option that the Council endorse in relation to the WMMP.
- 8.2 Council Officers will finalise the community consultation plan in relation to the WMMP with the intention of consulting with the community regarding the WMMP alongside the LTP consultation next year.
- 8.3 The draft WMMP Consultation Document will be workshopped with the Council early next year, alongside the draft LTP Consultation Document.
- 8.4 The confirmed final draft WMMP will be brought to the Council for approval and formal adoption prior to public release.

Attachment(s) | Ngā āpitihanga

- 1 Ruapehu District Council's August 2023 Waste Assessment
- 2 Waste Assessment Feedback Letter from Medical Officer of Health Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand Waikato
- 3 Waste Assessment Feedback Letter from Medical Officer of Health Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand Whanganui

⁹ Section 44(e), Waste Minimisation Act 2008.



Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ruapehu

Ruapehu District Council

Waste Assessment

December 2023

**Document status**

| Job # | Version | Written | Reviewed | Approved | Report Date |
|-------|-------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 2850 | Draft, v1 | Darren Tiddy | Alice Grace | Alice Grace | 11 August 2023 |
| 2850 | Final issued | Darren Tiddy | Alice Grace | Alice Grace | 17 August 2023 |
| 2850 | Attachments added | Darren Tiddy | Alice Grace | Alice Grace | 6 December 2023 |

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1 Introduction

Territorial authorities are legally required to conduct a Waste Assessment and consider it in the review and preparation of their Waste Management and Minimisation Plans (WMMP). The Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA) (s44) also requires that a Waste Assessment be notified with the draft WMMP for public consultation. This process is required every six years. This Waste Assessment is prepared for Ruapehu District Council (RDC).

The recently announced New Zealand Waste Strategy (NZWS) provides a clear national strategy and targets for territorial authorities to work towards (MfE, 2023a). This Waste Assessment provides a planning foundation for the updated WMMP draft prior to public consultation. RDC previously published a WMMP in November 2017 that will be updated based on this Waste Assessment, incorporate the NZWS and provide a clear waste management and minimisation plan going forward. The finalised WMMP will inform the development of the next Long Term Plan (LTP). This Waste Assessment was prepared as prescribed in section 51 of the WMA, including details of:

- Existing waste services and facilities provided in Ruapehu District Council,
- Waste quantities, composition, and flows,
- Identified waste issues,
- Forecast future demand,
- Councils' vision, goals, objectives and targets for waste management and minimisation,
- Assessment of options to address the identified waste issues (a statement of proposals).

1.1 The Ruapehu District

The Ruapehu District is in the Manawatū-Whanganui Region. It shares borders with Taupo, Waitomo Stratford Whanganui and Rangitikei District Councils. It falls within Horizons Regional Council's regional boundary. Local iwi and hapu have input into local decision making through the Māori Wards. It has an estimated residential population of 12,948 as of September 2021.

The district has three small urban areas; Taumarunui, Ohakune and Raetihi which represents approximately 57% of the population. Taumarunui and Raetihi have larger usually resident populations, whereas Ohakune and National Park have a larger proportion of holiday homes. This has an influence on waste volumes during peak visitor periods.

The district also has six rural settlements classified by StatsNZ, these are Ōhura, National Park, Raurimu, Ōwhango, Rangataua and Waiōuru. Waiōuru is adjacent to the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) base. The Karioi Pulpmill is centred between Waiōuru and Ohakune. Rural households account for around 43% of the population.

1.2 Data availability and accuracy

The tonnage information in this document was prepared using data gathered from Ruapehu District Council records, the recent Solid Waste Analysis Protocol (SWAP) reports and Council's 2018-2028 WMMP.

The data presented in this document does not represent all the waste and diverted materials generated in the district. The amount of waste and diverted material can only be determined from the data managed by the Council and its contracted waste services providers. Only limited data was available from the private and



commercial sector.

It is acknowledged a Waste Assessment is only a snapshot in time of the data collected for the purposes of future waste planning and preparation of the WMMP. Every effort has been made to provide a complete and accurate assessment. In some cases, data has been estimated or there are data gaps such as the volume and composition of privately collected rubbish. Details regarding any limiting factors in preparing the Waste Assessment that are deemed to have materially impacted on the completeness or accuracy of the data, forecasts, estimates or options assessment have been noted where appropriate.

The information contained in this Waste Assessment was considered appropriate when giving regard to:

- The significance of the information,
- The costs of, and difficulty in, obtaining the information,
- The extent of Councils resources,
- The possibility Councils may be directed under the Health Act 1956 to provide the services referred to in that Act.

1.3 Acronyms

| Key Term/Acronym | Definition |
|------------------|--|
| AIP | Action and Investment Plan |
| CERF | Climate Emergency Response Fund |
| CRS | Container return scheme |
| ETS | Emissions Trading Scheme |
| LGA | Local Government Act |
| LTP | Long Term Plan |
| MfE | The Ministry for the Environment |
| MRF | Material Recovery Facility |
| NES | National Environmental Standards |
| NRC | Northland Regional Council |
| NZWS | New Zealand Waste Strategy 2023 |
| PA | Per Annum |
| RDC | Ruapehu District Council |
| RMA | Resource Management Act 1991 |
| RRP/RRC | Resource Recovery Park/Centre |
| RTS | Refuse Transfer Station |
| SWAP | Solid Waste Analysis Protocol (SWAP). Ministry for the Environment-led baseline programme to provide solid waste composition information |



| Key Term/Acronym | Definition |
|------------------|--|
| TA | Territorial Authority as defined in the Local Government Act 2002 as a city or district council |
| WA | Waste Assessment as defined by Section 51 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008. |
| WMA | Waste Minimisation Act 2008 |
| WMF | Waste Minimisation Fund |
| WMMP | Waste Management and Minimisation Plan as defined in Section 43 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 |

2 Legislative and Strategic Context

This section contains a short summary of the legislative and strategic context within which RDC will develop their Waste Assessment and WMMP.

2.1 Key legislation

The legal framework for waste management and minimisation in New Zealand is found in the combination of several Acts of Parliament. These Acts provide the legislative imperative and tools to support progress toward the high-level direction outlined in the NZWS. Therefore, careful attention is given to these in developing the Waste Assessment. The Acts that drive waste management and minimisation planning are:

- Waste Minimisation Act 2008.
- Climate Change Response Act 2002.
- Climate Change Response (Emissions Trading Reform) Amendment Act 2020.
- The Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019.
- Local Government Act 2002.
- Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA, as well as District and Regional Plans and designations and consents).
- Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996.
- Health Act 1956.
- Litter Act 1979.
- Health and Safety at Work Act 2015.

It is noted that the RMA, WMA, and Litter Act 1979 are currently being revised or replaced with new legislation. Appendix B provides links to the primary legislation for further information.

2.2 New Zealand Waste Strategy

Waste management and minimisation in New Zealand is underpinned by the Government's 2023 NZWS. The NZWS sets out the long-term policy priorities for waste management and minimisation and has a vision for 2050:

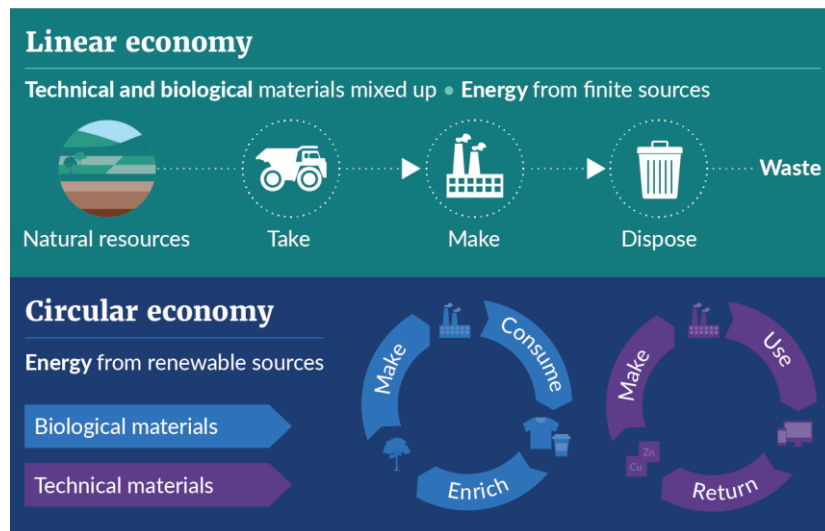
By 2050, New Zealand is a low-emissions, low-waste circular economy.
We cherish our inseparable connection with the natural environment and look after the planet's finite resources with care and responsibility.

When developing updated targets and WMMPs, Councils must take into account the targets set in the NZWS. These targets encompass both kerbside waste, which focuses on standardised recycling, and the broader waste streams. Together, these NZWS targets play a vital role in guiding local councils' waste management initiatives. They highlight the importance of waste reduction, recycling and diversion across both kerbside waste and the broader waste streams. Achieving these targets will contribute to a more sustainable and environmentally conscious waste management system that benefits both present and future generations.

2.2.1 Linear and circular economies

Taking natural resources, making them into something, using and then disposing of it – is referred to as a 'linear economy'. In contrast, a 'circular economy' is a system where extracted materials are used and reused for as long as possible. For technical or synthetic materials, the ideal scenario is that they are reused forever. Biological (organic) materials will eventually be returned to the soil to enrich it (see Figure 1).

Figure 1 Characteristics of linear and circular economies



The Ellen MacArthur Foundation has led international thinking on the circular economy since it was created in 2010. This is the Foundation's description of the circular economy:

The circular economy is based on three principles, driven by design:

- *Eliminate waste and pollution,*
- *Circulate produce and materials (at their highest value),*
- *Regenerate nature.*

It is underpinned by a transition to renewable energy and materials. A circular economy decouples economic activity from the consumption of finite resources. It is a resilient system that is good for business, people and the environment (Ellen MacArthur Foundation, n.d.)

Committing Aotearoa New Zealand to a circular economy means we stay in step with many of our major trading partners. We have already committed to developing a full circular economy and bioeconomy strategy in the emissions reduction plan. The NZWS is an essential first step. It builds on internationally recognised circular economy principles and adapts them for our context.

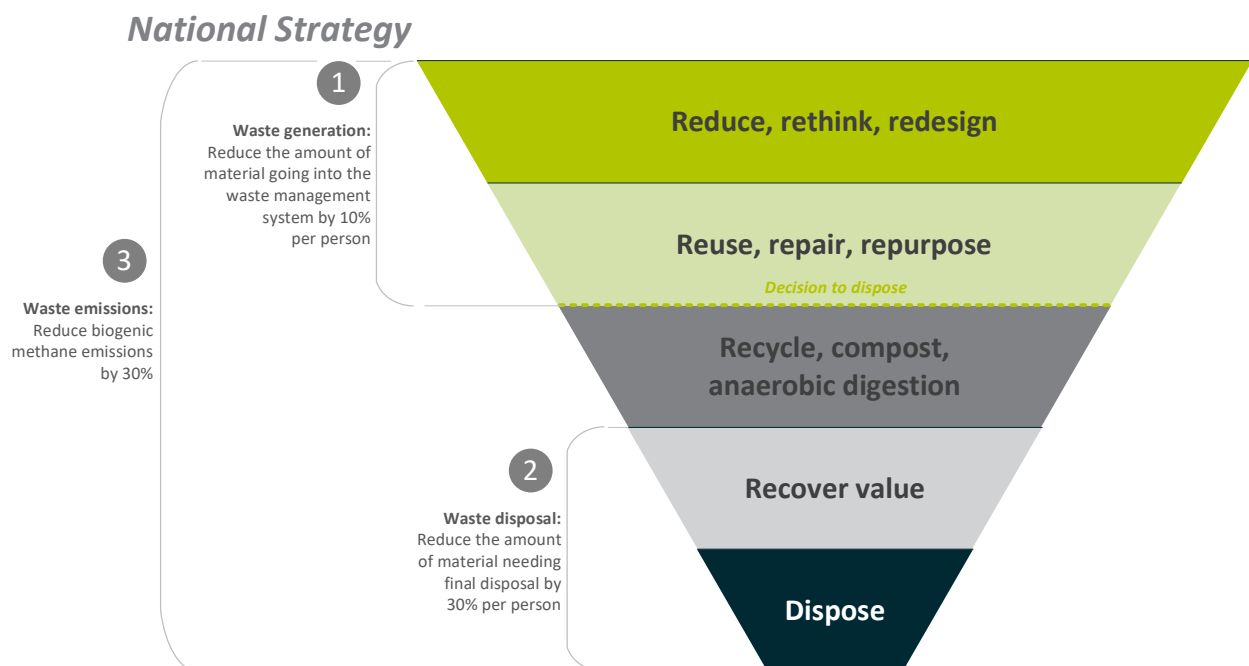
2.2.2 National targets

The NZWS sets three national targets to be achieved by 2030:

- Waste generation: reduce the amount of material entering the waste management system, by 10 per cent per person.
- Waste disposal: reduce the amount of material that needs final disposal, by 30 per cent per person.
- Waste emissions: reduce the biogenic methane emissions from waste, by at least 30 per cent.

The three goals above are illustrated in Figure 2 in relation to the waste hierarchy.

Figure 2 NZWS waste hierarchy with national targets





2.2.3 National goals

The NZWS has the following eight goals:

1. **Systems:**
The Strategic planning, regulatory, investment and engagement systems are in place and operating to drive and support change.
2. **Infrastructure:**
We have a comprehensive national network of facilities supporting the collection and circular management of products and materials.
3. **Responsibility and accountability:**
We all take responsibility for how we produce, manage and dispose of things, and are accountable for our actions and their consequences.
4. **Using less:**
We use fewer products and materials, and using them for longer, by making them more durable, and repairing, reusing, sharing and repurposing them.
5. **Resource recovery systems:**
Resource recovery systems are operating effectively for core materials and across all regions.
6. **Recovering value:**
We look for ways to recover any remaining value from residual waste, sustainably and without increasing emissions, before final disposal.
7. **Emissions:**
Emissions from waste are reducing in line with our domestic and international commitments.
8. **Contaminated land:**
Contaminated land is sustainably managed and remediated, to reduce waste and emissions and enhance the environment.

2.2.4 Local government actions

The NZWS includes the following actions for local government:

- Get involved in implementing the NZWS and the process to develop an action and investment plan (AIP). Use the NZWS as the starting point for their next WMMP.
- Look for opportunities to work with other councils on new, or expanded, facilities and services that will contribute to a national network for circular management of resources.
- Support local community groups and non-governmental organisations with their initiatives to reduce waste.
- Link with national behaviour change programmes to support and expand the reach of your local activity.
- Make sure that planning and consenting processes take account of the need for waste management infrastructure and services.
- Plan and resource the work needed to identify and manage vulnerable landfills and other contaminated sites.



Note that councils will need to align their next WMMPs with the NZWS. Once the AIP is developed, they will also need to align to it. As such, the AIP will inform later WMMP reviews e.g. 2029 for Ruapehu District Council. In the meantime, the government's early investment signals through the Waste Minimisation Fund (WMF) take priority.

2.3 National initiatives and regional collaboration

Many waste minimisation initiatives are more suitably implemented at a national level. Work here is needed with the national bodies, such as WasteMINZ and the Ministry for the Environment (MfE), to encourage ongoing support for and the implementation of national waste minimisation activities through a coordinated advocacy approach to government and industry. National initiatives include:

- Development of the government's first AIP 2024-2028.
- Government investment in diversion infrastructure via the Waste Minimisation Fund (WMF) and Climate Emergency Response Fund (CERF). The current WMF funding round focuses on organic waste diversion e.g. infrastructure for food waste collection for residents and businesses, processing facilities for food waste and other organics, and the sorting of construction and demolition (C&D) waste with a focus on timber.
- Standardisation of the kerbside collection system including:
 - Standardised list of materials collected.
 - Introduction of kerbside recycling collection in urban areas by 2027.
 - Introduction of kerbside organics collection by 2030.
 - Meeting minimum targets; including diversion of 50% of kerbside waste by 2030.
- Establishment of a Container Return Scheme (CRS) for beverage containers. This has been deferred but may be re-introduced following the 2023 national elections.
- Banning of specific grades of plastics for packaging and some single-use plastics.
- Introduction of priority product stewardship schemes e.g. tyres, agrichemicals, e-waste and plastic packaging.
- Ongoing implementation of increases to the Waste Disposal Levy and Emissions Trading Scheme costs, as well as expansion of the Levy application to Class 2-5 Landfills (e.g. construction and demolition, managed or controlled fill and cleanfill disposal facilities).
- Introduction of the mandatory reporting (transfer stations, collections) using an agreed National Waste Data Framework.

Regional collaboration exists in the form of the Central North Island Waste Group. This semi-formal working group has been established to share examples of good practice, share resources and seek opportunities for joint working arrangements.

2.4 Ruapehu District Council Strategic Plans and Regulations

In addition to national legislation, strategies, plans and initiatives, the district has local strategies, plans and regulations that govern waste management and minimisation. This includes the District's previous WMMP developed for the period 2018-2028 and its previous Long Term Plan (LTP) developed for the period 2021-2031. The district also manages solid waste assets in the Community, Property, Recreation and Facilities Asset Management Plan 2021-2031 (AMP).



Council is about to prepare its 2024-2034 LTP, which will be informed by the WMMP and an update to the AMP. Extracts from existing documents are provided below as an indication of the existing strategic direction on waste.

2.4.1 Long Term Plan

RDC's vision within its Long Term Plan (LTP) 2021-2031 is:

'Drive and support development of safe, prosperous rural communities that are able to thrive and capitalise on our agriculture, business and tourism sectors while sustaining our beautiful environment.'

The plan includes Council focus to 'Improve the well-being and quality of life for our communities by':

- Creating and retaining jobs,
- Growing incomes and opportunities,
- Increasing the ratepayer base,
- Providing sustainable infrastructure,
- Providing value for money in all we do,
- Ensuring the people who benefit from council spending contribute their fair share of the costs,
- Working with government and others to gain funding for key projects so as to reduce the financial burden on Ruapehu ratepayers,
- Creating collaborative partnerships with tangata whenua.

Council proposes an updated well-being framework which is being developed for the next LTP cycle. The values which support the well-being outcomes are listed below:

- Kaitiakitanga | Guardianship
- Environmental Stewardship
- Manaakitanga | Care for others
- Whanaungatanga | Upholding relationships
- Rangatiratanga | Enabling others
- Accountability

Further to the well-being framework, Council has also developed a list of roles they play in bringing about these benefits. Council promotes wellbeing in our district by serving in these roles:

- As partner – We work together to get the job done.
- Advocate and Influencer – We speak up for the things that matter.
- Service Provider – We provide services that make community life better.
- Connector – We put the right people in touch with each other.
- Funder – We make local money go further.
- Regulator – We keep our communities safe.

These roles above link with waste services, facilities, and the role of Council in bringing about change and will be further incorporated into the next WMMP.

2.4.2 Regulatory functions

In addition to managing waste facility assets and providing services, RDC also holds other regulatory



responsibilities and powers in relation to waste, including:

- Management of litter and combating illegal dumping, governed by the Litter Act 1979.
- Enforcement of trade waste requirements.
- Implementation of nuisance-related bylaws.

Whilst targeted education programmes are typically more effective in influencing residents and businesses to embrace desired behaviours, it is acknowledged that enforcement actions represent a requisite contingency when alternative strategies have been fully employed.

2.4.3 Solid Waste Bylaw

The WMA requires councils to review their waste bylaws at least every ten years. Waste-related bylaws must not be inconsistent with a council's WMMP, which is reviewed every six years. With a review of RDC's WMMP to be completed in 2023, Council will need to ensure that the existing waste bylaws remain fit for purpose. The Council's waste bylaws are included within the Ruapehu Bylaw 2022. A separate solid waste bylaw was proposed, but the adoption of this has been deferred until the 2024-2030 WMMP is published. Changes to the WMA may also require waste bylaws to be updated once the new legislation is passed, which MfE have indicated could be by 2025 (MfE, 2023). It is therefore proposed that a waste bylaw is not progressed further until after the new legislation has been introduced.

3 Existing Facilities and Services

This section includes a summary of information regarding waste management and minimisation services and facilities provided in the Ruapehu District. This includes Council services and private and commercial services, where known and applicable. An illustration of waste material sources, collection routes and transfer between council facilities, end markets and residual disposal is provided in Figure 3.

3.1 Council provided facilities and services

Council provides residential kerbside collections for refuse, recycling and food waste. The refuse collection service is user-pays through the sale of pink rubbish bags. These bags are collected at the kerbside from approximately 3,970 households in the three main urban centres, while rural residents can drop-off refuse bags at one of the six transfer stations. Residual waste is disposed of at Hampton Downs landfill in North Waikato.

Ruapehu has two large resource recovery centres, one in Taumarunui and the other in Ohakune (Waimarino). Four smaller transfers station are provided at Ongarue, National Park, Ōhura, and Ōwhango which are open half day, four days a week. Waste streams from the smaller transfer stations are transported to Taumarunui for consolidation prior to transport out of the district for resource recovery or final disposal.

Organics from kerbside food waste collections in Taumarunui, Waimarino and Waiōuru are processed at the composting facility at Taumarunui, with around 110 - 140 tonnes of compost generated per year.

Kerbside collected recyclables, and recyclables and glass received at the RRC's, are sent to end-markets by the Council's waste contractors. Waimarino RRC is operated under contract by Ethical Waste Ltd, while the kerbside collections, Taumarunui RRC, four small transfer stations, and the composting unit are contracted to EnviroNZ.

A summary of Council provided facilities and services is provided in Table 1.



Figure 3 Source and destination of waste and diverted materials in Ruapehu District Council

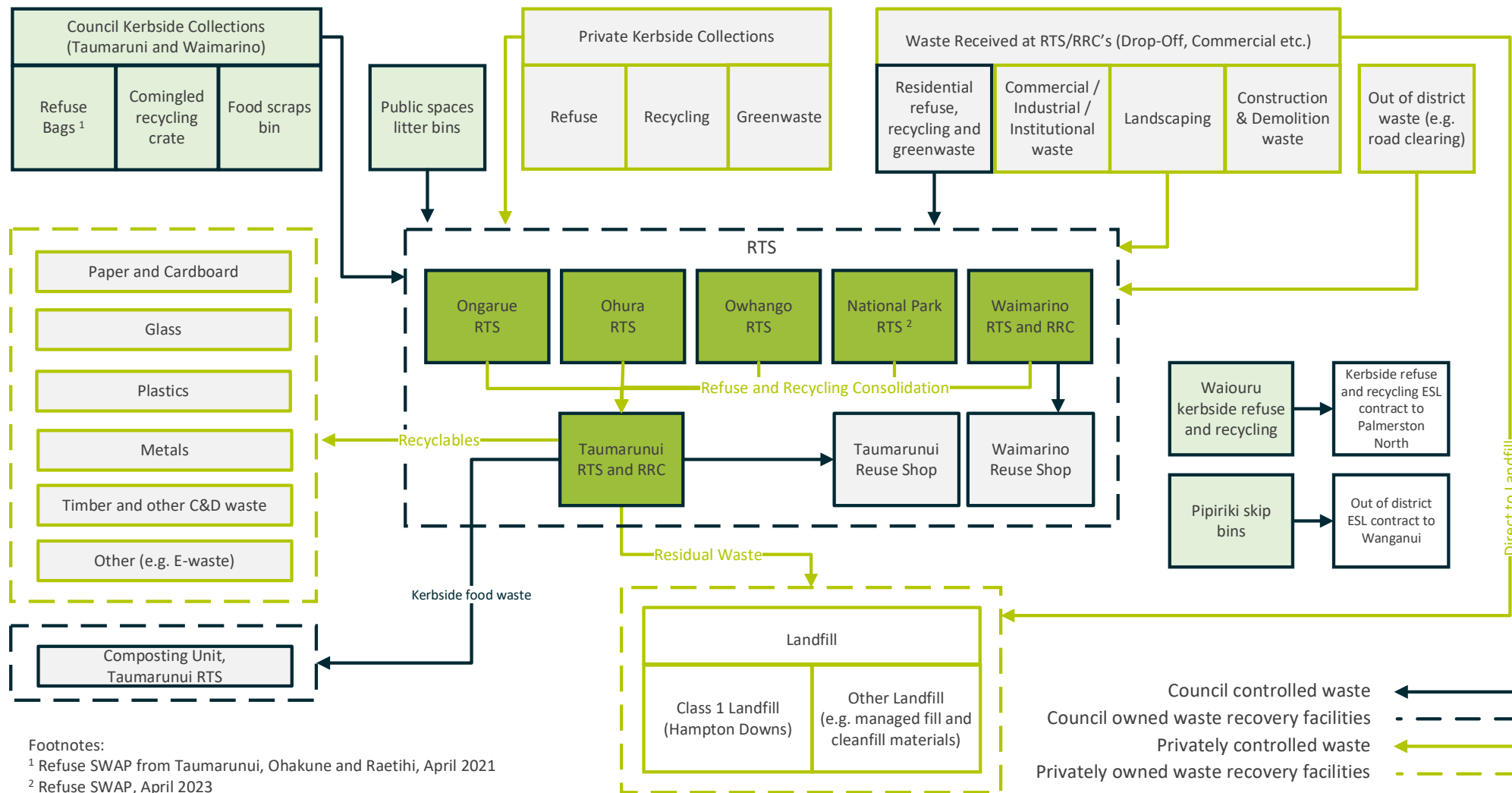




Table 1 Council provided waste facilities and services

| Service Type | Ruapehu District Council |
|--|---|
| Kerbside Collection | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekly kerbside collections in Taumarunui, Ohakune, Raetihi and Kakahi. This includes refuse (35L and 60L pink bags), comingled recycling (45L blue crate) and food waste (23L green bin). Waiōuru has kerbside collections for recycling and food waste, which is consolidated at Waimarino RRC and transport to Taumarunui RRC. Refuse collections from Waiōuru are taken out of the District. Kerbside organics collections implemented in October 2020 together with the communications (see Figure 4). |
| Transfer stations (Locations in Figure 5) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council operates six transfer stations. Four are small drop-off locations for refuse and recycling; located at Ongarue, Ōhura, National Park and Ōwhango. Pink refuse bags purchased; no fee is charged for disposal at an RTS. Non-council bags are charged fees for disposal. Most recyclable material is free to drop-off at one of the six RTS facilities, including plastics 1, 2 and 5, aluminium, scrap steel and wire, and most whiteware items (see Figure 6). Consolidation takes place at the larger central facilities, the Taumarunui and Waimarino RRC's. Both facilities also operate Reuse Shops (see Figure 7) Household quantities of hazardous waste including oils, fuels and batteries are free to dispose of at the RRC's. Disposal fees are charged for other hazardous liquids (e.g. paints, herbicides and pesticides), fluorescent tubes, gas cylinders, tyres, some e-waste (e.g. TV's, printers and photocopiers), concrete rubble and other construction and demolition waste. Transfer of refuse, recyclable and organic waste from smaller RTS' and Waimarino RRC are all consolidated at Taumarunui RRC by EnviroNZ. EnviroNZ is contracted for haulage and disposal of waste to landfill, recyclables to further processing or end markets and to operate Taumarunui RTS and composting unit. The composting unit receives food waste collections from Taumarunui, Waimarino (Ohakune and Raetihi), Waiōuru and Kakahi together with organic waste received at the Taumarunui RTS. Contractor sets gate fees (following consultation with and approved by Council). Council retains revenue from gate fees and sale of recyclables. Some RRC revenue is retained by the operators. Waste collection in Pipiriki is provided by Whanganui District Council. |
| RRC's and Reuse Shops (see Figure 6) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taumarunui RRC and composting unit operated by EnviroNZ under contract. The Reuse Shop is operated by Council staff. Waimarino RRC and Reuse Shop operated by Ethical Waste Ltd under contract. |
| Litter bin services and Illegal dumping | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This includes emptying litter bins (including standard litter bins, Big Belly bins and recycling bins) and managing illegal dumping and abandoned vehicles. Litterbins are provided by council. Litter bin services are currently contracted to Recreational Services. |
| Class 1 landfills | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no operational class 1 landfills within the District. Most residual waste is transported to Hampton Downs Landfill, with the remainder going to Bonny Glen Landfill. |
| Class 2-5 landfills | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A cleanfill (Class 5) is operating at the closed Taumarunui Landfill site. There are no other known operational class 2-5 landfills in the District. |
| Closed landfill management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seven closed landfills are managed by Council. Taumarunui Class 1 Landfill closed in 2020, Whangaehu Valley Road, Ohakune, Ohura, Ongarue, Raetihi and Ōwhango Closed Landfills. Kariori has a closed landfill, but this is not managed by Council. |
| Waste education and behaviour change | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council funds education programmes from general rates and waste levy funds. Council promotes several waste minimisation events and workshops, some by Council staff and others by private/not-for-profit groups. Waste education and behaviour change included in contracts with EnviroNZ and Ethical Waste. Council supports zero waste education programmes in local primary schools delivered by Zero Waste Education Mātauranga Para Kore and Enviroschools. |



Figure 4 Examples of kerbside food waste kit and media



Figure 5 Refuse Transfer Stations in Ruapehu

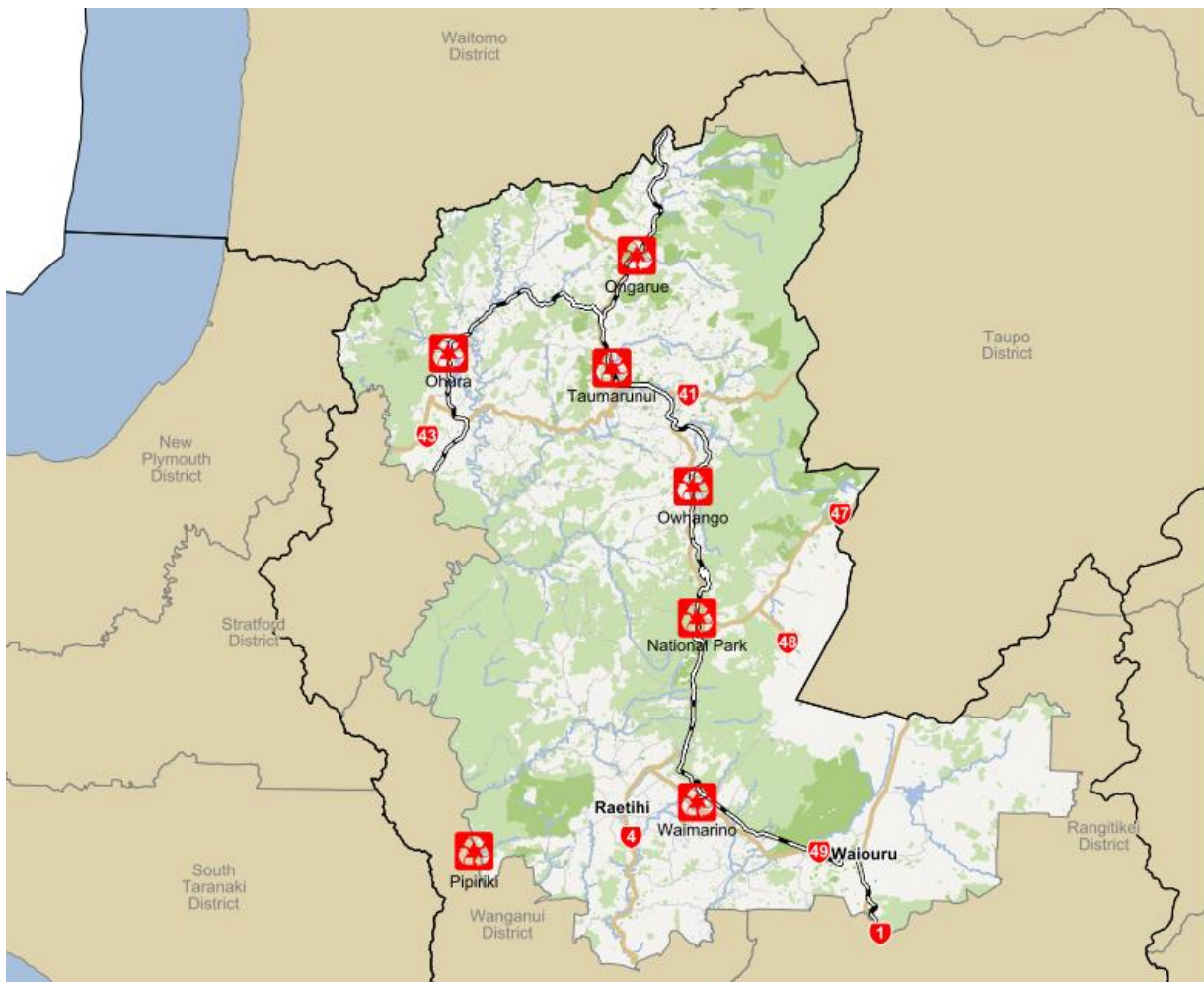


Figure 6 Taumarunui RTS recycling drop-off (top) and rural RTS drop-off facilities (bottom)



Figure 7 Taumarunui Reuse Shop (left) and Waimarino Reuse Shop in Ohakune (right).



3.2 Non-council facilities and services

Further to the kerbside services provided by Council, private operators offer user-pays kerbside refuse and greenwaste collections to residents in the district. Commercial waste operators provide waste and recycling services for most businesses in the Ruapehu District. Depending on the volume of waste generated, wheelie bins, skip bins, and front-loader bins are available. Some businesses transport their own waste and recycling out of the district using their own transport equipment.



The New Zealand Defence Force provide waste services at the Waiōuru Army Base and the Department of Conservation provide waste services in the Tongariro National Park. The extent of households that use private collections is not known.

Processing and disposal facilities, and end markets for recovered materials, are generally outside the district and privately owned. There are currently no registered operational landfills (Class 1-5) in the Ruapehu District. The majority of refuse from the District is transported out of the district to the privately-owned Hampton Downs and Bonny Glen landfills.

3.3 Product stewardship schemes

The government is focused on developing regulated schemes for six priority products: plastic packaging, tyres, e-waste including large batteries, agrichemicals and their containers, refrigerants and other synthetic greenhouse gases, and farm plastics. In addition, product stewardship schemes can register for accreditation with the government. A summary of the current product stewardship schemes that have either been accredited or regulated by the government under the WMA is outlined in Appendix D. Over time more product stewardship schemes are expected to be added to this list and some of the existing accredited schemes are moving towards becoming regulated schemes. Unregulated schemes are not included in this list.



4 Waste data

This section contains a summary of waste data available to Council. The collection and use of waste data is important for the Council to understand the quantity and composition of waste generated, collected and processed through its facilities and to ensure the services are being provided as intended. It also gives Council the ability to identify opportunities to reduce waste to landfill and measure progress against targeted improvements.

The availability of accurate and standardised waste data is crucial for monitoring progress, setting targets, and making informed decisions. Addressing the challenges of data quality and ensuring the inclusion of all waste streams will contribute to a more effective and comprehensive waste management approach. Table 2 summarises the waste streams relevant to the Ruapehu District and the availability of data to Council to enable waste management and minimisation planning. Further commentary on data accuracy was provided in Section 1.2.

Table 2 Overview of waste stream data and stakeholders for reporting

| Waste Services and Facilities | Refuse | Recycling | Organics | Other |
|--|---|--|---|---|
| Council kerbside collections | Pink bags * <i>SWAP (Apr 2021)</i> | Crates | Food waste bins | N/A |
| Refuse Transfer Stations (bags, car and trailer loads) | Inbound weighed, outbound from Taumarunui RTS to Hampton Downs Landfill * <i>SWAP (Apr 2023)</i> | Inbound weighed, outbound from Taumarunui RTS to end-markets | Inbound from kerbside collections and Taumarunui RTS weighed, organics processed on site. | Drop-off areas for E-waste, scrap metal, whiteware, C&D, hazardous waste and reuse shops. |
| Private commercial collection services | Bags, bins or skips | Bins, crates or specialised bulk recycling (e.g. cardboard flat pack bins) | Landscaping services | Specialised company-specific services |

Legend:

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| | Discrete data available to Council |
| | No current service or not applicable |
| | Private data not available to Council |

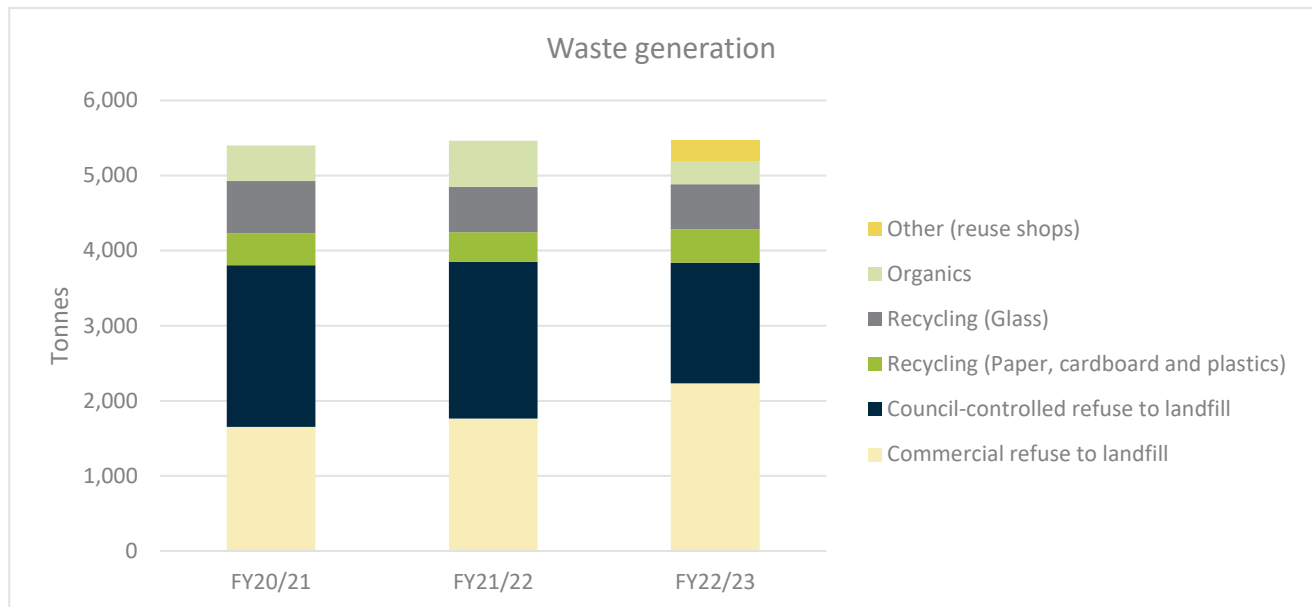
* SWAP assessments conducted on kerbside refuse and National Park refuse in April 2021 and April 2023 respectively.

4.1 Overall waste generation

The amount of Council-controlled waste generated in the District over the previous three years is shown in Figure 8. This includes waste from kerbside collections and the RTS/RRCs, and includes both refuse to landfill and material streams diverted from landfill, such as recycling and organics. Recently, waste generation has remained consistent at around tonnes per annum. Based on a population of 12,948, waste generation is calculated at 422 kg per person for the District over the previous two years.



Figure 8 Waste generation (includes commercial and Council-controlled refuse, recycling and organics)



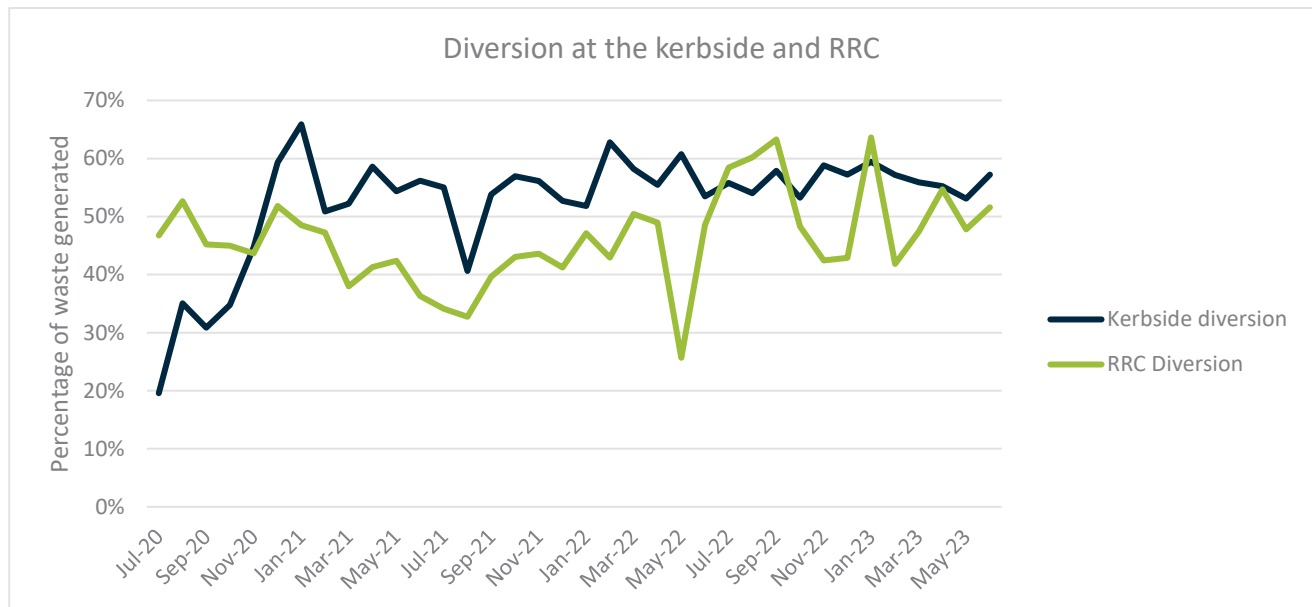
Waste diversion includes recyclable materials (such as paper, cardboard, plastics, and glass) and organics. Diversion activities occur at the kerbside, RTS' and RRCs. Organics make up 6-11% of total waste generated in the previous three years. Recyclable materials recovered represent approximately 18%-21% of the total waste generated in the previous three years.

The proportion of waste diverted from landfill has remained consistent over the last three years, at 30%. The proportion of glass in the recycling stream is high when compared to other recyclables. The volume of organics has fluctuated over the past three years. There was an increased when kerbside collection services commenced, but a downward trend since that time. These observations are discussed further in the following sections.

Comparing the kerbside and RTS/RRC diversion rates, Figure 9 illustrates waste diversion from kerbside and RRC/RTS streams per month for the financial years 2020/21 to 2022/23. Council achieved a diversion rate at the kerbside of 46%, 55% and 56% over this period. Diversion at the RTS/RRCs is more variable than kerbside, with peaks and troughs caused by fluctuations in refuse, greenwaste, glass and C&D volumes. Generally, the diversion rate has been in the range of 30% to 50% for Council-controlled waste streams.



Figure 9 Diversion rates at the kerbside and RRCs from FY20/21 to FY22/23



4.2 Volume of waste to landfill

Waste volumes from the Ruapehu District disposed to landfill over the previous fourteen years are shown in Figure 10. Previously, refuse data was combined for Council-controlled and commercial refuse volumes recorded at Taumarunui Landfill. Following the closure of the landfill in 2020, all refuse now leaves the District. Private collection data was not available for the 2022/23 period. Recycling collections in shopping bags were introduced in 2006, with a shift to recycling bins in 2010. Organics collections contribute further from 2020.

Waste disposed to landfill on a per capita basis has varied with an average of 260 kg per person per year over the period 2009/10-2015/16, to 314 kg per person from 2016/17-2020/24 and 295 kg per person from 2020/21-2022/23. Council-controlled refuse to landfill has decreased from 2,086 to 1,608 tonnes over the previous two years, with per capita contribution decreasing from 161 to 124 kg per person. Private-controlled refuse to landfill increased from 1,765 to 2,232 tonnes over the previous two years, contributing 172 kg per person in the District in the previous year.

The previous Waste Assessment calculated waste generation at 340 kg per person for 2016. This marked the start of a four year period (2016 to 2019) where disposal to landfill was particularly high, increasing by 20% from the previous seven years. This was followed by a 4% decrease over the previous three years. Figure 10 illustrates this increase and decrease over the previous fourteen years.



Figure 10 Council refuse to landfill with long-term averages¹

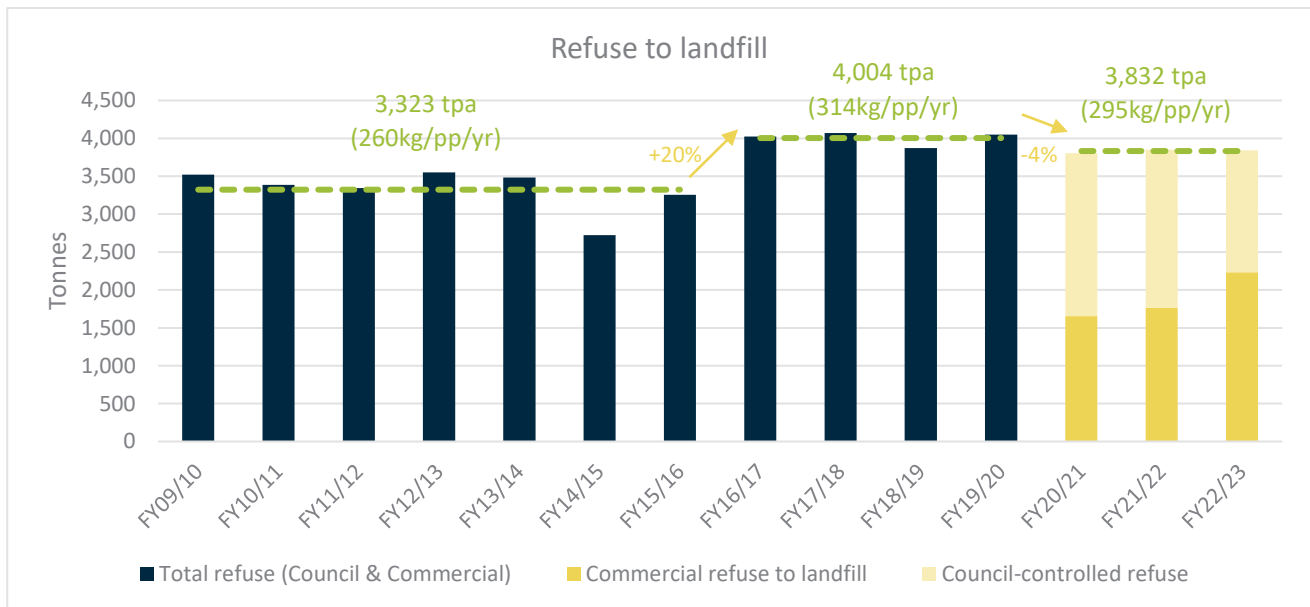
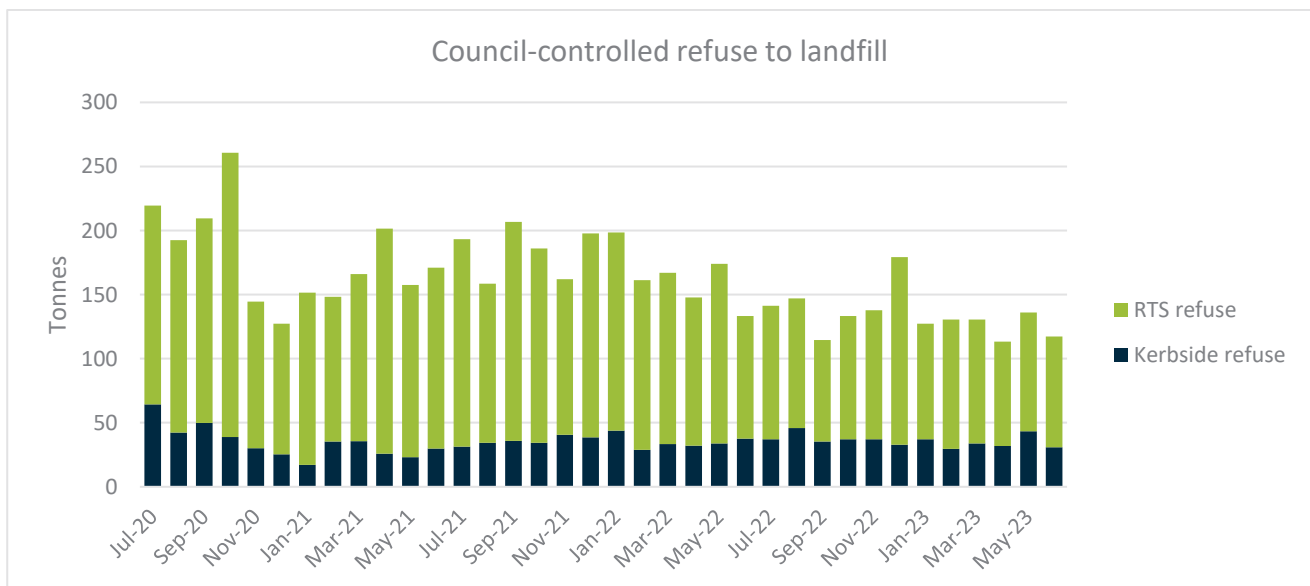


Figure 11 shows the volume of refuse to landfill from council-controlled sources (kerbside and RTS) for the period July 2021 to June 2023. Kerbside refuse volumes have remained consistent over this period. However, RTS refuse volumes have significantly reduced.

Figure 11 Comparison of refuse disposed to landfill by source



¹ Prior to FY2020/21 Council-controlled and commercial refuse were received at Taumarunui Landfill. Following the closure of this landfill, all refuse was taken out of the District, mostly to Hampton Downs Landfill.



4.3 Kerbside collections

Kerbside collection waste streams are shown in Figure 12. A food waste collection service was introduced in November 2020. After an initial peak in food waste collected, the volumes have steadily dropped. Around 13 tonnes per month were collected in the six months January to June 2021, dropping to less than 8 tonnes per month in the six months January to June 2023.

There was a sharp decrease in refuse collection when the food waste collection service was introduced, but the volume of kerbside collected refuse has steadily increased since then. Given the high proportion of holiday homes in the district, particularly in Ohakune, seasonal fluctuations in kerbside collection volumes are expected, with a peak in the winter ski season and a smaller peak in the summer holiday period. However, Covid lockdowns and border closures have impacted visitor numbers during this period, in turn impacting waste volumes and skewing the normally expected trends.

The high volumes of glass relative to the volumes of paper and cardboard collected kerbside are unusual, even for a rural district like Ruapehu. This may indicate that residents are preferentially using their recycling crate for glass. The limited volume of a crate, the difficulty using the crate for bulky paper and card, and a preference to use this material in domestic wood burners, could be contributing factors.

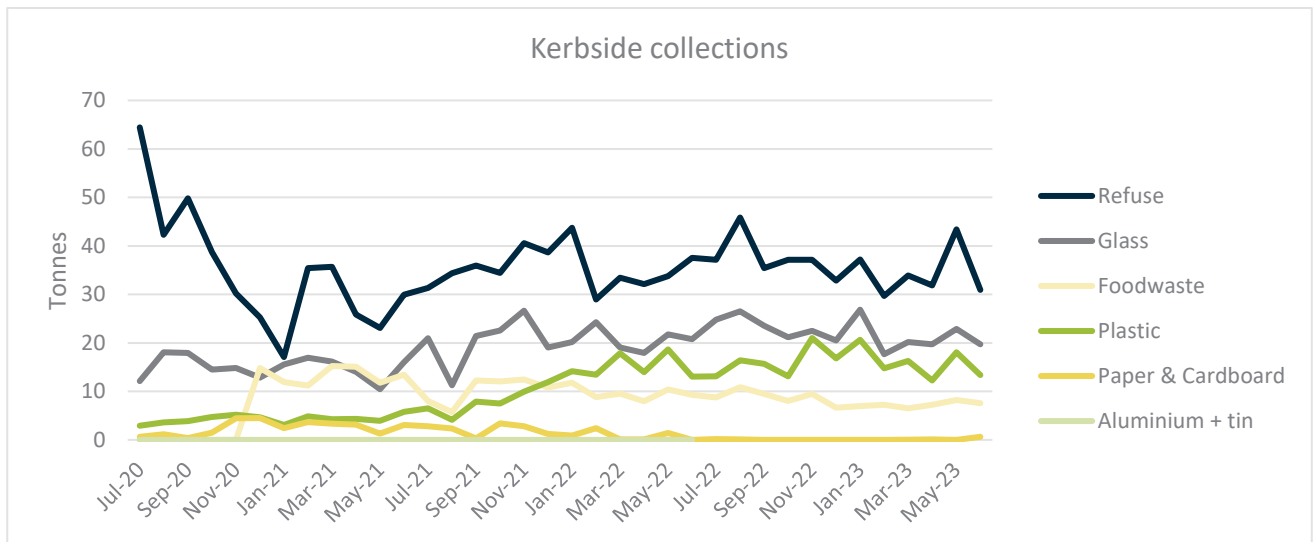
Kerbside waste from the urban population in the previous year, estimated at 7,370 people entitled to the service, totalled 990 tonnes, with 134 kg of kerbside waste generated per person. Refuse contributed the highest amount at 44%. Glass (27%) plastic (19%) and food waste (10%) account for most of the diverted materials, with kerbside diversion at 56%. Paper and cardboard diversion at the kerbside is very low (see Table 3). Overall, these volumes are low compared to national averages and compared to baseline volumes recorded in the 2018 WMMP.

Table 3 Kerbside waste generation by material for FY2022/23

| Kerbside Collections | Tonnes | Kg per person | Percentage |
|----------------------|------------|---------------|-------------|
| Refuse | 433 | 59 | 44% |
| Plastic | 191 | 26 | 19% |
| Glass | 266 | 36 | 27% |
| Paper and cardboard | 1 | <1 | <1% |
| Food waste | 97 | 13 | 10% |
| Total | 988 | 134 | 100% |



Figure 12 Kerbside collection waste streams

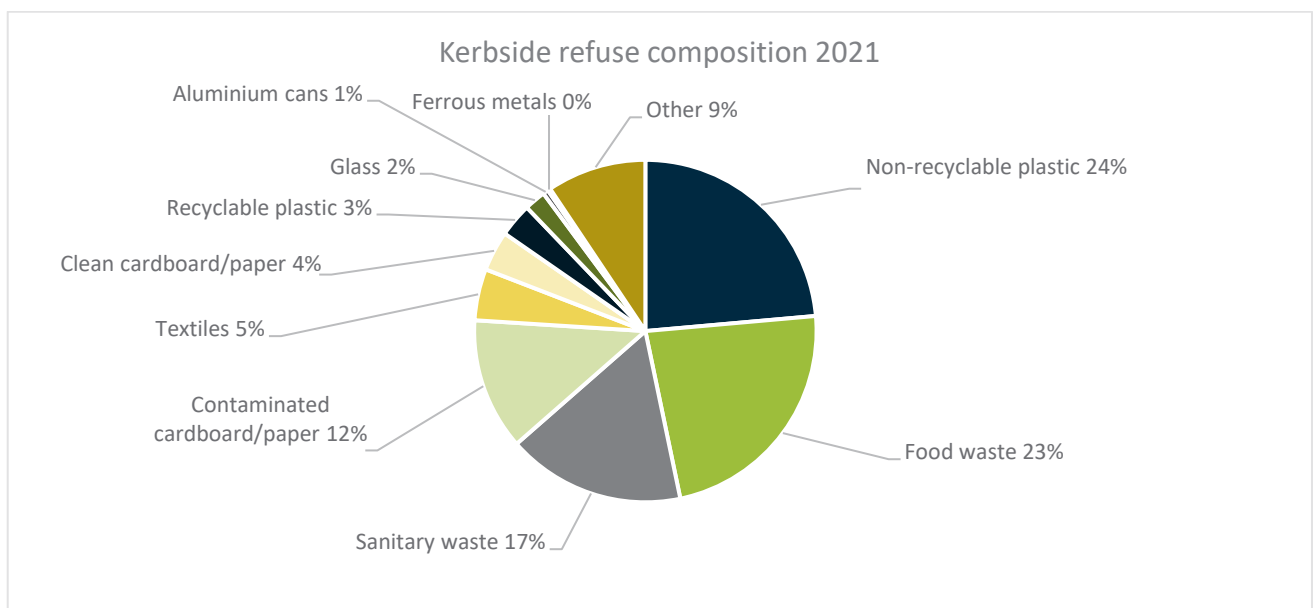


4.3.1 Kerbside SWAP

The Council requires that regular SWAPs are performed to understand waste stream compositions to inform waste minimisation and management services and facilities. The most recent assessment of kerbside refuse was completed in April 2021. This included kerbside refuse collections from the three urban areas; Taumarunui, Ohakune and Raetihi.

The combined kerbside refuse composition is shown in Figure 13. One third of this material is divertible, including food waste, clean paper and cardboard, recyclable plastics, glass, and metals. One quarter of kerbside refuse is non-recyclable plastics, either as soft plastics or plastic grades 3, 4, 6 or 7. The remaining 39% of the refuse sampled is made up of materials for which there are no recycling markets currently. These include sanitary wastes, textiles, contaminated paper and card and other non-recyclable material. Additional data from the SWAP is plotted in Appendix E.

Figure 13 Kerbside refuse composition for the district, April 2021

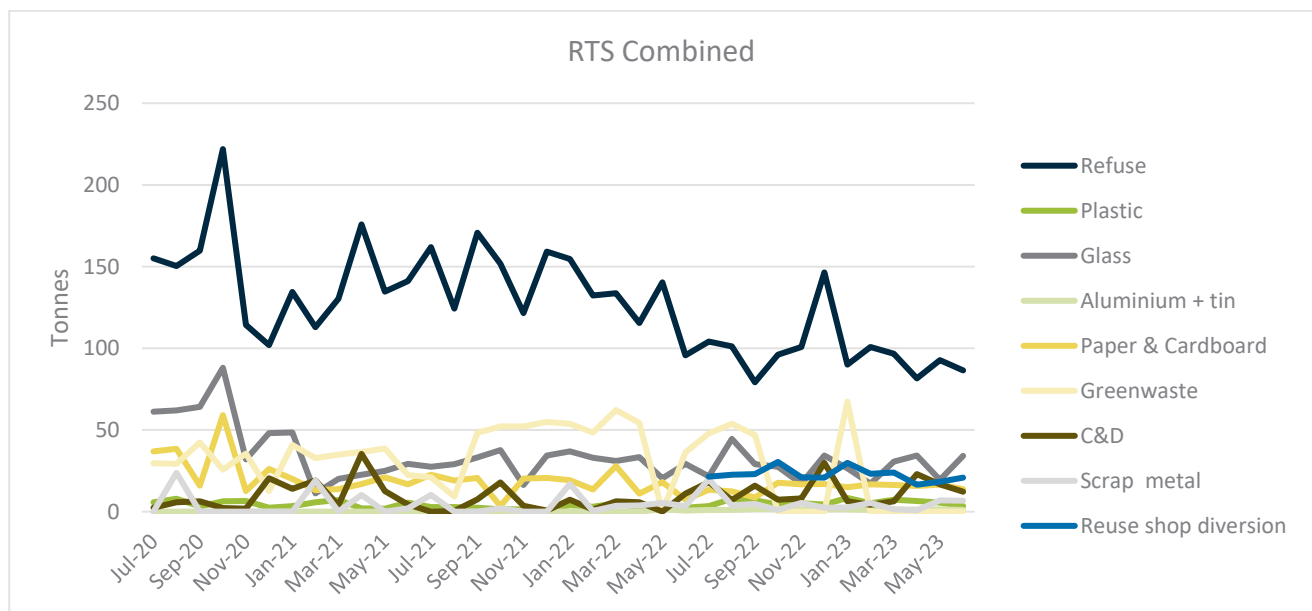




4.4 Transfer Stations and Resource Recovery Centres

The district has data available for total divertible waste and total residual waste from its four RTS and two RRC facilities. Figure 14 illustrates the combined total refuse and diverted material from these facilities. A substantial decrease in refuse volume from more than 150 tonnes to less than 100 tonnes per month has been observed. It is not known whether this represents an increase in recycling or a shift to using private waste services. The drop in waste to landfill is not matched by an increase in diversion at the facilities, so it is more likely caused by a shift to private collection services. Greenwaste tends to peak during summer months. The trend seen with higher glass volumes than other recyclables in kerbside collections is also present at the RTS/RRC's, however at a lower proportion, 30%-50% in this instance. The reuse shops in Taumarunui and Ohakune also track their diversion volumes. The two shops reported a diversion of more than 270 tonnes in FY22/23.

Figure 14 Combined waste streams from four RTS and two RRC facilities

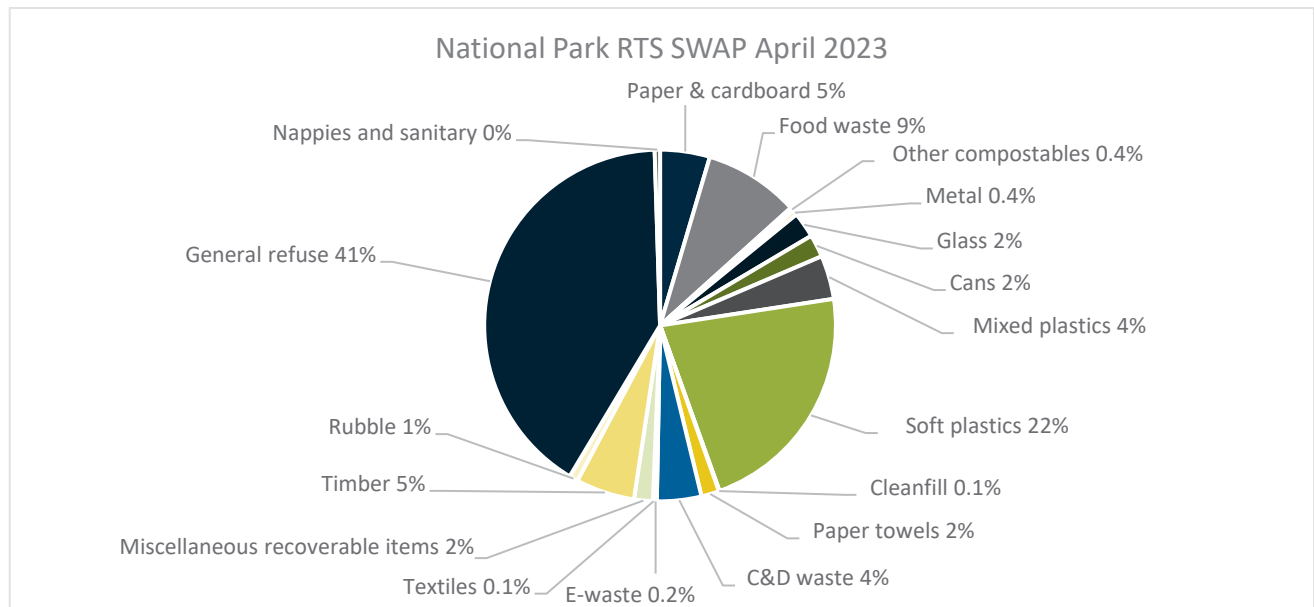


4.4.1 National Park SWAP

A SWAP was conducted at National Park RTS in April 2023, illustrated in Figure 15. A higher diversion potential was observed than at the kerbside, with more than half the material received at National Park RTS divertible.



Figure 15 Refuse composition at National Park RTS April 2023



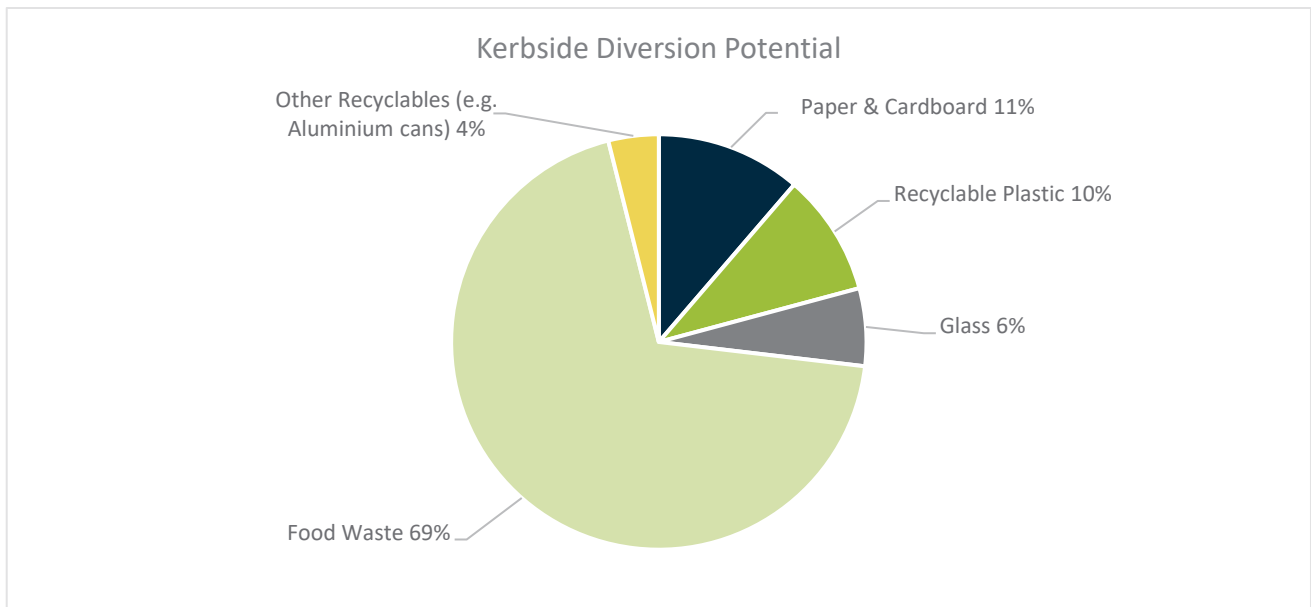
4.5 Farm waste

Ruapehu is a rural district. People can dispose of organics on site, but farm dumps or burning waste should not be used for refuse or recyclable materials.

4.6 Diversion potential

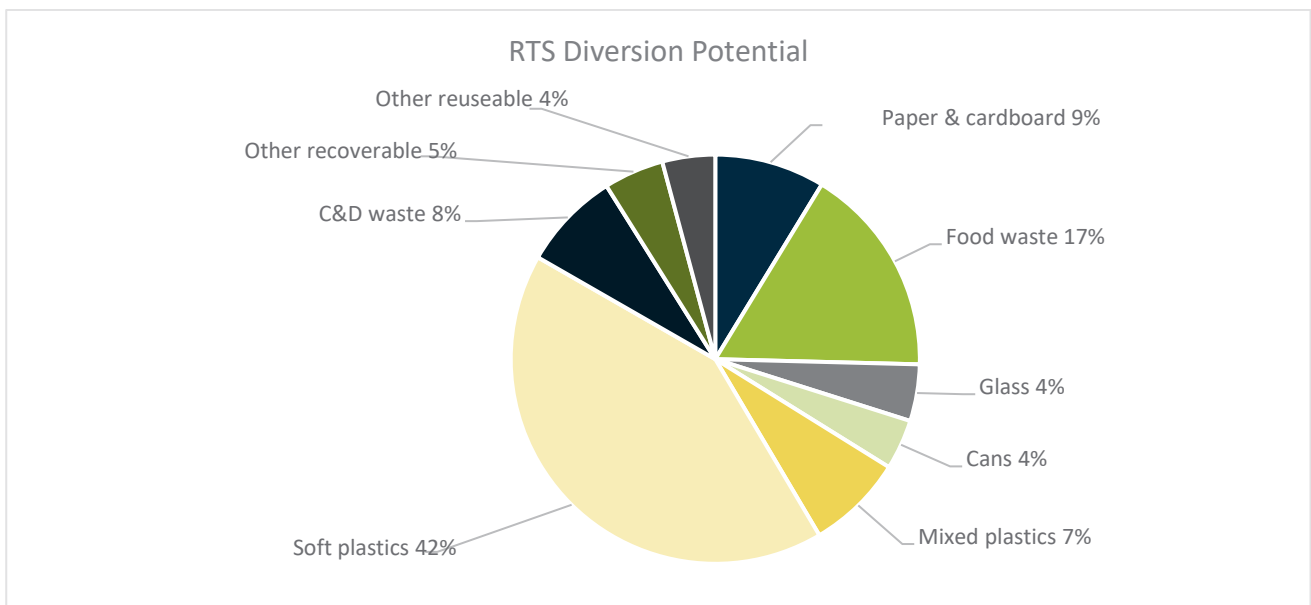
The SWAP audits completed for kerbside refuse and National Park RTS show there are opportunities to increase diversion and resource recovery in the Ruapehu district. The government has introduced mandatory diversion targets for councils, and by 2030 council need to demonstrate that at least 50% of their kerbside collected material is being diverted from landfill. Ruapehu District's current kerbside diversion rate is 56%. The SWAP audits have shown that there is potential for further diversion and for Council to maintain compliance against these mandatory diversion rates. Figures 16 and 17 provide a breakdown of potential diversion from the kerbside refuse collections and RTS. Food waste in kerbside refuse represents the greatest potential for increased diversion from this stream, while soft plastics represents the greatest potential at the National Park RTS.

Figure 16 Diversion potential from Council kerbside refuse collections 2021



The SWAP report lists soft plastics as recoverable, which is not currently available through Council services and since this stream makes up 42% of the recoverable materials it possibly skews the diversion potential higher than it otherwise may be. Without soft plastics, the diversion potential would be 31%.

Figure 17 Recoverable items based on the 2023 National Park SWAP of hook bins





4.7 Progress against the 2018-2028 WMMP

RDC prepared a WMMP for the period 2018-2028 which included six targets, with six objectives and twelve actions. The six targets are assessed in Table 4 below. An assessment of Council's progress against its goals is provided in Appendix C. Council completed or partially completed 11 out of 12 actions. The outstanding action was to consider options to mitigate the impact of user-pays rubbish collections on low income, larger families.

Table 4 Previous WMMP 2018-2038 targets

| Objective | Target | 2023 Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Reduce waste to landfill | Reduce waste to landfills from 368kg to 175kg per person per annum by 2022. | Achieved Council controlled refuse to landfill was 124 kg per person in 2022/23. |
| Prioritise waste reduction, reuse and recovery & recycling initiatives | Increase diversion from 222 kg to 640 kg per person per annum by 2022. | Not achieved Total diversion was 126 kg per person in 2022/23. |
| | All waste initiatives and services implemented during the term of this WMMP. | Completed or partially completed 11 of 12 actions (See Appendix C) |
| | Three new initiatives implemented by 2020, focus on waste reduction, reuse or recovery/recycling. | Achieved Initiatives and facilities initiated. |
| Improve council access to information | By 2020, council-controlled waste contracts include clauses requiring contractor(s) provide data on all refuse and diverted materials. | Achieved Waste collection contracts renewed. |
| | By 2020, introduce a waste licensing system which includes a mechanism to collect waste data relating to council and privately collected waste. | Not achieved The NZWS is expected to develop more detail for waste licensing systems. |



5 Future Growth and Demand for Waste Services

The future demand for waste services will be influenced by several key drivers including:

- Demographic change.
- Change in economic or tourism activity.
- Impact of waste flows from other districts.
- Customer expectation, consumption patterns and product quality.
- The occurrence of natural disaster events.
- National policy and legislation change (refer Section 2).

5.1 Demographic change

Ruapehu District has a resident population of 12,948 as of September 2021. The region has experienced almost no change in population over the previous five years. Current medium projection growth forecasts to 2032 by StatsNZ show a decline in population expected of -1.2% while the national population is expected to increase by 0.8% over the same period. The five subdivisions that make up Taumarunui and Waimarino are the only small urban areas in the district, but account for 57% of the resident population. The remaining five statistical areas are classified as rural which accounts for the remaining 43% of the population. These results are summarised in Table 5 below.

Table 5 Population across the District

| Area | Population at September 2021 | Estimated population growth by 2032 |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Aotearoa New Zealand ² | 5,126,300 | 0.8% |
| Ruapehu District ³ | 12,948 | -1.2% |
| Otagiwai-Ōhura | 1,034 | <i>Sub-regional growth estimates not available</i> |
| Ngapuke | 1,285 | |
| Taumarunui (North, Central, East) | 4,840 | |
| National Park | 1,106 | |
| Tangiwai | 1,365 | |
| Waimarino (Ohakune and Raetihi) | 2,530 | |
| Waiouru | 788 | |

² From StatsNZ, available from: <https://www.stats.govt.nz/information-releases/national-population-estimates-at-30-september-2021-infoshare-tables/>

³ Ruapehu District Council population numbers from Pūwhenua Ki Ruapehu | Living in Ruapehu dashboard, available from: <https://www.livinginruapehu.co.nz/> and growth rates from StatsNZ, available from: <https://www.stats.govt.nz/information-releases/subnational-population-projections-2018base2048-update/>



5.2 Economic activity

Economic activity is a determinative factor for changes in both waste volume and composition. Seasonal effects are expected in Ruapehu, primarily due to holiday periods. Economic growth in Ruapehu, measured as gross domestic product (GDP), was \$811M in 2022, increasing by 3.3%, compared to 5.3% for the country. Ruapehu's economic activity is based firmly in the primary sector, primarily in agriculture, forestry and fishing. Public administration, construction, property, and manufacturing are the next largest economic sectors in the region. The tourism sector provides a large proportion of employment in the region, accounting for 15% of employment in the District in 2022, down from a pre-Covid high of 20% in 2019 (Infometrics, 2023). Since population growth is expected to be negative in the coming decade, private industry and tourism activity are considered more significant drivers for waste volumes going forward. Overall, waste generation would expect to be relatively constant going forward, without interventions to encourage greater resource recovery.

Non-economic factors such as seasonal variation can also have significant impacts on both waste generation and services. Seasonal peaks in visitor numbers during the ski season and the summer holiday period are observed in Ruapehu, including holiday homeowners using their properties more during these times.

5.3 Waste from other areas

The movement of waste from outside the District for disposal within the District is not a significant factor for Ruapehu. It is more common for some waste generated in the region to be transported to out-of-district waste and resource recovery facilities. As described previously, kerbside refuse and recycling from Waiōuru is collected through an EnviroNZ contract and taken out of the District, in this case to Palmerston North. Pipiriki is a small settlement on the Whanganui River which has a small quantity of waste that is collected by EnviroNZ and processed in Whanganui District. Commercial waste, handled by private waste companies, is more likely to be taken out of the district for disposal and processing than residential waste would be.

5.4 Community expectations and consumer behaviour

Ruapehu District Council performed a community survey in 2023. The results of which are summarised below and shown in Figure 18 and Figure 19.

Kerbside collection services:

- Refuse: Seventy-seven percent of respondents have Council kerbside rubbish collection available where they live. 22% are satisfied and 38% very satisfied with this service (Figure 18).
- Recycling: Seventy-nine percent of respondents indicate Council kerbside recycling is available where they live. 23% are satisfied and 37% very satisfied with this service
- Food waste: Sixty-six percent of respondents have Council provided kerbside food waste collection available. 17% are satisfied and 29% very satisfied with this service.
- Dissatisfaction with all kerbside services is primarily due to no access to the service.



RTS facilities:

- 23% are satisfied and 44% very satisfied with transfer stations available (Figure 19).
- 25% are satisfied and 44% very satisfied with recycling options. 48% are dissatisfied due to the difficulty to recycle.
- Dissatisfaction at RTS facilities is primarily around opening hours.

Figure 18 Community survey results for rubbish collection services

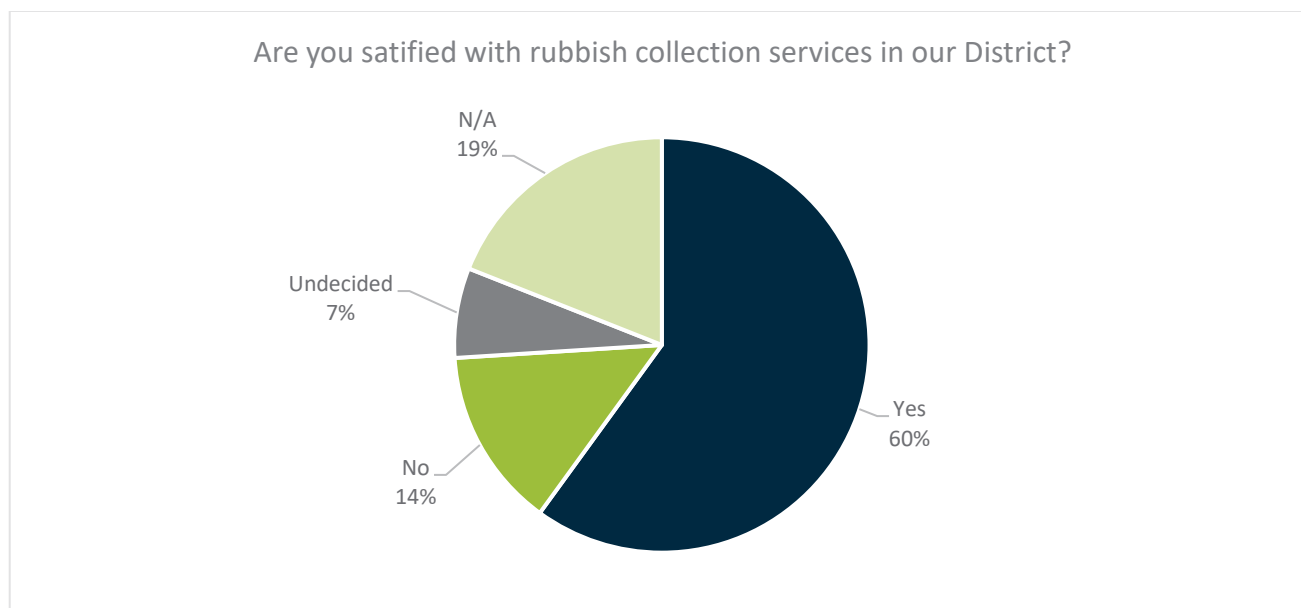
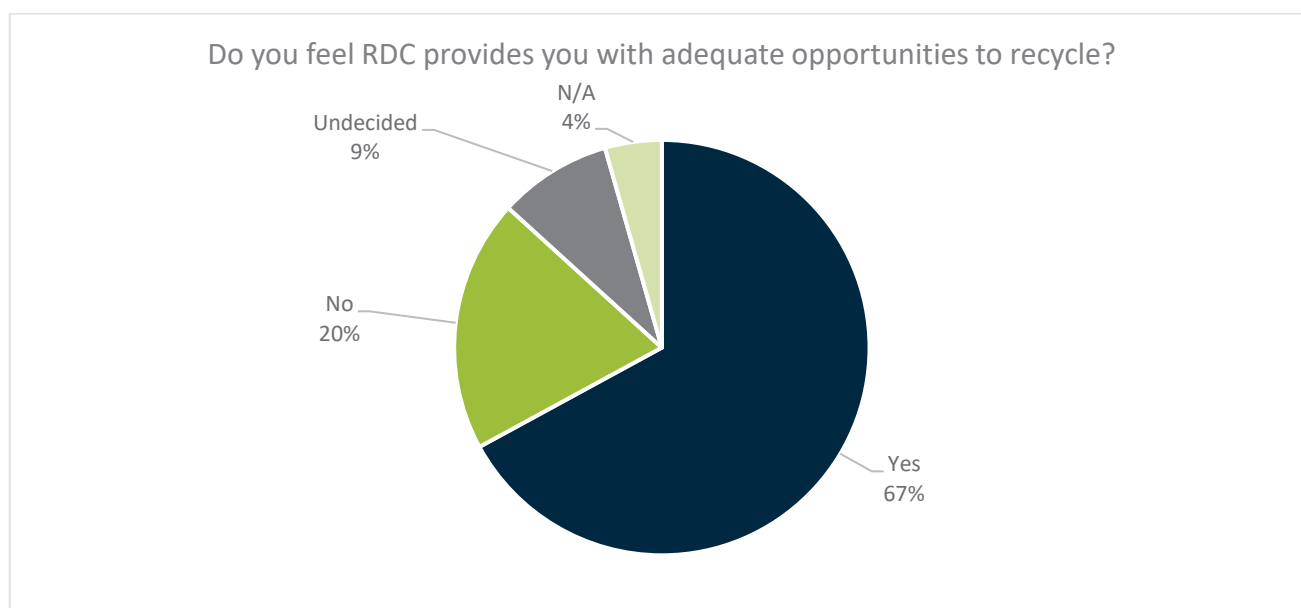


Figure 19 Community survey results for recycling opportunities





5.5 Natural and man-made disasters

Natural and man-made disasters apply a different pressure upon waste services and other inter-related services by potentially creating a significant volume of waste, which may be contaminated, in a very short timeframe. The earthquakes in Christchurch and Kaikoura, the Covid-19 pandemic, Cyclone Gabrielle and the Auckland floods re-emphasise the need for planning. Lessons can be learnt from these events to assist in preparing for future natural disaster events in Ruapehu such as the need to provide additional capacity at transfer stations and disposal facilities at short notice.

5.6 Future demand for waste facilities and services

The future demand for waste facilities and services is expected to be impacted by three factors. Firstly, a static or slightly reducing resident population. Secondly, economic growth is expected and with that generally comes increasing waste volumes. Lastly, changes in community expectations and behaviour is expected to impact future demand.

The demand for waste services is expected to remain high, or increase, from rural households. Another factor to consider is the effects of future waste levy increases which are expected to pass through to targeted rates for kerbside collections and general rates for RTS and RRC facilities. It will also impact on other waste streams in the coming years, such as C&D and cleanfill. Council will need to set achievable targets and focus on the changes required to enable those results. Not achieving targets is a risk to Council, as it could affect the retention of waste levy funding used for current and future services.

6 Future Planning Framework

This section considers the Councils' direction with regards to vision, goals, objectives, and targets for achieving waste reduction and for meeting the forecast demand for services in Ruapehu District Council. The vision and targets discussed in this Waste Assessment have been derived from performance against the 2018-2028 WMMP, and incorporates the NZWS vision, goals, objectives and targets. Additionally, Council is developing a new well-being framework which the WMMP will be aligned with (see Appendix F for the framework available at the time of writing this report).

6.1 Vision

Council's vision for waste management and minimisation is aligned with the NZWS:

“By 2050, Ruapehu District is a low-emissions, low-waste society built upon a circular economy”.

Council plans to consult with the community on the adoption of the vision above. Previously, the Council vision was for “zero waste by 2040” which had been well supported. The proposed vision is aligned with the NZWS vision.



6.2 Goals and objectives

The NZWS has goals defined for 2030, with further goals and objectives to be developed for the period 2030-2040 and 2040-2050. RDC has developed objectives that support the achievement of these NZWS goals. The NZWS states that “By 2030, our enabling systems are working well and behaviour is changing”. The NZWS goals and RDC objectives are shown in Table 6.

Table 6 New Zealand Waste Strategy goals and RDC objectives

| # | NZWS Goals | RDC Objective |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | <p>Systems</p> <p>The strategic planning, regulatory, investment and engagement systems are in place and operating to drive and support change</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LTP and WMMPs provide long-term strategic planning and guidance. Focus on services that enable staged goals for 2030, 2040 and 2050. Support national and regional collaboration where required (e.g. AIP). |
| 2 | <p>Infrastructure</p> <p>We have a comprehensive national network of facilities supporting the collection and circular management of products and materials</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council and private facilities support collection and circular management of products and materials. Local planning provisions support the circular economy. |
| 3 | <p>Responsibility and accountability</p> <p>We all take responsibility for how we produce, manage and dispose of things, and are accountable for our actions and their consequences</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver behaviour change programmes to increase awareness and accountability to better support waste minimisation. |
| 4 | <p>Using less</p> <p>We use fewer products and materials, and use them for longer, by making them more durable, and repairing, reusing, sharing and repurposing them</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support local redesign, repair, reuse, sharing and repurposing initiatives. Education programs to raise awareness in the community. |
| 5 | <p>Resource recovery systems</p> <p>Resource recovery systems are operating effectively for core materials and across all regions</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kerbside services are supported by resource recovery for use in region (e.g. organics) or consolidation (glass and plastics) for out of region circular processing. |
| 6 | <p>Recovering value</p> <p>We look for ways to recover any remaining value from residual waste, sustainably and without increasing emissions, before final disposal</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look to recover any remaining value from residual waste prior to disposal to landfill. |
| 7 | <p>Emissions</p> <p>Emissions from waste are reducing in line with our domestic and international commitments</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce organic waste production and disposal from both residents and businesses. |
| 8 | <p>Contaminated land</p> <p>Contaminated land is sustainably managed and remediated, to reduce waste and emissions and enhance the environment</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and sustainably manage RDC’s closed landfills. |



6.3 Targets

Targets for Ruapehu District are outlined in Table 7. Councils' waste minimisation targets are aligned to the targets set out in the NZWS.

Table 7 Targets based on RDC objectives and alignment with NZWS

| NZWS target | Description | Ruapehu District Council | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | | FY21/22 | FY22/23 | 2030 Target |
| 10% reduction in waste generation per person by 2030 | 10% reduction in waste per person from all sources | 422 kg/person/year (5,464 tonnes) | 422 kg/person/year (5,468 tonnes) | 380 kg/person/year (4,920 tonnes) |
| 30% reduction in waste disposal per person by 2030 | 30% reduction in refuse from all sources | 297 kg/person/year (3,851 tonnes) | 297 kg/person/year (3,841 tonnes) | 208 kg/person/year (2,696 tonnes) |
| | 30% reduction in Council-controlled refuse | 161 kg/person/year (2,086 tonnes) | 124 kg/person/year (1,608 tonnes) | 87 kg/person/year (1,126 tonnes) |
| % diversion kerbside collection | Staged diversion: 30% by 2026, 40% by 2028 and 50% by 2030 | 55% | 56% | Maintain >55% |
| 30% reduction in biogenic methane emissions by 2030 | Putrescible content in kerbside refuse measured in annual SWAP | >20% | - | <20% |

7 Options Assessment (Statement of Proposals)

This section identifies the waste minimisation issues and opportunities for Ruapehu District. It then presents the guiding principles that will be applied when considering intervention options. Finally, it presents an options assessment that considers practicable options to address future demand for waste management and minimisation services and programmes to address the opportunities that have been identified.

7.1 Waste issues and opportunities

Waste issues for Ruapehu District have been identified based on:

- A workshop with council staff in July 2023 (and confirmed via a workshop with elected members in August 2023)
- Composition and quantities of waste in council collection services and at council facilities
- Progress against the previous WMMP Action Plan.

The following were identified:

- Council has made significant improvements to its services since the last WMMP was prepared in 2018. While the building blocks are now in place to deliver waste reduction and higher diversion from landfill, ongoing work is needed to maximise their use and ensure sufficient capacity as demand for services increases.



- Recyclables and food waste continuing to be disposed in kerbside refuse. Food waste volumes in kerbside refuse remain high.
- Decreasing volume of food waste collected kerbside since collections commenced.
- Private waste collections account for half of refuse sent to landfill over the previous three years since Taumarunui Landfill closure.
- Low volume of kerbside recyclables compared to other districts, and high volume glass relative to paper and card in kerbside crates. Potential causes include lack of volume in crates (45L compared to 240L in typical recycling bins), difficulty placing bulky cardboard in crates, and the use of paper and card in wood burners instead of kerbside collections.
- Use of district's litter bins for refuse disposal and contamination in public place recycling bins.
- More than 43% of the district population are rural and not included in kerbside collections. Services for rural residents are less convenient as they need to bring their refuse and recyclables into town to drop off at RTS/RRC. Although on property solutions for food waste are available to rural residents (chickens, composting), it is suspected that some of their refuse and recyclables are burned or buried on site.
- Sorting comingled recyclables at the kerbside currently ensures low contamination levels but raises issues around health and safety.
- Waste volume fluctuations can be linked to peak tourist periods. There is a high proportion of holiday homes in the District. Ohakune is estimated to have 60% home ownership by owners that reside outside of the District.
- Although resource recovery is available at the RRCs in Taumarunui and Waimario, these services are not available at the remaining transfer stations. RRC facilities at Taumarunui and Waimarino have different operating models and the integration of the sites is limited. Recovery outcomes are therefore inconsistent.
- Health and safety concerns associated with manual handling of refuse bags, recycling crates and food waste bins. However, any changes to collection services would impact the resources used by the contractor for collection in eight years' time.
- RTS/RRC upgrades will increase both capital and operating costs, at a time when Council funding is stretched. Staff at RTS/RRC trained to interact with customers and encourage diversion help drive resource recovery and lower contamination rates in drop-off areas, however these resources come at an additional cost.



Based on the waste issues identified above, five areas of opportunity were identified for Ruapehu to help the district meet its waste generation and waste disposal reduction targets by 2030:

- Promote upstream waste hierarchy and local circular economy principles.
 - Opportunities include raising awareness in the community, showcasing local initiatives, supporting national product stewardship schemes at the local level.
- Divert more from kerbside collection services.
 - Opportunities to reduce the recyclables and food waste in refuse bins through greater communication with residents and considering changes to collection methods.
- Improve access to appropriate waste services for rural communities.
 - Opportunities include promotion of appropriate waste disposal practices, making drop-off facilities available closer to rural communities.
- Using the transfer station network to divert more from the overall waste stream.
 - Opportunities include upgrading transfer stations, changing operating models, introducing additional services.
- Improve waste diversion by visitors and tourists.
 - Opportunities include working with the accommodation, hospitality and tourism sectors to promote waste diversion and increasing awareness campaigns during peak visitor periods.

7.2 Projected waste volumes and impact on services and facilities

The drivers behind projected waste volumes and demand for waste facilities and services were introduced in Section 5. Without interventions to reduce waste, it is anticipated that waste generation in the Ruapehu District will remain stable at around 3,200 tonnes per annum, with waste disposal remaining around 1,600 tonnes per annum.

In order to achieve the waste diversion targets outlined in the NZWS and adopted by Council, services and facilities will need to be in place to reduce waste generation by 300 tonnes per annum by 2030 and reduce waste disposal by 250 tonnes per annum. Kerbside services can be scaled up to meet this demand. Transfer stations will need to be upgraded to ensure appropriate services are available, efficient traffic flow and enough space to drop off material in recovery areas.

These projections and targets are illustrated in Figure 20 and Figure 21 below.

Figure 20 Waste generation projections with 10% reduction target by 2030

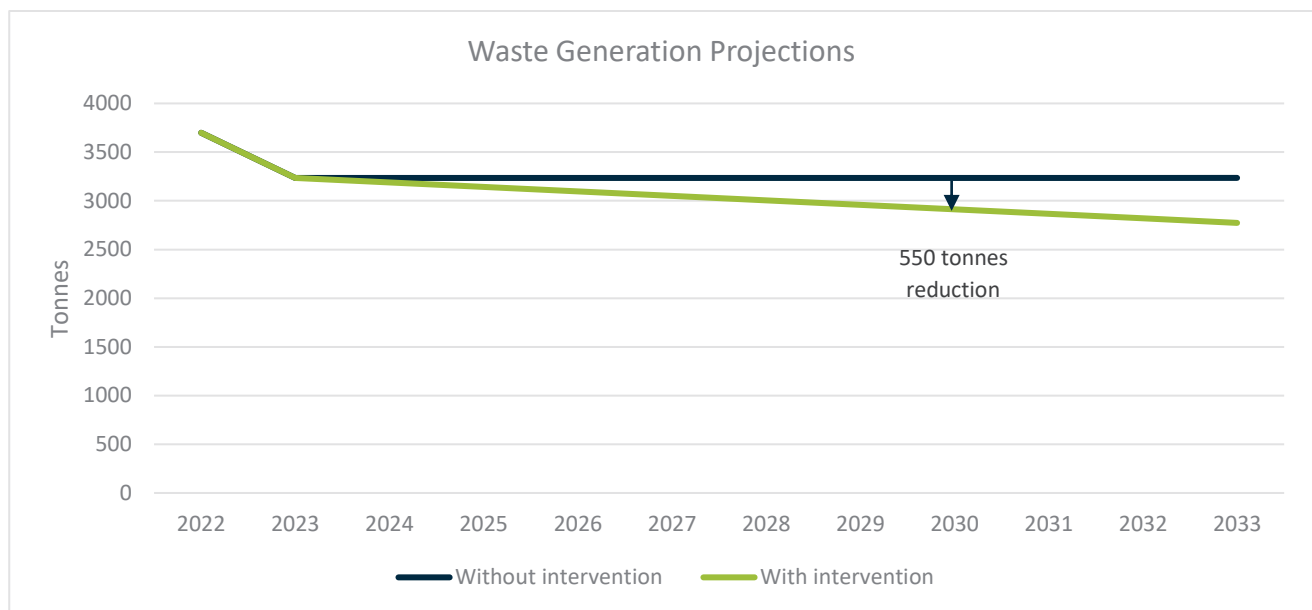
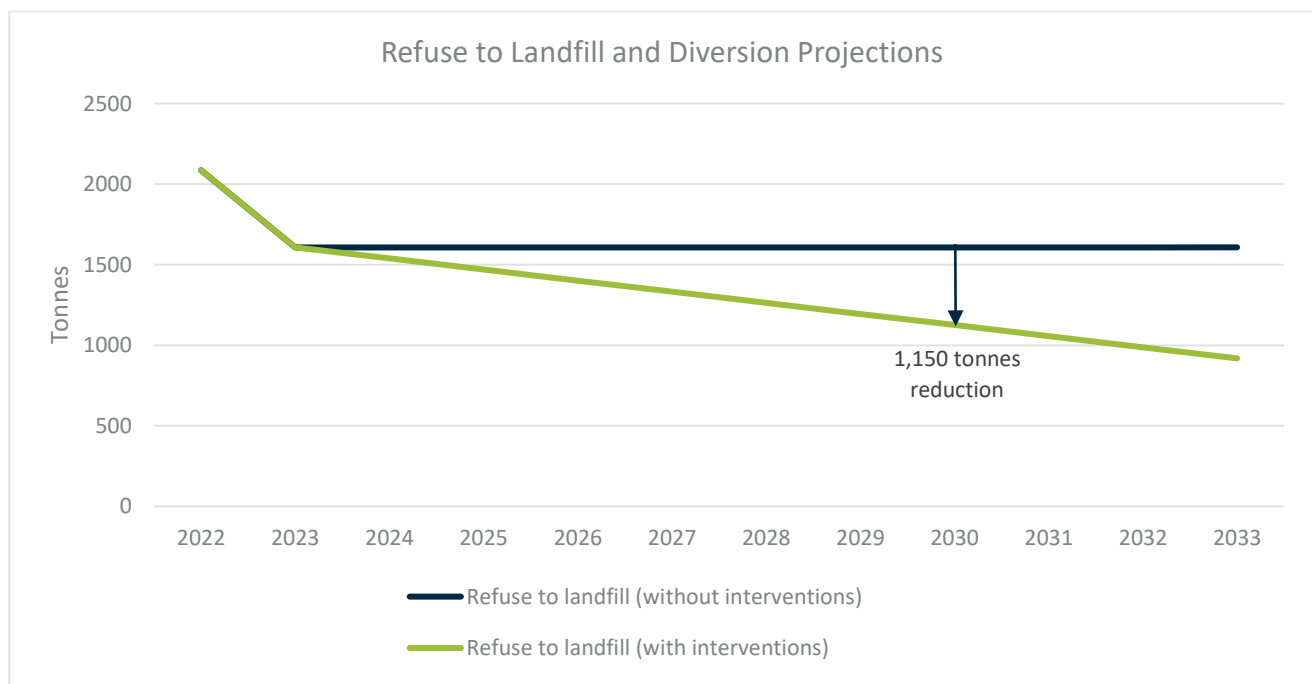


Figure 21 Refuse to landfill and diversion projections with 30% reduction target by 2030



7.3 Options Assessment

Options to deliver on the opportunities to reduce waste generation and disposal in the Ruapehu District are outlined in the table below. Council's role in meeting these targets can be to:

- provide more services or enhance its existing services
- support and enable actions by others
- encourage behaviour change that reduces waste



- regulate against behaviours that contribute to poor waste minimisation behaviour.

Note that regulation is usually a last resort once all other avenues have been exhausted, and generally national regulation is required to create consistency between districts. As part of supporting action by others, Council can advocate to central government for change.

In considering the options available for waste reduction and diversion, the potential diversion needs to be balanced against the cost of the intervention and the ease of implementation. This has been considered in the options table below.

7.4 Statement of public health protection

The wide range of waste services available in the Ruapehu District as provided by Council or private business (detailed in Section 3) will ensure that public health is adequately protected in the future. The Ruapehu District has access to safe and sanitary landfills that meet national legislative requirements. Services for achieving waste minimisation will be further improved on, and alternatives to landfill considered, and will be incorporated into the WMMP. There is adequate access to council and private refuse, hazardous waste and illegal dumping / litter collection services, although further service improvements and waste minimisation are achievable. The Medical Officers of Health for both the Waikato and Whanganui District Health Boards of Te Whatu Ora | Health New Zealand have been consulted in the development of the Waste Assessment and their review is included in Appendix A1 and A2.



Table 8 Options to address future opportunities for Ruapehu District

| Opportunity | Approach | Options | Waste reduction | Cost | Ease of implementation | Recommended |
|---|-----------|---|-----------------|--------|------------------------|-------------|
| Achieve 10% reduction in generation of waste | | | | | | |
| Promote upstream waste hierarchy and local circular economy principles | Influence | Promote and advocate the concept of circular economy to businesses. | High | Medium | Relatively simple | Yes |
| | Influence | Continue to work with the Central North Island Waste Group on initiatives to further reduce waste to landfill and provide regional facilities. | High | Low | Medium | Yes |
| | Influence | Actively promote and participate in national product stewardship schemes as they are introduced, including use of RTS network as part of collection system. | High | Medium | Medium | Yes |
| | Influence | Advocate for national regulation and legislation that supports waste reduction and a move up the waste hierarchy. | Medium | Low | Medium | Yes |
| | Influence | Develop better partnerships and collaboration with community and Iwi/hapū initiatives, particularly around education and events. | Medium | Medium | Medium | Yes |
| Achieve 30% reduction in final disposal | | | | | | |
| Divert more from kerbside collection services – recyclables | Influence | Increase frequency of marketing campaigns for the use of recycling services | High | Medium | Relatively simple | Yes |
| | Influence | Survey residents' habits when using household waste services to understand what they are using the recycling service for | Medium | Medium | Medium | Yes |
| | Service | Undertake optioneering of receptacles used for refuse (bags or bins), recycling (crate(s), bin or a combination) and organics (small food scraps bin or larger organics bin) to encourage greater diversion. | High | High | Relatively complex | Yes |
| | Service | Increase frequency of SWAP of kerbside materials to target low diversion | High | High | Relatively complex | Yes |
| Use transfer station network to divert more – resource recovery | Influence | Increase frequency of SWAP at RTS to target greater diversion | Medium | Medium | Relatively simple | Yes |
| | Service | Change operating model at RTS to increase interaction with customers and divert more | Medium | Low | Medium | Yes |
| | Service | Upgrade RTS and introduce RRC at National Park, to broaden services available and increase diversion | High | Medium | Medium | Yes |
| Improve access to appropriate waste services for rural communities | Influence | Provide information to rural residents on disposal and diversion services available. | Medium | Low | Relatively simple | Yes |
| | Service | Assess options for improving rural services e.g. extended kerbside collections, additional drop-off points, satellite transfer stations | Medium | High | Complex | Yes |
| | Service | Provide rural-specific services such as agrichemical and agricultural plastics drop off or collection | High | Medium | Relatively simple | Yes |
| Improve waste diversion by visitors and tourists | Service | Increased and targeted education during peak periods. | Medium | Medium | Relatively complex. | Yes |
| | Service | Assess options to provide additional peak period services in select urban locations | Medium | High | Medium | Yes |
| | Influence | Work with the tourism, hospitality and accommodation sector groups and DOC to promote better circular, reduction and diversion activities. | High | Low | Medium | Yes |
| Achieve 30% reduction in biogenic methane emissions | | | | | | |
| Divert more from kerbside collection – organic material | Influence | Increase frequency of marketing campaigns for food waste service that reinforce the benefits of food waste recycling and how to overcome challenges to service use. | High | High | Simple | Yes |
| | Influence | Increase education programmes that promote home composting. | Low | Low | Simple | Yes |
| | Influence | Encourage uptake of food waste collections by businesses. | Medium | Low | Relatively complex | Yes |
| | Service | Assess options to increase organic diversion at kerbside, by changing organics collection from 23L food scraps only bins to larger organics bins (80L or larger) for food and garden waste | High | High | Complex | TBC |
| | Service | Assess options to restrict volume of kerbside refuse receptacles, both collection frequency and size of receptacles. May require change to bin collection services and consideration of rates-funded refuse collection. | High | Medium | Complex | TBC |
| | Regulate | Bylaw requiring all private waste operators to provide a separate collection of organics. | Medium | Medium | Medium | TBC |
| Use transfer station network to divert more – timber in C&D waste | Influence | Work with C&D sector to encourage separation of materials. | High | Low | Medium | Yes |
| | Service | Provide C&D diversion at transfer stations. | High | High | Relatively complex | Yes |



- Appendix A1** **Letter from Medical Officer of Health - Waikato**
- Appendix A2** **Letter from Medical Officer of Health - Whanganui**

31 October 2023

Anne-Marie Westcott
Environmental Manager
Ruapehu District Council
15 Queen St, Te Kuiti, 3910

Dear Anne-Marie,

Medical Officer of Health Review: Ruapehu District Council Waste Assessment

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment upon the draft Ruapehu District Council Waste Assessment, dated August 2023, as part of the consultation process outlined in Section 51 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008.

Effective waste management is critical for good public health outcomes. From a public health perspective appropriate disposal of waste is essential. Waste may otherwise present health hazard through physical injury, chemical poisoning, exposure to infectious materials, and by encouraging pests such as vermin, flies and mosquitoes. Waste can also block storm water systems, contaminate land or water, and create odours.

Waste management is an important role undertaken by councils to protect public health. The Waste Assessment provides a good basis for addressing public health issues. I am pleased to see Ruapehu District Council has made significant progress against their last Waste Management and Minimisation Plan. In regards to the draft Ruapehu District Council Waste Assessment 2023, I make the following comments and recommendations:

- The kerbside refuse collection service is currently user-pays through the sale of pink rubbish bags for the urban areas. I would encourage Council to revisit the outstanding action from the last Waste Management and Minimisation Plan to consider options to mitigate the impact of user-pays rubbish collections on low income, larger families. Changing to a rates-funded kerbside collection would reduce inequities for those who may struggle to pay for collection currently. Waste services have a district wide benefit, and services funded by the entire community, rather than an individual user pay system, protect the health of everyone.
- Rural residents are not included in the kerbside collection. The 43% of the district population who live rurally must drop-off refuse bags at their nearest refuse transfer station or resource recovery centre. It is suspected that some of the farm waste, and rural refuse is burned or buried on site. Poor management of farm waste can lead to contamination of the environment with hazardous waste.

I recommend that Council engage with rural residents, private recycling and recovery services, and product stewardship schemes to ascertain more information and data on rural waste streams. I support the Council's proposed options that would improve access to appropriate waste services for rural communities. I would further encourage the Council to

support and promote home composting schemes for rural households that do not have access to kerbside collection.

- One third of the material in kerbside refuse is divertible, with food waste representing 23% of kerbside refuse. I commend Ruapehu District Council in implementing a food waste collection service in their kerbside collections since 2020. There was an initial peak in food waste collected when the service was first introduced, but the volumes have steadily dropped since. The cause of this decline is not clear. I support Council's proposed option to increase campaigns to promote the use of the organic waste service and promote behaviour change towards waste minimisation. I also support exploring the different receptacle options and sizes used for refuse, recycling, and organics, to encourage greater diversion.
- I'm pleased to see that household quantities of hazardous waste are able to be disposed of at resource recovery centres within the district. It would be useful to collect and present data on quantities and types of hazardous waste disposed of at drop off locations.
- I acknowledge that Council has had difficulty in obtaining private collection data. Ascertaining volume, composition and diversion potential in private collections will be important in the district's steps towards achieving a low-emissions, sustainable, low waste circular economy.
- I support the Council's proposed options in regards to working with the construction and demolition sector to encourage diversion of timber from this waste stream and providing construction and demolition waste diversion at transfer stations.
- Given waste volumes fluctuate with tourist periods, I commend Council for identifying opportunities to improve waste diversion by visitors and tourists. These include increasing awareness campaigns during peak visitor periods and working with the accommodation, hospitality and tourism sectors in the district.
- It's good that Council is giving consideration for planning of waste management in the event of disasters. Given natural disasters have been identified as significant waste generators, I would support the Council in planning for additional capacity at transfer stations and disposal facilities for disaster waste at short notice. Climate change and the resultant extreme weather events pose risks and threats to closed landfills. For the protection of public health, it is important that appropriate monitoring and care takes place for closed landfills for risks associated with leachate.
- The draft Waste Assessment does not mention domestic medical waste. I encourage the Council to define domestic medical waste and provide opportunities for more awareness and education and community initiatives that will support safe disposal of sharps. Inappropriate sharps disposal through general waste and recycling systems is an infectious disease safety concern. I encourage engagement and partnership with Taumarunui Hospital, Te Whatu Ora Waikato and other health related organisations regarding the management of medical waste.
- I strongly recommend that Ruapehu District Council continue to actively engage and partner with iwi and hapū to give effect to Maori perspectives on waste management, and to ensure that iwi views and aspirations are reflected in the final Waste Management and Minimisation Plan.

I hope that these comments will add to the value to the Waste Assessment and be helpful in further development of the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan.

Kind regards



Dr Richard Wall
Medical Officer of Health
Waikato

14 September 2023

Ruapehu District Council
59-63 Huia St
Taumarunui

Dear Team

Re: Waste Assessment Consultation with Medical Officer of Health

Thank you for providing the Ruapehu District Council Waste Assessment August 2023, and for the opportunity to discuss this with Anne-Marie Westcott. As Medical Officer of Health for Whanganui I have particular responsibility for the Waimarino ward of Ruapehu District Council. My comments are:

1. This document is a good overview of waste categories and volumes in Ruapehu District Council;
2. There are some gaps, such as information about total waste taken out of the area, but of course this information is hard to find;
3. These gaps mean it is hard to know whether the goal of reducing total volumes of waste is being achieved; it appears Ruapehu District Council is making progress with the waste over which it has control, notably kerbside waste per person;
4. Ruapehu District has been ahead of most other councils in food waste collection; participation rates are quite low so this is an ongoing challenge;
5. Is there an explanation for the downward trend in volume for the food waste collection service? Are people creating less waste or disposing of it at home?
6. Kerbside recycling is in place and I understand there is to be some review as to whether the volume available is sufficient for many households
7. I note there is a collection system for residential quantities of hazardous waste; is there information regarding quantity of hazardous and noxious waste?
8. The document refers to values of the Long Term Plan, including kaitiakitanga, manaakitanga and rangatiratanga; at Public Health we encourage Ruapehu District Council to continue communication with local Iwi to ensure these values are applied to achieve appropriate waste management.

Overall this is a very useful document in providing information to guide future management decisions.

Yours sincerely



Patrick O'Connor

Medical Officer of Health, Whanganui

Public Health Service: Lambie Building, Whanganui Hospital, 100 Heads Road | Private Bag 3003, Whanganui 4500
Phone: 06 348 1775 | After hours: 06 348 1234

Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand: [TeWhatuOra.govt.nz](https://www.TeWhatuOra.govt.nz)

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government



Appendix B Legislation

Waste Minimisation Act (WMA) 2008:

<https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2008/0089/latest/DLM999802.html>

Climate Change Response Act 2002 and amendments:

<https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2002/0040/latest/versions.aspx>

Local Government Act 2002 (LGA 2002):

<https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2002/0084/latest/DLM170873.html>

Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA):

<https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1991/0069/latest/DLM230265.html>

Other legislation

The following is a summary of other legislation that is to be considered with respect to waste management and minimisation planning.

Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 (HSNO Act):

<https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1996/0030/latest/DLM381222.html>

Health Act 1956:

<https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1956/0065/latest/whole.html>

Litter Act 1979:

<https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1979/0041/latest/DLM33082.html>

Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 (HSWA):

<https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1979/0041/latest/DLM33082.html>

Urban Development and Building

Various pieces of policy and legislation in the development and construction sector will have an indirect impact on the management and impact of construction and demolition waste. The National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020 has objectives and policy statements on sustainability, including reduction in greenhouse gases. Amendments to the Building Act (2019) and (2021) are designed to drive product stewardship, the recording of product information and support the use of new, innovative and efficient building methods.

Other legislation

Other legislation that relates to waste management and/or reduction of harm, or improved resource efficiency from waste products includes:

- Biosecurity Act 1993
- Radiation Protection Act 1965
- Ozone Layer Protection Act 1996
- Agricultural Chemicals and Veterinary Medicines Act 1997



Appendix C Progress towards 2018-2028 WMMP action plan

| Reference & Title | Description | 2023 Assessment |
|---|--|--|
| Collection Services | | |
| Improve kerbside recycling | Improve existing services, by increasing capacity for the recycling collection and expanding the range of materials collected | COMPLETE |
| Introduce a food waste collection | Introduce a kerbside food waste collection | COMPLETE |
| Extend Resource Recovery Centres | Increase range of materials accepted at resource recovery centres and transfer station, potentially including reuse and farm waste | COMPLETE |
| Mitigating user-pays rubbish collections | Consider options to mitigate the impact of user-pays rubbish collections on low income, larger families | NOT COMPLETE |
| Infrastructure | | |
| Alter Taumarunui site, and use an alternative disposal point | Allow Taumarunui landfill consent to expire and use an alternative disposal point, establishing a Class 4 (cleanfill) disposal site | PARTIALLY COMPLETE, Class 4 (cleanfill) landfill not established |
| Regulation | | |
| Bylaws | Develop and implement a solid waste bylaw that is aligned to and supports any changed services or operations, following the expiry of the consent for Taumarunui landfill in 2020 and tendering services | PARTIALLY COMPLETE, public spaces bylaw was updated but separate solid waste bylaw not introduced. |
| Enforcement | Take enforcement action against those that dump rubbish illegally where possible | COMPLETE, compliance team |
| Monitoring and Measuring | | |
| Develop a data strategy that is aligned with the national waste data framework | Develop a data strategy that is aligned with the national waste data framework will ensure that Council is collecting accurate and appropriate data to use in future waste assessments. This may involve carrying out 'SWAP' composition studies, and/or using a weighbridge to collect data on the quantity of wastes from kerbside rubbish and recycling collections. | COMPLETE |
| Education and Engagement | | |
| Extended education and engagement | Extend education and engagement to provide additional information on existing services (particularly for visitors) and, in particular, about new services should these be introduced | COMPLETE |
| Home composting scheme | Provide subsidised home composting bins, along with targeted education and support to ensure these are used. Target households that would not have access to the kerbside collection system. | COMPLETE |
| Zero Waste Action group | Establish a community-led zero waste action group, supported by Council through coordination and some funding, to delivery project areas prioritised and planned by the community | COMPLETE |
| Leadership & Management | | |
| Waiōuru Services | Collaborate with NZDF to develop a comprehensive service for Waiōuru. | COMPLETE |



Appendix D Product Stewardship Schemes in New Zealand

| Scheme or Programme | Regulated / accredited | Details |
|---|---|---|
| Agrecovery Foundation | Accredited scheme, working towards regulated status | Provides NZ farmers and growers with programmes for container recycling, drum recovery and collection of unwanted and/or expired chemicals. Also provides systems for return of shrink wrap and other farm plastics. |
| Envirocon | Accredited scheme, non-regulated | Waste concrete (including potentially harmful liquids) is diverted from landfill and upcycled into value-added precast concrete products for the Interbloc Modular Wall System. |
| Filter disposal services | Accredited scheme, non-regulated | Take back scheme for used oil filters from vehicles. |
| Glass Packaging Forum | Accredited scheme, non-regulated | The forum connects businesses that sell glass-packaged consumer goods with those that collect and recycle glass. This helps to improve the quality and quantity of glass recycled. The aim is zero container glass to landfill. |
| Interface ReEntry Programme | Accredited scheme, non-regulated | The scheme recycles used Interface carpet tiles into new carpet tiles and other products. PVC backed carpet tiles beyond their usable life are sent back to the original manufacturer in the US where they are stripped and remanufactured. |
| Large batteries | Currently in design phase for regulated scheme | Managed by the Battery Industry Group, covering batteries greater than 5kg, excluding lead-acid batteries. |
| Plastic packaging | Currently in design phase for regulated scheme | The Packaging Forum and New Zealand Food and Grocery Council are leading the two-year co-design process on plastic packaging. |
| Refrigerant recovery scheme | Accredited scheme, currently in design phase for regulated scheme | The Trust for the Destruction of Synthetic Refrigerants, also known as RECOVERY collects and responsibly disposes of refrigerants used in the refrigeration and air conditioning industries. |
| Resene Paintwise | Accredited scheme, non-regulated | Take-back of paint and paint receptacles. User pays for non-Resene branded paint and paint receptacles. |
| Recovery Oil Saves the Environment (ROSE) | Accredited scheme, non-regulated | The used-oil recovery programme enables users, oil producers and regulators to responsibly collect, transport, use and dispose of used oil. |
| Soft Plastic Recycling Scheme | Accredited scheme, non-regulated | Soft plastic packaging is collected from participating stores and delivered to two NZ processors – Future Post in Waiuku and Second Life Plastics in Levin. The soft plastics are made into new products such as plastic fence posts, cable covers & garden edging. |
| Sharp Comprehensive Recycling and Waste Reduction Scheme | Accredited scheme, non-regulated | Sharp New Zealand aims to reuse and recycle 100% of its packaging materials, electronic products, equipment and obsolete and used parts. |
| Synthetic refrigerant scheme | Design phase for regulated scheme | End of life refrigerant management scheme. |
| TechCollect | Design phase for regulated scheme | End of life e-waste scheme. |
| Tyrewise | Regulated scheme | New Zealand's first regulated product stewardship scheme covering the management of tyres. |



Appendix E Additional Waste Data

Figure 22 Kerbside refuse composition in 2021 by region

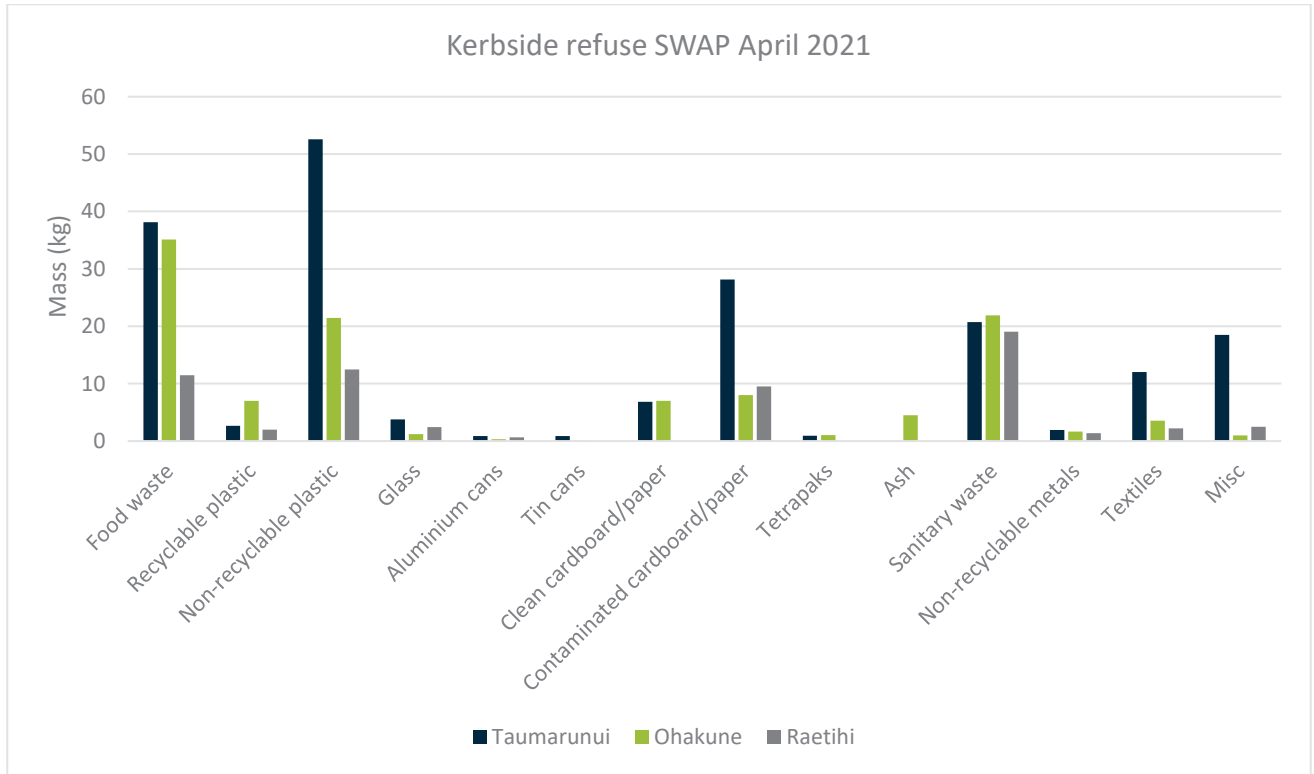
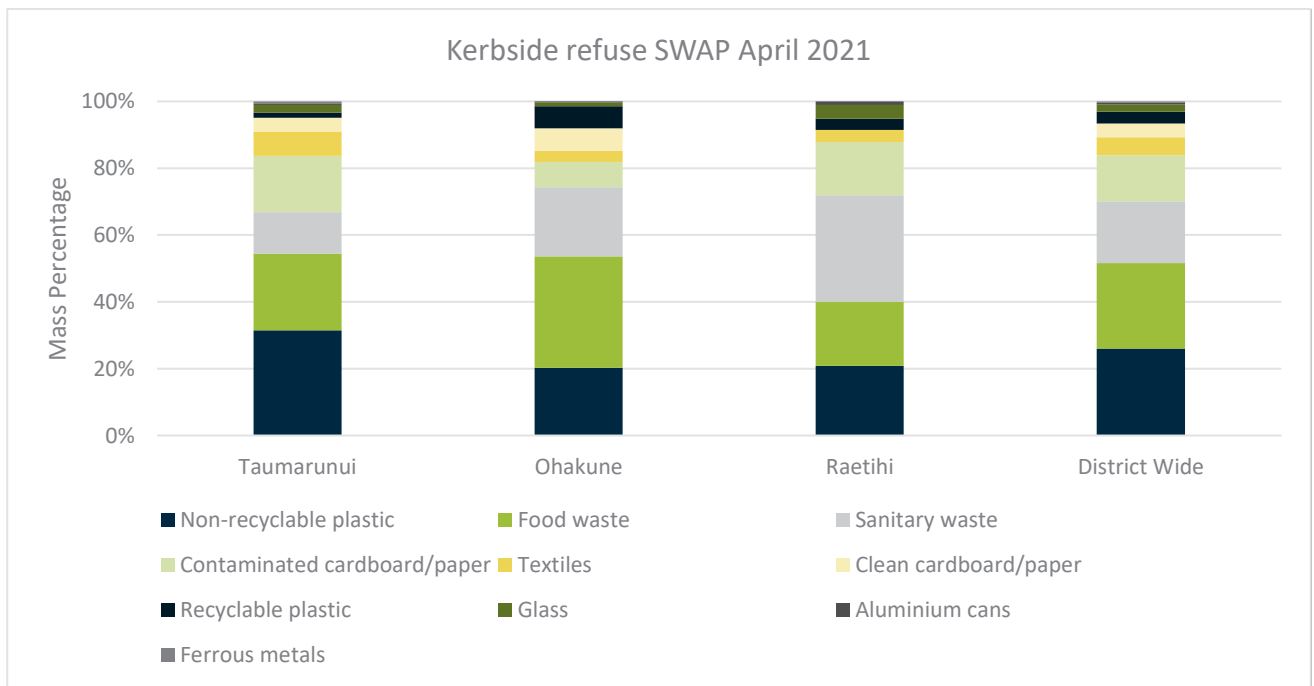


Figure 23 Kerbside refuse composition from figure above, normalised to 100% for comparison



Report to: Council

Meeting Date: 15 December 2023



Subject: Visit Ruapehu Quarterly Update: December 2023

Report for: Information

Author(s): Jo Kennedy **General Manager Visit Ruapehu**

Endorsed By: Pauline Welch **EXECUTIVE MANAGER: COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Purpose of Report | Te take mō te pūrongo

- 1 The purpose of this report is to inform Councillors of recent and current Visit Ruapehu activities.

Recommendation(s) | Ngā tūhunga

That the Council:

- 1 Receives and notes the Report **Visit Ruapehu Quarterly Update: December 2023** for information.

Significance and Engagement | Takenga mai

- 2 **Significance**
This report does not trigger the Significance and Engagement Policy.

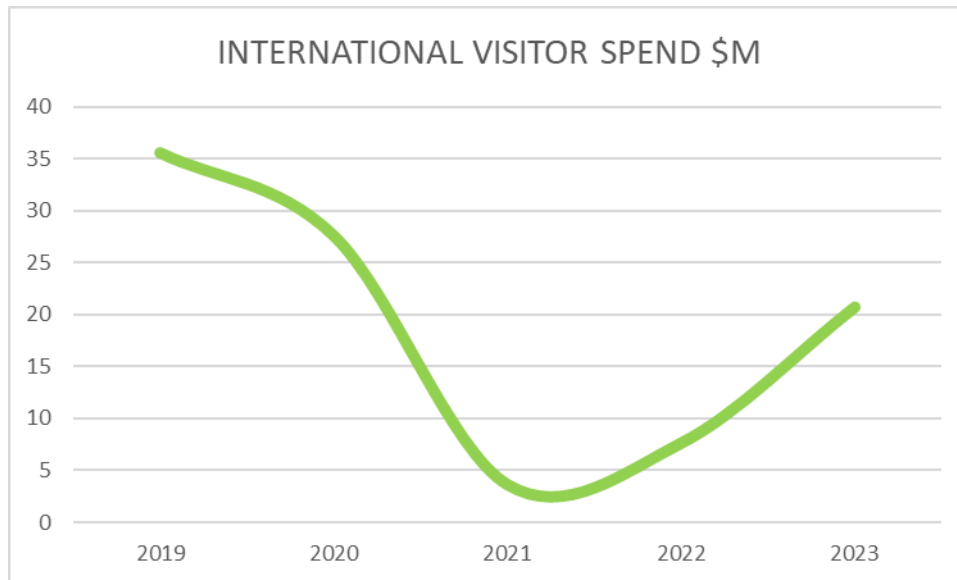
Background | Tuhinga

- 3 Visit Ruapehu Limited (VR) is a Council Controlled Organisation, whereby 100 per cent of the shares are owned by Ruapehu District Council.
 - 3.1 Visit Ruapehu and RDC have signed a Statement of Intent [SOI] in accordance with section 64 (1) of the Local Government Act 2002, which is valid until 30 June 2024.
 - 3.2 Visit Ruapehu's core purposes are:
 - (a) To promote the Ruapehu region as an appealing destination to potential visitors in order to support the economic sustainability of our communities.
 - (b) To grow visitor expenditure whilst enhancing the cultural, social, economic and environmental wellbeing of Ruapehu and its people.
 - (c) To support the tourism industry and local people to develop and deliver quality, sustainable visitor experiences.
 - (d) To maintain and strengthen support for the visitor sector through partnerships with local and national government, the tourism industry, tangata whenua and the wider Ruapehu community.
 - (e) To encourage demand into softer travel periods and diversify product promotion in order to realise sustainable tourism.
 - 3.4 Visit Ruapehu have been asked by Councillors to provide a quarterly update to the Council meeting. This is the first of these and coincides with the end of the calendar year.

Discussion | He Kōrerorero

4 INTERNATIONAL VISITOR SPEND

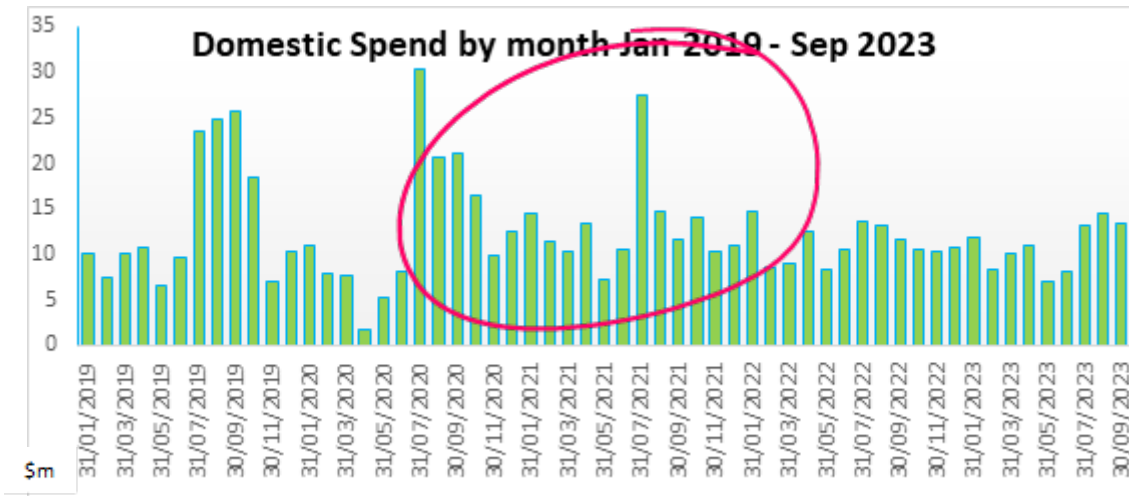
- 4.1 Data received from MBIE by way of the refreshed Monthly Regional Tourism Estimates shows that year to date at 30 September 2023 International Visitor Spend for the region is recovering well, with January 2023 to September 2023 showing spend at 77% of peak spending in 2019 pre-COVID.
- 4.2 International Visitor spend is recovering quickly as per the graph below, which shows year to date spend at 30 September over the last 5 years.



- 4.3 Air capacity to and from the US is driving strong growth in visitors from North America, and this is expected to play a significant part in Summer 2023/2024. Year end 30 September 2023 US visitor spend is up 340% compared to 2022, and a promising 37% up on pre-COVID numbers at 30 September 2019.
- 4.3.1 Compared to 2019 pre-COVID levels for year ending September 2023;
- (a) Australia spend is at 94% [-6%]
 - (b) German spend is at 26% [-74%]
 - (c) UK spend is at 111% [+11%]
- 4.4 The closure of the Chateau Tongariro Hotel is impacting international itineraries, at the same time limiting access to some of our previous high-end markets with the closing of this four-star iconic property.

5 **DOMESTIC VISITOR SPEND**

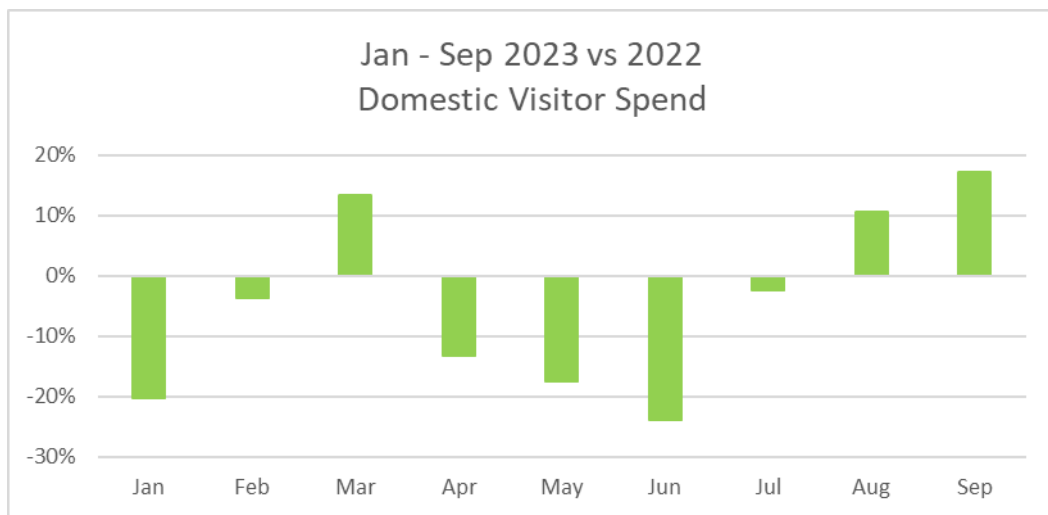
5.1 Domestic visitor spend increased with the closing of international borders, and Kiwis travelled extensively around New Zealand “discovering something new” in 2020-2021 as below graphic demonstrates.



5.2 The graph below shows that the region has had a mixed 2023 when comparing spend data to 2022. There have been a variety of headwinds, following the opening of international borders in 2022, for example the negative tourism impacts of:

- (a) Closing of the Chateau Tongariro Hotel, our largest hotel in the region
- (b) Voluntary receivership of RAL impacting on a delayed winter season announcement
- (c) Weather events impacting Cycle Trail and Whanganui River utilisation
- (d) Election year causing uncertainty
- (e) Cost of living crisis and technical recession

5.3 Of significant benefit to the region were the favourable snow conditions at Mt Ruapehu for the season.



6 VISIT RUAPEHU KEY POINTS

- 6.1 Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) funding agreement has now concluded, with the final Ruapehu Destination Management Plan, Tahia Ko Puanga, being released and receiving strong accolades from the sector, culminating in being named a finalist at the New Zealand Tourism Awards.
- 6.2 Tahia Ko Puanga strongly aligns with the council wellbeing framework and pūwhenua ki Ruapehu portal.
- 6.3 Visit Ruapehu funding has now returned to base levels as agreed in the Statement of Intent with Ruapehu District Council [valid until June 2024] VR will continue to give life to Tahia Ko Puanga in all our work, within budget confines.
- 6.4 Council is currently undergoing a Section 17A Review to investigate potential future structuring of Visit Ruapehu.
- 6.5 Our marketing focuses on digital channels with strong measurable activity across the year, upweighting seasonally. We advocate for compelling, authentic media pieces written by visiting journalists from key New Zealand publications and other parts of the world.
- 6.6 We attract international visitors by collaborating closely with neighbouring regions. Our strategy focuses on a unified approach in the Central North Island, where we actively connect with offshore travel sellers through in-market representation and participation in events like TRENZ in New Zealand. Additionally, we target New Zealand-based travel sellers through the Explore Trade Show, showcasing our products locally.

| |
|---------------------------------------|
| Attachment(s) Ngā āpitihanga |
|---------------------------------------|

NIL

Report to: Council

Meeting Date: 15 December 2023



Subject: Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chief Executive and Elected Members' Verbal Reports

Report for: Information

Author(s): Tasha Paladin **GOVERNANCE MANAGER**

Endorsed By: Clive Manley **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Purpose of Report | Te take mō te pūrongo

- 1 The purpose of this report is for the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chief Executive and Elected Members to provide verbal updates on upcoming events and other matters of general and topical interest to the District.