



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



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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 vapefree behaviour in a positive manner, encouraging others to be smokefree and vapefree.

4. Policy Statement

4.1 **The following public places will be smokefree and vapefree 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 Councils 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

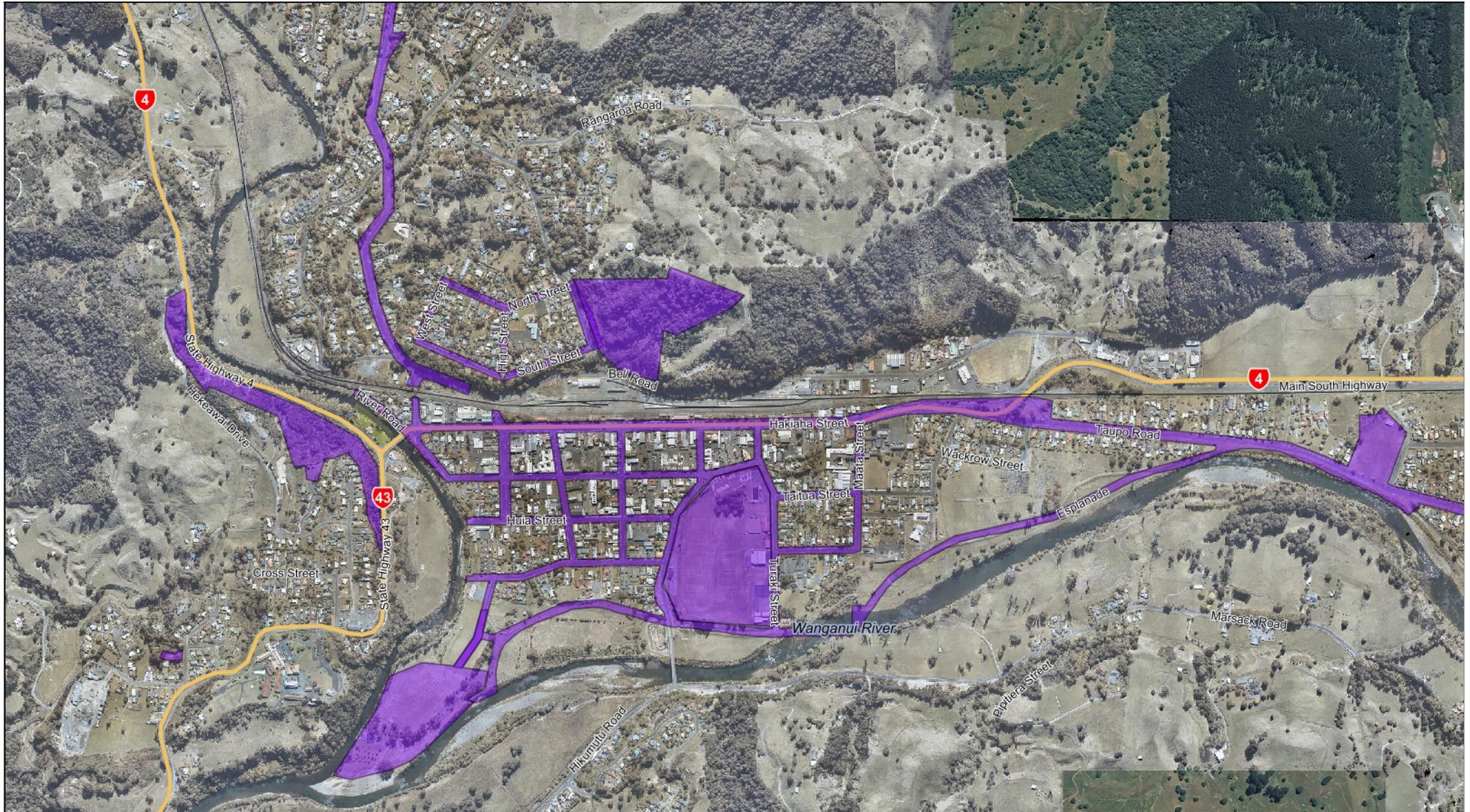
7. Policy Version Control

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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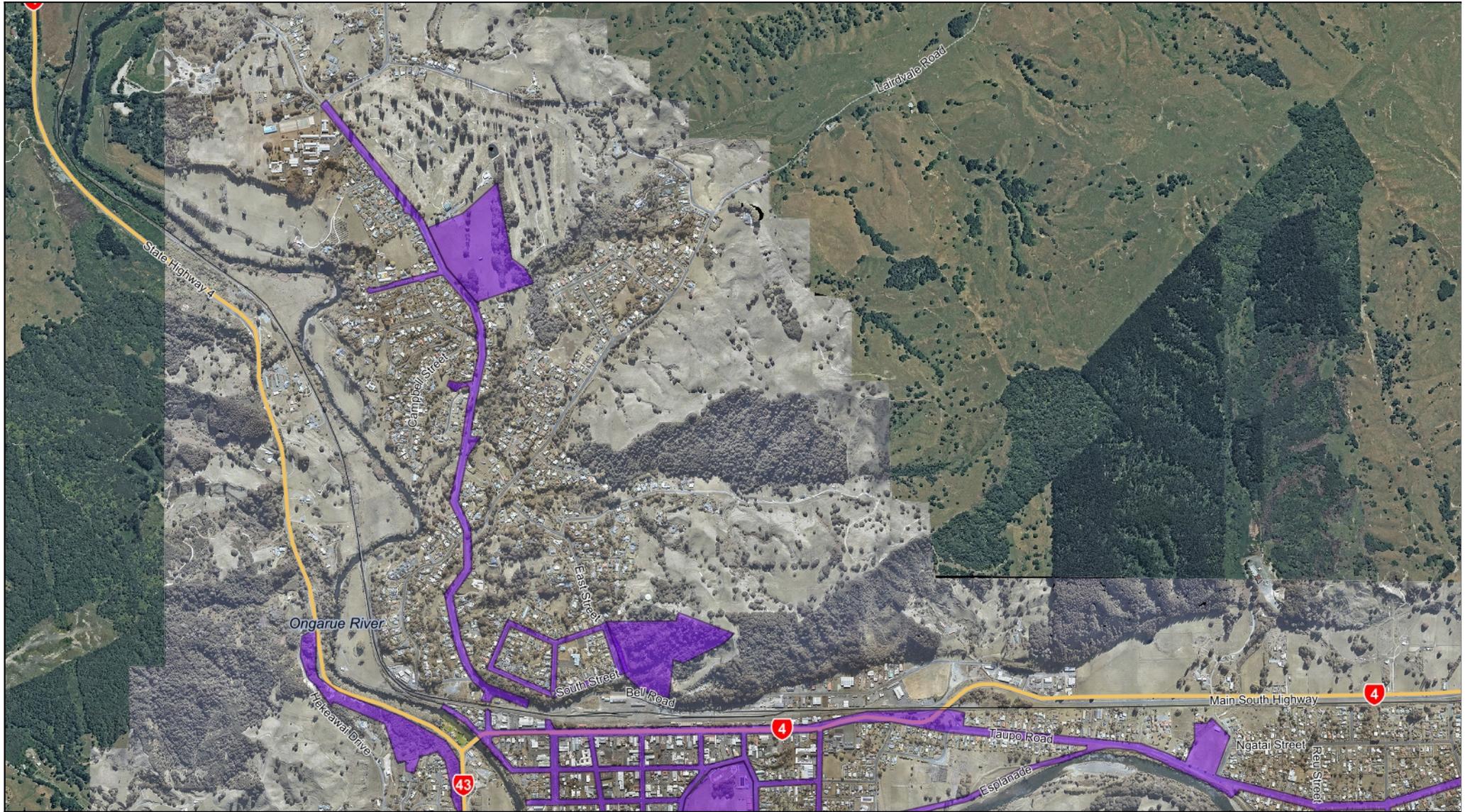
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National Park

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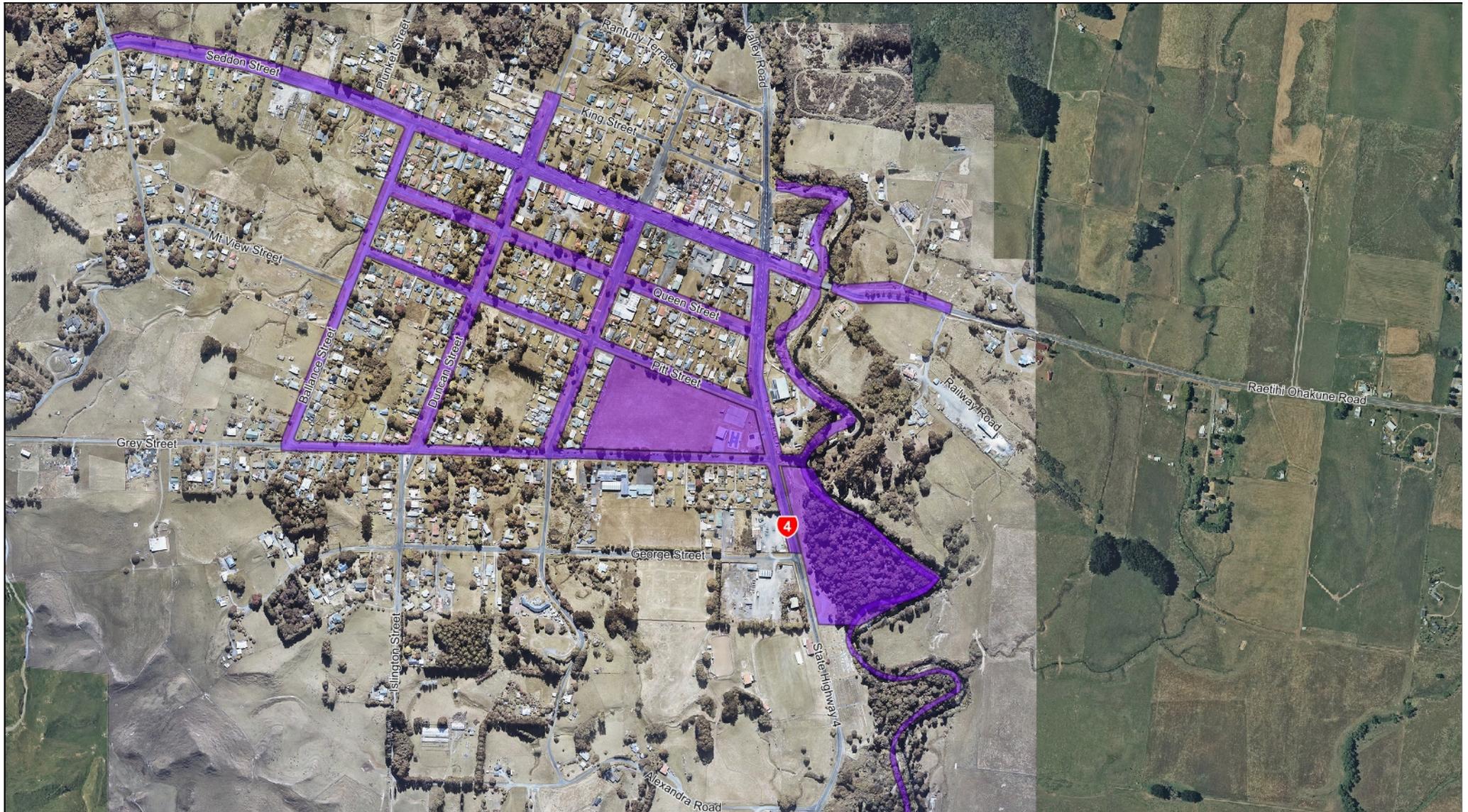
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Ohura

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