

Horowhenua

The Outcomes we want to achieve

Partnership with Tangata Whenua

We will uphold Te Tiriti o Waitangi/ The Treaty of Waitangi and its principles and recognise the role of Mana Whenua as kaitiaki of their rohe. We support them to maintain and enhance tikanga with their ancestral lands and waterways, wāhi tapu and other taonga, and build mutually respectful partnerships with tangata whenua, supporting whānau, marae, hapū and iwi in achieving their aspirations.

Outstanding Environment

We contribute to improving our natural environment for current and future generations to enjoy, and protect the important natural features in our district.

We ensure our built environment supports the wellbeing of our people and manage competing pressures on resources sustainably.

Fit for purpose Infrastructure

We provide efficient, reliable and affordable infrastructure, developing and maintaining facilities and infrastructure to meet the needs of current and future generations. Our community facilities and infrastructure are resilient, helping us to respond to climate change and natural hazards, working with partners to develop infrastructure that enables growth.

Vibrant Economy

We are business friendly, supporting diversity and resilience in our local economy and work with others to make our economy grow. We aspire for economic security for all of our people and seize growth opportunities for our district.

Strong Communities

We value the diversity of our people, and how our district's heritage shapes our community's sense of identity and pride.

We provide infrastructure, services, facilities and places to build resilient and connected communities where people of all ages and backgrounds feel included and safe. We are building collaborative relationships with service providers to enable all people to live positive, connected and healthy lifestyles, encouraging our people to participate in local decision making.

Following the 2022 triennial election, Council has taken the time to discuss the key issues and opportunities facing Horowhenua District Council, confirming the general direction they wish to take Horowhenua. With 18 months left to go of the current Council term, this update to the Plan on a Page reflects our priorities for the 2024 and 2025 years.

Council agreed that the platform built by Horowhenua 2040, and the Horowhenua Blueprint has provided building blocks for success. Our context of growth, reform and change, means that right now we want to focus our energy into the future through tackling the hard issues, lifting organisation performance and ultimately shifting the dial on how the communities we serve see value in Horowhenua District Council.

Our values – what we stand for

Mahi Tahī

We are one team, stronger together as we work with and for our community to deliver outcomes that matter.

#arohatōmahi

We love our work and know that our work matters. That is why we do what we say we will do and apply energy and enthusiasm across our mahi.

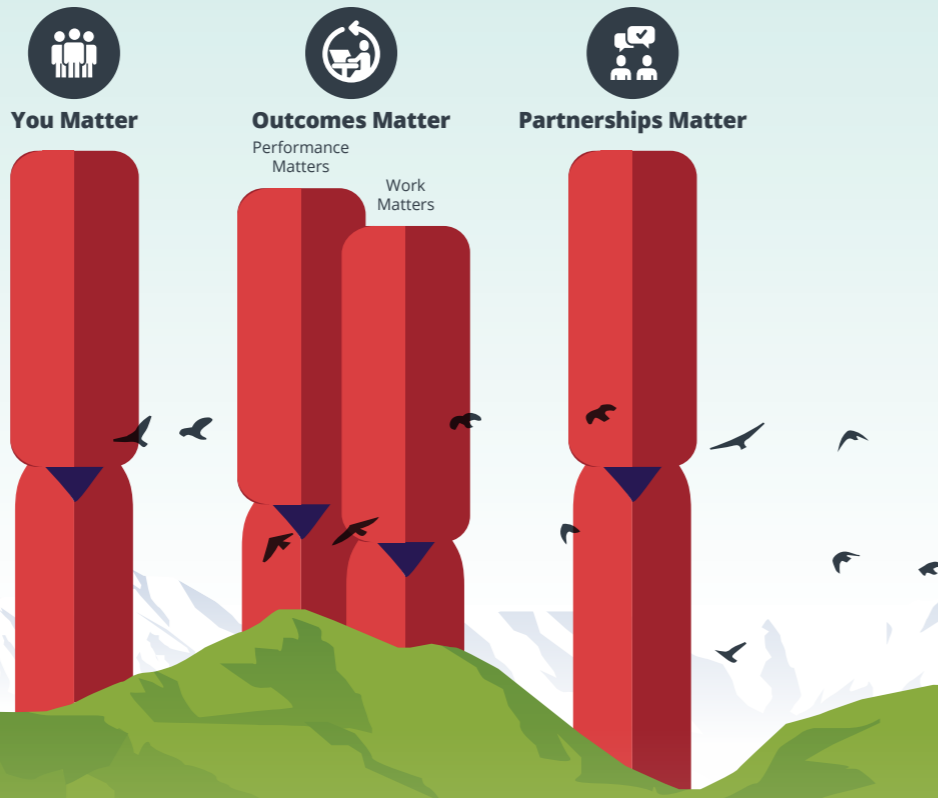
Manaakitanga

We put our people first by showing them that they matter, through a focus on whānau needs and aspirations.

Tiakitanga

We proudly and professionally contribute every day to the care of our community and whenua with courage, positivity and mana – leaving a legacy which future generations will embrace.

Our four pillars



He rau ringa e pakari ai nga taura whiri i o tātou hapori – mai i te pae maunga o Tararua ki te moana
 With many hands the threads which weave our neighbourhood and communities together will be strengthened from the Tararua ranges to the sea. Growing neighbourhoods and building stronger communities together.

Top Priorities

Pursuing Organisation Excellence

Continuing the journey of organisational transformation by enabling a culture of service, excellence and continuous improvement.

- Key Actions for 2024/2025**
- Review the Organisation Roadmap and implement identified action.
 - Further progress on getting the basics right and enhancing the customer experience through implementation of the Customer and Digital Action Plans.
 - Preparation for the 2025 elections and potential referendum.
 - Elected members bringing energy and commitment to progressing priorities and setting the next Council term up for success.

Supporting Lake Punahau/ Horowhenua Aspirations

Giving focus to advancing actions that speak to community and owners of Lake Punahau/Horowhenua aspirations specific to the role of Horowhenua District Council.

- Key Actions for 2024/2025**
- Strengthen relationships with the Lake Trust to consider enabling community aspirations.
 - Complete the Lake Domain development plan using Better off Funding.
 - Support reactivation of the Lake Domain Board.
 - Develop Best Practicable Options for Stormwater management in collaboration with the Lake Trust (as representative of the owners) and other key stakeholders and partners.
 - Continue to be an active partner with the Arawhata Wetland Project led by Horizons.
 - Support community led planting and clean up initiatives.

Enhancing Māori Relationships

Ensuring a concerted focus on developing a partnership framework, to advance our relationships and set up both Council and our partners for shared success through well-defined partnership arrangements and clear engagement expectations.

- Key Actions for 2024/2025**
- Progress development of Māori relationships and the Engagement Framework.

Enabling balanced growth with fit for purpose infrastructure

Continuing with our integrated growth planning and strategic delivery approach to enable smart and sustainable development that delivers balanced growth and fit for purpose infrastructure.

- Key Actions for 2024/2025**
- Progress an initial omnibus District Plan change to effect quick wins and address immediate issues.
 - Continue integrated growth planning to inform future capital investments.
 - Retaining focus and energy on bringing to life the outstanding environment and thriving economy community outcomes through fit for purpose infrastructure.
 - Development of Vested Assets Policy.
 - Deliver the Capital Programme.
 - Conduct appropriate investigations in key strategic focus areas-including aquatics, parks, property, and sports-preparing for informed decision making ahead of the next Long Term Plan.

Local Water Services Done Well

Navigating change towards inhouse provision of reliable three water services while strategically positioning ourselves to embrace and benefit from sector change.

- Key Actions for 2024/2025**
- Navigate inhousing of three water services.
 - Position Council for future changes to Local Waters Done Well waters arrangements.

Strategically Positioning Horowhenua

Ensuring targeted advocacy and proactive pursuit of third-party funding opportunities and strengthening of national and regional connections, to ensure our community's needs are clearly understood and prioritised, keeping us relevant and well-positioned to pursue or react to opportunities.

- Key Actions for 2024/2025**
- Pursue new look funding arrangements with CIP or others to advance growth infrastructure.
 - Pursue funding opportunities to speed up plans or advance unfunded or under resourced priorities.
 - Respond to regional deal opportunities.

Ensuring Financial Discipline and Management

Ensuring targeted advocacy and proactive pursuit of third-party funding opportunities and strengthening of national and regional connections, to ensure our community's needs are clearly understood and prioritised, keeping us relevant and well-positioned to pursue or react to opportunities.

- Key Actions for 2024/2025**
- Ensure financial discipline and compliance with our financial strategy and benchmarks.
 - Implement organisation-wide stringent budget monitoring to ensure all departments adhere to allocated budgets, promoting a culture of financial accountability and transparency across all levels.
 - Procure wisely and strategically, to prioritise spending on essential services and projects that deliver the highest value to the community.
 - Monitor Treasury opportunities to take advantage of favourable interest rates, reduce debt servicing costs, and maintain the Council's credit rating.
 - Provide transparent financial reporting and regular updates to the community on the Council's financial performance and initiatives.

Enriching Our Environment

Focusing on targeted initiatives to enrich, preserve and enhance the Horowhenua natural environment through promoting sustainability, waste management practices and resilience to climate change for the benefit of current and future generations.

- Key Actions for 2024/2025**
- Establish the emission monitoring portal.
 - Implement the Climate Action Plan within budget allocations.
 - Continue workstreams to enable decision making on Council's role and focus in waste management and minimisation, including potential future uses of the Levin Landfill site.
 - Support the protection and restoration of natural habitats, including wetlands, forests, and coastal areas.
 - Continue partnerships with schools, local organisations, and community groups to promote environmental stewardship.

Community Preparedness

Focusing on strengthened Council and community preparedness and resilience to enable our ability to plan for, respond to, adapt and recover from emergencies and district changes.

- Key Actions for 2024/2025**
- Emergency management planning and preparation.
 - Progress priority business continuity and resilience initiatives.
 - Continue tackling stormwater hotspots across our district.

Community Connections and Better Wellbeing

Focusing on priority wellbeing initiatives driven by the Horowhenua Blueprint, Wellbeing framework and the Housing Action Plan while strengthening place-based community relationships and engagement to foster authentic relationships and enhanced community connections.

- Key Actions for 2024/2025**
- Continue progressive implementation of Blueprint priorities.
 - Implement the Housing Action Plan priorities.
 - Activate the key priorities within the Community Wellbeing Strategy.
 - Maintain a sustained focus on improving our communication and engagement across communities.
 - Initiate community plans in Foxton and Shannon, and continue with place-based relationships.

Activating the Levin Town Centre

Activating key strategic initiatives to act as a catalyst for change, stimulating collaborative and transformational revitalisation of Levin's hub.

- Key Actions for 2024/2025**
- Implement agreed Strategy initiatives.
 - Pursue connections and relationships to build momentum outside of Council led initiatives.

Ōtaki to North of Levin Readiness

Leveraging the Ōtaki to North of Levin Expressway Project to seize opportunities and ensure alignment with strategic Council priorities for long term community benefit.

- Key Actions for 2024/2025**
- Continued advocacy on ŌZNL revocation.
 - Championing legacy outcomes.
 - Exploring opportunities and planning for consequential ŌZNL impacts with a specific focus on revocation.