



TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O
WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Our reference
F19/13/03-D21/26182

3 September 2026

Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given that, the **Ordinary** Meeting of Council will be held in the **Council Chambers, Stratford District Council, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford**, on **Tuesday 8 September 2026**, beginning at **3.30pm**.

The timetable is as follows:

10.00am	Workshop • Long Term Plan – Early Conversations ○ Parks and Walkways ○ Street Trees ○ Farm ○ Aerodrome • Community Relationship Policy
12.00pm	Lunch for Councillors
12.30pm	• Long Term Plan – Early Conversations ○ IT Budgets ○ Civil Defence Power Generator Options ○ Rating Implications of Ring-Fenced Water Services ○ Water Supply Renewals Programme ○ Implementation of a Risk-Based Backflow Prevention Programme ○ Stormwater Renewals Programme ○ Wastewater Campervan Discharge Facility ○ Wastewater Renewals Programme
3.00pm	Public Forum • Central Taranaki SAFE Community Trust
3.30pm	Ordinary Meeting of Council

Yours faithfully

Sven Hanne
Chief Executive

Stratford District
In the heart of Taranaki

63 Miranda Street, PO Box 320, Stratford 4352
Phone. 06 765 6099 | stratford.govt.nz

2026 - Agenda - Ordinary - September (Open)

08 September 2026 03:30 PM



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AGENDA

Ordinary Meeting of Council



F25/96/005 – D26/34109

Date: 8 September at 3.30 PM

Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

1. Welcome

- 1.1 Opening Karakia
D21/40748 Page 6
- 1.2 Health and Safety Message
D21/26210 Page 7

2. Apologies

3. Announcements

4. Declarations of Members Interest

Elected members to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to items on this agenda.

5. Attendance Schedule

Attendance schedule for Ordinary and Extraordinary Council meetings Page 8

6. Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Extraordinary Council of Council – 4 August 2026 D26/29529 Page 9

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 4 August 2026 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

/
Moved/Seconded

6.2 Ordinary Meeting of Council – 11 August 2026 D26/29842 (PX) D26/31361 (Open) Page 12

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council, including the public excluded section, held on Tuesday 11 August 2026 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

/
Moved/Seconded

6.2.1 Public Forum Notes D26/30925 Page 17

6.3 Policy and Services Committee – 25 August 2026
D26/32315 (PX) D26/34104 (Open) Page 18

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Policy and Services Committee, including the public excluded section, meeting held on Tuesday 25 August 2026 be received.
2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee, including the public excluded section, meeting held on Tuesday 25 August 2026 be adopted.

/
Moved/Seconded

7. Decision Report - Carry Forward Capital Projects from 2025/26 to 2026/27
D26/32734 Page 26

Recommendations

1. THAT the report and attached schedule be received.
2. THAT 27 budget lines, totalling \$11,808,533, from the 2025/26 financial year are carried forward to the 206/27 financial year.

Recommended Reason

The budget of \$11,808,533 is required for the 2026/27 financial year to complete the 23 budget lines that were started in the 2025/26 financial year.

/
Moved/Seconded

8. Decision Report -Restriction of Access to Lower Kohuratahi Bridge #2
D26/31955 Page 37

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.
2. THAT, pursuant to Clause 9 of the Restricted Access of Roads Bylaw 2025, and Regulation 11 of the Heavy Motor Vehicle Regulations 1974, access to the Lower Kohuratahi Bridge #2 (Bridge ID: 0133/0203) is closed to all vehicles and restricted to pedestrian traffic, not exceeding a gross mass of 400 kg, at all times.
3. THAT Officers are authorised to make the necessary amendments to the Restricted Access of Roads Bylaw 2025 Schedule to reflect Council's resolution on the matter.

Recommended Reason

Council Roding Engineers received advice from our structural engineering consultants that Lower Kohuratahi Bridge #2 should be closed to traffic for safety reasons, due the age and structural condition of the bridge. A 400 kg mass gross limit was recommended, restricting it only to pedestrian traffic weighing less than 400 kg in gross limit.

/
Moved/Seconded

9. District Mayor's Report

D26/33674

Page 61

Recommendations

THAT the report be received.

/
Moved/Seconded

10. Public Forum Response

Speaker Di Gleeson
Topic Central Taranaki SAFE Community Trust

11. Questions

12. Closing Karakia

D21/40748

Page 70



TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O
WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Our reference
F19/13/03-D21/40748

Karakia

Kia uruuru mai
Ā hauora
Ā haukaha
Ā haumāia
Ki runga, Ki raro
Ki roto, Ki waho
Rire rire hau Paimārire

I draw in (to my being)
The reviving essence
The strengthening essence
The essence of courage
Above, Below
Within, Around
Let there be peace.



TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O
WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Our reference
F19/13/03-D22/17082

Health and Safety Message

In the event of an emergency, unless guided to an alternative route by staff, please exit through the main entrance. Once outside the building please move towards the War Memorial Centre congregating on the lawn area outside the front of the council building.

If there is an earthquake, please drop, cover and hold where possible. Remain indoors until the shaking stops and you are sure it is safe to exit or remain where you are until further instruction is given.

5. Attendance schedule for 2026 Ordinary and Extraordinary Council meetings.

Date	10/02/26	24/02/26	10/03/26	14/04/26	12/05/26	26/05/26	09/06/26	14/07/26	21/07/26	04/08/26	11/08/26	08/09/26	13/10/26	10/11/26	08/12/26
Meeting	O	E	O	O	O	E	O	O	E	E	O	O	O	O	O
Neil Volzke	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
David Chadwick	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	✓	✓				
Steve Beck	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Jaimie Bertie	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Josh Best	✓	A	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓				
Grant Boyde	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A				
Annette Dudley	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Jono Erwood	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓				
Ellen Hall	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Amanda Harris	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Katherine Sextus	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Mathew Watt	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				

Key	
O	Ordinary Meeting
E	Extraordinary Meeting
EM	Emergency Meeting
✓	Attended
A	Apology/Leave of Absence
AB	Absent
S	Sick
AV	Meeting held, or attended by, by Audio Visual Link

MINUTES

Extraordinary



F25/96/005 – D26/29529

Date: 4 August 2026 at 10.00am

Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

Present

The District Mayor Neil Volzke (the Chairperson), the Deputy Mayor Amanda Harris, Councillors: Steve Beck, Jaime Bertie, Grant Boyde, David Chadwick, Annette Dudley, Jono Erwood, Ellen Hall, Katherine Sextus, and Mathew Watt.

In attendance

The Chief Executive – Sven Hanne, the Director – Environmental Services – Blair Sutherland, the Director – Corporate Services – Raelene Johnson, the Director – Community Services – Kate Whareaitu, the Director – Assets – Victoria Araba, the Governance Advisor & Executive Assistance – Gareth Hancock.

1. Welcome

The opening karakia and H&S message was read.

2. Apologies

THAT the apology from Councillor Josh Best be received.

ERWOOD/DUDLEY
Carried
CL/26/68

3. Declarations of Members Interest

Elected members were asked to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to items on this agenda. There were no conflicts of interest declared. None.

4. Decision Report- confirmation of preferred option.

D26/28080 Page 6

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/CHADWICK
Carried
CL/26/69

2. THAT Council approves in principle, the draft Head Start Pathway Outline Proposal attached to this report.

BOYDE/HALL
Carried
CL/26/70

3. THAT Council notes South Taranaki District Council's decision on this matter, (to be) made on 3 August 2026.

VOLZKE/DUDLEY
Carried
CL/26/71

4. THAT Council authorises the Chief Executive to work with the Chief Executive of South Taranaki District Council to finalise the draft and submit it by 9 August 2026 to the Ministry of Cities, Environment, Regions and Transport for assessment and approval by Cabinet.

HALL/BECK
Carried
CL/26/72

5. THAT Council authorises the Mayor to approve the final proposal on behalf of Stratford District Council, before it is submitted.

SEXTUS/HARRIS
Carried
CL/26/73

Recommended Reason

On 21 July 2026, Council resolved that its preferred option for a Head Start proposal was to form a two-unitary council and amalgamate with the South Taranaki District Council to form a unitary council for central and south Taranaki.

The Chief Executive and District Mayor noted the following points:

- The Chief Executive noted that elected members have been involved throughout the process. Council decided two weeks ago to progress a proposal to amalgamate with South Taranaki. This is a draft document, and while minor corrections are still to be made, none are considered material changes. It is recognised in Recommendation Four that further amendments will be required before submission on Sunday; however, the aim is to finalise it by Friday. The recommendation authorises the Mayor to make any necessary final changes that do not alter the intent of the proposal and to keep the process moving. This is a high-level and flexible proposal that does not commit Council to specific details, as those will be worked through over the next six months. If Council endorses the proposal, the Chief Executive will finalise it in consultation with the Mayor.
- Council will need to wait approximately four to eight weeks before finding out whether the proposal has been accepted by the Government. If accepted, the six-month work programme will begin for the detailed design. This work will involve engagement with iwi, the regional council, and other stakeholder groups, and is expected to be a busy period. The Chief Executive reiterated the process to elected members.
- The District Mayor said it has been an interesting journey to reach this stage and that Council now has a document that can be submitted to the Government. The Mayor expressed a desire to see the proposal progress from today's meeting and noted that discussions have taken place with elected members, iwi, stakeholders, and the wider community. The general view is aligned with what these groups said, and there has not been a significant amount of dissent, which provides some assurance. The Mayor emphasised that this is not the final proposal but rather intended to get Council through the first gateway of the process. A number of aspects still need to be worked through, and this remains a light-touch, high-level document. Several areas require further development. An important point to remember is that Council can still pivot or stop the process if that is the majority view. This is part of the process, not the end outcome. The Mayor also referred to the Federated Farmers submission that had been circulated to members.
- The Mayor noted to members that while there may be points with which members disagree, it is unlikely that any document will align with 100 per cent of everyone's views. Some changes will be made, but these are not expected to be material.

Points noted in the discussion and questions:

- The Deputy Mayor referred to the joint committee arrangement and queried whether specific legislation would be required. The CE advised that joint committees are well established under the Local Government Act. However, where a joint committee is responsible for significant functions mandated by legislation, it may be preferable to pursue bespoke legislation to establish a dedicated entity with a clear statutory mandate, safeguards, and legislated governance arrangements. The CE noted that bespoke legislation would formally recognise and authorise the entity to undertake those mandated functions.
- The Deputy Mayor sought clarification on whether the Council had been in discussions with Horizons regarding the boundary section, and whether any formal dialogue had taken place. The CE advised that there had been informal discussions; however, Horizons had not yet confirmed their proposal.
- The District Mayor noted a statement within the proposal that "unitary by default, regional by exception". This point was further elaborated on during the discussion.
- Councillor Boyde referred to the governance and representation section of the proposal, particularly the reference to Māori wards, noting that all three councils had removed those wards. Councillor Boyde queried how the community might respond to the inclusion of this wording. The CE advised that this point had also been raised by others and noted that iwi representation and involvement would be important moving forward. The CE further commented that, at this early stage of the proposal, the wording could be amended, as these matters would form part of the second stage of the proposal. The District Mayor also spoke further to this point.

- Councillor Hall noted the detailed design process and how the proposal is currently worded. It relates to iwi partnerships and acknowledges that iwi do have a role. She noted that a referendum had been held, but where significant changes occur, there is an opportunity to revisit the matter.
- Councillor Beck noted that it is very important to respect what the community has voted for. He stated that the community has placed its trust in Council based on the little information provided, and that the referendum result showed they did not support Māori wards. He considered that including this would be a disservice to the community.
- Councillor Chadwick noted the need to review the partnership through the Treaty relationship and, by design, include Māori in the journey. He stated that this would benefit both the partnership and Taranaki, and that there is a good opportunity to strengthen that relationship. While a referendum had been held, he noted that matters are revisited. He suggested the wording could be amended by members, but it would be transparent to acknowledge that further discussion may occur.
- Councillor Hall noted that the consultant had included wording indicating the proposal would not be declined solely on that basis, and queried whether the issue of Māori wards would be considered a negative factor. The Mayor noted that the proposal would not be judged solely on this matter, as there are five criteria that must be met and assessed.
- The Deputy Mayor noted that Council needed to be mindful that it was a football in a political game, and that the game is called the election. She stated that she was comfortable with asking the question again but supported softening the wording in the agenda.
- Councillor Erwood sought clarity regarding the South Taranaki decision and whether any recommendation had been included in its adoption. The CE noted that South Taranaki had held a similar discussion. He added that South Taranaki is committed to Māori representation. He emphasised this was more about the timing of the conversation.
- Councillor Beck noted that if the aim was to get the proposal across the line with the Government, he would prefer to leave discussion of the ward system out of it, as there would be plenty of opportunities to discuss that matter in future.
- Councillor Erwood noted that the proposal referred to Māori representation rather than specifically to Māori wards. Further discussion took place over the matter and wording.
- Councillor Hall referred to the Mayor's comments regarding an email from Federated Farmers about the Natural Environment Plan. The CE noted that there would be an opportunity to revisit the matter and that it could be included in the next phase of work. Members agreed to this approach. Councillor Hall noted that this highlighted the importance of the design phase.
- Councillor Hall noted that the biggest decision was made two weeks ago and that the document needs to reflect that decision. She stated that she is particularly interested in the next phase of the project. While the report discusses information gathering and investigation, Councillors are interested in how it will be implemented. She expressed thanks and confidence in the work undertaken by staff and consultants to date. The Councillor was interested in understanding how Elected Members will be involved in the design phase, and in the discussions around how that will occur.
- Councillor Beck noted the need to prioritise work other work. The CE advised that the key focus of the LTP is the delivery of projects, and that there is limited overlap with this work. He noted that different resources will be utilised where possible and that efforts will be made to minimise the impact on projects.
- The District Mayor noted the next steps, which included the Mayoral Forum in the afternoon.

5. Closing Karakia

The closing karakia was read.

The meeting closed at 10.52 am.

N C Volzke
Chairman

Confirmed this 11th day of August 2026.

N C Volzke
District Mayor

MINUTES

Ordinary



F25/96/006 – D26/29842

Date: 11 August 2026 at 3.30 PM

Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

Present

The District Mayor Neil Volzke (the Chairperson), the Deputy Mayor Amanda Harris, Councillors: Steve Beck, Jaimie Bertie, Josh Best, Annette Dudley, Jono Erwood, Ellen Hall, Katherine Sextus and Mathew Watt.

In attendance

The Chief Executive –Sven Hanne, the Director – Corporate Services – Raelene Johnson, the Director – Assets – Victoria Araba, the Governance Advisor & Executive Assistance – Gareth Hancock.

1. Welcome

The opening karakia was read and the H&S message was read. The mayor welcomed members, senior staff to the meeting and members of the public.

2. Apologies

Noted Councillor Boyde's approved leave of absence.

Recommendation

THAT Councillor Grant Boyde's apology be received.

BECK/BEST
Carried
CL/26/74

3. Announcements

The Chief Executive advised that the Head Start proposal was submitted to MCERT on Friday. Confirmation of receipt has been received, and any follow-up questions are now awaited. The Chief Executive also noted that a meeting with all four councils is scheduled for 4.15pm today to discuss the Head Start process.

The District Mayor advised that he, the CE and Director of Environmental Services met with Contact Energy yesterday to discuss the data centre. A presentation to councillors has been scheduled to give them an outline of the proposed project. The District Mayor noted that he is happy to speak with councillors outside of this meeting if they have any questions.

4. Declarations of Members Interest

Elected members were asked to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to items on this agenda. None were noted.

5. Attendance Schedule

The Attendance schedule for Ordinary Council Meetings was attached and noted. None.

6. Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Ordinary Meeting of Council – 14 July 2026
D26/25831 Page 10

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 14 July 2026 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

VOLZKE/HARRIS
Carried
CL/26/75

6.1.1 Public Forum Notes
D26/25832 Page 13

6.2 Audit and Risk Committee – 14 July 2026
D26/25834 Page 16

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on Tuesday 14 July 2026 be received.

ERWOOD/DUDLEY
Carried
CL/26/76

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on Tuesday 14 July 2026 be adopted.

BERTIE/WATT
Carried
CL/26/77

The District Mayor noted that the Percy Thomson letter of expectations has been sent.

6.3 Extraordinary Meeting of Council – 21 July 2026
D26/27307 Page 23

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 21 July 2026 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

BEST/HARRIS
Carried
CL/26/78

Councillor Best noted his name is missing from present for the meeting. This would be amended by the Governance Advisor.

6.4 Policy and Services Committee – 21 July 2026
D26/27310 Page 27

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 21 July 2026 be received.

DUDLEY/BERTIE
Carried
CL/26/79

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 21 July 2026 be adopted.

HALL/BEST
Carried
CL/26/80

Councillor Hall noted on page 30 the word should be crude. This would be amended by the Governance Advisor.

7. Decision Report - Road Closure for a Car Club Event

D26/27671

Page 35

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

CHADWICK/VOLZKE

Carried

CL/26/81

2. THAT pursuant to Section 342(1) (b) Schedule 10 clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974, approval is hereby given that the Stratford District Council closes the following roads on Sunday 16 August 2026 between the hours of 7.30am and 5.30pm for the purpose of the annual Stratford Street Sprint 2026

- Orlando Street from Warwick Road to Celia Street
- Romeo Street from Orlando Street to Cordelia Street
- Cordelia Street from Romeo Street to Warwick Road
- Warwick Road from Cordelia Street to Orlando Street

HARRIS/WATT

Carried

CL/26/82

Recommended Reason

The South Taranaki Car Club have approached the Stratford District Council with the view of holding their annual Stratford Street Sprint Event on Sunday 16 August. This is their 36th year of running the event. The proposed road closure requires formal endorsement by a Council resolution.

8. District Mayor's Report

D26/30554

Page 49

Recommendations

- THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/BECK

Carried

CL/26/83

The District Mayor noted the following:

- It was a relatively light report, with discussion including local government reform. The Mayor advised that the LGNZ AGM was held online and noted that the Council's remit was successful. He further noted the ranking of the remits and commented that the result was significant.
- The MTFJ report was noted as correspondence.

Questions/points of clarification:

- Councillor Beck sought further information on the remit submitted to LGNZ. The Mayor explained that its success elevates the issue on LGNZ's priority list, enabling LGNZ to advocate for it and allocate resources accordingly.
- Councillor Hall asked how many remits were considered. It was noted that there were nine.
- Councillor Dudley noted that there had been three fire call-outs to the War Memorial Hall and sought an explanation. An explanation was provided.

9. Public Forum Response

Speaker Michael Carr
Topic Sport Taranaki

A letter to convey thanks to Sport Taranaki, encouraging them to keep up the good work.

10. Resolution to Exclude the Public

Recommendation

THAT the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

Agenda Item No: 11

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

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution to each matter	Grounds under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Chief Executive Annual Performance Appraisal	The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.	That the public conduct of the whole or 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 6 and section 7 of the Act - specifically Section 7(2)(a) Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

ERWOOD/CHADWICK
Carried
CL/26/84

11. Public Excluded Item

Recommendation

THAT the open meeting resume.

VOLZKE/SEXTUS
Carried
CL/26/87

12. Questions

- None.

13. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 74

The closing karakia was read.

The meeting closed at 4.07 pm.

N C Volzke
Chairman

Confirmed this 8th day of September 2026.

N C Volzke
District Mayor

PUBLIC FORUM

Notes



F25/96/005 – D26/30925

Date: 11 August 2026 at 3.00pm

Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

Present

The District Mayor Neil Volzke (the Chairperson), the Deputy Mayor Amanda Harris, Councillors: Steve Beck, Jaimie Bertie, Josh Best, David Chadwick, Annette Dudley, Jono Erwood, Ellen Hall, Katherine Sextus and Mathew Watt.

Apologies

Councillors: Grant Boyde.

In attendance

The Chief Executive –Sven Hanne, the Director – Environmental Services – Blair Sutherland, the Director – Corporate Services – Raelene Johnson, the Director – Assets – Victoria Araba, the Governance Advisor & Executive Assistance – Gareth Hancock.

1. Welcome

The District Mayor welcomed the Chief Executive, Councillors, members of the public, staff, and the media.

2. Speakers

Speaker: Michael Carr

Topic: Sport Taranaki

Points noted in the presentation:

- The Impact Report was presented.
- Strengthening and balancing classes has created an opportunity to open a fourth class at the pool.
- 100 Green Prescription clients were noted.
- The latest funding round was noted.
- The Teen Parent Unit was noted, and members were impressed with the work being undertaken.
- Healthy Active Learning was noted, with a social return of \$2.10.
- The Stratford roadshow was noted for 15 September.
- The Sports Awards were noted. Christine Arthur is the guest speaker, and the opening period for nominations was noted. Last year, there were 100 nominations.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- The District Mayor sought information on the funding project; this was explained.
- Councillor Beck asked whether the roadshow was an open invitation. It was noted that it was, and approximately 22 people attended.
- Councillor Hall commended them for presenting to the district and for their regional approach.
- The District Mayor noted that the equestrian grounds project was underway and that this would have positive effects for Sport Taranaki.
- The District Mayor thanked them for sharing the information and their work.

The forum closed at 3.22pm.

MINUTES

Policy and Services Committee



F25/96/005 – D26/32315

Date: Tuesday 25 August 2026 at 3.00 pm
Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

Present

The Deputy Mayor Amanda Harris (the Chairperson), the District Mayor Neil Volzke, Councillors: Steve Beck, Jaimie Bertie, Josh Best, Annette Dudley, Ellen Hall, Katherine Sextus and Mathew Watt.

In attendance

The Chief Executive – Sven Hanne, the Director – Community Services – Kate Whareaitu, the Director – Corporate Services – Raelene Johnson, the Director – Assets – Victoria Araba, the Director – Environmental Services – Blair Sutherland, the Governance Advisor and Executive Assistant – Gareth Hancock, Policy Analyst - Rebecca Dearden., the Corporate Accountant - Karla Lawrence, the Revenue Manager - Sallie Barr.

1. Welcome

The opening karakia was read. The Deputy Mayor reiterated the emergency procedures.

2. Apologies

Apologies were noted from Councillor Boyde and Erwood who had an approved leave of absence.

Recommendation

THAT Councillor Boyde & Erwood apology be received.

CHADWICK/BECK
Carried
P&S/26/94

3. Announcements

None noted.

4. Declarations of members interest

Elected members were asked to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to items on this agenda. None were noted.

5. Attendance Schedule

The Attendance schedule for Policy and Services Committee meetings was attached and noted.

6. Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Policy & Services Committee - 21 July 2026

D26/27310 Page 12

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 21 July 2026 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

HALL/BERTIE
Carried
P&S/26/95

7. Matters Outstanding

D16/47 Page 20

Recommendation

THAT the Matters Outstanding be received.

HALL/BECK
Carried
P&S/26/96

8. Decision Report - Local Government Act 2002 delegations

D26/31326 Page 21

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

DUDLEY/WATT
Carried
P&S/26/97

2. THAT Council approve the delegations to Council Officers under the Local Government Act 2002 listed in Appendix 1 of this report.

HARRIS/VOLZKE
Carried
P&S/26/98

Recommended Reason

The proposed delegations will enable Council Officers to efficiently and lawfully exercise statutory powers and functions, support timely decision-making, and ensure Council's delegations framework remains legally compliant and aligned with operational responsibilities.

The Policy Advisor noted that this was a continuation of previous decision reports and the transition of delegations to an online platform.

Questions/points of clarification:

- Councillor Hall noted that it was standard practice for local government authorities to have delegations in place. The Chief Executive noted that it would be impossible to operate without them, as Council would otherwise need to make all decisions itself. She sought clarification on how any gaps or issues were managed prior to these changes. The Chief Executive noted that many delegations were not frequently used and, where they were, staff would check before exercising any powers or bring the matter to Council for a decision if required.

- The Mayor sought clarification regarding section 171 and the general power of entry, which is delegated to the Director and Manager. He questioned whether it would be more appropriate for this power to be delegated solely to the Chief Executive. The Chief Executive noted that this would mean only the Chief Executive could exercise the power and would require sub-delegation. The Chief Executive advised that the power would not be exercised without the knowledge of either the relevant Director or the Chief Executive.
- The Mayor sought clarification regarding development contributions. He noted that the wording appeared to allow a degree of discretion and asked whether development contributions must be provided for in a policy. The Director Environment advised that development contributions must be provided for through a policy.
- Councillor Beck sought clarification on delegations, how delegated powers are exercised, and what safeguards are in place. It was explained that appropriate checks and balances exist, and that staff exercising delegated authority are suitably trained and qualified.

9. Decision Report - New delegations for Corporate Services and Community Services

D26/30204 Page 34

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

BEST/CHADWICK
Carried
P&S/26/99

2. THAT Council approve the delegations to Council Officers under the legislation listed in Appendix 1 of this report.

WATT/BERTIE
Carried
P&S/26/100

Recommended Reason

The proposed delegations will enable Council Officers to efficiently and lawfully exercise statutory powers and functions, support timely decision-making, and ensure Council's delegations framework remains legally compliant and aligned with operational responsibilities.

The Director – Corporate noted that this is essentially a replication of the previous decision and delegates authority to Corporate Services and one power to community services.

Questions/points of clarification:

- Councillor Hall reiterated her previous question about how these delegations had been exercised previously. It was noted that the changes are largely a tidy-up exercise. She also asked about LGOIMA sign-off processes and the delegation behind them.
- The Mayor queried the rates remission provisions for Māori freehold land and sought clarification on whether, once developed, the land can be rated. Discussion occurred on this matter, and it was noted that the relevant legislation would need to be checked. It was suggested that this be added to the outstanding matters and reported back to elected members.
- Councillor Beck queried why new delegations were being proposed. The Director advised that the changes would not alter the way Council currently works, but rather ensure delegations are formally recorded, with some gaps having been identified through the review process. Further discussion also occurred regarding LGOIMA responses.

10. Decision Report - Establishment of a Waste Services Joint Committee

D26/30942 Page 64

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

HARRIS/DUDLEY
Carried
P&S/26/101

2. THAT Council approves the Waste Services Joint Committee Agreement (Appendix 1), including the establishment of the Waste Services Joint Committee, and approves the Joint Committee's Terms of Reference (Appendix 2).

VOLKZE/WATT
Carried
P&S/26/102

Recommended Reason

Approval of the Waste Services Joint Committee Agreement and Terms of Reference will enable Stratford District Council to participate in regional governance for waste management, supporting collaboration, efficiency, and the delivery of regional waste minimisation initiatives.

The Governance Advisor noted that New Plymouth District Council has now signed the agreement.

Questions/points of clarification:

- The Mayor noted that this committee arose from a decision of the Mayoral Forum. It was also noted that a number of committee related to waste management across the region. South Taranaki District Council will host the committee and ensure equal representation of members.
- Councillor Hall noted that she was comfortable with the proposed voting arrangement. She also sought clarification on the agreement and the powers of the committee in relation to individual districts. It was advised that the committee's role is primarily to monitor, provide advice, and act as a reference committee.
- The Deputy Mayor sought clarification on whether there had been any decision to rotate hosting responsibilities. It was confirmed there had not, and it was noted that South Taranaki's appointment as host was based on the food waste recycling activities within the district.

11. Decision Report - Electoral System - First Past the Post or Single Transferable Vote

D26/31532 Page 75

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

HARRIS/HALL
Carried
P&S/26/103

2. THAT the Committee resolves for the 2028 Stratford District Council triennial elections to either:

- I. Retain the First Past the Post electoral system;
- II. ~~Change to the Single Transferable Voting electoral system; or~~
- III. ~~Undertake a poll of electors on the electoral system;~~

And that public notice be given by 19 September 2026 of the decision and of the right of electors to demand a poll on the electoral system to be used.

HALL/DUDLEY
Carried
P&S/26/104

Recommended Reason

Consideration of the electoral system is required by 12 September 2026, with a public notice required by 19 September 2026, under the Local Electoral Act 2001.

The Director - Corporate noted the following:

This decision relates to the 2028 local election, and Council is required to make a decision under the relevant legislation. A workshop was held with Election Services to provide guidance on the process.

Questions/points of clarification:

- Councillor Watt raised the issue of local government amalgamation and asked whether there had been any legislative changes. It was noted that there have been no changes at this stage and that Council is continuing to follow the current legislation.
- Councillor Beck asked whether changing the voting system would trigger a referendum. It was confirmed that a poll must be held if one is requested in accordance with the legislation.

Points noted in discussion:

- Councillor Hall noted that this was one of the first decisions she made as an elected member and that she had previously advocated for STV, as it provides greater opportunity for minority representation. However, given the number of changes currently occurring, she considered it unwise to consult the community on changing the voting system at this time. She noted that the change would be difficult to explain to the community and was not in the best interests of the district.

12. Monthly Reports

12.1 Assets Report

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

HARRIS/BEST
Carried
P&S/26/105

Questions/points of clarification:

- Councillor Hall queried battery disposal and how this had been communicated to the public. It was confirmed that the usual communication channels had been used. Decontamination waste was discussed, and it was noted that the amount was marginal. Clarification was sought regarding a budget item on page 104, which was explained. Clarification was also sought on the frequency of the roading measures. The relevant table was explained. Further clarification was sought on a table on page 88, which was also explained. Waste minimisation was discussed, including the differences between the two months and the variation. This was further elaborated on.
- Councillor Dudley sought an update on water meters. It was confirmed that the manifolds have been completed and that 99 percent have been completed. Councillor Dudley also asked whether mock billing would be undertaken, and it was confirmed that leak detection is being carried out.
- Councillor Beck sought clarification on wastewater desludging. It was noted that progress is slow due to the presence of rags and recent weather conditions. The project remains under budget, with the completion date yet to be determined.
- The District Mayor sought clarification on the grit tank update. It was noted that leaks had been detected, and an update on the investigation and remedial actions was provided.

12.2 Community Services Report

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

WATT/BECK
Carried
P&S/26/106

The Director noted that the Youth Council report was attached, provided a good summary of activities, and that Council is still awaiting the MTFJ contract.

Questions/points of clarification:

- Councillor Hall sought clarification on the Learn to Swim programme, and asked how this compared to the previous year. It was noted that this information would be provided.
- The Deputy Mayor noted that Te Wera Outdoor Valley Lodge had been through an extensive process to appoint a camp manager and an appointment has been made to date.

12.3 Corporate Services Report

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

HARRIS/HALL
Carried
P&S/26/107

The District Mayor acknowledged the Rates Team for the substantial improvement in rates arrears.

12.4 Environmental Services Report

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

BEST/DUDLEY
Carried
P&S/26/108

Questions/points of clarification:

- Councillor Hall queried whether a submission on Building Act reform would be prepared. The Director advised that he would review the proposal and that further discussion would occur. Councillor Hall also asked whether there were any further updates on the solar farm, and it was noted that there were none. An update was sought on Mana Whakahono ā Rohe and iwi partners, with it being noted that Council is still awaiting further information from them. Councillor Hall further noted that one Code Compliance Certificate had not been issued within the required timeframe. It was explained that this occurred during a period of high demand and there were no particular story associated with it. Councillor Hall also noted that swimming pool inspections had not yet commenced. The Director confirmed that resources are currently stretched; however, the timing of these inspections remains relatively flexible.
- Councillor Beck sought an update on Building Act reform and the discussion regarding shared liability. This was explained, including where the Government's proposed changes are up to and how they may apply to local government.

13. Resolution to Exclude the Public

Recommendation

THAT the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

Agenda Item No: 14

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

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution to each matter	Grounds under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Legal Proceedings - Rates	The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons. The withholding of the information is necessary to maintain legal professional privilege.	That the public conduct of the whole or 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 6 and section 7 of the Act - specifically section 7(2)(a) and 7(2)(g) Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

WATT/HALL
Carried
P&S/26/109

14. Public Excluded Item

Recommendation

THAT the open meeting resume.

HARRIS/WATT
Carried
P&S/26/118

15. Questions

- None

16. Closing Karakia

The closing karakia was read.

The meeting closed at 5.11pm.

A K Harris
Chairman

Confirmed this 22nd day of September 2026.

N C Volzke
District Mayor

DECISION REPORT



F25/96/004 – D2632734

To: Council
From: Property & Projects Manager
Date: 8 September 2026
Subject: Carry Forward Capital Expenditure Budget from 2025/26 to 2026/27

Recommendations

1. THAT the report and attached schedule be received.
2. THAT 27 budget lines, totalling \$11,808,533, from the 2025/26 financial year are carried forward to the 206/27 financial year.

Recommended Reason

The budget of \$11,808,533 is required for the 2026/27 financial year to complete the 27 budget lines that were started in the 2025/26 financial year.

/
 Moved/Seconded

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To seek approval to carry forward budgets from 2025/26 to the 2026/27 financial year for completion of projects underway.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 The 2025/26 Annual Plan Capital budget was set at **\$28,730,428** (including carry-forwards from the 2024/25 financial year). **\$15,853,207** of the budget was expended.
- 2.2 Officers are requesting that a total of **27** budget lines, totalling **\$11,808,533**, be carried forward from the 2025/26 financial year to 2026/27.
- 2.3 Of the 27 budget lines, 5 represent 94% of the proposed carry-forward budget:
 - Council Subdivision – \$4,812,066
 - Prospero Place Development – \$1,146,579
 - Emergency Works (Roading) – \$1,136,790
 - Desludging Wastewater Ponds – \$2,772,163
 - Stratford Grit Tanks and Raw Water Delivery Line – \$1,173,511
- 2.4 This will be added to the already approved 2026/27 capital expenditure budget of **\$10,916,929**, giving a total capital budget of **\$22,725,462** for the 2026/27 financial year.

3. Local Government Act 2002 - Section 10

Does the recommended option meet the purpose of the Local Government 4 well-beings? And which:			Yes
Social	Economic	Environmental	Cultural
✓	✓	✓	✓

This report meets the purpose of all four well-beings, ensuring the delivery of planned capital projects, after consideration of Council's financial capacity against the needs of the community. In the LTP, the Council committed to a particular level of service and to the delivery of services as specified in the plan. The completion of the planned capital projects enables Council to fulfil that commitment to the Stratford district.

4. Background

- 4.1 Council approved an Annual Plan budget for capital projects of \$28,730,428 for the 2025/26 financial year (including carry-forwards from the 2024/25 financial year). **Appendix 1** outlines the Capital Expenditure Summary as of 30 June 2026.

- 4.2 The following table summarises the financial position of the 2025/26 capital works programme, showing actual expenditure against the approved Annual Plan budget and identifying the resulting under/(over) spend.

Description of 2025/26 Capital Expenditure Budget	Amount (\$)
Budget spent	\$15,853,207
2025/26 under/(over) spend	\$12,877,221
Capital expenditure budget as set in the Annual Plan	\$28,730,428

- 4.3 The following table provides a breakdown of the 2025/26 capital works under/(over) spend, showing the amount proposed as net savings and the balance required to be carried forward for ongoing capital projects.

Committed 2025/26 Carry-Forward to 2026/27 Budget	Amount (\$)
2025/26 under/(over) spend	\$12,877,221
Minus net savings	(\$1,068,688)
Total proposed carry-forward budget to 2026/27	\$11,808,533

- 4.4 Council approved an Annual Plan budget for capital projects of **\$10,916,929** for the 2026/27 financial year, as shown in Appendix 2.

5. Proposed Carry-Forward Budgets

- 5.1 A total of 27 budgets lines is proposed to be carried forward from the 2025/26 financial year to 2026/27.

- 5.2 Of the 27 budget lines, 5 represent **\$11,041,109 (94%)** of the proposed carry-forward:

- (Economy) Council Subdivision (\$4,812,066)**
 Due to legislative requirements changing since the land was purchased, resource consenting has been delayed. The lead Consultant is working through these consenting requirements as well as moving forward with detailed design. Construction on this project is expected to begin in the summer of 2026/27.
- (Civic Amenities) Prospero Place Development (\$1,146,579)**
 Due to late funding approval, this work was delayed in moving from design to construction phase. The tender for the construction has closed and tenders are currently being evaluated. Works are proposed to begin in late Spring of 2026.
- (Roading) Emergency Works (\$1,136,790)**
 Significant storm damage in July 2025 resulted in a review of the 2025/26 roading programmes from NZTA. Due to late approval of funding, works began in late 2025 and will continue into the 2026/27 financial year.
- (Wastewater) Desludging Ponds (\$2,772,163)**
 Works began in March 2026 and is progressing. The contractor has experienced a lot of rags and other unwanted material with the debris, which has slowed works. Even with time delays, this project is on track to be underbudget due to a lower-than-expected contract price.

- **(Water) Stratford Grit Tanks and Raw Water Delivery Line (\$1,173,511)**
Works is nearing completion with testing of constructed tanks and pipe works currently underway. This project is still expected to be completed on budget.

5.3 The table below summarises how the 2026/27 capital works budget is proposed. A full list of budget breakdown is attached as **Appendix 2**.

Total 2026/27 Capital Expenditure Budget	Amount (\$)
Capital expenditure budget as set in the Annual Plan	\$10,916,929
Proposed carry-forward	\$11,808,533
Proposed budget for capital expenditure	\$22,725,462

6. Consultative Process

6.1 Public Consultation - Section 82

These projects have already been consulted on as part of the LTP.

6.2 Māori Consultation - Section 81

As per above.

7. Risk Analysis

7.1 The following risks from the Council's risk register are relevant to this decision:

- Risk 17 – Roothing annual work programme
- Risk 86 – Asset / infrastructure failure causing public health risk
- Risk 71 – Critical asset failure
- Risk 90 – Council infrastructure causing harm

In addition, there is a risk of mistrust in the community if Council withdraws from an original commitment to deliver a particular level of service improvement or implement capital replacements.

8. Sustainability Consideration

8.1 The principals and objectives within the Sustainability Policy are considered by officers when making recommendations on capital projects.

9. Decision Making Process - Section 79

9.1 Direction

	Explain
Is there a strong link to Council's strategic direction, Long Term Plan/District Plan?	Yes – direct link to LTP
What relationship does it have to the communities current and future needs for infrastructure, regulatory functions, or local public services?	Delivery of projects committed to in the LTP

9.2 Data

- Do we have complete data, and relevant statistics, on the proposal(s)?
- Do we have reasonably reliable data on the proposals?
- What assumptions have had to be built in?

Refer to the attached schedules to this report (**Appendix 1** and **Appendix 2**).

9.3 **Significance**

	Yes/No	Explain
Is the proposal significant according to the Significance Policy in the Long-Term Plan?	No	Does not meet the thresholds in the Significance and Engagement Policy.
Is it:		
• considered a strategic asset; or		
• above the financial thresholds in the Significance Policy; or		
• impacting on a CCO stakeholding; or		
• a change in level of service; or		
• creating a high level of controversy; or		
• possible that it could have a high impact on the community?		
In terms of the Council's Significance Policy, is this proposal of high, medium, or low significance?		
High	Medium	Low
		✓

9.4 **8.4 Options****Option 1 Do nothing.**

This option does not carry forward any funding from the 2025/26 capital works budget. The outcome of this is that projects that are currently under construction will not proceed and Council will have projects unfinished

Option 2 Approve the carry-forward of 27 budget lines from the 2025/26 financial year.

Carry forward the proposed amount of \$11,808,533 from the 2025/26 financial year, as presented in **Appendix 2**, to be added to the capital works programme for 2026/27.

9.5 **Financial**

There will be a positive impact on debt levels and reserve balances if any of the projects were discontinued.

The funding for these capital projects has already been approved in the 2024–2034 Long Term Plan.

9.6 **Prioritisation & Trade-off**

There is a risk that the capacity to deliver the existing projects in the 2026/27 capital works programme will be compromised.

9.7 **Legal Issues**

Failure to carry forward budgets will result in contracts being cancelled which could have significant contractual and financial consequences.

9.8 **Policy Issues - Section 80**

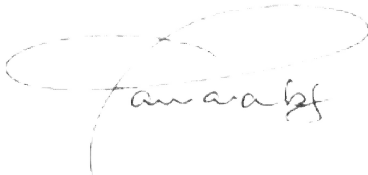
There are no policy issues to consider.

Attachments

Appendix 1	Capital Expenditure Summary – 30 June 2026 (with projected carry-forwards)
Appendix 2	2026/27 Capital Expenditure Budget Summary 2026/27



[Prepared by]
Steve Taylor
Property & Projects Manager



[Endorsed by]
Victoria Araba
Director - Assets



[Approved by]
Sven Hanne
Chief Executive

Date 8 September 2026

2026 - Agenda - Ordinary - September (Open) - Decision Report - Carry Forward Capital Projects from 2025/26 to 2026/27

APPENDIX 1: CAPITAL EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY ACTIVITY AS AT 30 JUNE 2026

Council Activity	Project Description	Total Funds Available	2025/26 Actual Expenditure	2025/26 under/(over) spend	Project Completion %	Expected Start of Project Date (physical works)	Expected Project Completion Date
GROWTH							
Economy	Proposed Council subdivision	\$ 5,233,734	\$ 421,668	\$ 4,812,066	35%	Started	Carry-forward into Yr.3
Total Growth Expenditure		5,233,734	421,668	4,812,066			
LEVEL OF SERVICE							
Roading	Seal extensions - dust coat seals	\$ 100,000	\$ 108,391	\$ (8,391)	100%		Complete
Roading	Low cost low risk roads	\$ 433,458	\$ 551,077	\$ (117,619)	100%		Complete
Roading	Targeted Fund	\$ 150,000	\$ 90,901	\$ 59,099	100%		Complete
Roading	Resilience Crown Funding	\$ 727,403	\$ 497,680	\$ 229,723	100%		Complete
Solid Waste	Permanent recycling stations	\$ 15,423	\$ 0	\$ 15,423	50%	Started	Carry-forward into Yr.3
Solid Waste	Mobile events waste bins and trailer	\$ 10,210	\$ 0	\$ 10,210	10%	Started	Carry-forward into Yr.3
Stormwater	Modelling	\$ 287,000	\$ 0	\$ 287,000	100%		Complete
Stormwater	Modelling	\$ 91,679	\$ 91,504	\$ 175			
Stormwater	Reticulation Capacity Increase	\$ 0	\$ 10,406	\$ (10,406)	100%		Complete
Wastewater	Treatment upgrade	\$ 512,500	\$ 83,837	\$ 428,663	80%	Started	Carry-forward into Yr.3
Water Supply	Universal water metering	\$ 1,074,285	\$ 1,094,614	\$ (20,329)	100%		Complete
Water Supply	Streetwork ridermain	\$ 89,947	\$ 108,223	\$ (18,276)	100%		Complete
Water Supply	Stratford bore	\$ 102,500	\$ 128,389	\$ (25,889)	100%		Complete
Water Supply	Reticulation modelling	\$ 102,500	\$ 42,095	\$ 60,405	80%	Started	Carry-forward into Yr.3
Water Supply	Fuel tank for generator	\$ 41,000	\$ 18,225	\$ 22,775	100%		Complete
Water Supply	Alternative power supply for Midhurst and Toko	\$ 50,000	\$ 56,201	\$ (6,201)	100%		Complete
Parks and Reserves	Skate Park enhancements - Victoria Park	\$ 54,513	\$ 36,400	\$ 18,113	100%		Complete
Parks and Reserves	Victoria Park - Skate park - upgrade gravel path to concrete path	\$ 25,525	\$ 18,113	\$ 7,412	100%		Complete
Parks and Reserves	Park development	\$ 25,525	\$ 14,337	\$ 11,188	100%		Complete
Parks and Reserves	Walkway development	\$ 25,525	\$ 21,297	\$ 4,228	100%		Complete
Parks and Reserves	Victoria Park - seating to pump Track area	\$ 25,525	\$ 8,894	\$ 16,631	100%		Complete
Parks and Reserves	Victoria Park sports fields continued development (design)	\$ 207,035	\$ 991	\$ 206,044	0%	Project deferred to LTP 27-37 discussions defer to Year 3.	
Parks and Reserves	King Edward Park - completion of Lime Chip path	\$ 61,260	\$ 17,830	\$ 43,430	100%		Complete
Parks and Reserves	King Edward Park - completion of replacing lime chip path to concrete - Netball courts to the Dell	\$ 71,470	\$ 64,003	\$ 7,467	100%		Complete
Parks and Reserves	Whangamomona Septic Tank	\$ 0	\$ 5,490	\$ (5,490)	100%		Complete
Parks and Reserves	Power box in Rhododendron Dell	\$ 50,000	\$ 51,346	\$ (1,346)	100%		Complete
Civic Amenities	PA Sound System	\$ 0	\$ 6,389	\$ (6,389)	100%		Complete
Civic Amenities	Prospero Place Development	\$ 1,201,370	\$ 54,791	\$ 1,146,579	45%	Started	Carry-forward into Yr.3
Civic Amenities	TET Structural strengthening	\$ 51,035	\$ 35,000	\$ 16,035	100%		Complete
Library Hub	Safety improvements to AA desk	\$ 30,525	\$ 20,347	\$ 10,178	100%		Complete
Farm	Construct additional calving sheds	\$ 0	\$ 4,493	\$ (4,493)	100%		Complete
Farm	New pump shed and accessories	\$ 0	\$ 7,695	\$ (7,695)	100%		Complete
Corporate	Phone System upgrade	\$ 25,000	\$ 20,055	\$ 4,945	40%	Started	Carry-forward into Yr.3
Corporate	National Processing reporting	\$ 10,000	\$ 0	\$ 10,000	0%	Budget not required - works done inhouse.	
Total Level of Service Expenditure		\$ 5,652,213	\$ 3,269,014	\$ 2,383,199			

2026 - Agenda - Ordinary - September (Open) - Decision Report - Carry Forward Capital Projects from 2025/26 to 2026/27

Council Activity	Project Description	Total Funds Available	2025/26 Actual Expenditure	2025/26 under/(over) spend	Project Completion %	Expected Start of Project Date (physical works)	Expected Project Completion Date
REPLACEMENTS							
Roading – (NZTA)	Unsealed Road metalling (includes forestry roads)	\$ 956,272	\$ 563,976	\$ 392,296	100%		Complete
Roading – (NZTA)	Sealed Road resurfacing	\$ 1,391,680	\$ 1,447,745	\$ (56,065)	100%		Complete
Roading – (NZTA)	Drainage Renewals	\$ 961,526	\$ 936,759	\$ 24,767	100%		Complete
Roading – (NZTA)	Pavement Rehabilitation	\$ 683,040	\$ 1,041,423	\$ (358,383)	100%		Complete
Roading – (NZTA)	Structure Components Replacement	\$ 1,849,433	\$ 1,776,375	\$ 73,058	100%		Complete
Roading – (NZTA)	Emergency Works	\$ 2,134,390	\$ 997,600	\$ 1,136,790	40%	Started	Carry-forward into Yr.3
Roading – (NZTA)	Traffic Services Renewals	\$ 168,135	\$ 181,257	\$ (13,122)	100%		Complete
Roading – (NZTA)	Footpath renewals	\$ 79,425	\$ 95,593	\$ (16,168)	100%		Complete
Solid Waste	Transfer Station - Building renewals	\$ 20,210	\$ 17,909	\$ 2,301	100%		Complete
Solid Waste	Seal concrete blockwork on adjacent building	\$ 30,000	\$ 41,258	\$ (11,258)	100%		Complete
Stormwater	Reticulation Renewals	\$ 199,958	\$ 82,536	\$ 117,422	92%	as required	Carry-forward into Yr.3
Wastewater	Step / aerate treatment renewals	\$ 35,875	\$ 43,496	\$ (7,621)	100%		Complete
Wastewater	Desludging ponds	\$ 3,240,000	\$ 467,837	\$ 2,772,163	80%	Started	Carry-forward into Yr.3
Wastewater	Safety renewals	\$ 102,500	\$ 10,214	\$ 92,286	92%	as required	Carry-forward into Yr.3
Wastewater	Infiltration renewals	\$ 205,000	\$ 154,996	\$ 50,004	92%	as required	Carry-forward into Yr.3
Wastewater	Infiltration renewals	\$ 194,000	\$ 194,000	\$ 0	100%		Complete
Water Supply	Laterals	\$ 50,000	\$ 77,996	\$ (27,996)	100%		Complete
Water Supply	Water renewals	\$ 102,500	\$ 141,158	\$ (38,658)	100%		Complete
Water Supply	Stratford street work rider mains	\$ 95,297	\$ 104,462	\$ (9,165)	100%		Complete
Water Supply	Infrastructure general	\$ 51,250	\$ 44,877	\$ 6,373	92%	as required	Carry-forward into Yr.3
Water Supply	Fluoride plant upgrade	\$ 300,000	\$ 111,754	\$ 188,246	95%	Started	Carry-forward into Yr.3
Water Supply	Stratford Grit tanks	\$ 1,743,123	\$ 1,743,123	\$ 20,896	75%	Started	Carry-forward into Yr.3
Water Supply	Stratford Grit tanks	\$ 2,093,983	\$ 920,472	\$ 1,152,615			
Water Supply	Esk Road Baycard system	\$ 30,000	\$ 17,360	\$ 12,640	100%		Complete
Water Supply	Hydrants	\$ 26,625	\$ 9,946	\$ 16,679	92%	as required	Carry-forward into Yr.3
Water Supply	Reservoir cleaning	\$ 39,846	\$ 15,919	\$ 23,927	100%		Complete
Parks and Reserves	Cardiff walkway steps and bridge	\$ 50,000	\$ 32,131	\$ 17,869	100%		Complete
Parks and Reserves	Carrington Walkway steps replacement	\$ 20,000	\$ 16,899	\$ 3,101	100%		Complete
Parks and Reserves	Eastern Loop development	\$ 30,630	\$ 24,162	\$ 6,468	100%		Complete
Parks and Reserves	Victoria Park grandstand infrastructure renewals	\$ 20,420	\$ 0	\$ 20,420	100%		Not used
Parks and Reserves	Continued Walkway development	\$ 5,105	\$ 2,671	\$ 2,434	100%		Complete
Parks and Reserves	Continued Parks development	\$ 5,105	\$ 3,584	\$ 1,521	100%		Complete
Parks and Reserves	Street tree and tree surrounds replacement	\$ 51,050	\$ 0	\$ 51,050	30%	May-26	Carry-forward into Yr.3
Parks and Reserves	Replace old seats throughout all parks, reserves and walkways	\$ 20,420	\$ 9,440	\$ 10,980	100%		Complete
Parks and Reserves	Replace playground equipment - King Edward and Victoria Parks	\$ 20,210	\$ 30,839	\$ (10,629)	100%		Complete
Cemeteries	Replace plaques - Pioneer Cemetery	\$ 20,667	\$ 0	\$ 20,667	0%		Not funded
Cemeteries	Replace boundary hedges at Midhirst Cemeteries (closed and open)	\$ 10,333	\$ 12,523	\$ (2,190)	100%		Complete
Wai o Rua Aquatic Centre	Infrastructure renewals	\$ 2,042	\$ 0	\$ 2,042	100%		Complete
Civic Amenities	WMC - hot water supply	\$ 40,000	\$ 42,182	\$ (2,182)	100%		Complete
Civic Amenities	Public toilets infrastructure renewals	\$ 30,000	\$ 0	\$ 30,000	0%		Not used
Civic Amenities	TET Infrastructural renewals	\$ 39,205	\$ 19,980	\$ 19,225	90%	as required	Carry-forward into Yr.3
Housing for Older Persons	Roof replacements	\$ 201,680	\$ 177,259	\$ 24,421	100%		Complete
Housing for Older Persons	Infrastructural renewals	\$ 5,105	\$ 0	\$ 5,105	100%		Complete
Farm	Race and culvert replacement	\$ 25,525	\$ 48,662	\$ (23,137)	100%		Complete
Miranda Street Office	Infrastructural renewals	\$ 5,105	\$ 23,896	\$ (18,791)	100%		Complete
Library Hub	Infrastructural renewals	\$ 3,062	\$ 3,296	\$ (234)	100%		Complete
Library Hub	Interior repaint	\$ 51,050	\$ 16,606	\$ 34,444	100%		Complete

2026 - Agenda - Ordinary - September (Open) - Decision Report - Carry Forward Capital Projects from 2025/26 to 2026/27

Council Activity	Project Description	Total Funds Available	2025/26 Actual Expenditure	2025/26 under/(over) spend	Project Completion %	Expected Start of Project Date (physical works)	Expected Project Completion Date
Library Hub	Bathroom Upgrade	\$ 15,000	\$ 16,012	\$ (1,012)	100%	Complete	
Library Hub	Underneath storage	\$ 10,000	\$ 3,909	\$ 6,091	100%	Complete	
Library Hub	Windowsill replacements	\$ 16,489	\$ 9,275	\$ 7,214	100%	Complete	
Library Hub	Window graphics renewals	\$ 20,210	\$ 0	\$ 20,210	0%	as required	Carry-forward into Yr.3
Corporate	Computers/Peripherals/ Software	\$ 60,000	\$ 66,482	\$ (6,482)	100%	Complete	
Corporate	Content Manager Upgrade	\$ 15,000	\$ 32,544	\$ (17,544)	100%	Complete	
Corporate	Firewall and Wi-fi replacement	\$ 25,000	\$ 26,187	\$ (1,187)	100%	Complete	
Corporate	Core Server replacement	\$ 40,000	\$ 36,717	\$ 3,283	25%	Started	Carry-forward into Yr.3
Corporate	Core Switch replacement	\$ 25,000	\$ 24,358	\$ 642	95%	Started	Carry-forward into Yr.3
Corporate	ETTPS terminal upgrades	\$ 7,000	\$ 3,150	\$ 3,850	92%	Started	Carry-forward into Yr.3
Corporate	Replace GIS System	\$ 100,000	\$ 121,659	\$ (21,659)	100%	Complete	
Corporate	Staff cell phone fleet replacements	\$ 35,000	\$ 24,524	\$ 10,476	60%	as required	Carry-forward into Yr.3
Corporate	Vehicle Replacement (after trade in)	\$ 35,000	\$ 93,538	\$ (58,538)	100%	Complete	
Total Replacement Expenditure		\$ 17,844,481	\$ 12,162,525	\$ 5,681,957			
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		\$ 28,730,428	\$ 15,853,207	\$ 12,877,221			

APPENDIX 2: CAPITAL EXPENDITURE BUDGET SUMMARY 2026/27

Council Activity	Project Description	2026/27 AP Budget	Carry- Forwards	NZTA Adjustments	Total Funds Available
GROWTH					
Economy	Proposed Council subdivision	\$ 835,000	\$ 4,812,066	\$ 0	\$ 5,647,066
Total Growth Expenditure		\$ 835,000	\$ 4,812,066	\$ 0	\$ 5,647,066
			\$ 4,812,066		
LEVEL OF SERVICE					
Roading	Seal extensions - dust coat seals	\$ 50,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 50,000
Roading	Low-cost low-risk roads	\$ 380,000	\$ 0	\$ (380,000)	\$ 0
Roading	Targeted Fund	\$ 300,000	\$ 0	\$ 59,099	\$ 359,099
Roading	Resilience Crown Funding	\$ 400,000	\$ 0	\$ 229,724	\$ 629,724
Solid Waste	Permanent recycling stations	\$ 0	\$ 15,423	\$ 0	\$ 15,423
Solid Waste	Permanent recycling stations	\$ 10,435	\$ 10,210	\$ 0	\$ 20,645
Solid Waste	Rural mobile mini recycling stations	\$ 46,959	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 46,959
Solid Waste	Organic Materials Processing Facility	\$ 104,356	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 104,356
Stormwater	Modelling	\$ 0	\$ 287,175	\$ 0	\$ 287,175
Stormwater	Pipework Capacity Increase	\$ 157,901	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 157,901
Wastewater	Treatment upgrade	\$ 0	\$ 200,000	\$ 0	\$ 200,000
Water Supply	Stratford bore	\$ 540,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 540,000
Water Supply	Reticulation modelling	\$ 0	\$ 60,405	\$ 0	\$ 60,405
Water Supply	Chlorine and pressure monitoring meters	\$ 120,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 120,000
Civic Amenities	Prospero Place Development	\$ 0	\$ 1,146,579	\$ 0	\$ 1,146,579
Civic Amenities	Administration Building access upgrade	\$ 41,337	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 41,337
Civic Amenities	TET Structural strengthening	\$ 1,292,111	\$ 16,035	\$ 0	\$ 1,308,146
Cemeteries	Kopuatama Cemetery - concept plan, design and implementation	\$ 52,500	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 52,500
Farm	Sand trap	\$ 30,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 30,000
Farm	Install drafting gate system	\$ 40,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 40,000
Corporate	Phone System upgrade	\$ 0	\$ 4,945	\$ 0	\$ 4,945
Total Level of Service Expenditure		\$ 3,565,599	\$ 1,740,772	\$ (91,177)	\$ 5,215,194
			\$ 1,649,595		

Council Activity	Project Description	2026/27 AP Budget	Carry- Forwards	NZTA Adjustments	Total Funds Available
REPLACEMENTS					
Roading – (NZTA)	Unsealed Road metalling (includes forestry roads)	\$ 973,489	\$ 0	\$ 284,535	\$ 1,258,024
Roading – (NZTA)	Sealed Road resurfacing	\$ 1,416,730	\$ 0	\$ (49,475)	\$ 1,367,255
Roading – (NZTA)	Drainage Renewals	\$ 978,833	\$ 0	\$ (149,323)	\$ 829,510
Roading – (NZTA)	Pavement Rehabilitation	\$ 695,335	\$ 0	\$ (227,217)	\$ 468,118
Roading – (NZTA)	Structure Components Replacement	\$ 385,900	\$ 0	\$ (292,524)	\$ 93,376
Roading – (NZTA)	Bridge and structure renewals	\$ 661,500	\$ 0	\$ 107,648	\$ 769,148
Roading – (NZTA)	Emergency Works	\$ 0	\$ 1,136,790	\$ 0	\$ 1,136,790
Roading – (NZTA)	Traffic Services Renewals	\$ 171,162	\$ 0	\$ (20,961)	\$ 150,201
Roading – (NZTA)	Footpath renewals	\$ 76,100	\$ 0	\$ (10,000)	\$ 66,100
Solid Waste	Transfer Station - Building renewals	\$ 10,435	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 10,435
Stormwater	Reticulation Renewals	\$ 105,267	\$ 117,422	\$ 0	\$ 222,689
Stormwater	Safety improvements	\$ 21,053	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 21,053
Wastewater	Step / aerate treatment renewals	\$ 36,844	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 36,844
Wastewater	Desludging ponds	\$ 0	\$ 2,772,163	\$ 0	\$ 2,772,163
Wastewater	Safety renewals	\$ 105,267	\$ 92,286	\$ 0	\$ 197,553
Wastewater	Campervan discharge facility	\$ 10,527	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 10,527
Wastewater	Infiltration renewals	\$ 210,535	\$ 50,003	\$ 0	\$ 260,538
Water Supply	Laterals	\$ 52,634	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 52,634
Water Supply	Water renewals	\$ 105,268	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 105,268
Water Supply	Infrastructure general	\$ 52,634	\$ 6,373	\$ 0	\$ 59,007
Water Supply	Fluoride plant upgrade	\$ 0	\$ 188,246	\$ 0	\$ 188,246
Water Supply	Stratford Grit tanks	\$ 0	\$ 1,173,511	\$ 0	\$ 1,173,511
Water Supply	Hydrants	\$ 0	\$ 16,679	\$ 0	\$ 16,679
Parks and Reserves	Continued Walkway development	\$ 5,217	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 5,217
Parks and Reserves	Continued Parks development	\$ 5,217	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 5,217
Parks and Reserves	Street tree and tree surrounds replacement	\$ 52,173	\$ 51,050	\$ 0	\$ 103,223
Parks and Reserves	Replace old seats throughout all parks, reserves and walkways	\$ 20,869	\$ 10,980	\$ 0	\$ 31,849
Parks and Reserves	Replace playground equipment - King Edward and Victoria Parks	\$ 10,435	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 10,435
Cemeteries	Replace boundary hedges at Midhirst Cemeteries (closed and open)	\$ 10,435	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 10,435
Wai o Rua Aquatic Centre	Infrastructure renewals	\$ 30,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 30,000

Council Activity	Project Description	2026/27 AP Budget	Carry- Forwards	NZTA Adjustments	Total Funds Available
Civic Amenities	Public toilets infrastructure renewals	\$ 0	\$ 30,000	\$ 0	\$ 30,000
Civic Amenities	TET Infrastructural renewals	\$ 0	\$ 19,225	\$ 0	\$ 19,225
Housing for Older Persons	Replace picket fences	\$ 10,434	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 10,434
Housing for Older Persons	Infrastructural renewals	\$ 5,217	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 5,217
Miranda Street Office	Lift replacement in Archives room, and furniture replacements	\$ 55,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 55,000
Miranda Street Office	Partial carpet replacement	\$ 31,003	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 31,003
Miranda Street Office	Infrastructural renewals	\$ 5,217	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 5,217
Library Hub	Infrastructural renewals	\$ 3,100	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 3,100
Library Hub	Window graphics renewals	\$ 0	\$ 21,210	\$ 0	\$ 21,210
Corporate	Computers/Peripherals/ Software	\$ 50,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 50,000
Corporate	Disaster Recovery Onsite Server and Software Replacement	\$ 20,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 20,000
Corporate	Battery UPS replacement	\$ 8,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 8,000
Corporate	Core Server replacement	\$ 0	\$ 3,283	\$ 0	\$ 3,283
Corporate	Core Switch replacement	\$ 0	\$ 642	\$ 0	\$ 642
Corporate	ETTPOS terminal upgrades	\$ 0	\$ 3,850	\$ 0	\$ 3,850
Corporate	Staff cell phone fleet replacements	\$ 0	\$ 10,476	\$ 0	\$ 10,476
Corporate	Large plotter and LaserJet printer replacements	\$ 6,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 6,000
Corporate	iPad replacements - staff and contractors	\$ 12,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 12,000
Corporate	Aerial Photography	\$ 16,500	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 16,500
Corporate	Vehicle Replacement (after trade in)	\$ 70,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 70,000
Total Replacement Expenditure		\$ 6,496,330	\$ 5,704,189	\$ (357,317)	\$ 11,843,202
			\$ 5,346,872		
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		\$ 10,916,929	\$ 11,808,533		\$ 22,725,462

DECISION REPORT



F16/1244/011 – D26/31955

To: Council
From: Roading Engineer
Date: 8 September 2026
Subject: Restriction of Access to Lower Kohuratahi Bridge #2

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.
2. THAT, pursuant to Clause 9 of the Restricted Access of Roads Bylaw 2025, and Regulation 11 of the Heavy Motor Vehicle Regulations 1974, access to the Lower Kohuratahi Bridge #2 (Bridge ID: 0133/0203) is closed to all vehicles and restricted to pedestrian traffic, not exceeding a gross mass of 400 kg, at all times.
3. THAT Officers are authorised to make the necessary amendments to the Restricted Access of Roads Bylaw 2025 Schedule to reflect Council's resolution on the matter.

Recommended Reason

Council Roading Engineers received advice from our structural engineering consultants that Lower Kohuratahi Bridge #2 should be closed to traffic for safety reasons, due the age and structural condition of the bridge. A 400 kg mass gross limit was recommended, restricting it only to pedestrian traffic weighing less than 400 kg in gross limit.

/
 Moved/Seconded

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Council resolution, pursuant to Clause 9 of the Restricted Access of Roads Bylaw 2025 (the Bylaw) and Regulation 11 of the Heavy Motor Vehicle Regulations 1974, to, at all times, close all vehicle access to the Lower Kohuratahi Bridge #2 ("the bridge") and to restrict access to pedestrian traffic with a gross mass not exceeding 400 kg.
- 1.2 Following this, amendment of the Bylaw Schedule is necessary to reflect the resolution, therefore, this report also seeks authorisation for officers to make appropriate amendments to the Schedule.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 During the course of their two-yearly bridge inspection programme, Council's engineering consultants have undertaken a structural assessment of the bridge and recommended that its gross weight limit is restricted to 400 kg, from the current 1,500 kg weight limit, due to structural concerns. Failure to implement this restriction could result in bridge failure and potential liability and reputational risk to Council. This restriction will effectively close the bridge to all motor vehicles, while allowing access to pedestrians traffic weighing 400 kg or less.
- 2.2 Council, under Clause 9 of the Bylaw, can by resolution, impose this restriction and under Regulation 11 of the Heavy Motor Vehicle Regulations 1974, amend mass limits on bridges that may not be capable of carrying standard heavy vehicles. Once the restriction and amendments are in place, the bridge must be appropriately signposted to notify users of the restriction.
- 2.3 Pending this resolution, Officers have temporarily closed the road on safety grounds. Key stakeholders have been appropriately engaged, including the Department of Conservation (DOC), NZTA and the Police. WorkSafe New Zealand has also been notified due to beekeeping activities across the bridge. DOC has a direct legal access to the bridge via a paper road; NZTA and the Police

have also been advised via email as a standard procedure, with NZTA confirming the appropriate regulation to fix mass limits on bridges.

3. Local Government Act 2002 - Section 10

Under section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002, the Council's purpose is to "enable democratic local decision making by and on behalf of communities; as well as promoting the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities now and into the future"			
Does the recommended option meet the purpose of the Local Government 4 well-beings? And which:		Yes	
Social	Economic	Environmental	Cultural
✓	✓	✓	

4. Background

- 4.1 The Lower Kohuratahi Bridge #2 (Bridge ID: 0133/0203) is a wooden swing bridge at the end of Lower Kohuratahi Road which was built in 1938 (**Figure 1**). It crosses the Tangarakau River (**Figure 2**) over a span of 59m. The bridge (**Figures 3 & 4**) currently serves as grazing access to two landowners, one of whom also has tenants residing in a house across the bridge; a beekeeping operation which uses helicopters to transport their product for processing, in addition to a large tract of DOC land.

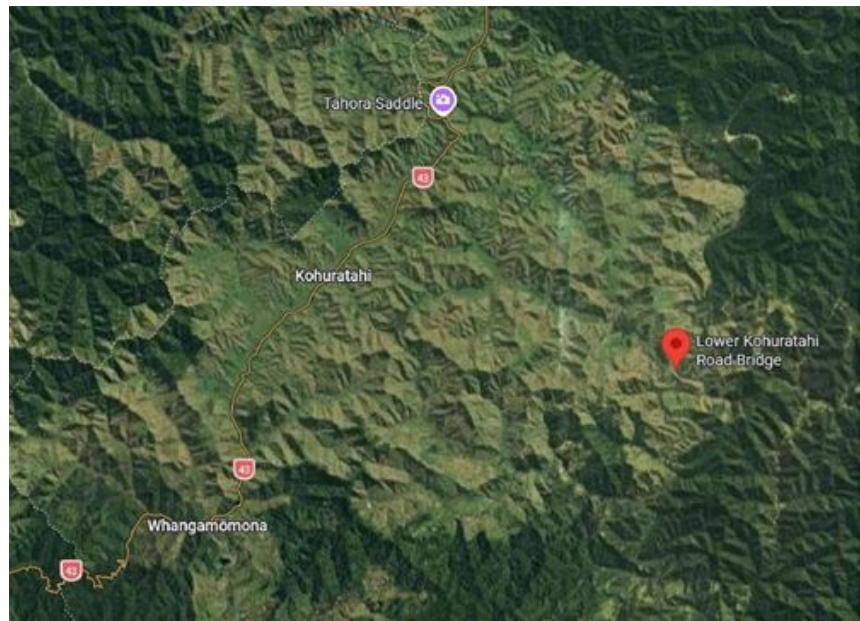


Figure 1: Map showing location of Lower Kohuratahi Bridge #2

- 4.2 The bridge was previously 'posted' with a 1,500 kg mass gross limit. 'Posting' of a bridge generally means placing regulatory signs that restrict the loads or use of the bridge, to protect public safety and prevent structural failure. It is not uncommon for bridges to be 'posted' for structural concerns following inspections that identify damage, cracks, corrosion or other safety issues.



Figure 2: Lower Kohuratahi Bridge #2 and its immediate surroundings



Figure 3: Lower Kohuratahi Bridge #2 as seen from the eastern side of the Tangarakau River



Figure 4: Western approach of the Lower Kohuratahi Bridge #2 showing the current signage.

- 4.3 The detailed 2026 Bridge Assessment Report (the Report) in **Appendix 1** identifies that the structure is no longer capable of safely accommodating vehicles up to the current posted weight limit of 1,500kg. The recommendation from the structural engineers is to close the bridge to vehicles and impose a gross mass limit of 400kg for pedestrian use.
- 4.4 The 2026 Report identifies deterioration and/or structural limitations that significantly reduce the bridge's load-carrying capacity. In order to protect public safety, preserve the remaining life of the asset and minimise the risk of structural failure, it is necessary to restrict vehicle access and reduce the permitted gross mass limit to 400 kg. This approach is consistent with prudent asset management practices and Council's obligation to ensure that transport infrastructure remains safe for public use.
- 4.5 To address the risk in the meantime the bridge has been temporarily closed (**Figure 5**) from the start of the bridge onwards for safety reasons, pending formal resolution by Elected Members. Emergency provisions under [Section 342](#) of the Local Government Act (LGA) 1974, allow Council to temporary close a road, but not to apply temporary weight restrictions. Therefore, the bridge has been temporarily closed pending a formal resolution.

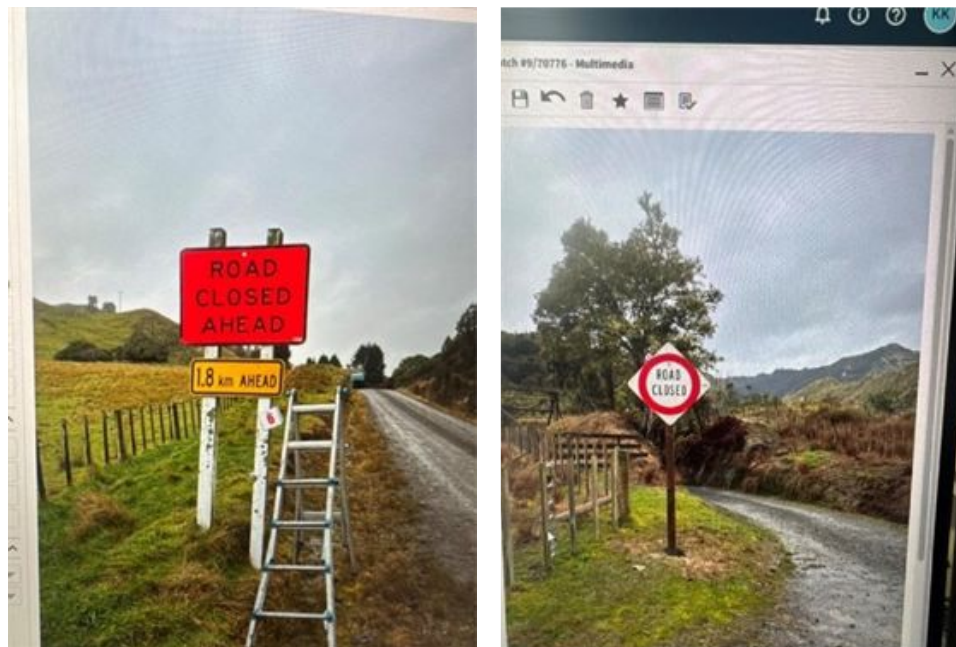


Figure 5: Road closed signs on Lower Kohuratahi Rd

- 4.6 Council, however, has clear authority under the Restricted Access of Roads Bylaw 2025 [Restricted Access of Roads Bylaw 2025](#) (**Appendix 2**) to impose vehicle restrictions on a road where conditions warrant. The proposed restriction of vehicles exceeding 400 kg on Lower Kohuratahi Bridge #2 is consistent with Clause 9 of the Bylaw, which specifically allows Council to, by resolution, ***'permanently or temporarily prohibit any specified class of vehicle ... from being driven ... on any specified road or part of a road ...'*** under the care, control or management of the Council. Such resolutions may be incorporated into the Restricted Access of Roads Schedule **without requiring** a full bylaw review or consultation process (**Clause 7**). Once resolution is passed, the Schedule and associated mapping are to be updated to reflect the new restriction.
- 4.7 [Regulation 11](#) of the Heavy Motor Vehicle (HMV) Regulations 1974 (**Appendix 3**) also allows Council, for the purpose of protecting the bridge to fix mass limits for heavy motor vehicles using that bridge, subject to obtaining ***'from a chartered professional engineer a certificate that he has made a detailed inspection of the bridge and that as a result, he is of the opinion that the use of the bridge by vehicles exceeding in mass the mass limits ... proposed to be fixed would so overstrain the bridge as to be likely to cause its ultimate failure'***.

- 4.8 This report, therefore, seeks Council's resolution ***THAT, pursuant to Clause 9 of the Restricted Access of Roads Bylaw 2025, and Regulation 11 of the Heavy Motor Vehicle Regulations 1974, access to the Lower Kohuratahi Bridge #2 (Bridge ID: 0133/0203) is closed to all vehicles and restricted to pedestrian traffic, not exceeding a gross mass of 400 kg, at all times.***
- 4.8 Following approval and before the resolution comes into effect, Council must ensure that the restriction is clearly communicated through appropriate notification measures. **Clause 8** of the bylaw further requires restricted roads or structures to be signposted with either a copy of the resolution, a statement of its effect, or another effective means of notification. **Clause 11(5)** of the HMV Regulation also specifies notification process which involves local newspaper publication and appropriate signage.
- 4.9 Therefore, the appropriate notification processes will be completed, and suitable weight restriction signage will be installed at all approaches to the bridge. Physical barriers may also be used, where appropriate to underscore alert potential users. Council may also consider notifying affected residents and providing information regarding any permit or exemption process available under the bylaw for legitimate access requirements.
- 4.10 Once all necessary signage is in place, the restriction becomes enforceable under the Land Transport Act 1998, with penalties applying to persons who fail to comply.

5. Consultative Process

5.1 Public Consultation - Section 82

All necessary safety measures and stakeholder communications have been completed:

- Officers have engaged with key stakeholders prior to the temporarily road closure;
- WorkSafe New Zealand has also been notified due to beekeeping activities across the bridge;
- DOC has a direct legal access to the bridge via a paper road and have confirmed that they rarely visited the site and only aerially sprayed it;
- The Police has been advised as required; and
- NZTA has been consulted to confirm that all necessary procedures have been duly implemented

Following the resolution, Council will notify the public as detailed in Section 4.8 of this report and in accordance with:

- Clause 8 of the Bylaw; and
- Clause 11(5) of the HMV Regulation.

5.2 Māori Consultation - Section 81

There are no known effects that this event is likely to have on local iwi issues, therefore no separate consultation is required.

6. Risk Analysis

- 6.1 The decision sought in this report is to minimise the following risks in the Council's Risk Register:

- **Risk No. 44: Road Closures - unplanned.** If there are un-planned road closures due to collapse of damage to culverts or bridges, or a landslide or for any other reason THEN access in/out of district could be lost and people could be injured as a result.
- **Risk No. 71: Critical Asset Failure.** If a critical asset (water treatment plants, stormwater, wastewater, reticulation, roading) failed, THEN unexpected financial burden may arise and there could be significant disadvantage and risk to the community.
- **Risk No. 86: Asset / Infrastructure Failure causing Public Health risk** If Council assets or infrastructure fail to work as intended, are unsafe, cause harm, public damage or endanger the

public, THEN the public may be exposed to health, wellbeing or safety risks, that may put Council's reputation at risk, and Council could be subject to various penalties if found negligent

7. Decision Making Process - Section 79

7.1 Direction

	Explain
Is there a strong link to Council's strategic direction, Long Term Plan/District Plan?	Yes – Section A9.2.1 of the District Plan. One of our objectives is the operation of a safe and efficient transportation infrastructure. Restricting this bridge will keep the public safe on our infrastructure.
What relationship does it have to the communities current and future needs for infrastructure, regulatory functions, or local public services?	This report supports the performance of Council by providing a regulatory function in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002.

7.2 Data

This report is based on the 2026 Bridge Inspection Report included in **Appendix 1**.

7.3 Significance

	Yes/No	Explain
Is the proposal significant according to the Significance Policy in the Long Term Plan?	No	
Is it:	No	
• considered a strategic asset; or	No	
• above the financial thresholds in the Significance Policy; or	No	
• impacting on a CCO stakeholding; or	No	
• a change in level of service; or	Yes	Bridge will be unavailable to current users
• creating a high level of controversy; or	No	There may be opposition to this closure by local landowners.
• possible that it could have a high impact on the community?	No	There will be moderate impact on the current users of the bridge

In terms of the Council's Significance Policy, is this proposal of high, medium, or low significance?		
High	Medium	Low
		✓

7.4 Options

The options to be considered for this report are:

Option 1. Approve the proposed bridge restriction and associated authorisation, as sought, to ensure the safety of road users.

Option 2. Decline to approve the proposed bridge restriction and associated authorisation. This is not recommended as it has been assessed as structurally unfit for vehicles of certain weights and will put road users at risk and create liability for Council.

Option 1 is the recommended option.

The proposed restriction is a risk-based response to expert engineering advice. Continuing to permit vehicles up to 1,500 kg to use the bridge would expose Council and road users to an unacceptable level of risk. Implementing a lower weight limit will reduce loading stresses on the structure, lessen the probability of further deterioration, and provide time for Council to consider longer-term solutions such as rehabilitation, replacement, or permanent closure.

This recommendation therefore represents the most appropriate interim measure available to safeguard the community, while maintaining limited access where practicable.

7.5 Financial

There are no immediate financial implications to Council. However, any permanent solution may have significant financial impact on the Council. Initial costings have assessed the replacement cost at approximately \$1M, however, this will be subject to other alternatives not being suitable.

7.6 Prioritisation & Trade-off

If Council restricts the bridge there will be reduced access for the users on the far side of the bridge, as well as reduced access for grazing livestock by the landowners. The tenants will need to keep a vehicle on the near side of the bridge. The stock owners will need to limit how much stock can cross the bridge at a time.

If Council does not restrict the bridge, the bridge may fail and road users will be put at risk. Bridge users will lose all access to the other side.

7.7 Legal Issues

If Council does nothing and the bridge fails while a vehicle is crossing it, Council may be liable for damages, injury and or loss of life because we have been made aware of the danger by our structural engineering consultant.

7.8 Policy Issues - Section 80

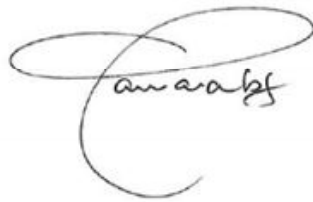
The recommendation is consistent with the appropriate Council Bylaw.

Attachments:

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| Appendix 1 | 2026 Bridge Inspection Report |
| Appendix 2 | Restricted Access of Roads Bylaw 2025 |
| Appendix 3 | Heavy Motor Vehicles Regulations 1974 |



Frank Hick
Roading Engineer



[Endorsed by]
Victoria Araba
Director - Assets



[Approved by]
Sven Hanne
Chief Executive

Date 26 August 2026

APPENDIX 1 – February 2026 Bridge Condition Report



BRIDGE INSPECTION REPORT
STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Date Inspected	12/2/26
Bridge ID	0133/0203

ROAD: Lower Kohuratahi Road	Restrictions: Axles 1500 kg, Gross 30% class 1, Speed 10 km/h, Unsuitable for motor vehicles
RP (m): 2030	

SURFACE:	Timber
BEAMS:	Concrete
ABUTMENTS:	Concrete
PIERS:	None
PILES:	Unknown
APPROACH ROAD:	Unsealed

CONDITION RATING	
1	Good Condition, No Work Required
2	Minor Repairs Required
3	Moderate Repairs Required
4	Major Repairs Required
5	Replacement Required

PRIORITY	
4	IMMEDIATE
3	WITHIN 1 YEAR
2	WITHIN 5 YEARS

Overall Condition	
1	Excellent
2	Good
3	Average
4	Poor
5	Very Poor

SET	NO.	ELEMENT DESCRIPTION	WEIGHT	CONDITION RATING	WEIGHTED SCORE	CONDITION/WORK REQUIRED	PRIORITY	COST (\$)
Superstructure Elements	1	Primary load carrying element	5	2	10	Cables average condition	M	-
	2	Secondary Elements	5	4	20	Timber deteriorating	M	-
	3		Deck	5	2	10	Long beam lifted, screw down	M
	4	Cross Bracing	5	4	20	Timber deteriorating	M	-
	5	Joints / Connections	5	1	5		-	
Load-bearing Substructure	6	Foundations	5	1	5	Could only access one	-	-
	7	Head Wall / Wing Walls	5	1	5		-	
	8	Abutments	5	1	5		-	
	9	Pier / Column	5	1	5	Columns ok, gold seal good	-	-
	10	Bearings Plates / HD Bolts	5	1	5		-	
	11	Bearing plinth / Shelf	5	1	5		-	
Durability Elements	12	Superstructure drainage	4	1	4	Scour LHS, could not fully assess	M	-
	13	Substructure drainage	4	1	4		-	
	14	Cleaning	4	2	8	Deck dirty, but ok	L	-
	15	Movement / Expansion Joints	4	N/a	0		-	
Safety Elements	16	Access / Walkways / Gantries	2	1	2		-	
	17	Handrail / Safety Factors	3	1	3		-	
	18	Guardrails	3	2	6	Timber deteriorating	M	-
	19	Carriageway surfacing	3	1	3	Longitudinal boards good	-	-
Waterway Elements	20	Invert / River Bed	3	1	3		-	
	21	River bed upstream	3	1	3		-	
	22	River bed downstream	3	1	3		-	
	23	River Banks / Scour	3	1	3		-	
	24	Rock Work / Retaining	3	N/a	0		-	
	25	Vegetation / Debris	4	1	4		-	
Approaches	26	Approach Adequacy	2	1	2		-	
	27	Water Tables / Drainage	3	1	3		-	
	28	Signs	2	1	2		-	
	29	Services	1	N/a	0		-	
	30	Appearance	5	2	10	Planned for replacement	-	1000000
TOTALS:			114	38	158			
						TOTAL COST (\$):		1000000

	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
INSPECTOR	Jake Linders		12/2/26
REVIEWER	GS		21/4/26
APPROVER	GS		21/4/26

NEXT INSPECTION TYPE:	General
YEAR FOR NEXT INSPECTION:	2028
UNCOMPLETED WORK FROM LAST INSPECTION? (INDICATED BY * ABOVE)	NO



BRIDGE INSPECTION REPORT

STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Date Inspected	12/2/26
Bridge ID	0133/0203

ROAD:	Lower Kohuratahi Road	Restrictions:	Axles 1500 kg, Gross 30% class 1, Speed 10 km/h, Unsuitable for
RP:	2030		

Extra Notes:

Length 59 m

Width 3 m

30. Appearance

Most elements on the bridge have aged significantly and are not in great condition.

Bridge is effectively at end of life and closed to motor vehicles.

Red Jacket is currently working on a concept design to repair as per the successful Buchanan's Bridge Project.



BRIDGE INSPECTION REPORT
STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

ROAD: Lower Kohuratahi Road
RP: 2030
Restrictions: Axles 1000 kg, Gross 30% class 1, Speed 10 km/h, Unsuitable for motor vehicles

Date Inspected	12/2/26
Bridge ID	0133/0203



Cable



Column - west end



Timber supporting column - west end



Underneath deck



BRIDGE INSPECTION REPORT
STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

ROAD: Lower Kohuratahi Road
RP: 2030
Restrictions: Axles 1000 kg, Gross 30% class 1, Speed 10 km/h, Unsuitable for motor vehicles

Date Inspected	12/2/26
Bridge ID	0133/0203



Western approach and old sign



Deck



Bridge - east view



Columns - east end



BRIDGE INSPECTION REPORT
STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

ROAD	Lower Kohuratahi Road
RP	2030
Restrictions	Axles 1200 kg, Gross 30% class 1, Speed 10 km/h, Unsuitable for motor vehicles

Date Inspected	12/2/26
Bridge ID	0133/0203



Cross members



Transom beam



Cross bracing



Transom beam



BRIDGE INSPECTION REPORT
STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

ROAD	Lower Kohuratahi Road
RP	2030
Restrictions	Axles 1200 kg, Gross 30% class 1, Speed 10 km/h, Unsuitable for motor vehicles

Date Inspected	12/2/26
Bridge ID	0133/0203



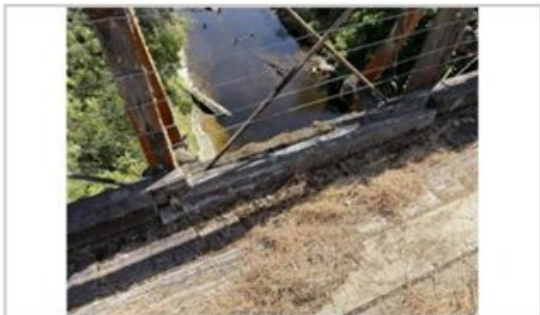
Deteriorating cross members



Cracked running board



Cracked cross brace block in handrail truss



Cracked timber parapet



BRIDGE INSPECTION REPORT
STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

ROAD	Lower Kohuratahi Road	Restrictions	Axles 10000 kg, Carcass 20% class 1, Speed 10 km/h, Unsuitable for motor vehicles
BP	2030		

Date Inspected	12/2/26
Bridge ID	08.33/0203



Suspension anchor - west end



Approach scour



Cables



New sign - west approach

APPENDIX 2 – Restricted Access of Roads Bylaw 2025

BYLAW



Restricted Access of Roads 2025

Date in force: 1 May 2025

Purpose

The purpose of this Bylaw is to regulate the use of vehicles on roads under the control of the Stratford District Council.

Next review: 1 May 2030

Title, commencement and review

- 1.1. This bylaw is the Restricted Access of Roads Bylaw 2025.
- 1.2. This bylaw comes into force on 1 May 2025.
- 1.3. This bylaw is due to be reviewed in accordance with section 158 of the Local Government Act 2002 by 1 May 2030.

2. Authority

- 2.1. This bylaw is made in accordance with the:
 - 2.1.1. Local Government Act 1974.
 - 2.1.2. Local Government Act 2002.
 - 2.1.3. Land Transport Act 1998.
 - 2.1.4. Land Transport (Enforcement Powers) Amendment Act 2009.
- 2.2. This bylaw shall be read in conjunction with the Acts listed above and all other relevant bylaws of the Council. It is not intended to restrict, limit or constrain any obligations and responsibilities under the Acts listed above.

3. Application of this Bylaw

- 3.1. This Bylaw applies to the entire Stratford district.

Part 1 Preliminary

4. Scope

- 4.1. The Bylaw generally applies to any road identified in the Restricted Access of Roads 2025 Bylaw Schedule (the Schedule) in **Appendix 1**, or by Council resolution regulating vehicle use on Council roads.
- 4.2. This bylaw:
 - 4.2.1. Sets the circumstances under which roads, or sections of roads, can be utilised.
 - 4.2.2. Restricts the types of vehicles that can use restricted roads or sections of roads.

5. Interpretation

- 5.1. When interpreting this bylaw, use the definitions set out in clause 6, unless the context requires otherwise. Where references are made to a repealed enactment, read that as a reference to its replacement.
- 5.2. For the purpose of this bylaw, the word 'shall' refers to practices that are mandatory for compliance with this bylaw.
- 5.3. Any explanatory notes and attachments are for information purposes and they do not form part of this bylaw, and may be made, amended and revoked without any formal process.

6. Definitions

- 6.1. For the purpose of this bylaw, unless inconsistent with the context, the following definitions apply:

Bylaw means the Restricted Access of Roads Bylaw 2025 for the time being in force, made under the provisions of any Act or authority enabling Council to make bylaws.

Class of vehicle means groupings of vehicles defined by reference to any common feature and includes vehicles:

- By type, description, weight, size or dimension.
- Carrying specified classes of load by the mass, size or nature of such loads.
- Carrying no fewer or less than a specified number of occupants.
- Used for specified purposes.
- Driven by specified classes of persons.
- Used for sharing or carpool.
- Displaying a permit authorised by the council.

Council means the governing body of the Stratford District Council or any person delegated to act on its behalf.

District means the district of Stratford District Council.

Emergency vehicle means a vehicle used for attendance at emergencies and operated:

- By an enforcement officer
- By an ambulance service
- As a fire service vehicle
- As a civil defence emergency vehicle
- As a defence force emergency vehicle

Infringement Notice means a notice issued in respect of an alleged offence.

Motor vehicle means a vehicle drawn or propelled by mechanical power and includes a trailer; but does not include a:

- Vehicle running on rails.
- Trailer (other than a trailer designed solely for the carriage of goods) that is designed and used exclusively as part of the armament of the New Zealand Defence Force.
- Trailer running on 1 wheel and designed exclusively as a speed measuring device or for testing the wear of vehicle tyres.
- Pedestrian-controlled machine.
- Vehicle that the New Zealand Transport Agency has declared under section 168A of the Land Transport Act 1998 is not a motor vehicle.
- Mobility device.

Network utility operation has the same meaning as in section 166 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Proceedings means proceedings under Section 133 of the Land Transport Act 1998.

Resolution means an official decision by Council to add roads, or sections of road, to the Schedule for the purpose of restricting the road, or section of road.

Restriction means a limiting condition of access on a road, or section of road.

Road means the following which is under the control of the council:

- A street.
- A park.
- A place to which the public have access, whether as of right or not.
- All bridges, culverts, gates and fords forming part of a road or street, or a place referred to above.

Schedule means the 'Restricted Access of Roads Bylaw Schedule' in Appendix 1.

Vehicle means a contrivance equipped with wheels, tracks, or revolving runners on which it moves or is moved and includes a hovercraft, a skateboard, in-line skates, and roller skates; but does not include:

- Perambulators or pushchairs.
- Shopping or sporting trundlers not propelled by mechanical power.
- Wheelbarrows or hand-trolleys.
- Pedestrian-controlled lawnmowers.
- Pedestrian-controlled agricultural machines not propelled by mechanical power.
- Articles of furniture.
- Wheelchairs not propelled by mechanical power.
- Rail vehicles.
- Any other contrivance specified by rules made under the Act not to be a vehicle for the purposes of this definition.

- 6.2. Any undefined words, phrases or expressions used in this bylaw have the same meaning as in the Land Transport Act 1998 unless the context plainly requires a different meaning.

7. Resolutions

- 7.1. The council may pass a resolution under this bylaw:

- 7.1.1. To regulate, control or prohibit any matter or thing generally, or for any specific classes of case or in a particular case.
- 7.1.2. That applies to all vehicles or traffic or to any specified class of vehicles or traffic using a road.
- 7.1.3. That applies to all roads, any specified road or part of a road under the care, control or management of the Council.
- 7.1.4. That applies to any specified time or period of time.

- 7.2. The Schedule (**Appendix 1**) and map (**Appendix 2**) shall be updated to include any resolution stated in **Clause 7.1** without the requirement to consult on the entire bylaw.

8. Notification of Resolution

- 8.1. Before a resolution comes into effect, any road or section of road, subject to restricted access as specified in the Schedule, shall be sign posted with either:
- 8.1.1. A copy of the resolution made under this bylaw,
 - 8.1.2. A statement of its effect conspicuously displayed, or
 - 8.1.3. Any other effective means of notification.

Part 2

Vehicular use of Roads

9. Limitations on the use of roads

- 9.1. Council may, by resolution, permanently or temporarily:
 - 9.1.1. Prohibit any specified class of vehicle (for example two-wheel drive vehicles) from being driven or parked on any specified road or part of a road.
 - 9.1.2. Restrict the use of any park, unsealed or unformed road by all motor vehicles or any class of motor vehicle.
- 9.2. The council may temporarily close any road to all vehicles or classes of vehicles where necessary for any event, repair of the road or the placement or repair of any infrastructure on or near that road. For the avoidance of doubt this clause does not limit any other powers the council may have to close or restrict the entry to any road.
- 9.3. A person must not drive, stop, stand, park or turn a vehicle in contravention of a prohibition or restriction made by the council under this bylaw and evidenced by appropriate signs and/or road markings.

10. Council may grant exemptions

- 10.1. The council may, if deemed appropriate, pass a resolution to temporarily or permanently exempt:
 - 10.1.1. Any person who requires access to real property owned by them from the relevant road.
 - 10.1.2. Emergency vehicles for the purposes of responding to emergencies.
 - 10.1.3. Any class of motor vehicle used for the purposes outlined in clauses 10.1.1 or 10.1.2.
- 10.2. Residents, Property Owners, and others with a legitimate need to access the restricted roads or sections of roads listed in schedule, may apply for a permit from Council.
- 10.3. Council may impose conditions on any permit issued including, but not limited to, time restrictions and specific access points.

Part 3

Enforcement, offences, and penalties

11. Non-compliance with this bylaw

- 11.1. The council may use its powers under the Land Transport Act 1998 to enforce this bylaw.
- 11.2. A person who fails to comply with any control, restriction, limitation or prohibitions made pursuant to this bylaw commits an offence under the Land Transport Act 1998 and is liable to the penalties set out in that Act.
- 11.3. In addition to the powers conferred on it by any other enactment the council may remove or cause to be removed from any road, or parking place any vehicle or thing using the road or parking place in breach of this bylaw.

12. Offences and penalties

- 12.1. A person who fails to comply with this bylaw may:
- 12.1.1. Be served with an infringement notice in accordance with section 139 of the Land Transport Act 1998.
- 12.1.2. Have their vehicle moved if council believes that the vehicle causes:
- An obstruction in the road or to any vehicle entrance to any property.
 - The removal of the vehicle is desirable in the interests of road safety or for the convenience or in the interests of the public.
- 12.1.3. Be liable to a fine of up to \$1,000 for an offence involving a moving vehicle.

13. Damage

- 13.1. No person shall undertake any activity that causes, or may cause, damage or a safety hazard to any road, or section of road, listed in the Schedule.
- 13.2. In the event of damage to any road, Council may undertake repairs to the road or any section. Council may recover the costs of these repairs, including associated expenses, from the individual responsible for causing the damage or from any person who has breached the Bylaw in connection with the damage.

14. Power to recover costs

- 14.1. Council reserves the right to recover the cost for damage from a person who wilfully or negligently destroys, damages, stops, obstructs, or otherwise interferes with any works or property owned, constructed, acquired, or used by Council, in accordance with Section 175 of the Local Government Act 2002.
- 14.2. Council reserves the right to recover the cost of remedying any damage caused in the course of committing the offence, in accordance with Section 176 of the Local Government Act 2002.
- 14.3.** Council reserves the right to recover any costs associated with non-compliance, offences and penalties under this bylaw.

Part 4

Exceptions and savings

15. Exceptions

15.1. A person is not in breach of this bylaw if that person proves that the:

15.1.1. Act or omission complained of took place in response to a situation on a road.

15.1.2. Situation was not of the person's own making.

15.1.3. Act or omission was taken:

- To avoid the death or injury of a person.
- If the act or omission did not create a risk of death or injury or greater damage to any property, to avoid damage to any property.

15.2. Section 15.1 does not apply if a court is considering, in proceedings for an offence specified in the Land Transport Act 1998, whether or not a person had complied with this bylaw.

15.3. Any restrictions made under Part 2 of this bylaw do not apply to vehicles that are:

15.3.1. Actually engaged in construction, maintenance or repair work to a network utility operation.

15.3.2. Being used as an emergency vehicle in attendance at an emergency situation.

15.3.3. Being used to transport registered medical personnel to assist at an emergency situation.

15.4. A person is not in breach of this bylaw if that person proves that the act or omission:

15.4.1. Took place in compliance with the directions of an enforcement officer or the council.

15.4.2. In the case of an act or omission done by an enforcement officer or the council, was necessary in the execution of the person's duty.

16. This Bylaw was made by the Stratford District Council on 1 May 2025.

THE COMMON SEAL of the STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL was hereto affixed by resolution of said Council in the presence of:



Mayor



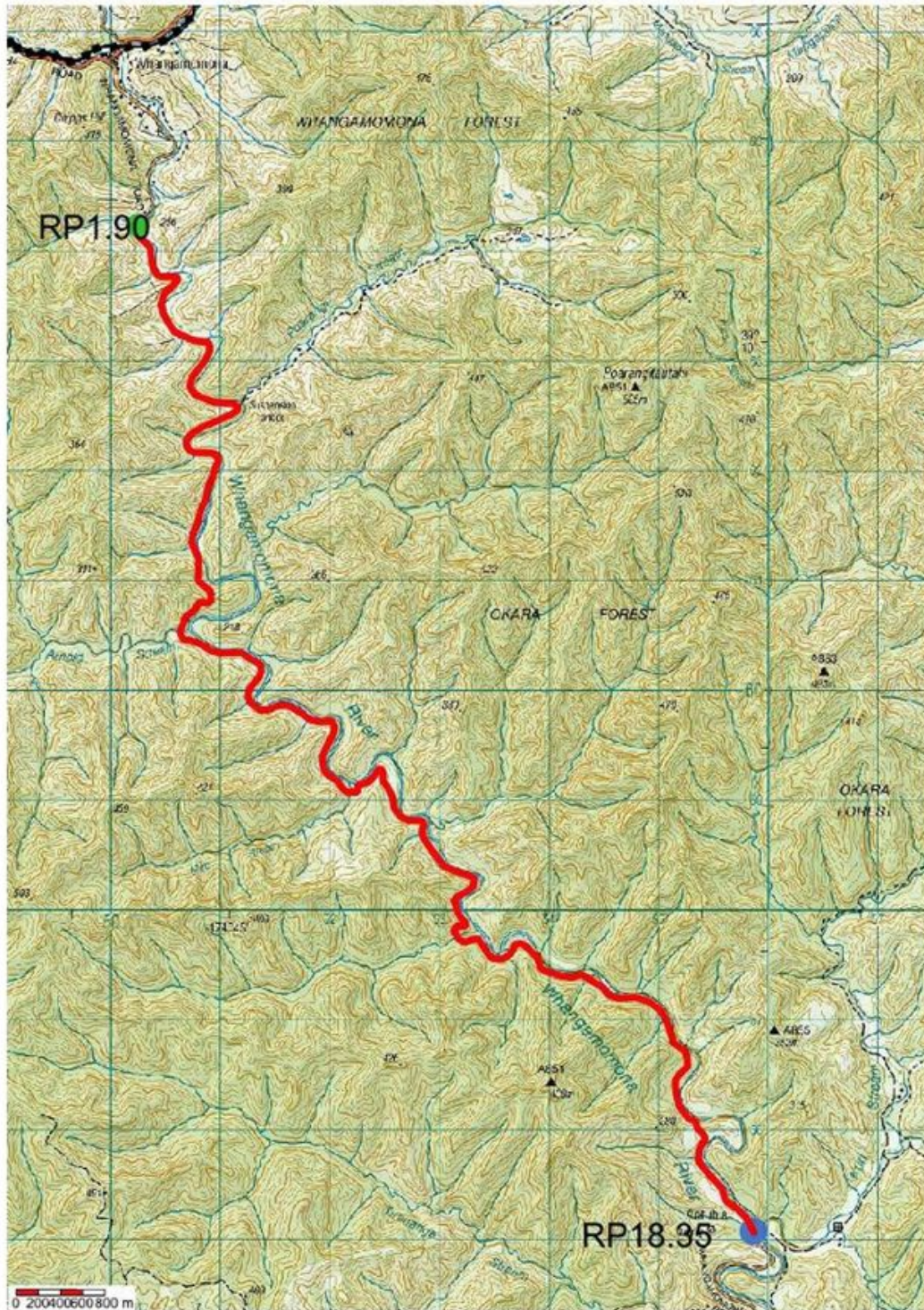
Chief Executive



Appendix 1 – Restricted Access of Roads Bylaw Schedule

Item	Road	#	Restriction
1	Whangamomona Road RP1.90 to RP18.35	W1	Between 1 May to the Friday prior to Labour Day every year to all motor vehicles and vehicles.
		W2	Between the Friday prior to Labour Day to 30 April every year, the following vehicles are prohibited: • 2WD vehicles. • Motor homes. • Caravans. • Any other vehicle that is deemed unsuitable to use this road. Only the following activities and vehicles are permitted: • Walking • Cycling • Horse trekking • Motorcycling (off-road/trial bikes) • 4WD vehicles • Tractors

Appendix 2 – Whangamomona Road Restriction map



APPENDIX 3 – Regulation 11 - Heavy Motor Vehicle Regulations 1974

Contents	
Regulations	
1 Title and commencement	
2 Interpretation	
3 Classification of roads	
4 Road classification signs [Revoked]	
5 Use of roads and general weight limitations	
6 Special weight-limit permits [Revoked]	
7 Permits to exceed weight limits [Revoked]	
8 Maximum inflation of tyres	
9 Speed limits [Revoked]	
10 Prohibition of certain heavy traffic	
11 Protection of bridges	
12 Road construction zones	
13 Devices to alter axle weights [Revoked]	
14 Marking of tare weight [Revoked]	
15 Distance between axles	
16 Signs [Revoked]	
16A Vehicle standards	
17 Powers of constables and traffic officers	
18 Offences and penalties	
18A Amount of goods and services tax excluded	
19 Revocations and consequential amendments	
Schedule 1	
Schedule 2 Tables of maximum weights for	

11 Protection of bridges

- (1) A person operating a heavy motor vehicle or combination of vehicles must comply with a mass limit or a speed limit fixed in accordance with this regulation (see also regulations 2A, 3(4), and 4(6) of the Land Transport (Offences and Penalties) Regulations 1999).
- (2) [Revoked]
- (3) For the purposes of this regulation, a controlling authority may with respect to any bridge under its control fix mass limits or a speed limit or both mass limits and a speed limit for heavy motor vehicles, and combinations of vehicles including a heavy motor vehicle, using that bridge.
- (4) Before a controlling authority proceeds to fix any mass limits or speed limit with respect to any bridge under this regulation, it shall obtain from a chartered professional engineer a certificate that he has made a detailed inspection of the bridge and that as a result he is of the opinion that the use of the bridge by vehicles exceeding in mass the mass limits, or travelling at a speed exceeding the speed limit, proposed to be fixed would so overstrain the bridge as to be likely to cause its ultimate failure.
- (5) Any controlling authority that has fixed mass or speed limits with respect to any bridge as aforesaid shall cause notification thereof in form D of Schedule 1 to be published in some newspaper circulating in the district in which the bridge is situated, and shall erect and maintain near each end of the bridge a sign indicating any mass and speed limits so fixed in the form prescribed by Land Transport Rule: Traffic Control Devices 2004 (54002).
- (6) [Revoked]
- (7) Any controlling authority that has fixed a speed limit with respect to any bridge as aforesaid shall cause notification thereof in form D of Schedule 1 to be published in some newspaper circulating in the district in which the bridge is situated. Any such notice may be combined with a notice under subclause (5), as indicated in the said form D.
- (8) The mass limits or speed limit fixed with respect to any bridge shall become effective for the purpose of this regulation so soon as subclause (5) or subclause (7) has been complied with and no sooner.
- (9) Within 7 days of the publication or first publication (if more than 1) of a notification, the controlling authority shall forward to the Agency a copy of the newspaper containing the notification, together with advice that an engineer's certificate has been obtained in accordance with subclause (4).
- (10) The controlling authority shall remove any mass limits or speed limit which it has fixed with respect to any bridge under this regulation, or under the corresponding provisions of the Heavy Motor Vehicle Regulations 1969, upon being satisfied that the same are no longer necessary by reason of repairs to the bridge having been effected or for any other sufficient reason, and shall cause notification of the removal to be published in some newspaper circulating in the district in which the bridge is situated and shall forthwith remove the signs erected under subclause (5), or, as the case may be, the corresponding provisions of the Heavy Motor Vehicle Regulations 1969.
- (11) The controlling authority shall forthwith notify the Agency of the removal of any mass limits or speed limit as aforesaid, and shall forward to him a copy of the newspaper containing notification thereof.
- (12) Any mass limits or speed limit removed under this regulation shall be ineffective as from the time of removal of the signs by the controlling authority, or as from the date of publication or first publication (if more than 1) of the notification of that removal.
- (13) Any mass limits or speed limit fixed by the controlling authority under the provisions of this regulation shall remain in force, unless sooner revoked or amended, for a period of 12 months and no longer, but any such mass limits or speed limit, and any mass limits or speed limit fixed under the corresponding provisions of the Heavy Motor Vehicle Regulations 1969 and in force at the commencement of these regulations, may be reimposed from time to time under the provisions of this regulation for further periods not exceeding 12 months at any one time.
- (14) In any prosecution for a breach of this regulation, it shall be sufficient evidence that the mass limits or speed limit with respect to any bridge had been fixed and were in force in accordance with this regulation, if the prosecution proves that at the time when the offence was committed the signs indicating mass or speed limits, or both, were in position near each end of the bridge, and that those limits had been fixed by the controlling authority not more than 12 months before the date of the alleged offence.

MONTHLY REPORT

- District Mayor



F25/96/004 – D26/33674

To: Council
From: District Mayor
Date: 8 September 2026
Subject: District Mayor Monthly Report - August 2026

Recommendations

THAT the report be received.

/
Moved/Seconded

1. Rural & Provincial Sector Meeting - Simplifying Local Government Reforms

The Rural and Provincial Sector meeting held in Wellington on 6 August focussed on the Simplifying Local Government reforms. Analysts, consultants, senior public servants, politicians and cabinet ministers made appearances and offered views on where these reforms were headed. Collectively they provided a valuable insight in the final days before we submitted our amalgamation proposal to government.

One question often asked, is what happens if there is a change of government in November.? After hearing comments from representatives of all the major parties, my sense was that it will make very little substantive difference. No party committed to stopping the reforms and no party really criticised them either, suggesting any future changes would be more like “tweaking only”

Each Mayor was asked to give an update and brief outline of their council's proposal. Not surprisingly, there was a wide range of views and considerable discontent, while the proposals being submitted varied greatly. Of note, was that no regional area put forward a single unitary proposal based on current regional boundaries. Some regions were divided into two unitaries and some into three, while others have not put forward a proposal at all.

We are presently in the situation of waiting for the DIA response to the joint proposal put forward by Stratford and South Taranaki District Councils.

2. Contact Energy and CDC Date Centres

This time last month I knew nothing of a proposal by Contact Energy and CDC Data Centres to construct a data centre adjacent to the Stratford Power Station. The proposal being considered by these companies has since been socialised with several key stake holders, councillors and iwi. A public drop session has also been held to share information with the community and further sessions are planned for the near future.

It is important to note that at this moment in time, no consent application has been made to the council. Also important to note, is that elected members are not the decision makers for consents and play no active role in the consenting process. Once received the regulatory process will come into play and the proposal will be considered against the standard criteria requirements of the Resource Management Act.

3. Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management Joint Committee meeting

The Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management Joint Committee met on 18 August 2026. Minutes of the meeting can be found on the Taranaki Regional Council website. Included in the meeting was the quarterly NEMA update, the appointment of a Local Recovery Manager for the Stratford District Council, and the TEMO Quarterly Report Q4 – FY25/26.

4. Chunuk Bair Commemoration

On August 8th we held our annual service to commemorate the Battle of Chunuk Bair. A larger than normal crowd attended. This WW1 battle at Gallipoli was of particular importance to the ANZAC forces mainly due to the strategic location of this peak. New Zealand's troops were led by Lieutenant-Colonel William Malone. The Chunuk Bair Memorial is one of four memorials that commemorate soldiers who died in operations on the Gallipoli peninsula and whose graves are not known. It bears 849 names.

Eight years after the battle, Malone's regiment commended him by erecting the Malone Memorial Gates at the entrance to King Edward Park. Recognised as a prominent Stratford citizen of his time and for his military heroism, the small local service to commemorate the battle and his deeds still continues on. Adding to the service this year was a group of current members of Malones Wellington regiment who lay a wreath, along with other Defence Force personnel.

5. Stratford Business Association Romeo Awards

It was great to see the Romeo Awards re-invented and bought back to life. Not seen since 2018 the awards were once a very popular event in this community, so it was a real achievement to drum up the support needed and the sponsorship to make this happen. I thank the Stratford Business Association for their organisational work; it was a huge task. I also congratulate all the participants and category winners, but in particular Brian Darth Funeral Services for winning the Supreme Excellence Award. Let's hope the event can become a regular feature on our social calendar.

6. Citizen Awards 2026

The annual Citizen Awards were well supported and once again threw up some great nominations of people doing outstanding work in our community. This year's recipients came from a variety of backgrounds, but all had strong community service as the common denominator. Darleena Christie and Vanessa Kennedy received Citizen Awards, while Lily Single and Hunta Northcott-Ngatai received youth awards. Also acknowledged with an outstanding Citizen Award was Miranda Wells for her unrelenting enthusiasm and drive behind the 800 Miranda Trust. This Trust is responsible for a major conservation initiative at Tututawa involving planting tens of thousands of native trees, protecting native birds and developing AI software that is to be used in the conservation sector. Congratulations to this year's winners,

7. Stratford Park Project

Two months ago, the Stratford Park Project reached a milestone when the construction of a new equestrian arena started. Recently I visited the site to check on progress, and I am delighted to report the work is well underway and nearing completion of the arena. The goal is to have the arena in use for the Stratford A & P show in November. The support facilities and ancillary buildings will be developed over time but is very pleasing to see some tangible outcomes after a great deal of planning and hurdles to overcome.

Another step forward for the project is the agreement that has been reached between the Stratford A & P Association and Speedway. Together they have negotiated a 25-year License to Occupy agreement that gives security of tenure for Speedway and an anchor tenant for the A & P. This long-term arrangement is significant as it gives speedway the confidence to move ahead with their planned improvements and know they will be around long enough to enjoy the benefits. The two organisations also have plans to develop some shared facilities such as a club rooms, office space, toilet blocks, access points and on-site car parking

8. Correspondence

- Stratford Volunteer Fire Brigade Call Outs – August 2026
- Letter from the Minister - Rates Capping Questions from CDEM Groups
- Ministerial statement on land transport
- Letter from the Minister - Mount Maunganui Beachside Holiday Park landslide
- Letter from NZTA - Funding assistance rates for 2027-30 NLTP

Some Events Attended

- Attended – meeting of the Resource Management Reform Steering Group
- Attended – a meeting of the Taranaki Mayoral Forum
- Attended – LGNZ Rural and Provincial Sector meeting in Wellington
- Attended – Chunuk Bair Commemoration Service
- Attended – the SBA Romeo Awards evening
- Attended – the Annual General Meeting of the Ostlers Garden Trust
- Attended – hosted the Citizen Awards presentation ceremony
- Attended – a meeting with representatives of MBIE
- Attended – LGNZ briefing by National Council (by zoom)
- Attended – meeting of the Stratford Health Trust (x1)
- Attended - Meeting of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Joint Committee
- Attended – presentation by representatives of Contact Energy and CDC Date Centres
- Attended – Justice of the Peace training
- Attended – meeting of the Stratford A&P Association and Speedway
- Attended – meeting of Creative Communities Committees
- Attended – Daffodil Day luncheon
- Met – with representatives of Contact Energy
- Met – with a representative of the Taranaki Synthetic Turf Trust
- Met – with representatives of EnZed Energy New Zealand
- Met – with representatives of Contact Energy and CDC Date Centres
- Met – with the Chief Executive (Performance Review)
- Met – with the Chairperson of the Taranaki Electricity Trust
- Met – with representatives of Speedway and the A&P Association
- Met - with representatives of Stratford Equestrian group
- Met – with representatives of the Percy Thompson Trust
- Met - with Carl Bates, National Member of Parliament
- Newspaper - Stratford Press Interviews (multiple)
- Newspaper - Daily News / Stuff (multiple)
- Access Radio – Conversation with Mayor Interview (x1)
- Attended - Regional Mayors and Chairs weekly meeting (x3)
- Attended - Council Pre-Agenda meetings (x2)
- Attended – Council Workshop (x3)
- Attended – Council Public Forum (x1)
- Attended - Council Meetings (x3)



N C Volzke JP
District Mayor

Date: 2 September 2026

Stratford Volunteer Fire Brigade Callouts August 2026

The Stratford Fire Brigade responded to 11 calls in August 2026:

- 05-08-26 Alarm activation Stratford War Memorial Hall Miranda Street
- 07-08-26 Tanker required vegetation fire Ahipaipa Road Okaiawa, assist Hawera, Okaiawa and Kohi and Ngamotu fire brigades
- 10-08-26 Assist ambulance medical call Margaret Street
- 13-08-26 Assist ambulance medical call Percy Avenue
- 17-08-26 Motor vehicle accident truck rolled Opunake Road
- 21-08-26 Alarm activation Hamlet Street
- 21-08-26 Assist ambulance medical call Portia Street
- 27-08-26 Investigate smoke coming from Taranaki Galvanizers Monmouth Road
- 27-08-26 Alarm activation TET Multi Sports Centre Portia Street
- 28-08-26 Brigade van required alarm activation LA Nuova Laundromat Bridge Street Eltham assist Eltham fire brigade stood down before arrival
- 30-08-26 Motor vehicle accident car vs. power pole Celia Street

Hon Simon Watts

Minister of Climate Change
Minister of Local Government
Minister of Revenue
Minister for Auckland



22 JUN 2026

COR2450

Mayor Marie Black
Chair – Canterbury Civil Defence Emergency Management Joint Committee
c/o James Thompson
James.Thompson@cdemcanterbury.govt.nz

Dear Mayor Black,

Thank you for your letter of 2 June 2026 about the proposed rates cap and the potential implications for emergency management activities funded through local government rates.

As you have noted, the Government is introducing a rates cap. Only water-related revenue will be excluded, as it is regulated separately. Civil defence and emergency management activities will not be excluded.

I expect councils to continue planning and budgeting to meet their responsibilities under current and proposed legislation. This includes managing the risks from natural hazards, such as flooding, and ensuring councils have trained personnel and appropriate plans in place to protect people and property during an emergency and support effective recovery.

I also recognise there may be times when councils need to spend more than usual. The rates cap is being designed to allow councils to operate outside the target range in limited circumstances, including exceptional circumstances. These exemptions are intended to cover events such as natural disasters or catastrophic infrastructure failures. They are expected to be timebound and supported by a plan to return to the target range.

During targeted consultation on the rates cap, councils told us they are facing significant costs from new statutory obligations. I am advised by officials at the Department of Internal Affairs that this feedback is being considered as part of the design of the rates cap.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Simon Watts', written over a horizontal line.

Hon Simon Watts
Minister of Local Government



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20 August 2026

Kia ora koutou

As you may already be aware, the Minister of Transport released a ministerial statement on land transport on 13 August 2026. The statement was released to inform the development of Long Term Plans (LTPs) and Regional Land Transport Plans (RLTPs) ahead of the Government Policy Statement on land transport for 2027-37 (GPS 2027). The Government has signalled that it will release a draft GPS for public consultation in early 2027.

The strategic priorities in GPS 2024 are Economic Growth and Productivity, Increased Maintenance and Resilience, Safety, and Value for Money. The ministerial statement indicates that the draft GPS 2027 will likely have an overarching focus on Value for money and investment and cost discipline. Other areas of focus are likely to be Maintenance, operations and renewals, Resilience, Transit-oriented development, Economic growth and productivity, and Safety.

All activities that are to be included in the National Land Transport Programme (NLTP) need to be included in the relevant RLTP.

A copy of the statement is available online: [Ministerial-statement-on-land-transport-13-August-2026.pdf](#).

In the coming weeks we'll share more resources to help you prepare for the 2027-30 NLTP:

- an Initial Draft Investment Prioritisation Method (IPM), which will outline how bids for inclusion in the NLTP will be prioritised to give effect to the GPS
- our Draft 2027-37 State Highway Asset Management Plan (SHAMP), which sets out the activities needed to manage, maintain and renew state highway assets over their lifecycle
- our Draft State Highway Investment Proposal (SHIP), which lists the priority state highway activities that we propose are included in RLTPs and subject to prioritisation in the NLTP.

Please note that these documents will be updated when a draft GPS 2027 is available.

If you have any questions, please contact your Director Regional Relationships or email us at nltip@nzta.govt.nz for guidance and support.

Hon Simon Watts

Minister for Building and Construction
Minister of Climate Change
Minister of Local Government
Minister of Revenue
Minister for Auckland



MIN127

20 August 2026

Dear Chairs, Chief Executives, and Mayors

Yesterday the Tauranga City Council released the report of Hon Paul Davison KSO KC into the Mount Maunganui Beachside Holiday Park landslide. Its findings make for sobering reading.

I was concerned to read that warnings over some years about the vulnerability of Mauao were not acted upon. This raises questions about risk and assurance processes across the country. The lessons learned in Tauranga should be noted across New Zealand. We do not want another repeat of this tragedy.

Councils manage sites and facilities across a range of terrain, hosting millions of New Zealanders and visitors each year. Appropriate systems are required to ensure that risks are identified, managed, and, where possible, mitigated.

I ask all councils to review this report. The Central Government is doing so and will take its findings into account for the Crown's review into this matter.

Councils have an important role in keeping our communities safe. I look forward to you prioritising this important matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Hon Simon Watts
Minister of Local Government


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1 September 2026

Neil Volzke
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Stratford District Council
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Chief Executive Officer
Stratford District Council
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Kia ora Neil and Sven

Funding assistance rates for 2027-30 NLTP

I'm writing to let you know that the NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) Board has set the normal funding assistance rates (FARs) to apply to approved activities in the 2027-30 National Land Transport Programme (NLTP).

Your normal FAR for the 2027-30 period is shown in the table below:

	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Normal FAR	62%	61%	61%

Your normal FAR for the 2024-27 NLTP was 63%.

We recognise that a reduction in the normal FAR is not the outcome you will have wanted. The key drivers of the decrease to your normal FAR are:

- an increase in the number of rateable units; and
- a reduction in reported deprivation (using the Otago University deprivation Index ([link](#))).

The Board's decision is based on the [FAR principles and policy](#) which were developed in consultation with approved organisations in 2014. The normal FAR is calculated using objective data sets and a methodology which seeks to determine an approved organisation's ability to meet its share of land transport costs. It's calculated for each approved organisation.

The updated data used in the calculation of the normal FARs for the 2027-30 NLTP includes the size of the transport programme, number of rateable units and capital value of those units, the level of deprivation and the length of road networks. The data comes from various sources – councils, Quotable Value and the University of Otago deprivation index.

Next steps

The complete list of normal FARs for the 2027-30 NLTP will be available on our [website](#) tomorrow. Approved organisations can use their normal FARs to identify the local share component of their bids for the 2027-30 NLTP and in their financial planning.

Future FAR changes

I want to acknowledge that changes arising from local government reform during 2027-30 could potentially have an impact on normal FARs. We're happy to advise on the potential impact of a proposed amalgamation on normal FARs.

NZTA is planning a substantive review of the FAR policy ahead of the 2030-33 NLTP and we'll provide you with further information about this and how you can provide feedback.

In the meantime, if you have any questions about your FAR, please contact your Director of Regional Relationships or email nltf@nzta.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi



Sara Lindsay

Group General Manager – Commercial and Corporate



TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O
WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Our reference
F19/13/03-D21/40748

Karakia

Kia uruuru mai
Ā hauora
Ā haukaha
Ā haumāia
Ki runga, Ki raro
Ki roto, Ki waho
Rire rire hau Paimārire

I draw in (to my being)
The reviving essence
The strengthening essence
The essence of courage
Above, Below
Within, Around
Let there be peace.