TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Our reference
F19/13/03-D21/26182

2 July 2025

Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Ordinary meeting of Council will meet in the **Council Chambers, Stratford District Council, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford** on ***Tuesday 8 July 2025*** beginning at **3.30pm.**

Timetable for 8 July 2025 as follows:

1.00pm	Workshop - Elected Members Protocols - Rural Waste Proposals
2.45pm	Afternoon tea
3.00pm	Public Forum - Seabed mining – South Taranaki Bight
3.30pm	Ordinary Meeting

Yours faithfully

Sven Hanne
Chief Executive

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

2025 - Agenda - Ordinary - July - Open

08 July 2025 03:30 PM - 05:00 PM

AGENDA
Ordinary Meeting of Council

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

F22/55/05 – D25/22659

Date: 8 July 2025 at 3.30 PM
Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

1. Welcome

1.1 Opening Karakia
D21/40748 Page 7

1.2 Health and Safety Message
D21/26210 Page 8

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

Page 9

Attendance schedule for Ordinary and Extraordinary Council meetings.

6. Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Ordinary Meeting of Council – 10 June 2025
D25/20184 Page 10

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 10 June 2025 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

/
Moved/Seconded

6.2.1 Public Forum Notes
D25/20187 Page 15

The notes from the public forum were attached for Council's information.

6.2 Policy and Services Committee – 24 June (Hearing)
D25/21748 Page 17

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting, to hear and consider submissions to the Future of Water Services Delivery in Stratford, held on Tuesday 24 June 2025 be received.
2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting, to hear and consider submissions to the Future of Water Services Delivery in Stratford, held on Tuesday 24 June 2025 be adopted.

/
Moved/Seconded

6.3 Policy and Services Committee – 24 June 2025
D25/21769 Page 30

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 24 June 2025 be received.

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 24 June 2025 be adopted.

/
Moved/Seconded

7. District Mayor's Report

D25/23569 Page 34

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

2. THAT the District Mayor, Councillors Boyde and Harris be delegated authority to attend and vote on behalf of the Stratford District Council at the Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) Conference to be held 16-17 July 2025.

3. THAT Council authorises the Executive Committee to oversee and complete the performance appraisal process (including remuneration review) for the Chief Executive.

/
Moved/Seconded

8. Decision Report – Proposed Road Closures for a Street Sprint Event

D25/20516 Page 37

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

2. THAT pursuant to Section 342(1) (b) in accordance with Schedule 10 clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974, Stratford District Council approves the closure of the following roads on Sunday 10 August 2025 between the hours of 07:30am to 5:30pm for the South Taranaki Car Clubs to host their Annual Street Sprint motorsport event.

   - Orlando Street – From Celia Street to Warwick Road
   - Warwick Road – From Orlando Street to Cordelia Street
   - Cordelia Street – From Warwick Road to Romeo Street
   - Romeo Street – From Orlando Street to Cordelia Street

Recommended Reason
In order for the South Taranaki Car Club to host the Annual Street Sprint motorsport event, it is necessary to close the roads listed above for safety reasons, for the participants and spectators. The proposed roads closure requires a formal endorsement by a council resolution.

/
Moved/Seconded

9. Public Forum Response

Speaker:
Response:

10. Questions

11. 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: 12

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
Code of Conduct Complaint Investigation	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.

________/______
Moved/Seconded

12. Public Excluded Item - Decision Report – Code of Conduct Complaint Investigation

D25/22831

Recommendation

THAT the open meeting resume.

/
Moved/Seconded

13. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 53

******

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Our reference
F19/13/03-D21/40748

Karakia

Kia uruuru mai	I draw in (to my being)
Ā hauora	The reviving essence
Ā haukaha	The strengthening essence
Ā haumāia	The essence of courage
Ki runga, Ki raro	Above, Below
Ki roto, Ki waho	Within, Around
Rire rire hau Paimārire	Let there be peace.

Stratford District
In the heart of Taranaki

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

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.

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

5. Attendance schedule for 2025 Ordinary and Extraordinary Council meetings.

Date	011/02/25	25/02/25	11/03/25	08/04/25	15/04/25	13/05/25	10/06/25	08/07/25	12/08/25	02/09/25	07/10/25
Meeting	O	E	O	O	E	O	O	O	O	O	O
Neil Volzke	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Steve Beck	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Grant Boyde	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓				
Annette Dudley	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A				
Jono Erwood	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Ellen Hall	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓				
Amanda Harris	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Vaughan Jones	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A				
Min McKay	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
John Sandford	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Clive Tongaawhikau	A	A	✓	A	✓	AB	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
Ordinary

F22/55/05 – D25/20184

Date: 10 June 2025 at 3.30 PM
Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

Present
The District Mayor N C Volzke (the Chairperson), the Deputy Mayor M McKay, Councillors: G W Boyde, S J Beck, J M S Erwood, E E Hall, A K Harris, W J Sandford and M J Watt.

In attendance
The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Director – Assets – Mrs V Araba, the Director – Environmental Services – Mr B Sutherland, the Director – Corporate Services – Mrs R Johnson, the Director – Community Services – Ms K Whareaitu, the Committee Advisor and Executive Assistant – Mrs E Bishop, the Property and Projects Manager – Mr S Taylor, one member of the Media (Stratford Press) and three members of the public.

1. Welcome

The District Mayor welcomed Elected Members, members of the public, staff and the media to the meeting.

The opening karakia was read.

The District Mayor reiterated the health and safety message and emergency procedures.

2. Apologies

An approved leave of absence was noted for Councillors A M C Dudley, V R Jones and C M Tongaawhikau.

Recommendation

THAT the apologies be received.

VOLZKE/BOYDE
Carried
CL/25/40

3. Announcements

The District Mayor requested the following statement be recorded in full:

"Last week I spoke with Councillor Clive Tongaawhikau. Clive has been challenged by some personal issues over recent months and it has become increasingly difficult for him to fulfil his many roles in the community, including his commitment to his role as a District Councillor. This situation is unlikely to improve in the short term. This week I received a request from Councillor Tongaawhikau for a period of leave of absence. I have considered this request and approved the leave of absence effective from today the 10 June 2025 through to 11 October 2025. During the period of the leave of absence the councillor honorarium will be discontinued. I want to publicly acknowledge and thank Councillor Tongaawhikau for his contribution over the last 2 ½ years and wish him all the best"

4. Declarations of Members Interest

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

Councillor Hall declared an interest in item 6.3 – Confirmation of Minutes - Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund Assessment Committee.

5. Attendance Schedule

The attendance schedule for Ordinary and Extraordinary Council meetings was attached.

6. Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Audit and Risk Committee – 13 May 2025
D25/16028 (PE) & D25/18894 (Open) Page 9

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting, including the public excluded section, held on Tuesday 13 May 2025 be received.
2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting, including the public excluded section, held on Tuesday 13 May 2025 be adopted.

ERWOOD/HARRIS
Carried
CL/25/41

6.2 Ordinary Meeting of Council – 13 May 2025
D25/16046 Page 19

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 13 May 2025 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

VOLZKE/HARRIS
Carried
CL/25/42

6.2.1 Public Forum Notes
D25/16056 Page 28

The notes from the public forum were attached for Council's information.

Councillor Hall left the table at 3.36pm.

6.3 Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund Assessment Committee – 20 May 2025
D25/17371 Page 30

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund Assessment Committee meeting held on Tuesday 20 May 2025 be received.

ERWOOD/WATT
Carried
CL/25/43

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund Assessment Committee meeting held on Tuesday 20 May 2025 be adopted.

HARRIS/McKAY
Carried
CL/25/44

Councillor Harris noted this round was the most contested round with a total of $18,387 applied for and $11,739 distributed. It was really encouraging to see new applicants as well as the usual ones.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Harris clarified that the accountability forms are not a requirement, however this process varies across different district councils who administer the fund. The committee has recommended to adopt a template that was drafted from rural schools who do a fantastic job in accounting for distribution of the funds.

Councillor Hall re-joined the table at 3.39pm.

6.4 Farm Committee – 27 May 2025
D25/18159 Page 33

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Farm Committee held on Tuesday 27 May 2025 be received.

VOLZKE/SANDFORD
Carried
CL/25/45

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Farm Committee held on Tuesday 27 May 2025 be adopted.

BOYDE/HALL
Carried
CL/25/46

Councillor Boyde noted that the committee had spoken about the new tools Fonterra has for setting fixed milk prices and what this could look like in the future. He noted this has not only been a record year in production with less cows, but also a record payout. This is due to the outstanding performance of the sharemilkers. The District Mayor asked that this be passed onto the sharemilkers to acknowledge the outstanding results with high production with less stock and less environmental impact.

6.5 Policy and Services Committee – 27 May 2025
D25/17973 Page 38

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 27 May 2025 be received.

HARRIS/ERWOOD
Carried
CL/25/47

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 27 May 2025 be adopted.

McKAY/WATT
Carried
CL/25/48

6.5.1 Amendment to Taranaki Aquatics Network Plan
Page 50

Attached for council's information.

7. District Mayor's Report

D25/19640 Page 51

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/BOYDE
Carried
CL/25/49

The District Mayor noted the following points:

- The meeting with Mayor Holdom and Minister for Health – Simeon Brown last week was the first visit to the region with him in the role of Minister for Health. One issue that has cropped up is the delay in x-rays being read and when raised he was not only aware of the problem but had just put solutions in place. This issue has been plaguing the health system for months and was resolved by writing a contract with a private supplier.
- Local Water Done Well – council received 185 submissions which will be circulated as soon as possible. He noted that South Taranaki had received over 700 submissions. The Chief Executive noted the agenda will be circulated early but that there would not be any management response on the submissions as this is a politically led decision, there will also not be an officers recommendation.

8. Public Forum Response

Speaker: Peter Reed and Rob Green – Heritage Taranaki
Response:

- Thank presenters for highlighting the issues that they did. Accept the offer for a pro-bono assessment of our heritage assets. Note that staff will liaise with them on this.
- It was clarified that there is a list of heritage sites in the District Plan, but there is no budget specifically assigned to maintenance of these as work is usually budgeted for within general repairs and maintenance. Councillor Hall requested that a dedicated budget be included for discussion during the next Long Term Plan process.

9. Questions

There were no questions.

10. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 56

The closing karakia was read.

The meeting closed at 3.50 pm.

N C Volzke
Chairman

Confirmed this 8th day of July 2025

N C Volzke
District Mayor

PUBLIC FORUM
Notes

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

F22/55/05 – D25/16056

Date: 10 June 2025 at 3.00 PM
Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

Present

The District Mayor N C Volzke (the Chairperson), the Deputy Mayor M McKay, Councillors: G W Boyde, S J Beck, J M S Erwood, E E Hall, A K Harris, W J Sandford and M J Watt.

In attendance

The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Director – Assets – Mrs V Araba, the Director – Environmental Services – Mr B Sutherland, the Director – Corporate Services – Mrs R Johnson, the Director – Community Services – Ms K Whareaitu, the Committee Advisor and Executive Assistant – Mrs E Bishop, the Parks and Reserves Officer – Mrs M McBain, the Property and Projects Manager – Mr S Bowden, one member of the Media (Stratford Press) and two members of the public.

1. Welcome

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

2. Speakers

Speaker: Peter Reed & Rob Green
Topic: Heritage Taranaki

Points noted in the presentation:

- Mr Green noted he had previously presented to council on behalf of Heritage Taranaki to discuss Heritage Month and seek financial assistance. Heritage month is happening in October again this year and it is when we invite various members, iwi, hapu, historical societies, genealogical societies and anyone else with interest in heritage and culture to present their stories. This year Peter Reed has volunteered to take a guided walk through the heritage structures in Stratford which is going to be good to include Stratford in a detailed way.
- Mr Reed noted this led into a conversation on conservation and restoration of heritage assets. After having a look at the district plan list and looking around Stratford there are memorials that are in the state of needing some attention. He noted this was not a reflection of the maintenance regime but that these items need special attention that can't be rushed.
- He presented a number of photos:
  - Vandals have taken the gate off at the Victoria Park memorial gates which will be 100 years old next ANZAC day so it would be beneficial to tidy up to show support on this milestone. The gate can be put back on relatively easily.
  - There is also quite a bit of stone damage on these gates as a result of 100 years of wear and tear.
  - The fountain at the Page Street playground is in poor condition in terms of the tiles and cleanliness. It was clarified that the plaque had been removed and was at council.
  - The Malone Gates have big pieces of mortar missing and have been badly cleaned with misguided maintenance which has blown bits of concrete off the structure.
- He requested that a condition assessment of the inventory be completed, just a one page snapshot of the state of these buildings to be able to assess what repairs might be required to put them in a holding pattern and include in budget for repairs over the next few years.
- He reiterated that the Victoria Park Gates would be 100 years old next year and that these repairs would not be expensive work.
- He noted that the planned walk for Heritage Month will start from the Kings Theatre and include information on Percy Thomson and visiting the Hall of Remembrance, Memorial Gates, the Dell and finishing at Fenton Street café.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- The District Mayor noted that he had seen there were two decent cracks in the stone where the plaque is set into at Victoria Park.
- Councillor Erwood asked if the appropriate craftsmen to complete the work were available locally? Mr Reed confirmed they would be with specification on what materials to use. A stone mason would be ideal.
- When asked how much the research and assessment would cost, Mr Reed offered to undertake and complete the assessment pro-bono to get an accurate assessment of the inventory as he noted there are heritage buildings from Stratford right out to Whangamomona.

The meeting closed at 3.17pm

MINUTES
Policy and Services Committee

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

F22/55/05 – D25/21748

Date: Tuesday 24 June 2025 at 11.00AM
Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

To hear and consider submissions to Local Water Done Well – Future Delivery of Water Services in the Stratford District.

Present

The Deputy Mayor M McKay (the Chairperson), the District Mayor N C Volzke, Councillors: S J Beck, G W Boyde, A M C Dudley, V R Jones, E E Hall, A K Harris, J M S Erwood, W J Sandford and M J Watt.

In attendance

The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Director – Assets Mrs V Araba, the Director – Corporate Services – Mrs R Johnson, the Director – Environmental Services – Mr B Sutherland, the Director – Community Services – Ms K Whareaitu, the Committee Advisor and Executive Assistant – Mrs E Bishop, the Communications Manager – Ms G Gibson, the Community and Engagement Lead – Mrs A Crain (*part meeting),* the Policy Analyst – Mrs R Deardon (*part meeting),* the Planner – Ms C Marner (*part meeting),* two members of the media (Stratford Press and Taranaki Daily News) and 13 members of the public (*members of the public joined the meeting and left the meeting through the duration of the meeting*).

1. Welcome

The opening karakia was read.

The Deputy Mayor welcomed the Chief Executive, Councillors, staff, and the media.

The Deputy Mayor reiterated the health and safety message and emergency procedures.

2. Apologies

An approved leave of absence was noted for Councillor C M Tongaawhikau

Recommendation

THAT the apology be received.

VOLZKE/HARRIS
Carried
P&S/25/88

3. Announcements

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Policy & Services Committee meeting. It was reinforced to Councillors that the purpose of this meeting is to hear submissions on the Future Delivery of Water Services in the Stratford District. Councillors were asked to hear all submissions with an open mind, to restrict their question time to the submitters to points of clarification or issues pertaining to subject matter. Councillors were requested not to get into direct dialogue with submitters.

4. 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 declared.

5. Attendance Schedule

The Attendance schedule for Policy and Services Committee meetings, including Hearings, was attached.

6. Acknowledgement of Submissions

Submissions – Pages 20-290

Attached are the 185 submissions received on the Future Delivery of Water Services in the Stratford District.

Recommendations

1. THAT the submissions to the Future Delivery of Water Services in the Stratford District. be received.

ERWOOD/JONES
Carried
P&S/25/89

2. THAT the submitters be advised of the outcome and notified that the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee Meeting, and subsequent meetings, will be available on Council's website.

BOYDE/DUDLEY
Carried
P&S/25/90

Recommended Reason
So that each submission is formally received and the submitter provided with information on decisions made.

7. Submitters To Be Heard

There were 12 submitters wishing to speak. Two withdrew their request to speak prior to the agenda being produced, and a further two withdrew their request prior to the meeting.

Each submitter will be allocated five (5) minutes to present their submission and allowed five (5) minutes for questions.

Submission #	Name	Page Number
105	Tatjana Hanne & Romero Cranstoun Stratford District Youth Council	Page 143

Points noted in presentation:

- Option B serves as the best choice for residents long term and those who will be here long after the decision is made.
- It is a far more sustainable approach from an economic perspective.
- We are the rate payers of the future, this decision will directly impact us. If council does not plan wisely then the burden from this will fall on our shoulders.
- Concern was noted that the equal decision making won't happen in practice and fear that we will be overlooked and our needs will become diluted and come in second due to majority.
- Council has managed its responsibility and sustainability and are deeply concerned that we will be paying of debt that we did not incur.
- They believe in a future where we can control our own water and have the responsibility to protect our autonomy.

The Community and Engagement Lead joined the meeting at 11.07am.

- We want to inherit a system that values local wisdom and one of the most important aspects in local government is accessibility and transparency and Option B preserves this so community members can contact decision makers which creates trust.
- Stratford has a proud legacy of managing its own infrastructure and is rich in industry expertise.
- Also considers what this would mean for future workforce as the youth council is passionate about building careers in our district. Removing this would reduce the opportunity to grow and thrive in our own home. We want to see Stratford flourish by creating and not removing.
- Now is the time not to divert attention or energy away from the development momentum we are currently seeing.
- The youth may only be 18% of the population but they are 100% of the future. The future doesn't start tomorrow it starts with the decisions made today.

The Community and Engagement Lead and the Youth Councillors left the meeting at 11.10am.

17	Alistair Cook	Page 41

Mr Cook did not attend the meeting.

42	Lynsi J M Latham-Saunders	Page 69

Points noted in presentation:

- There are a number of compelling reasons to oppose this proposal. The first is a political reason. In the consultation document the Mayor states that the LWDW will put more choice and control back in the hands of the councils by working together to improve efficiencies and future proofing our services. Currently we have a democratically elected council and Stratford has a far greater say in council decisions. The suggested WSCCO does not give control to Stratford, we would become the smallest of the joint owners to be governed by a board. How would they determine our local priorities? Would they have a more holistic view than Stratford District Council? I doubt it.
- A decision made by a larger entity may make financial and technical sense but it also may hamper development in the future as financial and technical reasons do not necessarily take into account social, cultural and local priorities.
- She asked council to consider past amalgamations or regional mergers and had they been advantageous in anyway to Stratford? Examples included dairy companies, telecom, the Taranaki District Health Board and she noted all our banks had gone. With loosing services hand over first council needs to seriously consider how it can future proof Stratford's needs.
- Historic consequences of mergers show a regional approach to water will deplete our council and we may as well opt to become a suburb of New Plymouth. A merger by surrender. Removing water from local control takes a large chunk of council's core business, the remaining workload means technical and financial areas of expertise will no longer be available to sustain an organisation but leaves the cost of power, computers and other costs that go with having a district council. We would stand to loose skilled and experienced staff and support staff. She noted the fleet of vehicles leaving the regional council each night is a suggestion of how this merger may well affect this council.
- Financially Stratford would be disadvantaged. We have the lowest debt by far. The consultation document talks of the benefits of scale, scale is also a definite disadvantage because we are the smallest contributor we would have the smallest voice.
- Waste water will be needing to be improved, but we have one waste water system and the total across the region is 12. How does 1 in 12 prove advantageous to Stratford?
- Stratford is preparing to implement water meters to reduce demand for fresh waster, this is only part of the solution. It should encourage and help ratepayers to install rain water tanks to reduce the use of fresh water. At an information drop in session we were told by council representatives that it was suggested we could pipe waste water north or south, huge pipelines that would be required and how would this be better than treating our own waste water? Does the cost of this suggestion include access to land for pipes and maintenance and does it make any technical or environmental sense? Not to me.
- Both South Taranaki and New Plymouth discharge waste water into the Tasman Sea, how often are their failures reported as beach closures due to e-coli and do we want to be responsible for more of that?
- It is also possible to implement more environmentally friendly solutions. She noted Parihaka has installed a system with the end result being drinkable water that could be used for many things that would reduce water use.

- With local control we can be more responsive to local needs and prioritise local needs. Being the smallest entity does not give us very good odds in a combined merger.
- She noted she was definitely not in favour of Option A and would be asking candidates in this years local elections which way they voted and she did not think she would be alone in this. We need to maintain our independence otherwise we will be fully submerged into a much larger entity. Stratford has the choice to remain in control.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Beck asked what role council could play in supporting the community with rain water tanks and alternate water systems. Mrs Latham-Saunders noted rainwater tanks could be bought in bulk and on-sold noting that they had two rainwater tanks at their place. This water could be used to water the garden or wash cars. Council needs a stick and a carrot, the water meters are the stick and tanks could be the carrot. It could be further supported in reduced water tax if households have a rainwater tank. She also noted there needs to be a much longer term view of waste water treatment rather than just treating it and letting it go, we can do much better and environmentally we have an obligation to do that.

97	Duncan Menzies	Page 135

Points noted in presentation:

- Option A will generate more cost on the basis that the council now incurs an expense to the people through rates and then an expense to the people through building permits. We need to work out a system where you a) charge for a building permit and then b) you offer no water at all. We need to devise a system where Stratford can lead on a solution for the problems in New Zealand. We have an adequate supply of rain and we need to capitalise on this so that everyone stores enough water to look after themselves.
- He noted that when building his new house they set out to create a water storage facility and this probably cost around $20k, if the cost of council distributing water to me for a lifetime, 80 years for example, then $20k is not much money as he knew he would be paying many times that through rates in that time.
- He noted he was of the opinion that Stratford needs to stand on its own. Chances of Stratford being able to change the system as part of a three pronged approach is zero. The three pronged approach simply means adding more expense for no more water. Water is the most valuable commodity around the world.
- Stratford needs to look after Stratford. He complimented council on the job done to date and felt we have a pretty good system and he wanted to encourage councillors to think about how they can continue to do things well but do them better by being prepared to change the system and bend the rules. Noone has got a gun to a head saying we have to do this. Nothing is good when it could be better.

141	Brian Jeffares	200	12.10pm

Points noted in presentation:

- Mr Jeffares noted he had attended the meeting in February to listen to the debate on which model council wanted to adopt to consult on. He noted when people talked about the regional model the key issue was assumptions and there was concern that if we voted for a local entity then central government would smack our hands. He noted he had written to the minister to ask his views and tabled his response noting it stated that LWDW is the coalition governments plan to address water challenges while recognising the importance of local decisions "*decisions on how councils deliver their services in line with this legislative framework are a matter for individual councils*".
- He did not believe this issue was totally about water. It started with the incident in Havelock North in 2016 where there were three deaths as a result of water contamination and he wondered how it has escalated to this given he did not recall anyone dying from council supplied water prior or after this event. Labour introducing the three waters reform served a purpose to bring it on the books and bring in co-governance. He noted he had never met anyone in power who believed there are too few councils, they always want to reduce the number of councils and he felt three waters provided an opportunity to do this as well. Then National came in and repealed it but the momentum had already started and the talk about the terrible job that local government has done around New Zealand meant it couldn't be ignored. This meant orchestrated legislation that the government has passed onto local councils to squeeze councils, especially the small ones.

The Planner joined the meeting at 11.36am.

- This ended up with a load of legislation and requirements arriving at the council's door but with no funding accompanied with it. They are gearing up to amalgamating councils, this is amalgamation by stealth.
- Today this council is here to make a decision for Stratford, not New Plymouth, not Inglewood, not South Taranaki, but Stratford and what is best for Stratford and how you can justify Stratford staying on its own.
- There is a lot of data in this decision – stranded overheads, harmonious costings and prices around the district but no one is talking about amalgamation. New Plymouth voted 100% for a regional model as it fits in with their ambitions of being the only necessary council for Taranaki.
- The regional model there are concerns around the community of how it is made up in terms of numbers, the cost to set up and a number of other things. He could not see anything in the report that was a silver bullet to give the genesis of making any decision.
- He noted that the government wants council to make a decision for their purposes, it is not about Stratford it is about them.
- He noted his disappointment seeing the letter from a government department saying yes you have to go out and consult but when you get the submissions you don't have to take any notice of what they say. This would be throwing petrol on the fire that is people saying councils never listen. The DIA saying this makes people wonder what the submission process is even really about.
- He noted council had employed people over recent times who had come and improved asset management plans and infrastructure around water and fiscal management. There is no reason why we cannot do this irrespective of the pressure that will come but it is time to stand firm.
- A good percentage of those who have submitted are in favour of a local delivery, if there is a change to that and you decide to go to a regional model then he suggested a white flag accompany council on the first step towards amalgamation.
- Water is the most core service and if this is given away then the others will go easily as well. Change should be on an even basis and not forced upon us. If there is to be a change then we should be able to sit down and logically work through it with all partners to see how this change is managed rather than having it forced on us.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- The District Mayor noted Mr Jeffares had made some relevant points and coming from a position of knowledge he could relate to them. He noted the letter from Simeon Brown had stated business as usual was not an option, and the letter from the DIA stating the act requiring consultation but that council's did not have to make a decision based on the feedback. He noted if this wasn't a steer from central government he didn't know what is! Mr Jeffares agreed that it has been made very clear this was the agenda, however it doesn't make it right. They don't want 67 councils, they want 20 and the only way they can do this is by forcing councils to go to amalgamation. He noted the stand Daisy Lean took for TSB Bank and stood up against the Finance Minister and the Prime Minister and they stood firm, all other banks that went into the trust bank disappeared within 5 years. Banks have further amalgamated and now they have left this town. He did not think it would be an easy road forward but if council could provide a reasonably logical and factual account of where we are at then the view that one size fits all is rubbish. We are not even in the same place that other places are, we have small debt, good capable people running it and good staff who get on and get it done. He reiterated the community cannot be all wrong when they are supporting a local option.

149	Max Barnard	Page 214

Points noted in presentation:

- There are too many what if situations with Option A.
- Stratford does local water done well. As a plumber in this town for over 20 years, how our water works is good, our pipework is average plus but when something goes wrong it gets fixed straight away and we have top notch filtration so everyone is getting good water.
- He noted it was a shame to test and treat our water to drinking standards when half of it goes down the sewerage noting that every man, woman and child uses 130 litres a day.
- He noted that since the romans we have been putting sewerage into the water and there must be a better way to filter it before it gets to that point as when the water is low it seriously tests our water rights.

- He noted council has a really good CEO who is good on the water side. He would like to see work done on the sewerage side to find a system that may work for Stratford and then every other town, if we can come up with a good solution then maybe we can sell it.
- There are 3,125 people in our town taking water, so when we amalgamate with the Option A that is an awful cost for just one town to pay the same as South Taranaki and New Plymouth.
- He asked if it was true that the government could insist on us going regional, could they really turn around and say you have to go with New Plymouth.
- He reiterated his support to keep the water services here in Stratford.

163	Mike Procter *(Monica Newmarch speaking on behalf)*	Page 241

Points noted in presentation:

- Mrs Newmarch thanked council for the opportunity to speak on behalf of Mike Procter. The below notes are directly from Mr Procter's written statements.
- I do not support the council's preferred option for LWDW. There are too many assumptions and unknowns with Option A. Based on the information provided it will not be in the best interest of our community.
- Having done a thorough investigation of the data available the alternative option, Option B, will be of more benefit to the community at the present time. The reasons for this are explained in the written submission and further information provided by council staff has only strengthened this view.
- It was noted that additional financial information to be provided by NPDC was not forthcoming as he thought making that information public would further weaken Option A.
- Mr Procter noted that prior to the previous governments 3 Waters Reforms, they nor their predecessors had been considering this.
- SDC has sound financial management of their water services and there is no need to take on the debt of our neighbours.
- Mr Procter noted that he expected elected members had received more information than the public hence the preferred option being Option A. A decision needs to be based on what has been presented for the two sides and he asked if a solid and equitable case had been made for Option A.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Boyde noted Mr Procter had attended most council meetings over the last two years and confirmed he would have seen and heard all the information provided to elected members.

The meeting adjourned at 12.01pm and reconvened at 12.34pm.

164	Graham Young and Ngapari Nui Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Ruanui Trust	Page 247

Points noted in presentation:

- Ngāti Ruanui endorses the objectives of LWDW and further endorses the importance of local decisions providing flexibility for communities and councils to determine how their services will be delivered in the future.
- Council must focus on environmental protection and economic rigor.
- Ngāti Ruanui endorses Option B to keep the services in-house. This was considered the most appropriate option as it collectively brings together iwi and council partnerships. This growing partnership is a foundation of a trusted model which must be used to assist council and decision making. Only Option B can meet this partnership.
- The watercare model implanted in the whenua and taking care of us all holistically only fits with Option B.
- Devolution of the water services to a regional body disables our home, our whenua and decision making. The in-house model provides a direct link to those controlling the investment and decisions rather than a diluted three way model.
- SDC can demonstrate financial sustainability, has the borrowing ability and has made significant investment in water and waste water systems.
- They rejected the commentary on scale, as this often is shown to be woefully lacking in large organisations which often perform poorly as they become distant to those they serve. SDC has continued to demonstrate an overall better position than larger councils. It was also noted there are no examples that large scale models have a greater capacity to respond to emergency situations.

- Option B does not exclude the opportunity to access skilled staff and operational knowledge, SDC will not sit in isolation as it can cooperate with the others to get the best outcomes.
- To strengthening Option B, Ngāti Ruanui recommends a council appointed committee responsible to council, to oversee the delivery of the water services. This must include independent experts, iwi and elected members. This would be a clear demonstration of partnership and ensures the ringfence that is required.
- Collectively we need to act as leaders and listen to those on the ground, this is your role today. Leadership can be tough but it makes our community stronger and moving ahead with Option B will be better moving forward.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- The District Mayor noted the submission considers Option B the most appropriate and notes the strong partnership with council, he noted this was something that would not have been said 5 years ago and that these words were telling and gives substance to what is being said. He noted there had been lots of submissions on the composition of the joint committee with 3 iwi, 3 South Taranaki, 2 Stratford and 4 New Plymouth representatives. He asked if Ngāti Ruanui saw that as the right balance and if three iwi representatives was the right number? Mr Young noted the option for this was clearly in terms of governance. For a council committee for an in-house model he would like to see a model that included the iwi who affiliate to Whakaahurangi being a maximum of 3 but no less than 2. This is a clear demonstration of partnership and a model that will only strengthen moving forward by achieves the ring-fencing while ensuring the best outcome for the whole of the community.
- The District Mayor noted the board of directors for a regional entity had no requirement for compulsory māori representation. Mr Young noted it didn't, but that this was now time for a bold and decisive decision making and that includes specifically outlining partnership going forward.

The meeting adjourned at 12.45pm and reconvened at 1.30pm

8. Decision Report – Selection of Future Delivery Model for Water Services

D25/20705 Page 290

Council needs to consider submissions as part of the consultation process.

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

BOYDE/HALL
Carried
P&S/25/91

2. THAT Council note that as per the requirements arising from the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024 and other associated legislation, it is required to choose a future delivery model for water services to form the basis of a compliant Water Services delivery Plan (WSDP), that is to be submitted to the Secretary of Local Government by 3 September 2025.

3. THAT Council note that all submissions on the proposed water services delivery model, including submission trends, have been considered.

ERWOOD/HARRIS
Carried
P&S/25/92

Recommended Reason

As per earlier discussion with elected members, no overall staff recommendation is included in this report due to the combination of technical as well as political aspects of the two delivery models considered. Analysis of the technical aspects, particularly considering risk, rates implications and end-user cost favours an in-house business unit, this however needs to be balanced against the political aspects which were explored in an earlier report. **The new information to take into consideration in this report is the feedback from public consultation, which strongly favours an in-house option.**

The Deputy Mayor went through each submission to allow the opportunity for questions from elected members.

Submissions – Questions and Points of Clarification:

Submission 12

- The Deputy Mayor noted that the submitter makes reference to Stratford underwriting the other councils' debt if a regional model was entered into. She noted as a member of the LGFA council was already a guarantor for other councils debt. Mr Hanne clarified that one part of the LGFA was carrying the debt and responsibility for that, however it depends on the membership tier. Stratford's exposure to this is limited in this model, however if a regional model was entered into then Stratford would be sharing the collective regional debt that comes with it. How this would be attributed would be part of the negotiation in the set up of the entity and could be on a 'per connection' basis or percentage base. He noted the data used for this had been the collective total of the current debt.

Submission 7

- The District Mayor noted this submission makes the statement that collaboration is still possible if Stratford retains the services in-house. There will still be benefits working with other parties if there isn't an overall governance structure as proposed with the regional model. He noted if the decision of council is to go with the in-house model then it was his intention to give direction to officers to work with other councils to look for collaboration and shared services as there are opportunities around procurement and resources that could be accessed. This would give council the ability to work collaboratively with the other councils if it chooses too.

Submission 52

- The Deputy Mayor noted the submitter had chosen a different option than was reflected in the commentary within the submission.

Submission 55

- The Deputy Mayor noted that there was a common theme throughout the submissions regarding NPDC wasting money and not listening to their community. She felt it important to note that in the regional model NPDC would not be in charge of spending the money as this would be the responsibility of the board of directors. Past decisions made by NPDC should not impact the decisions for the future.
- The District Mayor noted that this submitter also made reference to having no issue with joining South Taranaki only which was also a common statement through a number of submissions. The resistance to the regional model was not based solely on Stratford being alone and some are saying a joint arrangement with South Taranaki could be an option.

Submission 72

- Councillor Harris noted this submission suggested the installation of water meters will reduce water demand by 15% she asked for clarification on this figure. Mr Hanne noted there are a number of examples around noting that Tauranga achieved in excess of 20%, NPDC has achieved over 25% in one suburb and Midhirst was at least 15%. It was noted that 15% was quite a conservative number. The efficiencies from water meters on councils side mean we can measure our losses and go hunting for identified issues, from the private side they can also use the information to pick up damaged pipes but also to make behavioural changes.
- Councillor Harris noted that household tanks featured throughout a number of submissions and asked if new builds were required to install a tank and if not was it possible? The Director – Environmental Services noted there was no requirement to install a rain water tank and the process to implement this would be through the District Plan.

Submission 140

- The District Mayor noted this submission included personal comments and was full of inaccuracies, mistruths and some very misguided thinking.

General – Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Harris noted the letter from the Minister on page 300 explains that is required to evaluate the models and that business as usual is not an option. If council decides to go with an in-house model as expected that this will be enhanced or modified and asked what those enhancements and modifications would be? Mr Hanne noted there are a range of aspects in the legislation with the absolute key one being financial sustainability to fully fund the requirements of the water activity and not using depreciation/renewal funds during LTP processes to reduce the impacts on the overall rates. The exact mechanisms of how financial sustainability is measured has not yet been released. There are additional reporting requirements, as of today there are 43 additional reporting measures for waste water alone. Council has allowed substantial budget under both models to step up where required for these additional reporting measures. The legislation is not clear, but an additional change and good practice would be a dedicated committee and he would encourage a committee be put in place to specifically look at two or three waters which could also include getting external skill sets on this as well. This committee would only make recommendations to council.

- Councillor Harris asked if it would be fair to say that if the decision was made today would council be meeting the requirements or what would the minister be looking for in terms of a binding decision and whether or not he overturns council's decision or not. Mr Hanne noted there are two elements – the rules and requirements that are clearly spelt out are the ones that we have current assurance that we can comply with, however the ones we haven't yet seen mean we don't know if the regional model would align better with their requirements. There will be no assurances that either will pass the formal and final test.
- Councillor Harris noted the comment in the letter on page 303 regarding mitigating against legal risks and being prudent that council can demonstrate it has considered the views provided by the people with an interest in the matter. She asked what councillors needed to consider with this? Mr Hanne noted it depends on the decision making process as to whether legal action was triggered. He noted that the chair had gone through each submission one by one to pick up on any elements or discussion to ensure this wasn't rushed, there was full councillor attendance during the verbal submissions and he had not seen any elected members stating a pre-determined decision. He noted the letter from DIA saying that council shall listen to the community but that it can still make a decision contrary to what the community has said, however it is important to demonstrate that you have listened to the views and considered them along with the facts provided.
- The District Mayor noted the potential of legal challenge applied to any decision made on any subject. It is important to ensure our processes are clear, transparent and that everyone is heard. Pre-determination is one element that can lead to legal challenges. He also noted officers had not made a recommendation which is different to the normal process and means councillors have no reason to be influenced by a preferred option.

Recommendations

4. ~~THAT Council adopts a regional WSCCO with the New Plymouth and South Taranaki District Councils as the future delivery model for Water and Wastewater services for the Stratford district, with Stormwater assets and services to remain under Stratford District Council ownership and management.~~

~~OR~~

THAT Council adopts an in-house stand-alone business unit as the future delivery model for Water, Wastewater and Stormwater services for the Stratford district. This option is also known as enhanced status-quo.

HALL/BOYDE
Division
11 For
0 against
Carried
P&S/25/93

Points noted in discussion:

- Councillor Hall noted when the decision was made for a preferred model she had spoken to the motion with a lot of her concerns remaining the same. She had taken the opportunity to attend library information sessions and the evening session, and while these may not have been attended by a lot of people they were attended by thoughtful people. When stepping into this role the best piece of advice she had received was to listen, that doesn't mean listening to the loudest voice in the room it means tuning into what the information is telling us, to what our past tells us and to listen to the skilled and dedicated teams from across the three councils. Stratford has identified two models that could both work. Listening to the people she has read many submissions with the key message being pride in our investments into infrastructure, a strong desire for local decision making and a strong concern our needs will be overlooked. Listening to history she noted that during the local government reforms people stood up and advocated and while some may argue this isn't about amalgamation it is all connected. Shifting our water out of our community will have massive repercussions. The minister has expressed a strong desire for a regional model but she had no interest in making this decision based on how it might be received in Wellington. Local Government is to implement it on how it will affect our community and the in-house model is the best way to protect local voices, local accountability and addresses the concerns of our community.

- Councillor Boyde thanked the submitters for outstanding engagement and challenging the thought process of council. He noted he was really proud of the feedback received from the ratepayers. He has heard from all submitters their pros and cons of the LWDW proposal and this resulted in 92% opposing the preferred option. He noted he would support adopting in-house business unit known as the enhanced status quo. Joining together we will have everyone's water issues but the real concern is the level of debt that Stratford residents will incur. Standing alone we will meet all the legislative requirements for LWDW. He noted there is a still a lack of legislative direction and it is difficult to make a well informed decision without legislative direction. Keeping it in-house where the decision making is done by those who are connected to the community will provide accountability and adaptability for our community. Considering we have been doing this for the last 135 years without any real assistance. The stranded overheads for the regional model will be reapplied over all of the other council services which will increase the rates requirements for these, there is little evidence of any ratepayer savings to Stratford's advantage either now or in the future. He noted a regional model was a loss of assets and a loss of control and would be supporting the in-house model.
- Councillor Beck thanked submitters noting their voice has mattered in shaping one of the most significant decisions council has had to make since 1989. After weighing the evidence, listening to the community and reflecting on our responsibilities as elected governors he would be voting Option B. It is about governance, accountability and the future of our infrastructure. The will of the people must matter and over 90% of submitters supported Option B. This is a clear democratic message- the voice of the community has knocked the fence down. Option B retains ownership meaning local control and the community will be able to have their say through elected members and not a diluted entity of which we would have 2 votes and not be the asset owners. Financial prudence and performance – we have managed our services well, we currently have the lowest water debt and these are a clear sign of fiscal responsibility and effective governance. The regional model may offer small savings but this is based on assumptions and may not materialise. Bigger is not always better and certainly not always cheaper. Option B can still leverage economies of scale. Council has a responsibility to the future and to those councillors who fear risk of going it alone, believe in the strength of our community especially our younger generation as these voices will be the voices of our district. No matter what option we choose there will be cost, but the cost of loosing control, loosing our voice and loosing community trust is far greater than any financial impact. He noted he would be voting for Option B – In-house business unit. Lets choose a future where Stratford continues to lead and not follow.
- Councillor Harris noted she had made it clear prior to consultation she was 50/50 and that we wanted to hear from our community and now we have. It should be made clear that no matter the decision the water will cost more and it won't be business as usual. There was an acknowledgement from the community that council has, and is looking after its infrastructure and is doing a good job. While attending the drop in sessions a comment from a resident was 'funding dictates direction' which had stuck with her. She noted the submissions note a lot of the disadvantages and she would support Option B.
- Councillor Dudley noted this had been the biggest issue she had seen since becoming an elected member. Before going to consultation she was 50/50 but as a ratepayer and one of the few residents who already pays water rates she has had a number of thoughts over the last few days about the advantages and disadvantages. She agreed that we don't want to have their debt, but if we went alone can we afford it if our $50 million assumption for improvements blows out and if it did would the government step in and help? She noted her biggest concern was that future generations would not be able to afford rates. She hoped the right decision would be made today and she noted her support for Option B.
- The District Mayor noted it was important to understand the past to get a feeling of where we are at today. In 2016 the water contamination issue in Havelock North resulted in 5,000 people getting sick with the cause of the problem being a poorly designed, poorly maintained and poorly located water bore resulting in campylobacter in the water supply. In the frenzy that followed the incident a report was called for and that resulted in recommendations for reforms to bring infrastructure up to date. It stated there was a large infrastructure deficit and in 2020 the government undertook the 3 waters reforms. This was highly controversial and largely misunderstood and complex. In February 2023 things changed when they changed the model from the original proposal from having four large entities to 10 of which Taranaki was one. It looked like we would be going to a regional model as there was not other options. When National became the government they repealed this and introduced some funding options and flexibility around the model that council might choose including a stand alone business unit. Six years worth of data and analysis was collated to get to the point where we have two options to make a decision on. Each of the three Taranaki councils

have two options to consider being a regional or a stand alone model and both models stack up in terms of meeting the requirements. He noted it was important to remember that these are government reforms and not council's, we did not ask for these and neither did any other council. Today we have a choice, he noted he was not the Mayor of South Taranaki or New Plymouth and he certainly was not a spokesperson for Wellington, he is the Mayor of Stratford and his vote will be for the option that is the best option for the Stratford community which is where his loyalty should lie. He questioned what faith council could have in the options set out, originally we were in an entity that had 22 district councils, then it was changed to 10. They then changed the amount that it was going to cost to address the infrastructure with $60 billion worth of variations and then further refined to $180 billion as they needed the higher number to justify the reforms. It started off as a three waters problem, now all of a sudden its just a two water problem and stormwater is staying with councils. The changes give no reason to have any confidence in the Wellington bureaucracy. The important issues are financial sustainability, sufficient investment, cost efficiencies and affordability, ring fenced budget and meeting regulatory requirements – both models presented today meet these criteria. He noted he supported the regional model to go out for consultation but was very open minded on it noting that one of the positives of a regional model was safety in numbers and the higher ability to absorb some of the costs especially with unknowns in the future. He noted his greatest concern had been the debt being brought together (Stratford $10million, South Taranaki $92 million and NPDC $194 million) noting that on a per connection basis Stratford has $3200 per customer, NPDC $6,500 per customer and South Taranaki $7,200 per customer. This wouldn't benefit us at all it would disadvantage us. There has also been a massive increase in debt with the regional model going from $296million in 2024 to $429 million now. He noted another issue raised repeatedly was the joint committee representation although it is commonly misunderstood as having a lot of power to make decision but the true decisions would be made by the board of directors. The composition of the committee is designed so that no council could make a decision alone but in the case of NPDC or STDC they could make a decision jointly but we would require the support from both of them. He did not support the mix for the committee. The other issue raised by submitters is around pricing of water in the future and water metering, price harmonisation and the savings or financial benefits that they may or may not see. The connection fee for us is around $900 a year, but in the regional model this goes up to $2,200 in ten years and in the local model it goes up to $2,300 in ten years so while the projections are far out there is not obvious gain. The one thing that is certain that in both models water will cost a whole lot more than we are currently paying. The new levies introduced by the government for Taumata Arawai and the Commerce Commission will add to this, the stranded overheads for water supply are $374k and waste water $102k annually equating to $150 per connection, that figure is not included in the graph showing the regional vs local. The last item is people saying this is the first step towards amalgamation and that we are taking away a decent chunk of our core activities with the regional model. That discussion may happen anyway but it needs to be for the right reasons and not forced as an unintentional consequence of our decision today. The regional model is projected against privatisation under legislation, however any government could remove that. He noted our council has no renewal backlog, has 7 key investments planned over the next 10 years that all are costed for and provided in the figures and we have manageable debt and the capacity to borrow more if needed. If we meet the requirements of the legislation there is no reason the minister should veto our decision if we go with the local model. Option B is the right decision for our community.

- Councillor Sandford commended the youth council on their submission. As a councillor involved in the start of this group he was very proud of them. He noted in the past submissions often included the same submission copied and submitted by a number of people. He was so impressed with the residents who have gone out and taken the time to put their views forward. He said he was 100% sure he would be voting for what the ratepayers want and would be supporting Option B.
- Councillor Watt noted that he hears often that council don't listen to the public anyway, this is a clear example of the submissions being taken into consideration and he hoped this would encourage more community involvement in the future.
- Councillor Erwood and Jones both felt their points had been covered by the previous speakers.
- The Deputy Mayor noted that one thing has been abundantly clear is that there is not a significant standout when going through the options. We were concerned about the feedback and if people would engage with the topic and show understanding of the complexity of the issues. She noted she was so impressed with the questions at the drop in sessions. Councillors hear all the time "you have made up your mind so what's the point" and she noted this was not the case, every submission has been read. She noted when the options were put out for consultation it was very split which way to go, she noted she had felt by putting out the regional model for change there would more likely be engagement from the community to help provide key feedback to help with her decision. There are three areas that favoured the regional model – knowing we have the potential replacement of the waste water treatment plant in 10 years and the modelling shows that we will be slightly better off when this time comes around with a regional model. She wanted to know what

the community felt about affordability when this cost came around, but people are expecting to spend a bit more for water and willing for Stratford to retain the services. There are huge pressures to keep rates down but that then puts pressure on governance and operations to cut expenditure and future councils will feel that pressure that elected members need to keep the rates at bay and then they may underinvest in infrastructure that needs investment. The thought of an independent board does safeguard the assets but the feedback is the community would prefer local knowledge being the key in decision making. She questioned if the minister will really sign off SDC to stand alone when all communication has been indicating a preference for a joint model which is a really frustrating component to this. Her main concerns with going in-house is that the minister will decline it and we end up being a customer of a NPDC CCO instead of a regional CCO. The feedback is that people do not want to join NPDC but how will they feel if we are forced to join as a customer? Some people have said we don't have to be the first to join and we could join later, however there is no going back. The message to the minister is that if we meet your legislation but you have different views that were not shared before we did all this consultation then you come and tell our community. She noted the concern from residents about being forgotten as the smaller council and that the CCO would make decisions with our growth rate being smaller than our neighbours which we will be left behind. In-house we can make those decisions ourselves, we can consider growth, economic development and our community. She would be voting today for an enhanced status quo as she felt her preferences for the regional model have been rebutted by the community. She reminded everyone that the regulations will get tighter and we will see cost increases with less people to spread this cost across.

A division was called:

Those voting for the motion: Councillors: Boyde, Beck, Dudley, Erwood, Hall, Harris, Jones, Sandford and Watt, the Deputy Mayor and the District Mayor.

Those voting against the motion: Nil

Recommendations

5. THAT officers are instructed to finalise a Water Services Delivery Plan for the delivery of Water Services based on adopted model in time for council adoption prior to submission by 3 September 2025;

~~(If a regional Joint Taranaki Water Services Council Controlled Organisation (WSCCO) with New Plymouth District Council (NPDC) and South Taranaki District Council (STDC) is chosen as the preferred model, the following should be added to this resolution):~~

~~*That in the event NPDC and/or STDC opt out of a Joint Taranaki WSCCO, the adopted water services delivery model be an in-house stand-alone business unit (Enhanced Status Quo) delivered by an in-house business unit of council with ownership of water, wastewater and stormwater assets remaining with council.*~~

BOYDE/DUDLEY
Carried
P&S/25/94

The District Mayor noted that it is not in the best interest for us to alienate ourselves from the other councils and continue to explore opportunities for collaboration and working collectively.

Recommendations

6. THAT Officers are instructed to explore opportunities to work collaboratively with other councils in the future delivery of water services for the Stratford District.

VOLZKE/HALL
Carried
P&S/25/95

9. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 64

The closing karakia was read.

The meeting closed at 2.58pm.

M McKay
Chairman

Confirmed this 22nd day of July 2025.

N C Volzke
District Mayor

MINUTES
Policy and Services Committee

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

F22/55/05 – D25/21769

Date: Tuesday 24 June 2025 at 3.00PM
Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

Present

The Deputy Mayor M McKay (the Chairperson), the District Mayor N C Volzke, Councillors: G W Boyde, S J Beck, A M C Dudley, A K Harris, V R Jones, E E Hall, J M S Erwood, W J Sandford, and M J Watt.

In attendance

The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Director – Assets Mrs V Araba, the Director – Environmental Services – Mr B Sutherland, the Director – Corporate Services – Mrs R Johnson, the Director – Community Services – Ms K Whareaitu, the HR & Governance Administrator – Mrs C Reynolds, the Services Manager – Mr J Cooper, the Parks and Reserve Officer – Mrs M McBain, the Property and Projects Manager – Mr S Taylor, the Roading Manager – Mr S Cooper, the Policy Analyst – Mrs R Dearden, the Communications Manager – Ms G Gibson, one member of the media (Stratford Press) and one member of the public.

1. Welcome

The opening karakia was read.

The Deputy Mayor welcomed the Chief Executive, Councillors, staff, and the media.

The Deputy Mayor reiterated the health and safety message and emergency procedures.

2. Apologies

An approved leave of absence was noted for Councillor C M Tongaawhikau

Recommendation

THAT the apology be received.

BOYDE/DUDLEY
Carried
P&S/25/96

3. Announcements

There were no announcements.

4. 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.

5. Attendance Schedule

The Attendance schedule for Policy and Services Committee meetings, including Hearings, was attached.

6. Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Policy and Services Committee – 27 May 2025

D25/17973 Page 8

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 27 May 2025 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

BECK/HARRIS
Carried
P&S/25/97

7. Matters Outstanding

D16/47 Page 20

Recommendation

THAT the Matters Outstanding be received with addition.

BOYDE/WATT
Carried
P&S/25/98

The Chief Executive noted the following updates to the matters outstanding list:

- The business plan for Wai o Rua – Stratford Aquatic Centre is underway and another workshop has been scheduled.
- Truck Parking will be addressed following the accessible parking review.
- Flint Road subdivision – Officers are currently awarding the contract. Once this is completed Elected Members will be updated on the next steps and the timeline.
- Community Group relationship/funding Policy – this is on the work programme for the year ahead.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- The District Mayor questioned if he could add another item to Matters Outstanding. He advised a lot of people have complained to him, one business in particular, in regards to leaves falling from our trees. He noted he had driven around and had a look himself, and that many of Council's trees are causing problems, acknowledging that it is only a problem this time of year, but it is a problem every year. He asked that a report on Street Trees and how they are managed be created. It was agreed this would be put on Matters Outstanding.

8. Monthly Reports

8.1 Assets Report

D25/18946 Page 21

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

ERWOOD/SANDFORD
Carried
P&S/25/99

The Director - Assets highlighted noted that council currently has no expired or outstanding consents with the Taranaki Regional Council.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Harris noted on page 28 under pothole analysis, there seems to be a lot of activity on low volume roads. She questioned if there were lots of potholes on these roads or a high number of low volume roads. The Roading Manager advised there are a large number of low volume roads in the District. Councillor Harris questioned how a low volume road is determined? It was advised it is classified as less than 50 vehicles per day on a rural road, and 200 vehicles and 25 commercial vehicles per day on an urban road.
- Councillor Jones questioned what the Roading Manager perceives are the next steps in regards to accessible parking. The Roading Manager advised that New Zealand does not have a standard for the number of accessible parking spaces required for on street parking, however there is one for off street parking. If this standard is applied to on street parking then Council is currently above this standard and some could theoretically be removed. He noted he believes this would require consultation and there would be some unhappy people. Councillor Hall recalled that when this was discussed in February recommendations were going to be sought from groups who were better informed than council. She noted she would still like this external information to be able to form an informed decision. The District Mayor advised when he first raised this issue, he wanted addressed the number of accessible parking spaces and the placement of them. He believes there should be more discussion on this. It was decided that the Roading Manager would organise a complete accessibility assessment to be brought back to council.
- Councillor Dudley noted that Seyton Street was resealed a while ago however there was still loose chip and a resident has requested this be swept.
- Councillor Dudley questioned why there have been so many cones for so long on Pembroke Road East. The Services Manager advised a reseal was completed overnight after a repair, and the weather was not ideal. The contractors were going back to fix and sweep the area today.
- Councillor Beck noted he was impressed with the improvements on Salisbury Road and questioned where the money came from. The Roading Manager advised that Council was granted $150,000 a year for 3 years via a Government targeted fund. Councillor Beck questioned if the Roading Manager could mention the one lane strip on Salisbury Road to New Plymouth District Council to his counterparts, as this area becomes very unsafe when Salisbury Road is used as a bypass.
- Councillor Hall questioned if there was any more information available in relation to the Toko water tank. The Services Manager advised he had spoken to other Councils and they have suggested that Council is responsible for the cost.

The Services Manager and the Parks and Reserve Officer left the meeting at 3.34pm.

8.2 Community Services Report
D25/18991 Page 46

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

HARRIS/HALL
Carried
P&S/25/100

8.3 Corporate Services Report
D25/16734 Page 55

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

ERWOOD/McKAY
Carried
P&S/25/101

The Director – Corporate Services noted that the insurance update in mentioned within the report. The intention had been to bring more information to this meeting, unfortunately the information was only received from AON this morning, therefore the options will be presented next month.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Boyde noted his disappointment in the time it has taken to get information from AON. The Director – Corporate Services noted most Councils have insurance renewals in November, and it is the intention of Council to start this next year, which will hopefully work better with AON's workplan.
- Councillor Jones noted the A & P Association have paid off some of their loan and questioned if this is the guarantee over the land. It was advised the part of land which was trimmed off and sold was assessed and this did not materially change the value of the land. Therefore the guarantee of the land stands, but the owing amount has decreased. Councillor Jones noted the loan is coming up for renewal in September, and questioned which interest rate would be used. It was advised the actual interest rate will be passed onto them. The Chief Executive advised the new Council will have an opportunity to have a say in the loan.
- Councillor Sandford questioned if the Outstanding Rates amount of $1.2 million on page 72 was higher that normally carried. The Director – Corporate Services noted there is a graph included which shows Council is trending reasonably favourable.
- Councillor Dudley questioned if the Sundry Debtors amount was correct. The Director – Corporate Services advised she will look into this.
- The Deputy Mayor noted the abusive customers mentioned on page 59 and questioned if the customers were going to staff members homes. It was clarified that it was staff members going to the customers homes for work related matters e.g. a building inspection.

8.4 Environmental Services Report
D25/16614 Page 73

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

BOYDE/DUDLEY
Carried
P&S/25/102

9. Questions

There were no questions.

10. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 80

The closing karakia was read.

The meeting closed at 3.50pm.

M McKay
Chairman

Confirmed this 22nd day of July 2025.

N C Volzke
District Mayor

MONTHLY REPORT
District Mayor

F22/55/04-D25/23569

To:	Council
From:	District Mayor
Date:	2 July 2025
Subject:	District Mayor Monthly Report – June 2025

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.
2. THAT the District Mayor, Councillors Boyde and Harris be delegated authority to attend and vote on behalf of the Stratford District Council at the Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) Conference to be held 16-17 July 2025.
3. THAT Council authorises the Executive Committee to oversee and complete the performance appraisal process (including remuneration review) for the Chief Executive.

/
Moved/Seconded

1. LGNZ Remits

The Local Government New Zealand Annual General meeting and conference will be held on 16 – 17 July 2025. Delegates attending and voting on behalf of the Stratford District Councillor will be Councillor Boyde, Councillor Harris and myself. A recommendation to authorise the delegates to vote on behalf of council is included in this report.

2. Percy Thompson Trustees

Two vacancies have occurred for trustee positions on the Percy Thompson Trust. The positions have been advertised and applications have been received. Interviews with the applicants will be held in the coming weeks followed by recommendations to council and councils confirmation of appointment. The Trust is responsible for the properties and operation of the Percy Thomspon Art Gallery and Arboretum. It is the Stratford District Councils only Council Controlled Organisation.

3. Meeting with Carl Bates, Member of Parliament

The Chief Executive and myself continue to have regular meetings with our Member of Parliament Carl Bates. The informal meetings are a valuable opportunity to raise any concerns and give feedback on government policies, particularly on how they effect us as a council and community.

4. Meeting with Tangi Utikere, Member of Parliament

The Chief Executive and myself met with Tangi Utikere who is the Member of Parliament for Palmerston North and the Opposition spokesman for Local Government and Transport. This provided an opportunity to discuss the impact of logging activities on our local roads and explore some of the options that might be available to address the costs arising from the disproportionate damage these trucks cause.

We also discussed future funding mechanisms for councils and the non-sustainability of rates as the only / main source of funding.

5. Puanga Celebrations

The community services team turned on another outstanding event to celebrate the Māori New Year. An earlier to decision to hold these events indoors was well justified and plenty of people still ventured out to attend the annual event, despite the inclement weather outside.

The lighting display was outstanding and set the scene that everyone enjoyed. By working with our iwi partners, a great deal of good and enjoyment was created that the rangitahi in particular really seemed to take in.

6. Citizenship Ceremony

The June ceremony was another notable occasion that highlighted the diversity in our community. Nine people became Kiwi's on the day and they came from eight different places: Thailand, the United Kingdom, Indonesia, Ireland, the Philippines, Australia, England and India. Over the years, this trend has become the norm and it bodes well for the future.

7. Stratford Fire Brigade Annual General Meeting

In June I attended the 135th Annual General Meeting of the Stratford Fire Brigade. The brigade has had a very challenging year and has been busy with call outs, that exceeded more than 200 over the last 12 months. Membership is good and volunteer numbers are sufficient to enable emergency responses to be made each time the siren is activated. A highlight of the evening was the awarding of Life Membership to Chris Linders for his many years of outstanding service.

At the meeting FENZ announced the appointment of Kevan Old as the new Chief Fire Officer for the Stratford Brigade. His appointment is for a five year term. My congratulations to Kevan and I wish him well in this very important role.

8. Taranaki Regional Transport Committee meeting

The Taranaki Regional Transport Committee met on 5 June 2025. Minutes of the meeting can be found on the Taranaki Regional Council website.

9. Taranaki Mental Health Unit Opening

It was a pleasure to be invited to the official opening of the new mental Health Unit at Taranaki Base Hospital. While the building is located in New Plymouth, the service it will provide to patients reaches right across the region. Minister for Mental Health Matt Doocey was in attendance and following the welcoming powhiri, he declared Te Puna Wai Kātea open. The facility has been designed to support individuals with mental health and addiction needs by helping them transition successfully back into the community. The new facility has four short to medium term stay beds and the support area's for live in patients.

It is quite sobering to learn of the magnitude of the mental health problems that some people face and extent that it effects their lives. Any additional services in this field are very welcome and very needed.

10. Chief Executive Performance Appraisal

The mid term performance appraisal of the Chief Executive is underway. An independent, external facilitator has been engaged to assist with the process. My preliminary discussions with her about the process and terms of reference, suggest the process could be shortened considerably by having a small group of elected members to oversee and complete the appraisal process. I am recommending that this group be members of the Executive Committee. Essentially, elected members will still have an opportunity to have input into the process, but the "heavy lifting" can be done by the Executive Committee and the committee can meet quickly to ensure the process is complete prior to the Local Government Elections.

11. Correspondence

12. Some Events Attended

- Attended – a meeting of the Stratford District Youth Council
- Attended – a meeting of the Taranaki Regional Transport Committee
- Attended – hosted the June Citizenship Ceremony
- Attended – a meeting of the Taranaki Mayoral Forum
- Attended – a meeting of the Citizens Awards Committee
- Attended – Puanga Celebrations
- Attended – Stratford Fire Brigade Annual General Meeting
- Attended – Positive Aging Forum
- Attended – the official opening of the Taranaki Mental Health Unit
- Attended – meeting of the Stratford Health Trust (x1)
- Met – with Carl Bates, Member of Parliament for Wanganui
- Met – with Tangi Utikere, the Opposition spokesman for Local Government
- Radio Interview - Access Radio (x1)
- Newspaper - Stratford Press Interviews and Articles (multiple)
- Newspaper - Daily News (multiple)
- Newspaper – Taranaki Star
- Attended - Regional Mayors and Chairs weekly meeting (x3)
- Attended - Council Pre-Agenda meetings (x2)
- Attended – Council Workshop (x1)
- Attended – Public Forum (x1)
- Attended - Council Meetings (x3)

N C Volzke JP
District Mayor **Date**: 2 July 2025

DECISION REPORT

F22/55/04 – D25/20516

To: Council
From: Roading Engineer
Date: 8 July 2025
Subject: Proposed Road Closures for a Street Sprint Event.

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

2. THAT pursuant to Section 342(1) (b) in accordance with Schedule 10 clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974, Stratford District Council approves the closure of the following roads on Sunday 10 August 2025 between the hours of 07:30am to 5:30pm for the South Taranaki Car Clubs to host their Annual Street Sprint motorsport event.

   - Orlando Street – From Celia Street to Warwick Road
   - Warwick Road – From Orlando Street to Cordelia Street
   - Cordelia Street – From Warwick Road to Romeo Street
   - Romeo Street – From Orlando Street to Cordelia Street

Recommended Reason
In order for the South Taranaki Car Club to host the Annual Street Sprint motorsport event, it is necessary to close the roads listed above for safety reasons, for the participants and spectators. The proposed roads closure requires a formal endorsement by a council resolution.

/
Moved/Seconded

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 For any street event that requires a road closure, Schedule 10, Clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974 requires a Council resolution to endorse the proposed road closure. This report seeks this endorsement for the purposes of allowing the South Taranaki Car Club to close several roads on Sunday 10th August 2025 between the hours of 07:30am to 5:30pm.

2. Executive Summary

2.1 In order for the South Taranaki Car Club to hold the Annual Street Sprint event the car club has approached the Stratford District Council seeking permission to close the following roads. The organisers have indicated they have capped the number of entrants at 40.

   - Orlando Street – From Celia Street to Warwick Road
   - Warwick Road – From Orlando Street to Cordelia Street
   - Cordelia Street – From Warwick Road to Romeo Street
   - Romeo Street – From Orlando Street to Cordelia Street

2.2 These roads are in the business zone, with the exception of Romeo Street, which is Residential. The car club will undertake a letter drop to all affected residents and businesses in July, **(*Appendix 1)*** *and* has provided the Council with a Certificate of Liability Insurance ***(Appendix 2)*** and Safety Plan **(*Appendix 3*)** for the event. These have been included as attachments to this report. Also attached for your information is their Traffic Management Plan **(*Appendix 4*).**

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**
✓	✓		

The report is for the purposes of providing good regulatory function, as street events such as this, require a Council resolution to endorse a proposed road closure.

4. Background

4.1 The Taranaki Car Club was formed in the early 1950s and has a long history. The club aims to bring local, affordable events to the Taranaki landscape by running street sprints and hill-climbs. Street sprints are very popular with drivers and spectators and good examples of these are the Waitara Street Sprint and the Stratford Street Sprint (run by the South Taranaki Car Club).

4.2 The event that the South Taranaki Car Club wishes to run in Stratford in August is a Street Sprint where only two cars are on the circuit at any time. Two 1 km laps are completed against the clock with an additional run down lap. The clubs consult with the local community and organises road closures and Motorsport New Zealand permits. This will be the 35th consecutive year which the club has run this event.

4.3 The majority of competitors will be coming from all over the North Island. The entry field is capped at 40 cars.

4.4 The current champion is returning from Auckland with more competitors. All Officials & competitors will be staying in Taranaki for the weekend. The crowd is weather dependent and is expected to be anywhere between 70 to 400 people.

4.5 The Taranaki Car Club will be making sure that all the businesses in Stratford know of the Event. They intend to advertise the event using posters in shop windows with permission of the shop owners.

4.6 The Taranaki Car Club has submitted a request to SDC seeking permission to close the roads outlined in the recommendation above. The date of the event is Sunday 10 August 2025 and the proposed closures are from 07.30am to 5:30pm. There have been numerous road racing events held in the district in past years, including, the Silver Ferns Rally, The Targa Rally, the Toko Road Bent Sprint and the annual Street Sprint Event within the Stratford township. This event is another one to add to the list.

5. Consultative Process

5.1 Public Consultation - Section 82

The Taranaki Car Club is required to liaise with all residents affected by the proposed road closure. This proposed road closure was advertised in the Taranaki Daily News on Saturday 14 June with the objection cut-off date of Friday 4 July 2025. The event was also publicised on SDC's website from Thursday June 12 to Friday July 4 2025. A second notice will be published in the Taranaki Daily News subject to Council's approval of the road closure.

Attached is a copy of the letter to be delivered to the residents and businesses affected by this proposal ***(Appendix 1)***. To date the Council has not received a written objection from any of the residents visited by the car clubs. As this event must be approved by Motorsport New Zealand, the emergency services are formally notified of the event and are listed in the Safety Plan.

5.2 **Māori Consultation - Section 81**

There are no known effects that this event is likely to have on local iwi issues.

6. Risk Analysis

6.1 In order for the Taranaki Car Club to host this motorsport event in a safe manner on public roads, it is essential that these roads are closed for the times stated in the recommendation. This will safeguard the participants in the event, spectators and any residents wishing to travel along the roads listed in the recommendation above during the time of the road closure.

6.2 **Council Risk Register – Risk No. 29: Health, Safety and Wellbeing; Public Events**. If health and safety accidents or incidents occur during events, then increased costs can occur to the events, reputation is damaged.

For this particular event, the Taranaki Car Club has third party public liability insurance to cover the cost of repair for any property damage, such as fences. The entrants will carry their own insurance for their vehicles should they have an incident when undertaking the time trial.

Council Risk Register – Risk No. 70: Health, Safety and Wellbeing; Dangerous Roads due to weather events. If there are dangerous road conditions that are not managed and communicated to the public appropriately, then there is a higher potential for car accidents and possible road fatalities.

The control for this risk is that council officers can undertake an inspection of the roads to be closed prior to the event and inform the organisers if the road is safe for them to hold the event. If SDC officers deem the road to be unsafe due to a weather event, we will notify the organisers during the week preceding the event.

The Clerk of the Course will drive the rally route on the day before the rally, to tape off accesses that are not the main point of access for the residents, as well as checking the condition of the road to ensure it is safe for the participants of the rally.

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. This event provides an opportunity to demonstrate the uniqueness of the Stratford district by allowing a racing event to be held, which will draw visitors to the town.
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

- 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?

Yes, the times of the proposed road closures are outlined in the recommendation above. There is an expectation that approximately 40 vehicles will participate in this Street Sprint event, with each participant completing two laps around the circuit along the roads mentioned above.

7.3 Significance

	Yes/No	Explain
Is the proposal significant according to the Significance Policy in the Long Term Plan?		
Is it: • 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	No	
• creating a high level of controversy; or	No	
• possible that it could have a high impact on the community?	Yes	Whilst the Street Sprint event is underway, there will be limited access available to residents and the general public that are intending to drive along the roads mentioned above.

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

7.4 **Options**

An assessment of costs and benefits for each option must be completed. Use the criteria below in your assessment. 1. What options are available? 2. For **each** option: • explain what the costs and benefits of each option are in terms of the present and future needs of the district; • outline if there are any sustainability issues; and • explain if the outcomes meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions? 3. After completing these, consider which option you wish to recommend to Council, and explain: • how this option is the most cost effective option for households and businesses; • if there are any trade-offs; and • what interdependencies exist.

The options to be considered for this report are:

Option 1. Do not approve the closing of the roads listed in the recommendation. If this is the option chosen, then the South Taranaki Car Club will not be able to host the Street Sprint event.

Option 2. Approve the proposed road closures as outlined in recommendation 2 above to indicate support for this event. This will support the celebration. The event is expected to deliver some economic benefits to the Stratford District.
This is the recommended option, as this is consistent with other similar requests for closing roads for motorsport events.

7.5 **Financial**

The cost of providing the traffic management will be met by the South Taranaki Car Club. Stratford District Council's officer time for approving the traffic management plan is met from current roading budgets.

7.6 **Prioritisation & Trade-off**

The South Taranaki Car Club has engaged Downer to prepare the traffic management plan as well as installing the traffic management on the day of the event, should the recommendation above be approved.

7.7 **Legal Issues**

Pursuant to Section 342(1) (b) Schedule 10, Clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974, provides powers to Council to formally endorse a recommendation to close a road for the purposes of a street event.

7.8 **Policy Issues - Section 80**

This report is consistent with the policy for Temporary Road Closures.

Attachments:

Appendix 1 Letter to Residents/businesses of all roads affected / FAQ's
Appendix 2 Certificate of Liability Insurance
Appendix 3 Safety Plan for the event
Appendix 4 Traffic Management Plan

Frank Hick
Roading Engineer

[Endorsed by]
Victoria Araba
Director - Assets

[Approved by]
Sven Hanne
Chief Executive **Date** 1 July 2025

Appendix 1

PO Box 310, Hawera, 4640

1st July, 2025

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This notice is to inform you that we have made an application to the Stratford District Council for a Road Closure of your road from 7.30am to 5.30pm on **Sunday the 10th August, 2025** for a Car Club event, our Annual Street Sprint, as to be advertised in your local paper by the Stratford District Council.

We are celebrating the 35th consecutive year of running this event.

As in previous years, we will let traffic through at appropriate times to minimize inconvenience to you or anyone else using the road.

If you need to contact anyone prior to the event, please feel free to contact me as per below, or Ross Twyman (Clerk of the Course) on 021 195 9933.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Yours in MotorSport

H A Cameron

Helen Cameron
SECRETARY
SOUTH TARANAKI CAR CLUB
Mobile: 027 243 9096
sthtarcarclub@gmail.com

Appendix 2

vero liability
insurance limited

Level 32, ANZ Centre
23-29 Albert Street
Private Bag 92055
Auckland 1142, New Zealand
Telephone +64 9 306 0350
www.veroliability.co.nz

Insurance Certificate	Client ID	Agent No
Public & Products Liability	43826	8000014

We, the Insurers, Vero Liability Insurance Limited confirm that Public & Products Liability insurance has been effected on the following basis:

POLICY NUMBER	HO-LPL-6171359	
THE INSURED	Motorsport New Zealand Inc and Member Clubs in respect of Permitted Events Only	
BUSINESS DESCRIPTION	Administration, Governance and Regulation of Motor Sport in New Zealand	
POLICY PERIOD	From 4.00pm	31 December 2024
	To 4.00pm	31 December 2025
LIMIT OF INDEMNITY	$ 10,000,000	any one Occurrence and for any one Period of Insurance in respect of Products Hazard
EXCESS	$ 3,500	per Occurrence
POLICY WORDING	VL POL PL-032022	

This certificate is issued as a matter of information only and is subject to the terms and conditions of the issued policy.

Signed for and on behalf of Vero Liability Insurance Limited

Authorised Officer
DTL

vero liability insurance ltd

13 January 2025

Appendix 3

Westend Hire Stratford Street Sprint
Sunday 10th August, 2025
SAFETY PLAN

ORGANISED BY SOUTH TARANAKI CAR CLUB
Permit No: 250174

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 **Authority:** In accordance with the current New Zealand Motorsport Manual, Appendix Two Schedule H, this plan sets out the systems that are in place and specifies the processes to use in the event of any injury accident for competitors, officials and the public.

1.2 **Event Control Headquarters:** The Event Control will be based at the Club's Caravan positioned just before the Start Line on Orlando Street.

The Results Officer will man the control throughout the day.

The Event Senior Officials are:

Clerk of the Course:	Ross Twyman
Mobile:	021 195 9933
Event Secretary:	Helen Cameron
Mobile:	027 243 9096
Event Safety Officer:	Doug Peach
	021 532 234
Time Keeper:	STCC Officials

1.3 **Safety Services Contact Details:**

In event of an Emergency Phone 111, - for non urgent calls;

(a) **Police**: Contact - Stratford Police Station: 06 765 8360
(b) **Hospital:** Contact – Hawera 06 278 9933 (Emergency Department)
(c) **Fire Service**: Contact – Dion Howells 0274 352 824
(d) **Medical services:** Doug Peach - 1st Aid

1.4 **Event Intervention:** The Safety Officer will be in a Holden Utility stationed adjacent to the Start Line for use as the First Response/Intervention vehicle. Phil Harrison will have his Utility and Trailer at the ready as a recovery vehicle.

The intervention vehicle will be equipped with;

- Tow rope
- Fire extinguisher
- First Aid Kit

1.5 **Communication Network:** The club radios will be used for communication between the Clerk of the Course, Start line, Time Keeper, marshal points (four), Finish line and the intervention vehicle.

2. VENUE

2.1 **Location:** The course, situated in the Industrial Area of Stratford, uses part of Orlando Street, Warwick Road, Cordelia Street and all of Romeo Street.

2.2 **Course - Length and Surface:** The Street Sprint Circuit is 1km in length and is completed twice. It is run in an anti-clockwise direction. The road surface is all chip seal and is in good condition

There will only be two cars on the circuit at one time. The second car will be started once the first car has reached half way around the course.

2.3 **Vehicle Access and Egress to Venue:** Competitor access to the venue is via the Celia Street end of Orlando Street. At the road closed sign competitors will be directed into Hinton's Yard, which will be the Pit Paddock area for the event. The turn off into the Pit Paddock area will be signposted.

No spectator cars will have access to Orlando Street. Celia Street will be the main area for spectator cars.

There will be access from the intersection of Celia Street and Orlando Street upto the Start line at all times to give easy access for emergency vehicles.

The distance from Orlando Street to Taranaki Base Hospital is 40 km, and is approximately a 35 minute drive. There is adequate room to land a helicopter on the intersection of Orlando Street and Warwick Road, which is approximately 300 metres from the timing caravan, if the need arises.

2.4 **Venue Security:**

(1) **Road Closure:** The Stratford District Council administers all the roads included in the Road Closure.

Contacts: Director - Assets, Victoria Aroba (for all matters pertaining to the roads including surface damage and any queries on road closure or resident complaints) Phone 06 765 6099 during business hours.

(a) **Road Closure Schedule and Conditions:** All the roads forming part of the Industrial Area named in Article 2.1 of this plan have been closed by order of the Stratford District Council pursuant to Section 342(1) (b) Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 1974 from 7.30 am until 5.30 pm on Sunday, 10th August, 2025.

Access will be available to local residents under the direct control of the Clerk of the Course.

(b) **Road Closure Marshal Requirements:** There will be a minimum of one (1) marshal at each of the five (5) Road Closed points and the Clerk of the Course will undertake a briefing to inform these persons of their responsibilities particularly regarding;

- Advise on spectator parking and the need to keep the road clear.

- Inform road users of the road closure details and alternate routes to go round the closed off area.
- Advise the Clerk of the Course by radio if any occupants need urgent access through to their properties.

(2) Spectator Control: Spectators will be controlled by safety barriers and/or tape at all Marshal Points and will be under the direction of the Marshals. The nature of buildings on the course severely limits spectator viewing. The majority of spectators view the event from the Start/Finish area and this is defined with water filled safety barriers.

All other areas of the Street Sprint course are deemed prohibited areas and the intermediate post marshals will be briefed to inform the event control immediately if they sight a person who has strayed into any prohibited area.

The Clerk of the Course will prevent any further competitor starting until the person(s) have been moved back to one of the spectator areas.

2.5 Competition Manning Levels:

(a) Start line: Two marshals;

Starter – who will;

- Line up the car at the start line so as not to break the timing beams prior to the start signal, and
- Ensure that the competitors and passengers are buckled in and helmets fastened prior to starting.
- Maintain radio contact, and
- The Starter will co-ordinate the starting procedure with the Time Keeper in the caravan who will release each vehicle with the activation of the start light.
- Act on any instruction from the Clerk of the Course

(b) Finish line: The Time is recorded by the Time Keeper in the Caravan.

- As the vehicles cross the finish line they will proceed on a wind down lap, and their progress will be monitored by the intermediate marshals and finally the finish marshal who will guide them into the pit area.
- Act on any instruction from the Clerk of the Course

(c) Intermediate Marshal Points: There are four intermediate marshal points, each will have a minimum of one marshal. Each post will be equipped with;

- A radio, and
- Red flag, and
- Fire Extinguisher.
- They will be in visual or radio contact with the other Intermediate Marshal and the start/finish caravan.
- They will check progress of all competing vehicles and report any stoppages or accidents to the Time Keeper and Clerk of the Course.
- In the event of an accident, the Marshal will wait for the First Responder before any injured person is moved.
- Once the all clear is given, they will instruct those vehicles stopped to proceed slowly to the pit area.

2.6 Course Clearance: The Clerk of the Course will personally inspect the course prior to the commencement of the event along with the Steward.

- Before commencing each pair of cars, the time keeper radios every Marshal and must receive acknowledgement that their Marshal position is clear before releasing the first driver.

- The Time Keeper will also hold any visiting occupant vehicles from entering until cleared by the COC.

- No vehicle can move onto the course without the express permission of the Clerk of the Course.

2.7 **Venue Layout:** Attached to this Plan is a venue plan detailing the areas open for public viewing, the course layout and any safety features added to the venue.

The design incorporates;

- Marshal positions 1-3 are set off to the right side of the escape road. All Marshall points are fully clear of the racing line i.e., not at exit of corners or inside of a comer where a spin could occur
- Approach speeds have been reduced by the chicanes which have been carefully positioned so that the majority of braking is done into the chicane (at a point clear of Marshalls)
- Where vehicles are at a high risk of escaping from a racing line either a barrier or No-Go zone is present.
- Each cone position marking each chicane is painted on the road and set up in the same position and re-marked each year.
- The setup plan is discussed at the briefing and issued to each Marshal.
- The setup follows FIA guidelines for width and alignment of chicanes for a single competing vehicle
- Small cones are placed inside corners one and two behind the edge of seal, if a competitor displaces any cone they incur a time penalty. Comers 3 & 4 have kerbs present.

3. SPECTATOR AREAS

3.1 **Spectator Area Plans:** Refer to venue plan attached

4. SAFETY OF OFFICIALS AND COMPETITORS

4.1 **Officials and Marshal Training / Briefings:** A marshal briefing will be undertaken by Ross Twyman (Clerk of the Course) at the start line commencing at 9.00am to ensure that all officials controlling the event and particularly those at spectator viewing points are fully aware of safety requirements.

4.2 **Competitors Safety:** The event will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the current Appendix Five Schedule C Part 1. A competitors briefing will be held prior to the commencement of the event outlining the event procedures with emphasis on all safety aspects.

Attachment
Venue Plan

Stratford Street Sprint Site Plan

Appendix 4


www.invarion.com
FULL SITE OVERVIEW
TMD1.1
TMD1.2
TMD1.3
TMD1.4
DRAWN BY:
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TTMP-P
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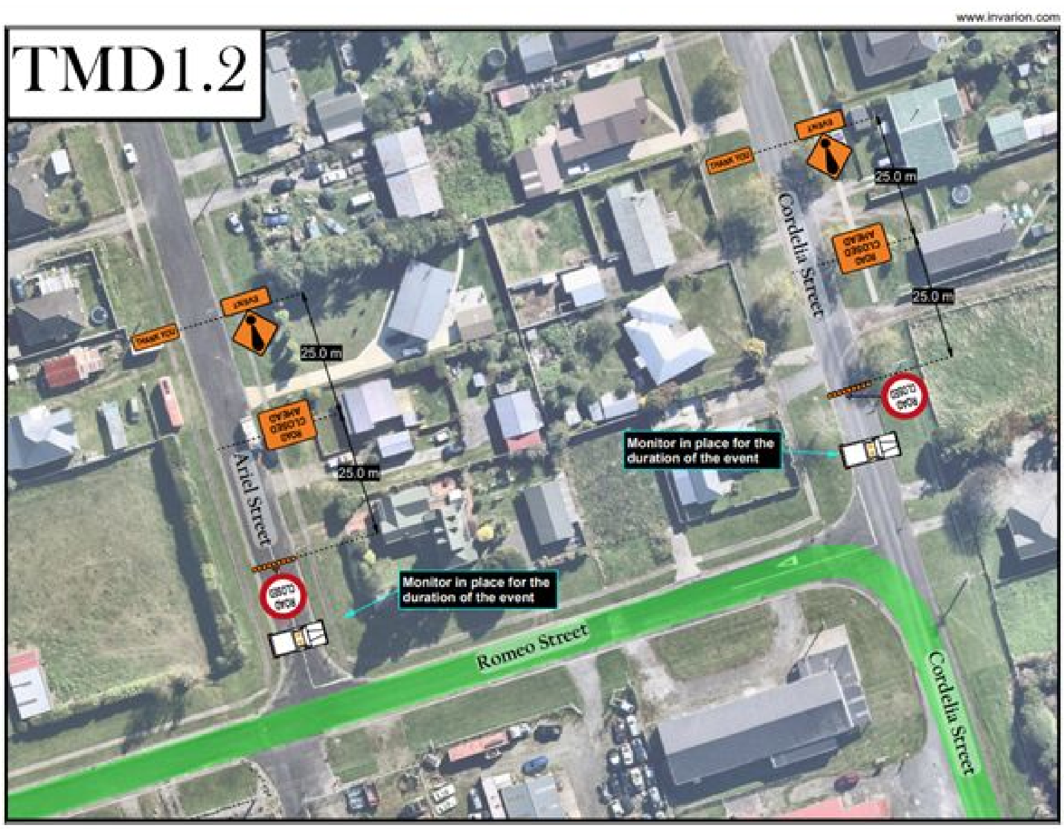
DRAWING ORIGINATOR:
Downer
www.downergroup.co.nz
PREPARED FOR:
TMP REFERENCE:
Westend Hire
Stratford Street Sprint
Event
INSTALLATION:
Road Closure
TMD NUMBER:
TMD 1.0
N
W
E
S


www.invarion.com
TMD1.1
Orlando Street
Celia Street
Orlando Street
Ariel Street
25.0 m
15.0 m
Monitor in place for the duration of the event. Event start point


www.invarion.com
TMD1.2
Ariel Street
Cordelia Street
Romeo Street
Cordelia Street
25.0 m
Monitor in place for the duration of the event
Monitor in place for the duration of the event


www.invarion.com
TMD1.3
Orlando Street
Warwick Road
ROAD CLOSED
Monitor in place for the duration of the event
ROAD CLOSED
25.0 m
ROAD CLOSED AHEAD
Orlando Street
25.0 m
EVENT


www.invarion.com
TMD1.4
Cordelia Street
ROAD CLOSED
ROAD CLOSED AHEAD
35.0 m
25.0 m
Warwick Road
Monitor in place for the duration of the event

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Our reference
F19/13/03-D21/40748

Karakia

Kia uruuru mai	I draw in (to my being)
Ā hauora	The reviving essence
Ā haukaha	The strengthening essence
Ā haumāia	The essence of courage
Ki runga, Ki raro	Above, Below
Ki roto, Ki waho	Within, Around
Rire rire hau Paimārire	Let there be peace.

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