TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O
WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Our reference
F19/13/03-D21/26182

5 June 2025

Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held in the **Council Chambers, Stratford District Council, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford** on ***Tuesday 10 June 2025*** beginning at **3.00pm.**

Timetable for 10 June 2025 as follows:

2.00pm	Workshop - Wai o Rua – Stratford Aquatic Centre business plan
3.00pm	Public Forum - Heritage Taranaki
3.30pm	Ordinary Meeting of Council

Yours faithfully

Sven Hanne
Chief Executive

Stratford District
In the heart of Taranaki

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

2025 - Agenda - Ordinary - June (open)

10 June 2025 09:00 AM

Agenda Topic Page

Agenda Topic			Page
Notice of Meeting			1
Agenda			3
1.	Welcome		6
	1.1	Opening Karakia	6
	1.2	Health and Safety Message	7
2.	Apologies		
3.	Announcements		
4.	Declarations of Members Interest		
5.	Attendance Schedule		8
6.	Confirmation of Minutes		9
	6.1	Audit and Risk Committee - 13 May 2025	9
	6.2	Ordinary Meeting of Council - 13 May 2025	18
	6.2.1	Public Forum Notes	27
	6.3	Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Funding Assessment Committee - 20 May 2025	29
	6.4	Farm Committee - 27 May 2025	32
	6.5	Policy and Services Committee - 27 May 2025	37
	6.5.1	Taranaki Regional Aquatics Network Plan - Amendment	49
7.	District Mayor's Report		50
8.	Public Forum Response		
9.	Questions		
10.	Closing Karakia		55

AGENDA
Ordinary Meeting of Council

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

F22/55/05 – D25/18983

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

1. Welcome

1.1 Opening Karakia
D21/40748 Page 6

1.2 Health and Safety Message
D21/26210 Page 7

2. Apologies

3. Announcements

4. Declarations of Members Interest

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

5. Attendance Schedule

Page 8

Attendance schedule for Ordinary and Extraordinary Council meetings.

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.

/
Moved/Seconded

6.2 Ordinary Meeting of Council – 13 May 2025
D25/16046 Page 18

Recommendation

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

/
Moved/Seconded

6.2.1 Public Forum Notes
D25/16056 Page 27

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

6.3 Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund Assessment Committee – 20 May 2025
D25/17371 Page 29

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.
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.

/
Moved/Seconded

6.4 Farm Committee – 27 May 2025
D25/18159 Page 32

Recommendations

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

/
Moved/Seconded

6.5 Policy and Services Committee – 27 May 2025
D25/17973 Page 37

Recommendations

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

/
Moved/Seconded

6.5.1 Amendment to Taranaki Aquatics Network Plan
Page 49

Amendment to the table as requested.

7. District Mayor's Report
D25/19640 Page 50

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

/
Moved/Seconded

8. Public Forum Response

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

9. Questions

10. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 55

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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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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.

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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					
Jono Erwood	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Ellen Hall	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A					
Amanda Harris	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Vaughan Jones	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Min McKay	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
John Sandford	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Clive Tongaawhikau	A	A	✓	A	✓	AB					
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
Audit and Risk Committee

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

F22/55/06 – D25/18894

Date: Tuesday 13 May 2025 at 11.00am
Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

Present

Mr P Jones (the Chair), the District Mayor N C Volzke, the Deputy Mayor M McKay and Councillor V R Jones and J M S Erwood.

In attendance

Councillors: S R Beck, A K Harris and E E Hall (*part meeting)*

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 Property and Project Manager – Mr S Taylor, the Health & Safety/Emergency Management Advisor – Mr D Pemberton (*part meeting)*, the Corporate Accountant – Mrs C Craig *(part meeting)*, the Communications Manager – Ms G Gibson (*part meeting)* and one member of the public.

1. Welcome

The opening karakia was read.

The Chair welcomed the District Mayor, Councillors, staff and the media to the meeting.

The Chair reiterated the health and safety message and emergency procedures.

2. Apologies

An approved leave of absence was noted for Councillor G W Boyde.

Recommendation

THAT the apologies be received.

V JONES/McKAY
Carried
A&R/25/11

3. Announcements

There were no announcements.

4. Declarations of Members Interest

The Chair requested councillors to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to items on this agenda.

The Deputy Mayor declared an interest in the Public Excluded item, Item 20, Land Matter.

5. Attendance Schedule

Attendance schedule for Audit and Risk Committee meetings was attached.

6. Programme of Works

D21/42807 Page 11

Recommendation

THAT the Audit and Risk Committee's rolling programme of works up to September 2025 be received.

VOLZKE/McKAY
Carried
A&R/25/12

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- The Director – Corporate Services clarified the delay in the internal audit was due to resource availability in the finance team. It was noted the aim was to bring the internal audit programme for the 2025/26 financial year to the Audit and Risk committee in October.

7. Confirmation of Minutes

7.1 Audit and Risk Committee – 18 March 2025

D24/8796 Page 13

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 18 March 2025 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

VOLZKE/P JONES
Carried
A&R/25/13

8. Matters Outstanding

D18/27474 Page 21

Recommendation

THAT the matters outstanding be received.

ERWOOD/McKAY
Carried
A&R/25/14

The Chief Executive noted that Council has received a revised Statement of Intent from the Percy Thomson Trust, however it was not received in time to be included in this meeting. This will be presented at the next Policy and Services Committee or the next Ordinary meeting of Council.

9. Information Report – Health, Safety and Wellbeing

D25/14314 Page 22

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

McKAY/ERWOOD
Carried
A&R/25/15

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- It was clarified that the staff member involved in incident 2 was on duty at the time.
- It was clarified the staff member did not have their body camera or lone worker device on them at the time. The Deputy Mayor questioned if this was normal expectation and the Health and Safety/Emergency Management Advisor noted that it is in the policy.
- The Chairman noted it was good to see contractor audits being undertaken and questioned what the process was for selecting other projects to audit? Mr Pemberton noted he was starting with long term contractors as priority and then working through to the ones doing odd jobs to create an annual auditing process. The Chairman noted that other councils do audits on a risk basis and have their asset management team assess contractors when on site and record any incidences or good or poor Health and Safety practices. This is then informally reported back to the committee.

The Health and Safety/Emergency Management Advisor left the meeting at 11.12am.

10. Information Report – Risk Management

D25/14412 Page 27

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

ERWOOD/V JONES
Carried
A&R/25/16

Recommended Reason

To provide an update to the Audit and Risk Committee of any risk events or threats in relation to significant risks on Council's risk register, as part of Council's risk management processes.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Jones questioned risk 72, Elected Members Decision Making and what was actively requiring management review? Mrs Johnson noted that there are no issues, this risk just raises awareness around how an uninformed decision can reflect on council and to document the list of what has been approved recently. It was noted the decision regarding Local Water Done Well is being actively managed.
- The District Mayor noted the significant changes that will come with the Building Act reforms, including self certification. He noted his concern that with this there will be a legacy belief that council is still the responsible party. The Director – Environmental Services noted there has been an indicated timeline to have the first phase completed by the end of this calendar year with implementation by the end of the next year. There is a lot of uncertainty about the implications as there is not a lot known about it yet, there is a self certification scheme on the way but there will be eligibility criteria which we are not aware of yet so the applicability across the community is unknown. He noted the legacy views for liability will also remain to be seen as the whole review is a developing picture. The District Mayor noted this risk should be noted that it will need to be assessed in the future. It was noted the timeframes suggested for inspections would be less onerous than the current timeframes councils works within.

- The Chairman requested that rate-capping be noted as an upcoming risk. Politically this is seen as the wise thing to do but the consequences if councils reduce their rates will be a reduction in levels of service and a reduced availability of services to the community.

The Communications Manager joined the meeting at 11.20am.

11. Information Report – Capital Works Programme – Key Projects Update

D25/14016 Page 34

Recommendations

THAT the report be received.

P JONES/V JONES
Carried
A&R/25/17

Recommended Reason
To provide an update on the progress of our main capital projects for the 2024/25 financial year and assess Council's ability to complete them on time and within budget.

The Property and Projects Manager noted a couple of amendments to the table:

- Actual spend increased to $1,070,000.
- Prospero Place increased $24,080 to $53,000.
- Grit Tank increased from $172,607 to $181,000.
- Silt Retention Victoria Park – Budget was tracking low rare/serious with its budget, however the invoice for disposing of it at Bonnyglen has come in over $100,000 which was not expected to be this high.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- It was clarified the budget for the Wastewater Treatment Upgrade was exceeded by 278% due to the emergency works required for the dam work that were found to be at risk of imminent failure.
- It was clarified that officers are discussing and contesting the invoice from Bonnyglen regarding the Victoria Park as it was tested to see if it was contaminated soil and these were negative. The Taranaki Regional Council have also ensured that it was safe to be spread across land. It was clarified it was just the debris remaining from the silt being dried that was being sent. Their concern is a chemical contamination from being stormwater running off roads.
- The Chairman noted only 23% of works are complete and asked if there is a significant risk of not completing our planned works? Mr Hanne noted that this is on the low side but management are expecting a number of projects to be completed before the end of the financial year. He clarified that if a project is not completed in the financial year it does not mean it didn't happen, it just didn't happen with the timeframe. He noted the delivery criteria for local government is misleading as it only measures delivery within a 12 month timeframe and doesn't recognise anything carried forward and completed from the previous timeframe. He noted significant changes had been made internally to build capacity to deliver projects and he hoped to see a turn around in this by the end of the year. The Chairman suggested multi year reporting so the committee does not lose sight of the projects being carried forward.

12. Information Report – Insurance Update

D25/14792 Page 44

Recommendations

THAT the report be received.

ERWOOD/VOLZKE
Carried
A&R/25/18

Recommended Reason
To inform the Audit and Risk Committee on the approach to the placement and renewal of the Council insurance policies for 2025/26.

The Director – Corporate Services noted the following points:

- This committee has a responsibility to approve council's insurance framework and monitor and review the insurance programme.
- Council now has a new insurance broker, AON, for which the four councils worked together on a robust tender process. AON clearly came out as the preferred provider.
- A pre-renewal meeting was held with AON and we are working through the schedules that they require. At the workshop today they will provide an update on the current insurance market and look into some options that council may want to explore in the future.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- It was clarified that a report will be brought back to the next meeting (15 July) on the insurance renewals, and potentially another report on the insurance framework.
- It was clarified that the maximum payout for LAPP is 40%.

13. Information Report – Water Services Reform – Update

D25/14943 Page 47

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

McKAY/P JONES
Carried
A&R/25/19

Recommended Reason
This report is for information purposes only but gives elected members insight into the current state of the water services reform.

The Chief Executive noted the following points:

- The original report covered a timeframe that went beyond today, however a couple of updates have been made including the LWDW reforms in perspective against the Local Government Elections and the risk that this council makes a decision leading into the election, which may result in a different council with a fundamentally different view, and if a future council could reverse a decision and the risk around this.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- The District Mayor acknowledged the Chief Executive for preparing this summary. It was a great reminder of the timeline, where we have been to where we are now. It is a concise summary of the last few years. He noted at the three events he had attended for public consultation there has been one question asked each time, this is what is council's position should one of the other two councils decide not to pick a regional delivery service and what our preparedness is for discussing the two remaining councils going together and evaluating that situation. Mr Hanne noted this has been discussed in quite a bit of detail and the view is that if this was to occur the default would be to stand alone, the status quo to continue but not excluding future cooperation with another council. This would also trigger a conversation with Central Government for a potential extension of the timeframe to work through the decision process, however if this was declined then the default option would be the in-house model (option b) with conversations with the newly elected council to be undertaken and public consultation if needed. It would be important to consider this in our own time and not rush a decision.

- The Chairman noted if one council pulled out their water services delivery plan could be rejected by the minister and then the council would be required to go back revisit their decision. Mr Hanne noted this was why water delivery plans for both options were created as there is not time between the political decision and the deadline for delivering properly formatted plans with prudent and correct financials.
- Councillor Jones noted the other risk is the community giving elected members a mandate based on emotional value and not knowing the numbers, he noted councillors still didn't know all the numbers. The Chairman agreed noting they are expecting councils across the country to make a good decision without all the information and that is worrying, especially as revenue is based on variables that have not been set yet. He noted the other risk was the minister deciding the plan was not sustainable and appointing someone to manage this. He noted there were 44 local authorities proposing to go in a standalone setting or a CCO and he felt there was a significant amount of those who will not meet the threshold.

14. Information Report – 2024-2025 Annual Report Audit Engagement Letter

D25/14797 Page 54

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

ERWOOD/McKAY
Carried
A&R/25/20

Recommended Reason
This report receives, considers and informs the Committee of the Audit Engagement Letter for the audit of the *2024/2025 Annual Report*.

The Director – Corporate Services noted the following points:

- Audit NZ have been appointed by the OAG for Stratford again.
- This is a standard document and sets out the responsibilities of the parties.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- The District mayor noted he was pleased to see Chris Webby appointed as council's auditor as he is very familiar with our council and this helps in the understandings and dealings with auditors.
- Mrs Johnson noted she did not see a risk with the withdrawal of the dashboard as any data that is uploaded to this is held in our systems as well.

15. Information Report – 2024-2025 Annual Report Audit Proposal Letter

D25/14798 Page 73

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

McKAY/ERWOOD
Carried
A&R/25/21

Recommended Reason
This report receives, considers and informs the Committee of the Audit Proposal Letter for the audit of the *2024/2025 Annual Report*.

The Director – Corporate Services noted this advises council of what the fees will be. This is slightly less than last year as there is no planned revaluation this financial year. A fair value assessment will be undertaken which is where an independent valuer looks at the previous valuations and see where they think the market and costs may have changed, and if there is a big enough change to impact the financial statements.

16. Information Report – 2024-2025 Audit Plan Report

D25/14795 Page 81

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

P JONES/McKAY
Carried
A&R/25/22

Recommended Reason
This report receives, considers and informs the Committee of the Council auditors audit plan for the year ending 30 June 2025.

The Director – Corporate Services noted this sets the specific plan for the audit, both herself and the Corporate Accountant have reviewed it and feel the focus areas appear reasonable and are happy with the plan.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- The Chairman noted his concern to adopt at the end of October and asked if there was a risk with elections that we might be able to have a meeting by 31 October. Mr Hanne noted there was a risk but officers believe the timeline is achievable. Mrs Johnson noted she would be working towards changing the timeline for future audits.

17. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

18. Questions

There were no questions.

19. 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: 20

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
Land Matter	The withholding of the information is necessary to maintain legal professional privilege to protect all communications between a legal adviser and clients from being disclosed without the permission of the client.	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)(g). (Section 48(1)(a) Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

ERWOOD/VOLZKE
Carried
A&R/25/23

The Deputy Mayor, the Corporate Accountant and the member of the public left the meeting at 12.11pm.

20. Public Excluded Item

Councillor Hall left the meeting at 12.31pm.

Recommendation

THAT the open meeting resume.

V JONES/ERWOOD
Carried
A&R/25/25

Councillor Jones asked if councillors were required to respond to media emails asking if they were standing in the elections. Mr Hanne noted there is no obligation under LGOIMA to respond and it was totally the individuals choice whether to respond or not.

21. Closing karakia

D21/40748 Page 108

The closing Karakia was read.

The Meeting closed at 12.45pm.

P Jones
Chairman

Confirmed this 15th day of July 2025.

N C Volzke
District Mayor

MINUTES
Ordinary

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

F22/55/05 – D25/16046

Date: 13 May 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: S J Beck, J M S Erwood (*part meeting),* A K Harris, V R Jones, 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 Communications Manager – Ms G Gibson, the Corporate Accountant – Mrs C Craig, one member of the Media (Stratford Press) and one member 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 Councillor G W Boyde and apologies received from Councillors A M C Dudley, J M S Erwood (lateness) and E E Hall.

Recommendation

THAT the apologies be received.

WATT/McKAY
Carried
CL/25/30

3. Announcements

There were no announcements.

4. Declarations of Members Interest

Elected members 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 Ordinary and Extraordinary Council meetings was attached.

6. Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Ordinary Meeting of Council – 8 April 2025
D25/4531 Page 13

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 8 April 2025 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

VOLZKE/HARRIS
Carried
CL/25/31

6.1.1 Public Forum Notes
D25/12342 Page 18

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

The Committee Advisor and Executive Assistant undertook to update the venue to Whangamomona on both the minutes and the public forum notes.

6.2 Extraordinary Meeting of Council – 15 April 2025
D25/12402 Page 21

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 15 April 2025 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

SANDFORD/JONES
Carried
CL/25/32

6.3 Policy and Services Committee – 29 April 2025 (Hearing)
D25/14037 Page 25

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting, to hear and consider submissions to the draft Victoria Park Reserve Management Plan, held on Tuesday 29 April 2025 be received.

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting, to hear and consider submissions to the draft Victoria Park Reserve Management Plan, held on Tuesday 29 April 2025 be adopted.

BECK/McKAY
Carried
CL/25/33

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- The Chief Executive noted that officers had been asked to gather further information and public feedback on the use of the green space next to the bike park following the request for relocation from the croquet club. As it is not possible to identify all users of this area it will be put back out for public consultation for a one month period.

6.4 Policy and Services Committee – 29 April 2025
D25/14030 Page 32

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 29 April 2025 be received.

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 29 April 2025 be adopted.

WATT/VOLZKE
Carried
CL/25/34

7. District Mayor's Report
D25/15585 Page 43

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/JONES
Carried
CL/25/35

The District Mayor noted the following points:

- There had been discussion around the future of holding meetings at Whangamomona following this years meeting. He noted it was suggested a Policy and Services Committee meeting might be better as they allow for more debate. He also noted there had been questions raised around visiting other areas in the District. This needs to be considered when council sets the meeting schedule in November.
- The Passenger Transport Committee is a newly established committee of the Taranaki Regional Council. Stratford District Council has one representative on this. They have held one meeting which was largely procedural to establish the committee, the next meeting will be held in December.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Harris noted she had been asked by Councillor Boyde to ask if Live Streaming of meetings had been considered. Mr Hanne noted that it was possible but the focus of the new system had been conference calling and remote attendance rather than live streaming. If Elected Members wanted to proceed with live streaming then officers can work on this and provide a range of cost options to be discussed as part of the next Annual Plan. The District Mayor noted it was important to consider the cost vs attendance for live streaming.
- Councillor Harris noted the Whangamomona meeting was held at a difficult time for locals to attend meetings. A different layout would be welcomed from the community.

Councillor Erwood joined the meeting at 3.49pm.

8. Decision Report – Adopt Annual Plan 2025/26

D25/14831 Page 46

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/JONES
Carried
CL/25/36

2. THAT it is noted that the formatting and design version of the *Annual Plan 2025/26* is still to be completed and that the Chief Executive be authorised to make any required minor or editorial changes.

3. THAT the *Annual Plan 2025/26*, including Fees and Charges schedule, be adopted.

HARRIS/ERWOOD
Carried
CL/25/37

Recommended Reason
To adopt the *Annual Plan 2025/26*, in accordance with section 95 of the Local Government Act 2002 to enable Council to set rates for the financial year ended 30 June 2026, and commence its programme of works for the year from 1 July 2025.

The Director – Corporate Services noted the following points:

- Following a considerable amount of work put into the development of the 2024-34 Long Term Plan council had agreed to not undertake additional consultation as Year 2 of the LTP adopts a business as planned approach.
- While there are no major initiatives it is important to note it is still quite a busy work schedule ahead.
- The overall rates increase is 6.9% which was the same in the LTP.
- There are some changes in the budgets for activities but this is mainly due to economic conditions and political instruction.
- There are some minor changes to the fees and charges and performance measures which were discussed with elected members previously.
- The work of the Corporate Accountant, the Committee Advisor and Executive Assistant and the Communications Manager was acknowledged in the production of this document.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- The District Mayor noted the sample rates and percentage increases, he asked that councillors be aware of these as they will be asked questions about the rate increase. 6.9% is the increase on the whole rate take and then how it is apportioned out is dependent on a number of components.
- Councillor Harris commended the cover of the plan.
- It was clarified the targeted rate for forestry had not been increased and that no decision for stepped increase had been made. The total collected per property may have changed slightly.
- It was clarified that the community centres are sent a letter each year to confirm the number of assessments in the area and if they would like to see a change in the rate collected. Toko has written and requested an increase which has been actioned. It is expected that the community group has completed community consultation before requesting a change.
- It was clarified that the increase in the water rate is due to the extra levies which are out of council's control.

9. Decision Report – Setting of Rates, Due Dates and Penalties Regime for 2025/26

D25/14271 Page 196

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/SANDFORD
Carried
CL/25/38

2. THAT the Stratford District Council sets the following rates, due dates, and penalties regime under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the *Annual Plan 2025/26* and Funding Impact Statement, on rating units in the Stratford District for the financial year commencing 1 July 2025, and ending 30 June 2026.

Important: All charges are GST inclusive, and funds raised are stated GST exclusive.

GENERAL RATE

Council set a general rate under section 13 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 (“LGRA”) calculated on the capital value of each rateable rating unit within the district.

The general rate is set with no differential.

The rate (in cents per dollar of capital value) for 2025/26 is 0.16893 cents, raising $6,415,500.

General rates will be used to fund all activities that are not covered by the uniform annual general charge, targeted rates or other funding mechanisms outlined in the Revenue and Financing Policy.

UNIFORM ANNUAL GENERAL CHARGE

Council set a UAGC under section 15 of the LGRA in respect of every separately used or inhabited part of a rateable rating unit (SUIP) within the district.

The UAGC for 2025/26 is $953 per SUIP, raising $4,298,100.

TARGETED RATE – ROADING

Council set a targeted roading rate under section 16 in respect of roading and street services based on the capital value of each rating unit within the District as follows:

The Default category rate (in cents per dollar of capital value) under section 16 for 2025/26 is 0.10152 cents, with a differential factor of 1, raising $3,801,600.

The Forestry category rate (in cents per dollar of capital value) under section 16 for 2025/26 is 0.65794 cents, with a differential factor of 6.48, raising $350,000.

For the purposes of this rate the differential categories are defined as follows:

Default Category

All rateable land not in the Forestry Category

Forestry Category

This category includes:
a) All rating units where the primary land use is exotic forestry; and
b) All land used for exotic forestry with an area of greater than 10 ha in any rating unit where the primary land use is not exotic forestry.

The capital value of rating units to which b) applies will be apportioned between the Forestry category and the Default category.

For the purposes of this definition, “exotic forestry” does not include land that is categorised under the valuer general’s rules as indigenous forests or protected forests of any type.

TARGETED RATE – SOLID WASTE (RUBBISH AND RECYCLING)

Council set a targeted rate under section 16 of the LGRA for refuse and recycling collection on the basis of the extent to which the property receives a refuse and recycling service in the Stratford and Midhirst domestic collection area. Refer to the maps of the collection area on Council’s website, https://www.stratford.govt.nz/our-services/rates-and-property/district-boundaries-and-maps.

The Solid Waste rate under section 16 for 2025/26 is $507 per extent of provision of service, raising $1,224,300. An additional rate of $507 per each additional refuse and/or recycling container provided will be charged to eligible properties that have had approval by council for additional containers.

The Solid Waste rate will be used to fund the urban domestic refuse collection activity.

TARGETED RATE – WASTEWATER (SEWERAGE)

Council set a targeted rate under section 16 of the LGRA for sewerage as a fixed amount per SUIP, and a targeted rate as a fixed amount per rating unit for serviceable properties. Serviceable properties are properties that have Council wastewater reticulation services adjacent, contiguous or nearby to the serviceable properties, and the property boundary is within 30 metres of a public wastewater drain, but are not connected.

For all non-commercial properties the differential factor is 1 (base), and the Wastewater rate for each rating unit is $464 per SUIP, and for serviceable properties is $232 per rating unit, being 50% of the targeted rate.

Commercial properties are rated separately based on the number of toilets, and serviceable properties are not charged. Commercial properties are defined as properties that are used for a commercial purpose under the valuer general rules, and are connected to the Wastewater network.

Commercial properties are differentiated by use as follows:

Commercial base category (all commercial rating units not included in any other commercial category) and the differential factor is also 1 (base) and the amount is $464 per SUIP

- Commercial 2 (commercial rating units used for an activity requiring 2 toilets) differential factor 150% of base and the amount is $696 per SUIP.
- Commercial 3 (commercial rating units used for an activity requiring 3 toilets) differential factor 200% of base and the amount is $928 per SUIP.
- Commercial 4 (commercial rating units used for an activity requiring 4 toilets) differential factor 225% of base and the amount is $1,044 per SUIP.
- Commercial 5 (commercial rating units used for an activity requiring 5 toilets) differential factor 250% of base and the amount is $1,160 per SUIP.
- Commercial 6 (commercial rating units used for an activity requiring 6 toilets) differential factor 275% of base and the amount is $1,276 per SUIP.
- Commercial 7 (commercial rating units used for an activity requiring 7 toilets) differential factor 300% of base and the amount is $1,392 per SUIP.
- Commercial Large (commercial rating units used for an activity requiring 8 or more toilets) differential factor 325% of base and the amount is $1,508 per SUIP.

The sewerage system rate for 2025/26 is to raise $1,208,500 and will be used to fund the Wastewater activity.

TARGETED RATES - WATER SUPPLY

Council set a targeted rate under section 16 of the LGRA for water supply on the basis of the number of connections, per rating unit, to the Stratford, Midhirst, or Toko Water Supply, under Schedule 3, Clause 8 of the LGRA, and a targeted rate as a fixed amount per rating unit for serviceable properties. Serviceable properties are properties that have Council water reticulation services adjacent, contiguous or nearby to the serviceable properties, and the property boundary is within 100 metres of a water main, but are not connected.

The Water Supply rate for properties connected is $713 per connection, and for serviceable properties is $356.50 per rating unit, being 50% of the targeted rate, and raising $1,965,000.

In addition, Council set a targeted rate for extraordinary water supply under section 19 of the LGRA on the basis of an amount per unit of water supplied in the Stratford Water Supply Area, the Midhirst Water Supply area, and the Toko Water Supply Area to any rating unit which has been fitted with a water meter.

The Stratford water supply rate under section 19 for 2025/26 is $2.53 per cubic metre of supply in excess of 250 cubic metres per annum, raising $626,156.

The Midhirst water supply rate under section 19 for 2025/26 is $2.53 per cubic metre of supply in excess of 250 cubic metres per annum, raising $23,208.

The Toko water supply rate under section 19 for 2025/26 is $2.53 per cubic metre of supply in excess of 250 cubic metres per annum, raising $4,396.

The water supply rates will be used to fund the water supply activities in the Stratford, Midhirst and Toko areas.

TARGETED RATES - COMMUNITY CENTRES

Council sets targeted rates under section 16 of the LGRA for community centres on the basis of an amount per separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit in the listed community areas. This rate uses a fixed charge based on the location of the rating unit.

The community centre rates for 2025/26 are:

- A fixed charge of $23.00 within the Wharehuia Community Centre area per SUIP collecting $2,000.
- A fixed charge of $23.00 within the Te Popo Community Centre area per SUIP collecting $1,000.
- A fixed charge of $13.80 within the Pembroke Road Community Centre area per SUIP collecting $1,980.
- A fixed charge of $50.00 within the Toko Community Centre area per SUIP collecting $6,521.
- A fixed charge of $17.25 within the Pukengahu Community Centre area per SUIP collecting $825.
- A fixed charge of $17.25 within the Midhirst Community Centre area per SUIP collecting $5,520.
- A fixed charge of $11.50 within the Makahu Community Centre area per SUIP collecting $510.
- A fixed charge of $30.00 within the Cardiff Community Centre area per SUIP collecting $2,817.

The community centres rate will be used to fund the operating costs of the community centres and will raise $21,173.

Refer to the boundary maps for each Community Centre area on council's website, https://www.stratford.govt.nz/our-services/rates-and-property/district-boundaries-and-maps.

PAYMENT DUE DATES AND PENALTIES

All rates, except those for metered water supply, will be payable in four equal instalments due on:

1st Instalment:	27 August 2025
2nd Instalment:	26 November 2025
3rd Instalment:	25 February 2026
4th Instalment:	27 May 2026

Pursuant to Sections 57 and 58 of the LGRA the following penalties on unpaid rates (excluding metered water rates) will be added:

- A charge of 10% on so much of any instalment that has been assessed after 1 July 2025 which remains unpaid after the due date for that instalment. The penalty will be added on the following dates:

- 1st Instalment	3 September 2025
- 2nd Instalment	3 December 2025
- 3rd Instalment	4 March 2026
- 4th Instalment	3 June 2026

- A charge of 10% on so much of any rates assessed before 1 July 2025 which remain unpaid on 10 July 2025. The penalty will be added on 17 July 2025.
- A continuing additional penalty of 10% on so much of any rates assessed before 1 July 2025, to which a penalty has been added under the immediately preceding bullet point, and which remain unpaid six months after the previous penalty was added. The penalty will be added on 20 January 2026.
- Penalties imposed are exempt from GST.

Payment Due Dates for Metered Water Supply

The due dates are set out in the table below. A charge of 10% on any amount outstanding for the quarter which remains unpaid on the following dates will be added on the dates below:

Period	Due Date	Penalty Date
1 July to 30 September 2025	26 November 2025	03 December 2025
1 October to 31 December 2025	25 February 2026	04 March 2026
1 January to 31 March 2026	27 May 2026	03 June 2026
1 April to 30 June 2026	26 August 2026	02 September 2026

EARLY PAYMENT

Sections 55 and 56 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 empowers Council to allow for the early payment of rates.

- Council proposes to accept early payment of all rates assessed for the 2025/26 year, but no discount will be applied for early payment. (Section 55).
- Council proposes to accept early payment of all rates assessed for the 2026/27 and subsequent years, but no discount will be applied for early payment. These payments will be applied to general rates or individual targeted rates if requested by the ratepayer, otherwise they will be applied against future general rates. (Section 56).

PAYMENT LOCATIONS – ALL RATES AND CHARGES

Direct Debits are the preferred method of payment. Direct Debit Authority Forms are available at our Council office, or online.

Payments can be made online by going to www.stratford.govt.nz and clicking on “Pay Online”.

Mail and electronic payments shall be deemed to be received at the Council Office on day of receipt. The Council accepts payments by cash, eftpos or credit card between the hours of 8.30 am to 4.30 pm, Monday to Friday, at the Council offices, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford.

McKAY/ERWOOD
Carried
CL/25/39

Recommended Reason
The *Annual Plan 2025/26* contains the activities and associated costs of Council and the funding mechanisms, including rates, to meet those costs. The Rates to be set above are consistent with the Funding Impact Statement in the *Annual Plan 2025/26*, as required by law.

The Director – Corporate Services noted one change to the recommendation (page 197 of agenda) where 2024/25 needs to be updated to 2025/26.

10. Public Forum Response

Speaker: Lauree Jones, Taranaki Enviroschools
Response: Acknowledge presentation and follow up on setting a date to visit.

Speaker: Michael Carr, Sport Taranaki
Response: Verbally thanked for presentation. Council always welcomes having you here and seeing the update on what is happening in the community. It is also good to see presentations such as the one on green prescriptions in the Positive Ageing Forum as well.

11. Questions

- Councillor Harris took the opportunity to say the new sound system worked very well when attending by zoom. She noted the microphones are very sensitive and pick up all conversations including ones between councillors rather than to the meeting.

12. Closing Karakia

The closing karakia was read.

The meeting closed at 4.06 pm.

N C Volzke
Chairman

Confirmed this 10th day of June 2025

N C Volzke
District Mayor

PUBLIC FORUM
Notes

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

F22/55/05 – D25/16056

Date: 13 May 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: S J Beck, A K Harris, V R Jones, 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 Communications Manager – Miss G Gibson, one member of the Media (Stratford Press) and seven 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: Lauree Collins (Taranaki Enviroschools)
Topic: Update to Council

Points noted in the presentation:

- Neriah
    - I am proud to belong to a Gold Green Enviro School. School is committed to teaching and making a difference in the environment.
    - What is the point in learning English and Math if we do not care for our environment? We are guardians of the whenua. There is only one earth so we need to care for it.
    - We practise caring for our environment, it is part of our everyday lives.
    - At school we have chickens, bees, fruit trees and vege gardens focusing on minimising waste and recycling.
    - Everyone in our school is able to learn how to take some responsibility on protecting the earth.
- Anna
    - We have so many opportunities to take part in the enviro school and make the earth a better place.
    - We have heaps of gardens, fruit trees, chickens, beehives bug hotels, worm farms and compost bins. We sell the eggs and honey.
    - We have the lovely Marlene who helps us look after the enviroschool. We have a group of students who think of things which need working on in the environment.
    - Each week we have an enviro class of the week. The winning class needs to get 100% on recycling, turning off their lights and emptying their rubbish bin. If a class received the class of the week three times in a row they get a free morning tea.
- Elliotte
    - We learn how to care for our environment everyday. There is no planet B.
    - We have many ways to help us reduce, reuse and recycle.
    - Think Globally, Act Locally and Respond Personally.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Beck questioned where the eggs and honey are sold. It was explained they are sold at the school shop with other things students have made such as tote bags. Councillor Sandford – the one thing I learnt is that Stratford primary school is very lucky to have Marlene.

Speaker: Michael Carr (Sport Taranaki)
Topic: 6 monthly update to Council

Points noted in the presentation:

- Green Prescription – is a programme around health and wellness which utilises a whole range of access to become healthy and active. A study has shown each dollar invested creates $14 of benefit.
- Tū Manawa – a fund is targeted at Tamariki. $31,000 was targeted last year to the Stratford District, with $283,000 in the last five years. Recipients include Stratford High School, Stratford High School Parent Unit, Stratford Primary School and Tutaki Youth.
- The Masters games were held recently, with 18 sports being played. 8 sports were held in Stratford with just under 500 participants.
- Taranaki Sports Awards were also held recently, these Awards spotlight and highlight the wonderful things which we are doing at a community level as well as high level sports. The hall of fame which is open every second year will be open this coming year.
- Taranaki Facilities Consortium – thanks to the Stratford Officers who are part of this group. A new document has been released looking at how things are done smarter and more sustainably.
- Healthy Active Learning – Midhirst School has joined this cycle and are holding a tri challenge tomorrow, which our advisors have coordinated.
- There have been changes to the board. The new Chair is Nicole Chadwick, and new trustees Kylie Hawker Green, Jen Patterson and Annie Prosser.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Harris questioned the Tū Manawa applications, some of which were received from within the Stratford District. Were there many rural school missing from the list? Mr Carr advised 71 of the 91 schools in the region have applied, analysis is currently underway as to why 20 schools have not applied, and will be working with them to see if there are any project they wish to apply for.

The meeting closed at 3.34pm

MINUTES

Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund Assessment Comittee

F16/1042/003– D24/17371

Date: Tuesday 20 May 2025 3.30pm
Venue: Committee Room, Stratford District Council

Present

Councillor A K Harris (the Chairperson), the District Mayor N C Volzke, Councillors: J M S Erwood and A M C Dudley, Mrs K Dickson, Mr G Vincent, and Mrs D Christie.

In Attendance

The HR and Governance Administrator – Mrs C Reynolds.

Opening Karakia

The opening karakia was read.

1. Apologies

An apology was received from Mr J Whitikia.

That the apology be received.

ERWOOD/DUDLEY
Carried

2. Announcements

Two new accountability forms tabled.

3. Minutes

3.1 Confirmation of Minutes

THAT the minutes of the Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund Assessment Committee meeting held on 5 November 2024 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

CHRISTIE/DUDLEY
Carried

4. Correspondence

4.1 Inwards

4.1.1 Accountability Form – Marco School
4.1.2 Accountability Form – Eastern Districts Hockey
4.1.3 Accountability Form – Stratford High School
4.1.5 Sport NZ Snapshot 2025
4.1.6 Tabled – SE Jnr
4.1.7 Tabled -

4.2 Outwards

THAT the inwards correspondence be received.

VINCENT/ERWOOD
Carried

5. Declarations of Interest

The Chair requested committee members to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to items on this agenda. Councillor Dudley declared an interest in the applications for Stratford High School, and Stratford Eltham Junior Rugby. The Chairperson declared an interest in Taranaki Diocesan and Eastern Districts Netball. It was discussed that she would remove herself from the conversation and decisions during these items, however a new Chair to replace her was not required.

6. Consideration of Applications

1.1 The current status of available funding from Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund is as follows:

Received July 2024	$9,500.00
Funds returned	$2,239.00
TOTAL	**$11,739.00**
Less	
Advertising	$Nil
TOTAL AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION	**$11,739.00**

6.1 Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund Guidelines – July 2024 – June 2028

6.2 Information Reports

6.2.1 Application Index
6.2.2 Information Report

THAT the report be received.

CHRISTIE/DUDLEY
Carried

Exclude Pembroke School from discussion

6.2.3 Summary of Applications

7.3 Applications for Funding

THAT the following funding allocations be approved.

VINCENT/DICKSON
Carried

6.3.1 Taranaki Diocesan School for Girls .... ~~$5,000~~ $1,000
6.3.2 Eastern Districts Netball .... ~~$1,970~~ $1,970
6.3.3 Stratford High School .... ~~$2,500~~ $1,700
6.3.4 Stratford Eltham Junior Rugby .... ~~$3,000~~ $2,000
6.3.5 Toko School – Basketball .... ~~$320~~ $320
6.3.6 Pembroke School .... ~~$377~~ Nil
6.3.7 Toko and Eastern Districts Junior Rugby Football Club .... ~~$2,500~~ $2,500
6.3.8 Stratford Toa Rugby League Club .... ~~$1,720~~ $1,050
6.3.9 Eastern District Junior Hockey .... ~~$1,000~~ $1,000

Points noted in Discussion:
Taranaki Diocesan School for Girls:
- Mrs Christie noted the application notes there is only one netball team who travel away and they use a school van to travel and they also advise they collect travel money within their subs.
- The District Mayor noted most teams will not be travelling to games, many will be here in Stratford and they will likely walk here.

Stratford High School:
- Mrs Dickson noted most of the money appears to be going to local people, with not a good representation out east.

- The Chair noted the accountability form has been difficult to obtain, and the one recently received relates to an application for 580 children, and includes volleyball and cricket which was not in the application. It is also known that people from Eastern Districts are taking children to these sports, and who's children play in these teams, however these are not on the accountability form.
- It was noted there are double ups in people receiving funding across multiple sports, and many are not affiliated with the school, appear to be coaches etc.
- It was decided the recommendation would be given to Stratford High School to use the accountability form provided, and that it is preferable that the funds are distributed to those who are playing and travelling to games, rather than to the coaches/managers.

Eastern Districts Netball:

- It was discussed granting the full amount as the fund will be covering 5 different teams and covering 5 different schools.

Stratford Toa Rugby League Club:

- It was discussed the application was for one team to travel to their away games, which would be $30 per family per game. It was decided to grant $10 per child, per trip for the 7 away games.

- It was decided to grant all Eastern Districts teams the full amount requested.

7. General Business

- The District Mayor noted this is the last meeting before the elections, which means the committee will go out of existence and then go through the reappointment process, which means there will inevitably be some new people in the mix. He thanked everyone for their contribution, particularly the Chairperson and Mr Vincent for his long service to the committee.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting is Thursday 28 October 2025. It was noted this meeting will need to be formally adopted by Council following the elections.

Closing Karakia

The meeting closed at 3.55pm

Councillor A K Harris
Chairperson

MINUTES

Farm Committee

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

F22/55/05– D25/18159

Date: Tuesday 25 February 2025 at 12noon
Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

Present

Councillor G W Boyde (the Chairman), the District Mayor N C Volzke, Councillors S J Beck and V R Jones.

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In attendance

Deputy Mayor M McKay, Councillors A M C Dudley, W J Sandford and E E Hall.

The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Director – Assets Mrs V Araba, the Director – Environmental Services – Mr B Sutherland, the Director – Assets – Mrs R Johnson, the HR & Governance Administrator – Mrs C Reynolds, the Property and Projects Manager – Mr S Taylor, the Property Officer – Ms R Reader.

1. Welcome

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

1.1 Opening Karakia

The opening karakia was read.

1.2 Health and Safety Message

The Chairman reiterated the health and safety message and emergency procedures.

2. Apologies

There were no apologies.

3. Announcements

There were no announcements.

4. Declarations of Members Interest

The Chairman requested Councillors 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 Farm Committee meetings was attached.

6. Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Farm Committee Meeting – 25 February 2025
D25/5911 Page 9

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Farm Committee Meeting held on 25 February 2025 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

BOYDE/JONES
Carried
F&A/25/11

7. Matters Outstanding
D20/11504 Page 15

Recommendation

THAT the matters outstanding be received.

BECK/JONES
Carried
F&A/25/12

The Chief Executive noted the following points:

- Priorities for where income goes is currently being worked on, and may need to come as a workshop.

8. Programme of Works
D20/28552 Page 14

Recommendation

THAT the Programme of Works be received.

BOYDE/BECK
Carried
F&A/25/13

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Jones noted the farmers report information to Fonterra, is this something which needs to come back to the committee for Elected Members to see, or is this operational. The Property Officer advised she had received notification from Fonterra that the June records need to be updated, and questioned if this is the responsibility of officers of the Sharemilkers, it had been clarified the Sharemilkers have this responsibility. The Chief Executive advised the data fed to Fonterra is operational, but the information which comes back from Fonterra could be brought back to the Farm Committee. The Chairman clarified that this date was already included in reporting by Fonterra that is provided to committee members.

9. Information Report – Price Risk Management Tool - Fonterra

D25/16522 Page 17

Recommendations

THAT the report be received.

Recommended Reason
This report is for information purposes on new milk price fixing tools offered by Fonterra.

JONES/VOLZKE
Carried
F&A/25/14

The Property and Projects Manager noted the following points:

- This is just information for the Farm Committee that Fonterra has created three more tools which can be considered next time milk prices are fixed.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Jones questioned if there was only one application in June, or if there are more throughout the year and who decides and engages on this? He also noted that the report states milk prices were fixed two times previously, and questioned if that is correct. The Chairperson advised he had this conversation with the Chief Executive, and the milk prices have been fixed on other occasions, and Council has not always been better off.
- The Chair noted he believes the opportunity to do fixed milk prices needs to be added as an amendment to the Sharemilkers agreement, as Council currently has very good Sharemilkers, however if in the future there are other sharemilker's who have a bank requesting fixed milk prices this may need to be a discussion between the Chief Executive and Farm Committee.
- The Chief Executive noted it needs to be worked through the fact that the right person needs to make the decision, and take into consideration the quick turnaround which will unlikely allow the Farm Committee to make the decision. It will likely need to be a Chief Executive decision, with professional advice.

10. Decision Report – Risk Management Review

D25/16522 Page 17

Recommendations

THAT the report be received.

Recommended Reason
This report is for information purposes on new milk price fixing tools offered by Fonterra.

BOYDE/JONES
Carried
F&A/25/15

11. Deputation – Aaron and Fiona Riddick

Aaron and Fiona Riddick were unable to attend the meeting.

12. Triannual Report – Farm Business and Financial Report

D25/16573 Page 27

Recommendations

THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/JONES
Carried
F&A/25/16

Recommended Reason
This report provides a business and financial update on the farm activities, and highlights the milk production output for the current season.

The Property Officer noted the following points:
- The paddocks have now been completed, and there is new growth there.
- The farmhouse cottage has been assessed and it has been recommended to remove the wallpaper, and quote to repaint it has been obtained.
- A three year plan to repair the culverts has been made.

Questions/Points of Clarification:
- The Deputy Mayor questioned how the combination of outstanding production and high payout is different to last year. The Chairperson advised last year the farm produced 154,000 milk solids and this year have produced 156,000 milk solids, with less cows this year. He noted sustenance costs have increased, however some incorrect coding has put costs into the incorrect place and will be resolved.
- Councillor Hall questioned that in the future there will be a year which will not be great, are there things to be put in place to put in a buffer for when this time comes. The Chief Executive advised a buffer could be put into the reserve to use at that time, rather than use it all for rates mitigation.

13. Triannual Report – Health and Safety Update

D25/4378 Page 47

Recommendations

THAT the report be received.

BOYDE/BECK
Carried
F&A/25/16

Recommended Reason
This report provides a business and financial update on the farm activities, and highlights the milk production output for the current season.

The Property Officer noted the following points:
- The Health and Safety and Civil Defence advisor will be going to the farm and discussing with the Sharemilkers to ensure all Health and Safety events are reported.

Questions/Points of Clarification:
- Councillor Jones questioned if the worksafe recommendation of a rollbar is an industrial recommendation. The Chairperson advised it is their recommendation, and the Sharemilkers are currently in the process of completing this.

14. Questions

- Councillor Jones questioned if anything further has happened with the forestry. The Chairman explained the previous Property Officer was looking at getting some trees removed which were near the end of their life. The Property Officer will look into this.
- Councillor Beck questioned if the culverts had been replaced. The Property Officer advised the culverts in the upgraded paddock have been replaced.

15. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 36

The closing Karakia was read.

The Meeting Closed at 12.28 pm.

G W Boyde
Chairman

Confirmed this 23rd day of September 2025.

N C Volzke
District Mayor

MINUTES
Policy and Services Committee

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

F22/55/05 – D25/17973

Date: Tuesday 27 May 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 Committee Advisor and Executive Assistant – Mrs E Bishop, the Property and Projects Manager – Mr S Taylor (*part meeting)* the Communications Manager – Ms G Gibson (*part meeting)* the Roading Manager – Mr S Bowden (*part meeting)* the Corporate Accountant – Mrs C Craig (*part meeting),* the Economic and Community Development Manager – Mrs S Afzal (*part meeting),* the Property Officer – Mrs R Reader (*part meeting),* the Aquatic Services Team Leader – Mr D Lee (*part meeting),* the Community Engagement and Development Lead – Mrs A Crane (*part meeting),* the HR & Governance Administrator – Mrs C Reynolds (*part meeting),* Mr A Turner, Mr R Lindsay and Ms M Healey (Taranaki Facilities Consortium) (*part meeting),* Ms T Beard (Cato Balom) (*part meeting)*, Ms M Bourke and Mrs D Clough (Percy Thomson Trust) (*part meeting)* and one member of the media (Stratford Press)

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 apology was received from Councillor C M Tongaawhikau

Recommendation

THAT the apology be received.

HARRIS/HALL
1 against
Carried
P&S/25/68

3. Announcements

The District Mayor reminded councillors that the nomination period for Citizen Awards closes this Friday.

The Deputy Mayor requested that item 11 – Taranaki Regional Aquatics Network Plan, be moved to be the 8th item.

> **Recommendation**
>
> THAT Item 11 Taranaki Aquatics Network Plan be moved to item 8.
>
> BOYDE/BECK
> Carried
> P&S/25/69

4. Declarations of members interest

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

Councillor Dudley and Councillor Hall declared an interest in item 11 – Percy Thomson Trust Statement of Intent. It was noted that both councillors would be participating in the presentation of the Statement of Intent as trustees of the Percy Thomson Trust.

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 – 29 April 2025
D25/14037 Page 12

> **Recommendation**
>
> THAT the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 29 April 2025, to hear and consider submissions to the draft Victoria Park Reserve Management Plan, be confirmed as a true and accurate record.
>
> BOYDE/DUDLEY
> Carried
> P&S/25/70

6.2 Policy and Services Committee –29 April 2025
D25/14030 Page 19

> **Recommendation**
>
> THAT the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 29 April 2025 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.
>
> HALL/ERWOOD
> Carried
> P&S/25/71

7. Matters Outstanding
D16/47 Page 30

Recommendation

THAT the Matters Outstanding be received.

DUDLEY/HALL
Carried
P&S/25/72

The Chief Executive noted the following points:
- A workshop is scheduled for the Pool Business Plan on 10 June.
- Work is underway on the accessibility parking audit and once this is complete then work will begin on the trucks parking on residential street matter.
- The tenders have closed for the next stage of the Flint Road subdivision. Officers will be able to provide a substantive timeframe once a tender has been awarded.
- It is anticipated that the community group funding will be included in the Community Relationships Policy.

It was noted that item 11 had been moved to item 8. Item numbers hereon in are changed accordingly.

8. Decision Report – Taranaki Regional Aquatics Network Plan
D25/15467 Page 76

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

BOYDE/ERWOOD
Carried
P&S/25/73

2. THAT the Taranaki Regional Aquatic Network Plan is adopted.

3. THAT the recommendations within the Taranaki Regional Aquatic Network Plan be adopted with the requested change to *11.1.4, recommendation 16 being moved to the bottom of the table and reworded.*

HARRIS/HALL
1 against
Carried
P&S/25/74

Recommended Reason
Adopting the Taranaki Aquatic Network Plan enables a holistic approach supporting decision making around aquatic facilities both locally and regionally. This allows for the implementation of current best practice approaches that work with and compliments neighbouring Taranaki councils aquatic activity to provide an integrated and connected aquatics network for the region. The recommendations for the Stratford District align with the current

The Aquatic Services Team Leader noted the following points:
- He congratulated the authors and those involved in an extensive survey of what is available in the region.
- The plan has brought to attention the interconnectedness of all the facilities and the cooperative environment of all facilities including council owned, school owned and community run pools.
- He noted that all the water space in Wai o Rua should be classified as swim development space.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Jones noted that page 17 (page 87 in agenda) of the plan talked about the recommendations and included to investigate a regional approach to the management and operation of aquatic centres. He asked what this could look like and what costs would be involved? Mr Lindsay noted that this was noting there is an opportunity to investigate whether councils could operate as a regional entity but there had not been any investigations done as part of this report. He noted council's were already sharing services.
- It was clarified that the Aquatic Network Plan Implementation group was recommended to ensure the plan is not forgotten about. It would bring together people from across the region, most likely pool operators or council officers, on a regular basis to discuss what could be implemented and other focuses from the plan. This is how a plan can progress. Ms Healey clarified that there would be funds set aside to fund this group, however if any projects or particular issues arose then discussion would be required on where those costs might fall. Any projects would need to be considered during council's Annual or Long Term Plans.
- Councillor Boyde noted that he had initially felt that there was a big focus on a regional group running our pool, however he acknowledged that this had been explained today as working more as a collective group which we are doing. He asked if the implementation group will report back to council? Mr Lindsay explained there will be members at officers level and a terms of reference developed and that will determine what the work plan and reporting levels will look like.
- Mr Turner noted that the recommendations within the plan were only suggestions and there was nothing mandatory within it. This is about finding opportunities for synergies and doing things in a collaborative way, he clarified that any funds for projects will still be a council decision through the Annual and Long Term Plan processes.
- Councillor Boyde noted it was great to see the plan really highlighting how great our facility is.
- Councillor Hall asked where the relationship with Taranaki Swimming has evolved to? Mr Lee noted that there is a good relationship with Taranaki Swimming and the Stratford Flyers Swimming Club. He noted relationships with New Plymouth and South Taranaki District Council's is already really strong as well as collaboration at officer level. He confirmed that we have held regional events at the facility, including an upcoming event for Surf Life NZ which is an interclub event. Mr Hanne noted that the clubs have financial restrictions and shop around for a facility that meets their requirements and within their budgets, this means council needs to weigh up where their fees and charges are in comparison to the other facilities.
- It was clarified that South Taranaki District Council has approved this plan at an officer level and New Plymouth District Council will be discussing it after the elections. It was noted this was presented as a final document and there were no anticipated changes from the other councils, especially given that staff from all of the councils had been part of this journey. The District Mayor noted his concern with the recommendation to investigate a regional approach, he understood this was described as collaborating and shared services but as those words were not included he asked if there was an opportunity to clarify this is about shared services and collaboration as the word 'management' implies that we may hand over the facility. This was supported by elected members with the recommendation for adoption updated to reflect the change to be made to *Recommendation 1 under 1.1.1 (page 7 of the plan)*
    - Move to the bottom row and update wording ensuring it reflects the discussion held today.
- Councillor Beck noted he had struggled only being presented with this document on Thursday and had not heard of it before. He felt it was rushed. He noted he liked suggestions such as exploring solar power. Ms Healey noted the network plan is an opportunity to bring together a document that provides the data and insight into what the network may look like in the future.

The Community and Engagement Lead left the meeting at 3.33pm.

- Councillor Harris noted that Stratford District Council staff had been involved in the development of the plan which is highlighted within it.
- It was requested that the updated table be provided alongside the minutes to full council before it adopts the recommendation by the committee.

Mr Turner, Mr Lindsay, Ms Healey and the Aquatic Services Team Leader left the meeting at 3.37pm.

9. Decision Report – Prospero Place Development

D25/15985 Page 31

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

JONES/HARRIS
Carried
P&S/25/75

2. THAT this committee approves and releases the draft design for community feedback, as per **Option 2** of this report, with or without amendments.

BOYDE/DUDLEY
Carried
P&S/25/76

Recommended Reason
To seek and collate community feedback on this high profile project.

The Property and Projects Manager noted the following points:

- This report is to present the latest design for Prospero Place and seek opinions and decisions on some of the features before releasing the design to the community to collate feedback.
- There were four issues identified in the stakeholder feedback being slippery pavers, the covered walkway, vehicle entrance and positioning of the multifunctional platform.

Ms Beard presented the updated design and noted the following points:

- She reminded councillors that prior to starting the design layout they had looked at the site constraints and previous designs for the area. Constraints include the state highway, the laneway behind the businesses and the pavers. They had undertaken a traffic and pedestrian assessment count to understand the usage of the area. She noted opportunities for the area included the big blank wall, a fantastic open flat space for events and activities, an active frontage from the library, gallery and café and the overall opportunity to create a hub.
- How the existing site was functioning in terms of layout was looked at, the big canopy on Broadway was noted as having worn signage and a lot of posts which were not an inviting entrance to the area and the canopy does not serve the purpose it once did. The furniture on the site is a lot of different materials and colours and the surface issues needed to be looked at.
- There were four different layouts presented for consideration in March and elected members chose the third option to proceed with. The design was developed a little more and presented to key stakeholders.

The HR and Governance Advisor joined the meeting at 3.43pm.

- Engagement occurred with the Stratford District Youth Council, businesses and a brief meeting with iwi from who feedback will be ongoing.
- The design presented in the report contains the majority of the features from the previous two plans but incorporates a multiplatform stage which can be a viewing platform and seating area as well as a stage for performances.
- The design showed a much better view of the glockenspiel with the removal of the canopy.
- The team will be investigating representing iwi at the entrances of the site, but this will be ongoing consultation and be developed further.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Ms Beard noted the design tries to keep lighting quite low, bollard lighting along the main footpath and 5 lamp columns along the path as well as low lighting along the current pathway. This proposal comes from ADLT who are working on this project. A lux level survey has been done and the proposed lighting will create sufficient light.
- Bollards will be included at each entry point.
- It was clarified that once the plan and design is finalised and final materials confirmed then officers will be able to start looking at on-going maintenance costs. Mr Taylor noted that Cato Bolam had done an exceptional job of keeping the budget in mind when doing the design. Ms Beard noted that the design will be for natives that are low maintenance with evergreens that won't loose their leaves which will stop the issues we currently face.

- The District Mayor noted there was no seating in the lawn area and he noted he observes the regular and consistent use of the current picnic tables. Ms Beard noted the space has been structured for events rather than cluttering with furniture, however there are picnic benches between the library and the play area as well as along the plaza. She suggested temporary furniture could also be used and deployed for different times.
- Councillor Sandford noted he did not agree with getting rid of the canopy or the planting along the edge of the footpath on Broadway as he felt people will walk straight through and cause damage. Ms Beard noted there are four entrances but that the plantings were to discourage children from running through onto the road. She suggested mini retained edges to make it less easy to just walk through. She clarified that during the pedestrian assessment they had witnessed a child running straight through and out towards the road so the planting is a visual deterrent.
- Councillor Harris noted she liked the design but noted the descriptions of modern and trendy are nice to have elements, but it was important to portray to the community that we are being mindful of costs for both the capital and the maintenance.

Ms Beard left the meeting at 4.01pm.

10. Decision Report – Request for Council Support for Royal A&P Show 2025

D25/10604 Page 42

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

HARRIS/McKAY
Carried
P&S/25/78

2. ~~THAT Council considers one or more of the options of support to the Stratford Agricultural & Pastural Association for the upcoming Royal Agricultural & Pastural Show NZ~~.

Recommended Reason
The Stratford Agricultural & Pastural Association's Royal Agricultural & Pastural Show aligns with Council's community and economic development goals and leverages an existing relationship with a key community organisation.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- The Community and Economic Development Manager noted the street flags would be funded from existing promotional budgets.

Points noted in discussion:

- Councillor Beck noted the A&P Show brings in a lot of people to Stratford and he would like to see council supporting this through advisory support, flags and a $10,000 cash contribution.
- Councillor Boyde agreed with a cash contribution noting that council had given $20,000 to the national kapa haka event, however this has an absolute return to our community. He supported advisory support, street flags and a $10,000 contribution.
- It was clarified that any cash contribution will be an overspend on existing budgets.

Recommendations

2. THAT Council provides Advisory Support (option 1), provision and installation of street flags (option 2) and $10,000 cash contribution (option 3) to the Stratford Agricultural & Pastural Association for the upcoming Royal Agricultural & Pastural Show NZ.

BOYDE/BECK
Division
6 for
5 against
Carried
P&S/25/79

- Councillor Harris supported the project and event and noted it is enormous for our district. But she felt there were other elements of the financial contribution option that should be considered such as traffic management. She asked what financial implications did option 1 and 2 have? Mr Hanne noted it would be staff time for advisory services and the flags would be provided from an existing budget, there is currently an allowance for replacement flags which has not been utilised yet, flags cost between $5,000 to $6,000. Councillor Harris noted she wanted to support the event but was conscious of overspending and felt there were other ways to provide support other than cash.
- It was clarified that traffic management would be an externally incurred cost.
- It was clarified that there was a Royal Event being held in the South Island and one in the North Island.
- The District Mayor supported Option 1 and 2 but felt very conscious of an overspend with a cash contribution on an event we had not planned to do, he felt the examples of how the cash contribution could be spent were really unfortunate such as hosting dignitaries. He noted he was reluctant to provide cash but supported providing in-kind services. Councillor Dudley agreed, noting cash contributions opens up for others to ask for it as well.
- Councillor Hall noted that they had stated during the public forum they would be fine and carry on if they did not receive funding from council. She noted there are a couple of options that show our support while not providing cash funding.

A division was called.

Those voting for the motion: Councillors Beck, Boyde, Erwood, Sandford, Jones and Watt

Those voting against the motion: Councillors Dudley, Harris and Hall, the Deputy Mayor and the District Mayor.

The Communications Manager left the meeting at 4.15pm.

Councillors Hall and Dudley left the table at 4.18pm. Further participation in the presentation of the Statement Of Intent is undertaken in their roles as trustees of the Percy Thomson Trust,.

11. Decision Report – Percy Thomson Trust – Final Statement of Intent 2025-2028

D25/15586 Page 47

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

SANDFORD/ERWOOD
Carried
2 abstained
P&S/25/80

2. THAT Council adopt the second draft as the final Statement of Intent for Percy Thomson Trust for the period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2028

~~Or~~

~~THAT Council decline the Statement of Intent and respond with areas for improvement.~~

JONES/ERWOOD
1 against
Carried
P&S/25/81

Recommended Reason
In terms of Schedule 8 of the Local Government Act 2002 Percy Thomson Trust, being a Council Controlled Organisation, must adopt a final Statement of Intent on or before 30 June 2025.

The Corporate Accountant noted that this report seeks adoption of the updated Statement of Intent, the report covers what has happened to date and comments on the final statement of intent.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Boyde questioned if there were any particular areas of concern from the information provided so far? Mrs Craig noted the areas of concern were within the report and were the external funding and expenditure related to that, the investments and liquidating of the property investments and the expected return from that. The District Mayor clarified the officers report raises questions and it was not fair to expect the officer to provide the answers to the questions she has raised. Mr Hanne clarified the report highlighted areas that grant funding is expected to undertake essential work. He noted councils process would be to allocate funding to those activities as they are essential and hope to have an underspend due to external funding received, rather than making them reliant on external funding and potentially then having an overspend.

The Chair and trustees of the Percy Thomson Trust presented the Statement of Intent. In presenting to the committee the chair of the trust noted the following points:

- The Statement of Intent is a living document and if trustees do their job right it will evolve with the 6 monthly reporting requirements keeping councillors aware of changes.
- The investment policy was the only outstanding item from the draft being presented to the Audit and Risk Committee. The changes have been made to the policy including changes to the criteria for investments, the philosophy and utilisation of Craigs Investments who have been engaged to manage the investment portfolios.
- She noted her cover letter covered the repairs and maintenance budget line that has been informed by the asset audit which was identified in the 6 monthly report.
- The external funding for gallery operations had a zero budget in the last budget, this has been moved to better reflect our plans for external funding. There is no expenditure against this as it will be dependent on funding.
- In the event there is no external money then the trust will be looking to fund the work required, in particular the building and maintenance, from their own funds. They feel it is prudent to ensure the building is up to scratch and while they understand this is unsustainable they are looking forward to exploring grant opportunities for the trust over the next 12 months.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Boyde noted he had read the future options report within the Trust's meeting agenda. He noted he could see what the trust is doing by separating away from council. He noted at the March Audit and Risk meeting it was raised in the 6 monthly report that the property investment is $395k, he asked how Percy Thomson will get the $500k out of the investments, and if only $395k was achieved and no external funding found then that will leave only $267k for re-investing. It is a massive concern to hear you say you are using reserves if you can't get external funding, but at this rate of money going out, in 2 years time will we even have a gallery? He also noted that the future options report states that the trust will take 3 monthly reports to council, he asked if monthly was better as he understood from the last 2 months there has been about a $25k loss.
- The Chair of the Trust noted that they are working through a divestment plan that sees the trust coming out of 5 holdings and how they come out of those depends on a number of things but they are trying to maximise their return between now and the end of June 2026. She stated they did not pull the $500k figure out of nowhere but they don't know what they will end up with in the end, the goal is to liquidate the investments and put more into a portfolio. She noted the future options report and the work that the trust has been doing. They want to be reporting quarterly in relation to the statement of intent and the work they are doing to foster the relationship with council as a shareholder. She noted the trust currently only receives financial reports bi-monthly.
- Councillor Boyde asked if once an external arrangement is in place could councillors see the finances monthly? Trustee Dudley noted this could be possible from August once it is all set up and ready to go.
- Councillor Boyde noted that he did not agree with maximising the returns to get the figure of $500k, although he hoped this figure would be correct. The trust still seems to be bleeding money at a great rate and leaning on the term investments to cover that. This genuinely needs to stop. He asks if the figures in the budget are realistic.
- Councillor Watt noted the letter of expectation asked for an analysis of the trust's current investments. He asked if this is being prepared and a timeline for when this will be brought back? He also noted that digging into the $500k to cover the deficit could leave the final amount below the threshold Craigs Investments have for managed portfolios. Trustee Bourke noted the analysis has been undertaken as part of a whole strategic planning exercise earlier in the year. She noted this conversation around the portfolio has been held with Craigs Investments who specialise in working with organisations like theirs and they are happy working with smaller amounts.
- It was noted that Craigs Investments have worked with the trust to build the information and produce the $500k figure.

- The District Mayor noted there was $130k allocated in the budget for repairs and maintenance, which includes the $20,000 from previous years for the small requirements plus a top up for major repairs to the external cladding. If external funding is not received then it will come out of the trust's funds. If these don't receive grant funding the trust is effectively looking to spend $180k that it doesn't have so it will dip into reserves which shows there is about $93,000 in cash at the moment. He asked how the trust proposed to work through that when it does not have the cash right now? The Chair of the Trust noted that they will not be doing any major work without having the cash to pay for it. It will only happen once the investments are liquidated. The divestment phase is likely to be two phases and there are two items that are likely to be divested quite easily. It is all in motion at the moment.
- Councillor Boyde noted in the trust's minutes the HVAC system remains unreliable and an IT system is needed, has that been added in? The Chair of the Trust noted they were still working through an investigation of the air conditioning system as they are very aware of the need for it, however they do not know what they are requiring for this at this stage.
- The District Mayor noted the report makes reference to the amount currently allocated for secretarial services, he asked if this was a cash amount and while he was aware there had been significant changes to these services he asked if there was any certainty around this? Trustee Bourke noted the decision made at the last trust meeting reflects the recommendations in the report and the trust is confident it will be able to manage those services at around the stated sum. She noted the other driving factor is items such as monthly financial reporting and the trust being able to operate and be more responsive in the work it does.
- The District Mayor clarified that the explanations are within the cover letter, however the recommendation is adopting the Statement of Intent and not the cover letter. The Chair of the Trust noted the cover letter gives clarification around the items in the Statement of Intent. The trust is moving quite quickly on certain items but it all lines up with what is in the Statement of Intent.
- Councillor Boyde asked if council declined the Statement of Intent would it respond to the trust immediately, or would there be a workshop to work out the expectations? Mr Hanne noted either was possible and council can give a one off extension for the Statement of Intent to the end of July.
- The District Mayor noted that part of the issue is the cost of running the Percy Thomson Trust and these are increasing but the income stream is not matching it so it needs a top up from council or another funding source. If the trend continues then the trust will run out of funds at some point unless there is a major intervention at some point as it does not stack up commercially. He noted he did not know what else council could ask the trust to do to justify not adopting the Statement of Intent.
- The Deputy Mayor noted that when the trustees were appointed to the trust council did it knowing there would be a short period of time that trustees needed to look at the trust in its entirety knowing that in the next LTP we might need to look at different ways they could operate. They have been given that time to consider different options moving forward, they have received the letter of expectation and provided the Statement of Intent so they can get on and get it done and come back with how they will get it back on track or on a better path moving forward.
- Councillor Boyde noted if they were asked for a monthly report and given parameters around the information council was wanting to see then we will know if there is a turn around. There is a fundamental shift away from council and he agreed council had appointed these trustees but the trust was bleeding money. Trustee Dudley noted they do not receive the financials monthly, unless the council opts to do more for the trust then they cannot give this information before August. Mr Hanne noted this was the first time officially he had heard that the financial services were leaving council. He was aware that the minute taking had been taken out for a 3 month trial period so making any changes to how council officers operate would be immaterial, he noted that Percy Thomson Trust is in the same audit period as council so the advice would be that it would be borderline impossible to change financial control partway through a financial year. It will now be up to the trust to provide the financial reports as council will no longer be in the picture. Trustee Dudley confirmed the trust could supply this from August.
- Councillor Boyde reiterated that there had been a $10,000 and a $15,000 loss over the last two months.
- Councillor Jones noted he was happy to let the trustees get on with their job and given the money was given to the trust for a purpose, if they hit a wall they hit a wall. If its gone in 3 years because its not viable then its gone. Council can't take that money off them so we need to give them the confidence to move forward. He did not think the financial reports would achieve any benefit.
- Councillor Boyde noted it was about monitoring so if it falls into council ownership then there is something left.
- Councillor Erwood noted the trustees are appointed to do a job and felt they should be able to do that job.
- Councillor Harris supported the motion to enable the trust to move forward. It is a living document with a number of factors that could change. She did not doubt the trustees could see the issues that have been highlighted today, she felt we needed to move forward and looked forward to seeing some sort of resolution.
- Councillor Boyde noted he did not support the motion.

Councillors Hall and Dudley returned to the table at 4.59pm.

The Percy Thomson Trust trustees, the Community and Economic Development Manager, the Communications Manager, the HR & Governance Administrator and the Corporate Accountant left the meeting at 4.59pm.

The meeting adjourned at 4.59pm and reconvened at 5.08pm.,
The Roading Asset Manager joined the meeting at 5.08pm.

12. Decision Report – Rates Remission Application – Excessive Water Use Due To A Leak

D25/14092 Page 241

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

HARRIS/ERWOOD
Carried
P&S/25/82

2. THAT Council gives consideration under Clause 9 of the Rates Remission Policy to remit water use lost due to a leak.

3. THAT Council approves the application for a rate remission due to a leak.

BOYDE/HARRIS
Carried
P&S/25/83

Recommended Reason
Council Policy allows for rate remission due to a leak to be considered, if the water loss was out of their control. As detailed below, once the occupiers were made aware of the leak they were proactive addressing the leak.

The Services Manager noted that *Figure 1* in the report was not correct and presented the correct graph.

13. Monthly Reports

13.1 Assets Report

D25/15368 Page 246

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

McKAY/ERWOOD
Carried
P&S/25/84

The Director – Assets noted the following points:

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Boyde noted that the farm had had a record year in production with less cows. This is a great result and he complimented the sharemilkers.

The Services Manager and Property Officer left the meeting at 5.10pm.

13.2 Community Services Report
D25/14557 Page 269

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

BOYDE/ERWOOD
Carried
P&S/25/85

The Chief Executive noted the swimming pool shutdown noted in the report had been rescheduled to the summer period because of ground water issues and ensuring it is done at the safest time.

Questions/Points of Clarification:
- Councillor Hall noted the had been $30,237 requested from the Creative Communities Funding scheme with only $11,000 to award. She noted a couple of applications did not meet the criteria but some really cool initiatives were funded.

13.3 Corporate Services Report
D25/16734 Page278

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

HARRIS/DUDLEY
Carried
P&S/25/86

Questions/Points of Clarification:
- Councillor Boyde noted there was $7.1million of capital expenditure to carry forward and asked if this was related to timing or was council struggling to deliver the projects on time due to resourcing? The Director – Assets noted that the value represents the complex projects that are to be delivered and that the design process has taken more time than expected. Part of this capital expenditure is for the subdivision for which tenders are currently being assessed. The Grit Tank is a major design project and it is taking a bit of time. She noted it was only the complex projects that make up the carry forwards. She noted that the assets team have had to deliver 80 projects this year and most have been completed, what this represents is the remaining few that are high value projects.
- Councillor Jones identified a discrepancy with the variance for the total cost of activities and the budget vs actuals. The Director – Corporate Services will ensure the formula in the spreadsheet is correct.
- It was clarified that the outstanding debtors, water billing, included one significant debtor.
- The District Mayor noted that the A&P Association noted the piece of land that they have sold will settle once the title has been issued and they will then make a payment towards reducing the loan.

13.4 Environmental Services Report
D25/12945 Page 296

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

BOYDE/DUDLEY
Carried
P&S/25/87

The Director – Environmental Services noted the legislation changes have been included in this report to ensure councillors are informed as to how this is tracking.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Boyde noted the building act reforms section says there is potential for liability issues with the way the act is looking. Mr Sutherland noted there are some liability issues that will need to be considered but there is no further information on this as yet.

14. Questions

- Councillor Beck asked how many submissions had been received for the Local Water Done Well consultation. It was noted that prior to the meeting starting today there had been 61 received.

15. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 303

The closing karakia was read.

The meeting closed at 5.24pm.

M McKay
Chairman

Confirmed this 24th day of June 2025.

N C Volzke
District Mayor

Taranaki Aquatics Network Plan amendment as requested:

Below is the original text:

Recommendation	Approach
Investigate a regional approach to the management and operation of aquatic centres.	Complete a review of aquatic centre management and operations in the region with a view to maximising network functionality, operational efficiency and financial sustainability. The review should consider: • The prioritisation of environmental sustainability initiatives to increase operational efficiencies • Current good practice in the region • Operational issues and opportunities • Ways to work together, such as a regional approach to the operations management of aquatic facilities • The full range of management options available. • Regional workforce training, recruitment and resourcing initiatives • Consistent collection of facility and participation data to inform future decision making and research

Below is the adjustment to the text:

Recommendation	Approach
Investigate opportunities for regional collaboration and shared services	As a region, actively network and share information on effective aquatic centre management and operations with a view to maximising network functionality, operational efficiency and financial sustainability. Areas to consider could include: • Regional workforce training, recruitment and resourcing initiatives • The prioritisation of environmental sustainability initiatives to increase operational efficiencies • Current good practice in the region • Consistent collection of facility and participation data to inform future decision making and research • Collaboration on operational issues and opportunities

MONTHLY REPORT
District Mayor

F22/55/04-D25/19640

To:	Council
From:	District Mayor
Date:	13 June 2025
Subject:	District Mayor Monthly Report – May 2025

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

/
Moved/Seconded

1. Local Water Done Well Consultation

The consultation period for the Local Water Done Well reform is now closed. I attended each of the four drop in sessions held at the library and thought they were valuable and worthwhile. Numbers averaged about ten people per session, the people were very engaged and asked great questions. Those who supported Option B raised some genuine and common concerns about the regional model that I sense would be supported by many in the community. These issues will be raised for consideration at our hearing through the written submissions process.

The only evening public meeting was very poorly attended, which is a consistent theme in recent years with other consultation events, however from an elected members perspective, I think it is still important to provide the opportunity for people to engage in as many ways as possible.

At the time of writing this report, the number of submissions received was approaching 190 which is a very pleasing response. This far exceeds the number received for other consultations like Annual Plan and Long Term Plan. With only the public hearing to follow, the consultation stage is almost behind us.

2. Meeting with Minister Simeon Brown

The Minister of Health Simeon Brown visited Taranaki last week and met with the regions three Mayors. In his former roles as Transport, Energy and Local Government minister he was a frequent visitor but this was his first in his health portfolio. The Minister announced a further $59 million funding towards the completion and commissioning of the new building at Base Hospital and expressed his support for the new build and his desire to have the facilities in use next year.

We discussed access to medical services for rural communities and he was aware and supportive of the model of practice that Coastal Medical is providing at the Stratford Health Centre. The new walk in clinic has enabled many locals to access treatment in Stratford and avoids the travel to New Plymouth, relieving the pressure on New Plymouth clinics and at the Emergency Department. The Minister is very willing to hear suggestions that have a positive impact on the delivery of health services. I raised the issue of lengthy delays (up to 3 months) in having X-Rays read and I was pleased to learn that he was already aware of this and had made changes that quickly resolved the problem. X Ray results are now being processed in the standard turn around time of two or three days.

3. Mt Messenger Site Visit

Last month, courtesy of NZTA, I had the privilege of joining a small group on a site visit to the Mt Messenger SH3 Project. From an engineering perspective this project is amazing and many of the parts that make up this project are the most complex and most difficult ever undertaken in this country. An example is the huge cableway that is used to lift all materials, machinery and people into the valley where the new road and tunnel are being constructed. The enormity and complexity of the project is what struck me most, perhaps best explained by saying that there is around 15 individual projects going on simultaneously and eventually they will all link up sections to form the new highway.

We had the opportunity to enter the new tunnel that is being drilled through the papa rock. At this time, the tunnel is about 45 meters in and has about 300 meters to go before busting through on the northern side. The tunnel is large enough to fit over size vehicles, including house transporters. The health and safety systems being applied across this project are a standout feature and are taken very seriously by everybody, obviously necessary in a high risk environment like this. All in all, we had an awesome visit and gained a good understanding of where the project is at..

4. ROBUS Annual General Meeting

The "good ole boys" who make up the membership of the Stratford Robus club are a great bunch of men who meet monthly to share camaraderie and debate the issues of the day. Recently, I had the pleasure of being the guest speaker at their Annual General Meeting and took the opportunity to talk about Local Water Done Well. I was pleased to be reminded of their passion for this community and the parochialism that prevails, including their long memories of the hospital closure and the withdrawal of government agencies from this area. Most of the concerns raised around the water reforms were echoed by other people who attended our library drop in sessions. About forty people were in attendance.

5. Community House Annual General Meeting

The Community House continues to function well and the demand on space remains strong. It strikes me that the facility tends to fly under the radar a little and many people in the community don't know much about it or the services that are provided from the building. It is important that the social services based there continue to be available in Stratford and the Trust continues to provide a fit for purpose facility. At present the Community House is well positioned to continue on with the delivery of services that meet the needs of this community. Thank you to the trustees and staff.

6. Taranaki Civil Defence Joint Committee meeting

The Taranaki Civil Defence Management Joint Committee met on 15 May 2025. Minutes of the meeting can be found on the Taranaki Regional Council website

7. Correspondence

- Stratford Volunteer Fire Brigade Call Outs – May 2025
- Department of Internal Affairs – Publication of local government metrics

8. Some Events Attended

- Attended – Local Water Done Well Drop in sessions (x4)
- Attended – ROBUS Annual General Meeting (guest speaker)
- Attended – meeting of the Stratford District Youth Council
- Attended – Community House Annual General Meeting
- Attended – Taranaki Civil Defence Joint Committee meeting
- Attended – meeting of Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund Committee
- Attended – Local Water Done Well evening public meeting
- Attended – meeting of the Stratford Park Steering Committee
- Attended – NZTA Tour of SH3 Mt Messenger Project site visit
- Attended – Positive Aging Forum
- Attended – meeting of the Stratford Health Trust (x1)
- Met – with representatives of the Percy Thomson Trust
- Met – with representatives of the Ostlers Trust
- Met – with Minister Simeon Brown
- 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 (x2)
- Attended - Council Pre-Agenda meetings (x3)

- Attended – Council Workshop (x3)
- Attended – Public Forum (x1)
- Attended - Council Meetings (x4)

N C Volzke JP
District Mayor **Date**: 4 June 2025

Stratford Volunteer Fire Brigade Callouts May 2025
The Stratford Fire Brigade responded to 23 calls in May 2025

05-05-25	Motor vehicle accident car vs. wall Flint Road stood down before leaving the station
05-05-25	Alarm activation Elizabeth R Life Care and Village Elizabeth Grove
06-05-25	Alarm activation Stratford High School Swansea Road
06-05-25	Assist ambulance with medical call Elizabeth Grove
08-05-25	Alarm activation Stratford Primary School Regan Street
09-05-25	Meter board fire Barleymans Road assisted by the Toko fire brigade
11-05-25	Motor vehicle accident Broadway North outside Woolworths stood down before arrival
12-05-25	Tanker required Hedge fire Mokoia Road Mokoia Tanker did not respond
12-05-25	Motor vehicle accident car vs. bank Mountain Road outside Stratford Abattoirs
13-05-25	Person stuck in toilet Egmont National Park Pembroke Road stood down before arrival
13-05-25	Motor vehicle accident car vs. power pole Regan Street
13-05-25	Alarm activation Stratford High School Swansea Road
22-05-25	Alarm activation Elizabeth R Life Care and Village Elizabeth Grove
22-05-25	Alarm activation Stratford High School Swansea Road
23-05-25	Investigate smoke Regan Street 1 Hangi being cooking
23-05-25	Investigate smoke Hamlet Street
24-05-25	Investigate residential smoke alarm sounding Portia Street
25-05-25	Special Service assist member of the public at New World Stratford
26-05-25	Motor vehicle accident car vs. power pole Mountain Road Midhirst assisted by the Inglewood fire brigade
30-05-25	Investigate residential alarm activation Hamlet Street
30-05-25	Water tanker required house fire Kaihihi Road Okato assist Okato, Oakura and New Plymouth fire brigades
30-05-25	Rural tanker required trees on fire Hunt Road Mokoia assist Hawera and Kohi fire brigades
31-05-25	Motor vehicle accidents, All- terrain vehicle in ditch outside Whangamomona Hotel assist Toko fire brigade

Internal Affairs
Te Tari Taiwhenua

21 May 2025

Tēnā koutou katoa

Publication of local government metrics

In August 2024, the Government announced measures to refocus councils in response to cost of living concerns. The Prime Minister articulated this as a concern about rising rates, a desire that council spending concentrates on core services and infrastructure, and that the efficiency of decision-making is improved.

In November, Cabinet approved proposals included in the Local Government (System Improvements) Amendment Bill. This Bill lays the foundation for a new council performance measurement framework.

The overarching objectives of the performance measurement project are to ensure that information about how councils are performing is readily accessible in a central location, consistent and comparable.

The Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) will publish a set of council profiles on its website annually, including key performance metrics for each council, with the first release scheduled for 30 June 2025. The initial profiles will include metrics relating to financial performance. Other metrics and benchmarks will be added in future years, following some changes to council reporting requirements in law, to provide greater context and a more complete picture of council performance.

The initial set of metrics is based on already-public data from sources including your annual reports and long-term plans. They have been developed in collaboration with a working group of local government experts. Council profiles will be accompanied by a guide and glossary to provide contextual information about each metric. To list a few examples, the guide will include concise explanations about the necessity of debt, the impacts of a high growth population, relevance of land area, and the roles and responsibilities of different council types.

On Tuesday 3 June 2025, you will receive a draft version of your council's profile, along with the metrics guide and glossary. While we have undertaken a comprehensive quality assurance process to ensure the validity of all data, you will have until Friday 13 June 2025 to double-check that the data provided for your council is correct. The metrics guide will include a methodology section, stating where data was sourced from and how it was calculated, to assist your data-checking process.

If you encounter any inconsistencies during your data-checking process, please contact us by 13 June at LGdata@dia.govt.nz

Additionally, this early look at your council's profile and metrics will give your own communications team the chance to prepare for the 30 June launch.

Ngā mihi
Richard Ward

General Manager, Local Government Policy, Partnerships and Operations
Department of Internal Affairs
Richard.Ward@dia.govt.nz

021 182 6149

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.

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