TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O
WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Our reference
F19/13/03-D21/26182

8 May 2025

Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Audit and Risk Committee will meet in the **Council Chambers, Stratford District Council, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford** on ***Tuesday 13 May 2025*** beginning at **11.00am.**

The Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held at 3.30pm.

Timetable for 13 May 2025 as follows:

11.00am	Audit and Risk Committee
1.00pm	Workshop - Insurance
3.00pm	Public Forum - Taranaki Enviroschools - Sport Taranaki
3.30pm	Ordinary Meeting of Council

Yours faithfully

Sven Hanne
Chief Executive

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

2025 - Agenda - Ordinary - May

13 May 2025 03:30 PM

Agenda Topic — Page

AGENDA
Ordinary Meeting of Council

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

F22/55/05 – D25/14812

Date: 13 May 2025 at 3.30 PM
Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

1. Welcome

1.1 Opening Karakia
D21/40748 Page 10

1.2 Health and Safety Message
D21/26210 Page11

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 12

Attendance schedule for Ordinary and Extraordinary Council meetings.

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.

/
Moved/Seconded

6.1.1 Public Forum Notes
D25/12342 Page 18

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

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.

/
Moved/Seconded

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.

/
Moved/Seconded

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.

/
Moved/Seconded

7. District Mayor's Report

D25/15585 Page 43

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

/
Moved/Seconded

8. Decision Report – Adopt Annual Plan 2025/26

D25/14831 Page 46

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

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.

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.

/
Moved/Seconded

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.

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 2024/25 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.

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.

/
Moved/Seconded

10. Public Forum Response

Speaker: Michael Carr, Sport Taranaki
Response:

Speaker: Lauree Jones, Taranaki Enviroschools
Response:

11. Questions

12. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 204

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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	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Annette Dudley	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Jono Erwood	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Ellen Hall	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Amanda Harris	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Vaughan Jones	A	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Min McKay	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
John Sandford	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Clive Tongaawhikau	A	A	✓	A	✓						
Mathew Watt	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						

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

MINUTES
Ordinary

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

F22/55/05 – D25/12103

Date: 8 April 2025 at 3.35 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, G W Boyde, A M C Dudley, J M S Erwood, E E Hall, 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 – Community Services – Ms K Whareaitu, the Committee Advisor and Executive Assistant – Mrs E Bishop, the HR & Governance Administrator – Mrs C Reynolds, one member of the Media (Stratford Press) and three members of the public.

1. Welcome

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

The opening karakia was read.

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

2. Apologies

An apology was received from Councillor C M Tongaawhikau

Recommendation

THAT the apology be received.

HALL/HARRIS
Carried
CL/25/22

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.

Councillor Dudley noted her perceived conflict of interest with the adoption of the Audit and Risk minutes due to the inclusion within the recommendations of the Percy Thomson Trust Statement of Intent. It was agreed that this did not require a declaration of interest as it was only confirmation of minutes and not the discussion pertaining to the item within.

5. Attendance Schedule

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

6. Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Ordinary Meeting of Council – 11 March 2025
D25/8014 Page 8

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 11 March 2025 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

BOYDE/BECK
Carried
CL/25/23

6.1.1 Public Forum – 11 March 2025
D25/8020 Page 13

The notes from the public forum held on Tuesday 11 March were attached for council's information.

6.2 Audit and Risk Committee – 18 March 2025
D25/8796 Page 15

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on Tuesday 18 March 2025 be received.

VOLZKE/McKAY
Carried
CL/25/24

Points noted in discussion:

- The District Mayor noted the discussion regarding the Percy Thomson Trust Statement of Intent. He was aware the trust had adopted the updated Investment Policy and the recommendations within these minutes request that this be brought back to council with the final Statement of Intent document. He proposed a further request be added to this relating to the discussion around the budgets, particularly if the external funding within the budgets is not received.

Recommendation

THAT Council requests further information to be provided with the final Statement of Intent from the Percy Thompson Trust on the budget for the 2025/26 financial year, with a focus on the external funding provisions included within.

VOLZKE/BOYDE
Carried
CL/25/25

- Councillor Boyde asked if this would be received at the next committee meeting and it was clarified that it was dependent on the Trust when the document and information requested is presented back to council.

Recommendations

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on Tuesday 18 March 2025 be adopted.

McKAY/BECK
Carried
CL/25/26

6.3 Policy and Services Committee – 25 March 2025
D25/9722 Page 23

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 25 March 2025 be received.

ERWOOD/SANDFORD
Carried
CL/25/27

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 25 March 2025 be adopted.

HALL/JONES
Carried
CL/25/28

6.3.1 Updated Water Demand Policy
D25/3215 Page 32

The updated policy following changes made by the Policy and Services Committee was attached for council's information.

6.3.2 Updated Water Supply to Rural Properties Policy
D25/2065 Page 34

The updated policy following changes made by the Policy and Services Committee was attached for council's information.

Points noted in discussion:

- The Chief Executive noted the updated policies highlighted the changes requested by elected members at the meeting.
- The Water Demand Management Policy had been presented with tabled options for inclusion and the one that was chosen is now in the document.
- The Water Supply to Rural Properties has been updated to distinguish between new and existing connections and remove the negative phrasing. Councillor Boyde congratulated officers on the wording within the policy and felt the changes alleviated the concerns raised.

7. District Mayor's Report

D25/7233 Page 35

Recommendation

<u>THAT</u> the report be received.

VOLZKE/HARRIS
<u>Carried</u>
<u>CL/25/29</u>

The District Mayor noted the following points:

- The sealing of SH43 is now complete with the entire journey between Stratford and Taumarunui now sealed. This marks the end of 160 years of campaigning from the early 1880s to now to have this road sealed. He acknowledged the cooperation of NZTA and the Provincial Growth Fund noting that it was originally a $12 million project to seal 12kms of road but had ended at close to $30 million as they had funded other projects along the road including the two lane bridge at Kopuatama Cemetery. He also acknowledged Councillor Harris for her work during this project in liaising with locals and passing on concerns. Her local voice meant the outrageous proposals for road closures were changed to be better suited.
- He noted the meeting with NIWA and that the drought is not ended after a few days of rain as it will take months of sustained rainfall to get the ground water tables back up to where they should be. The Mayoral Forum has commissioned a report on the availability of water throughout the region so we can look to the future and develop a strategy on how to deal with future droughts.
- It was noted that the youth member of parliament will be announced by MP Carl Bates.

8. Public Forum Response

Speaker: Matthew Dimock, Stratford Christmas Parade
Response: Thank Mr Dimock for his attendance and note that a report with options for his request for support has been requested to be brought to council.

Points noted in discussion:

- A request was made to the Director – Community Services to provide a decision report to the Policy and Services committee to see what options there are for supporting the Christmas Parade.
- The District Mayor noted that when council made the decision to withdraw funding from the Stratford Business Association it was a cost saving measure. Asking for some of this support back means the financial element needs to be considered. The Christmas Parade is currently run by the association with council staff helping.
- Councillor Hall noted that the association was not asking for funding but for continued partnership, she noted the conversation had been around the cost of this support but not into the depth of how this would affect staff. The Chief Executive noted that the decision removed a role on staff, any support provided now would require resource to be allocated to it. Councillor Hall noted the staff member had always been well supported by the community services team and felt that the association may not have realised the support of that team would not be included in a partnership.
- Councillor Boyde noted his concern was that there had been a total review of their relevance and where they want to go in the future but it hadn't progressed any further and had not been brought back to council. The District Mayor noted that Mr Dimock had stated the relationship had broken down and was dysfunctional but that the request today was for support with the Christmas Parade.
- Councillor Sandford noted that if this was going to require staffing support then councillors needed to know the cost to ratepayers.
- The Deputy Mayor noted she would like to see a transition option within the decision report, help with training the new secretary but not taking the event on permanently.

The Director – Community Services noted there were very clear step by step instructions available and that these are reviewed every year after the parade.
- The District Mayor suggested including the AmeriCARna event into the same report, but noted the funding mechanism was completely different and the report would need to identify that it is a completely different arrangement. It is still a free community event but the road to getting it here is quite different.
- Councillor Sandford noted the involvement of the Youth Council in the Christmas Parade each year as well.
- Councillor Hall felt that the association needed to look at their membership base for support.

Speaker: Ben Burgess and Paul Vanner, Royal A&P Show
Response: Thank for attendance and note that a report with options for their request for support has been requested to be brought to council.

Points noted in discussion:
- A report was requested to have the options for supporting the event presented to council formally. Staff may meet with the association to discuss potential options for support first.
- Councillor Beck noted that these are two of the biggest events – A&P Show and Christmas Parade, and he did not want to see them fail. He felt council should do as much as they can.

9. Questions

- It was noted that Councillor Boyde had been selected to play for the NZ Masters Hockey team in Australia. This would be the 17th year playing for NZ Masters.
- Councillor Sandford noted he had had a rate payer question the leaves outside Sgt Peppers and the Library and asked how often this area is cleaned. Mr Hanne noted that there had been a significant storm event over the weekend and contractors had been focussed on more dangerous damage being cleaned. He clarified the contract for this area was to a standard rather than frequency and would follow it up to ensure it is on the list for clean up.
- Councillor Sandford noted the unhappiness from the community with the showers at Wai o Rua. He noted the shower temperature being too hot is an issue, with heat increasing when toilets are flushed. He asked if the original contractors are fronting up to fix this problem and why it was still happening after 2 years of operation. The Director – Assets noted officers are waiting for a report from a plumber to be able to approach Apollo to fix. It will be noted in the Assets Monthly Report when fixed.
- Councillor Dudley noted there was a working bee at the Percy Thomson Arboretum at 10.00am this Sunday.

10. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 45

The closing karakia was read.

The meeting closed at 4.10 pm.

N C Volzke
Chairman

Confirmed this 13th day of May 2025

N C Volzke
District Mayor

PUBLIC FORUM
Notes

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

F22/55/05 – D25/12342

Date: 11 March 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, G W Boyde, A M C Dudley, J M S Erwood, E E Hall, 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 – Community Services – Ms K Whareaitu, the Committee Advisor and Executive Assistant – Mrs E Bishop, the HR & Governance Administrator – Mrs C Reynolds, Mrs V Jagersma and Mr P Vanner (Stratford A&P Association), Mr B Burgess (Royal A&P Association), Mr M Dimock (Stratford Business Association), one member of the Media (Stratford Press) and three 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: Matthew Dimock – Stratford Business Association (SBA)
   Topic: Stratford Christmas Parade

   Points noted in the presentation:
   - Mr Dimock thanked the council for its support and partnership over countless years. With this support ending in July this year he is hopeful the partnership can continue.
   - The SBA is still running numerous workshops and training courses. Last week 'Picture Perfect' course was about marketing and promotion and was well attended.
   - BA5s are in full swing drawing between 30-40 people and providing valuable networking opportunities.
   - Americarana was held in February and was a great event, crowds were down which is a sign of the times and the weather but the SBA had multiple street vendors and activities during the visit.
   - Last year the association talked to TET and applied for funds to employ a secretary/treasurer. The process to employ someone has begun and it is hopeful that someone will be employed by next month.
   - The tricky part of this transition will be balancing existing partnerships while moving forward to bigger and better things.
   - SBA and council need to find ways to communicate, at the moment this is not happening well, or at all.
   - The Christmas Parade has always been an event the SBA and council has run in partnership. It is a big event that takes countless hours from both parties and planning needs to start in a couple of months. SBA is a small group of volunteers who give up their time for the business community and are not in a position to run the parade without the partnership of the council. With the support for the SBA ending in July he asked if SBA was still in partnership with council for events like Americarna and the Christmas Parade and how that will work.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- The District Mayor noted that these are two very different events, one is community orientated and the other is a private enterprise running a business. The most pressing event for discussion is the Christmas Parade.
- Mr Dimock clarified that the SBA has funding through their TET grant for the parade, it is the administration and running the event that council staff do. Without the council team he did not see how SBA could run it. It will also depend on the start time of the new secretary given that planning needs to start soon and he noted that there is a lot of training and changes to be made during the transition period.
- Councillor Sandford noted that in other towns the Christmas parade is run by local Lions and asked if they had been approached? Mr Dimock noted that they support the parade and other events but they hadn't been asked if they could take on organising it, he noted he did not think they would be big enough to do it.
- The Deputy Mayor asked what the ideal set up looked like? Mr Dimock noted he would like to see both the SBA and council working in conjunction for some of these events, he acknowledged it would be in a different way than in the past so he was not sure exactly how this could look. He acknowledged it didn't need to be council but there was a need for support at the event. The last time the parade was run there was only 3-4 members from the SBA to help on the day.
- It was noted there were about 128 business members of the SBA, and 8 committee members. Mr Dimock clarified the requested support is largely around the people on the ground supporting the event on the day.
- Councillor Boyde noted that approximately a year and a half ago the SBA came to council to discuss a total review and asked where that had gotten to? Mr Dimock noted there was a lot of work done on this but it wasn't finished.
- Councillor Boyde requested that a decision report be presented to council on this request. The District Mayor agreed noting council was not in a position to give a conclusive answer through this forum. He requested the Director – Community Services have a discussion with the SBA to develop some options. He understood this needed to be done quickly as there is planning work to be started.

Speaker: Ben Burgess – RAS Head Office and Paul Vanner – Stratford A&P
Topic: Royal A&P Show 2025

Mr Vanner noted the following points:

- The Stratford A&P Show is a major event held each year in November.
- The committee wants to create a bigger and better event and following on from mini royal events the next step was to ask the Royal Society to have a full compliment of a royal show with the application being supported to create this partnership. This will mean having the mana of a show that is elite and above other shows.
- There will be a lot of emphasis on the dairy and livestock sections but also presenting new sections such as sheep, donkeys, mules to open up to cater for the agricultural and lifestyle side as well as building on education around mental health, rural support and the relationship between town and country. It is important to broaden the horizon and to think outside the circle to bring more and more people to the shows.
- He noted Stratford does their show very very well and has one of the better shows in the North Island with 15,000 through the gates. This is done by a team of volunteers who are trying to create a bigger and better event each year and to have something in Stratford that everyone is proud of.
- This presentation is to share the excitement of having a royal show and ask for support from council.

Two members of the public joined at 3.20pm.

Mr Burgess noted the following points:

- He noted he was the Vice President of the Royal Agricultural Society.
- The society hosts royal events across the country through the year, a full royal show in Levin last year doubled the entries across all of their sections as there is a lot of mana for winning at a royal show. It also sets shows up quite well for future events.
- He noted he had the pleasure of getting around the country and had been to 25 shows this year to see how the A&P members do things. It is a real pleasure and an honour

for Stratford to put their hands up and want to a host a royal show, they do an awesome job and have a great team and ground to work with.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Boyde asked if the association had enough resource to fully deliver on so much more? Mr Vanner felt it was achievable but that they had talked about needing people on the ground to help them achieve it. He felt that Stratford can cater for this.
- Councillor Hall asked if they had spoken to the SBA about the suggestion of moving the Christmas parade? Mr Vanner noted the suggestions were just some ideas they had talked about but would like the opportunity to talk to them about it to create a theme that the whole town can get behind.
- Councillor Hall noted there were ideas supplied for ways that council could support, she noted the funding component for the fee paid to the RAS to host, would there be other costs associated with delivering this and how would it be funded? Mr Vanner noted there was a lot of local support from local businesses with $110,000 of sponsorship being raised last year to put back into running the show and prizes for competitions. This balances out very well but they would be applying for additional grants as well.
- It was noted that this would extend the show to a three day event with equestrian being held on Friday and livestock on Saturday and Sunday.
- Councillor Beck liked the idea of the Christmas Parade being tied into the show.
- Councillor Jones asked if there were any details on a normal show versus this show to highlight to council the impact it will have? Mr Vanner noted monthly reports are done leading up to the show and hopefully the association can start to generate those numbers but may need some assistance calculating assumptions.
- The District Mayor congratulated the A&P Association for getting the Royal Show status. It is the biggest event on our calendar is significant to us considering the amount of people from outside of the district. This one will be even bigger than usual. He felt that some of the suggestions would need council sign off if there is a monetary amount but felt some of the other suggestions could be dealt with easily.

The meeting closed at 3.31pm

MINUTES
Extraordinary

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

F22/55/05 – D25/12402

Date: Tuesday 15 April 2025 at 3.00pm
Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

Present

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

There were no apologies.

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 of interest declared.

5. Attendance Schedule

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

6. Decision Report – Adoption of Consultation Document for Water Services Delivery Options

D25/11816 Page 7

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/McKAY
Carried
CL/25/30

2. THAT Council adopts the Consultation Document for Water Services Delivery Options.

3. THAT the District Mayor and Chief Executive be given the authority to undertake minor or editorial changes if they arise.

4. THAT Council releases for public consultation the Consultation Document for Water Services Delivery Options once design work has been completed.

BOYDE/McKAY
Carried
CL/25/31

Recommended Reason
The adoption of a Consultation Document for Water Services Delivery Options as part of Local Water Done Well is an essential element of legislative compliance.

The District Mayor noted the draft design version was tabled. However, the version within the agenda will be used for the discussion to eliminate any confusion as the material within the two documents is the same.

The Chief Executive noted the that this document has been developed regionally with the regional delivery model as the preferred option for all three councils. He acknowledged the significant amount of work that staff have contributed towards this document and the delivery plan.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Boyde noted that the in-house status quo had been referred to as an ‘enhanced’ model through all discussions and this was what elected members voted on.
- The District Mayor noted that the purpose of this document was to seek feedback from the community but it was important to note that this was not asking for voting on the decision. This is to seek ideas, criticism or alternatives for the delivery of the service. It is important that the community has their say but it is important to remind them that it is not a vote.

The Consultation Document was reviewed page by page. Page numbering refers to the page in the agenda. Changes and discussions were as noted below

- Page 12
  - change to “Have your say on the future delivery of water services in Stratford”
- Page 13
  - The Deputy Mayor noted her concern that the message says that both options are financially viable and meet government requirements. She noted we won’t know this for sure until government approval is obtained from the minister. Mr Hanne noted this was written from the in-house assessment undertaken against the delivery criteria however it is understood that it may not be approved as there has been no assurance that a model will be approved even if it meets the criteria. Agreed to note that these options are still subject to the ministers approval.

    - Councillor Boyde noted the paragraph stating working together offers real opportunities and requested that it also note there are also disadvantages. The District Mayor will review this.
- Page 16 – noted in the designed version the word toilet has been added to the waste water image.
- Page 19
    - It was clarified that the new water storage unit at $9.4 million is an additional unit and the wording will be made clear to note that this is additional expenditure and not a replacement.
    - The total drinking water supplied has been amended to state the figure is per year.
    - It was agreed to add the move the Waste Water Treatment Plant to key investments in the next 10 years, however it was acknowledged that this would not impact rates until Year 11.
    - It was clarified that all these items in the key investments have already been committed to within the Long Term Plan.
- Page 20
    - Agreed to make it very bold and to ensure it stands out that the government has to be satisfied with the preferred plan. It is a significant part of the information that the community needs to understand.
- Page 22 – approved that the Chief Executive and Communications Manager work through the document to either re-name the in-house model as 'enhanced' or a similar word to ensure it is clear that this is different to what there is currently.
- Page 23 – noted that some of the Stratford District is not included in this map where it is part of the Horizons region.
- Page 24 – It was requested that it clearly state that for Option 1 stormwater will remain with council.
- Page 26 – It was clarified that Stratford would have two votes on the board as currently proposed.
- Page 27
    - Amend "*costs of remaining council services will increase to cover shortfall* …" replace with "*Cost of other council services will increase to cover expenses*".
    - Amend "*retains council officer knowledge"* to "*retains knowledge of current staff*"
- Page 29 – Expand SDC and IBU to full words (Stratford District Council and In-house Business Unit).
- Page 30 – Add in that stormwater has been left out of the comparison as it will remain in-house and explain this further.
- Page 34
    - It was noted that all usual media outlets would be used for engagement including antenno, social media, website and Stratford Press. Additionally a joint radio campaign will be run by the three councils. Public meetings and drop in sessions could also be arranged.
    - Councillor Beck felt that a public meeting should be held at the War Memorial Centre. Councillor Boyde agreed noting this was the most significant decision council would be making and should also include meetings in Toko and Midhirst to give the public the opportunity to show up. The Communications Manager noted that South Taranaki and would be doing public meetings. Councillor Hall noted that attending a meeting can be intimidating and the District Mayor agreed that some people do not like asking questions in these forums, he also noted the last public meeting held had no attendance.
    - Councillor Hall asked if turning up where people already are had been considered, such as at the SERSC home games or Stratford Toa games. The District Mayor noted that council does this at the A&P Show and has very little public engagement as a result, he had better results from attending community group meetings.
    - Councillor Sandford supported the District Mayor presenting to community groups as it keeps it on task. He also supported library drop ins but not a public meeting which will impact staff time.
    - The District Mayor would approach clubs and organisations to host a presentation and would extend an invitation to councillors to attend these as well. Drop in sessions will be held at the library and elected members will need to let the Communications

Manager know their availability. A public meeting will be held if there is a desire from the public.

7. Questions

There were no questions.

8. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 38

The closing karakia was read.

The meeting closed at 4.17pm.

N C Volzke
Chairman

Confirmed this 13th day of May 2025.

N C Volzke
District Mayor

MINUTES
Policy and Services Committee

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

F22/55/05 – D25/14037

Date: Tuesday 29 March 2025 at 2.06PM
Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

To hear and consider submissions to the
- Draft Victoria Park Reserve Management Plan

Present

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

Via audio-visual link: Councillors G W Boyde and A K Harris.

In attendance

The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Director – Assets Mrs V Araba, the Director – Corporate Services – Mrs R Johnson, the Director – Environmental Services – Mr B Sutherland, the Director – Community Services – Ms K Whareaitu, the Committee Advisor and Executive Assistant – Mrs E Bishop, the Communications Manager – Ms G Gibson, the Parks and Reserves Officer – Mrs M McBain, the Property Officer – Mrs R Reader, the Roading Engineer – Mr F Hicks (*part meeting)*, the Education Officer – Water and Waste – Mr P McNamara (*part meeting)*, the HR & Governance Administrator – Mrs C Reynolds (*part meeting)*, the Economic and Community Development Manager – Mrs S Afzal (*part meeting)*, the community Development Officer – Mrs L Mackenzie-Brown (*part meeting)*, one member of the media (Stratford Press) and four members of the public.

1. Welcome

The opening karakia was read.

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

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

2. Apologies

An apology was received from Councillor C M Tongaawhikau

Recommendation

THAT the apology be received.

DUDLEY/HALL
Carried
P&S/25/45

3. Announcements

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

4. Declarations of members interest

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

The Deputy Mayor declared an interest with submission 2 and 5 relating to the Stratford Croquet Club. During deliberation on these submissions the Deputy Mayor would leave the table with the District Mayor undertaking the role of chair.

5. Attendance Schedule

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

6. Acknowledgement of Submissions

Submissions – Pages 15-16

The six submissions received to the draft Victoria Park Reserve Management Plan were attached.

Recommendations

1. THAT the submissions to the draft Victoria Park Reserve Management Plan be received.

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

WATT/HALL
Carried
P&S/25/46

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

7. Submitters To Be Heard

There were two submitters wishing to speak. Each submitter was allocated five (5) minutes to present their submission and allowed five (5) minutes for questions.

Submission #	Name	Page Number
5	Eileen Judd Stratford Croquet Club	

Points noted in presentation:

- Croquet is played by both young and old, Stratford is centrally located and could be hosting national tournaments which would be a plus for the community.
- The croquet season starts in September and closes at the end of April. National tournaments do run after these dates and clubs also run tournaments to help with their fundraising. The off-season also provides players the opportunity to practice and improve their game.
- Stratford is missing out on the youth in the area as they are not given the opportunity to compete here and are sent to Hawera due to the lawns and space.
- There were 64 students who came from Taranaki Secondary Schools to have a go in Hawera, 24 were from Stratford. Three members travelled to Hawera to support those players and share their knowledge. She hoped this would remove the barrier put up that croquet is an elderly sport as it is a sport for all ages with some of the youth coming through being sensational including representatives in U21 and NZ U18s.
- Stratford has also hosted the masters games for the last 2 years and have had to turn players away due to lack of lawn space.
- People who have travelled here have loved their stay and commented on how beautiful the area is.
- There is a lot of expertise in the Stratford Club and they want to be able to share this with Stratford.

- Croquet New Zealand has been promoting croquet over the last 18 months through the schools and with the general public, and the response has been incredible.
- TET and TOI Foundation have both been approached regarding funding for new lawns and buildings and the response was very positive.
- An invitation was extended to all elected members to have a go at croquet.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- It was clarified that the club has discussed after school programmes running with the high schools and plan to do this on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.
- It was clarified that the lawns would need to be fenced as damage to the lawns can be an expensive exercise to fix, much like a bowling green.
- Councillor Boyde asked the club felt TET and TOI would fund a total change in the area? It was clarified that the talks with TET had been very positive and funding could be granted up to $300,000. It costs $39,300 plus gst per court to get them up and running.
- The District Mayor noted previous requests had been for four lawns. Would three lawns meet the need or is it a compromise? It was noted it would be a compromise to make three work, initially it was thought that they could use the current two and get an additional one, however by moving and setting up three lawns the council could then use the current location for the park. The club has been offered national competitions twice but they have had to turn these down. So three lawns would be a compromise for the club, but it would be a benefit for the whole of croquet.
- The District Mayor noted that the rugby club still uses the area for warm up purposes and asked if the club had spoken to them about the proposed change of use? It was noted the representatives had not seen rugby using it.

7	Marina Healey Sport Taranaki

Points noted in presentation:

- Ms Healey commended council on the developments at Victoria Park including the bike park, pump track, bbq pavilion and the half basketball court. It is a really attractive place for young people and their whānau.
- There were four key themes from their submission to reiterate.
- Collaborative Sport Delivery and Facility Planning – recommends that language is used to encourage collaborative planning at Victoria Park to signal to current and future users that they could consider exploring what a shared model of governance and a multi use facility could look like. Sport Taranaki have a hubbing document for community groups to explore what it could look like, this also leads to cost savings and increased participation through the different sports in one area leads to club vibrancy.
- Accessibility – while it was acknowledged there are aspirations to make the park more accessible she asked that those pieces be pushed and consider making more things accessible such as the cricket pavilion, grandstand and moving towards, not just an accessible swing but the whole playground.
- Environmental Sustainability – felt the focus on this could be achieved by referencing council's sustainability policy in the strategic context to derive initiatives in the park.
- Innovative Play and Recreation – when considering replacement of playground equipment she urged council to go beyond traditional playgrounds and look at natural and sensory areas to play in the park, colourful footpaths, moving away from traditional bench seats but seats that were a bit more playful, rolling hills and painted rock gardens that kids can contribute to.
- She supported the inclusion of Collaboration for Active Spaces and Places (CASP) in the strategic document as this will create an enduring document and advocate and allow for future thinking without reworking the current plan.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Hall asked if Ms Healey had been approached by the croquet club to support them with their plans for the future? Ms Healey noted she had not had a conversation with the club but had spoken with council officers and the club needed to define the problems they are looking to solve with the Taranaki Facilities Consortium.

- Decision Report – Victoria Park Reserve Management Plan 2025 – Hearing and Deliberation

D25/9299 Page 8

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

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received

ERWOOD/JONES
Carried
P&S/25/47

~~2. THAT the Committee approves Option 3 of this report, being adoption of the attached Reserves Management Plan with the inclusion of a new section 1.5 – Strategic Context to include Active, Spaces and Places.~~

Recommended Reasons

The *draft* Victoria Park Reserve Management Plan has gone through the public consultation process, required by Sections 82 and 83 of the Local Government Act 2002. Six submissions were received. The committee is now required to hear and consider these submissions to inform their decision to adopt (or not) the Victoria Park Reserve Management Plan.

Submission 1 (Dirt Jumps at Pump Track)

- The Parks and Reserves Officer noted that this suggestion was going to be located next to the pump track to maximise the adventure area. She clarified that this would be north of the Pump Track but nothing has been created in terms of what it would look like or how much area it would utilise.
- Councillor Sandford questioned why this would be considered given the rain that Stratford gets and the maintenance required would be horrendous. He was dead against this going in the existing facility.
- Mrs McBain noted this was being considered as it had come forward as part of the consultation process, people have said they would like something for mountain biking in the past but no specific location had been discussed or decided.
- It was clarified that the officers responses to the submission were to assist elected members and the submitter had not been responded to yet.
- **Outcome – do not include in plan.**

Submission 3 (Warwick Road Footpaths)

- Refer the footpath of concern to officers to investigate.

Submission 4 (Rugby – Field 2 maintenance work)

- The District Mayor noted that though this submission asks to be part of the tender process, their broader concern is being consulted with, advised of and informed of the work that is being planned there and the timing. The joint knowledge from the work on Field 1 can be applied for this work on Field 2.
- **Outcome – respond that officers will work with both the Rugby and Cricket clubs in terms of what work will be done and the timing of it.**

Submission 6 (Sport Taranaki)

- Councillor Boyde felt the points raised were valid. He had no issue with reference to the sustainability policy in the document, collaborative sports was already happening within our parks and he questioned what was meant by accessibility if it was for wheelchair access or getting around the park? The Director – Assets noted that officers had tried to incorporate the suggestions into section 1 of the plan but felt the accessibility aspect of the plan was broad enough to allow this work to happen without committing to specific items. Councillor Boyde felt being more innovative with plans for seating was a great idea.
- Councillor Hall noted she liked the idea of increasing the commentary around accessibility and how we will deliver this and being more innovative with our playspaces which we are currently talking about with the plans for Prospero Place. She noted her concern that the submission gives the

impression that council has taken a step back from the future planning that was contained in the original version. She asked for assurance that the document gives enough scope to address the needs of the community going forward? Mrs Araba noted that the document captures enough to allow council to move forward and that this doesn't place restrictions or limit council in anyway.

- Councillor Dudley noted the request for safe passage from the rugby club to the park, she requested that officers look into a pedestrian crossing. The Chief Executive noted that it would not be out of place to put this in the plan as it would benefit the facility. It would be appropriate to explore or enable safe passage from the club rooms and why this is being done.
- Councillor Sandford noted his concern of creating a hub and noted neighbouring councils had sport hubs that were not performing as they should be. He did not want to burden the ratepayers with a cost of a building.
- The Deputy Mayor asked for clarification on collaboration and working closely with Sport Taranaki and other partners for inclusive management. Mrs McBain noted that this meant communication with the clubs about how the fields are working for them, what their ideas and plans look like and how we can support those. It is about keeping the lines of communication open.
- **Outcome – add reference to sustainability policy, include section 1.5 as proposed and add explore/enable safe passage from the club rooms to the park.**

Recommendation

THAT the District Mayor assumes the role of Chair.

McKAY/HALL
Carried
P&S/25/48

The Deputy Mayor left the table at 2.48pm.

Submission 2 and 5 (Relocation and expansion of croquet lawns)

- It was clarified that if a project is not included within the reserve management plan then it will require separate consultation for it to happen. If a project is included within the plan it will require no further consultation to proceed as the approval for the use of the space has been given. Budget is still required to be approved for projects during Long Term and Annual Plan reviews for council funded activity.
- Councillor Jones noted he still had a lot of questions and concerns around this project. Mr Hanne clarified that if it is included in the plan it gives the approval to go ahead, but not the budget to do the work. The District Mayor noted the decision can be deferred to a later date pending further information to be provided.
- Councillor Hall questioned what options would be lost should the lawns be relocated to the current green space. She felt there is more to this than a yes or no at this stage. Mrs McBain clarified that three lawns and a building would use the entire space that is currently empty.

The Roading Engineer and Education Officer – Water and Waste joined the meeting at 2.56pm

- Councillor Hall noted that given the lawns will be fenced off and not used by the public she was not comfortable making this decision today and would rather defer. Councillor Erwood agreed there were too many questions and supported deferring the decision as well.
- Councillor Harris noted the task today was to approve the reserve management plan, if the project is not in the plan it cannot happen. Mr Hanne confirmed that a similar consultation exercise would be undertaken should a project not be included in the plan. Mrs McBain noted that this project could be deferred and discussed separately from this document.
- Councillor Harris noted the action plan statement that proposed actions do not commit council or any organisation to these plans, but if it is not in a plan it can not happen. Mr Hanne confirmed that if it is not in the plan, projects will need to go through a similar consultation process as the full plan has. Mrs McBain suggested this specific project could be left out to discuss it separately from the plan. Mrs Araba clarified that if it is in the plan then council is committing to it and needs to assign whether it is a priority 1 or 2 project and then officers will need to start the process for implementing the project within that timeframe.

The HR & Governance Administrator, the Community Development Officer and the Economic and Community Development Manager joined the meeting at 2.59pm

- Councillor Boyde suggested leaving this project out and discussing it with further information. The District Mayor noted that adopting the plan without it in there can be perceived as ruling it out, councillors needed to make a call one way or another to adopt the plan.
- It was clarified that the action plan did include the croquet club moving to the empty green space but that was up for councillors to go through and approve the actions or not, it has been collated as a response to submissions.
- Councillor Boyde suggested leaving this decision and requesting more information. The District Mayor asked for clarification of what further information councillors were wanting to see.
- Councillor Sandford noted the location of the croquet club had been discussed several times and he asked what has come to light today that is making councillors turn around on a decision that has been made several times over? Councillor Jones noted that this is a different location to the previous decision and Councillor Sandford clarified that the other locations were discussed at the same time.
- Councillor Hall noted one of the questions is how this change would affect other users who use that green space, putting it in the plan now foregoes consulting with them on that. She agreed that this had been talked about a lot but it felt like pre-empting a decision without considering the outcomes. Mrs McBain noted there had been a decision report previously brough to the committee with different options including the green space suggested today.
- Councillor Erwood noted that rugby had not been asked if they were concerned about loosing the grounds for training. This needs more clarification as well as how it affects those people who walk their dogs.
- Councillor Beck noted this option had been rejected by the croquet club as it could not contain their requested courts. Mrs McBain noted this was a compromise by the club.
- Mr Hanne noted there were two options today, either adopt the plan without this project in and look to add it in at a later stage with its own consultation process, or don’t adopt the plan today which will leave a hanging reserve management plan for quite some time.
- Councillor Harris reiterated the statement on the action plan list that says council is not committed to doing the projects. Mrs Araba agreed this was misleading and needed to be updated to reflect that it enables the activity to be done but it does not commit council to funding it. The paragraph needs to be rewritten to be clearer. Councillor Harris noted that there is still a financial implication for council if the project was funded by the club as there would be a loss of green space and maintenance requirements, but if it was included there would not be the caveat for further discussion on this.
- The District Mayor noted there was a request here that had some wide ranging ramifications and hesitancy to include it as it will impact other user groups who did not realise it was an option. There is a potential cost implications for council following the establishment including the maintenance. He suggested leaving the plan until further consultation with user groups could be completed and analytics. Councillor Jones noted this needed to include if there would be a license to occupy as it would be exclusive use and if the club could fund their own maintenance.
- Councillor Sandford noted the TSB Pool site needed to be discussed as a suitable venue. Mrs McBain noted that this discussion had occurred before, however there are a lot of clubs and organisations interested in that area as well. The District Mayor clarified that the decision was whether to include it in the Victoria Park reserve management plan or not and it was either a yes or no.
- Councillor Hall asked whether the jetty for remote control boats fit in, what the cost would be and where this idea had come from? Mr Hanne clarified that this was from previous consultation, the project would not move forward unless budget is allocated in the Long Term or Annual Plan or it is externally funded. Inclusion in the plan is enabling an activity to happen in the space, it means it can happen but does not mean council will fund it.

Recommendation

THAT the Policy and Services Committee defers the decision on the Victoria Park Reserve Management Plan pending a report on the issues and analytics regarding the relocation of the croquet lawns to the ‘field 3’ area in Victoria Park.

VOLZKE/BODYE
Carried
P&S/25/49

- It was noted the committee expected this to be brought back to the Policy and Services Committee within the next 2-3 meetings.
- It was noted that the other submissions have been discussed and the final decisions would relate to the inclusion of the Croquet Club proposal and action plan only.

8. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 64

The closing karakia was read.

The meeting closed at 3.21pm.

M McKay
Chairman

Confirmed this 27th day of May 2025.

N C Volzke
District Mayor

MINUTES
Policy and Services Committee

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

F22/55/05 – D25/14030

Date: Tuesday 29 April 2025 at 3.25PM
Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

Present

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

Via audio-visual link: Councillors G W Boyde and A K Harris.

In attendance

The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Director – Assets Mrs V Araba, the Director – Environmental Services – Mr B Sutherland, the Director – Community Services – Ms K Whareaitu, the Corporate Accountant – Mrs C Craig, the HR & Governance Administrator – Mrs C Reynolds, the Committee Advisor and Executive Assistant – Mrs E Bishop (*part meeting*), the Economic and Community Development Manager – Mrs S Afzal (*part meeting*), the Community Development Officer – Mrs L McKenzie-Brown *(part meeting)*, the Education Officer – Water and Waste – Mr P McNamara (*part meeting*), the Roading Engineer – Mr F Hicks (*part meeting*), the Community Engagement and Development lead – Mrs A Crane (*part meeting*), the Property Officer – Mrs R Reader (*part meeting*), the Parks and Reserves Officer – Mrs M McBain (*part meeting*), the Services Manager – Mr J Cooper (*part meeting*), one member of the media (Stratford Press) and two members of the public.

Via audio-visual link: The Property and Projects Manager – Mr S Taylor.

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.

HALL/McKAY
Carried
P&S/25/50

3. Announcements

There were no announcements.

4. Declarations of members interest

Elected members were asked to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to items on this agenda. There were no conflicts of interest.

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 –25 March 2025
D25/9722 Page 12

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 25 March 2025 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

DUDLEY/BECK
Carried
P&S/25/51

7. Matters Outstanding

D16/47 Page 21

Recommendation

THAT the Matters Outstanding be received.

DUDLEY/BECK
Carried
P&S/25/52

8. Decision Report – Proposed Bus Stops – Miranda Street North

D25/1496 Page 22

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

ERWOOD/SANDFORD
Carried
P&S/25/53

2. THAT council approves the removal of 5 spaces of unmarked on-street all day parking and the creation of two new bus stops on Miranda Street North.

3. THAT the operational times of the bus stops be set at 6:30 am to 6:30 pm Monday to Friday only.

VOLZKE/SANDFORD
Carried
P&S/25/54

Recommended Reason
The establishment of these two new bus stops will significantly improve public transport accessibility for residents in the northwestern sector of Stratford. This area is presently underserved by public transport, as the existing Connector bus service rejoins SH3 Broadway at the northern roundabout. The construction of these bus stops will be funded by the Taranaki Regional Council.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- It was clarified that construction of these will be funded by the Taranaki Regional Council (TRC). This is to provide a concrete pad but no shelter, should they request a shelter in the future then additional consultation will be required and it will also be funded by TRC.
- Councillor Beck questioned if there were user numbers to support the addition of this stop and if it could be removed if it was not used. The Roading Engineer noted that there were numbers available for total users from Stratford but not this specific spot, it would be difficult to remove the stop as it will be set concrete.
- Councillor Beck noted the report states that bus shelters could be added at a later date. It was clarified should there be opposition from the residents through the required consultation then this can be declined at that time.
- It was clarified that cars would be able to park on the concrete pad outside of the connector bus hours.
- Councillor Jones noted that without any numbers of how many will use it, then he would agree with a stop on demand set up and if the numbers are up then make the bus stop. The Director – Assets noted that TRC have sought agreement to using the car parks, regardless of the type of stop this will still take up carparks.
- Councillor Hall noted she supported another bus stop to create usability for the community. She felt one of the barriers of 'stop on demand' is that people want assurances that they will be picked up. She asked what would happen if it cost more than $10,000 to construct and what ongoing maintenance costs would look like? Mr Hick noted his confidence in the quoted price and that maintenance would be co-funded by NZTA and would be largely only line marking required.
- The District Mayor noted the sub-committee of the Regional Transport Committee has a key function to develop and promote public transport throughout the region. It was a challenge to get representation on that committee given there is not a lot of public transport in the district (only the connector bus). There has been a large amount of consultation and there is a higher demand what is currently being supplied, this is one way to get a bit more for our residents.
- Councillor Harris noted that TRC ratepayers contribute towards public transport on the value of their property, not per property.

9. Decision Report – Stratford Primary School Safety Improvements

D25/11601 Page 34

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

ERWOOD/McKAY
Carried
P&S/25/55

~~2. THAT Council approve the implementation of the Minor Safety Improvements in the vicinity of the Stratford Primary School, as per drawings attached to this report, including the:~~

~~a. construction of **Option 2** Roundabout at the Regan Street/Brecon Road intersection; and/or~~
~~b. deletion of proposed new pedestrian refuge crossing on Regan Street; and/or~~
~~c. construction of **Option 2** Pedestrian courtesy crossing adjacent to the Wai o Rua Stratford Aquatic Centre on Portia Street.~~

Recommended Reason

After the Transport Choices programme was cancelled by the Government, the Council resolved to continue working through the Minor Safety Improvements project adjacent to the Stratford Primary School, as and when budget allowed. Engineering designs have been refined, adjacent property owners surveyed for feedback and Officers recommend progress on the project.

The Director – Assets noted that this report sought approval to install safety measures around Stratford Primary School. A survey of users in the area was undertaken and the responses have been summarised. Officers have recommended two of the features to be approved by the committee.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Sandford noted he had been approached by a resident from the area who was concerned about the parking being replaced with double yellow lines. He asked if the crossing down from the round-a-bout was removed if there would still be double yellow lines? He would like to see on a map the degree of parking being removed. Mrs Araba noted that with the crossing there would be 43 parking spaces removed, however if the crossing is removed not many parking spaces would be lost at all. Councillor Sandford noted on the north side it still showed yellow lines coming down Regan Street, and it was clarified that this was going to be a safe crossing not a pedestrian crossing.
- The Deputy Mayor asked if the crash statistics were during school times? Mr Hanne noted the crash database is notorious for under reporting, as if Police don't attend it does not get recorded.
- Councillor Dudley questioned if the round-a-bout could be driven over if needed? It was clarified it could be.
- Councillor Boyde noted he shared the concerns of Councillor Sandford. He acknowledged the internal conversations held with Stratford Primary School but as it was hard to see how far the yellow lines will go down Regan Street he was concerned how this would affect businesses as they are concerned about loosing parking. The Property and Projects Manager noted that you cannot park within 6 meters of a crossing so that would be lost and then it would depend on the sight lines on the approach to the pedestrian crossing.
- It was clarified that there is an existing crossing and a proposed crossing. The proposed crossing is between Brecon Road and Oswald Place, the proposed crossings can be deleted but the existing crossing will remain.

The Services Manager joined the meeting at 3.55pm.

- Councillor Beck asked if the decision needed to be made today as he felt the maps are too small and most people are confused and don't understand what is taking place. Councillor Sandford noted that people do know what is happening, the recommendation is to have one on Regan Street (not two) and that no one had mentioned the proposed crossing on Portia Street.

The Committee Advisor and Executive Assistant joined the meeting at 4.00pm.

Round-a-about – Regan Street/Brecon Road intersection

- The District Mayor supported the proposal for a low level round-a-bout as this is a busy intersection which is busy throughout the day, he noted a lot of people do u-turns in this intersection which they will legitimately be able to do with a round-a-bout. He supported an associated safe crossing, not a pedestrian crossing, to provide a crossing point for kids heading that way. Councillor Erwood agreed.
- Councillor Sandford sought clarification that the broken yellow lines would not go any further than pictured? Mr Taylor noted the yellow lines on the house side only needs to be 6 meters and on the opposite side would only depend on the sight lines as to how far the yellow lines will go.
- The Deputy Mayor noted that with the installation of the round-a-bout, the inclusion of a safe crossing would not create any more loss in parking. Mr Taylor noted this was technically correct.
- Councillor Harris noted she supported the installation of the round-a-bout as out of all the options in the transport choices consultation this was highly supported.
- Mr Taylor clarified that this would not make the turning any tighter for heavy vehicles in this area.
- Councillor Hall supported the round-a-bout noting that it is very busy outside of school hours as well with sports and other activities and she felt it would improve safety.

Recommendations

2. THAT Council approve the implementation of the Minor Safety Improvements in the vicinity of the Stratford Primary School, as per drawings attached to this report, including the:

   a. construction of **Option 2** Roundabout at the Regan Street/Brecon Road intersection *with the proposed safety crossing*.

VOLZKE/ERWOOD
Carried
P&S/25/56

Pedestrian Refuge on Regan Street

- Councillor Sandford did not support this, Brecon Road and the southern crossing are sufficient.
- Councillor Hall noted she had supported this during Transport Choices but had not realised how many carparks would be lost so she did not feel it would meet the need. She supported removing it.
- Councillor Dudley did not think it would be used so supported removing it.
- Councillor Harris noted her support to remove it, as did Councillor Boyde.
- This refuge will not be included.

Pedestrian crossing on Portia Street by Wai o Rua

- Councillor Beck noted he did not support the proposed location.
- Councillor Hall supported it.
- Councillor Erwood noted there have been incidents in this area and with the business at the pool and access to the war memorial he supported the crossing.
- Councillor Dudley supported the crossing noting it will also slow traffic down.
- The District Mayor noted that if a traffic count was undertaken in this area it would show continuous traffic down this street. There is not a lot of room to come out of the car parks. He noted that if it was closer to the entrance to the TET carpark, or Wai o Rua, then not so many parks will be lost. He noted a lot of parents park on this street and a lot of kids use this route on foot so there is a need. He noted that there had been a social media outcry for a crossing after a child was hit in this area not long ago. He supported a crossing with the option being the one with least impact on car parks.
- Councillor Boyde agreed with the crossing but not where it was currently proposed as it would take parks away from the pool and the hockey turf. If it was located further down Portia Street then it would also benefit netball on the weekend.
- It was clarified that this was a safety crossing and not a pedestrian crossing. The Deputy Mayor asked that officers consider the comments regarding parking when finalising the location of the crossing. Councillor Erwood noted that the crossing needs to go to a footpath and be mindful of the exits and entrances of the war memorial carpark. Mr Hanne noted the proposed location was also designed to pick up the most foot traffic.

Recommendations

2. THAT Council approve the implementation of the Minor Safety Improvements in the vicinity of the Stratford Primary School, as per drawings attached to this report, including the:

   c. construction of **Option 2** Pedestrian courtesy crossing adjacent to the Wai o Rua Stratford Aquatic Centre on Portia Street.

DUDLEY/HALL
Carried
P&S/25/57

The Roading Engineer left the meeting at 4.18pm.

10. Decision Report – Additional Funding Central Taranaki Safe Community Trust (CTSCT)

D25/10604 Page 67

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

ERWOOD/JONES
Carried
P&S/25/58

~~2. THAT Council gives consideration to the options for additional funding for the Central Taranaki Safe Community Trust.~~

Recommended Reason
The Central Taranaki Safe Community Trust serves a crucial role in the District. The Trust has increased its services and Council's administration support over the years has decreased, with funding remaining the same. To enable the Trust to continue to support the district, Council should consider the options to increase funding as it meets the community outcomes.

The Parks and Reserves Officer left the meeting at 4.20pm

The Director – Community Services noted the initial support noted in 4.2 should be $10,000 and the recommendation for option one should read approve funding by up to $15,0000.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Boyde questioned if this decision would open a can of worms as council does not have a budget and will go into overspend, however he felt there is a fundamental difference for this group as it is a community group but with no members and they have not come to council for much. He supported the recommendation.
- It was clarified that the secretarial and financial support was in addition to the initial $10,000 financial support, however it is only a cash contribution now.
- Councillor Jones noted there were four options, do nothing, increase by inflation (approx. $5,000), give $10,000 and say don't come back for another 10 years or give the $15,000 as requested. Councillor Boyde noted there is not a lot of money so supported looking at inflation and revisiting during the next LTP.
- Councillor Erwood noted this group does a significant amount of work in the community and he supported increasing by $15,000 as requested.
- The Deputy Mayor asked if there was a funding strategy for community organisations. Ms Whareaitu noted there is a community relationships policy but not a specific funding one. The Deputy Mayor noted this group has a very wide community benefit but felt there should be a high level strategy on how council is funding these groups to strategise rather than ad-hoc decisions to requests on funding.
- Councillor Hall noted her support in funding this request however she would like to explore a funding strategy and felt this could be built on the relationships strategy to make that more strategic. She noted what the safe trust does is exceptional.
- It was clarified that the request was for an increase of $15,000 taking the total financial contribution to $30,000.

Recommendations

2. THAT Council increases the grant to the Central Taranaki Safe Community Trust to $30,000 for the 2025/26 financial year.

HALL/ERWOOD
Carried
P&S/25/59

Points noted in discussion:

- Councillor Sandford noted he was part of the founding members for this group and was happy to support the motion. They support our ratepayers and make it a safer place for everyone.
- The District Mayor noted that there used to be a community pool of money which was allocated to community groups and since that was ceased groups request funding and they are looked at individually. This group is a high achieving organisation and the projects they are involved in are across a broad spectrum of user groups. This fulfils the social wellbeing under the Local Government Act as well so is an extension of council's needs. He was happy to support the further $15,000 of funding and then look at it at the next Annual Plan.
- Councillor Dudley supported the increase but asked that the community funding strategy be added to matters outstanding.
- Councillor Jones noted that councillors had sat through an arduous LTP process and there was no budget, we told ratepayers we are saving money and then we are giving it out here.

11. Decision Report – Event support for Stratford Business Association

D25/13635 Page 73

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

DUDLEY/McKAY
Carried
P&S/25/60

2. THAT Council gives consideration to the options for support to the Stratford Business Association for the running of the Stratford Christmas Parade and Americarna.

JONES/BECK
Carried
P&S/25/61

Recommended Reason

The Stratford Business Association has approached council for support in the running of their main Community Events, the Christmas Parade and Americarna, after Council's support of a 0.5 FTE support ends at 30 June 2025. These options balance the need to reduce Council's involvement in to empower and enable the community organisation, while ensuring that community events remain successful and meet the needs of the local community.

The Director – Community Services noted the following points:

- This report reflects the request made to elected members earlier this month for support with the Christmas Parade and Americarna.
- Since then, officers have met with the Stratford Business Association (SBA) and their ideal solution would be advisory support. It is estimated this would be around 14 hours for the Christmas parade.
- The SBA committee was uncertain about their involvement with Americarna but it is estimated this would be around 10 hours of support.
- She noted an amendment to Option 1 (second paragraph) this option would help to ensure the Christmas Parade *and Americarna run smoothly during the SBA's transition to independence.*

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- It was clarified the 14 hours would cut into staff time rather than have a financial impact. Ms Whareaitu noted it would be about 4 hours on the ground on the day and up to 10 hours in the lead up, however it will depend on the capabilities and experience of the new secretary.
- Councillor Beck supported staff help at the Christmas Parade as it is an event Stratford can be proud of. He felt Americarna was different as it is a private business.
- Councillor Hall questioned if the capacity of SBA members helping had been provided? Ms Whareaitu noted it had not been noted. Councillor Dudley addvised as a member of SBA she was not asked to support the events.
- Councillor Sandford noted the Stratford Christmas Parade is good for the town, but was happy not to support Americarna as he did not know how much that brought to the town and there have been other options provided to them which would make it cheaper – he did not think we should be using ratepayer funds for this event.

- Councillor Jones noted the request was for technical help and not financial support, he was happy to continue with that assistance this year. He noted one of their concerns had been if they cut ties with council it will be difficult to run these things, he felt we should support with hand over help this year and if they ask council for technical help we should support.

The Community Engagement and Development Lead, Committee Advisor and Executive Assistance and the two members of the public left the meeting at 4.44pm.

12. Information Report – Solid Waste Analysis Protocol (SWAP) Survey

D25/9974 Page 79

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

ERWOOD/HALL
Carried
P&S/25/62

The Education Officer – Water and Waste and Waste Minimisation Officer noted the following points:

- This is the second round of the SWAP analysis and it is no surprise that it shows what we are doing is slowly working.
- If a dramatic change is wanted then we are still sitting at 55% of organic matter in the bins.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- The District Mayor noted that these results do show greenwaste is turning up in the red bin, council does not provide a greenwaste service but he wondered if there was a way to assist in promoting the business that does collect greenwaste, or sending the customer to them. Mr McNamara noted there is no active process in doing this, and there is more than one provider, however it is something officers can explore more. It was clarified the private providers provide their customers with bins. Mr Hanne noted that there is a cost to this service.
- The Deputy Mayor noted nappies and sanitary items were double what it was, she asked if any discussions had been held with Pregnancy Help to encourage people to use reusable nappies? Mr McNamara noted that they have had two rounds of funding from the contestable fund to help with this, he noted the figures increasing was a good sign as it is less of other products that shouldn't be in the bin. The Deputy Mayor requested that Council help communicate to the community you can get free reusable nappies from Pregnancy Help and return when you are finished.

The Economic and Community Development Manager, the Community Development Officer and the Education Officer – Water and Waste left the meeting at 4.51pm.

13. Information Report – Reserve Balances and Movements – 2023/24

D25/12205 Page 89

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

HALL/DUDLEY
Carried
P&S/25/63

Recommended Reason
To inform the Policy and Services Committee of the current reserves balances and a summary of the movements from the previous year.

The Corporate Accountant noted that the roading reserve has come down and the water deficit had slight increased.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- It was clarified that the capital maintenance for the farm is different from the council created and farm reserve. These are the ones that enable carry overs from year to year.
- The District Mayor noted the water supply reserve is in deficit and he asked if a regional water services entity is created how a deficit on funds that have been gathered for specific use for water is transferred? Mr Hanne noted this would be part of the negotiation as part of the transfer. The deficit may increase depending on renewal work. The District Mayor asked if it was appropriate to try to get the deficit to zero or to transfer the deficit to the new entity. Mrs Craig noted to get this to zero would significantly increase the targeted water rate.
- The Deputy Mayor noted the general renewal reserve and funding loan payments through a reserve. She asked if there were other ways to fund loan repayments without double dipping as the reserve should be sitting there for future generations but it is being used for past generations. Mr Hanne noted if the asset was created outright then every year 1% of that 100 year asset would be set aside so you would have enough money to replace that asset when the time comes. We are now incurring a loan for new assets and we are paying the loan back the same way depreciation is calculated which means that asset is going to be paid for by a loan via depreciation. The Deputy Mayor noted her concern was once you are on the debt slope then there is no way back.
- Councillor Beck noted if there were no reserves and everything was loan funded then you would be borrowing on today's funding, if you are building on reserves the money is worth less tomorrow.

14. Monthly Reports

14.1 Assets Report

D25/9992 Page 95

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

ERWOOD/WATT
Carried
P&S/25/64

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Sandford noted the demolition of the TSB Pool Complex had come in significantly under budget. Mr Hanne noted there were tenders that were well above what the budget was and he noted it was an exceptionally good contractor who undertook the work as well.
- Councillor Dudley noted she had received comments that the contractors had not swept the road after the water mains leak was repaired, which left a big mess. The residents swept this up themselves.

The Services Manager and Property Officer left the meeting at 5.08pm.

14.2 Community Services Report

D25/11217 Page 119

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

HALL/DUDLEY
Carried
P&S/25/65

The Director – Community Services noted nominations for the Citizen Awards and Youth Citizen Awards open today.

14.3 Corporate Services Report
D25/12489 Page 128

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

ERWOOD/McKAY
Carried
P&S/25/66

Questions/Points of Clarification:
- The District Mayor noted the rates collection table was not bad looking considering the times we are living in and noted that this was a credit to the people who are responsible for looking after that. Mrs Craig noted there is a weeks grace for missed payments and active communications with the rate payers is working well.
- The Deputy Mayor noted the reduction of budgeted capital works for the deferment of the subdivision and the grit tank and questioned if this was a genuine saving? Mrs Craig noted that the funding is transferred from this year to next year so it won't be a saving.
- It was clarified the roading section shows the effects of the reduction in funding received.
- The Deputy Mayor noted that with the weighted interest rates across the debt, council is currently coming in under what is in the reserves.
- It was clarified that the sundry debtors was largely made up from the milk proceeds from the farm and the adjustments for receiving the previous years milk in July/August.

14.4 Environmental Services Report
D25/8561 Page 146

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

McKAY/DUDLEY
Carried
P&S/25/67

Questions/Points of Clarification:
- The District Mayor noted it was good to see an upward trend in building activities.

15. Questions

There were no questions.

16. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 153

The closing karakia was read.

The meeting closed at 5.17pm.

M McKay
Chairman

Confirmed this 27th day of May 2025.

N C Volzke
District Mayor

MONTHLY REPORT
District Mayor

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

F22/55/04-D25/15585

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

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

/
Moved/Seconded

1. Local Government New Zealand Zone 3 meeting

The final Zone 3 meeting of this triennium was hosted by the South Taranaki District Council. Deputy Mayor McKay, Councillor Hall and myself attended the meeting that was held over two days in April. For me, the highlight was the presentation given by Andrew Clennett from Hiringa Energy on hydrogen, as a fuel of the future. As the roll out of hydrogen being an alternate fue, becomes more of a reality, the economic opportunities for Taranaki will grow substantially.

A presentation from Brad Olsen of Infometrics was also very informative and included some interesting data and insights into the local government sector spending patterns. A summary paper will be provided in hard copy at the council meeting. We also heard from Liana Poutou who provided an update on the Taranaki Maunga settlement, followed by a "where to now" information share. This will a very interesting and exciting period in the history of the maunga as the future guardianship and management direction are established.

2. Council meetings at other venues

For a number of years now council has chosen to hold the April ordinary meeting of council in the Republic of Whangamomona. While this has been a successful public relations exercise and sends a message to our Eastern residents that we do recognise them as part our district, the interest in more recent times seems to have waned. I believe this partly due to the meeting content at an ordinary meeting, and it would be far more interesting and engaging for members of the public if we changed the meeting to the Policy and Services Committee meeting.

Also, it has also been suggested that maybe we could move the yearly "rural meeting" around the district, thereby raising profile in different parts of our rural community. I don't expect to make a decision on next years meeting schedule right now, but I raise this matter while it is fresh in our minds and so it isn't forgotten in November when we set the meeting schedule for 2026. Other options can be considered at that time.

3. Taranaki Passenger Transport Committee meeting

The Taranaki Passenger Transport Committee held its inaugural meeting on 17 April 2025. Minutes of the meeting can be found on the Taranaki Regional Council website.

This committee has recently been established by the Taranaki Regional Council and its functions are focussed on the delivery of passenger transport services cross the region. The Stratford District Council has been invited to have one representative as a member of this committee. For the inaugural meeting I attended in that capacity. The April meeting focussed on establishment and procedural matters and no further meetings are scheduled until after the local government elections later this year. When the new council committee appointments are made, a representative and alternate for the Passenger Transport Committee will be required.

4. ANZAC Day Commemorations

Councils ANZAC Day commemorations were well attended and very well received this year. We were blessed with a beautiful sunny morning to hold the parade. Then followed the Dawn Service at the Cross of Sacrifice, adjacent to the War Memorial Hall. The parade participant numbers were on a par with other years but the crowd in attendance was estimated to be larger than in the recent past. This year we made a few tweaks to the service including calling forward the wreath bearers individually and by name, which enabled the public to know which organisations were represented. Feed-back on this change has been very positive. I acknowledge and thank all those who contributed to making this a very special occasion and to the community members who attended to support this event, and remember the men and women who have served in New Zealand's defence forces.

5. Youth Member of Parliament

In my report last month, I commented on the selection process and the quality of candidates for the position of Whanganui Electorate Youth Member of Parliament. However, at the time I was unable to reveal the name of the successful applicant, but now I can. The person selected was Taiko Edwards-Haruru who is currently a Year 13 student at Wanganui High School. As a youth MP, Taiko aims to foster cultural relationships, combat cyber bullying and ensure adequate school resources. His application was centred around education, mental health and cultural representation. His tenure started on April 28 and finishes on August 29.

6. Correspondence

- Stratford Volunteer Fire Brigade Call Outs – April 2025

7. Some Events Attended

- Attended - meeting of MTFJ (by zoom)
- Attended - meeting of the Stratford District Youth Council
- Attended – LGNZ Zone 3 meeting in Hawera (over two days)
- Attended – LGNZ local government Insights (zoom) with Brad Olsen
- Attended – visit to Huiakama School
- Attended – meeting with Marire Trust Board members
- Attended – Stakeholders feedback session on Prospero Place
- Attended – meeting of the Stratford Park Steering Committee
- Attended – meeting of the Taranaki Passenger Transport Committee
- Attended – meeting of Te Kōpuka nā Te Awa Tupua
- Attended – officiated at ANZAC Day Commemorations
- Attended – meeting of the Stratford Health Trust (x1)
- Met - with Chairperson of the Stratford Health Trust
- Met – with Chairperson of the Percy Thompson Trust
- Met – with NZTA Regional Relationship Director, Linda Stewart
- Radio Interview - Access Radio (x1)
- Radio Interview – More FM (x1)
- Newspaper - Stratford Press Interviews and Articles (multiple)
- Newspaper - Daily News (multiple)
- Attended - Regional Mayors and Chairs weekly meeting (x3)
- Attended - Council Pre-Agenda meetings (x2)
- Attended – Council Workshop (x1)
- Attended – Public Forum (x1)
- Attended - Council Meetings (x4)

N C Volzke JP
District Mayor **Date**: 7 April 2025

Stratford Volunteer Fire Brigade Callouts April 2025
The Stratford Fire Brigade responded to 21 calls in April 2025

02-04-25	Assist ambulance with medical call Hamlet Street and set up landing zone for rescue helicopter at Taranaki Diocesan School Pembroke Road
03-04-25	Assist ambulance with landing zone for rescue helicopter at Swansea Park Swansea Road
04-04-25	Alarm activation St Joseph's Primary School Miranda Street
04-04-25	Motor vehicle accident car rolled Opunake Road
07-04-25	Alarm activation Shakeepear Café Mountain Road
08-04-25	Assist ambulance with medical call Miranda Street
09-04-25	Motor vehicle accident Mountain Road outside Amble Meats
12-04-25	Motor vehicle accident car vs. pole Broadway North stood down before leaving station
12-04-25	Rubbish fire Beaconsfield Road also attended by the Toko Fire Brigade
15-04-25	Water tanker required vegetation fire Taikatu Road Auroa assist South Taranaki fire brigades
17-04-25	Motor vehicle accident car rolled Monmouth Road
17-04-25	Water tanker required Waitotara Hotel assist several fire brigades
17-04-25	Backyard rubbish fire Sylvia Street
18-04-25	Motor vehicle accident car vs. motor bike Mountain road near Hills Road
18-04-25	Water tanker required re-ignition Waitotora Hotel assist several fire brigades
20-04-25	Motor vehicle accident car in ditch person trapped Douglas Road Assist Toko fire brigade
22-04-25	Alarm activation Avon Primary School Hamlet Street
23-04-25	Alarm activation Stratford Primary School Regan Street
25-04-25	Water tanker required trees on fire Whenuku Road Normanby assist Hawera fire brigade
26-04-25	Motor vehicle accident car vs. car Mountain Road Midhirst
30-04-25	Motor vehicle accident car in ditch Mountain Road Midhirst

DECISION REPORT

F22/55/04 – D25/14831

To: Council
From: Director – Corporate Services
Date: 13 May 2025
Subject: Adopt Annual Plan 2025/26

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

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.

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.

/
Moved/Seconded

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To consider and to adopt the *Annual Plan 2025/26*.

2. Executive Summary

2.1 The Council has been undertaking a process to prepare and adopt its *Annual Plan 2025/26*. The *Annual Plan 2025/26* proposes a business as planned approach in line with the plans for 2025/26 in the *Long-Term Plan 2024-34*.

2.2 The Plan is consistent with the considerations and decisions of the Council made at the *Annual Plan 2025/26* workshop on 11 March 2025 and at the Committee meeting on 25 March 2025. In particular, as there are no significant or material differences proposed for the *Annual Plan 2025/26* from the content of the *2024/34 Long-Term Plan*, the Council approves the preparation and adoption of the *Annual Plan 2025/26* without any further public engagement or consultation.

2.3 The *Annual Plan 2025/26* is required to be adopted by 30 June 2025. Following adoption, the *Annual Plan 2025/26* will be subject to additional design work, fine-tuning and editing during the design and publication process. Following the adoption of the *Annual Plan 2025/26* at this meeting, it is proposed to set the rates for 2025/26 later in the Agenda.

2. Local Government Act 2002 – Section 10

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

The *Annual Plan 2025/26* includes all Council Activities and therefore affects all four wellbeings.

4. Background

4.1 The Council is required to prepare and adopt an annual plan in each year that it does not prepare and adopt a long-term plan. Section 95 of the Local Government Act 2002 sets out the requirements for an annual plan. An annual plan is required to be in place prior to the commencement of the year to which it applies.

4.2 The Council put considerable effort into the preparation and adoption of its *Long-Term Plan 2024-34*. This included a full special consultative procedure as required by the Local Government Act 2002.

4.3 The *Annual Plan 2025/26* proposes no new significant initiatives or programmes of work proposed that have not already been subject to a public consultation/engagement process.

4.3 Consequently, the Council has previously decided not to undertake any additional public consultation and engagement on its *Annual Plan 2025/26* (as there are no significant or material differences proposed for 2025/26 compared to the 2025/26 proposals contained in the *Long-Term Plan 2024-34).*

4.4 Council held an *Annual Plan 2025/26* workshop with elected members on 11 March 2025. This workshop presented the updated 2025/26 financial forecasts, as well as a discussion around some minor changes proposed for fees, charges and performance measures. The financial forecasts outlined an overall 6.9% total rates increase for the *Annual Plan 2025/26*, which is what was outlined in the *Long Term Plan 2024/34*. While there are some changes within budgets for different activities in Council, these are mainly due to changes in the economic environment and roading subsidies from Central Government, not due to significant decisions by Council. There are no changes to the Financial Strategy.

5. Consultative Process

5.1 **Public Consultation - Section 82**

The Council has adopted the streamlined processes in Section 95 (2A) of the Local Government Act 2002 for the preparation and adoption of the *Annual Plan 2025/26*, as the proposals and budgets have already been fully consulted on through the preparation and adoption of the *Long Term Plan 2024/34*. This involves adopting the *Annual Plan 2025/26* with no further public engagement or consultation.

5.2 **Māori Consultation - Section 81**

A community hui was held at Whakaahurangi Marae during the *Long Term Plan 2024/34* consultation process. For reasons stated above the Council is adopting the *Annual Plan 2025/26* with no further public engagement or consultation.

6. Risk Analysis

Refer to the Council Risk Register - available on the Council website. • Does this report cover any issues that relate to any risks on the Council Risk Register, and if so which risks and what are the impacts and likelihood of eventuating? • Does this report cover any issues that may lead to any new risks that are not on the Council Risk Register, and if so, provide some explanation of any new identified risks. • Is there a legal opinion needed?

6.1 This report relates directly to Risk 9: LTP/Annual Plan, on Council's Risk Register.

The risk being: IF LTP/Annual Plan is not adopted by 30 June THEN council cannot set rates, statutory breach reported to Minister, unable to commence service delivery, additional audit scrutiny.

And the control measure being: Set a timetable to ensure statutory deadline is met. Good project management. Good quality data is provided. Keep abreast of possible changes to legislation and plan accordingly. Good communication to all staff and liaison with Audit NZ.

At this stage there is a low likelihood that the risk will eventuate as the date set to adopt the *Annual Plan 2025/26* is highly likely to be met.

7. Decision Making Process – Section 79

7.1 **Direction**

	Explain
Is there a strong link to Council's strategic direction, Long Term Plan/District Plan?	Yes – this is directly in relation to the Long Term Plan and strategic direction, albeit relating to one year ended 30 June 2026.
What relationship does it have to the communities current and future needs for infrastructure, regulatory functions, or local public services?	A direct and strong relationship with the communities current and future needs in all these areas as the Annual Plan confirms the spending programme and key priorities for the 2025/26 financial year.

7.2 **Data**

This table below highlights key items of the *Annual Plan 2025/26* financial estimates:

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Rates Revenue	18,653	19,938	19,938	(0)
Rate Increase (including CPI)	15.37%	6.89%	6.89%	0.00%
Net External Debt per head of population	$4,161	$4,637	$4,214	423
Net External Debt per ratepayer	$8,162	$9,096	$8,218	878
Interest expense / Total Revenue	4.4%	4.8%	5.1%	-0.35%
Rates Revenue	18,653	19,938	19,938	(0)
User Charges for Services and Other Revenue	4,160	4,214	4,210	4
Subsidies and Grants	9,921	8,361	6,707	1,654
Total Revenue	**32,734**	**32,513**	**30,856**	**1,657**
Capital Expenditure	18,516	16,456	14,160	2,296
Operating Expenditure by Activity Group				
Recreation and Facilities	7,789	7,785	8,023	(238)
Democracy	1,552	1,613	1,637	(24)
Community Development	1,777	1,865	1,819	46
Environmental Services	2,752	3,018	3,085	(67)
Roading	7,754	8,300	9,180	(880)
Stormwater Drainage	471	495	488	7
Wastewater (Sewerage)	1,025	1,065	1,253	(188)
Solid Waste (Rubbish and Recycling)	1,443	1,496	1,505	(9)
Water Supply	2,370	2,452	2,647	(195)
Total Operating Expenditure	**26,933**	**28,089**	**29,636**	**(1,547)**
Revenue Increase (including CPI)	**15.37%**	**6.9%**	**6.9%**	**0.00%**
Rates per Head of Population	$1,843	$1,970	$1,970	$0
Public Debt per Head of Population	$4,171	$4,560	$4,352	$208

The main changes from the *Long Term Plan 2024/34* are due to less NZTA Waka Kotahi roading subsidies (as a result of declined projects) and a large increase in depreciation (particularly in roading due to 30 June 2024 revaluations). There has also been some inflationary increases on some expenses. Capital expenditure has decreased as a direct result of declined roading projects.

Work programmes remain consistent with what was proposed in the *Long Term Plan 2024/34*, with a Back to Basics approach to service delivery and a real focus on infrastructure resilience.

Fees and charges has some updated changes, as discussed and approved at the annual plan workshop on 11 March 2025, with the majority relating to Building Control.

Refer to **Appendix 1** for the full copy of the *Annual Plan 2025/26*.

7.3 **Significance**

	Yes/No	Explain
Is the proposal significant according to the Significance Policy in the Long Term Plan?	No	
Is it: • considered a strategic asset; or	No	
• above the financial thresholds in the Significance Policy; or	No	
• impacting on a CCO stakeholding; or	No	
• a change in level of service; or	No	
• creating a high level of controversy; or	No	
• possible that it could have a high impact on the community?	No	

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

High	Medium	Low
		✓

7.4 **Options**

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

Option 1 (recommended option)

To approve and adopt the *Annual Plan 2025/26.*

Option 2

Do not approve the *Annual Plan 2025/26* as presented. This increases the risk of Council missing its statutory deadline of adopting the *Annual Plan 2025/26* by 30 June 2025.

7.5 **Financial**

• Is there an impact on funding and debt levels? • Will work be undertaken within the current budget? • What budget has expenditure come from? • How will the proposal be funded? eg. rates, reserves, grants etc.

Financial impacts of the *Annual Plan 2025/26* are highlighted earlier in this report. The annual plan has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice.

7.6 **Prioritisation & Trade-off**

This has been considered throughout the preparation of the *Annual Plan 2025/26*.

The Council has confidence that it can deliver on the outcomes of the proposed *Annual Plan 2025/26.*

7.7 **Legal Issues**

Council is legally required to adopt its *Annual Plan 2025/26* by 30 June 2025.

7.8 **Policy Issues - Section 80**

The *Annual Plan 2025/26* is in line with the Revenue and Financing Policy and the Treasury Management Policy.

<u>Attachments:</u>

Appendix 1 *Annual Plan 2025/26*

Raelene Johnson
Director – Corporate Services

[Approved by]
Sven Hanne
Chief Executive **Date** 6 May 2025

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL PLAN 2025/26

Contents


Prospero Place

Purpose of Plan

The purpose of this document is:

- to describe the annual budget and funding impact statement for the year to which the annual plan relates; and
- to describe any variation from the financial statements and funding impact statement included in the local authority's Long Term Plan in respect of the year; and
- to support the Long Term Plan in providing integrated decision making and co-ordination of the resources of the local authority; and
- to contribute to the accountability of the local authority to the community; and
- to provide an opportunity for participation by the public in decision-making processes relating to the costs and funding of activities to be undertaken by the local authority.

(Section 95, Local Government Act 2002).

Summary of Information

This annual plan, including the Prospective Financial Statements, was adopted at the Ordinary Meeting of council on Tuesday 13 May 2025.

The Prospective Financial Statements (financial statements) comply with the requirements of FRS 42 issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board of the External Reporting Board (XRB), and the New Zealand equivalent of International Reporting Standard for Public Benefit Entities (NZ IFRS PEB), with Council designating itself as a Tier 2 public benefit entity for the purposes of compliance with these standards.

The major matters contained within the Annual Plan are:

- to describe the annual budget and funding impact statement for the 2025/26 financial year; and
- to describe any variation from the financial statements and funding impact statement included in the Council's Long Term Plan in respect of the year; and
- to support the Long Term Plan in providing integrated decision making and co-ordination of the Council's resources.

A copy of the Annual Plan may be inspected at the offices of the Stratford District Council, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford, the Stratford Public Library and iSITE, Prospero Place, Stratford and the website: www.stratford.govt.nz or a copy can be obtained by writing to the Stratford District Council, P O Box 320, Stratford 4352.

Public Consultation

In April 2025 Council considered the requirements for public consultation for the 2025/26 Annual Plan and decided that no public consultation be undertaken as there was nothing significantly different to the corresponding year in the Long Term Plan which was consulted on and adopted in 2024.

Additional considerations during this discussion included the overall cost of consultation as well as the high level of significance in relation to the Water Services Delivery Plan consultation with the importance of public engagement for this decision being prioritised.

The overall rates increase as proposed in Year 2 of the Long Term Plan remained unchanged.

From the Mayor and Chief Executive

Tēnā koutou katoa

Welcome to Stratford District Council's Annual Plan for 2025/26.

After a period of significant project delivery, including a new bike park and a new aquatic centre, as well as significant cost increases across most of our operations as a result of record-high inflation, things are now starting to look a bit more settled.

The Long Term Plan 2024-34 adopted a back-to-basics approach to the delivery of council services, in recognition of the strained economic environment and a significant reduction in external funding available to council.

While there are still some unders and overs in the individual budgets, we have been able to maintain the rates increase for this Annual Plan at 6.9% as originally forecast in year 2 of the Long Term Plan 2024-2034. The actual change that will apply to your property depends on factors such as property type, value and whether it receives council services including water supply, wastewater or solid waste collection. A range of sample rates is provided on page 14 and 15 of this plan.

Our key focus for the next 12 months will be on maintaining our existing infrastructure and continuing to replace assets when they come to the end of their life, as required to ensure ongoing service provision to our community. Thats what we meant when we adopted the back-to-basics philosophy - it's about being realistic and streamlining our core service areas.

Two notable exceptions from this will be the upgrade of Prospero Place, Stratford's town square, and the extension of Council's residential subdivision. The Prospero Place project has been a few years in the making and is now in full flight with draft plans due to go to the community before the end of the 2024/25 year. The residential subdvision is a continuation of the previous council subdivision off Pembroke Road. 2025/26 will see scheme plans for the subdivision evolve which will then set the scene for the delivery of infrastructure, such as roading, water and wastewater.

Progressing the outcome of the Local Water Done Well reforms will also be a key area of attention for staff and elected members alike. At the time of writing this plan, consultation on the two options for the future delivery of water services for the Stratford district is underway, with submissions closing end of May 2025.

The options are to either continue as an in-house service delivered by council but meeting new, higher standards recently set by central government – or to join up with our neighbours, New Plymouth District Council and South Taranaki District Council to form a regional water services council-controlled organisation that delivers drinking water and wastewater services to the whole region. Both options will require additional work this year, with significant financial investment from the following financial year, 2026/27.

Outside of Local Water Done Well, the legislation reforms that impact local government have slowed down slightly. However, we are awaiting the outcomes of the Resource Management Act and changes to the Building Act. These are likely to have a big influence on the way we operate in the regulatory space, setting a new direction for the delivery of consenting and building services.

We have a lot to be proud of here, in the heart of Taranaki, and we want to keep that feeling alive. We'll work hard to maintain a balanced and realistic approach that manages the needs and wants of our community against our financial performance. Finding that sweet spot, that we believe will result in positive outcomes for the whole community, is what democracy is all about.

Ngā mihi

Neil Volzke
District Mayor

Sven Hanne
Chief Executive

District Profile

Stratford is located at the junction of State Highway 3 and State Highway 43, in the heart of Central Taranaki, in the North Island of New Zealand.

Stratford is the closest main centre to Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki (National Park), and the gateway to Taranaki Maunga, the Manganui Ski Field, Dawson Falls, and the Forgotten World Highway (SH43) which winds its way through east Taranaki to Taumarunui.

Covering approximately 2,170 square kilometres, it has four distinct regions:

- The alpine and bush environment of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki
- The dairy farming country of the Taranaki ring-plain.
- The frontal hill country. This land lies between the ring plain and the eastern hill country. It is mostly utilised for sheep and beef farming.
- The relatively steep hill-country of eastern Taranaki, some areas of which are farmed mostly for sheep and beef farming. Some areas are abandoned farmland reverting to bush while some land remains in original bush.

Stratford District is one of New Zealand's smallest local authority areas, being the 58th largest district in New Zealand, of 67, based on population estimates.

Stratford District is part of the Taranaki Region. Taranaki has four Councils, made up of three territorial authorities and one regional council:

- Taranaki Regional Council
- New Plymouth District Council
- South Taranaki District Council
- Stratford District Council

The Stratford District Council is currently represented by 11 Councillors and the Mayor. Stratford district is divided into three wards – an urban ward (6 Councillors), a rural ward (4 Councillors) and a māori ward (1 Councillor). The Council has no community boards.

The Council has one Council Controlled Organisation (CCO), the Percy Thomson Trust, with control through the ability to appoint more than half of the trustees. The Trust is registered as a charitable trust, and therefore exempt from income tax.

The most recent population estimate for the district of 10,160 people is based on Statistics NZ population estimates as at 30 June 2022.

Elected Members

District Mayor

Neil Volzke, Mayor
nvolzke@stratford.govt.nz
027 6317 418

Māori Ward Councillor

Clive Tongaawhikau
clive.tongaawhikau@stratford.govt.nz
021 818 006

Urban Ward Councillors

Min McKay, Deputy Mayor
min.mckay@stratford.govt.nz
027 357 6060

John Sandford, JP
john.sandford@stratford.govt.nz
027 496 2278

Annette Dudley
annette.dudley@stratford.govt.nz
027 452 6617

Mathew Watt
mathew.watt@stratford.govt.nz
027 263 1235

Jono Erwood
jono.erwood@stratford.govt.nz
027 6404 008

Ellen Hall
Ellen.Hall@stratford.govt.nz
021 817 792

Rural Ward Councillors

Amanda Harris
amanda.harris@stratford.govt.nz
027 698 8291

Grant Boyde, JP
grant.boyde@stratford.govt.nz
(06) 765 5715

Vaughan Jones
vaughan.jones@stratford.govt.nz
027 620 2106

Steve Beck
steve.beck@stratford.govt.nz
027 444 7571

District Mayor and Councillors

Policy & Services Committee
Chair - Deputy Mayor

Audit & Risk Committee
Independent Chair

Farm Committee
Chair – Elected Member

Executive Committee
Chair – District Mayor

Chief Executive
Administration and Management
Annual Plan Implementation
Human Resources
Long Term Planning
Civil Defence

Assets

Roading
Stormwater
Water Supply
Solid Waste
Trade Waste
Wastewater
Parks and Reserves
Sports Fields
Council Properties
Cemeteries
Bylaws

Environmental Services

Planning &
Regulatory
Resource
Consents
Monitoring
Building Control
Environmental Health
Hazardous
Substances
Liquor Licensing
Dog Control
General Inspections
Parking Control

Community Services

Community
Development
Community Funding
Information Centre
Library
Communications
Economic
Development
Customer Service
Aquatic Centre

Corporate Services

Rates
Accounting Financial
Reporting
Treasury
Debt Collection
Administration
Information
Technology
Record Management
Health and Safety

Significant Forecasting Assumptions

Introduction

Stratford District Council has adopted a range of forecasting assumptions which underpin the preparation of the Annual Plan 2025/26, and which represent the most likely future scenario with the information known at present. However, the future is always uncertain and there are a number of other likely outcomes that have not been factored in. Therefore, variations from the forecasting assumptions are likely, and it is accepted that variations from the annual plan may be material.

Interest

The interest on borrowings is based on the rate of 4.00% and 4.00% on investments.

External Funding

The Funding Assistance Rate (FAR) government roading subsidy is forecast to be 63% in 2025/26. The roading budget was adjusted for the Annual Plan as a result of the funding decision made by Waka Kotahi (NZTA) in August 2024.

Revaluation of Assets

It is assumed that the value of Council assets will be consistent with the most recent asset valuation for each class of assets. Roading and Waters assets are revalued every two years, with the last revaluation done as at 30 June 2024. Land and buildings are revalued every three years, with the last revaluation done as at 30 June 2023. Therefore, the next revaluation for all the above asset classes will be 30 June 2026.

Capital Expenditure

Council has forecast for $14,161,000 of capital expenditure in the 2025/26 Annual Plan.

The key risk is that the Council is unable to deliver the works programmes as outlined. If the risk occurs then this creates a wave and backload of work, in particular continued delays in the delivery of renewals and upgrades, subsequently that may impact on the achievement of levels of service, potential increased costs from delays and risks to the continuity and delivery of services with the risks of assets failing before they can be replaced. This also comes with the risk that Council rates and borrows to fund a program that can't be delivered in the budgeted timeframe.

Contractor Availability

The ability of Council to deliver many core infrastructure services as well as parks, reserves, cemeteries, and property maintenance depends on the ability of contractors to deliver to agreed expectations. An effective procurement process also relies on there being an adequate number of contractors to bid for Council work, enabling a more competitive process – not just on price but quality of delivery.

There is a moderate to high level of risk that there will be a shortage of contractors or that contractors will not deliver to the agreed standards and specifications within the agreed time.

Asset Life

The remaining useful lives of Council assets are recorded in the individual Asset Management Plans and have been taken from the most recent Independent Asset Revaluation.

There is a medium to high level of uncertainty about the expected useful lives which is based upon estimates by actual performance, industry standards, engineer estimates, and valuers. Plant, equipment and infrastructural assets lives range from 2 years to 120 years and were determined either upon initial recognition, or at the asset revaluation cycles. Depreciation and interest costs would increase if replacement capital expenditure was required earlier than anticipated. However, these impacts could be mitigated as capital projects could be reprioritised in the event of early expiration of assets. It is also possible for assets to last longer than their estimated useful life, again mitigating the effects of asset failure before the expected date. Service disruption may occur where assets fail before their useful life, however, Council are very responsive when it comes to ensuring the core infrastructure services are maintained and operated with minimal disruption.

Legislative Reform

Local Water Done Well

Local Water Done Well is the Government's plan to address New Zealand's long-standing water infrastructure challenges and replaces the previous government's Three Waters reforms (called Affordable Waters).

Local Water Done Well aims to provide local councils with the choice of how they will provide reliable and safe water services to their communities over the next 30 years and beyond.

Councils can choose to deliver water services either by themselves, or with other councils, as long as they meet all relevant standards, can provide the infrastructure investment required and are financially sustainable – meaning income from water service covers the full cost of providing them.

Since March 2024 our Council has been looking at several different options for the future delivery of water services including delivering water independently, as well as working with the South Taranaki and New Plymouth district councils to consider what joint water services delivery could look like in Taranaki.

After a lot of work and thorough investigation, the three Taranaki district councils are currently proposing that the best way to deliver safe, reliable and affordable water services over the next 30-plus years is through a regional council-controlled organisation. This would be jointly owned by the South Taranaki, Stratford and New Plymouth district councils. The alternative option is to keep the delivery of water services within Stratford District Council, modified to meet new requirements (SDC in-house business unit).

Both options are viable under the existing legislation.

The Council is consulting with the community during the month ending 30 May 2025, with a public hearing set for 24 June 2025 and a final decision on which future water services delivery option our Council chooses planned for 8 July 2025.

This annual plan does not make financial allowances for either outcome as neither option would come into force within the time period this plan covers. Once a decision is made on which direction the Stratford District will be taking with regards to water services delivery, this will be incorporated into our future financial planning documents.

Resource Management Act

The Government currently intends to replace the Resource Management Act with two new Acts. A Natural Environment Act which would manage environmental protection and limits and a Planning Act which would manage land use, development and infrastructure delivery. Each Act would have a series of instruments supporting their implementation. The new framework incudes regional resource management plans, rather than each district having its own and features greater emphasis on private property rights. A further change includes centralising all resource management related compliance and enforcement functions with a national entity.

This annual plan does not make any allowances for these possible changes, as if they do proceed, they are not expected to be implemented until the 2027/28 financial year.

Building Act

The Government has recently announced some changes to accelerate building projects. The proposed changes include self-certification and building inspection targets. The building inspection targets are less onerous than our existing internal targets so are unlikely to bring about significant changes. The proposed self-certification would enable approved building firms, plumbers and drainlayers to sign off their own work. This would be an opt-in situation where participants would need to meet eligibility criteria which has not been released yet.

These proposed changes have potential to reduce the amount of building projects that require building consents. It is difficult to predict by how much, because the eligibility criteria is not yet publicly available. Consequently, this annual plan does not make financial allowances for Building Act changes. If they do proceed, these changes will be incorporated into future financial plans.

Climate Change

Climate change is expected to affect the Stratford district over the short to long term through an increase in the frequency and intensity of storm events, and a change in rainfall patterns resulting in more extreme weather events, and an increase in drought events.

These extremes place increased pressure on government, private flood insurance schemes, and disaster relief.

Council responds to and plans for impacts of climate change as part of asset management practices by monitoring NIWA data in order to plan for and make adjustments to infrastructure where and when needed. Where adjustments are needed they are undertaken through new works and/or asset replacement.

Rating Base Information

The projected number of rating units within the district of the local authority at the end of the preceding financial year is 5,118.

The projected total capital value of rating units within the district of the local authority at the end of the preceding financial year is $4,367,370,650.

The projected total land value of rating units within the district of the local authority at the end of the preceding financial year is $2,743,342,350.

Changes from the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan

Introduction

The purpose of this Annual Plan is to outline the financial budget for the 2025/26 year, identify any changes from the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan (LTP) and to contribute to the accountability of the Council to its community.

Leadership

The community priorities strongly indicate that Council is expected to take a leadership role in areas not considered core services of Council, including health, education and social support. Council will continue to be a strong advocate for the District, and will, where appropriate, provide a co-ordination and facilitation role to ensure services are delivered to the community. Elected members will continue to participate in many community organisations, providing a two way communication channel between community groups and Council.

Financial Trends

This Plan is built around a continuation of the activities within the LTP, on the premise of ensuring retention of the core services and facilities of Council and the Stratford District, and maintenance of existing levels of service.

The LTP signalled rating revenue for 2025/26 of $19,938,000 (including water by meter revenue); this Annual Plan rates requirement is the same at $19,938,000.

Variations

A simple comparison table between what the LTP said for 2025/26 and what this Annual Plan says is (figures in $1,000's):

Item	LTP $000	Annual Plan $000
Total Rates (GST exclusive)	$19,938	$19,938
General Rate	$6,124	$6,416
Roading	$4,912	$4,152
Uniform Annual General Charge (UAGC)	$4,225	$4,298
Solid Waste (Rubbish and Recycling)	$1,222	$1,224
Water Supply	$2,416	$2,620
Wastewater (Sewerage)	$1,019	$1,208
Total Debt	$46,150	$44,042
%Total Rates Revenue Increase	6.90%	6.9%
% Uniform Fixed Rates (UAGC and Solid Waste)	27.39%	27.70%
Debt Servicing as a % of Operating Revenue	4.80%	5.15%
Debt as a % of Operating Revenue	141.95%	142.74%
Debt/Equity Ratio	8.87%	8.21%

The variations in rate charges for 2025/26 as projected in the LTP and as calculated in this Annual Plan, are listed below.

Rate	2024-34 LTP Projection 2025/26	Annual Plan 2025/26	Variation (Less)
General Rate cents/$ of Capital Value	0.16248	0.16893	0.00645
Roading cents/$ of Capital Value	0.13220	0.10152	(0.03068)
Roading - forestry only	0.85669	0.65794	(0.19875)
UAGC	$940	$953	$13
Solid Waste (Rubbish and Recycling)	$513	$507	($6)
Water Supply	$672	$713	$41
Wastewater 1 Closet	$392	$464	$72
Wastewater 2 Closets	$588	$696	$108
Wastewater 3 Closets	$784	$928	$144
Wastewater 4 Closets	$882	$1,044	$162
Wastewater 5 Closets	$980	$1,160	$180
Wastewater 6 Closets	$1,078	$1,276	$198
Wastewater 7 Closets	$1,176	$1,392	$216
Wastewater 8+ Closets	$1,274	$1,508	$234

Annual Plan Disclosure Statement

Annual Plan disclosure statement for the year ending 30 June 2026.

What is the purpose of this statement?

he purpose of this statement is to disclose the council's planned financial performance in relation to various benchmarks to enable the assessment of whether the council is prudently managing its revenues, expenses, assets, liabilities, and general financial dealings.

The council is required to include this statement in its annual plan in accordance with the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014 (the regulations). Refer to the regulations for more information, including definitions of some of the terms used in this statement. These can be viewed on www.legislation.govt.nz under Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014.

Benchmark	Limit	Planned	Met
Rates Affordability Benchmark • Income • Increases	<$19,959,000 <7.0%	$19,938,000 6.9%	Yes Yes
Debt Affordability Benchmark			
Net debt to operating revenue	<115%	99.09%	Yes
Balanced budget benchmark	>100%	103%	Yes
Essential services benchmark	>100%	173%	Yes
Debt servicing benchmark	<10%	5.15%	Yes

Financial Terminology

Net Surplus

The difference between Revenue and Operating Expenses, where Revenue is higher.

Net Deficit

The difference between Revenue and Operating Expenses, where Operating Expenses is higher.

Gross Debt

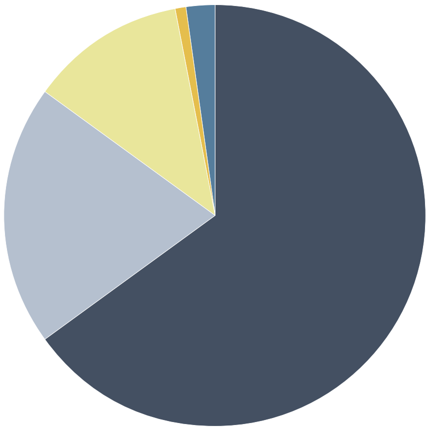
This is the total amount of external borrowings. *Borrowings* and *Debt* is used interchangeable with gross debt.

Net Debt

This is the total amount of external borrowings, less liquid financial investments including term deposits with registered banks and the loan to the Stratford Agricultural and Pastoral Association.

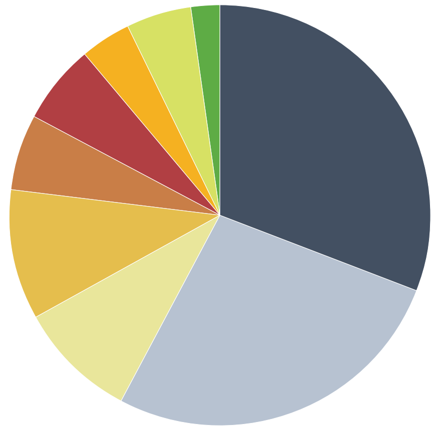
Funding Overview

Where the funding comes from



- Rates 65%
- Waka Kotahi NZTA Assistance 20%
- User Charges for Services 12%
- Financial Revenue 1%
- Grants and Sundry Revenue 2%

Where Council expenditure goes



- Roading 31%
- Recreation and Facilities 27%
- Water Supply 9%
- Environmental Services 10%
- Community Development 6%
- Democracy 6%
- Wastewater (Sewerage) 4%
- Solid Waste (Rubbish and Recycling) 5%
- Stormwater Drainage 2%

Highlights

	2024/25 Annual Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Rates Revenue	18,653	19,938	19,938	(0)
Rate Increase (including CPI)	15.37%	6.89%	6.89%	0.00%
Net External Debt per head of population	$4,161	$4,637	$4,214	423
Net External Debt per ratepayer	$8,162	$9,096	$8,218	878
Interest expense / Total Revenue	4.4%	4.8%	5.1%	-0.35%
Rates Revenue	18,653	19,938	19,938	(0)
User Charges for Services and Other Revenue	4,160	4,214	4,210	4
Subsidies and Grants	9,921	8,361	6,707	1,654
Total Revenue	**32,734**	**32,513**	**30,856**	**1,657**
Capital Expenditure	18,516	16,456	14,160	2,296
Operatng Expenditure by Activity Group				
Recreation and Facilities	7,789	7,785	8,023	(238)
Democracy	1,552	1,613	1,637	(24)
Community Development	1,777	1,865	1,819	46
Environmental Services	2,752	3,018	3,085	(67)
Roading	7,754	8,300	9,180	(880)
Stormwater Drainage	471	495	488	7
Wastewater (Sewerage)	1,025	1,065	1,253	(188)
Solid Waste (Rubbish and Recycling)	1,443	1,496	1,505	(9)
Water Supply	2,370	2,452	2,647	(195)
Total Operating Expenditure	**26,933**	**28,089**	**29,636**	**(1,547)**
Revenue Increase (including CPI)	**15.37%**	**6.9%**	**6.9%**	**0.00%**
Rates per Head of Population	$1,843	$1,970	$1,970	$0
Public Debt per Head of Population	$4,171	$4,560	$4,352	$208

Prospective Funding Summary

The Funding Summary shows that Council requires:	2024/25 Annual Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Total Rates Revenue Required	**18,653**	**19,938**	**19,938**	**(0)**
Total Rates Revenue Increase	15.37%	6.90%	6.9%	0.0%
Uniform Annual General Charge (UAGC)	3,917	4,225	4,298	(73)
Section 21 Rating Percentage Cap	27.23%	27.32%	27.70%	-0.31%
Targeted Rates				
Water Supply	2,336	2,416	2,620	(204)
% Increase	12.85%	3.45%	12.16%	-8.71%
Solid Waste (Rubbish and Recycling)	1,162	1,222	1,224	(2)
% Increase	36.19%	5.19%	5.36%	-0.17%
Wastewater	979	1,019	1,208	(189)
% Increase	20.87%	4.04%	23.44%	-19.40%
Roading	4,229	4,912	4,152	760.4
% Increase	24.03%	16.14%	-1.83%	17.97%
Community Centres	19	19	21	(2)
% Increase	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Sub-Total for Targeted Rates	**8,725**	**9,588**	**9,226**	**362**
General Rate	**6,010**	**6,124**	**6,415**	**(290)**
Average % Increase	**15.58%**	**1.90%**	**6.75%**	**-4.85%**

Key Projects 2025/26

Civic Amenities
- Housing for Older Persons - Roof Replacements
- Demolition of Municipal Building
- Prospero Place Development

Parks, Reserves and Cemeteries
- Park and walkway development
- King Edward Park lime chip path extension
- Victoria Park Sports Field development

Rental and Investment Properties
- Race and culvert upgrades at the farm

Council Projects
- Subdivision and land development

Planning
- District Plan review commences

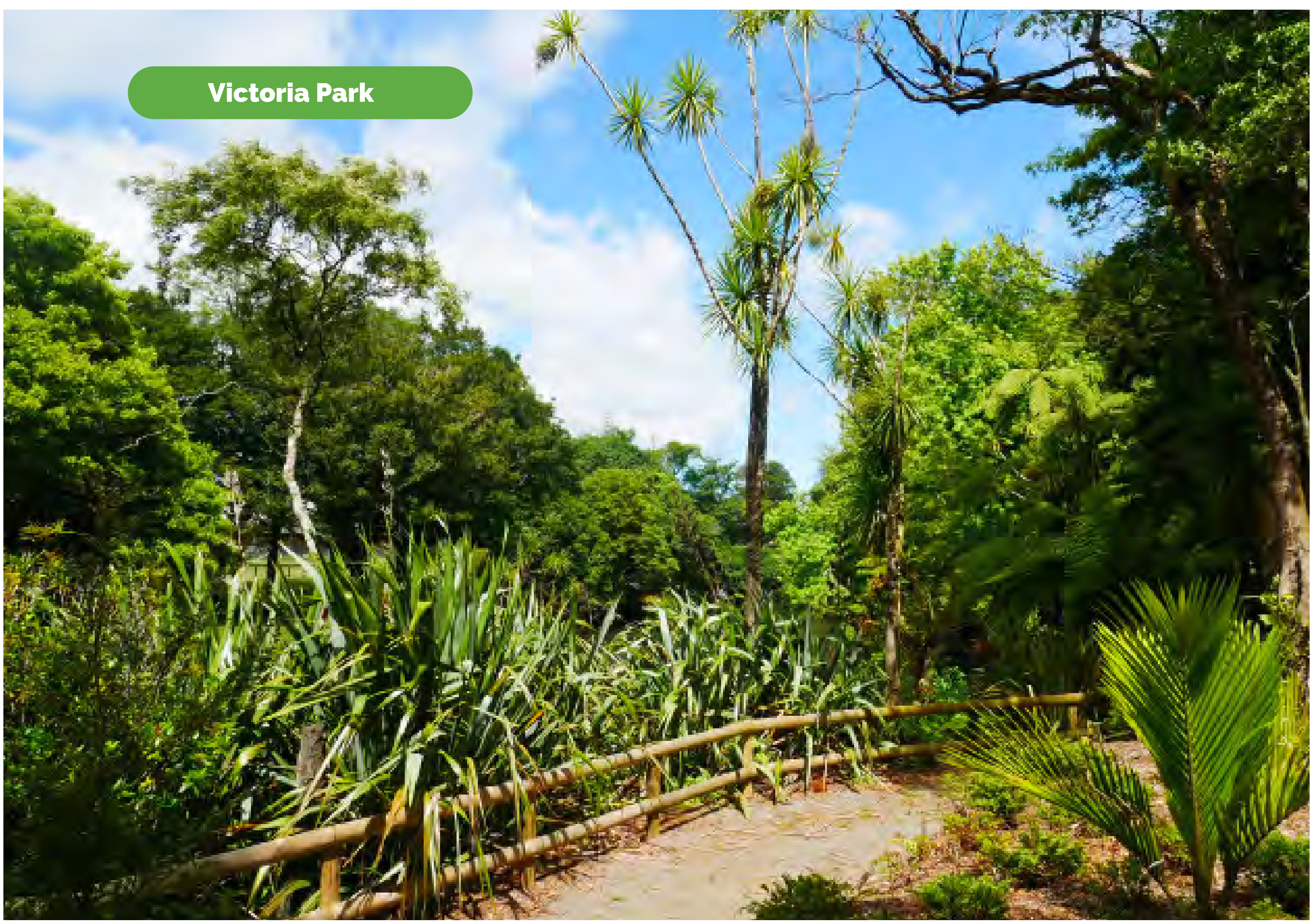
Roading
- Work will continue in accordance with NZTA budgets and guidelines

Stormwater
- Reticulation renewals

Wastewater
- Reticulation safety improvements
- Infiltration renewals

Solid Waste
- Transfer station building renewals
- Mobile event waste bins and trailer
- Permanent recycling stations

Water Supply
- Reticulation renewals will continue
- Hydrants and laterals to be renewed
- Install grit tanks
- New fuel tank for generator
- Stratford bore



Prospective Sample Rates for 2025/26

Residential Includes Services Charges	2024/25 Annual Plan $	2025/26 Annual Plan $	Change from previous year
Capital Value	**$440,000**	**$440,000**	
Uniform Annual General Charge	873.00	953.00	9.16%
Solid Waste (Rubbish and Recycling)	490.00	507.00	3.47%
Water Supply	634.00	713.00	12.46%
Wastewater	379.00	464.00	22.43%
Roading Rate	459.36	446.71	-2.75%
General Rate	701.18	743.30	6.01%
Total Rates (excl TRC)	**3,536.54**	**3,827.00**	
Movement $		**290.46**	
Movement %		**8.21%**	

Residential Includes Services Charges	2024/25 Annual Plan $	2025/26 Annual Plan $	Change from previous year
Capital Value	**$770,000**	**$770,000**	
Uniform Annual General Charge	873.00	953.00	9.16%
Solid Waste (Rubbish and Recycling)	490.00	507.00	3.47%
Water Supply	634.00	713.00	12.46%
Wastewater	379.00	464.00	22.43%
Roading Rate	803.88	781.74	-2.75%
General Rate	1,227.07	1,300.77	6.01%
Total Rates (excl TRC)	**4,406.95**	**4,719.51**	
Movement $		**312.56**	
Movement %		**7.09%**	

Residential Includes Services Charges	2024/25 Annual Plan $	2025/26 Annual Plan $	Change from previous year
Capital Value	**$1,000,000**	**$1,000,000**	
Uniform Annual General Charge	873.00	953.00	9.16%
Solid Waste (Rubbish and Recycling)	490.00	507.00	3.47%
Water Supply	634.00	713.00	12.46%
Wastewater	379.00	464.00	22.43%
Roading Rate	1,044.00	1,015.25	-2.75%
General Rate	1,593.60	1,689.31	6.01%
Total Rates (excl TRC)	**5,013.60**	**5,341.56**	
Movement $		**327.96**	
Movement %		**6.54%**	

Rural No Services	2024/25 Annual Plan $	2025/26 Annual Plan $	Change from previous year
Capital Value	**$2,475,000**	**$2,475,000**	
Uniform Annual General Charge	873.00	953.00	9.16%
Roading Rate	2,583.90	2,512.74	-2.75%
General Rate	3,944.16	4,181.04	6.01%
Total Rates (excl TRC)	**7,401.06**	**7,646.78**	
Movement $		**245.72**	
Movement %		**3.32%**	

Rural No Services	2024/25 Annual Plan $	2025/26 Annual Plan $	Change from previous year
Capital Value	**$3,610,000**	**$3,610,000**	
Uniform Annual General Charge	873.00	953.00	9.16%
Roading Rate	3,768.84	3,665.05	-2.75%
General Rate	5,752.90	6,098.40	6.01%
Total Rates (excl TRC)	**10,394.74**	**10,716.45**	
Movement $		**321.71**	
Movement %		**3.09%**	

Rural No Services, includes Forestry Trageted Rate	2024/25 Annual Plan $	2025/26 Annual Plan $	Change from previous year
Capital Value (Forestry)	**$1,030,000**	**$1,030,000**	
Uniform Annual General Charge	873.00	953.00	9.16%
Roading Rate*	6,712.92	6,776.76	0.95%
General Rate	1,641.41	1,739.99	6.01%
Total Rates (excl TRC)	**9,227.33**	**9,469.75**	
Movement $		**242.42**	
Movement %		**2.63%**	

* Roading Rate based on Forestry Differential collecting $350,000

Rural No Services	2024/25 Annual Plan $	2025/26 Annual Plan $	Change from previous year
Capital Value	**$1,030,000**	**$1,030,000**	
Uniform Annual General Charge	873.00	953.00	9.16%
Roading Rate	1,075.32	1,045.71	-2.75%
General Rate	1,641.41	1,739.99	6.01%
Total Rates (excl TRC)	**3,589.73**	**3,738.69**	
Movement $		**148.96**	
Movement %		**4.15%**	

Commercial No Refuse Collection Charge	2024/25 Annual Plan $	2025/26 Annual Plan $	Change from previous year
Capital Value	**$510,000**	**$510,000**	
Uniform Annual General Charge	873.00	953.00	9.16%
Water Supply	634.00	713.00	12.46%
Wastewater	379.00	464.00	22.43%
Roading Rate	532.44	517.78	-2.75%
General Rate	812.74	861.55	6.01%
Total Rates (excl TRC)	**3,231.18**	**3,509.32**	
Movement $		**278.15**	
Movement %		**8.61%**	

Note: Water consumption charge proposed below

	2024/25 Annual Plan $	2025/26 Annual Plan $	Change from previous year
Water Rate per cubic metre	**2.26**	**2.53**	**11.74%**

Community Outcomes

Vision

Council has spent time reviewing its vision statement for the district and will aspire to be:

A Welcoming, Inclusive, Safe community – Te Pūmanawa o Taranaki.

Te Pūmanawa o Taranaki translates as 'The Beating Heart of Taranaki.'

Community outcomes

To the deliver the vision we will develop strategies, policy and procedures that facilitate and encourage a welcoming, resilient, connected and enabling district.

Council has a role on behalf of the community it represents in planning, delivering and monitoring parts of this vision. Council has held workshops and used community feedback to refine the outcomes to better reflect what is important to Stratford. These are used to provide direction and inform Council on service delivery and resourcing. These community outcomes are:

Community Outcome	What council will do
Welcoming 	• We celebrate the unique stories of our district • We are inclusive, and value our diversity • Stratford is a friendly place where our visitors feel welcomed • Our diverse community feels safe and supported • We promote the district as the place to visit, live, play, learn and work
Resilient 	• We consider our natural resources as taonga (treasures) and we will work with our treaty partners and the community to protect and look after them • We support a low-emissions future for our community • We enable our rangatahi (youth) to be sustainable leaders • We strive to have resilient infrastructure that meets the current and future needs of the district • We respect and apply Te Ao Māori values and Matauranga Māori (knowledge) in our mahi (actions/work)
Connected 	• We provide opportunities for families and people of all ages to connect with others in the community • Our community is engaged and actively participates in democracy • We value local knowledge when making decisions • We advocate for the services that our community needs to live safe and healthy lives • We welcome opportunities to work in partnership with others to help achieve our community outcomes • We are committed to fostering meaningful and genuine partnerships with Mana Whenua
Enabling 	• We are a business friendly district • We encourage a diverse and sustainable business community • We enable economic growth by supportung business investment and development • We support the growth of employment opportunities within our community; with a particular focus on our rangatahi (youth) • We carefully balance the needs and wants of our district when funding services and infrastructure • We encourage partnerships to collaborate with Mana Whenua for the benefit of the Stratford district

The group of activities contribute predominantly to the following community outcomes:

Activities	Welcoming	Resilient	Connected	Enabling
				
Recreation and Facilities	✓	✓	✓	✓
Community Development	✓	✓	✓	✓
Democracy	✓	✓	✓	✓
Environmental Services	✓	✓	✓	✓
Roading	✓	✓	✓	✓
Stormwater	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wastewater	✓	✓	✓	✓
Solid Waste	✓	✓	✓	✓
Water Supply	✓	✓	✓	✓

The group of activities meet the purpose of the Local Government four well-beings as follows:

Activities	Cultural	Social	Economic	Environmental
Aerodrome		✓	✓	✓
Civic Amenities	✓	✓		
Library Hub	✓	✓	✓	
Parks, Reserves and Cemeteries	✓	✓		✓
Wai o Rua -Stratford Aquatic Centre	✓	✓	✓	
Democracy	✓	✓	✓	✓
Community Development	✓	✓		
Economic Development	✓		✓	
Rental and Investment Properties		✓	✓	
Building Services			✓	✓
Planning			✓	✓
Community Health and Safety			✓	
Emergency Management		✓	✓	✓
Roading		✓	✓	
Stormwater	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wastewater	✓	✓	✓	✓
Solid Waste		✓	✓	✓
Water Supply	✓	✓	✓	✓

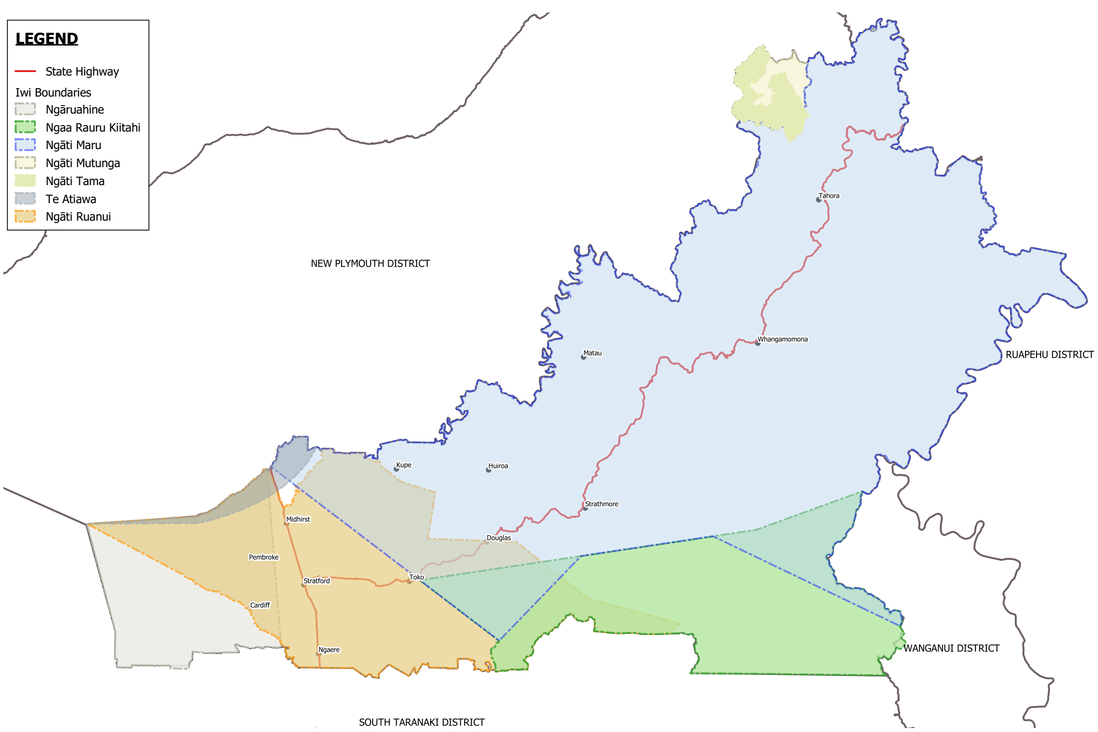

Council pōwhiri

Opportunities for Māori Contribution to Decision Making Processes

As a Council, we recognise the special position of tangata whenua and the important role Māori have to play in Council's decision-making processes and aim to build and grow mutually beneficial, positive relationships with iwi and hapu situated within the Stratford District.

We acknowledge the following seven iwi as tangata whenua within the Stratford District. These are Ngāti Ruanui, Ngāruahine, Ngāti Maru, Ngāti Mutunga, Ngāti Tama, Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi and Te Atiawa.

Council also recognises the role of Whakaahurangi Marae within the district.



Council provides opportunities for Māori contribution to decision making in the following ways:

Statutory

Section 81 of the Local Government Act, 2002 requires Council to provide opportunities for Māori to participate in Council decision-making and consider ways we can foster the development of Māori capacity to contribute to Council's decision-making. The Resource Management Act 1991 places further requirements on Council to support Māori participation and capacity in contributing to its decision making processes.

Significance and Engagement

The Significance and Engagement Policy sets out how Council will determine the significance of an issue, proposal, or decision and the level of engagement required with key stakeholders including iwi. This ensures a consistent approach is used when considering Māori contributions to Council's decision-making. Council acknowledges its unique relationship with Māori and supports this through:

- Establishing and maintaining processes to provide opportunities for Māori to contribute to decision-making;
- Taking into account the relationship Māori have with their ancestral land, water, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga, when a significant decision relates to land or a body of water;
- Building ongoing relationships with Māori to enable early engagement in the development of appropriate plans and policies

Internal Capacity

To enable and enhance effective engagement of Māori in decision making processes Council has committed resource to support and guide its interactions with Māori, with a focus on building the cultural competency of our staff and elected members. This includes ensuring training on Te Ao Māori is available and supported, including basic te reo Māori, tikanga, local history, and relevant legislation. This enhances staff confidence and skills in engaging with Māori to establish and manage effective relationships.

Working Together

Council values its relationship with mana whenua, demonstrated through involvement in significant community events such as the Puanga and te wiki o te reo Māori celebrations, through active engagement in the development of new recreational facilities as well as policy and bylaw adoption processes. Cooperation is also directly benefiting from iwi being increasingly included in regional groups such as the Taranaki Regional Executive Group and Civil Defence as well as on a project basis, such as the outcomes of the Local Water Done Well reforms.

Governance

In 2021 Council adopted a bilingual name Te Kaunihera a Rohe o Whakaahurangi Stratford District Council, and is looking forward to continuing the conversation around bilingual language use across Council operations, services and facilities.

In May 2021 Council adopted to include a Māori Ward for the 2022 and 2025 local body elections. A mandatory referendum on the Māori Ward will form part of the 2025 elections with the outcome determining the ward's future.


Summer Nights, King Edward Park

Council Activities

Groups of activities

As required by the Local Government Act 2002, Council has grouped the services it provides into the following groups of activities:

Group	Activity	Services
Recreation and Facilities	Aerodrome Civic Amenities Library Hub Parks, Reserves and Cemeteries Wai o Rua - Stratford Aquatic Centre	Civic Amenities & Toilets Housing for Older Persons
Community Development	Community Services Economic Development Rental and investment properties	Farm Holiday Park Rental properties
Democracy	Democracy	Democracy Corporate support
Environmental Services	Building services Planning Community health and safety Civil Defence and Emergency Management	District Plan Resource Consents Food and health Alcohol licensing Parking and other bylaws Animal control
Roading	Roading	Construction, maintenance and renewal of roads, footpaths and associated infrastructure
Stormwater	Stormwater	Construction and renewal of stormwater infrastructure
Wastewater	Wastewater	Construction, maintenance and renewal of waste water network and treatment facilities
Solid Waste	Solid Waste	Kerbside collection of refuse and recycling and operation of the transfer station
Water Supply	Water Supply	Construction, maintenance and renewal of water treatment plants and water reticulation network

Disclosure of significant negative effects on well-being

The Council is required to identify and disclose any activities undertaken to promote specific community well-beings which have potentially significant adverse effects for other outcomes.

Recreation and Facilities

RECREATION AND FACILITIES

AERODROME

1.1 What We Do

Council owns the aerodrome to make provision for local air transport, recreation and light commercial needs. The aerodrome is situated at Flint Road and has two grassed runways.

1.2 Why We Do It

This activity contributes to the community outcomes of:

- Welcoming
- Resilient
- Connected
- Enabling

1.3 Significant Negative Effects

The Aerodrome activity has the potential to negatively impact the social, economic, environmental or cultural well-being of the local community. The most likely significant negative effects from this activity and the mitigation measures in place, are outlined below.

Social & environmental - The Aerodrome activity has the potential to negatively impact on the social and environmental well-being of the local community through noise. To mitigate this, the aerodrome is located in a rural area and Council owns the farm surrounding the aerodrome which serves as a buffer zone.

These negative effects and any controls and mitigation in place have to be balanced against the positive impact the activity has on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of its users and the district overall.

1.4 Statement of Service Provision

Level of Service	Performance Measure	Target Year 2 2025/26	Actual 2023/24	How Measured
To maintain the Aeodrome for use by the Stratford community and other users.	Engage and meet regularly with Aerodrome users by attending formal meetings.	>3 meetings attended annually	**New Measure**	Meeting register that captures all formal meetings held
The aerodrome is used by the Stratford community and visitors.	Number of aircraft movements during the year.	>1,750	**Not Achieved – 1,611**	Annual AIMM compliance reporting

1.5 Key Future Projects

There are no future projects associated with the Aerodrome activity.

1.6 Statement of Prospective Financial Performance

The detailed financial summary is shown below.

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	144	147	154	(7)
Revenue	32	32	32	0
Net Cost of Service	**112**	**115**	**122**	**(7)**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	92	94	94	0
Interest	0	1	1	0
Depreciation	8	8	8	0
Overheads	43	44	52	(7)
Total Operating Expenditure	**144**	**147**	**154**	**(7)**
Principal Loan Repayments	0	1	1	0
Capital Expenditure	15	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	**159**	**147**	**155**	**(7)**
FUNDED BY:				
Charges for Services	32	32	32	0
Revenue	**32**	**32**	**32**	**0**
General Rates	110	113	121	(8)
Transfer from Reserves	0	0	0	0
Loan Funding - Capital	15	0	0	0
Other Funding	2	3	2	1
Total Funding	**159**	**147**	**155**	**(7)**

CIVIC AMENITIES

1.1 What We Do

Council's Civic Amenities include a range of facilities that are fairly typical of a rural area and service town:

- Council Office (Miranda Street)
- War Memorial Centre
- TET Multi Sports Centre
- Housing for Older Persons
- Centennial Rest Rooms
- Clock Tower (Glockenspiel)
- Bus Shelters
- Hall of Remembrance
- Public Toilets
- Rural Halls
- Security Cameras
- Structures/Beautification
- Transfer Station

1.2 Why We Do It

Council owns Civic Amenities to provide a community good or core civic functions, some of these are provided by Council because no other agencies are able or willing to provide them.

This activity contributes to the achievement of the District's civic, social and cultural needs.

This activity contributes to the community outcomes of:

- Welcoming
- Resilient
- Connected
- Enabling

1.3 Significant Negative Effects

There are no significant negative effects associated with the Civic Amenities activity that may affect the social, economic, environmental or cultural well-being of the local community. However, failure to deliver this activity would have a significant negative impact on the social, economic and cultural well-being.

1.4 Statement of Service Provision

Level of Service	Performance Measure	Target	Actual 2023/24	How Measured
		Year 2 2025/26		
To provide well-maintained and utilised facilities.	Buildings legally requiring a Building WoF have a current Building WoF at all times.	100%	**Achieved – 100%**	Building WoF records
	Annual daily usage of War Memorial Centre measured by the percentage of days in a year there is a booking.	>75%	**New Measure**	Booking records
	Annual daily usage of Centennial Restrooms measured by the percentage of days in a year there is a booking.	>60%	**New Measure**	Booking records
	Booking cancellations as a percentage of total annual bookings for the War Memorial Centre and Centennial Restrooms	<20%	**New Measure**	Booking records

Level of Service	Performance Measure	Target Year 2 2025/26	Actual 2023/24	How Measured
To maintain the housing pool to ensure compliance with the relevant legislation	All rental units comply with legislative requirements arising from Residential Tenancies Act, Health Homes Standards and any other applicable legislation.	Legislative requirements all met	**New Measure**	Annual audit of buildings against applicable legislation
Maintain existing toilet facilities and ensure regular scheduled cleaning.	Percentage of Stratford District residents satisfied with overall level of service of toilets.	>80%	**Not Achieved – 71%**	Annual Residents Survey

1.5 Key Future Projects

Project	Category	2025/26
TET Multi Sports Centre – Structural Strengthening	Level of Service	$51,035
Prospero Place Development	Level of Service	$510,350
TET Multi Sports Centre infrastructure renewals	Replacements	$51,035
Miranda Street infrastructure renewals	Replacements	$5,105
Demolition of Municipal Building and associated reinstatement	Operating Expenditure	$306,300
Housing for the Elderly		
Roof Replacements	Replacements	$81,680
Infrastructure Renewals	Replacements	$5,105

1.6 Statement of Prospective Financial Performance

The detailed financial summary is shown below.

Civic Amenities

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	1,807	1,726	1,729	(3)
Revenue	60	61	51	(10)
Net Cost of Service	**1,747**	**1,664**	**1,677**	**(13)**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	888	755	751	4
Interest	48	50	36	14
Depreciation	705	749	749	(0)
Overheads	166	171	192	(21)
Total Operating Expenditure	**1,807**	**1,726**	**1,729**	**(3)**
Principal Loan Repayments	47	52	36	16
Capital Expenditure	443	621	618	4
Total Expenditure	**2,297**	**2,399**	**2,383**	**16**
FUNDED BY:				
Charges for Services	60	61	51	10
Revenue	**60**	**61**	**51**	**10**
General Rates	919	960	974	(14)
Targeted Rates	19	19	21	(2)
Grants and Donations	0	511	510	1
Depreciation funded from Reserves	368	368	368	(0)
Loan Funding - Capital	300	51	51	0
Transfer from Reserves	620	418	398	20
Other Funding	10	11	7	4
Total Funding	**2,297**	**2,399**	**2,383**	**16**

Housing for Older Persons

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	160	160	179	(19)
Revenue	94	101	101	(0)
Net Cost of Service	**66**	**59**	**78**	**(19)**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	55	57	60	(3)
Interest	2	2	2	0
Depreciation	46	46	50	(4)
Overheads	57	56	67	(11)
Total Operating Expenditure	**160**	**160**	**179**	**(19)**
Principal Loan Repayments	2	2	2	0
Capital Expenditure	125	87	87	0
Total Expenditure	**287**	**249**	**267**	**(19)**
FUNDED BY:				
Charges for Services	94	101	101	0
Revenue	**94**	**101**	**101**	**0**
General Rates	35	32	43	(12)
Operational Balance from Reserves	32	28	35	(6)
Transfer from Reserves	125	87	87	0
Loan Funding - Capital	0	0	0	0
Other Funding	1	0	1	(1)
Total Funding	**287**	**249**	**267**	**(19)**

LIBRARY HUB

1.1 What We Do

The Stratford District Library is co-located with the Visitor Information Centre (i-SITE) which sees a vibrant, community hub situated in the town centre, Prospero Place. The library hub provides physical and digital access to a collection of lending material and information resources in a welcoming environment intended for community activities, leisure, social interaction, and study. It promotes creativity and learning through the delivery of public programmes and the provision of support facilities such as the Wi-Fi network and access to equipment and technology.

1.2 Why We Do It

This activity contributes to the district's overall well-being by providing access to reading material, databases and internet services that individuals are unlikely to be able to provide for themselves.

This activity contributes to the community outcomes of:

- Welcoming
- Connected
- Enabling

1.3 Significant Negative Effects

There are no significant negative effects associated with the Library Hub activity that may affect the social, economic, environmental or cultural well-being of the local community. However, failure to deliver this activity would have a significant negative impact on the social, economic and cultural well-being.

1.4 Statement of Service Provision

Level of Service	Performance Measure	Target Year 2 2025/26	Actual 2023/24	How Measured
To provide a multi-use community hub facility that is accessible, well utilised, and engaging to both residents and visitors to the Stratford District.	Number of items (including digital) issued annually	>50,000	**Achieved – 64,207**	Monthly statistics from Koha
	Percentage of facility users satisfied with the quality of the services offered	>80%	**Achieved – 97%**	Annual Residents Survey
	Number of participants in events and programmes at the facility	>1,200	**Achieved – 4,763**	Internal attendance records

1.5 Key Future Projects

Project	Category	2025/26
Safety Improvements around AA Desk	Level of Service	$25,525
Interior repaint	Replacements	$51,050
Window sill replacements	Replacements	$10,210
Update graphics on windows/bus shelters and other internal areas	Replacements	$10,210
Library infrastructure renewals	Replacements	$3,062

1.6 Statement of Prospective Financial Performance

The detailed financial summary is shown below.

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	899	929	960	(31)
Revenue	90	92	87	5
Net Cost of Service	**809**	**837**	**874**	**(26)**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	598	611	619	(8)
Interest	33	30	29	1
Depreciation	96	98	97	1
Overheads	173	190	215	(25)
Total Operating Expenditure	**899**	**929**	**960**	**(31)**
Principal Loan Repayments	32	31	29	2
Capital Expenditure	75	97	100	(3)
Total Expenditure	**1,006**	**1,057**	**1,089**	**(32)**
FUNDED BY:				
Charges for Services	90	92	87	5
Revenue	**90**	**92**	**87**	**5**
General Rates	758	784	824	(40)
Depreciation funded from Reserves	43	43	43	(0)
Loan Funding - Capital	5	26	26	0
Grants and Donations	25	0	0	0
Transfer from Reserves	77	103	103	(0)
Other Funding	9	10	7	3
Total Funding	**1,006**	**1,057**	**1,089**	**(32)**

PARKS, RESERVES AND CEMETERIES

1.1 What We Do

Council provides a range of active and passive recreation opportunities that benefit the community's physical, social and personal quality of life. Parks, reserves and cemeteries assets include:

(i) 36.7 hectares of passive reserves:
- Gardens, lawns, trees, and amenity street plantings
- 2 neighbourhood parks and 3 playgrounds

(ii) 10 hectares of urban active reserves comprising:
- 2 croquet greens
- 6 netball/tennis courts
- 4 rugby fields
- 1 cricket wicket
- 2 soccer fields

(iii) 9.4 hectares of cemeteries
- 5.1 hectares in 2 operating cemeteries – including 2.7 hectares of newly purchased land for cemetery extension
- 4.3 hectares in 5 closed cemeteries

(iv) 14km of walkway including 12 footbridges.

(v) 5.4 hectares in 19 esplanade reserves.

(vi) Accessory structures and buildings:
- Grandstand at Victoria Park
- 2 Toilet blocks at Victoria Park
- Croquet pavilion at Victoria Park
- Memorial Gates at Victoria Park
- Malone Gates at King Edward Park
- Netball shelters at King Edward Park
- Toilet facilities and changing rooms at Page Street sportsground
- Stratford Gateway Structures (2)
- Skate park at Victoria Park
- Children's Bike Park at Victoria Park
- Pump Track at Victoria Park
- Half basketball court at Victoria Park

(vii) 34.3 hectares in rural domains and reserves.

1.2 Why We Do It

To provide and manage parks, reserves and cemeteries encompassing passive, active and scenic open spaces which contribute towards the desirability and attractiveness in the community.

The Parks and Reserves activity creates and provides a sense of belonging and pride, adding to social, recreational and cultural facilities in the community which are accessible to all.

This activity contributes to the community outcomes of:

- Welcoming
- Resilient
- Connected

1.3 Significant Negative Effects

There are no significant negative effects associated with the Parks, Reserves and Cemeteries activity that may affect the social, economic, environmental or cultural well-being of the local community. However, failure to deliver this activity would have a significant negative impact on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being.

1.4 Statement of Service Provision

Level of Service	Performance Measure	Target Year 2 2025/26	Actual 2023/24	How Measured
To maintain parks, sports fields, cemeteries, and reserves	Number of complaints specifically relating to Council service delivery	<40	**Not Achieved – 112**	Reporting against corporate CRM system
	Percentage of Stratford residents satisfied with:			
	• Parks;	>85%	**Achieved – 90%**	Annual Residents Survey
	• Sports fields; and	>80%	**Not Achieved – 76%**	Annual Residents Survey
	• Cemeteries	>80%	**Not Achieved – 74%**	Annual Residents Survey
To provide safe playgrounds to the community	All existing playgrounds meet NZ Safety Standards	100%	**Not Achieved – Inspection was completed in July 2024**	Biennial playground inspection report and records provided from weekly and quarterly compliance checks by contractor.
To maintain safe footbridges to the community.	All existing foot bridges meet NZ Safety standards.	100%	**Not Achieved – Inspection was completed in July 2024**	Biennial bridge inspection report.

1.5 Key Future Projects

Project	Category	2025/26
Victoria Park – Skate Park – Replace gravel path with concrete path	Level of Service	$25,525
Continued Walkway Development	Level of Service	$25,525
Continued Parks Development	Level of Service	$25,525
Seating to Pump Track Area – Victoria Park	Level of Service	$25,525
King Edward Park – Completion of Lime Chip path	Level of Service	$61,260
Completion of replacing Lime Chip Path to concrete – Netball Courts to Rhododendron Dell	Level of Service	$71,470
Victoria Park Sports Fields continued development	Level of Service	$204,200
Playground Equipment replacement – King Edward Park and Victoria Park	Replacements	$10,210
Street Tree and Tree Surrounds replacements	Replacements	$51,050
Replace Old Seats throughout all parks, reserves and walkways	Replacements	$20,420
Continued Parks Development	Replacements	$5,105
Continued Walkway Development	Replacements	$5,105
Development of Eastern Loop	Replacements	$30,630
Victoria Park Grandstand infrastructure renewals	Replacements	$20,420
Cemeteries		
Replace plaques – Pioneer Cemetery	Replacements	$20,667
Replacing boundary hedges – Midhirst (Old) Cemetery and Midhirst (Open) Cemetery	Replacements	$10,333

1.6 Statement of Service Provision

The detailed financial summary is shown below.

Parks & Reserves

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	1,057	1,074	1,124	(51)
Revenue	10	10	10	0
Net Cost of Service	**1,047**	**1,064**	**1,115**	**(51)**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	681	672	677	(5)
Interest	18	27	33	(6)
Depreciation	169	186	180	6
Overheads	188	189	234	(45)
Total Operating Expenditure	**1,057**	**1,074**	**1,124**	**(51)**
Principal Loan Repayments	18	28	33	(5)
Capital Expenditure	340	582	582	0
Total Expenditure	**1,414**	**1,684**	**1,739**	**(56)**
FUNDED BY:				
Charges for Services	10	10	10	0
Revenue	**10**	**10**	**10**	**0**
General Rates	1,046	1,063	1,117	(54)
Grants and Donations	150	51	51	0
Loan Funding - Capital	145	419	419	0
Transfer (to) Turf Replacement Reserve	(10)	(10)	(10)	0
Transfer from Reserves	63	141	145	(4)
Other Funding	10	11	7	4
Total Funding	**1,414**	**1,684**	**1,739**	**(56)**

Cemeteries

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	242	245	259	(14)
Revenue	157	160	160	0
Net Cost of Service	**85**	**85**	**99**	**(14)**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	153	156	156	0
Interest	5	4	4	0
Depreciation	10	10	13	(3)
Overheads	75	75	85	(11)
Total Operating Expenditure	**242**	**245**	**259**	**(14)**
Principal Loan Repayments	4	4	4	0
Capital Expenditure	0	31	31	0
Total Expenditure	**246**	**279**	**294**	**(14)**
FUNDED BY:				
Charges for Services	157	160	160	(0)
Revenue	**157**	**160**	**160**	**(0)**
General Rates	85	84	80	4
Grants and Donations - Capital	0	20	21	(1)
Transfer from Reserves	0	11	31	(20)
Loan Funding - Capital	0	0	0	0
Other Funding	4	4	3	1
Total Funding	**246**	**279**	**294**	**(14)**

AQUATIC CENTRE

1.1 What We Do

Wai o Rua - Stratford Aquatic Centre opened in October 2022. Owned and operated by Council, the centre has more than twice the capacity of the old TSB Pool Complex, and is home to an 8-lane 25 metre competition pool, a 20 metre programme and hydrotherapy pool, a learn to swim pool, a toddler pool and a zero-depth splash pad, kitted out with a range of interactive water toys.

1.2 Why We Do It

Council owns the pool to provide aquatic recreation for its residents and visitors. Council has historically adopted the role of provider of a swimming pool complex for the district as there has been no alternative.

The Pool makes a valuable contribution to the overall health and wellbeing of residents and visitors providing diverse recreational activities and enhancing the attractiveness of the district.

This activity contributes to the community outcomes of:

- Welcoming
- Connected

1.3 Significant Negative Effects

Wai o Rua - Stratford Aquatic Centre has the potential to negatively impact the social, economic, environmental or cultural well-being of the local community. The most likely significant negative effects from this activity and the mitigation measures in place, are outlined below.

Social - Cryptosporidia and other pathogens have the potential to cause significant negative health effects. Mitigation of this risk is a critical part of the water filtration and treatment processes.

Social – Chlorine odour has the potential to cause significant negative health effects. The water filtration system used minimises the level of chlorine used, and keeps the chlorine odour at low levels.

Environmental & cultural – Any accidental or uncontrolled discharge of pool water or associated chemicals into the nearby Patea River would have significant negative impacts on the environmental and cultural wellbeing of the river and the community. The design of the facility minimises the risk of this occurring.

These negative effects and any controls and mitigation in place have to be balanced against the positive impact the activity has on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of its users and the district overall.

1.4 Statement of Service Provision

Level of Service	Performance Measure	Target	Actual 2023/24	How Measured
		Year 2 2025/26		
To provide an aquatic facility that is welcoming, attractive and a safe place to swim.	Compliance with NZS5826:2010 NZ Pool Water Quality Standards.	100%	**Achieved – 100%**	Water quality register.
	PoolSafe accreditation is met	100%	**Achieved – 100%**	Current accreditation.
	Percentage of pool users satisfied with the quality of the services and programmes offered.	>80%	**Not Achieved – 75%**	Annual Residents Survey.
	Number of pool admissions per annum.	>55,000	**Achieved – 109,047**	Reported monthly to Council.

1.5 Key Future Projects

Project	Category	2025/26
Wai o Rua infrastructure renewals	Replacements	$2,042

1.6 Statement of Prospective Financial Performance

The detailed financial summary is shown below.

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	3,481	3,505	3,619	(114)
Revenue	720	735	703	(32)
Net Cost of Service	**2,761**	**2,770**	**2,915**	**(146)**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	2,099	2,146	2,208	(62)
Interest	405	364	382	(18)
Depreciation	483	484	452	32
Overheads	495	510	577	(67)
Total Operating Expenditure	**3,481**	**3,505**	**3,619**	**(114)**
Principal Loan Repayments	396	380	382	(2)
Capital Expenditure	86	2	2	0
Total Expenditure	**3,963**	**3,887**	**4,003**	**(116)**
FUNDED BY:				
User Charges	720	735	703	32
Revenue	**720**	**735**	**703**	**32**
General Rates	2,517	2,525	2,695	(170)
Loan Funding - Capital	2	0	0	0
Grants - Capital	82	0	0	0
Depreciation funded from Reserves	217	217	203	14
Transfer from Reserves	398	382	384	(2)
Other Funding	27	28	18	10
Total Funding	**3,963**	**3,887**	**4,003**	**(116)**

Democracy

DEMOCRACY

1.1 What We Do

Democracy

Democracy includes the formal meeting processes, elections and the means for community involvement in the democratic process. The Democracy activity supports the elected members in these roles and ensures the purposes of the Local Government Act 2002 are met.

Corporate Support

Corporate Support provides a range of professional support services to the Council and to agencies closely associated with Council. These services include financial planning, reporting, analysis and advice, the provision of accounting services, secretarial and administrative support and the development and maintenance of management information systems.

1.2 Why We Do It

Council is required by the Local Government Act 2002 to provide a democratic process and manage its funding and administrative services efficiently and responsibly on behalf of the district.

The Democracy activity, by its nature, contributes to all of the desired district well-beings, and community outcomes that Council aims to achieve.

Corporate Support is an internal support function that provides services to other areas of Council to assist them in the delivery of activities. The total costs are allocated to other activity areas.

This activity contributes to the community outcomes of:

- Welcoming
- Resilient
- Connected
- Enabling

1.3 Significant Negative Effects

There are no significant negative effects associated with the Democracy activity that may affect the social, economic, environmental or cultural well-being of the local community. However, failure to deliver this activity would have a significant negative impact on the social, economic, environment and cultural well-being

1.4 Statement of Service Provision

Level of Service	Performance Measure	Target Year 2 2025/26	Actual 2023/24	How Measured
To provide Democracy services in accordance with statutory deadlines.	Agendas and associated reports for all scheduled meetings are publicly available in accordance with statutory timeframes.	100%	**Achieved – 100%**	Meeting Register.
	All Council meetings are publicly notified in accordance with statutory timeframes	100%	**Achieved – 100%**	Meeting Register.
Council uses a variety of communication and engagement tools and platforms to consult, inform and engage with the community.	The community is satisfied with how Council keeps them informed.	>80%	**Not Achieved – 62%**	Annual Residents Survey.
Ensure accountability documents are prepared and meet statutory requirements.	The Annual Report, Annual Plan and Long Term Plan meet statutory deadlines and receive an unmodified audit opinion.	Achieved	**Achieved**	Audit Opinion.

1.5 Key Future Projects

Project	Category	2025/26
Phone System Upgrade	Level of Service	$25,000
Computers and Peripherals	Replacements	$60,000
Vehicle Replacements	Replacements	$35,000
Content Manager Upgrade	Replacements	$15,000
Firewall + Wi-Fi Replacement	Replacements	$25,000
Core Server Replacement	Replacements	$40,000
Core Switch Replacement	Replacements	$25,000
Eftpos Terminal Upgrades	Replacements	$7,000
Staff Cell Phone Fleet Replacements	Replacements	$35,000
Replace GIS System	Replacements	$100,000

1.6 Statement of Prospective Financial Performance

The detailed financial summary is shown below.

Democracy

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	1,526	1,613	1,637	(24)
Revenue	0	0	0	0
Net Cost of Service	**1,526**	**1,613**	**1,637**	**(24)**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	572	612	631	(19)
Overheads	954	1,001	1,007	(6)
Total Expenditure	**1,526**	**1,613**	**1,637**	**(24)**
FUNDED BY:				
UAGC	1,475	1,558	1,605	(47)
Other Funding	52	55	32	23
Total Funding	**1,526**	**1,613**	**1,637**	**(24)**

Corporate Support

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	26	0	0	0
Revenue	85	85	150	65
Net Cost of Service	**(59)**	**(85)**	**(150)**	**65**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs				
- Chief Executive's Department	838	856	755	101
- Corporate Services Department	1,125	1,056	1,391	(335)
Overheads Recovered	(1,938)	(1,912)	(2,147)	235
Total Operating Expenditure	**26**	**0**	**0**	**(0)**
Capital Expenditure	308	367	367	0
Total Expenditure	**334**	**367**	**367**	**(0)**
FUNDED BY:				
Charges for Services	85	85	150	(65)
Revenue	**85**	**85**	**150**	**(65)**
UAGC	(59)	(85)	(150)	65
Transfer from Reserves	308	367	367	0
Total Funding	**334**	**367**	**367**	**0**

Community Development

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY SERVICES

1.1 What We Do

Community Services encourages and supports groups and individuals in the district to achieve their own goals and outcomes in a sustainable way that benefits the community. It does this by providing information, advice, and support to groups and individuals, through activities such as networking, facilitation, administration support, promotion, advocacy, and event facilitation.

Examples of the current community services activities include:
- Facilitating the Positive Ageing Group and Youth Council
- Coordinating the promotion of school holiday activities
- Administration of community funds including Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund and Creative New Zealand Funding Scheme
- Working with community groups to identify the outcomes they want for the community
- Working in partnership with regional agencies to support the well-being of the community
- Providing community events such as Summer Nights and war memorial commemorations.

1.2 Why We Do It

This activity contributes to the district's well-being by the Council maintaining a general overview of trends in the social well-being of the district. The aim is to actively involve people in building their own sustainable and resilient communities and initiating, usually in conjunction with others, action for enhancement whenever it considers that to be necessary, appropriate and practical.

This activity contributes to the community outcomes of:

- Welcoming
- Resilient
- Connected
- Enabling

1.3 Significant Negative Effects

There are no significant negative effects associated with the Community Services activity that may affect the social, economic, environmental or cultural well-being of the local community. However, failure to deliver this activity would have a significant negative impact on the social, economic, environment and cultural well-being.

1.4 Statement of Service Provision

Level of Service	Performance Measure	Target Year 2 2025/26	Actual 2023/24	How Measured
Enable opportunities for the community to engage, celebrate, connect and sustain local capability.	Number of major community events led by council	>4	**Achieved – 16**	Number of events held are recorded
	Percentage of residents satisfied with the quality of the events and programmes offered by Council.	>80%	**New Measure**	Annual Residents Survey

1.5 Key Future Projects

There are no future projects associated with the Community Services activity.

1.6 Statement of Prospective Financial Performance

The detailed financial summary is shown below.

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	532	525	545	(20)
Revenue	3	3	3	0
Net Cost of Service	**529**	**522**	**542**	**(20)**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	362	346	348	(2)
Overheads	170	179	197	(18)
Total Operating Expenditure	**532**	**525**	**545**	**(20)**
FUNDED BY:				
User Charges/Grants	3	3	3	0
Revenue	**3**	**3**	**3**	**0**
General Rates	456	448	471	(23)
Grants and Donations	64	64	64	0
Other Funding	9	10	6	3
Total Funding	**532**	**525**	**545**	**(20)**

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1.1 What We Do

Council has a leadership role in economic development. This activity supports the development and growth of the district by:

- Encouraging and supporting the establishment, retention and development of sustainable, new and existing businesses.
- Promoting business opportunities and events that benefit the local economy
- Promoting the district as a great place to live and visit.
- Supporting the Stratford Business Association
- Working in partnership with Venture Taranaki Trust to support the economic growth of the district.

1.2 Why We Do It

Council provides this service to enable growth in population, increase employment opportunities, and promote the district as a destination for business and visitors. This works towards enabling a local economy that is prosperous.

This activity contributes to the community outcomes of:

- Welcoming
- Resilient
- Connected
- Enabling

1.3 Significant Negative Effects

There are no significant negative effects associated with the Economic Development activity that may affect the social, economic, environmental or cultural well-being of the local community. However, failure to deliver this activity would have a significant negative impact on the social, economic and cultural well-being.

1.4 Statement of Service Provision

Level of Service	Performance Measure	Target	Actual 2023/24	How Measured
		Year 2 2025/26		
Develop and facilitate strategic partnerships that enable growth, attract ongoing investment, and increase diversity and capability within the local business sector.	Number of new and existing businesses accessing services and programmes offered.	>5	**New Measure**	Venture Taranaki Quarterly reports
	Number of promotional activities delivered or partnered with to encourage visitation to the district.	>1	**New Measure**	Venture Taranaki Quarterly reports

1.5 Key Future Projects

Project	Category	2025/26
Subdivision land development	Meet additional demand	$2,655,000

1.6 Statement of Prospective Financial Performance

The detailed financial summary is shown below.

Economic Development

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	510	477	517	(40)
Revenue	0	0	0	0
Net Cost of Service	**510**	**477**	**517**	**(40)**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	372	336	371	(35)
Overheads	139	141	146	(5)
Total Operating Expenditure	**510**	**477**	**517**	**(40)**
FUNDED BY:				
General Rates	251	235	256	(21)
UAGC	251	235	256	(21)
Grants and Donations	0	0	0	0
Other Funding	8	8	5	3
Total Funding	**510**	**477**	**517**	**(40)**

Council Projects

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	141	245	152	94
Revenue	0	0	0	0
Net Cost of Service	**141**	**245**	**152**	**94**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	0	0	0	0
Interest	141	245	152	94
Overheads	0	0	0	0
Total Operating Expenditure	**141**	**245**	**152**	**94**
Principal Loan Repayments	0	0	0	0
Capital Expenditure	2,600	2,655	2,655	0
Total Expenditure	**2,741**	**2,899**	**2,806**	**94**
FUNDED BY:				
Charges for Services	0	0	0	0
Revenue	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
General Rates	0	0	0	0
Sales of Sections - Capital	0	0	0	0
Loan Funding - Capital	2,600	2,655	2,655	0
Transfer from Reserves	141	245	152	94
Grants and Donations - Capital	0	0	0	0
Total Funding	**2,741**	**2,899**	**2,806**	**94**

RENTAL AND INVESTMENT PROPERTIES

1.1 What We Do

The Rental and Investment Properties activity manages properties council owns for strategic or commercial purposes.

Under this activity Council staff performs common landlord roles, such as the day-to-day maintenance of grounds and buildings as well as the long term planning for purchase, disposal, renewal, upgrades and redevelopment of properties.

This activity covers the following:
Farm - manage 160 hectares of land (132 hectares milkable) on a 50/50 share milking basis.
Holiday Park - operate a formal lease for the land.
Rental Properties - Council manages urban and rural land and commercial properties under this activity.

- Land with a Council function that generally has limited potential for any other use or is strategically important to Council.
- Land that has commercial potential and its legal status permits its availability for sale.
- Land that is currently vacant or occupied informally by an adjoining owner and has limited options for sale.

1.2 Why We Do It

The prudent management of Council owned properties not used in the day-to-day functions of Council ensure these do not become a nuisance and maximises commercial return for Council.
Each property is held for specific reasons and the property portfolio is regularly reviewed to ensure any properties surplus to requirements are disposed of. The key properties and the reason for Council's ownership are described below.

Farm - The farm is considered to be an economic investment that was purchased for the purposes of providing a financial contribution to ease the burden of rates on the community. In 2015 the farm expanded by 54 hectares when the Council purchased the neighbouring farm for the purposes of increasing economies of scale, and returns to the ratepayer. The farm contributes to the economic well-being of the district by providing rates mitigation for ratepayers.
The farm surrounds the aerodrome, therefore providing a buffer zone to allow for smooth operations of the aerodrome.

Holiday Park - Council has traditionally adopted the role of provider of the holiday park as there has been no alternative provider in Stratford.

Rental Properties - most properties have been purchased for a strategic purpose because of their location, either for Council's future use or for on selling at a later date.

This activity contributes to the community outcomes of:

- Resilient
- Connected
- Enabling

1.3 Significant Negative Effects

The Rental and Investment Property activity has the potential to negatively impact the social, economic, environmental or cultural well-being of the local community. The most likely significant negative effects from this activity and the mitigation measures in place, are outlined below.

Environmental & cultural - Contamination of streams that cross or border the council owned farm, from runoff from paddocks, effluent ponds or animals gaining access to the river has the potential to negatively impact the environmental and cultural wellbeing. This is mitigated by good farming practices and significant investment made in fencing and riparian planting of stream edges as well as effluent management.

These negative effects and any controls and mitigation in place have to be balanced against the positive impact the activity has on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of its users and the district overall.

1.4 Statement of Service Provision

Level of Service	Performance Measure	Target	Actual 2023/24	How Measured
		Year 2 2025/26		
To run the council farm in a way that maximises profits and meets the National Environmental Standards (NES).	Milk production is maximised	>145,000 kg/ms	**Not Achieved – 149,307 kgs/ms**	Milk Supplier's Statements issued by Fonterra.
	The Council farm's Environmental Plan is reviewed annually	Achieved	**Achieved –**	Report to Farm and Aerodrome Committee
To ensure commercial properties owned are safe and legally compliant	Commercial properties are compliant with relevant legislation	Achieved	**New Measure**	Annual audit of buildings and structures against applicable legislation.

1.5 Key Future Projects

Project	Category	2025/26
Farm		
Farm – Race and Culvert upgrades	Replacements	$25,525

1.6 Statement of Prospective Financial Performance

The detailed financial summary is shown below.

Farm

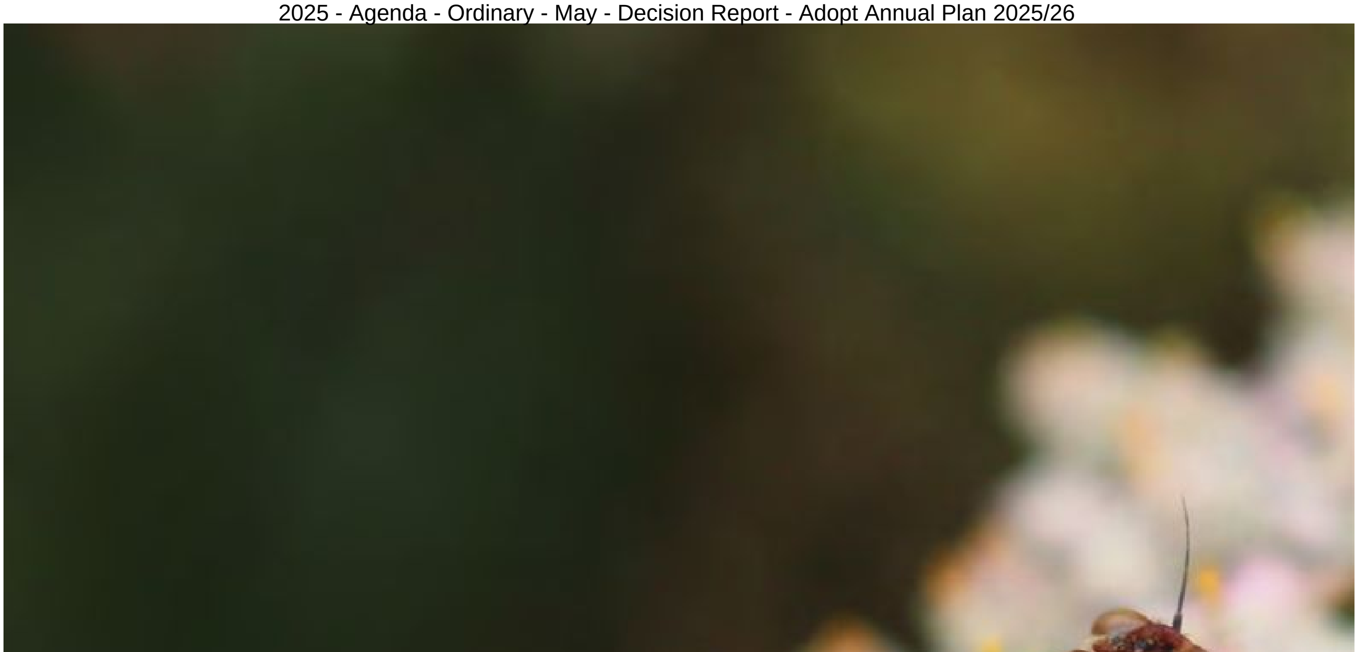
	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	520	537	525	13
Revenue	636	649	662	13
Net Cost of Service	**(116)**	**(111)**	**(137)**	**26**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	321	332	330	2
Interest	85	81	73	8
Depreciation	54	53	50	3
Overheads	60	72	72	(0)
Total Operating Expenditure	**520**	**537**	**525**	**13**
Principal Loan Repayments	41	36	26	10
Capital Expenditure	70	77	26	52
Total Expenditure	**631**	**650**	**576**	**75**
FUNDED BY:				
Charges for Services	636	649	662	(13)
Revenue	**636**	**649**	**662**	**(13)**
General Rates	(148)	(78)	(179)	101
Transfer from Reserves	75	51	65	(14)
Loan Funding - Capital	65	26	26	0
Other Funding	3	3	2	1
Total Funding	**631**	**650**	**576**	**75**

Holiday Park

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	2	2	3	(1)
Revenue	4	4	4	0
Net Cost of Service	**(2)**	**(2)**	**-1**	**(1)**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	0	0	0	0
Overheads	2	2	3	(1)
Total Expenditure	**2**	**2**	**3**	**(1)**
FUNDED BY:				
Charges for Services	4	4	4	0
Revenue	**4**	**4**	**4**	**0**
General Rates	(2)	(2)	0	(1)
Other Funding	0	0	0	(0)
Total Funding	**2**	**2**	**3**	**(1)**

Rental Properties

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	70	77	75	1
Revenue	55	56	56	0
Net Cost of Service	**15**	**21**	**19**	**1**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	10	10	10	(0)
Depreciation	27	27	25	2
Overheads	33	39	40	(1)
Total Operating Expenditure	**70**	**77**	**75**	**1**
Capital Expenditure	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	**70**	**77**	**75**	**1**
FUNDED BY:				
Charges for Services	55	56	56	(0)
Revenue	**55**	**56**	**56**	**(0)**
General Rates	13	19	18	1
Other Funding	2	2	1	1
Total Funding	**70**	**77**	**75**	**1**



Environmental Services

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

BUILDING SERVICES

1.1 What We Do

The Council is registered as a building consent authority (BCA), as required by the Building Act 2004. The BCA receives and processes applications for building consents. It also involves monitoring and compliance, to ensure that all building, plumbing and drainage work in the District is undertaken in a safe, secure and proper manner. The Building Control Team also leads the preparation of Land Information Memorandums.

1.2 Why We Do It

The Council has a legal responsibility to ensure buildings are fit for purpose and comply with legislation.

This activity contributes to the community outcomes of:

- Welcoming
- Resilient
- Connected
- Enabling

1.3 Significant Negative Effects

The Building activity has the potential to negatively impact the social, economic, environmental or cultural well-being of the local community. The most likely significant negative effects from this activity and the mitigation measures in place, are outlined below.

Social, economic, environmental & cultural - the construction and modification of buildings and structures represents a significant investment for its owners and directly impacts the community and the natural and built environment, as well as community safety. Performance indicators have been designed to strike a balance between legal requirements, supporting the environmental and economic well-being and delivering efficiency from a customer service perspective. Maintenance of a quality management system and a structured approach to continual improvement are two measures to ensure the purpose of the Building Act is upheld.

These negative effects and any controls and mitigation in place have to be balanced against the positive impact the activity has on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of its users and the district overall.

1.4 Statement of Service Provision

Level of Service	Performance Measure	Target Year 2 2025/26	Actual 2023/24	How Measured
To process applications within statutory timeframes.	Percentage of building consent applications processed within 20 days.	100%	**Achieved – 100%,** 215 out of 215	Council Records.
	Percentage of inspection requests completed within 24 hours of request.	100%	**Not Achieved – 98.1%,** 1,090 out of 1,111	Council Records.
	Percentage of code compliance certificate applications determined within 20 working days.	100%	**Not Achieved – 99%,** 187 out of 188	Council Records.
To retain registration as a Building Consent Authority.	Current registration.	Confirmed	**Achieved**	Current IANZ Certification
To process LIMs within statutory timeframes	% of LIMs processed within timeframes.	100%	**Achieved – 100%** 81 of 81	Council Records

1.5 Key Future Projects

There are no future projects associated with the Building Services activity.

1.6 Statement of Prospective Financial Performance

The detailed financial summary is shown below.

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	1,001	1,060	1,125	(65)
Revenue	560	572	591	19
Net Cost of Service	**441**	**488**	**534**	**(46)**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	734	782	833	(51)
Overheads	267	278	292	(14)
Total Operating Expenditure	**1,001**	**1,060**	**1,125**	(65)
FUNDED BY:				
Charges for Services	560	572	591	(19)
Revenue	**560**	**572**	**591**	**(19)**
UAGC	426	473	525	(52)
Other Funding	14	15	9	6
Total Funding	**1,001**	**1,060**	**1,125**	**(65)**

PLANNING

1.1 What We Do

This activity covers:
- The development and administration of the Stratford District Plan
- The processing of resource consents required under the District Plan.
- Monitoring of the district to ensure that the District Plan is relevant and complied with.

1.2 Why We Do It

All of the above functions are required by legislation.

This activity contributes to the community outcomes of:

- Welcoming
- Resilient
- Connected
- Enabling

1.3 Significant Negative Effects

The Planning activity has the potential to negatively impact the social, economic, environmental or cultural well-being of the local community. The most likely significant negative effects from this activity and the mitigation measures in place, are outlined below.

Social, economic, environmental & cultural - land use and subdivision activity can impact on short and long term social, economic, environmental and cultural outcomes. Performance indicators have been designed to strike a balance between legal requirements, supporting the environmental and economic well-being, meeting the community's needs and delivering efficiency from a customer service perspective. Best social, economic, environmental & cultural practice and community expectations will also be incorporated in the future update of the District Plan which governs much of this activity.

These negative effects and any controls and mitigation in place have to be balanced against the positive impact the activity has on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of its users and the district overall.

1.4 Statement of Service Provision

Level of Service	Performance Measure	Target Year 2 2025/26	Actual 2023/24	How Measured
To promote the sustainable management and use of land and public spaces.	To undertake a comprehensive review of the district plan, with notification within statutory timeframes.	To undertake a comprehensive review of the district plan in accordance with an agreed timeframe.	**Not Achieved**	Manual reporting
	To undertake a systematic review of bylaws and related policies as they reach their statutory review dates.	100% within review timeframes	**Not Achieved**	Reports to Council
To process resource consents within statutory timeframes.	% of non notified applications processed within 20 working days.	100%	**Not Achieved – 98%** 55 of 56	Council records
	% of notified applications processed within legislated timeframes for notification, hearings and decisions.	100%	**Achieved – 0 notified consent applications**	Council records
	% of s223 applications processed within 10 working days.	100%	**Achieved – 100% 22** of 22 applications	Council records

1.5 Key Future Projects

There are no future projects associated with the Planning activity.

1.6 Statement of Prospective Financial Performance

The detailed financial summary is shown below.

District Plan

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	101	242	182	60
Revenue	0	0	0	0
Net Cost of Service	**101**	**242**	**182**	**60**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	19	158	98	60
Interest	0	0	0	0
Overheads	83	83	84	(1)
Total Operating Expenditure	**101**	**242**	**182**	**60**
Principal Loan Repayments	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	**101**	**242**	**182**	**60**
FUNDED BY:				
UAGC	97	237	179	58
Loan Funding	0	0	0	0
Other Funding	4	5	3	2
Total Funding	**101**	**242**	**182**	**60**

Resource Consents

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	416	439	444	(5)
Revenue	134	137	137	(0)
Net Cost of Service	**282**	**302**	**307**	**(4)**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	307	313	324	(11)
Overheads	109	126	120	6
Total Operating Expenditure	**416**	**439**	**444**	**(5)**
FUNDED BY:				
Charges for Services	134	137	137	0
Revenue	**134**	**137**	**137**	**0**
UAGC	276	296	303	(7)
Other Funding	6	6	4	2
Total Funding	**416**	**439**	**444**	**(5)**

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY

1.1 What We Do

The activities broadly cover the regulation and enforcement of various statutes and bylaws relating to health, food, alcohol, animal control, and general nuisance arising from inappropriate parking of motor vehicles and/or use of public places.

Health Act and Food Act
The Council:
- provides a uniform system of control to ensure that food being sold is fit for consumption and safe
- carries out premises registration, education, monitoring and enforcement activities, including complaint resolution, to avoid and mitigate actual and potential adverse effects on public health.

From time to time this activity also has to review and respond to legislative changes. Overall its main role is licencing, compliance and enforcement.

Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act
The Council carries out licensing, monitoring and enforcement activities, to ensure that a reasonable system of control is in place over the sale and supply of liquor to the public, with the aim of contributing to the reduction of liquor abuse in the community.

Parking and other Bylaw compliance
Bylaws provide an enforcement tool where specific local regulation is required. In some instances bylaws are required to give a specific local interpretation of national legislation. Others, such as the Public Places Bylaw, are passed under the Local Government Act but simply reflect a set of local expectations.
The Council receives an average of 300 complaints concerning infringements of the various bylaws each year.

Animal Control
The Council exercises its responsibilities under the Dog Control Act 1996 and the Council's Dog Control Bylaw. The Council controls dogs as required by legislation to avoid nuisance and minimise risk to the community.

This covers:
- registration of dogs
- providing a timely response to all complaints concerning dogs, particularly in regard to instances involving aggressive behaviour by dogs
- Enforcing obligations on dog owners designed to ensure that dogs do not cause a nuisance to any person, and do not injure, endanger or cause distress to any person or cause distress to any stock, poultry, domestic animal or protected wildlife.

The Council operates a dog pound which has capacity for six dogs. The demand for services is relatively consistent. This activity also manages wandering stock on road reserves.

1.2 Why We Do It

These services are either required by statute or bylaws produced by the Council in response to either public expectations or legal requirements.

This activity contributes to the community outcomes of:

- Welcoming
- Connected
- Enabling

1.3 Significant Negative Effects

There are no significant negative effects associated with the Community Health and Safety activity that may affect the social, economic, environmental or cultural well-being of the local community. This activity exists to avoid, minimise or mitigate significant negative effects of environmental or community health and safety events. Failure to deliver this activity would therefore have a significant negative impact on the economic and environment well-being.

1.4 Statement of Service Provision

Level of Service	Performance Measure	Target Year 2 2025/26	Actual 2023/24	How Measured
To fulfil obligations to improve, promote and protect public health.	Percentage of premises registered under the Food Act, Health Act, Beauty and Tattoo Bylaw, to be inspected for compliance.	100%	**Achieved – 100%** 59 out of 59	Council Records
	Health nuisance and premise complaints are responded to within 1 working day.	100%	**Achieved – 100%** 17 out of 17 complaints	Council Records
To fulfil obligations as a District Licensing Committee.	Percentage of licensed premises inspected.	100%	**Achieved – 100%** 28 of 28 inspected	Council Records
	Percentage of applications processed within 25 working days (excluding hearings).	100%	**Achieved – 100%** 85 of 85 applications (1 hearing)	Council Records
To monitor and enforce bylaws.	Percentage of complaints responded to within 2 hours.	100%	**Achieved – 100%** 263 of 263 complaints.	Council Records
To ensure dogs are controlled.	Percentage of known dogs registered.	>98%	**Achieved – 98%** 2,091 of 2,148 known dogs	Council Records
	Percentage of dog attach/wandering dog complaints responded to within an hour.	100%	**Achieved – 100%** 351 of 351 complaints	Council Records

1.5 Key Future Projects

There are no future projects associated with the Community Health & Safety activity.

1.6 Statement of Prospective Financial Performance

The detailed financial summary is shown below.

Food and Health

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	147	151	161	(10)
Revenue	38	39	39	(0)
Net Cost of Service	**109**	**112**	**122**	**(10)**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	80	81	84	(3)
Overheads	67	69	76	(7)
Total Operating Expenditure	**147**	**151**	**161**	**(10)**
FUNDED BY:				
Charges for Services	38	39	39	0
Revenue	**38**	**39**	**39**	**0**
UAGC	105	108	120	(12)
Other Funding	4	4	2	2
Total Funding	**147**	**151**	**161**	**(10)**

Alcohol Licensing

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	147	153	159	(6)
Revenue	35	36	36	(0)
Net Cost of Service	**112**	**117**	**123**	**(6)**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	84	86	87	(1)
Overheads	63	67	72	(5)
Total Operating Expenditure	**147**	**153**	**159**	**(6)**
FUNDED BY:				
Charges for Services	35	36	36	0
Revenue	**35**	**36**	**36**	**0**
UAGC	109	113	121	(8)
Other Funding	3	4	2	2
Total Funding	**147**	**153**	**159**	**(6)**

Parking and other Bylaws

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	156	158	162	(4)
Revenue	1	1	1	0
Net Cost of Service	**155**	**157**	**161**	**(4)**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	71	72	74	(2)
Overheads	85	86	88	(2)
Total Operating Expenditure	**156**	**158**	**162**	**(4)**
FUNDED BY:				
Charges for Services	1	1	1	0
Revenue	**1**	**1**	**1**	**0**
UAGC	150	152	158	(6)
Other Funding	5	5	3	2
Total Funding	**156**	**158**	**162**	**(4)**

Animal Control

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	311	315	335	(20)
Revenue	170	174	174	(0)
Net Cost of Service	**141**	**141**	**161**	**(19)**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	173	177	181	(4)
Interest	2	2	2	0
Depreciation	5	5	3	2
Overheads	131	132	149	(17)
Total Operating Expenditure	**311**	**315**	**335**	**(20)**
Principal Loan Repayments	2	2	2	0
Capital Expenditure	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	**313**	**317**	**336**	**(20)**
FUNDED BY:				
Charges for Services	170	174	174	0
Revenue	**170**	**174**	**174**	**0**
UAGC	136	136	158	(22)
Loan Funding - Capital	0	0	0	0
Other Funding	7	8	5	3
Total Funding	**313**	**317**	**336**	**(20)**

CIVIL DEFENCE & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

1.1 What We Do

The overriding principle for Civil Defence and Emergency Management delivery across the Taranaki Civil Defence and Emergency Management (CDEM) Group is that it is a regionally coordinated and locally delivered approach. The Taranaki Region operates a CDEM Group Office, called the Taranaki Emergency Management Office (TEMO). TEMO is a shared service between all four councils in Taranaki that delivers Civil Defence and Emergency Management coordination throughout Taranaki on behalf of the councils in the region. The Council is obligated to plan and provide for Civil Defence and Emergency Management within the Stratford District and to ensure that it can function at the fullest possible extent during an emergency.

1.2 Why We Do It

Council has legal requirements to play a direct role in the prevention and management of natural hazards.

This activity contributes to the community outcomes of:

- Welcoming
- Resilient
- Connected
- Enabling

1.3 Significant Negative Effects

There are no significant negative effects associated with the Civil Defence and Emergency Management activity that may affect the social, economic, environmental or cultural well-being of the local community. However, failure to deliver this activity would have a significant negative impact on the social, economic, environment and cultural well-being.

1.4 Statement of Service Provision

Level of Service	Performance Measure	Target Year 2 2025/26	Actual 2023/24	How Measured
To maintain effective emergency capability	Recruit, train and maintain a pool of staff and volunteers capable of responding to an emergency event. Number of people trained to at least Intermediate level.	>25	**Achieved – 35** trained to intermediate level or higher	Takatu Records
To ensure the Stratford District Emergency Operations Centre is fit for purpose.	Annual capability audit undertaken (externally) and quarterly system checks undertaken (internally).	Achieved	**Achieved**	Council Records

1.5 Key Future Projects

There are no future projects associated with the Civil Defence & Emergency Management activity.

1.6 Statement of Prospective Financial Performance

The detailed financial summary is shown below.

Civil Defence and Emergency Management

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	473	500	517	(18)
Revenue	0	0	0	0
Net Cost of Service	**473**	**500**	**517**	**(18)**

EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	134	137	137	0
Depreciation	1	1	0	1
Overheads	338	363	380	(17)
Total Operating Expenditure	**473**	**500**	**517**	**(18)**
FUNDED BY:				
UAGC	454	481	505	(25)
Other Funding	18	19	12	7
Total Funding	**473**	**500**	**517**	**(18)**

Roading

ROADING

1.1 What We Do

The Roading activity encompasses the management, construction, maintenance and renewal of rural and urban roads, footpaths, kerb and channel, street lighting and associated infrastructure for the District excluding State Highways. The Roading network managed by the Stratford District Council totals 613.1km, made up of 556.1km of rural roads, 14.2km of Special Purpose Roads and 42.6km of urban streets. State Highways 3 and 43 are maintained by the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA). In addition there are over 700km of unformed legal road and a number of bridges 'beyond the maintenance peg' that are not maintained by Council.

The Roading asset includes all pavements from the sub base to, and including, the top sealed or metal surface, traffic services (lighting, street and safety signage, footpaths, kerb & channel), bridges, culverts and side drains.

	Rural	Urban	Special Purpose	Total
Sealed km	350.4	42.5	14.0	407.1
Unsealed km	205.7	0.1	0.2	206.0
	556.1	**42.6**	**14.2**	**613.1**

The physical works carried out on the District roads are undertaken by private contractors. Most of the work, including all routine maintenance, renewals and planned work such as reseals and unsealed roads metal replacement, is carried out under the Roading Facilities Management Contract.

1.2 Why We Do It

Council is the road controlling authority under the Local Government Act 1974 and 2002 with responsibility for all local roads in the area. It provides an integrated, safe, responsive and sustainable local land transport system for the District. This is a fundamental requirement for every District.
The main users of the network are residents, industries (particularly dairy, forestry and oil), a small commercial sector, and visitors.

This activity contributes to the community outcomes of:

- Welcoming
- Resilient
- Connected
- Enabling

1.3 Significant Negative Effects

The Roading activity has the potential to negatively impact the social, economic, environmental or cultural well-being of the local community. The most likely significant negative effects from this activity and the mitigation measures in place, are outlined below.

Social, economic, environmental & cultural - Traffic hazards and accidents have the potential to negatively impact the community's social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being. Council is actively involved in regional road safety strategies such as 'Roadsafe Taranaki', and the 'Community Road Safety Programme' and investigates injury accidents with the Police to address any roading issues that may be involved.

Social, economic, environmental & cultural – Dust from unsealed roads has the potential to negatively impact the community's social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being. Council is working with the rural community to manage nuisance from dust.

Social, economic & cultural – Road closures have the potential to negatively impact the community's social, economic and cultural well-being. Unplanned road closures are usually the result of environmental events and can be of concern, particularly for isolated rural communities. When this happens, every effort is made to have the road or alternative routes open as soon as possible. Planned road closures are generally not a significant problem as they are well notified to affected parties and council works with event organisers to reduce the impact of closures of popular routes.

Environmental & cultural – Earthworks and run-off from road construction and maintenance activities has the potential to impact the environmental and cultural wellbeing. To manage and mitigate this risk, all major project works are carried out under resource consent conditions and undertaken in a manner that avoids significant negative effects. Routine maintenance activities are governed by performance criteria outlined in the maintenance contract.

These negative effects and any controls and mitigation in place have to be balanced against the positive impact the activity has on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of its users and the district overall.

1.4 Statement of Service Provision

Level of Service	Performance Measure	Target Year 2 2025/26	Actual 2023/24	How Measured
To provide a safe roading network.	**Road safety** - The reduction from the previous financial year in the number of fatalities and serious injury crashes on the local road network, expressed as a number.	A reduction of at least 1	**Achieved – minus 2**	Police CAS Database
To provide a well maintained roading network.	**Road Condition** – The average quality of ride on sealed road network, measured by smooth travel exposure.	Urban – ≥60% Rural – ≥91%	**Not Achieved** – Urban – 52% **Achieved** – Rural – 92%	RAMM Rating Report
	Road maintenance – The percentage of the sealed road network that is resurfaced.	≥5%	**Not Achieved – 2.90%**	RAMM Rating Report
	Road maintenance – The percentage of the unsealed road network that has been metal dressed.	≥5%	**Achieved – 7.2%**	RAMM Report
To provide a well maintained roading network.	**Footpaths** - The percentage of footpaths within a territorial authority district that fall within the level of service or service standard for the condition of footpaths that is set out in the territorial authority's relevant document (annual plan, activity management plan, asset management plan, annual works programme or long term plan)	>72.5%	**Achieved – 77%**	RAMM Report
	Response to service requests - The percentage of customer service requests relating to roads and footpaths to which the territorial authority responds within the time frame specified in the long term plan (note: this information is actually held in the asset management plan not the long term plan).	>88%	**Achieved – 100%**	Monitor the CRM's response times in Authority and the bi-weekly reports from Fulton Hogan.
	Percentage of residents who are satisfied with:			Annual Residents Survey
	• Urban Road Networks	>50%	**New Measure**	
	• Rural Road Networks	>50%	**New Measure**	
	• Footpaths	>60%	**Not Achieved – 55%**	

1.5 Key Future Projects

Project	Category	2025/26
Low cost low risk roads	Level of Service	$410,000
Crown Resilience Programme	Level of Service	$500,000
Seal Extensions (Dust Coat Seals)	Level of Service	$50,000
Unsealed road metalling	Replacements	$956,272
Sealed road resurfacing	Replacements	$1,391,680
Drainage Renewals	Replacements	$961,526
Pavement Rehab	Replacements	$683,040
Structure Component Replacement	Replacements	$998,472
Traffic Services	Replacements	$168,135
Footpath Renewals	Replacements	$79,425

1.6 Statement of Prospective Financial Performance

The detailed financial summary is shown below.

Roading

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	7,441	7,985	8,872	(889)
Revenue	7,586	7,866	6,212	(1,654)
Net Cost of Service	**(145)**	**119**	**2,661**	**(2,544)**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	3,906	4,086	4,004	82
Interest	92	127	51	76
Depreciation	3,171	3,540	4,530	(990)
Overheads	273	231	288	(57)
Total Operating Expenditure	**7,441**	**7,985**	**8,872**	**(889)**
Principal Loan Repayments	90	133	51	82
Capital Expenditure	8,205	8,474	6,199	2,275
Total Expenditure	**15,736**	**16,592**	**15,122**	**1,468**
FUNDED BY:				
User Charges	160	161	161	(0)
NZTA Financial Assistance	7,427	7,704	6,051	1,653
Revenue	**7,586**	**7,866**	**6,212**	**1,653**
Targeted Rates	4,229	4,912	4,152	760
Depreciation Funded From Reserves	1,823	2,038	2,586	(548)
Transfer from Reserves - Capital	1,960	2,098	1,989	109
Transfer (to) from Reserves	(1,043)	(1,508)	(375)	(1,133)
Loan Funding	1,166	1,170	550	620
Grants and Donations Capital	0	0	0	0
Grants and Donations	0	0	0	0
Other Funding	15	16	9	7
Total Funding	**15,736**	**16,592**	**15,122**	**1,468**

Business Unit

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	313	315	307	9
Revenue	340	347	310	(37)
Net Cost of Service	**(27)**	**(32)**	**(4)**	**(28)**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	217	216	203	13
Depreciation	6	6	6	0
Overheads	91	94	98	(4)
Total Operating Expenditure	**313**	**315**	**307**	**9**
FUNDED BY:				
Inhouse services- NZTA assisted	340	347	310	37
Revenue	**340**	**347**	**310**	**37**
General Rates	(32)	(37)	(6)	(31)
Other Funding	5	5	3	2
Total Funding	**313**	**315**	**307**	**9**

Stormwater

STORMWATER

1.1 What We Do

Stormwater reticulation and collection services are provided and managed by Stratford District Council:

- To provide a system for the normal drainage of stormwater and groundwater, thereby enhancing the life of other infrastructure eg. Roads, and protecting private property (to the defined level of service).
- To collect and disperse any excess water from a major rainfall event.

The Stormwater reticulation system is a network of pipes and open drains that collects stormwater from developed urban areas. Collection from roads and public areas is usually via sumps and directed to reticulation. Collection from commercial and industrial properties is via reticulation manholes. Residential area stormwater is discharged to ground mainly by soak holes, although if soil or other conditions are not suitable for soak holes, discharge is carried out via runoff through sumps and reticulation.

The Stratford District Council manages around 6.7km of stormwater pipes, and 1.9km of open channels/drains in the Stratford urban area. Council is also responsible for approximately 70 metres of 450mm culvert in Midhirst.

1.2 Why We Do It

Stormwater assets are critical for the protection of properties and infrastructure.

The Council provides the Stormwater service to meet the needs and requirements of its customers and stakeholders. The stormwater activity goals and objectives are:

- Channelization of stormwater flows in a safe and efficient manner:
- Protection of property from impacts of flooding;
- Protection of receiving environments.

This activity contributes to the community outcomes of:

- Resilience
- Connected
- Enabling

1.3 Significant Negative Effects

The Stormwater activity has the potential to negatively impact the social, economic, environmental or cultural well-being of the local community. The most likely significant negative effects from this activity and the mitigation measures in place, are outlined below.

Social, economic, environmental & cultural - the Stormwater system has the potential to affect community health if existing drainage systems are inadequate and results in flooded houses and properties.

Social, economic, environmental & cultural - Council is aware of the areas where surface flooding occurs and is progressively working towards eliminating these events. However, there will always be localised storm events that will exceed the capacity of any system. Council recognises this potential and endeavours to take all steps to ensure the risk is minimised.

These negative effects and any controls and mitigation measures in place have to be balanced against the positive impact the activity has on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of its users, and the district overall.

1.4 Statement of Service Provision

Level of Service	Performance Measure	Target Year 2 2025/26	Actual 2023/24	How Measured
Stormwater system protects property from impacts of flooding.	**System adequacy**			Reporting against corporate CRM system. Note: specific category to be set up for flooding – to separate between residential & commercial buildings and include count of habitable floors flooded (residential only).
	The number of flooding events that occur in a territorial authority district. "Flooding" in this context means stormwater entering a habitable floor	0	**Achieved – 0 –** No flooding events meeting the criteria	
	For each flooding event, the number of habitable floors affected. (Expressed per 1000 properties connected to the territorial authority's stormwater system.)	0	**Achieved – 0 –** No flooding events meeting the criteria	
	For each flooding event, the number of buildings in the central business zone affected by flooding..	0	**Achieved – 0 –** No flooding events meeting the criteria	
Discharge Compliance	Compliance with the territorial authority's resource consents for discharge from its stormwater system, measured by the number of: • Abatement notices • Infringement notices • Enforcement orders, and • Convictions received by the territorial authority in relation to those resource consents.	N/A	**Not Applicable**	Council does not hold discharge consents for discharge from its stormwater system.
Response Times	The median response time to attend a flooding event, measured from the time that the territorial authority receives notification to the time that service personnel reach the site.	2 hours	**Achieved – 0**	Work order tracking/reporting through Council's Infrastructure asset management system.
Customer Satisfaction	The number of complaints received by a territorial authority about the performance of its stormwater system, expressed per 1000 properties connected to the territorial authority's stormwater system.	<9	**Achieved – 0**	Reporting against corporate CRM system.

1.5 Key Future Projects

Project	Category	2025/26
Reticulation renewals	Replacements	$102,500

1.6 Statement of Prospective Financial Performance

The detailed financial summary is shown below.

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	471	495	488	7
Revenue	0	0	0	0
Net Cost of Service	**471**	**495**	**488**	**7**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	79	81	80	1
Interest	54	55	51	4
Depreciation	277	300	297	3
Overheads	61	59	60	(1)
Total Operating Expenditure	**471**	**495**	**488**	**7**
Principal Loan Repayments	53	57	51	6
Capital Expenditure	650	103	103	0
Total Expenditure	**1,174**	**655**	**641**	**14**
FUNDED BY:				
UAGC	468	492	486	6
Transfer from Reserves	253	160	153	7
Depreciation funded from Reserves	0	0	0	0
Loan Funding - Capital	337	0	0	0
Grants and Donations - Capital	113	0	0	0
Other Funding	3	4	2	2
Total Funding	**1,174**	**655**	**641**	**14**

Wastewater

WASTEWATER (SEWERAGE)

1.1 What We Do

The Wastewater activity encompasses the planning, provision, operation, maintenance and renewal of wastewater reticulation, treatment and disposal, and associated infrastructure for the Stratford urban area.

Stratford District Council is responsible for wastewater treatment and reticulation in Stratford Township. The Stratford wastewater system services over 2,700 properties, which is approximately 98 percent of the Stratford urban area. All other dwellings in the district are serviced by on-site wastewater treatment systems.

1.2 Why We Do It

Council has obligations under the Local Government Act 2002, the Health Act 1956 and the Building Act 2004 that outline general duties of a local authority to improve, promote and protect public health through the sanitary and responsible treatment and disposal of wastewater.

The Council provides the Wastewater service to meet the needs and requirements of its customers and stakeholders; the goals and objectives of the Wastewater activity are:

- To collect wastewater from residential, commercial and industrial properties in a safe and efficient manner;
- To dispose of treated wastewater into the receiving environments in an environmentally friendly and sustainable manner in line with all applicable resource consent conditions.
- To facilitate the minimisation of risk and maintenance of public health through the safe disposal of wastewater into the receiving environment;
- To deliver on the agreed customer service levels.

This activity contributes to the community outcomes of:

- Resilience
- Connected
- Enabling

1.3 Significant Negative Effects

The Wastewater activity has the potential to negatively impact the social, economic, environmental or cultural well-being of the local community. The most likely significant negative effects from this activity and the mitigation measures in place, are outlined below.

Social, economic, environmental & cultural - The Wastewater system has the potential to affect community health. Continued efforts are made to ensure that environmental effects are minimised. This is addressed through ongoing improvements to the treatment system which form part of the discharge resource consent.

Social, economic, environmental & cultural - Odour is managed through increased aeration and screening.

Social, economic, environmental & cultural – Periodic failures in the reticulation network, such as blockages and overflows are being addressed as a priority and the immediate resolution is followed up by root cause investigation to minimise the risk of future recurrence.

Cultural – Historically, the treatment and disposal of wastewater raised cultural concerns, such as the direct disposal of the discharge from the oxidation ponds to the Patea River. These were addressed as part of the resource consent consultation process and subsequent upgrades. Council will continue to give consideration to cultural aspects as part of future upgrades.

These negative effects and any controls and mitigation in place have to be balanced against the positive impact the activity has on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of its users and the district overall.

1.4 Statement of Service Provision

Level of Service	Performance Measure	Target Year 2 2025/26	Actual 2023/24	How Measured
Wastewater is managed without risk to public health.	**System and adequacy -** The number of dry weather sewerage overflows from the territorial authority's sewerage system, expressed per 1000 sewerage connections to that sewerage system.	<6	Achieved – 0	Reporting against corporate CRM system.
	Discharge compliance - Compliance with the territorial authority's resource consents for discharge from its sewerage system measured by the number of • Abatement notices • Infringement notices • Enforcement orders; and • Convictions, Received by the territorial authority in relation to those resource consents.	<1	Achieved - 0	Consent & compliance documentation.
Fault response times	Where the territorial authority attends to sewerage overflows resulting from a blockage or other fault in the territorial authority's sewerage system, the following median response times measured:			Work order tracking/reporting through Council's Infrastructure asset management system.
	Attendance time: from the time that the territorial authority receives notification to the time that service personnel reach the site; and	2 hours	Achieved - 22 minutes	
	Resolution time: from the time that the territorial authority receives notification to the time that service personnel confirm resolution of the blockage or other fault.	9 hours	Achieved – 2 hours 8 minutes	
Customer satisfaction	The total number of complaints received by the territorial authority about any of the following: • Sewage odour • Sewerage system faults • Sewerage system blockages, and • The territorial authority's response to issues with its sewerage system, Expressed per 1000 connections to the territorial authority's sewerage system.	<6	Not Achieved – 8.54	Reporting against corporate CRM system.
Trade Waste complaints response times	Attendance time: from the time that Council receives notification to the time that a Trade Waste Officer arrives on site.	<2 working days	Achieved – 100%	Work order tracking/ reporting through Assetfinda
Trade Waste consent processing	Percentage of trade waste consent applications processed within 15 working days.	100%	Achieved – 100% 1 of 1 application	Authority

1.5 Key Future Projects

Project	Category	2025/26
Treatment upgrade	Level of Service	$512,500
Infiltration renewals	Replacements	$205,000
Safety renewals	Replacements	$102,500
Routine step/aerate renewals	Replacements	$35,875

1.6 Statement of Prospective Financial Performance

The detailed financial summary is shown below.

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	1,025	1,065	1,253	(188)
Revenue	40	41	41	(0)
Net Cost of Service	**985**	**1,024**	**1,212**	**(188)**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	435	446	458	(12)
Interest	56	63	105	(42)
Depreciation	432	458	589	(131)
Overheads	102	99	102	(3)
Total Operating Expenditure	**1,025**	**1,065**	**1,253**	**(188)**
Principal Loan Repayments	54	65	105	(40)
Capital Expenditure	885	856	856	(0)
Total Expenditure	**1,964**	**1,987**	**2,213**	**(228)**
FUNDED BY:				
Charges for Services	40	41	41	0
Revenue	**40**	**41**	**41**	**0**
Targeted Rates	979	1,019	1,208	(190)
Transfer (to) from Reserves	0	0	0	0
Transfer from Depreciation Reserve	739	409	448	(39)
Depreciation funded from Reserves	0	0	0	0
Loan Funding - Capital	150	513	513	(1)
Grants and Donations - Capital	50	0	0	0
Other Funding	6	6	3	3
Total Funding	**1,964**	**1,987**	**2,213**	**(228)**

Solid Waste

SOLID WASTE (RUBBISH AND RECYCLING)

1.1 What We Do

The Solid Waste activity encompasses the planning and provision of solid waste services and the operation, maintenance and renewal of all associated infrastructure.

The Council provides domestic refuse and recycling services to the households in the urban area of Stratford and Midhirst. In addition, it contracts out the operations of a transfer station in Stratford which allows for the disposal of general waste, recycling and green waste. All services are provided by a contractor with all recycling transported to the Materials Recovery Facility in New Plymouth, the general waste transported to the Hawera Transfer Station, consolidated with South Taranaki Districts general waste, then taken to the Bonny Glen landfill in the Rangitikei.

1.2 Why We Do It

The Council provides the Solid Waste service to meet the needs and requirements of its customers and stakeholders. The goals and objectives of the Solid Waste Activity as per the LTP are to ensure that the:

- Levels of waste generated are reducing; and
- Waste collection services meet the needs of the community.

This activity contributes to the community outcomes of:

- Welcoming
- Resilient
- Connected
- Enabling

1.3 Significant Negative Effects

The Solid Waste activity has the potential to negatively impact the social, economic, environmental or cultural well-being of the local community. The most likely significant negative effects from this activity and the mitigation measures in place, are outlined below.

Social, economic, environmental & cultural - disposal of solid waste to land has inherent negative impacts on the social, environmental and cultural wellbeing. To minimise these impacts, council only sends waste to appropriately consented sites and aims to minimise the volume of waste it sends to landfill by actively seeking further opportunities to increase waste minimisation and diversion.

Social, economic, environmental & cultural - odour, litter and noxious materials originating from historic, closed landfills can have negative impacts on the social, environmental and cultural wellbeing. These effects are controlled and minimised by resource consents and management practices.

These negative effects and any controls and mitigation in place have to be balanced against the positive impact the activity has on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of its users and the district overall.

1.4 Statement of Service Provision

Level of Service	Performance Measure	Target Year 2 2025/26	Actual 2023/24	How Measured
The levels of waste generated are reducing.	Waste to landfill per household (municipal kerbside collection only)	<500KG	**Achieved – 485kg**	Landfill invoices & transactions.
	Percentage (by weight) of council controlled waste stream that is diverted from council controlled waste streams.	>20%	**New Measure**	Recycling facility invoices & transactions.
The waste collection service meets the needs of the community.	Percentage of customers satisfied with the service provided.	>80%	**Achieved – 82%**	Annual Residents Survey

1.5 Key Future Projects

Project	Category	2025/26
Mobile events waste bins and trailer for events on council land	Level of Service	$10,210
Permanent Recycling Stations	Level of Service	$10,210
Transfer Station renewals	Replacements	$10,210

1.6 Statement of Prospective Financial Performance

The detailed financial summary is shown below.

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	1,443	1,496	1,505	(9)
Revenue	225	223	223	(0)
Net Cost of Service	**1,218**	**1,273**	**1,282**	**(9)**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	994	1,038	1,051	(13)
Interest	36	33	32	1
Depreciation	44	44	41	3
Overheads	369	380	380	(1)
Total Operating Expenditure	**1,443**	**1,496**	**1,505**	**(9)**
Landfill Aftercare Expenditure	7	0	0	0
Principal Loan Repayments	36	35	32	3
Capital Expenditure	60	31	31	0
Total Expenditure	**1,546**	**1,561**	**1,567**	**(6)**
FUNDED BY:				
Charges for Services	225	223	223	0
Revenue	**225**	**223**	**223**	**0**
Targeted Rates	1,162	1,222	1,224	(2)
UAGC	29	30	31	(1)
Loan Funding - Capital	10	10	10	(0)
Grants and Donations - Capital	10	10	10	(0)
Transfer from Reserves	91	45	57	(12)
Other Funding	20	21	12	9
Total Funding	**1,546**	**1,561**	**1,567**	**(6)**

Water Supply

WATER SUPPLY

1.1 What We Do

The Water Supply activity encompasses the planning, provision, operation, maintenance and renewal of water treatment and reticulation systems, and all associated infrastructure.

Council operates three urban water supplies servicing the Stratford, Toko and Midhirst townships, with river fed sources for Stratford and Midhirst and a bore supply for Toko.

1.2 Why We Do It

Council has assumed the role of provider of water supply to provide all properties in the water supply zones with a constant, safe and sustainable water supply.

The Council provides the water supply service to meet the needs and requirements of its customers and stakeholders. The goals and objectives of the Water Supply activity are:

- Water is safe to drink;
- A reliable water supply is provided;
- Water has a pleasant taste and odour;
- Water flow and pressure is appropriate for its intended use; and
- Water supply meets firefighting requirements.

This activity contributes to the community outcomes of:

- Resilience
- Connected
- Enabling

1.3 Significant Negative Effects

The water supply activity has the potential to negatively impact the social, economic, environmental or cultural well-being of the local community. The most likely significant negative effects from this activity and the mitigation measures in place, are outlined below.

Social & economic - Failure to meet Drinking Water Standards could have a significant negative impact on the social and economic well-being of its users and the district overall.

Social, economic, environmental & cultural – Discharge of contaminants to air, water or land could have a significant negative impact on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of its users and the district overall.

These negative effects and any controls and mitigation measures in place have to be balanced against the positive impact the activity has on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of its users and the district overall.

1.4 Statement of Service Provision

Level of Service	Performance Measure	Target Year 2 2025/26	Actual 2023/24	How Measured
Water is safe to drink.	The extent to which the local authority's drinking water supply complies with:			Plant & reticulation performance records in water outlook. Includes water quality sampling programme records as well as any plant non-performances.
	Part 4 of the drinking water standards (bacterial compliance criteria), and	100%	**Stratford – Achieved - 100%** **Midhirst – Achieved – 100%** **Toko – Achieved – 100%**	
	Part 5 of the drinking water standards (protozoal compliance criteria).	100%	**Achieved – 100%** **Midhirst – Achieved – 100%** **Toko – Achieved – 100%**	
	Maintenance of the reticulation network - The percentage of real water loss from the local authority's networked reticulation system (including a description of the methodology used to calculate this).	<25%	**Achieved** **Stratford – 8.6%** **Midhirst – 10.6%** **Toko – 4.1%**	Calculated annually as per NZWWA Water Loss Guidelines.
A reliable water supply is provided.	**Fault Response Times** – Where the local authority attends a call-out in response to a fault or unplanned interruption to its networked reticulation system, the following median response times are measured:			
	Attendance for urgent call-outs: from the time that council receives notification to the time that service personnel reach the site.	2 hours	**Achieved – 10 minutes**	Work order tracking/reporting through Council's Infrastructure asset management system.
	Resolution of urgent call-outs: from the time that council receives notification to the time the service personnel confirm resolution of the fault or interruption.	9 hours	**Achieved – 4 hours 8minutes**	
	Attendance for non-urgent call-outs: from the time that council receives notification to the time that service personnel confirm resolution of the fault or interruption	2 working days	**Achieved – 1 day, 5 hours**	Work order tracking/reporting through Council's Infrastructure asset management system. Affected property numbers provided via GIS/Asset Management System
	Resolution of non-urgent call-outs: from the time that council receives notification to the time the service personnel confirm resolution of the fault or interruption	5 working days	**Achieved – 2 days, 20 hours, 58 minutes**	Work order tracking/reporting through Council's Infrastructure asset management system. Affected property numbers provided via GIS/Asset Management System

Level of Service	Performance Measure	Target Year 2 2025/26	Actual 2023/24	How Measured
A reliable water supply is provided.	Number of unplanned disruptions:			
	Minor * (between 5 and 50 connections affected)	<6	**Achieved – 0.33**	Work order tracking/reporting through Council's Infrastructure asset management system. Affected property numbers provided via GIS/Asset Management System
	Major * (more than 50 connections affected)	<3	**Achieved – 0.33**	
Water has a pleasant taste and odour.	Customer Satisfaction - Total number of complaints received for: • Drinking water clarity • Drinking water taste • Drinking water odour • Drinking water pressure or flow • Continuity of supply • Council's response to any of these issues expressed per 1000 connections to council's networked reticulation system.	<32	**Achieved: - 1.65**	Reporting against corporate CRM system.
	Note: This is understood to be limited to supplied properties within the water supply zones.			
Demand Management	Demand management - The average consumption of drinking water per day per resident within the district (in litres).	<275	**Not Achieved: 297 (Stratford – 312 litres Midhirst – 134 litres Toko – 102 litres)**	Calculated from production records ex SCADA/Water Outlook, deducting commercial users as per water meter records as well as any other non-residential use and losses (as per bench loss), divided by number of residential connections and average number of residents per property.
Water flow and pressure is appropriate for its intended use.	Water pressure at 50 properties within the water supply zone, including any that have complained about pressure and or flow meets council specifications (flow>10l/min & pressure>350kpa)	100%	**Achieved – 100% - 50 properties tested for water pressure and flow - all passed**	Pressure and flow to be measured at a minimum of 50 properties per annum. Test results recorded by handheld device directly into asset management system against property's point of supply. Where test at tap inside property fails, test will be repeated at point of supply (toby/meter box) to isolate problems with private pipework from public network. Customer is advised if problem with internal plumbing.
Water supply meets fire fighting requirements.	Fire hydrants meet NZFS Code of Practice conditions regarding supply.	100%	**Achieved – 30 hydrants were tested and all 30 passed the test – 100%.**	Flow & pressure testing carried out by council contractor and or NZ Fire Service to NZ Fire Fighting Code of Practice standards.

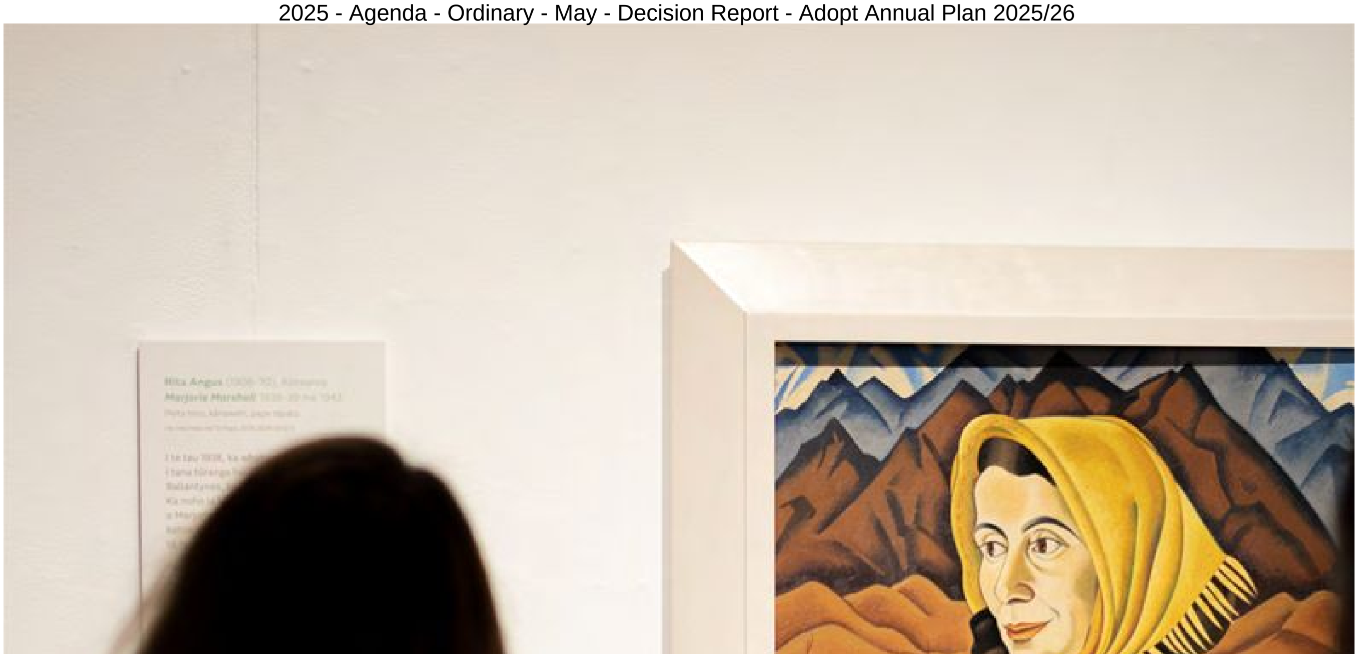
1.5 Key Future Projects

Project	Category	2025/26
Reticulation modelling	Level of Service	$102,500
Fuel tank for generator	Level of Service	$41,000
Stratford bore	Level of Service	$102,500
Stratford Grit tanks	Replacements	$2,050,000
Esk Road Baycard system	Replacements	$30,000
Hydrants	Replacements	$26,625
Water renewals	Replacements	$102,500
Infrastructure general	Replacements	$51,250

1.6 Statement of Prospective Financial Performance

The detailed financial summary is shown below.

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Operating Expenditure	2,370	2,452	2,647	(195)
Revenue	603	636	674	38
Net Cost of Service	**1,767**	**1,816**	**1,973**	**(157)**
EXPENDITURE				
Operating Costs	846	864	956	(92)
Interest	373	373	444	(71)
Depreciation	797	873	872	1
Overheads	354	341	374	(33)
Total Operating Expenditure	**2,370**	**2,452**	**2,647**	**(195)**
Principal Loan Repayments	400	429	480	(51)
Capital Expenditure	4,654	2,475	2,506	(31)
Total Expenditure	**7,424**	**5,356**	**5,633**	**(277)**
FUNDED BY:				
Charges for Water Usage	603	636	674	(38)
Revenue	**603**	**636**	**674**	**(38)**
Targeted Rates	1,748	1,796	1,961	(165)
Transfer from Reserves	1,240	2,658	2,740	(82)
Depreciation funded from reserves	0	0	0	0
Loan Funding - Capital	1,814	246	246	0
Grants and Donations - Capital	2,000	0	0	0
Other Funding	19	20	12	8
Total Funding	**7,424**	**5,356**	**5,633**	**(277)**



Council Controlled Organisations

COUNCIL CONTROLLED ORGANISATIONS

PERCY THOMSON TRUST

1.1 Background

The Local Government Act 2002 defines entities in which Council has more than a 50% shareholding, or the ability to appoint more than 50% of the directors, as Council Controlled Organisations. The Stratford District Council has one organisation that meets these criteria and is therefore a Council Controlled Organisation; the Percy Thomson Trust.

The Trust was established to fulfil the wishes and bequest of the late Percy Thomson to provide an art gallery, arboretum and herbarium. There are to be a minimum of six trustees and a maximum of seven on the trust and less than 50% of the trustees can come from elected representatives.

1.2 Nature and Scope of Activities

The Percy Thomson Trust covers three activities, the Art Gallery, the Arboretum, and the Herbarium.

The Percy Thomson Gallery is located in Prospero Place, and the arboretum on Cloten Road near the intersection with Ariel Street. The herbarium is delivered through the Trust's membership of the New Zealand Plant Conversation Network, and specifically through the website, https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/.

The Percy Thomson Gallery is Stratford's public art gallery and was opened in June 2002. The gallery contains both exhibition areas and work areas for use by local artists and community art groups. The gallery provides an active programme of exhibitions and events that is both internally generated and toured from other art collections.

The gallery's main display area totals 178m² which can be comfortably partitioned into two areas of 116m² and 62m² respectively.

The Trust Deed sets out the objectives of the Trust and the key points are:

- to manage and promote the facilities.
- to establish exhibition programmes and education policies.
- encouraging public enjoyment and utilisation of Trust facilities and collections.
- to care for any art collections loaned.
- to look at ways of raising revenue.

Council provides administration services to the Trust.

1.3 Why We Do It

The Percy Thomson Trust contributes to the community outcomes by providing for the cultural requirements of the District.

1.4 Performance Measures

Level of Service	Performance Measure	Target Year 2 2025/26	Actual 2023/24	How Measured
Delivery of art exhibitions	Deliver proposed art exhibitions which will include at least 1 local, 1 regional and 1 National.	Deliver proposed art exhibitions which will include local, regional and at least 1 National.	**Achieved**	Art Gallery Records
	Number of visitors to the Gallery to be not less than 20,000 per year	>20,000	**Achieved – 25,783**	Door Count
Development and maintenance of arboretum	Supervise and participate in the maintenance of the arboretum to the standards in the facilities management contract.	Supervise and participate in the maintenance of the arboretum to the standards in the facilities management contract.	**Achieved** **Note:** The arboretum has been maintained by Stratford District Council on behalf of the Trust, and meets the standards as set out in the Facilities Management Contract. The planting programme was also maintained, and continued on in conjunction with the plantings/replacement of native trees.	Council Records

Financial Statements

PROSPECTIVE STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE REVENUE AND EXPENSE

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Revenue				
Rates Revenue (see Note 1)	18,653	19,938	19,938	0
User Charges For Services	3,663	3,733	3,745	12
Subsidies and Grants (Note 2)	9,921	8,361	6,707	(1,654)
Finance Revenue	442	426	410	(16)
Other Revenue - sale of land	0	0	0	0
Sundry Revenue	55	55	55	(0)
Total Revenue	**32,733**	**32,512**	**30,856**	**(1,657)**
Expenses				
Employee Benefit Expenses	6,158	6,289	6,576	(287)
Other Direct Operating Costs	12,800	13,131	13,495	(364)
Cost of sales - subdivision	0	0	0	0
Finance Costs	1,453	1,560	1,588	(28)
Depreciation and Amortisation	6,624	7,213	8,167	(954)
Total Operating Expenses	**27,035**	**28,194**	**29,826**	**(1,633)**
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) BEFORE TAX	**5,698**	**4318**	**1,030**	**(3,288)**
Income Tax Expense	0	0	0	0
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) AFTER TAX (see Note below)	**5,698**	**4318**	**1,030**	**(3,288)**
Surplus/Deficit attributable to;				
Stratford District Council	**5,698**	**4318**	**1,030**	**(3,288)**
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE REVENUE AND EXPENSE				
Loss on sale of financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense	0	0	0	0
Revaluation of financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense	0	0	0	0
Gains/(Loss) on property revaluation	0	31,144	35,214	4,070
Total Other Comprehensive Revenue and Expense	**0**	**31,144**	**35,214**	**4,070**
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE REVENUE AND EXPENSE	**5,698**	**35,462**	**36,244**	**782**
Total Comprehensive Revenue and Expense attributable to:				
Stratford District Council	**5,698**	**35,462**	**36,244**	**782**

Note: The Net Surplus above includes roading subsidies of $3.7m from Waka Kotahi (NZTA) for capital expenditure, in the Roading Activity statement.

NOTES

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Note 1				
Rates Revenue consists of:				
- Rates	18,065	19,317	19,284	33
- Targeted rates for metered water supply	588	621	654	(33)
Total Rates Revenue	**18,653**	**19,938**	**19,938**	**(0)**
Note 2				
Subsidies and Grants consists of:				
- Subsidies from NZTA for financial assistance	7,427	7,704	6,051	1,654
- Grants	2,494	656	656	(0)
Total Subsidies and Grants Revenue	**9,921**	**8,359**	**6,707**	**1,654**

Note 3	2024/25 Long Term Plan $	2025/26 Long Term Plan $	2025/26 Annual Plan $	Variance $
Investment in CCO's and other Entities				
- Percy Thomson Trust	$100	$100	$100	$0
- Stratford Health Trust	$10	$10	$10	$0
- Stratford Community House Trust	$10	$10	$10	$0
Total Investment in CCO's and other Entities	**$120**	**$120**	**$120**	**$0**

DEPRECIATION BY GROUP OF ACTIVITIES

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Depreciation Allocated to each Group of Activities				
Recreation and Facilities	1,515	1,581	1,550	31.0
Democracy	296	327	205	122
Community Development	81	80	75	5.4
Environmental Services	5	5	3	2
Roading	3,176	3,546	4,536	(990)
Stormwater Drainage	277	300	297	3.0
Wastewater (Sewerage)	432	458	589	(131)
Solid Waste (Rubbish and Recycling)	44	44	41	3.2
Water Supply	797	873	872	1.1
TOTAL DEPRECIATION ALLOCATED TO EACH GROUP OF ACTIVITIES	**6,623**	**7,212**	**8,167**	**(955)**

PROSPECTIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Current Assets				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	106	(775)	1,396	2,171
Financial Investments	6,000	6,000	5,000	(1,000)
Inventory	1,364	1,364	0	(1,364)
Debtors and Other Receivables	1,917	1,917	2,837	920
Total Current Assets	**9,387**	**8,506**	**9,233**	**727**
Non-Current Assets				
Investment in Other Financial Assets	8,820	8,820	8,467	(353)
Investment in CCO and other entities (Note 3)	0	0	0	0
Property, Plant & Equipment	511,347	551,733	567,184	15,451
Total Non-Current Assets	**520,167**	**560,553**	**575,651**	**15,098**
TOTAL ASSETS	**529,553**	**569,059**	**584,884**	**15,825**
Current Liabilities				
Creditors and Other Payables	2,400	2,400	3,862	1,462
Provisions	0	0	0	0
Employee Benefit Liabilities	338	338	273	(65)
Borrowings	4,221	4,615	4,404	(211)
Total Current Liabilities	**6,959**	**7,353**	**8,539**	**1,186**
Non-Current Liabilities				
Borrowings	37,992	41,535	39,638	(1,897)
Provisions	0	0	0	0
Employee Benefit Liabilities	0	0	0	0
Total Non-Current Liabilities	**37,992**	**41,535**	**39,638**	**(1,897)**
Equity				
Accumulated comprehensive revenue and expense	218,181	222,606	206,661	(15,945)
Reserves/Special Funds	7,813	7,812	9,221	1,409
Asset Revaluation Reserves	258,608	289,752	320,825	31,073
Total Equity	**484,602**	**520,170**	**536,707**	**16,537**
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	**529,553**	**569,059**	**584,884**	**15,825**

PROSPECTIVE STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS/EQUITY

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
NET ASSETS/EQUITY - OPENING BALANCES				
Accumulated comprehensive revenue and expense	212,622	218,181	204,848	(13,333)
Reserves/Special Funds	7,573	7,813	9,815	2,002
Asset Revaluation Reserves	258,608	258,608	285,611	27,003
TOTAL NET ASSETS/EQUITY - Opening	**478,803**	**484,603**	**500,274**	**15,672**
CHANGES IN NET ASSETS/EQUITY				
Accumulated comprehensive revenue and expense	5,561	4,423	1,030	(3,393)
Reserves/Special Funds	240	(1)	192	193
Asset Revaluation Reserves	0	31,144	35,214	4,070
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE REVENUE AND EXPENSE	**5,801**	**35,566**	**36,436**	**870**
NET ASSETS/EQUITY - CLOSING BALANCES				
Accumulated comprehensive revenue and expense	218,181	222,606	205,878	(16,728)
Reserves/Special Funds	7,813	7,812	10,007	2,195
Asset Revaluation Reserves	258,608	289,752	320,825	31,073
TOTAL NET ASSETS/EQUITY - Closing Balance	**484,602**	**520,170**	**536,707**	**16,537**

PROSPECTIVE CASH FLOW STATEMENT

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Cash was Provided From:				
Rates	18,065	19,317	19,279	(38)
Water Supply Targeted Rate	588	621	674	52.8
NZTA Financial Assistance	7,427	7,704	6,051	(1,653)
Interest Revenue	442	426	410	(16)
Sale of Land	0	0		
Sundry Revenue	55	55	55	(0)
Grants and Donations	2,494	656	656	0
Other Revenue	3,661	3,731	3,743	12
Cash from Operating Activities	**32,731**	**32,510**	**30,853**	**(1,642)**
Cash was Applied To:				
Supply of Goods and Services	12,807	13,131	13,495	364
Payments to Employees	6,158	6,289	6,576	287
Interest Paid on Public Debt	1,349	1,452	1,395	(57)
Cash appplied to Operating Activities	**20,314**	**20,873**	**21,466**	**594**
NET CASH FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	**12,417**	**11,637**	**9,387**	**(2,236)**
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES				
Cash was Provided From:				
Sale of Investments	0	0	0	0
Cash from Investing Activities	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Cash was Applied To:				
Purchase of Fixed Assets	18,516	16,456	14,160	(2,296)
Purchase of Investments	0	0	0	0
Cash appplied to Investing Activities	**18,516**	**16,456**	**14,160**	**(2,296)**
NET CASH FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	**(18,516)**	**(16,456)**	**(14,160)**	**2,296**
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES				
Cash was Provided From:				
Loans Received	5,513	3,938	3,342	(596)
Cash fromFinancing Activities	**5,513**	**3,938**	**3,342**	**(596)**
Cash was Applied To:				
Repayment of Public Debt	0	0	0	0
Cash appplied to Financing Activities	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
NET CASH FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES	**5,513**	**3,938**	**3,342**	**(596)**
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH HELD	**(586)**	**(881)**	**(1,432)**	**(551)**
TOTAL CASH RESOURCES AT 1 JULY	**692**	**106**	**2,828**	**2,722**
TOTAL CASH RESOURCES AT 30 JUNE	**106**	**(775)**	**1,396**	**2,171**

PROSPECTIVE STATEMENT OF NET PUBLIC DEBT

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Opening Balance	**36,700**	**42,213**	**40,700**	**(1,513)**
Loan funded capital less repayments	5,513	3,938	3,342	(596)
Closing Balance	**42,213**	**46,150**	**44,042**	**(2,109)**
Net Debt	27,393	31,330	30,575	(755)
BORROWING HIGHLIGHTS				
Interest Expense as a % of Rates Revenue	7.79%	7.82%	7.96%	-0.14%
Net Debt as a % of Annual Operating Revenue	83.69%	96.37%	99.09%	-2.72%

PROSPECTIVE STATEMENT OF MOVEMENTS IN RESERVES

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
GENERAL RENEWALS RESERVE				
Opening Balance	6,195	6,557	6,638	81
Interest Credited	83	83	66	(17)
Transfers In	1,876	1,971	1,788	(183)
Transfers Out	(1,596)	(1,695)	(1,569)	126
Closing Balance	**6,557**	**6,917**	**6,924**	**7**
ROADING RENEWALS RESERVE				
Opening Balance	(1,331)	(900)	69	969
Interest Credited	0	(11)	0	11
Transfers In	4,214	5,048	4,906	(142)
Transfers Out	(3,783)	(4,137)	(4,575)	(438)
Closing Balance	**(900)**	**0**	**400**	**400**
CONTINGENCY RESERVE				
Opening Balance	505	505	505	0
Interest Credited	7	6	5	(1)
Transfers In	0	0	0	0
Transfers Out	(7)	(6)	(5)	1
Closing Balance	**505**	**505**	**505**	**0**
FARM RESERVE				
Opening Balance	71	2	70	68
Interest Credited	1	0	1	1
Transfers In	0	0	0	0
Transfers Out	(70)	0	(65)	(65)
Closing Balance	**2**	**2**	**6**	**4**
ASSET SALES PROCEEDS RESERVE				
Opening Balance	111	112	734	622
Interest Credited	1	1	7	6
Transfers In	0	0	0	0
Transfers Out	0	0	0	0
Closing Balance	**112**	**113**	**741**	**628**
TURF REPLACEMENT RESERVE				
Opening Balance	64	75	76	1
Interest Credited	1	1	1	(0)
Transfers In	10	10	10	0
Transfers Out	0	0	0	0
Closing Balance	**75**	**86**	**87**	**1**
STAFF GRATUITIES RESERVE				
Opening Balance	142	143	145	2
Interest Credited	2	2	1	(1)
Transfers In	0	0	0	0
Transfers Out	0	0	0	0
Closing Balance	**144**	**145**	**146**	**1**
MAYOR'S RELIEF FUND RESERVE				
Opening Balance	4	4	4	0
Interest Credited	0	0	0	(0)
Transfers In	0	0	0	0
Transfers Out	0	0	0	0
Closing Balance	**4**	**4**	**4**	**(0)**

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
ELSIE FRASER BEQUEST RESERVE				
Opening Balance	52	(77)	(62)	15
Interest Credited	1	(1)	(1)	0
Transfers In	28	28	50	22
Transfers Out	(157)	(28)	(122)	(94)
Closing Balance	**(77)**	**(78)**	**(135)**	**(57)**
RMA FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS RESERVE				
Opening Balance	949	821	946	125
Interest Credited	13	10	9	(1)
Transfers In	0	0	0	0
Transfers Out	(141)	(245)	(152)	93
Closing Balance	**821**	**587**	**803**	**217**
STORMWATER RESERVE				
Opening Balance	923	1,012	1,029	17
Interest Credited	12	13	10	(3)
Transfers In	277	300	297	(3)
Transfers Out	(200)	(103)	(103)	1
Closing Balance	**1,012**	**1,222**	**1,233**	**11**
WATER SUPPLY RESERVE				
Opening Balance	(952)	(995)	(784)	211
Interest Credited	0	(13)	0	13
Transfers In	797	873	872	(1)
Transfers Out	(840)	(2,229)	(2,260)	(31)
Closing Balance	**(995)**	**(2,364)**	**(2,172)**	**192**
SOLID WASTE (RUBBISH AND RECYCLING) RESERVE				
Opening Balance	144	99	(4)	(103)
Interest Credited	2	1	(0)	(1)
Transfers In	44	44	41	(3)
Transfers Out	(91)	(45)	(57)	(12)
Closing Balance	**99**	**100**	**(21)**	**(120)**
WASTE WATER RESERVE				
Opening Balance	698	454	449	(5)
Interest Credited	9	6	4	(2)
Transfers In	432	458	589	131
Transfers Out	(685)	(343)	(343)	(0)
Closing Balance	**454**	**574**	**698**	**123**
TOTAL PROJECTED RESERVES (excluding Asset Revaluation Reserves)	**7,813**	**7,812**	**9,221**	**1,408**
ASSET REVALUATION RESERVES				
Opening Balance	258,608	258,608	285,611	27,003
Transfers In	0	31,144	35,214	4,070
Transfers Out	0	0	0	0
Closing Balance	**258,608**	**289,752**	**320,825**	**31,073**
TOTAL PROJECTED RESERVES (including Asset Revaluation Reserves)	**266,421**	**297,564**	**330,046**	**32,480**

Purpose of each reserve fund

Council's reserve funds are classified in to three categories:

- Council Created Reserves
- Restricted Reserves
- General Renewals Reserve

The purpose of the reserves are as follows:

General Renewals Reserve *(All activities)*

This reserve has been created for the accumulation of depreciation on buildings, plant, vehicles, office equipment and furniture and fittings. The funds are set aside to provide for the ongoing replacement of operational assets in these categories, and also to maintain and enhance existing Council assets. Funds are also provided for new projects where necessary.

Roading Renewals Reserve *(Roading)*

This reserve has been created for the accumulation of depreciation on roads, bridges and street services assets. The funds are set aside to provide for the ongoing replacement of operational assets in these categories, and also to maintain and enhance existing Council assets. Funds are also provided for new projects where necessary.

Contingency Reserve *(All activities)*

This reserve has been created to assist in the event of an emergency. Purposes for which funds are currently set aside are such things as natural disasters e.g. floods, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions etc.

Asset Sales Proceeds Reserve *(All activities)*

The purpose of this reserve is to accumulate the net proceeds from the sale of Council assets that have not been specifically tagged for a particular purpose. These funds can then be used to acquire new capital assets.

Staff Gratuities Reserve *(All activities)*

These funds are for the payment of gratuities, redundancies, and farewells/recognition of long service of staff or elected members, however there are no other specific restrictions on this reserve.

Mayor's Relief Fund *(Community)*

This fund has been in existence since at least 1934 and was originally set up to provide funds for the 'relief of distress' in the Stratford District. In recent years the reserve has been funded by donations and distributions of these monies has been at the Mayor's discretion.

Turf Replacement Reserve *(Parks and Reserves)*
This reserve was created to accumulate funds annually to contribute towards the replacement of the hockey turf, when required.

Farm Reserve *(Farm)*
This reserve was created to accumulate funds annually to contribute to rates as recommended by the Farm and Aerodrome Committee.

Restricted Reserves

Elsie Fraser Bequest Reserve *(Investment Property)*

These funds came from a bequest from Elsie Fraser in 1985 for the provision of a 'home for the less affluent old people within the Stratford community'. All surpluses from operations of these units are credited to the reserve.

RMA/Financial Contributions Reserve *(All activities)*

Financial contributions are required by the Stratford District Plan. Council has received these funds from the subdivision of land and various land use activities. The reserve is used to fund growth related capital works and services.

Targeted Rate Reserves

Water Supply, Solid Waste and Wastewater Reserves *(Water Supply, Solid Waste and Waste Water activities)*

These reserves represent the balance of funds collected from various targeted rates which have not yet been spent. The funds can only be used for the purpose for which they were originally levied. The reserves include depreciation on infrastructural assets, costs of any capital/renewal expenditure and any surplus/deficit from operations for the year.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAMME

	2024/25 Long Term Plan	2025/26 Long Term Plan	2025/26 Annual Plan	Variance
	$000	$000	$000	$000
Roading				
Level of Service Improvement	3,150	3,162	960	2,202
Replacements	5,055	5,312	5,239	73
Stormwater				
Level of Service Improvement	450	-	-	0
Replacements	200	103	103	0
Water Supply				
Level of Service Improvement	1,814	246	246	0
Replacements	2,840	2,229	2,260	(31)
Solid Waste (Rubbish and Recycling)				
Level of Service Improvement	20	20	20	(0)
Replacements	40	10	10	(0)
Wastewater				
Level of Service Improvement	150	513	513	(0)
Replacements	735	343	343	(0)
Recreation and Facilities				
Level of Service Improvement	724	1,057	1,057	0
Replacements	360	362	363	(1)
Community Development				
Meet Additional Demand	2,600	2,655	2,655	0
Level of Service Improvement	70	77	26	51
Replacements	-	-	-	0
Administration				
Replacements	308	367	367	0
TOTAL PROJECTS (excl GST)	**18,516**	**16,456**	**14,161**	**2,295**
FUNDING				
Loans	6,608	5,114	4,494	620
Reserves	9,478	10,729	9,074	1,655
Grants/Donations	2,430	612	592	20
TOTAL (excl GST)	**18,516**	**16,456**	**14,161**	**2,295**

Prospective Accounting Policies

PROSPECTIVE ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Reporting Entity

The prospective financial statements of the Stratford District Council are for the year ended 30 June 2026.

The Stratford District Council (Council) is a territorial local authority governed by the provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 (the Act) and is domiciled in New Zealand.

The financial statements in this Annual Plan are those of the Council as a separate legal entity and not of the Council group.

The primary objective of Council is to provide services or goods for the community for social benefit rather than making a financial return. Accordingly, having regard to the criteria set out in the Public Benefit Entity Internal Public Sector Accounting Standards (PBE IPSAS), as a defined public entity under the Public Audit Act 2001, the Council is audited by the Auditor – General and is classed as a Public Sector Benefit Entity (PBE) for financial reporting purposes. Council has designated itself as a Tier 2 entity.

The financial information contained within this document is in terms of FRS 42: Prospective Financial Information. It has been prepared to enable the public to participate in the decision making processes regarding the services to be provided by Council over the financial year 2025/26 and to provide a broad accountability mechanism of Council to the community.

The operations of Council have been divided into the following Groups of Activities:

- Recreation and Facilities.
- Democracy.
- Community Development.
- Environmental Services.
- Roading.
- Stormwater.
- Wastewater (Sewerage)
- Solid waste.
- Water Supply.

Council also advise caution that the information in these statements may not be appropriate for purposes other than those described.

The prospective financial statements were authorised for issue by Council on 13 May 2025. The Mayor and Chief Executive that authorise the issue of the prospective financial statements by Council are responsible for the prospective financial statements presented, including the appropriateness of the assumptions underlying the prospective financial statements and all other required disclosures. No actual results have been incorporated in these prospective financial statements. It is not intended to update the prospective financial statements subsequent to presentation.

Measurement Base

The measurement base adopted is that of historical cost, modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Accounting Policies

The following accounting policies which materially affect the measurement of results and financial position have been applied consistently to all years presented from 1 July 2025 unless otherwise stated.

1 BASIS OF PREPARATION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The prospective financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002: Part 6, Section 93 and Part 1 of Schedule 10, which includes the requirement to comply with New Zealand generally accepted accounting practice (NZ GAAP).

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with NZ GAAP. They comply with NZ PBE IPSAS, and other applicable Financial Reporting Standards, as appropriate for public benefit entities. Council is a tier 2 reporting entity using the public sector Public Benefit Entity Accounting Standards, as it has expenses between $2.0m and $30.00m and is not publicly accountable.

Although Council is not publicly accountable, Council has included a separate Cost of Services Statement for each significant activity.

The financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars ($000). The functional currency of Council is New Zealand dollars.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis and the accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the period.

The 2024/34 Long Term Plan adopted by the Council in July 2024 has been provided as a comparator for these prospective financial statements. The closing balance in this comparative differs from the opening position used to prepare these prospective financial statements, which is based on the most up-to-date forecast information.

2 **BUDGET FIGURES**

The budget figures have been prepared in accordance with NZ GAAP and comply with NZ PBE IPSAS, and other applicable Financial Reporting Standards, using accounting policies that are consistent with those adopted in preparing these financial statements. Then as a tier 2 reporting entity, Council uses the public sector Public Benefit Entity Accounting Standards.

Council has not presented group prospective financial statements because it believes that the parent prospective financial statements are more relevant to users. The main purpose of prospective financial statements is to provide users with information about the core services that the Council intends to provide ratepayers, the expected cost of those services and as a consequence how much Council requires by way of rates to fund the intended levels of service. The level of rates funding required is not affected by subsidiaries except to the extent that Council obtains distributions from, or further invests in, those subsidiaries. Such effects are included in the prospective financial statements of Council.

3 REVENUE

Revenue is measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable.

Rates Revenue
The following policies for rates have been applied:

- General rates, targeted rates (excluding water-by-meter), and uniform annual general charges are recognised at the start of the financial year to which the rates resolution relates. They are recognised at the amounts due. The Council considers the effect of payment of rates by instalments is not sufficient to require discounting of rates receivables and subsequent recognition of interest revenue.
- Rates arising from late payment penalties are recognised as revenue when rates become overdue.
- Revenue from water-by-meter rates is recognised on an accrual basis based on usage. Unbilled usage, as a result of unread meters at year end, is accrued on an average usage basis.
- Rate remissions are recognised as a reduction of rates revenue when the Council has received an application that satisfies its rates remission policy.

- Rates collected on behalf of the Taranaki Regional Council (TRC) are not recognised in the financial statements, as the Council is acting as an agent for the TRC.

Development and Financial Contributions
Development and financial contributions are recognised as revenue when the Council provides, or is able to provide, the service for which the contribution was charged. Otherwise, development and financial contributions are recognised as liabilities until such time as the Council provides, or is able to provide, the service.

New Zealand Transport Agency roading subsidies
The Council receives funding assistance from the New Zealand Transport Agency, which subsidises part of the costs of maintenance and capital expenditure on the local roading infrastructure. The subsidies are recognised as revenue upon entitlement, as conditions pertaining to eligible expenditure have been fulfilled.

Other grants received
Other grants are recognised as revenue when they become receivable unless there is an obligation in substance to return the funds if conditions of the grant are not met. If there is such an obligation, the grants are initially recorded as grants received in advance and recognised as revenue when conditions of the grant are satisfied.

Building and Resource Consent revenue
Fees and charges for building consent services are recognised on receipt of the fees, which is when the service is provided. Fees and charges for resource consent revenue is recognised on the provision of an invoice.

Entrance Fees
Entrance fees are fees charged to users of the Council's local facilities, such as the pool. Revenue from entrance fees is recognised upon entry to such facilities.

Transfer Station Fees
Fees for disposing of waste at the Council's transfer station are recognised as waste is disposed of by users.

Sales of Goods
Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when a product is sold to the customer.

Infringement Fees and Fines
Infringement fees and fines mostly relate to traffic and parking infringements and are recognised when the infringement notice is issued. The Council recognises revenue at an amount based on the probability of collecting fines, which is estimated by considering the collection history of fines over the preceding 2 year period.

Vested or Donated Physical Assets
For assets received for no or nominal consideration, the asset is recognised at its fair value when the Council obtains control of the asset. The fair value of the asset is recognised as revenue, unless there is a use or return condition attached to the asset.

For long-lived assets that must be used for a specific use (e.g. land must be used as a recreation reserve), the Council immediately recognises the fair value of the asset as revenue. A liability is recognised only if the Council expects it will need to return or pass the asset to another party.

Interest and Dividends
Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method. Interest revenue on an impaired financial asset is recognised using the original effective interest rate.

Dividends are recognised when the right to receive payment has been established. When dividends are declared from pre-acquisition surpluses, the dividend is deducted from the cost of the investment.

Sale of Land
Revenue from the Sale of Land is recognised in full when the sale and purchase agreement becomes legally enforceable, as at the date the contract becomes unconditional.

4 INVENTORIES

Inventories are held for distribution or for use in the provision of goods and services. The measurement of inventories held for commercial distribution, are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Council inventory is made up of land held for development and future resale.

When land held for development and future resale is transferred from investment property/property, plant, and equipment to inventory, the fair value of the land at the date of the transfer is its deemed cost.

5 BORROWING COSTS

Borrowing costs are recognised as an expense in the period in which they are incurred.

6 GRANT EXPENDITURE

Non-discretionary grants are those grants that are awarded if the grant application meets the specified criteria and are recognised as expenditure when an application that meets the specified criteria for the grant has been received.

Discretionary grants are those grants where the Council has no obligation to award on receipt of the grant application and are recognised as expenditure when approved by the Council and the approval has been communicated to the applicant. The Council’s grants awarded have no substantive conditions attached.

7 INCOME TAX

Income tax expense includes current tax and deferred tax.

Current tax is the amount of tax payable based on the taxable profit for the current year, and any adjustments to income tax payable in respect of prior years. Current tax is calculated using tax rates (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted at balance date.

Deferred tax is the amount of income tax payable or recoverable in future periods in respect of temporary differences and unused tax losses. Temporary differences are differences between the carrying amount of assets and liabilities in the financial statements and the corresponding tax bases used in the computation of taxable surplus.

Deferred tax is measured at tax rates that are expected to apply when the asset is realised or the liability is settled, based on tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted at balance date. The measurement of deferred tax reflects the tax consequences that would follow from the manner in which the entity expects to recover or settle the carrying amount of its assets and liabilities.

Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognised for all taxable temporary differences. Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that taxable profits will be available against which the deductible temporary differences or tax losses can be utilised.

Current and deferred tax is recognised against the profit or loss for the period, except to the extent that it relates to items recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expenses or directly in equity.

In general, local authorities are only subject to income tax on income derived from a council-controlled organisation and income derived as a port operator.

8 LEASES

Finance Leases
A finance lease is a lease that transfers to the lessee substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of an asset, whether or not title is eventually transferred.

At the commencement of the lease term, finance leases are recognised as assets and liabilities in the statement of financial position at the lower of the fair value of the leased item or the present value of the minimum lease payments.

The finance charge is charged to the surplus or deficit over the lease period so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability.

The amount recognised as an asset is depreciated over its useful life. If there is no certainty as to whether Council will obtain ownership at the end of the lease term, the asset is fully depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and its useful life.

Operating Leases
An operating lease is a lease that does not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of an asset. Lease payments under an operating lease are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

9 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held with banks and other short term investments with maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown as a current liability in the statement of financial position. The carrying value of cash at bank and short-term deposits with original maturities less than three months approximates their amortised cost.

10 DEBTORS AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

Debtors and other receivables are initially recorded at the amount due, less any provision for impairment (expected credit losses). Receivables are generally short-term and non-interest bearing and receipt is normally on 30 day terms.

The Council and group apply the simplified ECL model of recognising lifetime ECL for receivables. In measuring ECLs, receivables have been grouped into rates receivables, and other receivables, and assessed on a collective basis as they possess shared credit risk characteristics. They have then been grouped based on the days past due. A provision matrix is then established based on historical credit loss experience, adjusted for forward looking factors specific to the debtors and the economic environment.

Rates are “written-off”:
- when remitted in accordance with the Council’s rates remission policy; and
- in accordance with the write-off criteria of sections 90A (where rates cannot be reasonably recovered) and 90B (in relation to Māori freehold land) of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.

Other receivables are written-off when there is no reasonable expectation of recovery.

11 NON-CURRENT ASSETS HELD FOR SALE

Non-current assets held for sale are classified as such if their carrying amount will be recovered principally through a sale transaction, not through continuing use. Non-current assets held for sale are measured at the lower of their carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell.

Non-current assets are not depreciated or amortised while they are classified as held for sale.

12 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Items of a capital nature over $2,000 are treated as property, plant and equipment. Property, plant and equipment are classified into three categories:

- Operational Assets – These include land, buildings, library books, plant and equipment, motor vehicles, furniture and fittings, and office equipment.
- Restricted Assets – Restricted assets are mainly parks and reserves owned by the council and group that provide a benefit or service to the community and cannot be disposed of because of legal or other restrictions.
- Infrastructure Assets - Infrastructure assets are the fixed utility systems owned by the council and group. Each asset class includes all items that are required for the network to function. For example wastewater reticulation includes reticulation piping and wastewater pump stations.

In most instances, an item of property, plant or equipment is recognised at its cost. Where an asset is acquired at no cost, or for a nominal cost, it is recognised at fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Property, plant and equipment classes of assets whose fair value can be measured reliably shall be carried at a revalued amount, being its fair value at the date of the revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses. Revaluations shall be made with sufficient regularity to ensure that the carrying amount does not differ materially from that which would be determined using fair value at the balance sheet date.

If there is no market-based evidence of fair value because of the specialised nature of the item of property, plant or equipment, Council will carry those classes of assets at its cost less any accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses value.

Property, plant and equipment are valued as follows:

Class	**Method of Valuation**
Land	Fair Value
Buildings	Optimised Depreciated Replacement Cost
Roads, Bridges and Footpaths	Optimised Depreciated Replacement Cost
Water Supply Reticulation	Optimised Depreciated Replacement Cost
Water Supply Treatment	Optimised Depreciated Replacement Cost
Wastewater Reticulation	Optimised Depreciated Replacement Cost
Wastewater Treatment	Optimised Depreciated Replacement Cost
Stormwater system	Optimised Depreciated Replacement Cost

Revaluation
Unless stated valuations are carried out or reviewed by independent qualified valuers and are carried out at least on three yearly cycles. Valuations will be undertaken more regularly if necessary to ensure no individual item of property, plant or equipment within a class has a carrying value that is materially different from its fair value.

Council's land and building assets have been revalued by Telfer Young (Taranaki) Limited, independent valuers as at 30 June 2023 at fair value as determined from market-based evidence.

Council's infrastructure assets consisting of Stormwater, Waste Water and Water Supply were revalued by Beca Projects NZ Ltd, independent valuers, as at 30 June 2024 in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard (PBE IPSAS 17) and the New Zealand Infrastructure Asset Valuation and Depreciation Guidelines.

Roading assets (except land under roads) have been revalued by the independent valuers, Beca Projects NZ Ltd, as at 30 June 2024.

Roading Corridor Land is valued on the fair value of adjacent land. This assumes land in its bare state without the benefit of roading, water supply, sewer etc. The valuation takes into consideration the sale of vacant land in the area which is suitably adjusted to reflect an unimproved state.

Land under roads was valued based on fair value provided by previous valuations in 2016 of the Roading Network. This valuation was carried out by Calibre Consultants Ltd. Council elected to use the fair value of Land under Roads as at 1 July 2016 as the deemed cost. Land under roads is no longer revalued.

Public Benefit Entity Revaluation
Revaluation increases and decreases relating to individual assets within a class of assets are offset. Revaluation increases and decreases in respect of assets in different classes are not offset. Where the carrying amount of a class of assets is increased as a result of a revaluation, the net revaluation increase is credited to the revaluation reserve. The net revaluation increase shall be recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses to the extent that it reverses a net revaluation decrease of the same class of assets previously recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense. A net revaluation decrease for a class of assets is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense, except to the extent that it reverses a revaluation increase previously recognised in the revaluation reserve to the extent of any credit balance existing in the revaluation reserve in respect of the same class of asset.

Impairment
The carrying amount of Council's non-financial assets, other than investment property are reviewed at each Statement of Financial Position date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any). Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, Council estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Where the future economic benefits of an asset are not primarily dependant on the asset's ability to generate net cash flows, and where Council, if deprived of the asset, replaces its remaining future economic benefits, value in use shall be determined as the depreciated replacement cost of the asset.

Where Council accounts for revaluations of property, plant and equipment on a class of asset basis, an impairment loss on a revalued asset is recognised directly against any revaluation reserve in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation reserve for that same class of asset.

Where Council accounts for revaluations of property, plant and equipment on a class of asset basis, a reversal of an impairment loss on a revalued asset is credited directly to the revaluation reserve. However, to the extent that an impairment loss on the same class of asset was previously recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense, a reversal of that impairment loss is also recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense.

Disposals
Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the disposal proceeds with the carrying amount of the asset. Gains and losses on disposals are reported net in the surplus or deficit. When revalued assets are sold, the amounts included in asset revaluation reserves in respect of those assets are transferred to accumulated funds.

Subsequent Costs
Costs incurred subsequent to initial acquisition are capitalised only when it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

Security
Council do not have any Property, Plant and Equipment pledged as security.

The costs of day-to-day servicing of property, plant and equipment are recognised in the surplus or deficit as they are incurred.

Additions
The cost of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised as an asset only when it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

Work in progress is recognised at cost less impairment and is not depreciated.

In most instances, an item of property, plant, and equipment is initially recognised at its cost. Where an asset is acquired through a non-exchange transaction, it is recognised at its fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Costs incurred subsequent to initial acquisition are capitalised only when it is probable that future economic benefits for service potential associated with the item will flow to the Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

The costs of day-to-day servicing of property, plant and equipment are recognised in the surplus or deficit as they are incurred.

13 INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Acquired software licences are capitalised on the basis of the costs incurred to acquire and bring to use the specific software.

The carrying value of an intangible asset with a finite life is amortised on a straight line basis. The amortisation charge is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense. The useful lives of intangible assets have been estimated as follows:

- Software 3-10 years.

14 DEPRECIATION

Depreciation is calculated on a straight line basis on all property, plant and equipment, excluding land, at rates that will write off the value of the assets, less their estimated residual values, over their useful lives.

The useful lives of the classes of assets have been estimated as follows:

	Years
Buildings	10-100
Plant	5-10
Motor Vehicles	5
Fixtures and Fittings	5-10
Office Equipment	4-10
Roading Basecourse	15-80
Roading Seal	2-16
Roading Culverts	20-80
Roading Sumps	80
Signs	10
Bridges (including Tunnels)	60-100
Footpaths	20-80
Streetlights	30
Stormwater	20-80
Water Supply	50-120
Sewerage	40-80
Street Beautification	10-100

15 BUSINESS UNIT

Business Unit gains or losses are recorded in the equity of the Stratford District Council.

16 GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (GST)

All items in the financial statements are exclusive of GST, with the exception of receivables and payables which are stated as GST inclusive. When GST is not recoverable as an input tax, it is recognised as part of the related asset or expense.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the Inland Revenue Department (IRD) is included as part of receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

The net GST paid to, or received from the IRD, including the GST relating to investing and financing activities, is classified as an operating cashflow in the statement of cashflows.

Commitments and contingencies are disclosed exclusive of GST.

17 COST OF SERVICE STATEMENTS

The Cost of Service Statements report the net cost of services for significant activities of Council, and are represented by the costs of providing the service less all revenue that can be allocated to these activities.

Cost Allocation
The Cost of Service Statements reflect the full cost of significant activities, by including direct costs, internal transfers, depreciation and indirect costs (overheads) allocated on the ‘step’ method, based on hours of service supplied to each activity.

‘Direct Costs’ are those costs directly attributable to a significant activity.

‘Indirect Costs’ are those costs which cannot be identified in an economically feasible manner with a specific significant activity.

18 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Council is party to financial instruments as part of its normal operations.

19 OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS

Financial assets (other than shares in subsidiaries) are initially recognised at fair value.

Purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on trade-date, the date on which the Council commits to purchase or sell the asset. Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or have been transferred and the Council has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership.

Financial assets are classified into the following categories for the purpose of measurement:

- fair value through surplus or deficit (FVTSD);
- amortised cost; and
- fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense (FVTOCRE).

The classification of a financial asset depends on the purpose for which the instrument was acquired. Transaction costs are included in the carrying value of the financial asset at initial recognition, unless it has been designated at FVTSD, in which case it is recognised in surplus or deficit.

The classification of a financial asset depends on its cash flow characteristics and the Council and group's management model for managing them. A financial asset is classified and subsequently measured at amortised cost if it gives rise to cash flows that are 'solely payments of principal and interest (SPPI)' on the principal outstanding, and is held within a management model whose objective is to collect the contractual cash flows of the asset.

A financial asset is classified and subsequently measured at FVTOCRE if it gives rise to cash flows that are SPPI and held within a management model whose objective is achieved by both collecting contractual cash flows and selling financial assets.

Financial assets that do not meet the criteria to be measured at amortised cost or FVTOCRE are subsequently measured at FVTSD. However, the Council and group may elect at initial recognition to designate an equity investment not held for trading as subsequently measured at FVTOCRE.

Initial recognition of concessionary loans

Loans made at nil or below-market interest rates are initially recognised at the present value of their expected future cash flows, discounted at the current market rate of return for a similar financial instrument. For loans to community organisations, the difference between the loan amount and present value of the expected future cash flows of the loan is recognised in surplus or deficit as a grant expense.

Subsequent measurement of financial assets at amortised cost

Financial assets classified at amortised cost are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any expected credit losses. Where applicable, interest accrued is added to the investment balance. Instruments in this category include term deposits, community loans, and loans to subsidiaries and associates. Included in this category is also the loan to the Agricultural and Pastoral Association.

Subsequent measurement of financial assets at FVTOCRE

Financial assets in this category that are debt instruments are subsequently measured at fair value with fair value gains and losses recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense, except expected credit losses (ECL) and foreign exchange gains and losses are recognised in surplus or deficit. When sold, the cumulative gain or loss previously recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense is reclassified to surplus and deficit. The Council and group do not hold any debt instruments in this category.

Financial assets in this category that are equity instruments designated as FVTOCRE are subsequently measured at fair value with fair value gains and losses recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense. There is no assessment for impairment when fair value falls below the cost of the investment. When sold, the cumulative gain or loss previously recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense is transferred to accumulated funds within equity. The Council and group designate into this category all equity investments that are not included in its investment fund portfolio, and if they are intended to be held for the medium to long-term.

Subsequent measurement of financial assets at FVTSD

Financial assets in this category are subsequently measured at fair value with fair value gains and losses recognised in surplus or deficit.
Interest revenue and dividends recognised from these financial assets are separately presented within revenue.
Instruments in this category include the Council and group's investment fund portfolio (comprising of listed shares, bonds, and units in investment funds) and LGFA borrower notes.

Expected credit loss allowance (ECL)

The Council and group recognise an allowance for ECLs for all debt instruments not classified as FVTSD. ECLs are the probability-weighted estimate of credit losses, measured at the present value of cash shortfalls, which is the difference between the cash flows due to Council and group in accordance with the contract and the cash flows it expects to receive. ECLs are discounted at the effective interest rate of the financial asset.

ECLs are recognised in two stages. ECLs are provided for credit losses that result from default events that are possible within the next 12 months (a 12-month ECL). However, if there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, the loss allowance is based on losses possible for the remaining life of the financial asset (Lifetime ECL).

When determining whether the credit risk of a financial asset has increased significantly since initial recognition, the Council and group considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis based on the Council and group's historical experience and informed credit assessment and including forward-looking information.

The Council and group considers a financial asset to be in default when the financial asset is more than 90 days past due. The Council and group may determine a default occurs prior to this if internal or external information indicates the entity is unlikely to pay its credit obligations in full.

20 PAYABLES

Short-term creditors and other payables are recorded at the amount payable.

Borrowings
Borrowings are initially recognised at their fair value plus transaction costs. After initial recognition, all borrowings are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the Council or group has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after balance date.

Employee entitlements

Short-term employee entitlements
Employee benefits expected to be settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employee renders the related service are measured based on accrued entitlements at current rates of pay. These include salaries and wages accrued up to balance date, annual leave earned to, but not yet taken at balance date, and sick leave.

A liability and an expense are recognised for bonuses where the Council or group has a contractual obligation or where there is a past practice that has created a constructive obligation.

Presentation of employee entitlements
Annual leave is classified as a current liability. Retirement gratuities expected to be settled within 12 months of balance date are classified as a current liability. All other employee entitlements are classified as a non-current liability.

21 PROVISIONS

Council recognises a provision for future expenditure of uncertain amount or timing when there is a present obligation (either legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that expenditures will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses.

22 EQUITY

Equity is the community's interest in the Council and is measured as the difference between total assets and total liabilities. Equity is disaggregated and classified into the following components:

- accumulated funds;
- restricted reserves;
- property revaluation reserve; and
- fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense reserve.

Restricted reserves
Restricted reserves are a component of equity generally representing a particular use to which various parts of equity have been assigned. Reserves may be legally restricted or created by the Council.

Restricted reserves include those subject to specific conditions accepted as binding by the Council and which may not be revised by the Council without reference to the Courts or a third party. Transfers from these reserves may be made only for certain specified purposes or when certain specified conditions are met.

Also included in restricted reserves are reserves restricted by Council decision. The Council may alter them without reference to any third party or the Courts. Transfers to and from these reserves are at the discretion of the Council.

Property revaluation reserve
This reserve relates to the revaluation of property, plant, and equipment to fair value.

Fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense reserve
This reserve comprises the cumulative net change in the fair value of assets classified as fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense.

23 CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND ASSUMPTIONS

In preparing these financial statements Council has made estimates and assumptions concerning the future. These estimates and assumptions may differ from the subsequent actual results. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

As operator of the urban and rural landfills in the district, Council has a legal obligation to provide ongoing maintenance and monitoring services at the landfill sites after closure.

To provide for the estimated cost of aftercare, a provision has been created, and a charge is made each year based on the estimated value of restoration works over the number of years Council is required to maintain these sites.

A number of assumptions and estimates are used when performing depreciated replacement cost valuations over infrastructural assets. These include:

- The physical condition of the asset. This is particularly so for those assets which are not visible, for example stormwater, wastewater and water supply pipes that are underground. This risk is minimised by Council performing physical inspections and condition modelling assessments of underground assets.

- Estimating any obsolescence or surplus capacity of any asset.

- The remaining useful life over which the asset will be depreciated. These estimates can be impacted by local conditions, for example weather patterns and traffic growth. If useful lives do not reflect the actual consumption of the benefits of the asset, Council could be over or underestimating the depreciation charge recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense. To minimise this risk useful lives are determined with reference to the NZ Infrastructural Asset Valuation and Depreciation guidelines published by the National Asset Management Steering Group. Asset inspections and condition modelling are also carried out regularly as part of Council's asset management planning activities.

- The replacement cost of an asset is based on recent construction contracts in the region for modern equivalent assets, from which unit rates are determined. Unit rates have been applied to components of the network based on size, material, depth and location.

24 ROUNDING ERRORS

Some rounding errors may occur in the financial statements due to stating dollar amounts to the nearest $1,000.

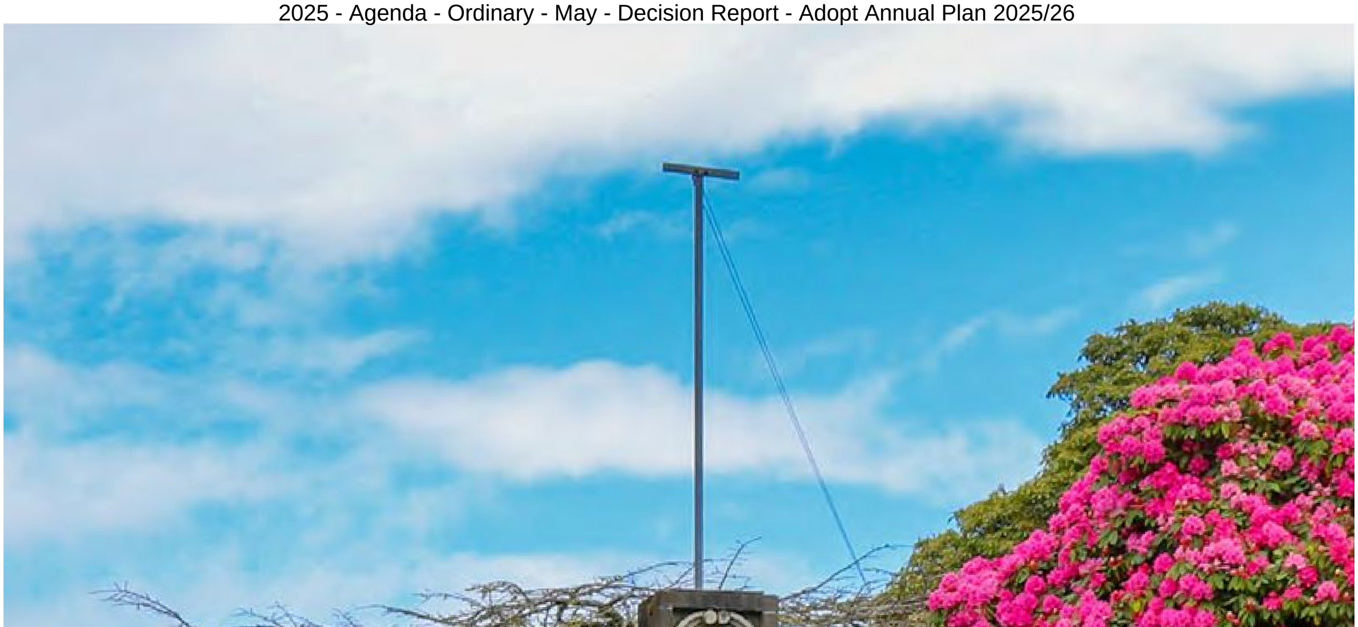
25 CRITICAL JUDGEMENTS IN APPLYING ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Management has exercised the following critical judgements in applying accounting policies for the year ended 30 June 2026:

Classification of property
The Council owns a number of properties held to provide housing to pensioners. The receipt of market-based rental from these properties is incidental to holding them. The properties are held for service delivery objectives as part of the Council's social housing policy. The properties are therefore accounted for as property, plant, and equipment rather than as investment property.

26 CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES

There has been no changes in accounting policies.



Funding Impact Statement

FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENT 2025/26

INTRODUCTION

This Statement sets out the information required by Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA). It details the rating mechanisms to be used to cover the estimated expenses for the years of the plan.

The Funding Impact Statement should be read in conjunction with Council's Revenue and Financing Policy. Note: The Council will not invite lump sum contributions in respect of any targeted rate.

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

DEFINITION OF SEPARATELY USED OR INHABITED PARTS OF A RATING UNIT (SUIP)

A SUIP is a Separately Used or Inhabited Part of a rating unit and includes any part of a rating unit that is used or inhabited by any person. This definition applies to the application of the UAGC, the Rubbish and Recycling targeted rate, Wastewater targeted rate, and the Community Centre targeted rate.

This definition includes separately used parts, whether or not actually occupied at any particular time, which are provided by the owner for rental or other form of occupation on an occasional or long term basis. For the purpose of this definition, vacant land and vacant premises are separately used by the owner if it is available for separate sale, or provided by the owner for rental (or other form of occupation).

For a commercial rating unit (other than motels/hotels), this includes a building or part of a building that is, or is capable of being, separately tenanted, leased or subleased, and is not integral to the commercial operation. Motels/hotels are treated as one SUIP even if each accommodation unit may be capable of separate habitation.

For a residential rating unit, this includes a building or part of a building which is used, or is capable of being used, as an independent unit. An independent unit is any unit containing either separate cooking and living facilities, or a separate entrance; and that has its own toilet or bathroom facilities.

Separate parts of buildings, after the first, that are uninhabitable and declared unsanitary under the Health Act 1956 or the Building Act 2004 are not SUIPs.

EXAMPLES	NO. OF SUIP'S per rating unit
Single Dwelling	1
Dwelling plus self-contained flat	2
Six flats	6
Corner dairy with integral dwelling attached	1
Dwelling with nail business within dwelling	1
Dwelling with hair salon in structure detached from main house	2
Three retails shops and one industrial building	4
Garden centre with separate café	2
Farm with 1 dwelling	1
Farm with 3 dwellings	3
Farm run-off	1
Farm with 1 dwelling plus a contracting business	2
Hotel/Motel with six rooms (one commercial business activity)	1
Hotel/Motel with attached restaurant	1
Caravan park with six cabins (one commercial business activity)	1
Rest home with 10 self-contained residential units	11

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 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 (and 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 (and 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 urban domestic refuse and recycling collection, disposal, and waste minimisation activities.

TARGETED RATE – WASTEWATER (SEWERAGE)

Council set a targeted rate under section 16 of the LGRA for sewerage as a fixed amount per separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit, 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 to the Stratford, Midhirst, or Toko Water Supply per rating unit 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 $21,174.

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 and 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.

<u>Payment Due Dates for Metered Water Supply</u>

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	3 December 2025
1 October to 31 December 2025	25 February 2026	4 March 2026
1 January to 31 March 2026	27 May 2026	3 June 2026
1 April to 30 June 2026	26 August 2026	2 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 https://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, Miranda Street, Stratford.

STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

For the Whole of Council

	Long Term Plan 2024/25 $000	Long Term Plan 2025/26 $000	Annual Plan 2025/26 $000
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	9,927	10,349	10,714
Targeted rates	8,725	9,588	9,226
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	2,322	2,430	2,404
Fees and charges	3,663	3,733	3,745
Sale of sections		-	-
Interest and dividends from investments	442	426	410
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	55	55	55
Total operating funding (A)	**$25,134**	**$26,581**	**$26,554**
Applications of operating funding			
Payment to staff and suppliers	18,958	19,420	20,070
Finance costs	1,453	1,560	1,588
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Total applications of operating funding (B)	**$20,411**	**$20,981**	**$21,658**
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	**$4,723**	**$5,601**	**$4,896**
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	7,599	5,931	4,303
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	5,513	3,938	3,342
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Total sources of capital funding (C)	**$13,112**	**$9,869**	**$7,645**
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure to:			
- meet additional demand	2,600	2,655	2,655
- improve the level of service	6,378	5,074	2,821
- replace existing assets	9,538	8,727	8,685
Increase (decrease) in reserves	(681)	(987)	(1,620)
Increase (decrease) in investments	-	-	-
Total applications of capital funding (D)	**$17,835**	**$15,469**	**$12,540**
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	**($4,723)**	**($5,599)**	**($4,895)**
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

The Funding Impact Statement is required under the Local Government Act 2002 Schedule and conforms to the Local Government (Financial Reporting) Regulations 2014.

Generally accepted accounting practice does not apply to the preparation of the Funding Impact Statement as stated in Section 111(2) of the Local Government Act.

Reconciliation between the surplus in the Prospective Statement of Revenue and Expense and Surplus(Deficit) of operating funding in the Funding Impact Statement

	Long Term Plan	Long Term Plan	Annual Plan
	2024/25	2025/26	2025/26
	$000	$000	$000
Surplus of operating funding from Funding Impact Statement	4,723	5,601	4,896
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	7,599	5,931	4,303
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Depreciation	(6,624)	(7,213)	(8,167)
Net Surplus before taxation in Prospective Statement of Revenue and Expense	**$5,698**	**$4,318**	**$1,031**

For Recreation and Facilities

	Long Term Plan 2024/25 $000	Long Term Plan 2025/26 $000	Annual Plan 2025/26 $000
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	5,470	5,542	5,853
Targeted rates	19	19	21
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	-
Fees and Charges	1,162	1,191	1,144
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	65	66	45
Total operating funding (A)	**$6,716**	**$6,818**	**$7,063**
Applications of operating funding			
Payment to staff and suppliers	4,567	4,241	4,564
Finance costs	511	478	487
Internal charges & overheads applied	1,198	1,235	1,423
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Total applications of operating funding (B)	**$6,275**	**$5,954**	**$6,473**
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	**$441**	**$864**	**$590**
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	257	582	582
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	(478)	(473)	(461)
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Total sources of capital funding (C)	**($221)**	**$109**	**$121**
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure to:			
- meet additional demand	-	-	-
- improve the level of service	729	1,108	1,057
- replace existing assets	355	311	363
Increase (decrease) in reserves	(863)	(447)	(709)
Increase (decrease) in investments	-	-	-
Total applications of capital funding (D)	**$221**	**$972**	**$710**
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	**($441)**	**($864)**	**($590)**
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

For Roading

	Long Term Plan 2024/25 $000	Long Term Plan 2025/26 $000	Annual Plan 2025/26 $000
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	(32)	(37)	(6)
Targeted rates	4,229	4,912	4,152
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	2,258	2,366	2,340
Fees and Charges	500	508	471
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	20	20	12
Total operating funding (A)	**$6,975**	**$7,769**	**$6,969**
Applications of operating funding			
Payment to staff and suppliers	4,123	4,302	4,207
Finance costs	92	127	51
Internal charges & overheads applied	364	325	386
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Total applications of operating funding (B)	**$4,578**	**$4,754**	**$4,644**
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	**$2,396**	**$3,015**	**$2,326**
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	5,169	5,339	3,710
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	1,076	1,037	499
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Total sources of capital funding (C)	**$6,245**	**$6,376**	**$4,210**
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure to:			
- meet additional demand	-	-	-
- improve the level of service	3,150	3,162	960
- replace existing assets	5,055	5,312	5,239
Increase (decrease) in reserves	436	917	337
Increase (decrease) in investments	-	-	-
Total applications of capital funding (D)	**$8,641**	**$9,391**	**$6,535**
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	**($2,396)**	**($3,015)**	**($2,326)**
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

For Water Supply

	Long Term Plan 2024/25 $000	Long Term Plan 2025/26 $000	Annual Plan 2025/26 $000
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	-	-	-
Targeted rates	2,336	2,416	2,620
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	-
Fees and Charges	15	15	15
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	19	20	12
Total operating funding (A)	**$2,371**	**$2,451**	**$2,647**
Applications of operating funding			
Payment to staff and suppliers	846	864	956
Finance costs	373	373	444
Internal charges & overheads applied	354	341	374
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Total applications of operating funding (B)	**$1,573**	**$1,578**	**$1,775**
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	**$797**	**$873**	**$872**
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	2,000	-	-
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	1,414	(183)	(234)
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Total sources of capital funding (C)	**$3,413**	**($183)**	**($234)**
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure to:			
- meet additional demand	-	-	-
- improve the level of service	1,814	246	246
- replace existing assets	2,840	2,229	2,260
Increase (decrease) in reserves	(443)	(1,785)	(1,868)
Increase (decrease) in investments	-	-	-
Total applications of capital funding (D)	**$4,210**	**$690**	**$638**
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	**($797)**	**($873)**	**($872)**
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

For Wastewater (Sewerage)

	Long Term Plan 2024/25 $000	Long Term Plan 2025/26 $000	Annual Plan 2025/26 $000
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	-	-	-
Targeted rates	979	1,019	1,208
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	-
Fees and Charges	40	41	41
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	6	6	3
Total operating funding (A)	**$1,025**	**$1,065**	**$1,253**
Applications of operating funding			
Payment to staff and suppliers	435	446	458
Finance costs	56	63	105
Internal charges & overheads applied	102	99	102
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Total applications of operating funding (B)	**$593**	**$608**	**$664**
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	**$432**	**$458**	**$589**
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	50	-	-
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	96	447	408
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Total sources of capital funding (C)	**$146**	**$447**	**$408**
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure to:			
- meet additional demand	-	-	-
- improve the level of service	150	513	513
- replace existing assets	735	343	343
Increase (decrease) in reserves	(307)	49	141
Increase (decrease) in investments	-	-	-
Total applications of capital funding (D)	**$579**	**$905**	**$997**
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	**($432)**	**($458)**	**($589)**
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	**$0**	**$0**	**($0)**

For Stormwater

	Long Term Plan 2024/25 $000	Long Term Plan 2025/26 $000	Annual Plan 2025/26 $000
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	468	492	486
Targeted rates	-	-	-
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	-
Fees and Charges	-	-	-
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	3	3	2
Total operating funding (A)	**$471**	**$495**	**$488**
Applications of operating funding			
Payment to staff and suppliers	79	81	80
Finance costs	54	55	51
Internal charges & overheads applied	61	59	60
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Total applications of operating funding (B)	**$194**	**$195**	**$191**
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	**$277**	**$300**	**$297**
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	113	-	-
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	284	(57)	(51)
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Total sources of capital funding (C)	**$397**	**($57)**	**($51)**
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure to:			
- meet additional demand	-	-	-
- improve the level of service	450	-	-
- replace existing assets	200	103	103
Increase (decrease) in reserves	24	140	144
Increase (decrease) in investments	-	-	-
Total applications of capital funding (D)	**$674**	**$242**	**$246**
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	**($277)**	**($299)**	**($297)**
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

For Solid Waste (Rubbish and Recycling)

	Long Term Plan 2024/25 $000	Long Term Plan 2025/26 $000	Annual Plan 2025/26 $000
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	29	30	31
Targeted rates	1,162	1,223	1,224
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	-
Fees and Charges	225	223	223
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	20	20	12
Total operating funding (A)	**$1,436**	**$1,496**	**$1,490**
Applications of operating funding			
Payment to staff and suppliers	1,001	1,038	1,051
Finance costs	36	33	32
Internal charges & overheads applied	369	380	380
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Total applications of operating funding (B)	**$1,407**	**$1,452**	**$1,464**
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	**$30**	**$44**	**$26**
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	10	10	10
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	(26)	(24)	(22)
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Total sources of capital funding (C)	**($16)**	**($14)**	**($12)**
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure to:			
- meet additional demand	-	-	-
- improve the level of service	20	20	20
- replace existing assets	40	10	10
Increase (decrease) in reserves	(46)	(1)	(17)
Increase (decrease) in investments	-	-	-
Total applications of capital funding (D)	**$14**	**$30**	**$14**
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	**($30)**	**($44)**	**($25)**
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

For Democracy

	Long Term Plan 2024/25 $000	Long Term Plan 2025/26 $000	Annual Plan 2025/26 $000
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	1,415	1,475	1,455
Targeted rates	-	-	-
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	-
Fees and Charges	85	85	150
Internal charges and overheads recovered	1,938	1,912	2,147
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	52	53	32
Total operating funding (A)	**$3,490**	**$3,524**	**$3,784**
Applications of operating funding			
Payment to staff and suppliers	2,535	2,523	2,777
Finance costs	-	-	-
Internal charges & overheads applied	954	1,001	1,007
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Total applications of operating funding (B)	**$3,490**	**$3,524**	**$3,784**
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	-	-	-
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Total sources of capital funding (C)	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure to:			
- meet additional demand	-	-	-
- improve the level of service	-	-	-
- replace existing assets	367	367	367
Increase (decrease) in reserves	(367)	(367)	(367)
Increase (decrease) in investments	-	-	-
Total applications of capital funding (D)	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

For Community Development

	Long Term Plan 2024/25 $000	Long Term Plan 2025/26 $000	Annual Plan 2025/26 $000
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	822	855	822
Targeted rates	-	-	-
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	64	64	64
Fees and Charges	698	712	725
Sale of Sections		-	-
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	22	23	14
Total operating funding (A)	**$1,605**	**$1,655**	**$1,626**
Applications of operating funding			
Payment to staff and suppliers	1,064	1,024	1,059
Finance costs	225	326	224
Internal charges & overheads applied	404	433	459
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Total applications of operating funding (B)	**$1,694**	**$1,783**	**$1,741**
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	**($89)**	**($128)**	**($115)**
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	2,624	2,644	2,655
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Total sources of capital funding (C)	**$2,624**	**$2,644**	**$2,655**
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure to:			
- meet additional demand	2,600	2,655	2,655
- improve the level of service	-	77	-
- replace existing assets	70	77	26
Increase (decrease) in reserves	(135)	(293)	(141)
Increase (decrease) in investments	-	-	-
Total applications of capital funding (D)	**$2,535**	**$2,516**	**$2,539**
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	**$89**	**$128**	**$115**
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

For Environmental Services

	Long Term Plan 2024/25 $000	Long Term Plan 2025/26 $000	Annual Plan 2025/26 $000
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	1,753	1,998	2,070
Targeted rates	-	-	-
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes (and loan receipts)	-	-	-
Fees and Charges	938	958	977
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	62	63	40
Total operating funding (A)	**$2,754**	**$3,020**	**$3,087**
Applications of operating funding			
Payment to staff and suppliers	1,601	1,807	1,818
Finance costs	2	2	2
Internal charges & overheads applied	1,143	1,203	1,262
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Total applications of operating funding (B)	**$2,746**	**$3,012**	**$3,082**
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	**$7**	**$7**	**$4**
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	(2)	(2)	(2)
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Total sources of capital funding (C)	**($2)**	**($2)**	**($2)**
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure to:			
- meet additional demand	-	-	-
- improve the level of service	-	-	-
- replace existing assets	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in reserves	5	5	2
Increase (decrease) in investments	-	-	-
Total applications of capital funding (D)	**$5**	**$5**	**$2**
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	**($7)**	**($7)**	**($4)**
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

BALANCING THE BUDGET

Introduction

In terms of the Local Government Act 2002, Council is balancing the budget over the period of the LTP due to the budgeted operating income exceeding budgeted operating expenditure. There are some areas of expenditure that Council has resolved not to fund, which are discussed further.

Local Government Act 2002

The financial statements within this plan do contain a balanced budget as outlined in Section 100 of the Local Government Act 2002 (the Act) for the 2025/26 year. Council is required under the Act to generate sufficient revenue to cover operational costs including depreciation.

The financial summary including inflation is shown below.

	2024/25 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Long Term Plan $000	2025/26 Annual Plan $000	Variance $000
Funding:				
Depreciation funded from reserves				
- Roading	(1,823)	(2,038)	(2,586)	548
- Buildings	(628)	(629)	(615)	(14)
Loan Proceeds for Capital Expenditure	(6,608)	(5,114)	(4,494)	(620)
Capital Expenditure funded from reserves	(5,879)	(6,949)	(6,904)	(45)
Applied To:				
Operational Expenditure funded from reserves	801	1,235	124	1,111
Total loan repayments	1,176	1,256	1,232	24
Rates transferred to reserves	10	10	10	0
Interest transferred to reserves	125	93	100	(7)
Landfill aftercare provision	7	0	7	(7)
Capital Expenditure	18,516	16,456	14,160	2,296
Net Surplus/(Deficit) from Operations	**5,698**	**4,318**	**1,030**	**3,288**

Use of Reserves

Council is forecasting to record overall surpluses in each year of the Annual Plan, however, in some activities, Council has resolved not to set revenue to fund all of the costs relating to that activity. In some cases Council has resolved to use reserves to fund some specific expenditure. This is particularly the case where Council actively uses the Reserves, built up by surpluses recorded from targeted rate activities, to fund the capital expenditure and in limited cases one off operating expenditure of those activities.

Intergenerational Equity

Council considers the issue of intergenerational equity when funding depreciation in areas where it may not be fair to impose a cost for depreciation to this generation. Intergenerational equity requires today's ratepayers to meet the costs of utilising Council's assets and not expecting them to meet the full cost of long term assets that will benefit ratepayers in future generations.

Council has given careful consideration to the required funding for the provision and maintenance of certain assets throughout their useful life, and the equitable allocation of responsibility for this funding. Council does not consider it equitable for current ratepayers to fund the financing cost of interest and principal repayments on loans and at the same time fund depreciation for the eventual replacement of the asset.

Funding of Depreciation

Council primarily uses the Depreciation Reserve to fund:

Replacements/Renewals – works to upgrade, refurbish, or replace exciting facilities with facilities of equivalent capacity or performance capability.

Capital expenditure – expenditure used to create new assets or to increase the capacity of existing assets beyond their original design capacity or service potential.

Depreciation is calculated on a straight line basis on all applicable property, plant and equipment, excluding land. The depreciation rates are set for the assets to be written off, less their estimated residual values, over their useful lives. Council does not consider it prudent to fund full depreciation on assets that may or may not be replaced, and doubt exists as to the form of the possible replacement, as a result a portion of the depreciation is funded on those assets. Assets that have an alternative funding source also have not had depreciation funded in full.

The Assets are:

Assets	Rationale for Not Funding Depreciation
Library books	Not funded to the extent of book renewals
Civic Amenities	May not be replaced
Roading (part)	Waka Kotahi's portion of subsidy
Three Waters	Funding from alternative source
Swimming Pool	Expectation of grant funding for future replacement (part)

Depreciation on some assets of Council are not fully funded. Those assets are the ones that Council elected not to replace at the end of their useful life; and those that Council expects to receive funding for by way of grants.

Fees and Charges

FEES AND CHARGES 2025/26

Note all prices include GST if any

ABANDONED VEHICLES

Towage	At Cost
Inspection *Fixed fee, includes inspection and administration*	$230.00
Storage of vehicle	At Cost

AERODROME

Commercial Strip Hire Fee	$10.00	Per tonne of fertiliser
Private / Commercial Ground Leases	$4.49*	Per square metre
Clubhouse Ground Lease	25%*	of private / commercial ground lease
Club Hangar Ground Lease	50%*	of private / commercial ground lease

** Leases are to be reviewed as per the rent review date in the individual lease contract. Where the lease review would result in an increase in the annual lease of more than 10%, a 10% increase will be applied to the existing annual lease amount **instead** of the per square metre rate.*

AQUATIC CENTRE

CASUAL USE

Pool Entry

Adult	$6.00	Per entry
Child *(15 years and under)*	$5.00	Per entry
Senior/Green prescription	$5.00	Per entry
Caregiver/Parent Supervising a child or person with a disability (*in water*)	$3.00	Per entry
Family Pass - (2 Adult, 2x Child or 1 Adult, 3x Child)	$16.00	Per entry
Spectator	Free	

Group Fitness

Adult	$10	Per session
Child/Senior/Green prescription	$8	Per session

Concessions Valid for 12 months	**10X**	**25X**	**50X**
Adult	$54	$130	$250
Child/Senior/Green prescription	$45	$107.50	$205

Group Fitness	**10X**	**25x**	**50x**
Adult	$90.00	$220.00	$430.00
Child/Senior/Green prescription	$72.00	$175.00	$340.00

Miscellaneous

School Group – Pool Entry	$2.50	Per pupil
School Group - Swimming Sports (Available to schools once per year, maximum 4 hours, includes lane hire)	$4.00	Per pupil
School Group - Instructor Hire	$40.00	Per hour
Instructor – private hire	$85.00	Per hour
Swim Club High Use – 2 entries/week	$8.00	Per week
Swim Club High Use – 3 entries/week	$11.25	Per week
Swim Club High Use – 4+ entries/week	$14.00	Per week
Swimming Club Event (Applicable to Swimming Taranaki and Stratford Swimming Club)	50% discount on Private Hire Full Pool Complex	
Use of Showers (only)	$5.00	Per entry
Big Inflatable	$180.00	Max 3 hours
Aquabike (private use)	$15.00	Per hour
Locker Hire (plus refundable bond of $10)	4.00	Per session

Learn to Swim Instruction (includes entry)	$145	Per term*

**Based on 10-week term, pro-rata adjustment where term is longer or shorter*

Private Hire (includes entry fee)		
Full Pool Complex Exclusive Use. Maximum of 200 swimmers. (Includes multipurpose rooms).	$600.00	Per hour
Additional charge per 50 extra swimmers	$60.00	Per hour
Private Hire (excludes entry fee)		
Main Pool – Per lane	$25.00	Per hour
Learn To Swim Pool – Per lane	$15.00	Per hour
Programme Pool – Per lane	$30.00	Per hour
Small – Multi Purpose Room	$25.00	Per hour
Big – Multi Purpose Room	$30.00	Per hour
Programmes and Activities		
Party Hire	As advertised	
Private Lessons	As advertised	
School Holiday Programme	As advertised	
Other	As advertised	

BUILDING CONTROL

Government levies

Certain building consent applications must pay government levies in addition to Council's building consent fees below. We collect the levies and pay them to the Building Research Association of New Zealand (BRANZ) and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE). The BRANZ levy is $1.00 per $1,000.00 for building work valued at $20,000 including GST or more. The MBIE levy is $1.75 per $1,000.00 for building work valued at $65,000.00 including GST or more.

Accreditation fee

All building consent applications must pay a Council accreditation fee, in addition to Council's building consent fees. To issue building consents, we have to meet certain standards set by the government (accreditation). This fee helps to cover the cost of meeting those requirements (Building Accreditation of Building Consent Authorities Regulations 2006)

Accreditation levy (applies to all Building Consents)	$1.90	Per $1,000.00 building work
Building Research levy (BRANZ)	$1.00 per $1,000 value or part thereof for project valued at $20,000 or more	
MBIE levy	$1.75 per $1,000 value or part thereof for project valued at $65,000 or more	
Electronic Lodgement Fee This fee is an external cost from a third-party service provider for the full process of a consent application, and is an additional charge on any Base Fee (refer to the Objective Pricing Model Schedule page on SDC's website)	As per Pricing Model Schedule)	

There are two fee types:

Fixed fee

This fee covers projects where the costs are easily identified before application, or where an average rate is appropriate. The amount is fixed. No additional costs will be charged by Stratford District Council (SDC) in regards to the fee quoted.

Base fee

The base fee is based on the anticipated costs for the processing of the application. In some cases, actual costs of a project may exceed the estimated base fee due to external specialist input, amendments, additional information submitted, application complexity, inspection complexity or additional inspections undertaken. When this happens any additional amount will be charged in accordance with the staff charge out rates.
**Base fees are based on a maximum number of hours for processing. Consents that go over the maximum hours (shown in brackets) will be charged additional processing (technical) fees.*

A typical calculation for the fee to pay can be done using this formula:

- Base Fee for category + MBIE/BRANZ levies (if applicable) + Inspections + Accreditation levy + Electronic Lodgement Fee
- SDC inspection list can be found at https://www.stratford.govt.nz/our-services/building/building-inspections

Project Information Memorandum (PIM) application (1.5 hrs)* (When applied separate from a Building Consent)	$660.00	Base fee
Fee for ALL manual/hardcopy applications (This fee will be charged on ALL Building applications not submitted via the online portal)	$185.00	Fixed fee
Provision of a Record of Title	$30.00	Fixed fee
Record of Schedule 1 exempt work	$120.00	Fixed fee
Waiver/B2 Modification (2 hrs)*	$356.00	Base fee + Cost of amendment
Private BCA Filing Fee	$178.00	Fixed Fee
Building Consent Data (One year)	$265.00	Fixed fee
Section 71, Building Act 2004 - Building on land subject to natural hazards.	$565.00	Fixed fee
Section 75, Building Act 2004 - Construction of building on 2 or more allotments	$565.00	Fixed fee
Amendments		At Cost
Minor Variation Assessments	$115.00	Fixed Fee
New residential dwelling (8 hrs)* house/townhouse/multi-unit (First unit)	$3,168.00	Base fee
Residential Multi-units (Subsequent units) (5 hrs)*	$1100.00	Base fee
New Commercial buildings -(commercial/Industrial) (16 hrs)*	$5,778.00	Base Fee
Commercial value fee	$400.00	Per $100,000 over $1 million
Relocated/Re-piled buildings (3 hrs)*	$1,670.00	Base fee
Minor Works (Residential) (2.5 hrs)* (e.g Internal wall removal/Minor Kitchen/Bathroom alterations)	$1,183.00	Base Fee
Residential Alterations/Additions (5.5 hrs)*	$2,398.00	Base fee
Commercial Alterations/Additions (8 hrs)*	$3,358.00	Base fee
Proprietary Garages		
- Standard (1.5 hrs)*	$963.00	Base fee
- With fire wall, Sleepout, or Plumbing & Drainage (2.5 hrs)*	$1,183.00	Base fee
Fully self-contained use residential dwelling rates.		
Pole sheds (Res/Com)		
- 1-6 Bays (1.5 hrs)*	$963.00	Base fee
- > 6 Bays (2.5 hrs)*	$1,183.00	Base fee
Swimming pools		
Swimming pool >1200mm above ground and fences	$300.00	Fixed Fee
In-ground swimming pools (1.5 hrs)*	$874.00	Base Fee
Fireplaces:		
Inbuilt or with plumbing (1 hr)*	$588.00	Base fee
Free-standing without plumbing (1 hr)*	$462.00	Base Fee
Plumbing & Drainage (1 hr)*	$764.00	Base fee
Onsite Effluent System (1 hr)*	$764.00	Base fee
Wet Shower Installation (1 hr)*	$764.00	Base fee
Tents/marquees >100m2	$558.00	Fixed fee
Amusement devices: Application to operate an amusement devise		Prescribed by the Amusement Devices Regulations 1978

Pool Inspections:		
Registration and audit inspection	$220.00	Per inspection
Re-inspection (if non-compliance identified)	$220.00	Per re-inspection
Building Consent Authority Fees		
Inspections and re-inspections	$220.00	Per inspection
Technical	$220.00	Per Hour
Administration	$178.00	Per hour
Development Engineer	$252.00	Per hour
Late cancellation (Less than 24hrs)	$85.00	Fixed fee
Costs for engineering review or other professional services not available in-house	Cost	plus 10%
Certificate of Acceptance	$2 x	Base fee for relevant building consent, plus BRANZ/MBIE levies
Notice to Fix - Dangerous/Insanitary Notification (1 hr)*	$440.00	Base Fee +Inspection/Processing time
Building Consent Extension of Time	$135.00	Fixed fee.
Schedule 1, Clause 2 Exemptions (1.5 hrs)*	$419.00	Base fee
Certificate of Public Use (2 hrs)*	$749.00	Base fee
Sale of Alcohol Building Certificate (2 hrs)*	$440.00	Base fee
E/Q Prone Buildings (2 hrs)*	$440.00	Base fee
E/Q Prone (EPB) Notice	$178.00	Fixed Fee
Change of Use Assessment (assessment and record of) (2 hrs)*	$440.00	Base fee
Miscellaneous Notices		Infringements
Review after refusal of code compliance certificate		
2-5 years since grant date	$350.00	Fixed fee
5-10 years since grant date	$415.00	Fixed fee
10+ years since grant date	$800.00	Fixed fee
Compliance Schedules		
New Compliance schedules (2 hrs)*	$440.00	Base fee. A $80 fee per Specified system also applies.
Amendment to Compliance Schedule (2 hrs)*	$440.00	Base fee. A $80 fee per Specified system also applies.
Building Warrant of Fitness (BWoF)		
Site audit and findings report (2 hrs)*	$440.00	Base Fee
BWoF annual renewal fee	$150.00	Fixed fee
BWoF late reminder notice	$250.00	Fixed fee
Independently Qualified Persons (IQP) registration		As per Central IQP register fee schedule
Compliance Action	At cost	

BYLAWS

All licences and certificates as required under Council bylaw*	$242.00	
Call Out Fee (in breach of bylaw, charged to offender)	$300.00	
Release of Impounded Stereo	$200.00	
Release of Impounded wheeled device, e.g. Skateboard or Cycle	$50.00	
Permit for Stands and Stalls in a Public Place **	$24.20	Per stand or stall per day.

** Excludes licences under:*

- *the Tattoo and Beauty Parlour Bylaw, see Health Licences;*
- *Solid Waste, see Refuse (Solid Waste);*
- *Trade Waste, see Trade Waste;*
- *Water Supply Bylaw, see Water Supply Bylaw Charges.*

**Also excludes licenses under the Trade Waste*

*** Excludes not for profit organisations and community groups. See Licences section for Mobile or Travelling Shops Bylaw.*

CEMETERY

Plot purchase

• Adult (16+ years)	$2,800.00
• Child (2 – 15 years)	$2,000.00
• Infant (under 2 years)	$1,200.00
• Ashes plot	$1,200.00
• RSA plot	no charge
• Memorial Wall	$198.00

Interments (includes grave digging)

• Adult (16+ years)	$2,100.00
• Child (2 - 15 years)	$1,500.00
• Infant (under 2 years)	$1,000.00
• Stillborn	$550.00
• Ashes	$600.00

Miscellaneous Charges

• Bond for damage (Private Users) as per clause 19.4 of Cemeteries Bylaw	$300.00	Damage in excess of bond will be charged at cost

Notes:

- *Weekends/Public Holidays Fees are included in above charges.*
- *Administration and Permit Fees are included in above charges.*
- *Disinterment and Reinterment are the same as interment charges above.*
- *Extra Depth is included in above charges.*
- *Services Cemetery fees are the same as the adult interment charge above.*
- *Services Cemetery Purchase of Plot is free as per Stratford Borough Council decision at meeting on 16 July 1917.*
- *Memorial Wall Plaque - Permanite material, size 390mm x 190mm*

DOG AND ANIMAL CONTROL

Registration Fees	Discounted Fee if paid by the due date (Per dog)	Standard Fee if paid on or after the due date (Per dog)
Rural dog (for every dog up to and including first three dogs)	$51.30	$68.40
Rural dog (for every dog after first three dogs)	$39.90	$51.30
General Dog Owner	$165.30	$210.90
Good Dog Owner (refer Dog Control Policy)	$131.10	$171.00
Select Dog Owner (refer Dog Control Policy)	$68.40	$91.20

Urban Multiple Dog Licence

• Application	$70.00	
• Annual Renewal	$40.00	
Micro chipping	*At cost*	
Replacement Tag	$5.00	
Bark Collar Hire (2 weeks)	$54.00	

Impounding Fees

Dogs:

• Registered dog, 1st Impounding	$150.00	
• Registered dog, subsequent Impounding	$250.00	
• Unregistered dog	$300.00	Plus registration
• Unregistered dog under 3 months	$150.00	Plus registration
• After hours pound release fee	$60.00	Requires payment of all applicable fees (impounding, sustenance & after-hours release) at the Library or Pool during opening hours prior to release
• Sustenance fee per dog	$10.00	Per day
• Destruction	*At cost*	
• Re-housing fee	$50.00	

Other animals:

• Stock	$100.00	
• Sustenance fee per animal (all stock)	$10.00	Per day
• Advertising	*At cost*	
• Droving		As per staff charge out rates or cost if provided by contractor
• Call Out Fee		As per staff charge out rates
• Transporting of Stock	*At cost*	

Notes

- *The criteria for these categories are given within the Stratford District Council Dog Control Policy.*
- *Any application to be a Select Dog Owner must be made before 30 April 2025.*
- *Infringements may be issued for all outstanding registrations after 1 October 2025.*
- *The Dog Control Act 1996 prescribes that an additional penalty fee may not exceed 50% of the fee that would have been payable if the dog had been registered on the first day of the registration year.*

HEALTH LICENCES

Health Act Registrations and Annual Renewals

• Hairdressers	242.00	Annual fee
• Offensive Trade	412.00	Annual fee
• Funeral Directors	242.00	Annual fee
• Camping Ground	242.00	Annual fee
• Complaint driven investigation	$170.00	Per hour
• Transfer of registration	242.00	
• Campground exemptions	242.00	

Food Act 2014

• Application for registration of a food control plan	$460.00	Fixed fee (includes up to 2 hours processing time)
• Renewal of registration of food control plan	$315.00	Annual fee
• Application for registration of a national programme	$315.00	Fixed fee (includes up to 1 hour processing time)
• Renewal registration of a national programme	$$315.00	Annual fee
• Transfer of registration (Food control plan)	$400.00	
• Transfer of registration (National Programme)	$315.00	
• Initial verification visit	$400.00	Fixed fee (includes up to 2 hours processing time)
• Monitoring for food safety and suitability and subsequent verification investigation	$170.00	Per hour, plus disbursements at cost.

• Complaint driven investigation	$170.00	Per hour
• Application for review of improvement notice	$170.00	Per hour
• Application for second sites	$170.00	Per hour
• Significant amendment	$170.00	Fixed fee (includes up to 1 hour of processing time)
• New business assistance, or pr-opening visit	$170.00	Fee applied after the first hour.
• Ministry of Primary Industries Food Act Levies *Levies charged pursuant to the Food (fees, Charges and Levies) Amendment Regulations 2024 and noted on the Council's website*		
• Food Act Levy administration fee $11.00 excl		

Mobile and Travelling Shop Bylaw

• Licence for mobile and travelling shop as per the Mobile and Travelling Shop Bylaw	$60.00	Per day up to a maximum of $500.00 per annum
• Complaint driven investigation	$170.00	Per hour

Tattoo and Beauty Therapy Bylaw

• Application for registration of a High Risk Activity	$375.00	Fixed fee (includes up to 1.5 hours processing time and annual inspection)
• Renewal of registration	$250.00	Fixed fee (includes up to 1 hour processing time and annual inspection)
• Transfer of registration	$375.00	Fixed fee
• Complaint driven investigation	$170.00	Per hour

HOUSING FOR OLDER PERSONS *(Rent reviews are subject to 60 days notice period)*

Charges will be initially set as per the individual tenancy agreement, and reviewed every 12 months, in line with Council's Housing for Older Persons policy available on our website.

LAND INFORMATION MEMORANDUM *When requesting Property information; the information included is based on a search of Council records only. There may be other information relating to the land whic is unknown to the Council. Council records may not show illegal or unauthorised building works on the property The applicant is solely responsible for ensuring that the land is suitable for a particular purpose.*

Standard Application *(Processed within 10 working days)*

• residential	$350.00	
• commercial	$500.00	

Property File Information

• Electronic data (USB storage device)	$25.00	Per property file (plus $4.00 postage fee if required)
• Property File by Email or Download Link	$20.00	Per property file

LIBRARY

Fees

• Inter-loaning a Book (between libraries in NZ)	$12.00	Per item
• DVD Rental	$3.00	Per week
• Membership Card Replacement Fee	$6.00	Per card

Overdue Fines

• DVDs	$0.50	Per day overdue

With a grace period of 3 days before fine for total overdue days is imposed

Replacement books, DVDs	*At cost*	

Laminating:		
• A4	$2.00	Per page
• A3	$4.00	Per page
Scanning:		
• Self Service	No charge	
• Staff assisted	$1.00	
Photocopying/Printouts		As per Photocopying, Printing
3D Printing	$0.20	Per gram material, plus $2.00 setup fee
Ready Made 3D Items	*At Cost*	As advertised
Programmes & Events		As advertised
Wheelchair Use refundable bond (please book in advance)	$50.00	Refundable (hireage is free)
Kowhai Room Hire	$5.00	Per hour

The Kowhai Room hire fee will be waived for non-profit community groups

Ticket Booking Fees

Commission	$1.50	Per ticket sold
Credit Card payments via phone	$2.00	Per ticket (capped at $10)
General Booking Fee (such as accommodation, bus ferry etc)	$2.00	

MISCELLANEOUS

Debt Collection

Referral to debt management agency (addition to amount outstanding)	10%	Of invoice outstanding

PARKING ** penalties are charged, pursuant to Schedule 2 of the Land Transport Act 1998 and noted on the Council's website*

Temporary "No Parking" Signs Application

• Fee	$15.00
• Refundable deposit	$20.00

PHOTOCOPYING & PRINTING

Photocopying & Printing		
• A4 Black and White	$0.40	Per page
• A4 Black and White (double sided)	$0.60	Per page
• A4 Coloured	$1.00	Per page
• A4 Coloured (double sided)	$1.20	Per page
• A3 Black and White	$0.50	Per page
• A3 Black and White (double sided)	$1.00	Per page
• A3 Coloured	$1.50	Per page
• A3 Coloured (double sided)	$2.00	Per page

PUBLICATIONS

• Annual Plan	$50.00
• Long Term Plan (LTP)	$50.00
• Annual Report	$50.00
• Bylaws	$20.00
• District Plan (excluding planning maps)	$125.00
• Planning Maps	$125.00

REFUSE (SOLID WASTE)

Bylaws

• Licensing - Application Fee for Commercial Waste Collectors and Waste Disposal Operators	$150.00	Per annum
• Removal of Trade Refuse (Clause13.4 of Solid Wast Management and Minimisation Bylaw)	At cost	
• Application Fee for Event Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (EWMMP) Approval	$100.00	Per event, plus contractor fee and disposal costs

Replacement Receptacles

• Recycling crate	$40.00	Per crate
• Wheelaway bin	$128.00	Per bin

Transfer Station

	Bag (50 ltr)	Car Boot	Car Other	Drum (200 ltr)	Small Trailer & Utes (no cage)	Tandem Trailer (no cage)	All Other (per m^3)
Green Waste	NA	$5.00	$8.00	$8.00	$10.00	$38.00	$18.00
Recyclables	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
Scrap Metal	NA	$15.00	$20.00	$20.00	$25.00	$50.00	$50.00
General Refuse	$5.00	$24.00	$32.00	$32.00	$39.00	$133.00	$78.00

Miscellaneous

• Whiteware*	$10.00	Per unit
• TV	$20.00	Per unit
• TV - CRT	$35.00	Per Unit
• Stereo, Computer	$10.00	Per unit
• Small E-Waste i.e. cellphones, keyboards	$5.00	
First Year Service Fee for refuse collection		Pro rata amount of applicable targeted rate equivalent. **

***A service charge will apply from the first month following connection with the same conditions that would apply to the owner as if they were a ratepayer for that year.*

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Resource Consents

• Notified (full)	$6,000.00	Deposit with full cost recovery
• Notified (limited)	$4,000.00	Deposit with full cost recovery
• Non-notified	$1,500.00	Base fee plus cost recovery for staff time as per staff charge out rates, and all direct disbursements
• Deemed Permitted/Boundary Activity	$500	Base fee plus cost recovery for staff time as per staff charge out rates, and all direct disbursements
• Certificate of Compliance	$1000	Base fee plus cost recovery for staff time as per staff charge out rates, and all direct disbursements
• Bond agreement under S222	$350.00	Base fee plus cost recovery for staff time as per staff charge out rates, and all direct disbursements
• S224 Certificate		As per staff charge out rates
• S 223 Certificate		As per staff Charge out rates
• Consultation with District Land Registrar	$145.00	Fixed Fee

Miscellaneous

• Request for Plan Change	$6,000.00	Deposit with full cost recovery
• Request for Designation or Heritage Order or removal/variation of Designation	$2,000.00	Deposit with full cost recovery

• Planning Certificates	$500.00	Base fee plus cost recovery for staff time as per staff charge out rates, and all direct disbursements
• Monitoring of Resource Consent Conditions	At cost	As per staff charge out rates
• Attendance to Noise Complaints (Charged to Offender)	$300.00	Per call out
• Joint Hearings with Other Authorities	At cost	As per staff charge out rates with deposits As required by either Taranaki Regional Council or Horizons Regional Council
• Seizure, impounding, transporting and storage pursuant to S.328 of the Resource Management Act	$300.00	

The following activities are exempt from all consent application, processing and monitoring fees:

- *The alteration, but not demolition, of any heritage structure listed in Appendix 6 of the Stratford District Plan*
- *Work to maintain or enhance indigenous fauna or flora in protected areas listed in Appendix 9 of the Stratford District Plan*

Any costs incurred from third parties in relation to any of the above applications will be on-charged to the applicant at cost.
Bonds held by Council do not accrue interest.
Any activities not listed above will be charged in accordance with staff charge out rates.

ROADING

Road Closure		
• Application, including - Traffic Management Plan - Advertising (Up to $200. Actual cost will be charged if it exceeds $200) - Inspection	$520.00	
• Additional Inspection	At cost	As per staff charge out rates
• Emergency Road Closure over 4 hours	At cost	
Fallen Trees		
• Clearing of privately owned fallen trees on road reserve	At cost	Applies to costs greater than $500.00
Temporary Obstruction Permit		
• Application, including - Traffic Management Plan - Inspection	$300.00	
• Additional Inspection	At cost	As per staff charge out rates
Traffic Management Plan		
• Generic Traffic Management Plan	$500.00	
• Site Specific Traffic Management Plan	$200.00	
Corridor Access Request (CAR)		
CAR application for:		
• Excavation >10m² in any CAR in carriageway	$400.00	
• Excavation <10m² in berm	$80.00	
• CAR additional inspection	$170.00	
Overweight Permit (set by statute, specified route)		
• Single or multiple trip overweight permit	$20.91	Plus disbursements
• Continuous overweight permit	$62.73	Plus disbursements
• Renewal of a continuous overweight permit	$10.45	Plus disbursements
• Over dimension permit	$32.20	Plus disbursements
• HPMV permit	$62.73	Plus disbursements
• Specialist vehicle permit	$62.73	Plus disbursements

There is an additional fee of $10.45 for overweight, HPMV or specialist vehicle permit applications if there are fewer than three working days available for processing.

Overweight Permits – District wide

- Generic Overweight Permit – valid for two years — $180.00
  Note: Issued when an area wide permit is required to cover Stratford District Council defined roads. Permit outlines roads to be used, bridges to be crossed, bridges which are prohibited.
- Individual Overweight Permit – single trip only — $120.00
  Note: Issued when an area wide permit is required to cover Stratford District Council defined roads. Permit outlines roads to be used, bridges to be crossed, bridges which are prohibited.
- Inspections (per hour) — $200.00

Licence to Occupy

- Application fee — $260.00
- Rental — $260.00 — Per annum

Street Event

- Damages — At cost

Other

- Damage to Street Furniture — At cost
- Application for Road Stopping (LGA, 2002) — $500.00
- Application for Petrochemical pipeline in the road reserve — $750.00
- Application for Stock Underpass — $200.00

Vehicle Crossing

Vehicle Crossing Application fee — $205.00

Street Damage

Inspection — $170.00 — Per inspection

Street Damage

Damage to street furniture, footpath, kerb and channel	At cost
Costs to make good any damage to vehicle crossings as a result of building works	At cost
Cost to repair an unsafe vehicle crossing (trip hazard, dangerous condition to pedestrians)	At cost
Failure to comply with consent conditions to construct a new vehicle crossing	At cost

SALE OF ALCOHOL *Fees are set by regulation in accordance with the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013 and are noted on the Council's website.*

Fee must be confirmed with the Liquor Licensing Inspector prior to lodging an application

Other Fees

- Extract from Register — $50.00
- Compliance Certificate (RMA/Building) — $50.00
- Website Advertising Fee — $50.00
- Refer to the Building Control fees for the requirement of a s.100(f) building certificate (new licence only)

Gambling Consent Fee

- Application Fee — $230.00

SPORTS GROUNDS/PARKS AND RESERVES

Sportsgrounds – seasonal use

• Cricket (per block)	$600.00	
• Rugby (per field Page Street)	$500.00	
• Rugby (per field Victoria Park no 1 and no 2)	$850.00	
• Football (per field)	$500.00	
• Croquet (Victoria Park greens)	$500.00	
• Netball (King Edward Park hard courts)	$900.00	
• Tennis (King Edward Park hard courts)	$900.00	
• Other codes (per field Victoria Park)	$770.00	
• Other codes (per field elsewhere)	$420.00	
Sportsgrounds – casual use		
• Per field, per hour or part thereof (without lights)	$20.00	
• Per field, per hour or part thereof (with lights)	$30.00	
Sportsgrounds/Parks and Reserves – other events		
• Major event (public event) per day or part thereof	$155.00	
• Minor event (private event) per day or part thereof	$78.00	
• Refundable bond for damage to grounds		Determined by Council Officer upon initial assessment of application.
Page Street sports amenities building		
• Seasonal use	$420.00	
• Casual use per day or part thereof	$26.00	

STAFF CHARGE OUT RATES

Charge out rates are as follows:

• Management	$240.00	Per hour or part thereof
• Technical	$210.00	Per hour or part thereof
• Research (includes LGOIMA, Cemetery enquiries)	$170.00	First 30 minutes free
• Administration	$170.00	Per hour or part thereof
• Vehicle Charge (Mileage)		Per current IRD mileage rate

STORMWATER CONNECTION

• Application Fee	$250.00	
• Connection Fee	N/A	Property owner to engage suitably qualified contractor

TRADE WASTE

The compliance monitoring fee component is based on the number of sampling events specified in a discharger's trade waste consent multiplied by the charge specified.

Annual License for Conditional Activity Consents		
Administration fee (includes up to 3 hours officer time)	$302.40	First fee pro-rata during year
Inspection fee (includes up to 1.5 hours officer time)	$194.40	
Total base fee* (administration and inspection)	$496.80	As advertised
• Sampling event	$239.40	Per event As advertised
Consent Application for Temporary Discharge Consents		As advertised
Administration fee (includes up to 1.5 hours officer time)	$151.20	As advertised
Inspection fee (includes up to 1 hour officer time)	$144.00	As advertised
• Total base fee* (administration and inspection)	$295.20	

Consent Application for Conditional Activity Consent

Administration fee (includes up to 5 hours officer time)	$504.00	
Inspection fee (includes up to 5.5 hours officer time)	$597.60	
• Total base fee* (administration and inspection)	$1,102.50	
• Renewal fee (includes up to 3 hours officer time)	$302.40	
• Technical charge for officer time above base fee (includes technical officers and monitoring officers)		As per staff charge out rates
• Manager/external technical charge for officer time	$134.10	
Non-compliance Re-inspection Fee		
• Administration fee (includes up to 3 hours officer time)	$302.40	
• Inspection fee (includes 1.5 hours officer time)	$194.40	
Total base fee* (administration and inspection)	$496.80	
Sampling event	$239.40	Per event

Other Charges

• Volume	$0.97	Per m^3
• Suspended solids (SS)	$0.85	Per kg
• Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)	$2.22	Per kg
• Copper	$210.43	Per kg
• Nickel	$352.00	Per kg
• Zinc	$70.02	Per kg

In addition to the base fees the discharger will be charged for the cost of treating their effluent (BOD, SS, volume and toxic pollutants) as per the scale of trade waste charges, and the cost of any laboratory expenses incurred in characterising the waste. If the discharge is made into the wet well at the wastewater treatment plant, a handling fee is also charged.

**Base fee: the base fee is non-refundable except in accordance with the refund criteria. It is set at a level to cover a straight forward application with no external inputs or other case-specific costs. This fee will cover the receipt and issue of the application and initial inspection, and includes the number of hours of technical input specified. In some cases, the base fee will be exceeded. Matters that could cause the base fee to be exceeded include external or specialist inputs, amendments or additional information or application complexity. Any additional costs over and above the base fee will be invoiced to the applicant.*

VENUE HIRE (OTHER) *This includes hall-hirer insurance, if not already covered by insurance. All damages to be recovered at cost, including cleaning.*

All Venues

10% Deposit (non-refundable within 60 days of the event)

Centennial Rest Rooms

• Whole Complex Day Rate	$736.00	8.00am to 12.00am
• Whole Complex per Hour	$46.00	Per hour or part thereof
• Meeting Room without kitchen	$18.00	Per hour or part thereof
• Meeting Room with kitchen	$22.00	Per hour or part thereof
• Institute Room without kitchen	$24.00	Per hour or part thereof
• Institute Room with kitchen	$28.00	Per hour or part thereof
• Stratford Women's Club hireage	$5,000.00	Per annum

War Memorial Centre

• Whole Complex Day Rate	$1,000	8.00am to 12.00am
• Whole Complex Weekend Rate	$2,500	Friday 12.00pm to Sunday 12.00pm
• Stadium	$30.00	Per hour or part thereof for 1-12 hours
	$28.00	Per hour or part thereof for 12-24 hours
	$26.00	Per hour or part thereof for 24+ hours
• Function Facility (with kitchen)	$28.00	Per hour or part thereof for 1-12 hours
	$26.00	Per hour or part thereof for 12-24 hours
	$24.00	Per hour or part thereof for 24+ hours
• Function Facility (without kitchen)	$24.00	Per hour or part thereof for 1-12 hours
	$22.00	Per hour or part thereof for 12-24 hours
	$20.00	Per hour or part thereof for 24+ hours

• TSB Chambers	$20.00	Per hour or part thereof for 12-24 hours
	$18.00	Per hour or part thereof for 1-24 hours
	$16.00	Per hour or part thereof for 24+ hours
• Projector	$25.00	Per hire
• Piano	$15.00	Per hire

WASTEWATER

Bulk Discharge

• Tanker Load less than $2m^3$	$110.00	Use of bulk discharge point requires prior Council approval in writing.
• Tanker Load between $2m^3$ - $4m^3$	$220.00	
• Tanker Load between $4m^3$ - $6m^3$	$330.00	
• Tanker Load over $6m^3$	$440.00	
• Dump Station Clean up Fee	At Cost	

New Wastewater Connection

• Application fee	$250.00	
• Connection Fee	N/A	Property owner to engage suitably qualified contractor
• First Year Service Fee		Pro-rata amount of applicable targeted rate equivalent.*
• Reconnection Fee	At cost	

WATER SUPPLY

Bulk Supply (Tanker Load)	$8.00	Per cubic metre

New Water Connection

• Application fee	$250.00	
• Connection Fee	N/A	Property owner to engage suitably qualified contractor
• Reconnection Fee	At cost	
• First Year Service Fee		Pro rata amount of applicable targeted rate equivalent. *

**A service charge will apply from the first month following connection with the same conditions that would apply to the owner as if they were a ratepayer for that year.*

Water Supply Bylaw Charges

• Costs incurred in remedying breach of Water Bylaw	At cost
• Tampering/Interfering with Council equipment	At cost
• Unauthorised water abstraction from Council supply	At cost
• Correcting contamination of water supply	At cost
• Repair of private water assets	At cost
• Install backflow protection device	At cost

DECISION REPORT

F22/55 – D25/14271

To:	Council
From:	Director – Corporate Services
Date:	13 May 2025
Subject:	Setting of Rates, Due Dates and Penalties Regime for 2025/26

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

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 2024/25 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.

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.

/
Moved/Seconded

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 Having adopted the *Annual Plan 2025/26* earlier this meeting, the purpose of this report is to set the rates for the 2025/26 financial year. The rates are driven from the adopted *Annual Plan 2025/26*.

2. Executive Summary

2.1 The *Annual Plan 2025/26* has been workshopped previously with elected members and adopted earlier this meeting. The Plan contains the activities and associated costs of Council and the funding mechanisms, including rates, to meet those costs. Once the Annual Plan is adopted, the Rates Resolution may be adopted.

2.2 Council is required by law to adopt its Annual Plan, including the Funding Impact Statements which establishes the rates to be charged for the year, by 30 June of the year prior to which it relates.

3. Local Government Act 2002 – Section 10

<table>
<tr><td colspan="4">Under section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002, the Council's purpose is to "enable democratic local decision making by and on behalf of communities; as well as promoting the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities now and into the future"</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Does the recommended option meet the purpose of the Local Government 4 well-beings? And which:</td><td colspan="2">Yes</td></tr>
<tr><th>Social</th><th>Economic</th><th>Environmental</th><th>Cultural</th></tr>
<tr><td>✓</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td></tr>
</table>

3.1 The process of preparing, reviewing and adopting the *Annual Plan 2025/26* requires council officers and elected members to acknowledge how best it can deliver on the four well-beings (Economic, Cultural, Social, and Environmental) in a way that is cost-effective for businesses and households. The Rates Resolution supports and is consistent with the Annual Plan.

4. Background

4.1 The Council sets its rates pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002. This Act allows the Council to set the rates established in the adopted long-term plan or annual plan. The Council adopted its *Annual Plan 2025/26* earlier this meeting. This decision report (rates resolution) sets the rates established in that Plan.

4.2 The rates resolution is the legal document for setting rates and must be consistent with and adopted after the final long-term plan or annual plan has been adopted. Additionally, all rates set in the rates resolution must be provided for as sources of funding in Council's Revenue and Financing Policy.

4.3 The Rates Resolution sets the due dates for rates payments, on a quarterly cycle, and also provides authorisation for penalties to be charged on non-payment by the due date.

5. Consultative Process

5.1 **Public Consultation - Section 82**

Once a long-term plan or an annual plan has been adopted, the rates are set by resolution only. There are no additional public notice or consultation requirements.

5.2 **Māori Consultation - Section 81**

As above.

6. Risk Analysis

Refer to the Council Risk Register - available on the Council website.

- Does this report cover any issues that relate to any risks on the Council Risk Register, and if so which risks and what are the impacts and likelihood of eventuating?
- Does this report cover any issues that may lead to any new risks that are not on the Council Risk Register, and if so, provide some explanation of any new identified risks.
- Is there a legal opinion needed?

6.1 Council is required under the Local Government Act 2002 and the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 to follow a formal process for the adoption of the Annual Plan and the setting of rates and fees and charges. This relates to risk 21 (Assessment of Rates) on the council's risk register.

7. Decision Making Process – Section 79

7.1 **Direction**

	Explain
Is there a strong link to Council's strategic direction, Long Term Plan/District Plan?	Yes, is based on the *Annual Plan 2025/26* and aligns closely with the direction set within that document.
What relationship does it have to the communities current and future needs for infrastructure, regulatory functions, or local public services?	Setting the rates for the financial year allows the Council to provide for the community's needs as set out in the *Annual Plan 2025/26*.

7.2 **Data**

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

Data is available in the *Annual Plan 2025/26* and the Funding Impact Statement 2025/26.

7.3 **Significance**

	Yes/No	Explain
Is the proposal significant according to the Significance Policy in the Long Term Plan?	No	
Is it: • considered a strategic asset; or	N/A	
• above the financial thresholds in the Significance Policy; or	No	
• impacting on a CCO stakeholding; or	No	
• a change in level of service; or	No	
• creating a high level of controversy; or	No	
• possible that it could have a high impact on the community?	No	

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

7.4 **Options**

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

Council is required to formally set the rates for 2025/26 by adopting a rates resolution.

There are no alternative options, to be able to meet the commitments in the *Annual Plan 2025/26*.

7.5 **Financial**

> - Is there an impact on funding and debt levels?
> - Will work be undertaken within the current budget?
> - What budget has expenditure come from?
> - How will the proposal be funded? eg. rates, reserves, grants etc.

This has been taken into account in the earlier adoption of the *Annual Plan 2025/26* decision report.

7.6 **Prioritisation & Trade-off**

> Have you taken into consideration the:
> - Council's capacity to deliver;
> - contractor's capacity to deliver; and
> - consequence of deferral?

This has been taken into account in the earlier adoption of the *Annual Plan 2025/26* decision report.

7.7 **Legal Issues**

> - Is there a legal opinion needed?
> - Are there legal issues?

No legal opinion is needed, as there has been no significant changes to the rates setting and resolution processes.

7.8 **Policy Issues - Section 80**

• Are there any policy issues? • Does your recommendation conflict with Council Policies?

The rates resolution for 2025/26 is consistent with the Council's Revenue and Financing Policy.

Raelene Johnson
DIRECTOR – CORPORATE SERVICES

[Approved by]
Sven Hanne
Chief Executive **Date** 5 May 2025

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Our reference
F19/13/03-D21/40748

Karakia

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

Stratford District
In the heart of Taranaki

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