TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O
WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Our reference
F19/13/03-D21/26182

4 September 2025

Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held in the **Council Chambers, Stratford District Council, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford** on ***Tuesday 9 September 2025*** beginning at **3.30pm.**

Timetable for 9 September 2025 as follows:

1.00pm	Workshop - Trans Tasman Resources Presentation - Street Trees - Local Government Commission - Draft sector standardised Code of Conduct
3.15pm	Afternoon Tea
3.30pm	Ordinary Meeting

Yours faithfully

Sven Hanne
Chief Executive

2025 - Agenda - Ordinary - September - Open

09 September 2025 03:00 PM

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Agenda Topic — Page

AGENDA
Ordinary Meeting of Council

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

F22/55/05 – D25/32919

Date: 9 September 2025 at 3.30 PM
Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

1. Welcome

1.1 Opening Karakia
D21/40748 Page 6

1.2 Health and Safety Message
D21/26210 Page 7

2. Apologies

3. Announcements

4. Declarations of Members Interest

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

5. Attendance Schedule

Page 8

Attendance schedule for Ordinary and Extraordinary Council meetings.

6. Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Ordinary Meeting of Council – 12 August
D25/31778 (Open) D25/30130(PE) Page 9

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council, including the public excluded section, held on Tuesday 12 August 2025, be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

/
Moved/Seconded

6.2 Extraordinary Meeting of Council – 26 August 2025
D25/32073 Page 17

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 26 August 2025, be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

/
Moved/Seconded

6.3 Policy and Services Committee – 26 August 2025 (Hearing)
D25/32082 Page 21

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting, to hear and consider submissions to the Victoria Park Reserve Management Plan, held on Tuesday 26 August be received.
2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting, to hear and consider submissions to the Victoria Park Reserve Management Plan, held on Tuesday 26 August be adopted.

/
Moved/Seconded

6.3 Policy and Services Committee – 26 August 2025
D25/32090 Page 21

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 26 August be received.
2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 26 August be adopted.

/
Moved/Seconded

7. District Mayor's Report

The report will be tabled.

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

/
Moved/Seconded

8. Decision Report – Delegation of Authority in the Interregnum Period

D25/32914 Page 38

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.
2. THAT the Chief Executive be delegated authority to make decisions in respect of urgent matters, in consultation with the Mayor elect, from the day following the Electoral Officer's declaration, until the new Council is sworn in.
3. THAT any decisions made under this short-term delegation be reported to the first ordinary meeting of the new Council.

Recommended Reason
Delegation of authority is required to formalise the decision-making arrangements for the period between the triennial election and the date that the Mayor and Councillors take the oath of office for the 2025-2028 term.

/
Moved/Seconded

9. Questions

10. Closing Karakia

******

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Our reference
F19/13/03-D21/40748

Karakia

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

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

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O
WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Our reference
F19/13/03-D22/17082

Health and Safety Message

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

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

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

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

Date	011/02/25	25/02/25	11/03/25	08/04/25	15/04/25	13/05/25	10/06/25	08/07/25	12/08/25	26/08/25	02/09/25	07/10/25
Meeting	O	E	O	O	E	O	O	O	O	E	O	O
Neil Volzke	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Steve Beck	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Grant Boyde	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Annette Dudley	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	S	A	✓	✓	✓		
Jono Erwood	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Ellen Hall	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Amanda Harris	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Vaughan Jones	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	A	✓		
Min McKay	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
John Sandford	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Clive Tongaawhikau	A	A	✓	A	✓	AB	A	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

F22/55/05 – D25/30130

Date: 12 August 2025 at 3.30 PM
Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

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

In attendance
The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Director – Assets – Mrs V Araba, the Director – 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 (*part meeting),* the Communications Advisor – Mrs S Clarkson (*part meeting),* the Community Development Officer – Mrs L Mackenzie-Brown (*part meeting),* three members of the public (*part meeting),* and one member of the Media (Stratford and South) (*part meeting)*.

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 V R Jones and an approved leave of absence noted for C M Tongaawhikau.

Recommendation

THAT the apologies be received.

BOYDE/HARRIS
Carried
CL/25/64

3. Announcements

The District Mayor noted that the performance review process for the Chief Executive was now underway with elected members having had a survey emailed to them, he requested they all participate in this.

4. Declarations of Members Interest

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

Councillor Erwood	Item 6.3 Policy and Services Meeting (Item 8 within the minutes – TET Funding Application 2025)
Councillor Dudley	Item 11 – Percy Thomson Trust – Appointment of Trustees
Councillor Hall	Item 11 – Percy Thomson Trust – Appointment of Trustees

Councillor Hall requested the opportunity to speak to this item as the Chair of the Percy Thomson Trust. It was noted this request would be considered at the time of the item.

5. Attendance Schedule

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

6. Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Ordinary Meeting of Council – 8 July 2025
D25/26143 (Open) D25/24303 (PE) Page 10

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council, including the public excluded section, held on Tuesday 8 July 2025, be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

HARRIS/DUDLEY
Carried
CL/25/65

6.2.1 Public Forum Notes
D25/24312 Page 19

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

The Committee Advisor and Executive Assistant undertook to make the following amendments:

- Page 17 amend *DUDLEYY* to *DUDLEY*

6.2 Audit and Risk Committee – 15 July 2025
D25/28553 (Open) D25/25445 (PE) Page 21

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on Tuesday 15 July 2025 be received.

   ERWOOD/VOLZKE
   Carried
   CL/25/66

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting, including those in the public excluded section, held on Tuesday 15 July 2025 be adopted.

   DUDLEY/BECK
   Carried
   CL/25/67

6.3 Policy and Services Committee – 22 July 2025
D25/26562 Page 33

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 22 July 2025 be received.

McKAY/WATT
Carried
CL/25/68

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 22 July 2025 be adopted.

HARRIS/BOYDE
Carried
CL/25/69

7. District Mayor's Report

D25/29733 Page 41

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/McKAY
Carried
CL/25/70

2. THAT, in accordance with Standing Order 8.4, an Extraordinary Meeting be called for 11.30am on Tuesday 26 August 2025, to approve the Water Services Delivery Plan to be submitted to the Department of Internal Affairs.

VOLZKE/McKAY
Carried
CL/25/71

The District Mayor noted the following points:

- Slides from the presentations at the LGNZ conference will be shared to elected members via email. Councillor Boyde felt the conference held a huge amount of value with a lot of learning out of it. Councillor Harris noted it was very relevant and topical of what is in the council space at the moment. The District Mayor agreed noting the conference material was much more relevant to councils at the moment without an international component or being aimed at the big cities.
- Mr Doug Robinsons contribution to the Stratford Community House Trust was noted as he had done a number of years before recently resigning. Mrs Carol Spragg has been appointed as a trustee as the Mayoral Appointment.
- The second recommendation relates to calling an Extraordinary meeting on 26 August to approve the Water Services Delivery plan to be submitted to the Department of Internal Affairs.

8. Decision Report – Prospero Place Development – Approval of Final Design

D25/27554 Page 45

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

2. THAT the summary of the public feedback and attached comments as shown in **Appendix 1** be received.

VOLZKE/WATT
Carried
CL/25/72

~~3. THAT the final design as shown in **Appendix 2** be approved for implementation, incorporating any amendments raised during this meeting.~~

3. THAT Council notes the next steps being:
   - Receiving and incorporating the iwi unified approach into the final design;
   - Engaging the new Council on the final design;
   - Developing the final design into appropriate packages of work; and
   - Seeking the new Council's decision on the funding approach to progress the project.

BOYDE/DUDLEY
Carried
CL/25/73

Recommended Reason
Pending the receipt of Iwi unified approach, the approval of the final design will allow the progression of this project to tender stage.

The Property and Projects Manager noted the following points:

- A replacement recomendation was tabled to allow for iwi's approach to be in the final design. The new council will then have input and officers will also develop a programme of work to split the project up.

The Chief Executive noted the following points:

- It was anticipated that the final design would be presented today for adoption, but it is now suggested to give time for the missing elements to be included and to ensure we have identified how iwi would like to be recognised.
- Officers are going to identify smaller size work packages for funding allocations, elected members can choose to fund the project in one go or split it up in the Annual Plan and allocated elements to seek external funding. There is sufficient funding to complete the design process.

Points noted in discussion:

- Councillor Hall sought clarification around the reference to the change to the funding? Mr Hanne noted that the project had started with a budget of around $2-3 million as a mix of better off funding and council funding, then it was brought down to be grant funding only however the rules around better off funding were then changes to only being able to be used for water projects so this funding was reallocated to the grit tank. A report was brought back at this point to Elected Members who decided to fund Year 1 of the $300,000 design work and leave any subsequent work for a decision at a later Annual or Long Term Plan.
- Councillor Hall asked if Iwi had been engaged throughout this project and if Whakaahurangi Marae had been engaged? Mr Hanne noted engagement had been with Iwi directly and not Whakaahurangi Marae.
- Councillor Hall asked if there was a risk a new council could decide not to do this and the project fall over? Mr Hanne confirmed that even with funding already allocated a new council could give the instruction to stop all work. The District Mayor noted this applied to any council project,

every project in the LTP is subject to review and at any time could be changed, shrunk or enhanced.

- Councillor Watt noted he was struggling to see how this could be budgeted at $1.2 million as he felt this was too much. Mr Hanne noted that public infrastructure is expensive, particularly when it comes to concrete and lighting. He noted a quantity survey would be completed and this would be included when setting a budget with council. The work will be tendered before it goes to delivery.
- It was confirmed that the cost of all plantings were included in the budget. Councillor Erwood questioned if the ongoing maintenance for these plants had been factored into the budget? Mr Hanne clarified this would form part of the overall council maintenance programme. Low maintenance was a consideration when looking at the plantings and design. Mr Taylor noted the current trees cause maintenance issues at the moment and changing these to evergreens will reduce that. There will also be less mowing area but more weeding areas to be factored into the maintenance contract. The District Mayor noted a local trust was interested in sponsoring some of the plantings.
- Councillor Beck asked where the feedback was being considered as there were a lot of different views. Mr Taylor clarified that the plan presented today was a result of the feedback received and had been changed from the previous version.
- Councillor Beck asked if the new canopy would be retrofitted? Mr Taylor noted the current canopy was likely to be demolished as it was no longer fit for purpose as it had been originally built when there was a building to the side of it. Councillor Beck asked if there would be a time period between a new canopy being fitted and suggested it remains in place until such time there is budget allocated to build a new one? Mr Taylor noted this can be considered and would wait until the final layout of the pathway is determined as it is proposed to be narrower than it currently is. Councillor Beck noted there were a lot of people in the feedback wanting the canopy so removing it and not replacing it for years would not be a good move.
- Councillor Beck noted the suggestion of solar panels in the feedback and asked if this had been considered in the plan? Mr Taylor noted this would be dependent on the budget set by council. Mr Hanne noted there were better suited areas for solar panels to be fitted than this project.
- Councillor Harris questioned if there was a health and safety concern with the canopy as she noted the designer had said it did not look pretty. Mr Taylor noted it does leak but if it was proposed to be kept then a report would be needed to know the structural integrity of it. He noted the paving was more a health and safety risk at this stage. Councillor Harris noted she would be loathed to take it down if it is still functional as the feedback was strong that people wanted to keep some sort of cover.
- Councillor Harris did not support e-bike charging if council was to fund it. She felt the bell tower bells and a bike lock up were a good idea and noted that planting wildflowers was not a good idea.
- Councillor Dudley noted that the canopy between the gallery and library was to be retained, she asked if was likely to removed in future plans? Mr Taylor noted it was likely to remain at this stage as it is not causing any of the complaints received. Councillor Dudley noted that this was a spot where people stopped before going across Prospero Place.
- Councillor Boyde noted he felt a community stage that was movable and could be used anywhere would be better than a permanent stage. He asked if the historical fountain by the old pool was able to go there if it was fit for purpose. Mr Hanne noted this was not a drinking fountain and part of its history was its location.
- Councillor Boyde requested more picnic tables as the current ones are always in use. He reminded councillors that this project was part of the Stratford 2035 overall plan and now the land has been purchased he was excited to see this move as it is the cornerstone of the tidy up of Broadway. He noted it was vital to finish off the design to then be brought back to look at funding and he did believe it should be a staged approach. By getting the basics done we can sit back and look at what else is needed in the future.
- Councillor Sandford noted his surprise that there was no Shakespearean features in the plan and felt this was the golden opportunity to show a bit of Shakespeare and the towns history. He felt the wall was a perfect place. Mr Hanne noted that artwork is yet to be investigated.

The Communications Manager, Communications Advisor and the Community Development Officer left the meeting at 4.15pm.

9. Questions

- Councillor Hall noted she had raised a concern from a community member who felt unsafe walking across the war memorial carpark due to the shrubbery. She was pleased to be able to message her to tell her it has been pruned and thanked council staff for acting so quickly on it.
- Councillor Dudley asked if the Dog Control Bylaw can be reviewed earlier than its due date of 2030 given recent incidents involving dogs. Mr Hanne clarified that a large component of this bylaw is legislatively led, especially in regards to impounding and prosecuting for incidents. He noted the importance of evidence with dog incidents. Councillor Dudley noted that reporting against dogs has been creeping up in the monthly reports. Mr Hanne suggested meeting with the regulatory team to determine if a solution is within a bylaw review or an alternative method such as public communications.

10. Resolution to Exclude the Public

Recommendation

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

Agenda Item No: 11

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

General subject of each matter to be considered	**Reason for passing this resolution to each matter**	**Grounds under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution**
Trustee Appointment – Percy Thomson Trust	The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.	That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist, under section 6 and section 7 of the Act - specifically Section 7(2)(a) Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

VOLZKE/BOYDE
Carried
CL/25/74

The media and the members of the public left the meeting at 4.24pm
Councillor Dudley left the table at 4.24pm.

As the chair of the Percy Thomson Trust, Councillor Hall requested an opportunity to speak to council before a decision is made on appointment of trustees, specifically in regards to the recommendation reappointing a current trustee and the recommendation extending her own appointment period. The resolutions would be amended to allow Councillor Hall to speak regarding the reappointment of one trustee and the request denied to speak to her own reappointment.

Councillor Hall left the table at 4.27pm.

11. Public Excluded Item - Decision Report – Percy Thomson Trust – Appointment of Trustees

D25/290931 Page 208

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/ERWOOD
Carried
CL/25/75

2. THAT, in accordance with the trust deed, Helen Cloke be re-appointed as trustee of the Percy Thomson Trust for a term of three years.

BOYDE/WATT
Carried
CL/25/76

3. THAT in accordance with the trust deed, Council appoint Casey Wellington as a new trustee of the Percy Thomson Trust for a term of three years, concluding at the 2028 AGM, effective immediately.

HARRIS/BOYDE
Carried
CL/25/77

4. THAT, in accordance with the trust deed, Deborah Clough be re-appointed as trustee of the Percy Thomson Trust for a term of three years.

SANDFORD/BOYDE
Carried
CL/25/78

5. THAT, Councillor Ellen Hall's appointment as a trustee of the Percy Thomson Trust be extended from concluding in October 2025 to December 2025, to allow the incoming council to review and allocate responsibilities and roles to elected members following the upcoming elections.

ERWOOD/BOYDE
5 for
3 Against
Carried
CL/25/79

6. THAT the resolutions from this decision be released from the public excluded section.

VOLZKE/BECK
Carried
CL/25/80

Recommended Reason
As per the trust deed, Stratford District Council has the power to appoint trustees to the Percy Thomson Trust. This recommendation enables the exercising of this power and intends to meet the Council's obligations to the trust to ensure that collectively the trustees hold the right range of experience and skills.

Recommendation

THAT the open meeting resume.

VOLZKE/BECK
Carried
CL/25/81

12. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 212

The closing karakia was read.

The meeting closed at 5.18pm.

N C Volzke
Chairman

Confirmed this 9th day of September 2025

N C Volzke
District Mayor

MINUTES
Extraordinary

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

F22/55/05 – D25/32073

Date: Tuesday 26 August 2025 at 11.30am
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 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, two members of the media (Stratford and South and Taranaki Daily News) and four members of the public.

1. Welcome

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

The opening karakia was read.

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

2. Apologies

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

Recommendation

THAT the apology be received.

VOLZKE/BOYDE
Carried
CL/25/82

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 – Approval of Water Services Delivery Plan
D25/30331 Page 7

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/HARRIS
Carried
CL/25/83

Recommended Reason
As per earlier discussion with elected members, following community engagement and a decision on Council's direction forward regarding the delivery of water services for the Stratford District, it is a legislative requirement to submit a Water Services Delivery Plan by 3 September 2025 to the Department of Internal Affairs**.**

The Chief Executive noted the following points:

- This document is the culmination of 5-6 years of work and this is the furthest along these reforms have gotten. This is one of the last two steps in the process – council adopting the plan is a legislative requirement and then the Chief Executive is required to authorise and sign confirming the accuracy of information used. It will then be submitted by 3 September.
- It was noted that council was requested to submit a copy of the draft plan to DIA by 1 August as they were concerned about our fiscal ability, however due to the document being under financial and legal review we did not think it prudent to submit the document in its current form, therefore submission of the draft was delayed. Since it was submitted to DIA they have replied with a two page document stating that the overall draft plan provides a comprehensive view of how council intends to deliver in-house water delivery and making comments and points they would like further illustrated in the data. There were also three questions that have already been answered. He felt their response has given him faith that we can do what our community wants us to do.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- The District Mayor noted that even with the complexity of the reforms and the amount of detail required in the plan he had found it a straightforward read with common language and wording. He stated the plan addresses everything it needs to and there were good explanations of the criteria that we are required to meet. He felt very optimistic that the plan will be adopted by the DIA having been able to answer their queries. He commended the staff who have put this together and reiterated that this document was over 5 years worth of work.
- The Chief Executive clarified that the new positions stated in the document were identified as being required to run a standalone business unit and are additional roles. The organisation chart captures the additional and current roles to make one team. The cost of these roles has been captured in the total cost and is a key driver of the higher total cost.
- Mr Hanne clarified that the $50 million allocated for waste water services was not in the spreadsheet as it fell outside of the 10 year period (being in Year 12 and 13 of the LTP), however it would have been disingenuous not to have included it as part of the bigger picture with this delivery plan. He noted that they have actively talked about flattening this spike in the lead up to the renewal of the resource consent and also that this budget was based on current legislation and could change depending on what is expected of council. This will need to be reconsidered every three years on what is the right timeframe and associated costs with it. It was acknowledged there are significant reforms underway for resource management but the impact it could have on this is unclear.
- Councillor Boyde commended management and staff for the delivery of the plan. He noted this highlighted the proactiveness of this council and why an inhouse model is miles ahead of a regional model for Stratford.
- Councillor Hall questioned why the Director – Environmental Services was not included in the steering group under the governance structure? Mr Hanne clarified that as a regulatory manager this position wears multiple hats, therefore removing conflicts of interest was one the

drivers to not including this role. He also noted the purpose of the group was to focus on change management, decision making and risk modelling rather than the environmental delivery.
- Councillor Hall noted she struggled to understand the concerns by central government over the model that has been chosen as the financial modelling clearly states this is a viable option. She asked if elected members should hold concerns over the viability of this decision? Mr Hanne noted there are a couple of graphs that show council getting close to their borrowing limits but there has been a bit of work to ensure those financial events are delivered within a suitable timeframe/window. The plan has used worst case scenarios so there is plenty of room for it to be a less significant event. Conversations with Iwi will also form a large part of this and how potential works resonate with Iwi and Fish and Game. Officers have also looked at earlier debt repayment to stay back from the limits.
- Councillor Harris noted her concern regarding the cost to the consumer and the perception that an inhouse model was going to be business as usual. She reiterated the fact that whatever model is chosen it is going to cost more to produce water. She asked what the process would be to charge per SUIP instead of each connection? Mr Hanne confirmed this would be an Annual Plan or Long Term Plan conversation but would also depend on the tariff discussions and whether council charges one fee regardless of how many SUIPS are on a piece of land or will it be per SUIP. He noted there could be the situation with multiple dwellings independent from each other being serviced by one water meter, this isn’t fair and does not drive the conservation elements that council is trying to achieve. He confirmed the consideration of the rating base changes had been factored into the modelling.
- It was clarified that the stormwater targeted rate would be instead of the UAGC stormwater component.
- The District Mayor noted that it was important for everyone to understand that regardless of the model it will cost more. The net expenditure across the system is significantly increased under both an inhouse and a regional model and this is not a saving compared to the current rate it is a saving against the other model presented.
- Councillor Beck congratulated staff and felt the document was set out so well that the general public can read and understand it. He asked if the 500% borrowing was just for water? Mr Hanne clarified that this was the legal borrowing capacity the government had set for CCO borrowing so have used this measure as an indicator despite not going down the CCO route.
- The Deputy Mayor asked for comment on any other communication with DIA noting it was noted on page 13 that it had been reviewed and no issues had been identified to date. Mr Hanne clarified that this was an earlier review that the DIA had undertaken and was less formal – they did not identify anything material at the time. He noted they had received the letter regarding their concern about sustainability and then the feedback on the draft last week. Having responded to their core questions we have since had appreciation noted for turning those around so quickly.
- Mr Hanne noted the resolution allows for editorial amendments and non-material changes if required.
- Councillor Erwood acknowledged he hard work of the staff on this and the community for having gotten involved and given their feedback. He questioned the 2025 adoption date on Page 10, 4.5.1 and Mr Hanne confirmed he would check this date.

Recommendations

2. THAT Council approves the Water Services Delivery Plan included in this report.

3. THAT Council authorises the Chief Executive to make any minor amendments, adjustments or editorial changes to the approved Water Services Delivery Plan, provided such changes do not materially alter the intent, scope or outcomes of the Plan prior to submission for approval or during any subsequent engagement with central government.

4. THAT Council Instruct the Chief Executive to submit the Water Services Delivery Plan to the Department of Internal Affairs for Approval by 3 September 2025.

BOYDE/HALL
Carried
CL/25/84

Recommended Reason
As per earlier discussion with elected members, following community engagement and a decision on Council's direction forward regarding the delivery of water services for the Stratford District, it is a legislative requirement to submit a Water Services Delivery Plan by 3 September 2025 to the Department of Internal Affairs.

7. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 97

The closing karakia was read.

The meeting closed at 12.07pm

N C Volzke
Chairman

Confirmed this 9th day of September 2025.

N C Volzke
District Mayor

MINUTES
Policy and Services Committee

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

F22/55/05 – D25/32082

Date: Tuesday 26 August 2025 at 1.00pm
Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

To hear and consider submissions to the

- **Draft Victoria Park Reserve Management Plan (Croquet Club Proposal and Action Plan)**

Present

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

In attendance

The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Director – Assets – Mrs V Araba, the Director – Environmental Services – Mr B Sutherland, the Director – Corporate Services – Mrs R Johnson, the Director – Community Services – Ms K Whareaitu, the Committee Advisor and Executive Assistant – Mrs E Bishop, the Communications Manager – Ms G Gibson, the Parks and Reserves Officer – Mrs M McBain, 8 members of the public (throughout the duration of the meeting) and one member of the media (Stratford and South).

1. Welcome

The opening karakia was read.

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

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

2. Apologies

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

Recommendation

THAT the apology be received.

McKAY/HARRIS
Carried
P&S/25/116

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.

The Deputy Mayor declared a conflict of interest in Item 6 and 7 relating to the Stratford Croquet Club submission.

5. Attendance Schedule

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

Recommendation

THAT the District Mayor preside as chair for this meeting.

McKAY/BOYDE
Carried
P&S/25/117

The Deputy Mayor vacated the chair and left the table at 1.02pm. The District Mayor stepped into the position of chair.

6. Acknowledgement of Submissions

Submissions – Pages 30-121

Attached are the 82 submissions received to the draft Victoria Park Reserve Management Plan

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.

HARRIS/DUDLEY
Carried
P&S/25/118

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

Due to oral submitters not being in attendance the meeting was adjourned at 1.05pm and reconvened at 1.21pm.

It was agreed to review the written submissions while waiting for speakers to arrive.

- The District Mayor clarified that the Reserve Management Plan had been approved at the previous meeting with the decision on the green space next to the bike park being withheld due to the request to relocate the Croquet Club there.

7. Submitters To Be Heard

There were 10 submitters wishing to speak. Three withdrew their request prior to the agenda being printed.

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

Submission #	Name
15	Lynette Fray
Did not attend.	
21	Nick Edwards
Submitted an apology.	

62	Bruce Jamieson

Points noted in presentation:

- Mr Jamieson noted he was speaking today as a representative, and chairman of the New Plymouth Model Engineers in New Plymouth as well as a resident of Stratford.
- He noted the land that has the model steam engines on it in New Plymouth is parks and reserves land and that they have been there in excess of 70 years. The club itself is under the direction of a national governing body M.E.A.N.Z who is under the control of the Labour Department in the Amusement Devices section.
- All the locomotives and tracks have regular inspections as they carry passengers and all drivers have current licenses to operate the different types of locomotives.
- The track in New Plymouth requires very little to no maintenance each year, he noted that some work had been required recently due to subsidence issues.
- He asked the council to consider the possibility of putting a model train track around the outside of the green space. The track would be at ground level so would not hinder users of the park or mowers. There are approximately 12 locomotives that cannot run in New Plymouth because of the gauge of the track so he would propose a 7 ¼ track. The closest track for these engineers to use is Kapiti, Hamilton or Cambridge.
- He reiterated the proposal was not to use the whole paddock but just the outside edge with a permanent train track.
- He noted that no costings had been done for this project but it would involve some form of grants or sponsorship.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Mr Jamieson clarified that he would be looking to run a Stratford track in conjunction with the one in New Plymouth and not as an alternative.
- Councillor Dudley noted she loved this idea and asked if it could go bigger and not just the green space, perhaps around the lake? Mr Jamieson noted that they liked the idea of it being in conjunction with the kids part of the park but it is also for adults and it would be neat to go through the bush by the lake.
- Councillor Dudley asked how often the trains would be running? Mr Jamieson stated that they run every Sunday afternoon in New Plymouth (12 to 4pm) and for a full week at night when the Festival of Lights is on. There are also gala days for down syndrome kids once a year. There are no restrictions on how often they run. He would anticipate a Stratford track running a minimum of once a week.
- Mr Jamieson clarified that the track would be about a metre in width so the basic grass area will be as it is now.
- Councillor Sandford asked if the group would be open to an alternative location? Mr Jamieson noted they would be open to anything. Councillor Sandford felt this was a wonderful opportunity for Stratford.
- Councillor Jones noted that as this decision today was if the croquet club could be relocated, if they were how would that impact this? Mr Jamieson noted they would have no issue with anyone in there as the track would only be around the outside. Councillor Jones requested that Mr Jamieson be advised of how to get this proposal into a plan.
- Councillor Erwood asked if they would require any buildings or structures such as potential stations? Mr Jamieson noted it would be nice but it is not imperative to do it but if they did they would need to keep in with what is at that space. Councillor Erwood suggested a good alternative option could be the space where the old pool was.

46	Joanne Lourie

Points noted in presentation:

- She noted that she had discussed putting in a submission with her daughters and as a whānau had discussed what they would really like in the area.
- She noted Stratford was lacking exercise equipment, there is play equipment for younger kids but we are an aging community.
- There are young people moving in from all over New Zealand and something like exercise machines can help with the mind and body and could be used by people of all ages.
- They also considered a proposal for a dog park. This could have small, young dogs in the morning and afternoon bigger dogs. All dogs would need to be de-sexed, microchipped and vaccinated and access could be given via a key when registrations are paid.
- The exercise area could also be accessed by those who are disabled, for example the students at Stratford High School could be brought down to use it for wellness. Being accessible to the playground area is also beneficial for families.

- Older people don't like walking by themselves around the three bridges trail as it can be slippery so in a safe and secure space like this they wouldn't have to worry. If you owned a dog you could bring them here and know you are safe and secure.
- She noted there was funding available through Te Manawa, Sport Taranaki, that could assist with this as well.

67	Nathan McDonald Stratford Eltham Rugby Sports Club		

Points noted in presentation:
- Mr McDonald noted they would like to see this stay as a green space as it takes the pressure of the main Victoria Park fields.
- If there are two games on at once then there is limited green space for teams to warm up safely. He noted it is looking highly possible that the club will have a women's team next year so there will be another team under the umbrella as well.
- He noted the train track proposed would not impact the club's needs as it would be around the outside. Exercise equipment would not take up the whole area either.
- He noted he lives in this area of town and drives past each day and sees the families and kids using this area.

Questions/Points of Clarification:
- The District Mayor noted that one of the factors of the additional consultation was needing to know the reliance that rugby has on this area. If they didn't have this option would trainings and warm ups need to happen elsewhere? Mr McDonald noted that when there are two games on at Victoria Park and there are spectators and kids then having 25 adults warming up is not safe, if there is another team this year then we will need more area to warm up on.

74	Nicole Watson	107	1.35pm

Did not attend.

81	Heather Sturgeon & Heather Grant Stratford Croquet Club	81	1.40pm

Points noted in presentation:
- The loss of President Eileen Judd last month was acknowledged, it is a big loss to the club and to the sport nationally.
- After no one else had put in a submission for this area, help was sought from the local MP to put this together. As a club they felt they have done everything that qualifies them as a sports club and feel they are being penalised for a decision made by club members who had been offered other land.
- They acknowledged the rugby club needs a warm up area but noticed they had not put in a submission on this at the time and it was frustrating that the Mayor said he would have to check with the rugby club.
- It was noted that the club had now amalgamated with North Taranaki so are now known as the Taranaki Association.
- Croquet is for the young and the young at heart, seven sharp interviewed a gentleman who is still playing and getting records at 101!
- It would be good to have 3-4 lawns to be able to have secondary school tournaments. It was noted there is an U21 tournament being held in New Plymouth this year.
- The Taranaki Masters tournaments are held between Inglewood and Stratford but are lminited to 16 players because of the lawns so it is not a very good tournament.
- They do not have enough lawns and would appreciate help from council to do this.

Questions/Points of Clarification:
- It was clarified the club has over 30 registered members now.
- Councillor Boyde asked if the club had spoken to the A&P Association about using land up there? They noted that apparently land has been offered to the club that the other members were not aware of and they felt that was a decision that they are now being penalised for, no one was aware that they had been offered the old swimming pool site. They felt those decisions had been made with a lack of knowledge for resources and grants that are available. The District Mayor offered to organise a meeting between the club an council representatives to give them a bit of background to previous discussions. They confirmed they were open to other spaces being considered but that the lawn could not be a shared space due to the sensitivity of the lawn area – similar to a bowling green.

- It was clarified that a game goes for 40 minutes to an hour and they open the lawns at 9am and finish at 3.30pm for three days a week. Tournaments can also take from 2.5 – 3 hours for a game.

It was noted that throughout the written submissions there were some common themes including splash pad areas, a dog park area, community gardens, exercise equipment and leaving it like it is.

8. Decision Report – Addendum to Victoria Park Reserve Management Plan Hearing and Deliberation – Croquet Proposal and Action Plan.

D25/30566 Page 9

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

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received

VOLZKE/BOYDE
Carried
P&S/25/119

2. THAT the Committee approves **Option 1** of this report as the preferred option for the Croquet Club Proposal, being Do Nothing - Leave the Green Space as is.

BOYDE/BECK
Carried
P&S/25/120

Recommended Reasons

In response to submissions received, consultation was extended to seek further feedback on the use of one section of Victoria Park, being the Green Space at Victoria Park (corner of Regan and Cordelia Streets). Recommendations are based on the submissions received. Clarification sought to the Action Plan has been included in the revised Victoria Park Reserve Management Plan attached.

The Parks and Reserves Officer noted that on page 63 and page 165, Action 33 (New Dirt Jump in green space) would be removed as per previous instruction at the hearing.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Beck noted that under the current circumstances he did not want to see the croquet club use that whole space. He noted he had spoken to a member of the club who did not want to see the green space disappear either. He felt they could utilise the greens they have far better than they are and would be voting to keep this area a green space.
- Councillor Boyde noted he supported the recommendation to keep it as a green space. He has sympathy for the club and thinks its important to offer the new elected council a chance to have a state of the nation discussion. It was very clear from the submissions that 2% supported the croquet move but that 46% wanted it to stay as a green space.
- Councillor Watt was supportive of the croquet club moving their fields as it would be really good for us to gain use of the current location. He just didn't think this was the right piece of land and that they should keep looking for the piece of land that will be the one.

Points noted in discussion:

- Councillor Hall noted the consultation document asked what you want to see in the green space not do you want the croquet club there. Only 2% said they wanted the croquet club but others offered ideas that could be used. The croquet club are looking for a solution to their issues and there could be alternative spaces that have been explored before. She noted she felt really inspired by the ideas shared by the community and will be supporting leaving it as a green space for now.
- The District Mayor noted that it is really important that the feedback received is considered for future decisions and ideas.

- The District Mayor requested that the Community Development team engage with the Croquet Club to help with a process that could lead to another venue.

Recommendations

3. THAT the Committee approves the changes made to the Action Plan in the Victoria Park Reserve Management Plan in Section 7 including:

   - This revised introduction: *Although the following actions do not represent a financial commitment by the Council, they have been approved in principle under the Reserves Act 1977 and remain subject to further consideration and deliberation through future Annual and Long-Term Plan processes;*
   - Deletion of existing #22: *Create new croquet greens and clubrooms in empty Green Space*; and
   - Inclusion of new #24: *Exploring the installation of a crossing between Victoria Park and the Rugby Clubrooms*

DUDLEY/HARRIS
Carried
P&S/25/121

9. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 170

The closing karakia was read.

The meeting closed at 2.24pm.

M McKay
Chairman

Confirmed this 23rd day of September 2025.

N C Volzke
District Mayor

MINUTES
Policy and Services Committee

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

F22/55/05 – D25/32082

Date: Tuesday 26 August 2025 at 3.00pm
Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

Present

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

In attendance

The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Director – Assets – Mrs V Araba, the Director – Environmental Services – Mr B Sutherland, the Director – Corporate Services – Mrs R Johnson, the Director – Community Services – Ms K Whareaitu, the Committee Advisor and Executive Assistant – Mrs E Bishop, the Communications Manager – Ms G Gibson, the Parks and Reserves Officer – Mrs M McBain (*part meeting),* the Environmental Health Manager – Ms R Otter (*part meeting),* the Property Officer – Mrs R Reader (*part meeting),* the Policy Analyst – Mrs R Dearden, the Roading Manager – Mr S Bowden, the Corporate Accountant – Mrs C Craig (*part meeting),* one member of the public and one member of the media (Stratford and South).

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 and staff.

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

2. Apologies

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

Recommendation

THAT the apology be received.

WATT/HARRIS
Carried
P&S/25/116

3. Announcements

The Chief Executive noted a tabled item would be included as part of 14.1 Assets Report, this required a decision from the committee regarding the use of the farm surplus. The information regarding this decision and options for consideration had been pre-circulated to elected members.

4. Declarations of members interest

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

Councillor Harris – Item 11 (Management of Domains Policy)

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 – 22 July 2025
D25/26562 Page 12

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 22 July 2025 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

BOYDE/DUDLEY
Carried
P&S/25/117

7. Matters Outstanding
D16/47 Page 20

Recommendation

THAT the Matters Outstanding be received.

HALL/DUDLEY
Carried
P&S/25/118

8. Information Report – Dog Control Policy and Practices Report – Year Ended 30 June 2025
D25/25488 Page 21

Recommendation

THAT the Annual Report on Dog Control Policy and Practices for the year ending 30 June 2025 be received and contents noted.

HALL/HARRIS
Carried
P&S/25/119

Recommended Reason
The report is required under section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- It was clarified that the figures are annual numbers which are reported to the DIA on an annual basis.
- Ms Otter noted that infringements are sent out if dogs are not registered on time, however officers are able to consider waivers for these, particularly if it is a first offence.
- Ms Otter clarified that dog attacks on people are separately reported to attacks on stock and other animals. She noted that some attacks can have no substantial evidence to take enforcement action and others can be dealt by way of warning letters, infringements or education depending on the issue.
- Councillor Harris noted there are 44 less dogs registered this year, however the infringements, court actions and general incidents that require officer time are more resulting in less registration and less revenue but costing the same if not more. She asked if there was any indication why there are less dogs registered? Ms Otter noted that the reason is unknown but there are some that have been reported as deceased, others who have moved district and/or changed owners. Officers actively monitor in the district for unregistered dogs. It was noted a high number of dogs impounded are not registered, however they are not released until they are registered.

9. Information Report – Stratford District Licensing Committee – 2024/25 Annual Report

D25/15081 Page 25

Recommendations

1. THAT the Annual Report for Stratford District Licensing Committee for 2024/2025 be received and contents noted.

BOYDE/BECK
Carried
P&S/25/120

2. THAT, subject to any amendments, the Annual Report will be forwarded to the Alcohol Regulatory and Licensing Authority.

ERWOOD/HALL
Carried
P&S/25/121

Recommended Reason
The report is required to be prepared by the Stratford District Licensing Committee as part of its duties under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

The Environmental Health Manager noted that at the previous Policy and Services Committee meeting there had been a question regarding the annual license fees and due dates. She noted that these fees are prescribed by legislation and are due on the anniversary date of an alcohol license every year and if not paid on time the license can be suspended and the premises has to stop operating. She noted this date is on the invoices but she has amended the template to ensure that the date is clearly visible.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Ms Otter clarified that there is significant data requested from agencies to present a report for viability for a regional Local Alcohol Policy and South Taranaki District Council are still collating this as well as the social impact statement. They will be taking a draft policy to their council at a later date and specific consultation is required by legislation for this. She confirmed that South Taranaki were still actively involved in the process to form a regional policy.

Decision Report – Resource Management Act Delegations

D25/30306 Page 32

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

McKAY/HARRIS
Carried
P&S/25/122

2. THAT authority under sections 87E, 87F and 87G of the Resource Management Act 1991 relating to requests for an application for resource consent to be referred directly to the Environment Court for consideration be delegated to the Director – Environmental Services.

HALL/BECK
Carried
P&S/25/123

Recommended Reason
Delegation to the Director – Environmental Services would consolidate decision-making on resource consenting matters with the same position and would be more efficient.

The Director - Environmental Services noted the process for direct referral has been around for a number of years and allows an applicant to request to go directly to the environment court for resource consents. Council has not had a request before but there is a current application that direct referral may be requested for. This report gives staff direct delegation to take the three actions required if this occurs.

The Corporate Accountant joined the meeting at 3.17pm.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- It was clarified that direct referral does speed up the process and there may be benefits for an applicant to request it. Without staff delegation a decision would need to come back to council which could impact legislative timeframes.
- It was clarified there had been no decisions made around notification for this application at this point and that direct referral has no impact on ability to make submissions as the direct referral process relates to matters that take place after the submission period.
- It was noted that with any delegated authority there is a risk and responsibility with that, however direct delegation to the Director – Environmental Services would see the authority sit with the best skill sets for these decisions.
- It was clarified that delegating authority to staff is not uncommon and is a normal practice. Being subject to legislative timeframes would make it difficult for decisions to be made by elected members. The structure of delegations under the Resource Management Act is very different to other acts. The Chief Executive noted that the delegation policy delegates hundreds of powers given by legislation to council to the Chief Executive or staff.

10. Decision Report – Policy Reviews – August 2025

D25/30152 Page 37

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

HARRIS/DUDLEY
Carried
P&S/25/124

2. THAT the following updated policies, being the:

   1. Community Archives Policy

   BOYDE/DUDLEY
   Carried
   P&S/25/125

   2. Privacy Policy

   ERWOOD/WATT
   Carried
   P&S/25/126

   3. Allocation and Use of Sports Grounds Policy

   ERWOOD/BOYDE
   Carried
   P&S/25/127

   4. Management of Domains Policy

   BECK/SANDFORD
   Carried
   P&S/25/128

   be adopted.

Recommended Reason
This is part of council's rolling review of policies. Policies require review from time to time to ensure they still reflect current legislation and best practice, as well as elected members' views and meet the business needs of the organisation.

The Director – Corporate Services noted the focus of these updates had been around clarity, readability and meeting legislative requirements.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

Community Archives

- The District Mayor noted that clause 3.2 talks about exclusion of artworks and artifacts and asked if it was explicit enough to rule out the range of items that has previously been collected. Mr Hanne noted the wording of the policy is reasonably restricted to ensure council is holding items of relevance and not random objects. The other issue had been no clear transfer of ownership when these past items have been collected and this policy is clear for the ownership transfer and council not taking responsibility for the future keep of those items.
- Councillor Sandford noted that council currently doesn't have the power to get rid of the items it is currently holding, and asked if there was a way to make a call on the future of these items? Mr Hanne noted the key achievement at this stage would be not letting this collection grow.
- Councillor Harris noted there had been an incident recently where a club wanted to withdraw their records to display at their centenary event and have held onto these items due to the process of withdrawing them. She questioned if clubs can withdraw items and have the ability to return them to council? It was noted that any items withdrawn would be assessed under the new policy for resubmitting.

Privacy Policy

- The District Mayor noted Police had requested an agreement where they can seek information to help an investigation where we have CCTV cameras the footage would be readily available to them without obtaining a production order first. He asked if the policy allowed for that? Mr Hanne noted that where council releases information that identifies people or has identifiable elements then council does need to consider privacy whether it be to the police or to anyone else. The process discussed with the police is not hindered by this policy but we are still required to consider how we could be breeching or impacting privacy by sharing the information and the policy states what needs to be considered.
- Councillor Beck noted he was supportive of the police receiving the information but would like to see them obtain the production order to access it. Councillor Erwood noted a production order requires time and paperwork to obtain and he believed an agreement with police should be entered into. The Deputy Mayor reiterated that this policy does not hinder working with police it just clarifies what needs to be considered.
- Mr Hanne clarified that the public cameras were operated by the Central Taranaki Safe Trust, this policy was regarding the Council Administration Building, Wai o Rua, Library, Cemetery and body worn cameras.

Sports Grounds

- Councillor Jones asked if there was a notification for sports clubs in terms of ground closures? The Parks and Reserves Officer noted that the conversation around ground closure is held with council officers, contractors and the sports clubs.

Councillor Harris left the table at 3.45pm while Management of Domains Policy recommendation was taken. There was no discussion on this policy. She returned at 3.45pm.

11. Decision Report – Request for Budget Reallocation – Solid Waste

D25/31011 Page 52

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

BOYDE/McKAY
Carried
P&S/25/129

2. THAT the Committee approves the budget reallocation of $15,423

from:

- Year 1 Mobile events waste bin and trailer underspend of $5,213; and
- Year 2 Mobile events waste bin and trailer budget of $10,210.

to:

- Year 2 - Permanent Recycling Station

3. THAT the Committee approves the reallocated funds of $15,423 be changed from loan funded to grant funded to enable access of funding from the Waste Levy Fund.

HARRIS/HALL
Carried
P&S/25/130

Recommended Reason

Officers consider that the purchase of additional mobile events trailers is not currently needed and that the procurement of proposed permanent recycling stations will deliver better recycling outcomes for the rural community, while supporting the achievement of the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) 2023 – 2029 targets.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- The District Mayor noted this was transferring the expenditure from a mobile transfer unit to a permanent base and changing the funding source. He noted the cost of servicing one would be different to the other and asked if that had been considered? The Director – Assets noted that it is the intention that the first 4-5 of these will be located at schools and the schools will transfer the materials to the transfer station.
- It was clarified the transfer of funding source will not impact the annual amount allocated for grants from the Waste Levy fund.
- It was clarified that while these would be permanently located but the structure won't be permanent.
- The Deputy Mayor noted this was an awesome opportunity for rural areas to get access to funding for waste minimisation and asked for clarification on how the levy works and is allocated? Mrs Araba noted the waste levy was a portion of what has been paid for the urban collection, the rural community contributes towards this through items taken to the transfer station.

12. Decision Report – Carry Forward Capital Projects from 2024/25 to 2025/26

D25/29884 Page 68

Recommendations

1. THAT the report and attached schedule be received.

ERWOOD/WATT
Carried
P&S/25/131

2. THAT the schedule of uncompleted projects, budgeted for in 2024/25, and the amounts proposed, be approved for addition to the capital expenditure budget for 2025/26 in the re-forecasted capital budget, with any amendments made as decided by elected members.

BOYDE/HALL
Carried
P&S/25/132

Recommended Reason
To seek approval for capital projects that were budgeted for in the previous financial year, to be carried forward to 2025/26.

The Director – Corporate Services noted the following points:

- This request is to carry over the budgets for the capital items not finished last financial year.
- There is quite a significant carry-over last year which is largely attributable to the large scale of the projects and the amount of planning required for these.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Boyde asked if council was over committing and under delivering and if it was under resourced. He noted that projects like Local Water Done Well take people away from projects and if council was genuinely able to deliver these projects with all the other things happening in the background? Mrs Araba noted there were critical projects taken on this year that have required extensive planning and design which has taken a lot of time. The subdivision has been delayed by the requirements in legislation meaning a lot of extra tasks were required before going out to tender. She acknowledged that the work with the water services delivery plan had impacted workloads as well. Mr Hanne noted that legislative changes do delay projects with the subdivision being an example of this, when the land was purchased there were different rules in place and with the changes two years were lost determining what was a wetland or not. The Grit Tank looks simple but dealing with Geotech and historic designs have delayed this. He noted council had recently lost a very experienced project manager and were in the process of filling this vacancy, an additional resource will also be employed to double the project capacity over the next 12 months.
- The District Mayor noted that the funds are allocated in anticipation they will be spent and then every year it gets delayed there is a ripple effect of workload and the risk the costs of the project increase and then the budget is not enough.
- It was clarified that total projects completed were closer to 77%. The previous highest achievement for this was in the low eighties.
- Councillor Hall noted elected members had asked during the LTP process if council had the resource to deliver on these projects. She noted her concern around efficiencies when local government is under pressure and felt 55% did not look efficient in being able to complete projects. Elected members need to be realistic at LTP time or resource it better. If the resource is needed then that is a conversation needed around the table. Mr Hanne clarified that this only means it was 55% of the budget for that year and that council is delivering 100% of what is planned but that the 55% was in the original timeframe. He noted that for the key projects on this list it was not capacity but legislation change that required additional skillsets with specialised consultants.
- Councillor Jones felt that it should be reflected in the report that close to 80% of the projects are completed to give balance. He questioned the carryover for the public toilets as they were marked as complete, the Property and Projects Manager noted that this should be zero. It was clarified that the budgets have been slightly adjusted from the LTP budgets during the Annual Plan process.
- Councillor Beck asked if Option 2 should be considered to help council return to back to basics. The Deputy Mayor noted that these projects have been consulted on during the Annual Plan and Long Term Plan processes. The District Mayor confirmed that during the Annual Plan or Long Term Plan discussions is the next opportunity to debate the merit of a project and/or remove some.

13. Monthly Reports

14.1 Assets Report
D25/29660 Page 83

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

BOYDE/McKAY
Carried
P&S/25/133

Questions/Points of Clarification:
- Councillor Boyde noted that it is indicated that council could be looking at needing to allocate $316,000 from Fonterra selling consumer business shares following a vote in November. Council needs to be aware of the debt levels when considering this.
- It was confirmed that the vacant unit at the Housing for the Elderly will be filled in September. The Property Officer noted that she had phoned seven people, written to one and could not contact four on the list. Two have asked to be removed from the list and the others will go to the bottom of the list. There are currently 34 on the list and this was last reviewed earlier in the year with all people being contacted to see if they want to remain on the list. Moving those who decline a current vacancy to the bottom of the list is in line with the policy.
- Councillor Boyde asked if the changes expected from Road Controlling Authorities was opening council up for liability and risk? The Roading Manager noted that NZTA have introduced these new guidelines and the risk sits with the contractor so they need to take a risk based approach. This is driven by the Minister to reduce costs in temporary traffic management and may mean closing roads for works but then that pushes the risk onto the side roads.
- Councillor Beck asked if there was a cost known for the cleanup after the July weather event. Mr Bowden clarified that $450k was spent in July for cleaning up, there was an additional $75k spent in August due to flooding and that we need to take stock of what else needs to be done which will be based on individual situations. A tentative work programme of $2 million has been submitted to NZTA.
- Councillor Sandford requested the cost of clearing snow on the two special roads up the Mountain. Mr Bowden would provide this when the contractors claim is received.
- It was clarified that the additional 315 SUIPs identified for the water meter installation were properties identified that require more than one water meter.
- Councillor Boyde noted the final design for stormwater work at Victoria Park is nearing completion, he noted there had been no reported issues over the last two rugby seasons and questioned if the work was still required. It was noted that officers were liaising with the users in regards to the need and it would be an elected member decision if we go away from what the Long Term Plan states. The District Mayor noted he had visited the fields after heavy rain and while the fields were relatively dry there was only a trickle coming out of the pipe.

The Parks and Reserves Officer left the meeting at 4.33pm.

- The Chief Executive tabled options for a decision for the allocation of the surplus from the council farm of which there is $152k currently not allocated. He noted that $74,000 is allocated for debt repayment and council could decide to put more into the loan repayment, all into reserves and use for rate mitigation or other work, or a split between the two. The officer recommendation is to put it all against the loan.
- Councillor Boyde supported the recommendation of servicing it all off the loan.
- Councillor Hall noted the environment with members of the public saying no more rates rises and having money for consideration for rates offsets is a good balance. She was supportive of Option B to pay off some debt and put some in the reserve.
- It was noted the Farm Surplus reserve currently had around $60k in it.
- Councillor Jones noted the reserve had been created to give flexibility to decide what we want to do. He felt it should be put in there and discussed at a later date.
- The District Mayor noted that putting it in the reserve enables a discussion at the Annual Plan next year and it could be used for rate mitigation or held in the reserve for longer. The intention had been to build up the reserve and holding the funds would create some interest. Paying off a

lump sum of the debt benefits the future generations but not the current generation. The farms main purpose is rate mitigation and that needs to be kept in perspective.
- Councillor Boyde noted that it was important to reduce debt and that we can't keep putting the money in the reserve because the rates are too high.

Recommendation

THAT the farm surplus of $152k be used for Option B – Increase the Loan Repayment to $174k (being the $74k of capital projects loan funded in 2024/25, plus an additional one-off $100k repayment) and putting the remaining $55k into reserve for future use.

BECK/No Seconder
Motion lapsed

Recommendation

THAT the farm surplus of $152k be used for Option A – Put the $152k into reserve for future use (rates mitigation, loan offset) and don't do any additional loan repayment.

HALL/ERWOOD
Division
For 6
Against 5
Carried
P&S/25/134

Points noted in discussion:
- Councillor Erwood felt this was a big decision at short notice and putting it into the reserves gives us time to think of the best use in the future.
- Councillor Watt agreed with Option A as long as the interest from the reserve is higher than the interest on the loan. It was confirmed it was currently 3.6% for borrowing and 4.7% for term deposits.
- Councillor Harris supported the motion. This will give the new council some insight on how it is used.
- The Deputy Mayor noted she did not support the motion. Every single year council has taken money from the farm for rate mitigation and she felt elected members had increased expectations on rate mitigation from the farm. At the time the decision is made on using the reserve then the added pressure of reducing rates during the Annual Plan will mean it won't be a clear decision on the use of the funds.

A division was called:

Those voting for the motion: Councillors: Erwood, Hall, Harris, Jones, Watt and the District Mayor.

Those voting against the motion: Councillors: Beck, Boyde, Dudley, Sandford and the Deputy Mayor.

The Property Officer left the meeting at 4.56pm.

14.2 Community Services Report
D25/29319 Page 107

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

DUDLEY/BECK
Carried
P&S/25/135

Questions/Points of Clarification:
- The District Mayor noted that the national targets of the MTFJ requires 68 people a month as a running total with the expectation we would now be at 130, when the actual is actually 58. There are also a good number of councils who have zero referrals from MSD. Stratford has had 7 referrals and 4 placements but these don't become official until they have been in the role for 5 months. MSD are not fulfilling their part in referring people to the programme.
- Councillor Boyde noted that there were 15 teams here for a week hockey tournament. Accommodation is booked out in Stratford.

Councillors Harris and Jones left the meeting at 5.00pm.

14.3 Corporate Services Report
D25/29484 Page 117

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

WATT/McKAY
Carried
P&S/25/136

The Director – Corporate Services noted that the weather event has had a negative impact on the start of the year but it is hoped to get some relief from NZTA for this. She noted there had been a significant landowner that has gone into receivership and it will take some time to get that money.

Questions/Points of Clarification:
- Councillor Dudley noted there was a petition in New Zealand telling businesses not to pay the MPI food levy which is collected by council on behalf of MPI.
- Councillor Hall noted the update on Avian Flu and the impact it may have on our communities, she asked how those involved were feeling we were placed to respond to this? Mrs Johnson noted there wasn't a public health concern at the moment it was about the disposal of the birds and we are working together with other councils on how we can do that. Mr Hanne clarified council was only responsible for birds in a public place such as parks.
- It was noted that the Stratford A&P Association loan is coming up for renewal in December, while there hasn't been any indication of this being repaid they are considering the interest rate options and have been actively engaged with us in the last few months.
- Councillor Beck asked if the subdivision was on track for being a break even project, Mrs Araba noted this could not be answered until a final plan and scope is completed.

14.4 Environmental Services Report
D25/26093 Page 134

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

HALL/BOYDE
Carried
P&S/25/137

14. Questions

There were no questions.

15. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 142

The closing karakia was read.

The meeting closed at 5.07pm.

M McKay
Chairman

Confirmed this 23rd day of September 2025.

N C Volzke
District Mayor

DECISION REPORT

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

F22/55/04 – D25/32914

To:	Council
From:	Committee Advisor and Executive Assistant
Date:	9 September 2025
Subject:	Delegation of Authority in the Interregnum Period

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

2. THAT the Chief Executive be delegated authority to make decisions in respect of urgent matters, in consultation with the Mayor elect, from the day following the Electoral Officer's declaration, until the new Council is sworn in.

3. THAT any decisions made under this short-term delegation be reported to the first ordinary meeting of the new Council.

Recommended Reason
Delegation of authority is required to formalise the decision-making arrangements for the period between the triennial election and the date that the Mayor and Councillors take the oath of office for the 2025-2028 term.

/
Moved/Seconded

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To formalise short-term delegation of authority to cover the period between the 2022-2025 and the 2025-2028 Councils.

2. Executive Summary

2.1 Neither outgoing or incoming elected members can act in their capacity as members of the Council from the day after the declaration of the electoral results until the new Council is sworn in at the first meeting of Council. Council needs to consider arrangements to ensure the effective and efficient conduct of the Council's business.

3. Local Government Act 2002 – Section 10

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

Urgent decision making could relate to any of the four wellbeings.

4. Background

4.1 Following the triennial election on Saturday 11 October 2025, and once all votes have been counted, the Electoral Officer will declare the result by public notice which will be published on Council's website. Officers expect the declaration to be made by Sunday 19 October, or as soon as is practicable.

4.2 Elected Members from the 2022-2025 term remain in office until the day the official result is declared. Successful candidates come into office the day after the declaration is made, however the incoming Mayor and Councillors are unable to act in a formal capacity until they have taken their oath of office at the inaugural meeting – likely to be Tuesday 28 October 2025

4.3 The period of time between the election and the inaugural meeting is referred to as the interregnum period – which means an interval or pause between two periods of office. Officers expect the interregnum period to be less than three weeks in duration.

5. Consultative Process

5.1 **Public Consultation - Section 82**

As an administrative matter no public consultation is required.

5.2 **Māori Consultation - Section 81**

As an administrative matter no separate consultation with māori is required.

6. Risk Analysis

6.1 There is no specific risk relating to the interregnum period on Council's risk register, however decision making for urgent matters could relate to a number the risk categories and depending on the decision required it could fall under Compliance and Legislation, Financial or Reputation and Conduct.

7. Sustainability Consideration

7.1 As this is an administrative matter it does not relate to the Sustainability Policy.

8. Decision Making Process – Section 79

8.1 **Direction**

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

8.2 **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?

Relevant key information is contained in the background section of this report.

Staff will assess any requests prior to exercising any delegations resulting from this decision for legislative compliance as well as actual urgency and need.

8.3 **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?	Yes	Urgent matters will require a decision in a timely manner.

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

8.4 **Options**

There are only two options for consideration:

Option 1 Delegate authority to the Chief Executive to make decisions in respect of urgent matters, in consultation with the Mayor elect.

Option 2 Do not delegate authority to the Chief Executive.

Option 1 is the preferred option to ensure continuation of services and the ability to react quickly in an urgent situation.

8.5 **Financial**

There are no financial implications arising from this decision. Any decisions will be made through the current funding allocation in the 2025/26 Annual Plan.

8.6 **Prioritisation & Trade-off**

This delegation, if approved, will result in providing the Chief Executive with a notably broader range of powers for a limited period of time – for the purposes of dealing with urgent matters.

8.7 **Legal Issues**

There are no legal issues associated with this decision as it is don't in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002 and the Local Electoral Act 2001.0

8.8 **Policy Issues - Section 80**

There are no policy issues associated with this decision.

Erin Bishop
Committee Advisor and Executive Assistant

[Approved by]
Sven Hanne
Chief Executive **Date** 2 September 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.

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