



Our reference
F19/13/03-D21/26182

19 February 2026

Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given that, in accordance with Standing Order 8.5, an **Extraordinary** Meeting of Council has been called for **2.30pm** on **Tuesday, 24 February 2026**, to adopt the Triennial Agreements. This meeting will be held in the **Council Chambers, Stratford District Council, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford**.

Additionally, the **Policy and Services** Meeting of Council will be held in the **Council Chambers, Stratford District Council, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford**, on **Tuesday 24 February 2026**, beginning at **3.00pm**.

Timetable for 24 February 2026 as follows:

2.30pm	Extraordinary Meeting of Council - Triennial Agreements
3.00pm	Policy and Services Committee

Yours faithfully

Sven Hanne
Chief Executive

2026 - Agenda - Extraordinary - February (Triennial Agreements)



24 February 2026 02:30 PM

Agenda Topic	Page
Notice of Meeting	1
Agenda	3
1. Welcome	4
1.1 Opening Karakia	4
1.2 Health and Safety Message	5
2. Apologies	
3. Announcements	
4. Declarations of Members Interest	
5. Attendance Schedule	6
6. Decision Report – Triennial Agreements	7
7. Closing Karakia	32

AGENDA

Extraordinary



F25/96/05 – D26/5223

Date: Tuesday 24 February 2026

Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

1. Welcome

1.1 Opening Karakia
D21/40748 Page 4

1.2 Health and Safety Message
D21/26210 Page 5

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 6

Attendance schedule for Ordinary and Extraordinary Council meetings.

6. **Decision Report – Triennial Agreements**
D26/710 Page 7

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.
2. THAT the District Mayor be authorised to sign the Triennial Agreement for the Taranaki Region on behalf of the Stratford District Council.
3. THAT the District Mayor be authorised to sign the Triennial Agreement for the Manawātū-Whanganui Region on behalf of the Stratford District Council.

Recommended Reason

The Stratford District Council is required to enter into Triennial Agreements for both regions and the proposed agreements are fit for purpose.

/
Moved/Seconded

7. **Closing Karakia**
D21/40748 Page 32



Our reference
F19/13/03-D21/40748

Karakia

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

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



Our reference
F19/13/03-D22/17082

Health and Safety Message

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

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

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

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

DECISION REPORT



F25/96/004 – D26/710

To: Council – Extraordinary Meeting
 From: Chief Executive
 Date: 24 February 2026
 Subject: Triennial Agreements

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.
2. THAT the District Mayor be authorised to sign the Triennial Agreement for the Taranaki Region on behalf of the Stratford District Council.
3. THAT the District Mayor be authorised to sign the Triennial Agreement for the Manawātū-Whanganui Region on behalf of the Stratford District Council.

Recommended Reason

The Stratford District Council is required to enter into Triennial Agreements for both regions and the proposed agreements are fit for purpose.

/
 Moved/Seconded

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to authorise the District Mayor to sign the triennial agreements for the Taranaki and Manawātū-Whanganui regions on behalf of the Stratford District Council.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 The existing triennial agreements have been reviewed by all councils covered by them and they are recommended for approval without alteration.

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:

The Triennial Agreement is an agreement that states how Councils will work together. It supports good quality decision making for the four well-beings on a regional basis.

Social	Economic	Environmental	Cultural
✓	✓	✓	✓

4. Background

- 4.1 The Local Government Act 2002 Section 15 requires every local authority within a region to enter into a Triennial Agreement. This agreement specifies how they intend to conduct themselves in their communications with each other and how they will co-ordinate any inter-jurisdictional activities. These agreements must be in place by 1 March immediately following each triennial election.
- 4.2 The current agreements were entered into in January 2023. Updated agreements have been provided by the Taranaki Regional Council and Horizons Regional Council. Feedback on the agreements has been provided and amendments made, as this was originally scheduled for the January P&S Committee. Should the Council see the need for amendments to the Triennial Agreement, the review process within the agreement would need to be activated.
- 4.3 The role of the Mayoral Forum to act as a voice for the region is acknowledged in the Triennial Agreement. The Forum can also play an important role in facilitating collaboration between the in areas, such as regional economic development, local government reform, transition to a low emissions future and strategic regional infrastructure and investment.
- 4.4 Given the level of change and wider reform affecting the local government sector it is likely that the Triennial Agreement and the regional leadership role provided by the Mayoral Forum will increase in importance over the term of the 2025 – 2028 triennium. As such it is seen as appropriate that the forum's role be formally recognized in the Triennial Agreement.
- 4.5 An explicit 'Principles' section has been included to guide how the parties will work together along with a more clearly defined disagreement resolution process which encourages the parties to try to resolve their differences before referring the matter to mediation.
- 4.6 The only other changes relate to the Taranaki Regional Council being the administrating authority and the dates in relation to the term of the agreement.
- 4.7 Once adopted by the Council, the agreement will be signed by the Mayor. It will then be returned to the Taranaki Regional Council who has the responsibility under paragraph 30 for servicing the agreement during the 2025-2028 term. This responsibility passes to the remaining local authorities alphabetically for each new term, unless agreed otherwise.

5. Consultative Process

5.1 Public Consultation - Section 82

There is no requirement for public consultation.

5.2 Māori Consultation - Section 81

There is no requirement for māori consultation as the act specifically identifies the councils within a region as the parties to a triennial agreement.

6. Risk Analysis

- 6.1 There is no specific risk arising from these agreements.

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?	No and this is not the objective of these agreements.
What relationship does it have to the communities current and future needs for infrastructure, regulatory functions, or local public services?	There is no direct link between these agreements and the communities current and future needs for infrastructure, regulatory functions, or local public services although the collaboration fostered within these agreements supports inter-regional collaboration.

7.2 Data

No additional information is sought or required in this matter.

7.3 Significance

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

It is a legal requirement for council to enter a triennial agreement for both of the regions that triennial agreements are presented for in this report. These have been collaboratively developed. Council could attempt to affect changes to either of these agreements, this would trigger the review provisions of the agreements and would require consensus from all councils to affect a change.

Option 1 To authorise the mayor the mayor to sign both triennial agreements

Option 2 Council to identify specific changes it seeks within either or both of the triennial agreements presented and instruct staff and or the mayor to attempt to give effect to these.

7.5 Financial

There are no direct financial implications arising from these agreements.

7.6 Prioritisation & Trade-off

These agreements are a legal requirement and have been in place previously. Therefore, there is no prioritisation or trade-off required.

7.7 Legal Issues

There are no inherent legal issues as long as council signs triennial agreements for both regions by 1 March 2023.

7.8 Policy Issues - Section 80

There are no inherent policy issues as long as council signs triennial agreements for both regions by 1 March 2026.

Attachments:

- Appendix 1** Taranaki Triennial Agreement
Appendix 2 Triennial Agreement Manawatū Whanganui Region



Sven Hanne
Chief Executive

Date 17 February 2026



Taranaki Triennial Agreement 2025-2028

Purpose

1. This Triennial Agreement represents an expression of the desire of local government in the Taranaki region to work collaboratively, to optimise efficiency and to promote the sustainable development of both the Taranaki region as a whole and its different communities.
2. To achieve these objectives this Agreement outlines ways in which the parties have agreed to work together to align their efforts in addressing significant issues in which the parties have a common interest and/or achieve a range of mutually beneficial outcomes for the region.

Background

3. Under the Local Government Act 2002, the purpose of local government is to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities, and to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future.
4. The Act recognises that local authorities should collaborate and cooperate with one another and a variety of other organisations to find solutions to local issues and promote the development of their local communities.
5. This Agreement is deemed to meet the requirements of section 15 of the Local Government Act 2002 to ensure appropriate levels of communication, co-ordination, and collaboration between local authorities within the region by including:
 - a) Principles that will guide the way in which the councils will work together and with other stakeholders
 - b) protocols for communication and co-ordination between the councils;
 - c) defining the role of the Mayoral Forum as a vehicle for leading implementation of this Agreement and in working with Government and other stakeholders on initiatives of significance to the Taranaki region
 - d) the process by which councils will comply with section 16 of the Act, which applies to significant new activities proposed by regional councils;
 - e) processes and protocols through which all councils can participate in identifying, delivering, and funding facilities and services of significance to more than one district.
6. The Agreement also incorporates formal recognition of the activities of the Taranaki Mayoral Forum and Chief Executives Forum.

Parties to the Agreement

7. The Parties to this Agreement are New Plymouth District Council (NPDC), Stratford District Council, South Taranaki District Council (STDC), and Taranaki Regional Council (TRC).

Standing Together for Taranaki

8. The Parties agree to work collaboratively and in good faith for the good governance and sustainable development of their districts and the region. In doing so, they agree that they will use the Mayoral Forum as a key vehicle for presenting a voice on behalf of the region, acting as a nexus between central and local government, facilitating collaboration across the region, in deciding on, monitoring, and evaluating, significant programmes of work that might be undertaken at a regional level.
9. Strengthened institutions, governance, partnership, and collaborative arrangements will be more important in the future and the Mayoral Forum can play a leading role in influencing how those arrangements are formed and activated. The region's councils cannot address significant challenges on their own, requiring coordinated regional responses.
10. They need to work together closely and with key partners, funders, and collaborators.
11. The Mayoral forum can and should play a role in convening partners and collaborators, and in coalescing resources to support regionally significant programmes of work that are adjacent to or outside business as usual for Councils but serve to promote development of the region in the present and for the future.
12. The Chief Executive Forum is an important group in orchestrating and supporting a) the implementation and progress reporting of this triennial agreement, b) regionally significant and strategic programmes of work, and c) regional representation where required for and on behalf of the Mayoral Forum, the region's councils and the local communities they serve.
13. Given the level of change affecting the Taranaki region and local government generally, the parties acknowledge the need to be agile and proactive on behalf of their communities in the next three years. They will also have to lay the ground for longer-term programmes of work that serve regional and national interests.

Principles

The parties agree to work in good faith together for the good governance of their local communities and the region. The parties recognise that:

- a) The communities within the region are diverse and encompass a range of desired outcomes
- b) Issues and concerns that are shared by some councils may be of little relevance to others. This Triennial Agreement therefore acknowledges that it may, from time to time, be appropriate to have sub-agreements that address more localised or sub-regional issues between and among councils or with other groups.
- c) Collaboration can aid in effective and efficient planning and encourage shared services and a collective approach to reduce costs, increase available resources, and help to make strategic judgements about the allocation of resources.
- d) Collaboration can assist councils promote outcomes consistent with the purpose of local government including the delivery of quality public services and infrastructure that support development of the region.
- e) There is a need for open communication, information sharing and seeking agreement on strategic issues.
- f) They should speak as one voice and in good faith attempt to reach unanimity on issues of regional and national significance which are critical to the wellbeing of the region and its communities.
- g) Common direction on all strategic issues may not be achieved given that each party to the agreement has functions, obligations, and rights to make decisions for their area which may conflict with the position of

other signatories to this agreement. In such circumstances the party should not, in adopting a different view, be critical of the position reached by others.

- h) Where a council(s) make (or propose to make) a decision that is significantly inconsistent with this Triennial Agreement or a previously agreed regional position, they will notify the other parties as soon as reasonably practical.
- i) Where appropriate aligning with and influencing Central Government policy is important to the delivery of good quality, cost effective infrastructure, public services, and regulatory functions to promote and enhance the wellbeing of our communities.
- j) The Mayoral Forum (and/or Chief Executives Forum) will play an active role negotiating with Central Government on common, agreed, positions on national policy that affect local government and their communities.

Communication and Coordination

- 14. Councils will work together on issues where it is agreed that the region will benefit from a collaborative approach.
- 15. When a council has a significant disagreement with the position of the others, the other councils will make every effort to accommodate, acknowledge or at least fairly represent the dissenting view.
- 16. When a significant decision or issue affects a particular council then that council should be consulted in formulating the region's response.
- 17. This Triennial Agreement acknowledges that each council has accountability to different communities.
- 18. Councils agree to act in good faith and in a transparent manner on issues of information and disclosure.
- 19. Councils should provide early notification of decisions that may affect other councils in the region. Communication protocols may be developed between Councils where it is agreed better communication is desired.
- 20. All formal public communications from Mayoral Forum meetings will be circulated to all councils for comment prior to release.
- 21. Councils will apply a 'no surprises' approach whereby early notice will be given over disagreements concerning policy or work programmes before critical public announcements are made.
- 22. If councils make decisions for their district/region that are inconsistent with the agreement, they must explicitly note that inconsistency and the reasons for it and notify the other councils that are parties to the agreement.

General Approach to Collaboration

- 23. The parties to this agreement will:
 - a) Share resources for the purpose of preparing background information on the various communities within the region. Such information may include demographics, survey data and scientific studies and the analysis of social, economic, environmental, and cultural trends.
 - b) Seek to attract investment and Government support into the region by aligning community interests, working collaboratively through the Mayoral Forum work streams and other options, developing agreed positions on matters of importance to the region and continuing to develop and strengthen existing joint approaches to engage with Government agencies and other organisations.
 - c) Determine and prioritise strategic collaborative initiatives and projects.

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- d) Promote communication and co-operation among the region's councils with respect to shared services and other collaborative opportunities.
- e) Make draft strategies, policies and plans available to all councils in the region for discussion and development.
- f) Provide guidance on the implementation of strategic collaborative projects and monitor progress of collaborative initiatives, such as the implementation of resource management reform including development of a Regional Spatial Plan.
- g) Utilise the Mayoral Forum work streams and other collaborative options to ensure that all councils can participate in identifying, delivering, and funding regionally significant projects and programmes, facilities, and services to more than one council.
- h) Invite Government Ministers, relevant officials, corporate, community and iwi leaders to meet to discuss issues of strategic importance to the region.
- i) Advocate for strategic investment in the region and promote the strategic benefits and advantages of the Taranaki region.
- j) If necessary, establish one or more joint committees or other joint governance arrangements to give better effect to communication and coordination or to assist with identifying, delivering and funding regionally significant projects and programmes, facilities, and services to more than one district, or to consider proposals for new regional council activities.

Significant New Activities

- 24. When a Party is considering a major policy initiative or proposal that may have implications for other Parties, it will give early notification to the affected Parties and share the information with the Taranaki Mayoral Forum and the Taranaki Chief Executives Forum.
- 25. If the Taranaki Regional Council (or one of its council controlled organisations) proposes a significant new activity, it will discuss the issues involved with the other Parties, provide early drafts for comment, and inform all territorial authorities of the nature, scope, reasons, and expected effects of the proposal. The affected authorities will be given a reasonable period to respond, and the Regional Council will fully consider all submissions.

Local Government Structure in Taranaki

- 26. Notwithstanding the spirit of co-operation and collaboration embodied in the Agreement, the Parties, individually or collectively, reserve the right to promote, consult on, and/or research change to the structure of local government within the Taranaki region.
- 27. This right is consistent with the intent to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of local government (Local Government Act 2002 s.24AA), having particular regard to communities of interest and community representation.

Implementation

- 28. A primary mechanism to implement this Agreement is the Taranaki Mayoral Forum. The Forum will meet quarterly (or as otherwise agreed).
- 29. The Taranaki Mayoral Forum will:

- a) develop and lead the implementation of a sustainable development strategy for the Taranaki region for the 2025–28 local government triennium;
 - b) advocate for the interests of the region, its councils, and communities;
 - c) explore the development of joint regional work programmes as agreed by the councils.
30. The Taranaki Mayoral Forum will be supported by the Taranaki Chief Executives Forum.
31. The Parties agree that responsibility for servicing this agreement (providing secretarial services and acting as a media contact) shall be shared, with the Taranaki Regional Council leading for the 2025-2028 term, after which it shall pass to the remaining local authorities alphabetically, unless otherwise agreed.

Agreement to Review

32. This triennial agreement may be varied by agreement between all the local authorities within the region and remains in force until local authorities ratify a new agreement. Any Party can request an amendment by writing to the Chair of the Mayoral Forum at least two weeks before a regular quarterly meeting.
33. The Taranaki Mayoral Forum will review this Agreement no later than the final meeting before the 2028 triennial local body elections and recommend any changes to the incoming councils.

Resolving Disagreement

34. In the event of a disagreement over the terms of this Agreement, the Parties agree to meet to try and resolve their differences.
35. If this process is not successful, then it will refer the matter to mediation before a mediator appointed by the president of the Taranaki Branch of the New Zealand Law Society.

Authority

36. This Taranaki Triennial Agreement 2025–28 is signed on this day, DD MONTH 2026, by the following on behalf of their respective authorities:

New Plymouth District Council

XYZ NAME- Mayor

South Taranaki District Council

XYZ NAME- Mayor

Stratford District Council

XYZ NAME- Mayor

Taranaki Regional Council

XYZ NAME- Chair

Dated: DD MONTH 2025

TRCID-791869150-5

TRIENNIAL AGREEMENT
Manawatū-Whanganui REGION
2025 -2028

Contents

<u>Purpose</u>	4
<u>Parties</u>	4
<u>Working Together</u>	4
<u>Governance</u>	5
<u>Recognition of Resolutions by Joint Committee</u>	6
<u>Servicing and Support</u>	6
<u>Significant New Activities</u>	6
<u>Significant Facilities and Services</u>	6
<u>Consultation in Relation to Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) Policy & Plans</u>	7
<u>Other Agreements</u>	7
<u>Resolving Disagreement</u>	7
<u>Agreement to Review</u>	7
<u>Statutory Requirements</u>	8
<u>Authority</u>	8
<u>Signing Page</u>	9
<u>Appendix One - Manawatū-Whanganui Mayoral Forum Terms of Reference</u>	10
<u>Statement of Purpose</u>	10
<u>Objectives</u>	10
<u>Principles</u>	10
<u>Powers</u>	10
<u>Membership</u>	11
<u>Election of Chair</u>	11
<u>Meetings</u>	11
<u>Quorum</u>	11
<u>Decision Making</u>	11
<u>Remuneration and Expenses</u>	11
<u>Standing Orders</u>	11
<u>Secretariat</u>	11
<u>Variations to this Agreement</u>	12
<u>Appendix Two – Climate Action Joint Committee Manawatū-Whanganui Terms of Reference</u>	13
<u>Statement of Purpose</u>	13
<u>Objectives</u>	13
<u>Powers</u>	13
<u>The Climate Action Joint Committee shall have the power to:</u>	13
<u>Council decisions on the Joint Committee’s recommendations</u>	14

[Committee Membership..... 14](#)

[Election of Co-Chairs 14](#)

[Meeting Schedule..... 14](#)

[Decision making 15](#)

[Remuneration and Expenses 15](#)

[Standing Orders..... 15](#)

[Duration..... 15](#)

[Variations to this Agreement..... 15](#)

[Meeting Quorum..... 15](#)

Purpose

The signatories are committed to working together to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing of their communities—in accordance with principles of sustainable management for current and future generations, and of the Treaty of Waitangi.

The purpose of this Triennial Agreement (the Agreement) is to ensure appropriate communication, coordination and collaboration between local authorities within the Manawatū-Whanganui Region.

This Agreement is established under section 15 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA). It is effective until such time as it is either amended by the agreement of all parties or is renewed following the 2028 local authority elections (and no later than 1 March 2029).

Parties

The signatories to this agreement comprise *principal signatories* (those local authorities whose boundaries are completely or primarily encompassed within the Manawatū-Whanganui Region and who primarily identify with that region) and *non-primary signatories* (those local authorities whose boundaries bisect the Manawatū-Whanganui Region but whose principal identification is with another region).

Principal Signatories:

- Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Council (Horizons)
- Horowhenua District Council
- Manawatū District Council
- Palmerston North City Council
- Rangitīkei District Council
- Ruapehu District Council
- Tararua District Council
- Whanganui District Council

Non-primary Signatories:

- Stratford District Council
- Taupō District Council
- Waitomo District Council

This Agreement is binding on all local authorities of the Manawatū-Whanganui Region. It is recognised that non-primary signatories retain discretion over the extent of their involvement, in proportion to the extent to which issues and decisions under consideration affect them.

Working Together

This Agreement focuses on responding to issues and opportunities facing our communities and local environment. The parties agree to work together in good faith for the good governance and sustainable development of their local areas and the region as a whole.

Signatories to this Agreement recognise that obligations to the Treaty of Waitangi, and to provide opportunities for Māori to contribute to local decision-making, extend to regional cooperation and joint decision-making. Central Government, too, has overlapping but distinct priority areas. The parties will seek to collaborate on matters of shared interest.

The wellbeing of our communities and health of our environment are best served by local authorities working together. We face increasingly complex governance issues, many of which cannot be resolved by any one organisation acting alone. Cooperation is necessary to tackle challenges such as:

- Delivering better social outcomes for communities, through affordable housing, well-functioning urban environments, infrastructure, and transport links;
- Improving the resilience of our environment and communities to the effects of climate change;
- Improving the health of our ecosystems and waterways;
- Supporting the development of a vibrant, sustainable regional economy.

The parties value and will maintain open communication, collaboration and trust, applying a 'no surprises' policy by ensuring other parties receive early notification of significant proposals that may affect them and their communities, and of divergent views on proposed decisions before critical public announcements are made.

Collaboration and cooperation between local authorities can yield administrative efficiencies, allowing for better use of available resources and more effective community participation. The parties undertake to work together toward common priorities and community outcomes, and making efficient use of resources, in accordance with LGA s14(1)(e).

While collaboration and cooperation are desirable, the region's communities and landscapes are diverse, and each local authority has the legislative mandate to govern its own area as appropriate.

Governance

The primary mechanism to implement this Agreement is the Manawatū-Whanganui Mayoral Forum (the Mayoral Forum), comprised of the region's Mayors and the Chair of Horizons Regional Council. The Forum will meet quarterly and operate in accordance with its agreed terms of reference, which are attached at Appendix One.

The Manawatū-Whanganui Mayoral Forum will:

- Provide governance oversight of our response to regionally significant challenges;
- Promote understanding and alignment of effort across councils, with central government, and with tangata whenua;
- Advocate for the interests of the region, its councils and communities.

The Mayoral Forum will be supported by the Manawatū-Whanganui Chief Executives Forum.

The Chief Executives Forum will:

- Identify and escalate to the Mayoral Forum strategic issues and opportunities for collaboration;
- Report to the Mayoral Forum on the delivery of its agreed actions, work programmes or collaborative projects.

Other groups will support regional coordination:

- The Climate Action Joint Committee is to continue. Terms of Reference are attached at Appendix Two.

- Regional Transport Committee is to continue, as required by s105(2) of the Land Transport Management Act 2003.
- For the avoidance of doubt, Manawatū-Whanganui Civil Defence and Emergency Management Group will continue, as required by s12 of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002.
- The Accelerate 35 (A35) Lead Team will continue to progress regional economic development.
- The Regional Leadership Group, convened by the Ministry for Social Development, will bring together senior officials from central and local government, tangata whenua, and other community groups with a focus on social wellbeing, health, and education.

These arrangements complement other mechanisms for inter-council collaboration, such as Local Government New Zealand, Taituarā, the Association of Local Government Information Management, the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia, the Local Authorities Public Relations Network, and the Manawatū-Whanganui Local Area Shared Services CCO (MWLASS).

Recognition of Resolutions by Joint Committee

Within the parameters set through legislation – and acknowledging each local authority’s mandate to govern in its own area – the parties agree to:

- Have particular regard to resolutions made by joint committees in developing policies, determining priorities, and allocating resource;
- Progress to the fullest possible extent actions identified through joint planning and decision-making arrangements.

Servicing and Support

Horizons will host a permanent secretariat to support the Manawatū-Whanganui Mayoral Forum. The secretariat will be funded jointly by participating councils.

Significant New Activities

When a party is considering a major policy initiative or proposal that may have implications for other parties, and unless such disclosure is inconsistent with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 or commercial confidences precludes such disclosure, they will give early notification to the affected parties and share the information with the Mayoral Forum and the Chief Executives Forum.

Horizons Regional Council will provide early advice to the Chief Executives Forum and the Mayoral Forum of any significant new regional council activity, in addition to other requirements specified in LGA s16.

Significant Facilities and Services

The Mayoral Forum and Chief Executives Forum may from time to time explore options for identifying, delivering and funding facilities and services of significance to more than one district. Any Party to this Agreement may raise these issues for consideration.

Consultation in Relation to Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) Policy & Plans

The following consultation process will apply to the preparation of a new, or change, variation, or review of an existing, regional policy statement, regional plan or district plan by a local authority in the Region:

- The Regional Council will seek the input of territorial authorities, and vice-versa, for the preparation or review of the regional policy statement, or regional or district plan.
- For the regional policy statement or a regional plan, the Regional Council will make the draft version available to all territorial authorities in the Region for discussion and development.
- The parties to this Agreement acknowledge their obligation to act in accordance with the principles of consultation set out in LGA s82.

In addition, the parties agree to cooperate in implementing national policy statements, to ensure alignment of regional and district policies and plans, as well as efficiency of process. The parties undertake to report, through Chief Executives, to the Mayoral Forum on opportunities to share information, jointly commission advice, or otherwise pool effort in order to give effect to national direction within appropriate timeframes and in a practicable way.

Other Agreements

This Agreement does not prevent the Parties from entering into other agreements among themselves or outside the Manawātū-Whanganui region. Any other such agreement should not, however, be contrary to this Agreement.

Resolving Disagreement

All parties to this Agreement are committed to working strenuously, in good faith, to resolve any disagreements that may arise in relation to its application. Where a party has a significant disagreement with the position of the others, all parties will make every effort to accommodate, acknowledge or at least fairly represent the dissenting view.

In the event of a disagreement over the actions taken to give effect to this Agreement that cannot be successfully resolved by affected parties, the parties agree to refer the issue of disagreement to mediation. Should agreement on a mediator not be possible, a mediator will be appointed by the president of the Manawātū Branch of the Law Society. If mediation is unsuccessful, any of the local authorities affected may ask the Minister of Local Government to make a binding decision on the proposal. The cost of mediation will be met equally by the parties that have agreed to the mediation.

Agreement to Review

This Agreement remains in force until local authorities ratify a new agreement.

Any party may request an amendment to this Agreement by writing to the Chair of the Mayoral Forum at least two weeks before a regular quarterly meeting of the Forum. The Mayoral Forum will review the Agreement no later than the final meeting before triennial local body elections and recommend any changes to the incoming councils.

Any agreed amendment will be referred to each local authority for ratification. No amendment to this Agreement has effect until signed by all parties.

Statutory Requirements

This document is deemed to duly constitute fulfilment of section 14(1)(e), 15 and 16 of the LGA, and Schedule 1 Clause 3A(1) of the RMA.

Authority

This Agreement is signed by the following on behalf of their respective authorities.

Signing Page

This Agreement is signed by the following on behalf of their respective authorities.

Council	Role / Name	Signature	Date
Horizons Regional Council	Nikki Riley Chairperson		
Horowhenua District Council	Bernie Wanden Mayor		
Manawatu District Council	Michael Ford Mayor		
Palmerston North City Council	Grant Smith Mayor		
Rangitikei District Council	Andy Watson Mayor		
Ruapehu District Council	Weston Kirton Mayor		
Stratford District Council	Neil Volzke Mayor		
Taranaki District Council	Scott Gilmore Mayor		
Taupo District Council	John Funnell Mayor		
Waitomo District Council	John Robertson Mayor		
Whanganui District Council	Andrew Tripe Mayor		

Appendix One - Manawatū-Whanganui Mayoral Forum Terms of Reference

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the Manawatū-Whanganui Mayoral Forum is to support effective leadership on shared priorities and matters of importance to the region's communities.

Objectives

The Manawatū-Whanganui Mayoral Forum has the following objectives:

- To enable Manawatū-Whanganui councils to work more collaboratively in response to regionally significant challenges and opportunities;
- To provide a forum for engagement between councils, central government, tangata whenua, and other leaders in the region;
- To explore, with iwi and hapū, how governance relationships might be further progressed in future;
- To provide a collective voice to advocate for and raise the profile of these issues and opportunities;
- To increase the effectiveness of local government in meeting the needs of Manawatū-Whanganui communities;
- To develop and implement programmes (including joint plans where appropriate), which are responsive to the needs and expectations of the community; and
- To prepare for institutional changes, such as joint planning arrangements, and oversee preliminary work to inform joint strategies and plans.

Principles

In pursuit of these objectives the Manawatū-Whanganui Mayoral Forum will observe the following principles:

- Establish and maintain close liaison with other local government networks to ensure as far as possible the pursuit of common objectives and the minimisation of duplication;
- Establish and maintain close liaison with Ministers of the Crown and local Members of Parliament;
- Recognise that obligations to the Treaty of Waitangi, and opportunities for Māori to contribute to local decision-making, extend to regional cooperation and joint decision-making;
- Work towards shared positions on issues of mutual concern, formalising these through letters of support, submissions and/or public statements as appropriate;
- Exercise its functions with due regard to the tangata whenua and cultural diversity of the community;
- Establish processes for reporting back to its respective councils and communities.

Powers

The Manawatū-Whanganui Mayoral Forum shall have the power to:

- Make submissions and undertake advocacy to external organisations on matters germane to the Committee's objectives;
- Engage with key agencies and neighbouring regions on matters relating to the Committee's objectives;
- Recommend to the parties actions that materially contribute to attainment of the Committee's objectives.

Membership

Membership shall open to the eight councils wholly or primarily within the Manawātū-Whanganui Region (Horowhenua District Council, Manawātū District Council, Palmerston North City Council, Rangitīkei District Council, Ruapehu District Council, Tararua District Council, Whanganui District Council, Manawātū-Whanganui Regional Council (Horizons)).

Each member council shall be represented by its Mayor (or Chair in the case of the Regional Council) and supported by its Chief Executive. On occasions where the Mayor or Chair cannot attend, a council may be represented by its Deputy Mayor or Chair.

The Mayoral Forum will have the power to co-opt other members on a permanent and/or issues basis.

Election of Chair

The Manawātū-Whanganui Mayoral Forum shall select a Chair and Deputy Chair at the first meeting immediately following the Triennial Elections. These appointments may be reviewed after a period of 18 months.

The Chair selected will preside at all meetings of the Mayoral Forum.

The Mayoral Forum may appoint spokespersons from its membership for issues being considered, in which case each member council agrees to refer all requests for information and documents to the duly appointed spokespersons.

Meetings

Meetings will be held quarterly at Regional House in Palmerston North, unless otherwise advised.

Special meetings may be called at the request of members.

The secretariat will prepare an agenda for Mayoral Forum meetings in consultation with the Chair and the Chief Executives Forum.

Agendas for meetings will be issued and minutes will be taken and circulated.

Quorum

The quorum will consist of four members (half the number of members including vacancies).

Meetings may be held in person or by other means (such as audiovisual link) as the Committee agrees and where permissible under New Zealand law and the standing orders of the parties.

Decision Making

The practice of the Forum will be to determine issues before it by consensus.

If the consensus is to determine issues by voting, the determination shall be determined by a majority of votes of members attending the meeting.

Remuneration and Expenses

Each party shall be responsible for remunerating its representative on the Committee.

Standing Orders

The Committee shall apply the standing orders of Manawātū-Whanganui Regional Council.

Secretariat

The Manawātū-Whanganui Mayoral Forum will appoint Manawātū-Whanganui Regional Council to carry out the secretariat function on such terms and conditions as it shall decide for the discharge of duties, including the taking of minutes and the keeping of any books and accounts and attending to any other business of the forum.

Variations to this Agreement

Amendments to this agreement may be required from time to time. Changes will be approved by the parties, on the recommendation of the Mayoral Forum.

Appendix Two – Climate Action Joint Committee Manawātū-Whanganui Terms of Reference

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the Climate Action Joint Committee (CAJC) is to support a coordinated response to climate change across the Councils and communities of the Manawātū-Whanganui Region.

It is established in accordance with Section 7, clauses 30 and 30A of the Local Government Act 2002.

Objectives

The Climate Action Joint Committee's operating objectives are to:

- Collaborate on action to build organisational, community, and regional resilience in the face of climate change;
- Make use of available environmental, social, cultural and economic research, skills and capabilities to leverage opportunities and mitigate the impacts of climate change;
- Develop a climate action plan, including recommended actions for councils to contribute to mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions and to support community resilience to the effects of climate change;
- Work collectively as a region to engage with central government, including any actions to deliver on responsibilities under the National Adaptation Plan and Emissions Reduction Plan, and to support a Just Transition for our region;
- Promote consistent and effective leadership, advocacy, communication and engagement on climate change issues to enable individual and collaborative action;
- Champion the integration of partner strategies, programmes, and plans and encourage partnerships with iwi and others in central and local government, health, education, youth, NGOs and business;
- Oversee implementation of agreed joint projects;
- Share climate change evidence and guidance to inform Council work programmes and support explicit consideration of climate change impacts in decisions; and
- Monitor and report annually on implementation of the joint action plan.

Powers

The Climate Action Joint Committee does not have the power to legally bind any Council to any act or decision, unless that act or decision has been agreed to by decision of that council.

Within that context, the parties agree to:

- Have particular regard to the recommendations of the Committee in developing policies, determining priorities, and allocating resource;
- Progress, to the fullest possible extent, actions identified through joint planning and decision-making arrangements.

The Climate Action Joint Committee shall have the power to:

- Receive regular monitoring reports and presentations on the matters relevant to the Committee's objectives;
- Develop, adopt, and progress a joint climate action plan;

- Make of submissions and undertake advocacy to external organisations on matters germane to the Committee's objectives;
- Engage with key agencies and neighbouring regions on matters relating to the Committee's objectives;
- Recommend to the parties actions that materially contribute to attainment of the Committee's objectives;
- Receive any grant or subsidy;
- Receive financial contributions from member authorities, as may be mutually determined and acceptable to individual local authorities; and
- Determine and make payments from its funds for any or all of the purposes of its objects.

Council decisions on the Joint Committee's recommendations

Where a Council makes specific decisions on the Climate Action Joint Committee's recommendations, these will be reported to the Joint Committee by its delegate. Where the decision is materially different from the Joint Committee's recommendation the report will set out the reasons for that decision.

Committee Membership

The Committee consists of the following members:

- The Mayor / Chair or designated delegate of each local authority within the Manawatū-Whanganui Region (total 8 members); and
- Up to eight non-Councillor members, to represent the views of Tangata Whenua. These appointments will be made by Horizons (HRC) on the recommendation of iwi leaders, taking into consideration their skills, attributes or knowledge that will assist the work of the Committee.

This Committee may invite advisors to attend relevant portions of the Committee's business.

Election of Co-Chairs

The committee will elect Co-Chairs by the system described in clause 25(4) Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002.

The governance group will have two Co-Chairs:

- A Councillor member of the group; and
- A Tangata Whenua member of the group.

Each Co-Chair shall preside on an alternate basis. If a Co-Chair is absent from a meeting at which they are scheduled to be the presiding member, the other Co-Chair shall preside at the meeting.

Meeting Schedule

The Committee will sit at least twice each year.

Special meetings may be called at the request of members.

Agendas for meetings will be issued and minutes will be taken and circulated.

Approved minutes and approved final reports and papers will be made available via Horizons' website.

The Committee will sit at least twice each year.

Special meetings may be called at the request of members.

Agendas for meetings will be issued and minutes will be taken and circulated.

Approved minutes and approved final reports and papers will be made available via Horizons' website and a Microsoft Teams portal.

Decision making

The practice of the forum will be to determine issues before it by consensus.

If the consensus is to determine issues by voting, the determination shall be determined by a majority of votes of members attending the meeting.

Remuneration and Expenses

Each party shall be responsible for remunerating its representative on the Committee.

Tangata Whenua members shall be eligible for compensation for joint committee activity including travel and attendance at meetings.

Standing Orders

The Committee shall apply the standing orders of Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Council.

Duration

The committee will elect Co-Chairs by the system described in clause 25(4) Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002.

The governance group will have two Co-Chairs:

- A Councillor member of the group; and
- A Tangata Whenua member of the group.

Each Co-Chair shall preside on an alternate basis. If a Co-Chair is absent from a meeting at which they are scheduled to be the presiding member, the other Co-Chair shall preside at the meeting.

Variations to this Agreement

Amendments to this agreement may be required from time to time. Changes will be approved by the parties, on the recommendation of the Climate Action Joint Committee.

Meeting Quorum

The quorum will consist of:

- Half of the members present (in-person or on-line) if the number of members (including vacancies) is an even number; or
- A majority of members present (in-person or on-line) if the number of members (including vacancies) is an odd number.

Non-elected positions to which no appointment has been made are not considered to be vacancies for the purposes of forming a quorum.

Meetings may be held in person or by other means (such as audio visual link) as the Committee agrees where permissible under New Zealand law and the standing orders of the parties.



Our reference
F19/13/03-D21/40748

Karakia

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

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