



AGENDA Ordinary Meeting

Tuesday 24 June 2025, 10.30am

Ordinary Council 24 June 2025

24 June 2025 10:30 AM



Agenda Topic	Page
1. Health and Safety Message	4
2. Opening Karakia	5
3. Apologies	
4. Confirmation of Ordinary Minutes -13 May 2025	6
5. Receipt of Minutes - Operations and Regulatory Committee	16
6. Receipt of Policy and Planning Committee Minutes	21
7. Receipt of Executive Audit and Risk Committee Minutes	28
8. Receipt of Minutes - Regional Transport Committee	33
9. Remits for Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting	39
10. Extraordinary Vacancy on the Taranaki Regional Council	51
11. Submission on Regulatory Standards Bill	54
12. Meeting Dates	98
13. Public Excluded	
14. Public Excluded Recommendations	99
15. Confirmation of Public Excluded Ordinary Minutes	101
16. Receipt of Public Excluded Operations and Regulatory Minutes	105
17. Receipt of Public Excluded Executive Audit and Risk Committee Minutes	108
18. Maniapoto Relationship Agreement	111
19. Appointment of Harbourmaster and Issuing of Warrant	142
20. Council Review Progress Report	146
21. Closing Karakia	190

22.	<u>Agenda Authorisation</u>
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191



Health and Safety Message

Emergency Procedure

In the event of an emergency, please exit through the emergency door in the Committee Room by the kitchen.

If you require assistance to exit, please see a staff member.

Once you reach the bottom of the stairs make your way to the assembly point at 43 Cloten Road. Staff will guide you to an alternative route if necessary.

Earthquake

If there is an earthquake - drop, cover and hold where possible. Please remain where you are until further instruction is given.



Whakataka te hau

Karakia to open meetings

Whakataka te hau ki te uru
Whakataka te hau ki te tonga
Kia mākinakina ki uta
Kia mātaratara ki tai
Kia hī ake ana te atakura
He tio, he huka, he hauhu
Tūturu o whiti whakamaua kia tina.
Tina!
Hui ē! Tāiki ē!

Cease the winds from the west
Cease the winds from the south
Let the breeze blow over the land
Let the breeze blow over the ocean
Let the red-tipped dawn come with a sharpened air
A touch of frost, a promise of glorious day
Let there be certainty
Secure it!
Draw together! Affirm!



Date: 24 June 2025

Subject: Confirmation of Ordinary Council Minutes – 13 May 2025

Author: M Jones, Governance Administrator

Approved by: M J Nield, Director - Corporate Services

Document: TRCID-1492626864-763

Recommendations

That Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) takes as read and confirms the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council held at Taranaki Regional Council, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford on 13 May 2025.

Appendices/Attachments

Document TRCID-1492626864-694: [Ordinary Council Minutes 13 May 2025](#)



Date: 13 May 2025

Venue: Taranaki Regional Council Boardroom, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford

Document: TRCID-1492626864-694

Present:

C S Williamson	Chairperson
N W Walker	Deputy Chairperson
C L Littlewood	zoom
S W Hughes	
A L Jamieson	
M J Cloke	
D M Cram	
D L Lean	
M G Davey	
D M McIntyre	
B J Bigham	

Attending:

S Ruru	Chief Executive
M Nield	Director – Corporate Services
A Matthews	Director – Environmental Quality
A D McLay	Director – Resource Management
D Harrison	Director - Operations
N Chadwick	Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive and Chair
C Woollin	Communications Adviser

The meeting opened with a group Karakia at 10.30am

Apologies: No apologies were received.

1. Confirmation of Ordinary Council Minutes – 1 April 2025

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) took as read and confirmed the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council held at the Taranaki Regional Council, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford 1 April 2025.

Bigham/McIntyre

2. Receipt of Operations and Regulatory Committee Minutes – 29 April 2025

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the minutes of the Operations and Regulatory Committee meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council at the Taranaki Regional Council, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford on Tuesday 29 April 2025
- b) adopted the recommendations therein.

Hughes/Bigham

3. Receipt of Policy and Planning Committee Minutes – 29 April 2025

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the minutes of the Policy and Planning Committee meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council at the Taranaki Regional Council, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford on Tuesday 29 April 2025
- b) adopted the recommendations therein.

Bigham/Hughes

4. Receipt of Executive Audit and Risk Committee Minutes – 5 May 2025

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the unconfirmed minutes of the Executive Audit and Risk Committee meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council held in the Taranaki Regional Council Boardroom, 47 Cloten, Stratford on Monday 5 May 2025
- b) adopted the recommendations therein.

Cloke/Hughes

5. Receipt of Taranaki Passenger Transport Joint Committee Minutes – 17 April 2025

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the unconfirmed minutes of the Taranaki Passenger Transport Joint Committee meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council at the Taranaki Regional Council, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford on Thursday 17 April 2025
- b) adopted the recommendations therein.

Jamieson/Hughes

6. Setting of Administrative Charges Pursuant to section 36 of the Resource Management Act 1991

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) noted that no submissions have been received in response to the Statement of Purpose: Schedule of changes to section 36 of the Resource Management Act 1991
- b) noted as there are no submissions, there is no officer's report and, as a result, there are no amendments to the Schedule of charges pursuant to section 36 of the Resource Management Act 1991
- c) adopted the Schedule of charges pursuant to section 36 of the Resource Management Act 1991
- d) determined that this decision be recognised as not significant in terms of section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002
- e) determined that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with section 79 of the Act, determined that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits, or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.

Walker/Cram

7. 2025/2026 Annual Plan and Estimates

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the memorandum on the consideration and adoption of the 2025/2026 Annual Plan
- b) noted the balanced budget deficit for 2025/2026 and confirmed the transfer from the Dividend Equalisation Reserve to fund the balanced budget deficit
- c) noted that the use of the Dividend Equalisation Reserve to fund the balanced budget surpluses and deficits balances cut over the ten-year life of the 2024/2034 Long-Term Plan and that, over the full ten years, the Council's budget balance
- d) determined in accordance with section 100(2) of the Local Government Act 2002, that it considers it is financially prudent to adopt these budgets and the proposed budget deficit and confirmed the transfers to and from the Dividend Equalisation Reserve to fund the balanced budget deficit

- e) noted that the formatting of the 2025/2026 Annual Plan is still to be completed and that there are a few minor editorial changes to be made
- f) adopted the 2025/2026 Annual Plan
- g) determined that this decision be recognised as not significant in terms of section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002
- h) determined that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with section 79 of the Act, determined that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits, or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.

Williamson/Walker

8. Setting of Rates 2025/2026

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) set the following rates pursuant to the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 on rating units in the Taranaki region for the financial year commencing 1 July 2025 and ending on 30 June 2026:

Capital Value General Rate

Pursuant to section 13 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 a general rate on the rateable equalised capital value (ECV) of all land within the region known as Taranaki region to collect the following amounts:

General rate	ECV	Percent	GST excl	GST	GST incl
NPDC	\$34,764,871,056	66.04%	\$9,116,933	\$1,367,540	\$10,484,473
SDC	\$4,211,914,678	8.00%	\$1,104,413	\$165,662	\$1,270,075
STDC	\$13,662,788,150	25.96%	\$3,583,821	\$537,573	\$4,121,395
Total	\$52,639,573,884	100.00%	\$13,805,168	\$2,070,775	\$15,875,943

- a rate of 0.0297193 cents in the dollar of capital value on every rating unit in the New Plymouth and North Taranaki constituencies of the Taranaki region—GST inclusive
- a rate of 0.0300658 cents in the dollar of capital value on every rating unit in the Stratford constituency of the Taranaki region—GST inclusive
- a rate of 0.0296046 cents in the dollar of capital value on every rating unit in the South Taranaki constituency of the Taranaki region—GST inclusive.

Pursuant to section 131 of the *Local Government (Rating) Act 2002*, the Council has used a registered valuer to make an estimate of the projected valuation of all the rateable land in the districts of the constituent territorial authorities.

Uniform annual general charge

Pursuant to section 15(1)(b) of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, a uniform annual general charge (to produce \$6,055,387) of \$102.93—GST inclusive for every separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit in the Taranaki region.

Separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit (SUIP): A SUIP is defined as a separately used or occupied part of a rating unit and includes any part of a rating unit that is used or occupied by any person, other than the ratepayer, having a right to use or inhabit that part by virtue of a tenancy, lease, licence, or other agreement, or any part or parts of a rating unit that are used or occupied by the ratepayer for more than one single use.

Separately used or inhabited for a residential rating unit includes a building or part of a building that contains, two or more separately occupiable units, flats or houses each of which is separately inhabited or is capable of separate habitation.

Separately used or inhabited for a small holding or farmland property rating unit includes a rural property/farm with multiple dwellings (e.g., a house is used by a farm worker) each of which is separately inhabited or is capable of separate habitation.

Separately used or inhabited for a commercial or industrial rating unit: means a building or part of a building that is, or intended to be, or is able to be, separately tenanted, leased or subleased for commercial purposes.

An exception is made for motels/hotels as these are treated as one business even if each accommodation unit may be capable of separate habitation.

River Control and Flood Protection Targeted Rate

Pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, a targeted rate of 0.002541 cents in the dollar—GST inclusive, for river control and flood protection works (to produce \$896,598) on the capital value on every rating unit in the New Plymouth and North Taranaki constituencies of the Taranaki region.

River Control and Flood Protection Targeted Rate

Pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, a targeted rate of 0.000536 cents in the dollar—GST inclusive, for river control and flood protection works (to produce \$74,640) on the capital value on every rating unit in the South Taranaki constituency of the Taranaki region.

Passenger Transport Targeted Rate

Pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, a targeted rate of 0.007629 cents in the dollar—GST inclusive, for passenger transport services (to produce \$2,691,337) on the capital value on every rating unit in the New Plymouth and North Taranaki constituencies of the Taranaki region.

Passenger Transport Targeted Rate

Pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, a targeted rate of 0.004421 cents in the dollar—GST inclusive, for passenger transport services (to produce \$186,759) on the capital value on every rating unit in the Stratford constituency of the Taranaki region.

Passenger Transport Targeted Rate

Pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, a targeted rate of 0.001658 cents in the dollar—GST inclusive, for passenger transport services (to produce \$230,852) on the capital value on every rating unit in the South Taranaki constituency of the Taranaki region.

Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Commercial and Industrial Land Value Targeted Rate

Pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, a differential targeted rate for Yarrow Stadium on the land value on each commercial and industrial rating unit in the New Plymouth and North Taranaki constituencies of the Taranaki region. The targeted rate (in cents in the dollar of land value) for 2024/2025 for Group 1 Commercial and Industrial is to produce \$36.991 at a rate of 0.001998 cents in the dollar of land value—GST inclusive.

Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Commercial and Industrial Fixed Value Targeted Rate (New Plymouth and North Taranaki Constituencies)

Pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, a fixed targeted rate (to produce \$243,722) of \$96.60—GST inclusive on every separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit, Group 1 Commercial and Industrial, in the New Plymouth and North Taranaki constituencies of the Taranaki region.

Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Residential, Small Holdings and Farmland Fixed Value Targeted Rate (New Plymouth and North Taranaki Constituencies)

Pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, a fixed targeted rate (to produce \$1,673,554) of \$45.30—GST inclusive on every separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit, Group 2 Residential, Group 3 Small Holdings and Group 4 Farmland, in the New Plymouth and North Taranaki constituencies of the Taranaki region.

Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Fixed Value Targeted Rate (Stratford Constituency)

Pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, a fixed targeted rate (to produce \$144,350) of \$28.44—GST inclusive on every separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit in the Stratford constituency of the Taranaki region.

Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Fixed Value Targeted Rate (South Taranaki Constituency)

Pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, a fixed targeted rate (to produce \$406,853) of \$28.44—GST inclusive on every separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit in the South Taranaki constituency of the Taranaki region.

Differential Categories

The Council adopts the definition of its differential categories set out in the *Funding Impact Statement* contained in the 2024/2034 Long-Term Plan as its rating categories for the year.

- b) set, pursuant to section 24 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, that the Council's rates will become due and payable by four equal instalments on the following dates:

	New Plymouth & North Taranaki Constituencies	Stratford Constituency	South Taranaki Constituency
Instalment 1	27 August 2025	27 August 2025	27 August 2025
Instalment 2	26 November 2025	26 November 2025	26 November 2025
Instalment 3	25 February 2026	25 February 2026	25 February 2026
Instalment 4	27 May 2026	27 May 2026	27 May 2026

- c) set, pursuant to section 57 and 58 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, that the following penalties on unpaid rates will be applied.

A charge of 10% on so much of any instalment that has been assessed after 1 July 2025 and which remains unpaid after the due date for that instalment.

	New Plymouth & North Taranaki Constituencies	Stratford Constituency	South Taranaki Constituency
Instalment 1	27 August 2025	27 August 2025	27 August 2025
Instalment 2	26 November 2025	26 November 2025	26 November 2025
Instalment 3	25 February 2026	25 February 2026	25 February 2026
Instalment 4	27 May 2026	27 May 2026	27 May 2026

New Plymouth and North Taranaki constituencies

The Council will charge a penalty of 10% on any portion of rates that were assessed or levied in any previous financial years to 1 July 2025 and which remain unpaid on 1 July 2025. The penalty will be applied on 30 September 2025 and a further additional penalty of 10% on any rates that were assessed or levied in any previous financial years and which remain unpaid on 31 March 2026 (New Plymouth and North Taranaki constituencies).

Stratford constituency

The Council will charge a penalty of 10% on so much of any rates levied before 1 July 2025 which remain unpaid on 10 July 2025 or such later date as required under section 58(1) (b) (ii). A continuing additional penalty of 10% on so much of any rates levied before 1 July 2025 which remain unpaid six months after the previous penalty was added (Stratford constituency).

South Taranaki constituency

The Council will charge a penalty of 10% on so much of any rates levied before 1 July 2025 which remain unpaid on 1 July 2025 or such later date as required under section 58(1) (b) (ii). (South Taranaki constituency).

South Taranaki constituency

A discount of 2% will be allowed on the total rates set for the financial year, if the rates for a financial year are paid in full on or before the due date of the first instalment for the financial year. (South Taranaki constituency only). This will be 30 August 2025.

- d) set the Council's rates and charges will become payable at the principal offices and service centres of the region's district councils. The rates and charges can also be paid at the principal office of the Taranaki Regional Council
- e) noted that all rates set are inclusive of GST
- f) appointed the New Plymouth District Council, the Stratford District Council and the South Taranaki District Council, pursuant to section 53 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, to collect the rates set by the Taranaki Regional Council in their respective constituencies
- g) delegated to the New Plymouth District Council, the Stratford District Council and the South Taranaki District Council the power to postpone and remit rates pursuant to the relevant adopted Rates Remission and Postponement Policy
- h) approved the keeping of the rating information database in separate parts for the constituent districts of the region and delegates the function of maintaining the rating information database to the New Plymouth District Council, the Stratford District Council and the South Taranaki District Council, pursuant to section 27(7) of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002

- i) delegated to the Chief Executive and the Director—Corporate Services, the power to resolve administrative matters in relation to the collection of the Taranaki Regional Council's rates and the administration of the rating information database
- j) determined that this decision be recognised as significant in terms of section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002
- k) determined that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with section 79 of the Act, determined that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits, or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.

Williamson/Walker

9. 2025 Triennial Elections

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the 2025 Triennial Elections memorandum and attached 2025 Triennial Elections report from the Electoral Officer
- b) selected and agreed that the candidate's names on the 2025 local authority triennial election voting documents for the Taranaki Regional Council be in alphabetical order in accordance with Clause 31 of the Local Electoral Regulations 2001
- c) noted the timeline for the 2025 local authority triennial elections
- d) noted the Electoral Officer will also be conducting a poll on Māori Constituencies in conjunction with the 2025 local authority elections as required by the Local Government (Electoral Legislation and Māori Wards and Constituencies) Amendment Act 2024
- e) determined that this decision be recognised as not significant in terms of section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002
- f) determined that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with section 79 of the Act, determined that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits, or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.

Jamieson/Davey

10. Local Government Election Year Protocols for Elected Members

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the Taranaki Regional Council Local Government Election Year Protocols for elected members

Cloke/Williamson

11. Public Excluded

In accordance with section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, resolved that the public is excluded from the following part of the proceedings of the Ordinary Council Meeting on 18 February 2025 for the following reason/s:

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

Item 12:

Confirmation of Public Excluded Ordinary Council Minutes – 1 April 2025

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 (a) and [section 7](#) (2) (a) and (2) (g) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Item 13:

Confirmation of Public Excluded Operations and Regulatory Committee Minutes – 29 April 2025

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 In accordance with Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, this is to be considered with the public excluded as the public conduct of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings would be likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial.

Item 14:

Confirmation of Public Excluded Executive Audit and Risk Minutes – 5 May 2025

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 where the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information; and/or enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice, commercial activities.

Williamson/Cloke

There being no further business the Chairperson, C S Williamson, declared the meeting of the Ordinary Council meeting closed with a karakia at 11.14am.

Council Chairperson: _____

C S Williamson



Date: 24 June 2025

Subject: Receipt of Operations and Regulatory Committee Minutes

Author: M Jones, Governance Administrator

Approved by: M J Nield, Director - Corporate Services

Document: TRCID-1492626864-765

Recommendations

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the Minutes of the Operations and Regulatory Committee meeting held at the Taranaki Regional Council, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford on Tuesday 10 June 2025
- b) adopts the recommendations therein.

Appendices/Attachments

TRCID-1492626864-827: [Operations and Regulatory Minutes 10 June 2025](#)



Date: 10 June 2025

Venue: Taranaki Regional Council Boardroom, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford

Document: TRCID-1492626864-827

Present:

S W Hughes	Chair
B J Bigham	
D M Cram	zoom
C L Littlewood	zoom
C S Williamson	ex officio
N W Walker	ex officio
R Buttimore	Iwi Representative
D Luke	Iwi Representative
Ā White	Iwi Representative

Attending:

S J Ruru	Chief Executive
A J Matthews	Director - Environment Quality
D Harrison	Director - Operations
F Kiddle	Strategy Lead
L Miller	Manager – Resource Consents (zoom- left meeting at 9.33am)
J Glasgow	Manager – Compliance
J Cookson	Programme Lead - Primary Industry
C Carré	Compliance Officer - Enforcement
C Bevans	Project Interface Coordinator
V McKay	Manager – Environmental Assurance
L Honnor	Programme Lead – Biodiversity (joined meeting at 9.22am)
S Ellis	Environment Services Manager (joined meeting at 9.22am)
M Jones	Governance Administrator
C Woollin	Communications Advisor

Karakia: The meeting opened with a group Karakia at 9.00am.

Apologies: Were received and sustained from Councillor Cloke, Councillor McIntyre and P Muir.

Bigham/Cram

1. Confirmation of Operations and Regulatory Committee Minutes – 29 April 2025

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) took as read and confirmed the minutes of the Operations and Regulatory Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council held on 29 April 2025 at Taranaki Regional Council 47 Cloten Road Stratford
- b) noted the recommendations therein were adopted by the Taranaki Regional Council on Tuesday 13 May 2025.

Hughes/White

2. Resource Consents Issued under Delegated Authority & Applications in Progress

- 2.1 L Miller advised of the consents granted and other consent processing actions since the last meeting.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the schedule of resource consents granted and other consent processing actions, made under delegated authority.

Hughes/Buttmore

3. Incidents, Compliance Monitoring Non-Compliances and Enforcement Summary – 4 April 2025 to 15 May 2025

- 3.1 J Glasgow provided a summary of the incidents and compliance monitoring non-compliance and enforcement for the period 4 April 2025 to 15 May 2025.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received this memorandum Incident, Compliance Monitoring Non-Compliances and Enforcement Summary – 4 April 2025 to 15 May 2025
- b) received the summary of the incidents, compliance monitoring non-compliances and enforcement for the period from 4 April 2025 to 15 May 2025
- c) noted the action taken by staff acting under delegated authority.

Bigham/Cram

4. Summary of Dairy Farm Synthetic Nitrogen Application Reporting for the 2023-2024 Season

- 4.1 J Cookson advised of the progress made by Council relating to the implementation of the synthetic nitrogen reporting requirements.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received this memorandum, Summary of Dairy Farm Nitrogen Application Reporting for the 2023-2024 season
- b) noted compliance with nitrogen application reporting for the 2023-2024 season has been very high and is to be congratulated
- c) noted that enforcement tools will continue to be considered when dealing with over application of synthetic nitrogen and failure to report nitrogen application data.

Davey/Luke

5. Key Native Ecosystem Programme update

- 5.1 L Honnor provided an update on the eight new Key Native Ecosystem sites.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received this memorandum and the attached inventory sheets for:
 - Te Kainga o nga Wairere Ngahere
 - Ora Downs Bush
 - McDonald's Bush
 - Indy and Cleo's Forest Remnants
 - Fleming's Wetland
 - Munro's Wetland
 - Fowlers Reserve
 - Manawapou Lakes.
- b) noted that the aforementioned sites have indigenous biodiversity values of regional significance and should be identified as Key Native Ecosystem sites

Cram/White

6. Te Ara o Te Ata – Mt Messenger Bypass Update

- 6.1 C Bevins and C Carré provided an update and gave a PowerPoint presentation relating to the progress of Te Ara o Te Ata – Mt Messenger Bypass.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the memorandum entitled Te Ara o Te Ata – Mt Messenger Bypass Project
- b) noted the Council will monitor and, where necessary, enforce the provisions of the Resource Management Act 1991 using its Enforcement Policy (2017)
- c) noted the ongoing nature of the project and the role and responsibilities of Council in regard to its timely delivery.

Davey/Wilkinson

Public Excluded

In accordance with section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, resolves that the public is excluded from the following part of the proceedings of the Operations and Regulatory Committee Meeting on Tuesday 10 June 2025.

Item 13 – Confirmation of Public Excluded Operations and Regulatory Minutes – 29 April 2025

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 (a) and [section 7](#) (2) (a) and (2) (g) of the *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987*.

Hughes/Bigham

There being no further business the Committee Chairperson, Councillor S W Hughes, declared the meeting of the Operations and Regulatory Committee closed at 10.07am.

Operations and

Regulatory

Committee Chairperson: _____

S W Hughes



Date: 24 June 2025

Subject: Receipt of Policy and Planning Committee Minutes

Author: M Jones, Governance Administrator

Approved by: M J Nield, Director - Corporate Services

Document: TRCID-1492626864-764

Recommendations

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the Minutes of the Policy and Planning Committee meeting held at the Taranaki Regional Council, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford on Tuesday 10 June 2025
- b) adopts the recommendations therein.

Appendices/Attachments

TRCID-1492626864-809: [Policy and Planning Committee Minutes 10 June 2025](#)



Date:	10 June 2025	
Venue:	Taranaki Regional Council Boardroom, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford	
Document:	TRCID-1492626864-809	
Present:	B J Bigham	Chairperson
	S W Hughes	
	A L Jamieson	
	D M Cram	(zoom)
	C S Williamson	ex officio (left meeting at 1.08pm)
	N W Walker	ex officio
	B Haque	New Plymouth District Council (left meeting at 12.13pm)
	C Filbee	South Taranaki District Council
	M Ritai	Iwi Representative (zoom - left meeting at 11.45am)
	E Bailey	Iwi Representative (zoom – left meeting at 1.58pm)
	P Moeahu	Iwi Representative (left meeting at 11.53am)
	L Gibbs	Federated Farmers
Attending:	S J Ruru	Chief Executive
	A J Matthews	Director – Environment Quality
	D Harrison	Director – Operations (left meeting at 1.21pm)
	F Kiddle	Acting Director – Resource Management and Strategy lead
	M Jones	Governance Administrator
	L Hawkins	Policy Manager (zoom)
	F Kumeroa	Scientist - Freshwater
	F Jansma	Scientist – Water Quality
	T Kleysen	Scientist - Freshwater
	T McElroy	Manager – Science and Technology
	J Reader	Communications and Engagement Manager
	C Woollin	Communications Advisor
	S Tamarapa	Pou Takawaenga - Relationship Facilitator
	B Hutterd	Senior Policy Analyst (joined meeting at 11.48am)
	G Marcroft	Senior Policy Analyst - Regional Planning Lead
	A Smith	Science Communications Adviser (left meeting at 11.33am)
	J Cookson	Programme Lead - Primary Industry
	T Gordan	Programme Manager – Freshwater
	H Goslin	Consultant
	F Boyd	Consultant

15 members of the public in attendance. 12 left the meeting at 11.44am

The meeting opened at 10.30am.

Apologies: Were received and sustained from Councillor Littlewood, Councillor McIntyre and Councillor Boyde – Stratford District Council.

Bigham/Hughes

1. Deputation: Fiona Young – Protect our Moana Taranaki.

1.1 Fiona spoke in opposition of the matters of seabed mining and the fast-track process.

2. Deputation: D Ngāwera-Packer – Ngāti Ruanui

2.1 Debbie spoke in opposition of the fast-track process relating to seabed mining.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Transport Committee:

- a) received the deputations from F Turner and D Ngāwera-Packer.

Bigham/Hughes

3. Confirmation of Minutes Policy and Planning 29 April 2025

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) took as read and confirmed the minutes of the Policy and Planning Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council held on 29 April 2025 at Taranaki Regional Council 47 Cloten Road Stratford
- b) noted the recommendations therein were adopted by the Taranaki Regional Council on Tuesday 13 May 2025.

Bigham/Walker

4. Fast-track Approvals Act and Taranaki VTM Project

4.1 F Kiddle provided an overview of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 and the Taranaki VTM Project to undertake iron sand extraction in the South Taranaki Bight.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- b) received this memorandum titled *Fast Track Approvals Act and Taranaki VTM Project*
- c) noted that if Council is deemed a relevant local authority, it will be asked to nominate a person to the decision-making panel for the Taranaki VTM Project application and provide comment on the application
- d) noted Council must approach the Taranaki VTM Project application without predetermination, focusing its comments on the regulatory tests after a robust assessment of the relevant documents
- e) noted that due to time constraints, some decisions may need to be consulted with the Policy & Planning Committee out of session via email, and either retrospectively endorsed or taken directly to Ordinary Council for a decision.

L Gibbs abstained from the vote

Williamson/Hughes

5. State of the Environment Monitoring Report 2019-2024 and Marine and Coast Snapshot

- 5.1 A Matthews introduced J Valdes who provided an overview of the Rocky Shore State of the Environment monitoring report 2019-2024.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the memorandum Rocky Shore State of the Environment Monitoring Report 2019-2024 and Marine and Coast Snapshot
- b) noted the recommendations therein
- c) received the accompanying technical report and environmental snapshot.

Walker/Williamson

6. Investigating Drivers of Temporal Patterns in Freshwater Macroinvertebrate Metrics in Taranaki

- 6.1 A Matthews introduced F Kumeroa who gave an overview of the recent NIWA report - Investigating drivers of temporal patterns in freshwater macroinvertebrate metrics in *Taranaki* that was commissioned by Council.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the memorandum *Investigating Drivers of Temporal Patterns in Freshwater Macroinvertebrate Metrics in Taranaki* and the accompanying technical report
- b) noted the findings therein.

Walker/Williamson

7. Freshwater Implementation June Update

- 7.1 L Hawkins provided a freshwater Implementation update for June 2025.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the June 2025 update on the Freshwater Implementation Programme.

Williamson/Walker

8. Suspension of Standing Orders – Land and Freshwater Workshop items

- 8.1 S Ruru explained the need to suspend Standing Orders for the following agenda items:

- a. Freshwater Implementation Update
- b. Integrated Management
- c. Fish Passage Update
- d. Contaminated Land
- e. High Flow Harvesting
- f. Animal Effluent phase out report back

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the Suspension of Standing Orders - Freshwater Workshop items memorandum
- b) approved the suspension of Standing Orders 20.2, 20.5, 20.6, 20.8, 20.10, 20.11, 20.12, 20.13, 20.14, 20.15, 21, 24 and 25
- c) determined in accordance with Standing Order 3.5, that these standing orders should be suspended to facilitate more in-depth discussion between Committee members and officers in relation to the different policy options that might exist for a particular issue
- d) noted that the suspension of Standing Orders will end at the completion of the Animal Effluent phase out report back item
- e) determined that this decision be recognised as not significant in terms of section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002
- f) determined that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with section 79 of the Act, determined that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits, or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.

Bigham/Filbee

9. Integrated Management – Draft Land and Freshwater Plan

- 9.1 L Hawkins outlined the purpose, structure and direction that is being navigated by staff in drafting the Integrated Management (IM) chapter of the draft Land and Freshwater Plan (LFWP).

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the memorandum title Integrated Management – draft land and freshwater plan.
- b) supported the direction set out in the memorandum, pending any changes in detail discussed during the workshop held during the meeting
- c) determined that this decision be recognised as not significant in terms of section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002
- d) determined that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with section 79 of the Act, determined that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits, or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.

Walker/Bailey

The meeting was adjourned at 12.28pm

The meeting reconvened at 12.55pm

10. Fish Passage Update

- 10.1 L Hawkins introduced B Hutterd and T Kleyzen who gave a PowerPoint presentation update on the work that has been completed to date in support of fish passage remediation throughout the region.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) supported the direction set out in Option 2 to refine the Draft Plan's management approach to instream works
- b) received the draft classification of desirable and undesirable species within Taranaki found in Appendix I
- c) noted that further engagement is required for the classification of desirable and undesirable species
- d) noted the work being taken to maintain, improve and remediate fish passage across the region
- e) determined that this decision be recognised as not significant in terms of section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002
- f) determined that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with section 79 of the Act, determined that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits, or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.

Cram/Gibbs

11. Contaminated Land and Waste

- 11.1 L Hawkins introduced H Goslin and C McKenzie who gave a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed framework to manage contaminated land and waste in the draft Freshwater Plan.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the memorandum titled – Contaminated Land and Waste
- b) supported the recommended direction to managing Contaminated Land and Waste set out in this paper
- c) noted that staff will engage with iwi Pou Taiao as part of the next phase of work, including discussions with the Wai Steering Group.

Filbee/Walker

12. High Flow Harvesting

- 12.1 F Boyd gave a PowerPoint presentation and sought support from the Committee for a preferred framework in managing high flow harvesting.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the memorandum titled – High flow harvesting
- b) supported the recommended direction for managing high flow harvesting set out in this paper
- c) noted that staff will continue to engage with iwi Pou Taiao as part of the next phase of work, including discussions with the Wai Steering Group.

E Bailey and C Filbee were not in support of recommendation b)

Jamieson/Hughes

13. Report Back on Proposed Dairy Effluent Management phase - Out

13.1 L Hawkins and F Boyd provided a further update on proposed dairy effluent management phase out options which included alternate phase-out options based off the feedback received from the 29 April 2025 Policy and Planning committee meeting.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the memorandum title Report back on proposed effluent phase-out; and
- b) supported the direction set out in the alternative option for phasing out existing discharges to water as described in this paper.

Bigham/Jamieson

There being no further business the Committee Chairperson, B J Bigham, declared the meeting of the Policy and Planning Committee closed at 2.14pm.

Policy and Planning

Committee Chairperson: _____

B J Bigham



Date: 24 June 2025

Subject: Receipt of Executive Audit and Risk Committee Minutes

Author: M Jones, Governance Administrator

Approved by: M J Nield, Director – Corporate Services

Document: TRCID-1492626864-771

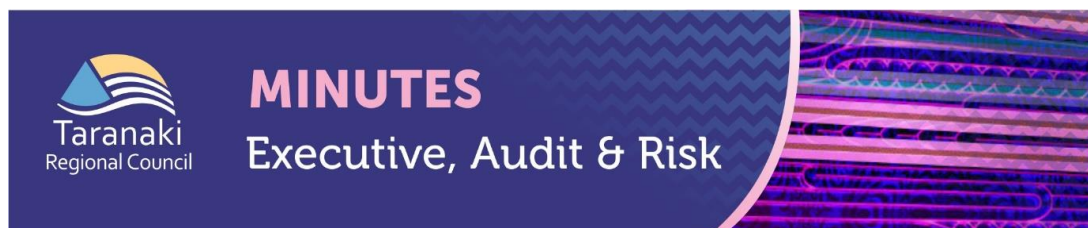
Recommendations

That Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the minutes of the Executive, Audit and Risk Committee meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council held in the Taranaki Regional Council Boardroom, 47 Cloten Road on Monday 16 June 2025
- b) adopts the recommendations therein.

Appendices/Attachments

TRCID-1492626864-842: [Unconfirmed Executive Audit and Risk Minutes 16 June 2025](#)



Date:	16 June 2025	
Venue:	Taranaki Regional Council, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford	
Document:	TRCID-1492626864-842	
Present:	M J Cloke	Chairperson
	A Jamieson	
	B Bigham	zoom
	C S Williamson	ex officio
	N W Walker	ex officio
Attending:	S J Ruru	Chief Executive
	M J Nield	Director – Corporate Services (zoom)
	D Bird	Health, Safety and Wellness Adviser
	A De Faria	Finance Manager
	F Ritson	Policy Analyst – Transport (zoom - left meeting at 10.06am)
	M Jones	Governance Administrator
	N Chadwick	Executive Assistant to Chief Executive and Chair
	F Kiddle	Strategy Lead
	C Woollin	Communications Advisor

The meeting opened with a group Karakia at 10.00am.

Apologies: Were received and sustained from Councillor Hughes, Councillor McIntyre and Councillor Littlewood.

Walker/Jamieson

1. Confirmation of Minutes Executive Audit and Risk Committee Minutes – 5 May 2025

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- took as read and confirmed the minutes of Executive Audit and Risk Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council held at 10.00am on Monday 5 May 2025 at Taranaki Regional Council 47 Cloten Road Stratford
- noted the recommendations therein were adopted by the Taranaki Regional Council on Tuesday 13 May 2024.

Walker/Williamson

2. Regional Stock Truck Effluent Strategy Review

- 2.1 F Ritson advised of the initiation of a project to complete a review of the Regional Stock Truck Effluent Strategy.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the memorandum, Regional Stock Truck Effluent Strategy review
- b) noted that a review of the Regional Stock Truck Effluent Strategy has been initiated for completion during the 2025/2026 financial year.

Jamieson/Walker

3. Health and Safety Report

- 3.1 M Nield and D Bird provided an update on health and safety performance.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the June 2025 Health Safety and Wellness Report.

Williamson/Cloke

4. Financial and Operational Report

- 4.1 A De Faria provided an update on the operational and financial performance.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the memorandum Financial and Operational Report and the April 2025 Monthly Financial Reports.
- b) noted the digital media update

Cloke/Walker

5. 2024/2025 Audit Planning Report

- 5.1 A De Faria gave an overview of the Audit Planning Report relating to the 2024/2025 Annual Report.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the Audit Planning Report relating to the audit of the *2024/2025 Annual Report*.

Bigham/Walker

6. Update of Delegations Manual

- 6.1 M Nield provided an update on the Delegations Manual for the passing of the Fast Track Approvals Act 2024.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received this Update of Delegations Manual
- b) approved the amendment of the Delegations Manual for the Fast Track Approvals Act 2024

- c) determined that this decision be recognised as not significant in terms of section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002
- d) determined that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with section 79 of the Act, determined that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits, or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.

Williamson/Cloke

7. Accommodation Update

7.1 M Nield provided an update on the Accommodation Project.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the Accommodation Update Report June 2025
- b) noted the progress to date and the next steps on the Accommodation Project.

Cloke/Williamson

8. Stadium Taranaki – verbal update

8.1 Committee Chair T Cloke and Taranaki Regional Council Chair C Williamson commended M Neild and his team for their dedication and hard work throughout the Stadium project, and congratulated them on bringing it to completion.

9. Public Excluded

In accordance with section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, resolved that the public is excluded from the following part of the proceedings of the Executive Audit and Risk Meeting on 16 June 2025 for the following reason/s:

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

Item 11 – Confirmation of Public Excluded Executive Audit and Risk Minutes – 5 May 2025

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 where the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information; and/or enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice, commercial activities.

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution	When can the item be released into the public
Item15: Accommodation Project Update	To enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities. To enable any local authority holding the	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	Upon the formal resolution of the Council.

	information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	under section 7 (2) (h) and (2) (i) of the <i>Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987</i>	
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Cloke/Williamson

There being no further business the Committee Chairperson, M J Cloke, declared the meeting of the Executive Audit and Risk Committee meeting closed at 10.38am.

Executive Audit and Risk

Committee Chairperson: _____

M J Cloke



Date: 24 June 2025

Subject: Receipt of Regional Transport Committee Minutes

Author: M Jones, Governance Administrator

Approved by: M J Nield, Director – Corporate Services

Document: TRCID-1492626864-758

Purpose

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to receive the minutes of the:
 - Regional Transport Committee held on 5 June 2025.

Executive summary

2. The Regional Transport Committee is a Joint Committee between the Taranaki Regional Council and the three district councils of Taranaki.
3. The Local Government Act (Schedule 7, clause 30(8)) states that a joint committee is deemed to be both a committee of the local authority and a committee of the other local authorities or public body.
4. Each council has therefore been given the minutes of the joint committee meeting for their receipt and information.

Recommendation

That Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the unconfirmed minutes of the Regional Transport Committee meeting held on 5 June 2025.

Appendices/Attachments

TRCID-1492626864-810: [Unconfirmed RTC Minutes 5 June 2025](#)



Date:	5 June 2025	
Venue:	Taranaki Regional Council Boardroom, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford	
Document:	TRCID-1492626864-810	
Present:	A Jamieson	Taranaki Regional Council (Chairperson)
	T Cloke	Taranaki Regional Council
	N Volzke	Stratford District Council
	P Nixon	South Taranaki District Council
	H Duynhoven	New Plymouth District Council
	L Stewart	Waka Kotahi
	A Russ	New Zealand Police
Attending:	M Nield	Taranaki Regional Council
	A Harris	Alt Stratford District Council
	L Hawkins	Taranaki Regional Council (zoom)
	F Ritson	Taranaki Regional Council
	N Chadwick	Taranaki Regional Council
	C Gazley	Taranaki Regional Council
	S Bowden	Stratford District Council
	S Knartson	New Plymouth District Council
	V Lim	South Taranaki District Council

The meeting opened with a group Karakia at 10.30am.

Apologies: No apologies were received.

1. Deputation

- 1.1 Sarah Lucas gave a deputation in relation to the lack of investment for improved safety measures of Inglewood and state highways.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Transport Committee:

- a) directed officers to prepare an acknowledgement letter of their deputation

2. Confirmation of Minutes Regional Transport Committee – 13 March 2025

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Transport Committee:

- a) took as read and confirmed the minutes of the Taranaki Regional Transport committee held at 47 Cloten Road, Stratford on 13 March 2025
- b) noted the unconfirmed minutes of the Taranaki Regional Transport Committee meetings held at 47 Cloten Street, Stratford on 13 March 2025, have been circulated to the New Plymouth District Council, Stratford District Council and the South Taranaki District Council for their receipt and information.

Cloke/Nixon

3. Receipt of State Highway 3 Working Group Minutes

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Transport Committee:

- a) received the unconfirmed minutes of the State Highway 3 Working Group (SH3WG) meeting held Uruti Community Centre 1672 Mōkau Road, Mt Messenger, on 4 March 2025.

Cloke/Nixon

4. Receipt of Minutes Regional Transport Advisory Group – 8 May 2025

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Transport Committee:

- a) received the unconfirmed minutes of the Regional Transport Advisory Group (RTAG) meeting held at 47 Cloten Road, Stratford on 8 May 2025.

Cloke/Volzke

5. Regional Stock Effluent Strategy Review

- 5.1 F Ritson advised of the initiation of a process to complete a review of the Regional Stock Truck Effluent Strategy.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Transport Committee:

- a) received the memorandum, Regional Stock Truck Effluent Strategy review
- b) noted that a review of the Regional Stock Truck Effluent Strategy has been initiated for completion during the 2025/2026 financial year.

Nixon/Duynhoven

6. Forestry Impacts on Transport

- 6.1 F Ritson. informed the Committee on potential actions to prepare for future forestry harvesting impacts and to determine the necessary actions.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Transport Committee:

- a) received the memorandum, Forestry impacts on transport
- b) approved Option (i) as being a comprehensive package of initial actions to guide decisions to reduce the future impacts of forestry on transport networks
- c) determined that this decision be recognised as not significant in terms of section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002
- d) determined that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with section 79 of the Act, determined that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits, or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.

Cloke/Volzke

7. Release of Public Transport Plan 2025

- 7.1 F Ritson advised of the release of the Regional Public Transport Plan 2025.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Transport Committee:

- a) received the memorandum, Release of Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035
- b) noted that the Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 guides the delivery of public transport services, information and infrastructure within the Taranaki region with particularly focus on the next three years
- c) noted that realising the ambitions for significant improvements to public transport in Taranaki remains dependent on funding becoming available.

Nixon/Duynhoven

8. Submission on Changes to Driver Licensing

- 8.1 F Ritson. provided an overview and requested approval for the submission to Te Manatū Waka Ministry of Transport (the Ministry) on the proposed changes to the graduated driver licence system.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Transport Committee:

- a) received the memorandum, Submission on changes to driver licensing
- b) received and approved the submission prepared on the proposed changes to the driver licensing system, subject to any amendments requested by the Committee, and instructs staff to submit the submission
- c) noted that an amended *Land Transport (Driver Licensing) Rule 1999* is proposed to be in place by November 2025, with changes to the driver licensing system implemented by 1 July 2026
- d) determined that this decision be recognised as not significant in terms of section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002

- e) determined that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with section 79 of the Act, determined that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits, or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.

Cloke/Duynhoven

9. Correspondence and Information Items

- 9.1 F Ritson provided an update on information and correspondence received since the last meeting.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Transport Committee:

- a) received and noted for information purposes the correspondence received from Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency on the outcome of the speed limit reversal consultation
- b) investigates through the Regulations Review Committee as to whether the decision regarding the affect section of State highway 3 complies with the road safety requirements of the Land Transport Safety Act
- c) noted the speed limits on the two sections of State Highway 3 between Waitara to Bell Block that were consulted on will both be reverting to 100km/h by 1 July 2025
- d) received and noted for information purposes the correspondence received from Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency on the outcome of the Emergency Works investment policies review in mid-2024
- e) noted that Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency has decided to not make further changes to the investment policies for Emergency Works during the current funding period which goes through to 30 June 2027
- f) noted that the Emergency Works investment policies will be revisited for the 2027-2030 funding period.

Duynhoven/Cloke

10. Regional Land Transport Plan Implementation Updates

- 10.1 S Knartson, New Plymouth District Council provided an update on transport activities within the New Plymouth District.
- 10.2 V Lim, South Taranaki District Council, provided an update on transport activities within the South Taranaki district
- 10.3 S Bowden, Stratford District Council provided an update on transport activities within the Stratford District.
- 10.4 C Gazley, Taranaki Regional Council provided an update on public transport activities.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Transport Committee:

- a) received the update provided by the New Plymouth District Council on its transport activities
- b) received the update provided by the South Taranaki District Council on its transport activities
- c) received the update provided by the Stratford District Council on its transport activities
- d) received the update provided by the Taranaki Regional Council on public transport activities.

Volzke/Nixon

11. NZTA/Waka Kotahi Update

11.1 L Stewart, Waka Kotahi provided an update on regional and national activities.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Transport Committee:

- a) received the updates and presentations provided by Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency.

Duynhoven/Volzke

12. New Zealand Police Update

12.1 A Russ, New Zealand Police provided a verbal update on road fatalities in Taranaki.

There being no further business the Committee Chairperson, Councillor A L Jamieson declared the Regional Transport Committee meeting closed with Karakia at 12.43pm.

Regional Transport

Committee Chairperson: _____

A L Jamieson



Date: 24 June 2025

Subject: Remits for Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting

Author: N Chadwick, Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive and Chairperson

Approved by: S J Ruru, Chief Executive

Document: TRCID-1492626864-847

Purpose

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to present the remits that are going to the upcoming Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) Annual General Meeting (AGM). It asks that Council give consideration as to whether it wishes to give pre-AGM direction to the voting delegate about the Taranaki Regional Council's (TRC) support or otherwise of each of these remits.

Executive summary

2. The LGNZ AGM is to be held in Ōtautahi (Christchurch) on 16 July 2025.
3. At that meeting, consideration will be given to five remits that have been submitted by local authorities. Each has received either formal support from councils, or support from at least one zone or sector group meeting prior to being submitted and has been screened through the LGNZ Remits Screening Policy.
4. The TRC delegate, Chair Craig Williamson, will vote on Council's behalf on each.

Recommendations

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting Remits for 205, noting that the Chair will vote on behalf of the Taranaki Regional Council
- b) provides any guidance that it considers appropriate to the Chair as to its view on each of the remits.

Background

5. Usually the AGM is held either prior to or immediately following the LGNZ conference.
6. LGNZ has a Remits Screening Policy which determines which remits, submitted by local authorities, will be considered at the LGNZ AGM. This year, five remits have been accepted for consideration and are attached.

Discussion

7. Chair Craig Williamson will attend the AGM on behalf of Council as the Council's voting delegate. Council is only entitled to one voting delegate who would exercise the Council's voting rights. As the Council's senior office holder, the Chair is the most appropriate delegate to attend.
8. So that the Chair can represent the position of Council, consideration needs to be given to each remit, and a decision made for each on whether council supports the remit proposed. Council may decide that it does not have a position on a remit, and that the delegate may make a decision at the meeting following discussion on the particular matter. It is important to note that councils speak to their remits, so delegates at the AGM may be in a more informed voting position than councillors are prior to the AGM.

Financial considerations—LTP/Annual Plan

9. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the Council's adopted Long-Term Plan and estimates. Any financial information included in this memorandum has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice.

Policy considerations

10. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the policy documents and positions adopted by this Council under various legislative frameworks including, but not restricted to, the *Local Government Act 2002*, the *Resource Management Act 1991* and the *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987*.

Climate change considerations

11. There are no climate change impacts to consider in relation to this item.

Iwi considerations

12. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the Council's policy for the development of Māori capacity to contribute to decision-making processes (schedule 10 of the *Local Government Act 2002*) as outlined in the adopted Long-Term Plan and/or Annual Plan.

Community considerations

13. This memorandum and the associated recommendations have considered the views of the community, interested and affected parties and those views have been recognised in the preparation of this memorandum.

Legal considerations

14. This memorandum and the associated recommendations comply with the appropriate statutory requirements imposed upon the Council.

Appendices/Attachments

TRCID-1492626864-846: [Local Government New Zealand AGM Remits 2025](#)



2025 Remits



// 01 Security System Payments

Proposed by:	Far North District Council and Central Otago District Council
Supported by:	Zone 6 and Zone 1
Remit:	<i>That LGNZ advocates for security system payments to be included as an allowance under the Local Government Members Determination, in line with those afforded to Members of Parliament.</i>

Why is this remit important?

The importance of safety for elected members has become more apparent in recent times. With an increase in animosity towards “government figures,” both online and in person, the time has come to address this. Recent examples of elected members being threatened, harassed and abused, including incidents occurring at or near their home address, highlights the need for changes to the Local Government Act to be updated. The ability for security system payments to be made as an allowance would go some way towards encouraging actual and perceived safety for existing elected members, as well as ensuring future candidates can feel safer while representing their communities.

Background and Context

Democracy worldwide is currently considered a “tinderbox” according to multiple news sites. In 2024, 37 candidates for election were murdered in Mexico. While this may seem extreme – our own Electoral Commission in NZ has a page dedicated to “security advice” for potential candidates. The rise of fringe groups, anonymity of online forums, general mistrust of government figures and polarising coverage of worldwide democratic outcomes has been creating a platform for those with singular or disaffected viewpoints. While we recognise that some of the sentiment is online, there have been instances of this spilling over into daily life for our elected members. Much of “being safe” is about “feeling safe.”

The Members of Parliament Determination 2023 (Section 48) allows for up to \$4500 to install a security system at a member’s primary place of residence, along with up to \$1000 per year to monitor this.

LGNZ’s own research carried out last year identified three quarters of elected members had suffered abuse or harassment at public meetings, a third at the supermarket or school pick up, and that half of EM’s felt it was worse than a year ago. Supporting new anti-stalking and harassment Legislation is a good start, but this is something that could immediately help our elected members to feel safer at home.

Some councils are already supporting elected members in personal safety. Central Otago District has paid for a member to install a camera at their home address where they live with young kids following an obnoxious campaign including items being left in their letterbox. There will be multiple other examples where councils are promoting personal safety, wellbeing initiatives and also installing or providing additional security measures at homes and council offices.

Far North and Central Otago Districts are just two examples of our huge, remote areas. Overnight Central Otago, all 9,968 square kilometres of it, is covered by two on-call Police officers, based 30km



apart. Feeling safe plays a big role in actual safety. Expectations of safety will be different for an older female to a young dad with kids, a large family or a person living alone, and they are also different between rural and urban areas.

This election, we want to ensure worry about how safe someone is in their own home is not a barrier to putting their hand up to fulfil a wonderful role for our communities.

How does this remit relate to LGNZ's current work programme?

Ties into the research on safety that LGNZ carried out last year, and also the support of the Crimes Legislation (Stalking and Harassment) Amendment Bill.

How will the proposing council help LGNZ to make progress on this remit?

Connect with Minister Mark Patterson (Minister for Rural Communities) for support

Investigate the possibility for a partnership with a national retailer/supplier of home security systems and/or trail cams

Timeframe - depends how quickly things could progress before the election?



// 02 Improving Joint Management Agreements

Proposed by: Northland Regional Council

Supported by: LGNZ Zone 1

Remit: *That LGNZ advocate to Government for: a) legislative change to make the Joint Management Agreement (JMA) mechanism more accessible for councils to use with iwi/hapū, b) for the provision of technical, legal and financial support to facilitate the use of JMAs for joint council and iwi/hapū environmental governance, and c) for a mechanism such as JMAs to be included in the Government's new resource management legislation.*

Why is this remit important?

JMAs are a valuable tool for councils and iwi / hapū to work together on environmental governance. Many councils support stronger partnerships with tangata whenua, but the statutory and practical barriers to formalising JMAs have severely limited their uptake by councils and iwi/hapū. There is thus a need to address the limitations of the current mechanism under the RMA, to make it more accessible to councils and tangata whenua, as well as to ensure a mechanism such as JMAs is included in the Government's new resource management legislation.

Recommended improvements include a) simplification or modification of the JMA statutory requirements and criteria; b) provision of a customisable JMA template and detailed guidance on when JMAs might be appropriate and how to establish them; c) explanation of the legal implications for the parties, and the Health & Safety obligations; d) making JMAs mandatory in appropriate circumstances in addition to Treaty settlements; and e) provision of funding to support iwi/hapū capacity to develop and implement JMAs.

Background and Context

JMAs under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) provide for agreement between a local authority and an iwi authority and/or groups representing hapū to jointly perform or exercise any local authority functions, powers or duties under the RMA relating to a natural or physical resource.

Since inclusion as a mechanism under sections 36B-E of the RMA in 2005, only two JMAs have been established, apart from their mandatory use in some Treaty settlements.

For a JMA to be developed, the local authority must be satisfied that the agreement is an "efficient" method of exercising the function, power or duty. However, if a JMA were to require more funds and resources to support administrative costs and extra person-hours than what council would itself expend, the "efficiency" criterion might not be satisfied. Thus, "efficiency" could compel an iwi/hapū to contribute its own resources to the collaborative management process if it wished to conclude a JMA. A lack of financial resources is repeatedly identified by iwi/hapū as being the most significant barrier to their full participation under the RMA.

Another requirement of s36B is that the local authority must be satisfied that the other party to the JMA has the "technical or special capability or expertise to perform or exercise the function, power,



or duty jointly with the local authority". Many (especially unsettled) iwi/hapū are under-resourced, often having to rely on voluntary contributions of resources and expertise; thus funding and technical support may be needed to facilitate iwi/hapū participation in JMAs.

Another deterrent to JMA uptake is that the agreement can be cancelled by either party at any time. If conflict arises, the local authority will always have the "upper hand" because the function(s) shared under the JMA will revert exclusively to local authority control. More stringent cancellation requirements could be introduced that give JMA parties greater assurance of continuation.

Only those JMAs created as part of Treaty Settlements are currently mandatory for local authorities. A similar mandatory requirement under the RMA for councils to enter into JMAs in appropriate circumstances would facilitate uptake.

Currently there is very little information available on the legal implications of JMAs, and on the process and considerations for developing and implementing such an agreement. There is also no template provided for such agreements. Technical guidance from central government would further facilitate uptake.

In summary, very low uptake of JMAs reflects the high barriers to their uptake by councils and iwi/hapū. They remain a potentially useful tool if sufficient guidance, resourcing and technical support is provided, and if criteria for developing them are made more enabling.

How does this remit relate to LGNZ's current work programme?

This remit aligns with LGNZ's strategy, in particular the long-term goal that Te Tiriti partnerships between local government and Māori are authentic, strong and respected. We are not aware of any existing or planned work to advocate for improved legislative mechanisms and implementation support for Joint Management Agreements.

How will the proposing council help LGNZ to make progress on this remit?

We can provide some technical expertise to support analysis of specific options to improve how JMAs function and some advocacy support.



// 03 Alcohol Licensing Fees

Proposed by: Far North District Council

Supported by: LGNZ Zone 1

Remit: *That LGNZ advocates for the government to update the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 18 December 2013 to account for inflation and include a mechanism for automatic annual inflation adjustments.*

Why is this remit important?

If a local council does not have a bylaw that sets alcohol licensing fees and charges it must default to the schedule of fees in the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013. These default fees were set 12 years ago and, with the impact of inflation over this period, no longer enable local councils to reasonably recover the costs to administer the alcohol licensing system. This has led to increasing ratepayer subsidisation of these costs. Currently the only way that councils can increase these fees and charges is to make an Alcohol Fees Bylaw under an Order in Council associated with the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012. This is an inefficient and expensive way for councils to raise their alcohol licensing fees and charges, when this issue could be simply resolved by the government updating the schedule of fees in the Regulations.

Background and Context

Objectives relating to the setting of alcohol licensing fees were listed in the review of the Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013 conducted by the Ministry of Justice in 2017. These objectives include: - recovering the total reasonable costs incurred by local councils and ARLA in administering the alcohol licensing system - ensuring that those who create the greatest need for regulatory effort bear the commensurate costs.

Alcohol licensing fees and charges are intended to cover the reasonable costs of administering the alcohol licensing system via a 'user pays' approach. The fees and charges set in the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013 are now 12 years out of date and have not been updated since 2013, despite two reviews of these fees conducted in 2018 and 2022 as required by section 404 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act. With inflation since 2013, costs to manage alcohol licenses cannot be recovered through the fees prescribed in these Regulations. This means that every time Council processes an alcohol licence it costs more than the fee paid by the licensee and the difference must be covered by general rates.

To increase these fees and charges in their districts, local councils can make Alcohol Fees Bylaws under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fee-setting Bylaws) Order 2013. However, making a bylaw is a relatively costly and inefficient way to address this issue as it involves: - time and effort to research and draft the bylaw - costs for public consultation - the need to regularly review the fees and charges set in the bylaw. A better solution would be for the government to update the fees and charges listed in the 2013 Regulations to reflect current costs. The schedule of fees in the revised Regulations should also allow for an annual CPI increase and allow cost recovery for hearings objections to District Licensing Committee decisions.



How does this remit relate to LGNZ's current work programme?

This remit sits within the Funding and Financing advocacy area within LGNZ's Advocacy Work Programme. Specifically, this relates to: - Advocating for changes to local government funding and financing - Building and working with a coalition of the willing to support LGNZ's advocacy for changes to local government funding and financing. Fees and charges are also specifically mentioned in LGNZ's funding and finance toolbox. We understand that the regulation of alcohol fees is not currently part of this Work Programme.

How will the proposing council help LGNZ to make progress on this remit?

We can provide detailed evidence of the current income received by FNDC from licensing fees based on applying the outdated fee schedule in the 2013 Regulations, compared with the costs to administer the alcohol licensing system. In summary, in the 2023/24 financial year FNDC received \$410,000 in income from licence application fees compared with costs of \$581,000. This means there was a shortfall of \$171,000 which has to be recovered from general rates. In 2023/24 licence application fees covered 71% of costs for the Council. By contrast, the 2017 Review of the 2013 Regulations reported that cost recovery across all local councils was 108%.



// 04 Aligning public and school bus services

Proposed by: Nelson City Council

Supported by: LGNZ Regional Sector

Remit: *That LGNZ advocate for the reform of the Ministry of Education funded school bus services to provide an improved service for families and to better integrate the services with council provided public transport services, including the option of Public Transport Authorities (e.g. regional and unitary councils) managing such services (with appropriate government funding), noting that:*

- a. councils better know their local communities; and*
- b. the potential to reduce congestion from better bus services for schools; and*
- c. the efficiency gains realised from integrating these two publicly funded bus services*
- d. the outdated and inflexible rules of the current centralised school bus system*

Why is this remit important?

The quality and efficiency of school and public bus services is compromised by school and public bus services being funded through two different arms of Government. Some services are funded through the New Zealand Transport Agency and councils, and others are through the Ministry of Education School Bus Transport Service. This remit proposes to align those functions by transferring the funding and management to Regional Public Transport authorities which are better placed to understand and respond to local transport needs. By improving our bus services for students, we can also reduce congestion which is noticeably less during the school holidays in towns and cities around New Zealand.

Background and Context

There are essentially two drivers for this reform. The first is that it makes no sense to have two different arms of Government separately planning and contracting publicly funded bus services. The second is that decisions about bus services are best made locally.

The co-ordination and contracting of public bus services, whether for getting students to school or for other passengers, is a complex job. Decisions about the routes, frequency, bus size and convenient bus stops are difficult, requiring the juggling the objectives of making the service as convenient as possible, maximising usage, managing costs and ensuring safety. These decisions are inherently local.

The centralised school bus transport system is a huge source of frustration to communities and councils all over New Zealand. It is governed centrally by archaic, rigid rules that date back nearly 100 years, and are unchanged to this day.



The Ministry of Education officials do the best they can within the current policy, but the system is fundamentally outdated and broken. It makes no sense for education officials to be running transport services, and it is impossible to run a community focused, flexible school transport system over thousands of schools and communities from Wellington.

One of the big opportunities of this reform is to reduce congestion by improving our bus service for students. The potential is highlighted in towns and cities all over New Zealand during school holidays when there is much less congestion. An improved bus service with timetables and routes tailored to students' needs would be a wise investment for the overall transport network.

Regional councils, unitary authorities and Auckland Transport are all public transport authorities with delegated responsibility for the development, planning and delivery of public transport services in New Zealand.

The current system has perverse incentives in that if a public transport authority uses rates to improve public transport service to an area, the Ministry of Education withdraws its service. The current system discourages councils to provide public transport services on routes and times that work for students.

Nelson/Tasman are exploring trialling the integration of the management of public and school transport services. We believe there is the opportunity to provide a more responsive service to families of school aged children, to expend our public transport network and to get efficiency gains from contracting for both types of services. If successful, the trial may result in wider reforms.

This is a significant proposal currently involving more than \$125 million of annual public expenditure on school bus services that would need to be transferred to public transport authorities. It would be a complex reform that requires careful attention to detail and consultation with parents, schools, bus service providers and councils. The prize is a better bus services in places like Nelson, less congestion on our roads and more efficient use of public money.

How does this remit relate to LGNZ's current work programme?

Transport is a critical issue facing all councils and we need to be proactively looking for way to better deliver services. This remit goes to the heart of LGNZ's vision of localism in that it proposes to localise the delivery of school bus services. This remit also compliments LGNZ's strategic relationship with Government in that it proposes reforms that improve efficiency, and is not just asking for more funding in fiscally constrained times. It also supports LGNZ's sustainability goals by providing opportunities for expansion of public transport services.

How will the proposing council help LGNZ to make progress on this remit?

Nelson City Council is keen to help advance the case for this reform. We have already engaged with the Ministry of Education, the Minister of Education and the Minister of Transport who are interested in the reforms and keen to trial this alternative approach for the delivery of school bus services. We also commit to sharing our experiences should Nelson Tasman proceed to trialling this reform.



// 05 Review of local government arrangements to achieve better balance

Proposed by: Tauranga City Council

Supported by: LGNZ Metro Sector

Remit: *That LGNZ works with the Government and Councils to review current local government arrangements, including the functions and structure of local government, to achieve a better balance between the need to efficiently and effectively deliver services and infrastructure, while enabling democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of communities.*

Why is this remit important?

Efficient and effective local democracy and associated decision making is paramount.

Background and Context

A number of local government reviews undertaken previously, have concluded that the current structure and arrangement of the local government sector, is not conducive to ensuring that infrastructure and services delivered to communities, are always done so in a cost effective and efficient manner.

Current sector arrangements are a legacy, and do not always reflect how our communities have expanded, nor how modern services are delivered.

Central government is underway with key policy and legislations changes that both directly and indirectly significantly impact the local government sector. This will require an agile and well planned response by the sector.

How does this remit relate to LGNZ's current work programme?

This is an important issue for local government as the sector responds to the current central government policy and legislation changes and reforms underway. Seeks advocacy for a work programme between central government, local government and LGNZ, to undertake this review, and ensuring local communities are well considered.

This remit sits within the principles of the Local Government Act 2002 in that it would give local government a tool to provide services more efficiently. While this is not currently part of LGNZ's work programme, engaging with central government will be essential to making progress in this area.

How will the proposing council help LGNZ to make progress on this remit?

Metro sector councils will provide support and resource to participate and work on the programme established.



Date: 24 June 2025

Subject: Extraordinary Vacancy on the Taranaki Regional Council

Author: N Chadwick, Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive and Chairperson

Approved by: M J Nield, Director - Corporate Services

Document: TRCID-1492626864-845

Purpose

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to consider and adopt an approach to attend to the extraordinary vacancy on the Taranaki Regional Council.

Recommendations

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum Extraordinary Vacancy on the Taranaki Regional Council
- b) notes that with the passing of Councillor David Lean, an extraordinary vacancy has been created on the Taranaki Regional Council
- c) resolves to either fill the extraordinary vacancy by the appointment of (named to be inserted) who is qualified to be elected as a member or to not fill the vacancy
- d) notes the requirement to publicly notify the decision made to either fill the extraordinary vacancy or to leave it unfilled
- e) determines that this decision be recognised as not significant in terms of section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002
- f) determines that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with section 79 of the Act, determines that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits, or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.

Background

2. A vacancy has been created on the Taranaki Regional Council as a result of the passing of Councillor David Lean.
3. Schedule 7 Part 1 Clause 5 notes that an extraordinary vacancy is created if a member dies. Matters related to the filling of vacancies are determined in line with section 117 of the Local Electoral Act 2001.

Issues

4. The matter for consideration is whether to fill an extraordinary vacancy that has arisen on the Taranaki Regional Council.

Discussion

5. With the passing of Councillor David Lean, a vacancy has been created on the Taranaki Regional Council.
6. The Local Electoral Act 2001 (LEA) prescribes the options for addressing extraordinary vacancies.
7. If a vacancy occurs in the office of a member of a local authority more than 12 months before the next triennial general election, the vacancy must be filled by an election under this Act.
8. Alternative options include, the Council either filling the extraordinary vacancy by the appointment of a person named in the resolution who is qualified to be elected as a member or to not fill the extraordinary vacancy. The Council needs to publicly notify the decision that it makes.
9. The next local government elections are on 11 October 2025. The Council has two further rounds of meetings before the elections. The opportunity to appoint a member and have them make a meaningful contribution prior to the elections is limited. The Council does not have issue with meeting quorums, so an appointed member is not required for that purpose. Therefore, it is recommended that the Council consider leaving the extraordinary vacancy unfilled.

Options

10. There are three options provided in the LEA for the filling of an extraordinary vacancy. These are to either conduct a by-election, make an appointment to fill the extraordinary vacancy or leave the extraordinary vacancy unfilled until the October 2025 elections.
11. As the vacancy has occurred less than 12 months before the date of the next triennial election a by-election is not required to fill the vacancy and not seen as a suitable option given the proximity to the 2025 triennial elections.
12. Council can choose to make an appointment to fill the extraordinary vacancy. However, this option is not considered appropriate given the proximity of the 2025 triennial election along with the time required for Council to make a considered appointment. This leaves the option of leaving the vacancy unfilled as the most practical option.
13. This option would also negate any costs associated with a by-election and avoid any delays in making a considered appointment as the associated process to identify suitable candidates would take time.

Significance

14. In terms of the Significance and Engagement Policy, the decision is determined as not significant as:
 - the decision does not affect a large number of residents and ratepayers to a moderate extent
 - the consequences of the decision do not affect a small number of residents and ratepayers to a large extent
 - the decision does not have a history of generating wide public interest with the Taranaki region or New Zealand generally.
15. This is an administrative arrangement to attend to a vacancy for the rest of the term of the Council.

Financial considerations—LTP/Annual Plan

16. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the Council's adopted Long-Term Plan and estimates. Any financial information included in this memorandum has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice.

Policy considerations

17. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the policy documents and positions adopted by this Council under various legislative frameworks including, but not restricted to, the Local Government Act 2002, the Resource Management Act 1991 and the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Climate change considerations

18. There are no climate change impacts to consider in relation to this item.

Iwi considerations

19. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the Council's policy for the development of Māori capacity to contribute to decision-making processes (schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2002) as outlined in the adopted Long-Term Plan and/or Annual Plan.

Community considerations

20. This memorandum and the associated recommendations have considered the views of the community, interested and affected parties and those views have been recognised in the preparation of this memorandum.

Legal considerations

21. This memorandum and the associated recommendations comply with the appropriate statutory requirements imposed upon the Council.



Date: 24 June 2025

Subject: Submission on Regulatory Standards Bill

Author: F Kiddle, Strategy Lead

Approved by: S J Ruru, Chief Executive

Document: TRCID-1492626864-844

Purpose

1. To seek retrospective endorsement for a submission on the Regulatory Standards Bill.

Recommendations

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum titled *Submission on Regulatory Standards Bill*
- b) endorses the submission contained in Appendix One
- c) determines that this decision be recognised as not significant in terms of section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002
- d) determines that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with section 79 of the Act, determines that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits, or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.

Background

2. The stated purpose of the Regulatory Standards Bill (the Bill) is to reduce the amount of unnecessary and poor-quality regulation by increasing transparency and making it clearer where legislation does not meet standards. The Bill aims to do this through two main ways.
3. The first is creating a set of principles of responsible regulation and requiring assessments against those principles. This includes both primary legislation (e.g. the Resource Management Act 1991) and secondary legislation (e.g. the Resource Management (Stock Exclusion) Regulations 2020). As drafted, all existing primary legislation would need to be gradually reviewed for consistency with the principles over time. Where legislation is inconsistent, a statement would be required to explain the reasons for the inconsistency. The proposed principles are set out below:

Rule of law

- a. the importance of maintaining consistency with the following aspects of the rule of law:
 - i. the law should be clear and accessible:

- ii. the law should not adversely affect rights and liberties, or impose obligations, retrospectively;
- iii. every person is equal before the law;
- iv. there should be an independent, impartial judiciary;
- v. issues of legal right and liability should be resolved by the application of law, rather than the exercise of administrative discretion:

Liberties

- b. legislation should not unduly diminish a person's liberty, personal security, freedom of choice or action, or rights to own, use, and dispose of property, except as is necessary to provide for, or protect, any such liberty, freedom, or right of another person.

Taking of property

- c. legislation should not take or impair, or authorise the taking or impairment of, property without the consent of the owner unless—
 - i. there is a good justification for the taking or impairment; and
 - ii. fair compensation for the taking or impairment is provided to the owner; and
 - iii. the compensation is provided, to the extent practicable, by or on behalf of the persons who obtain the benefit of the taking or impairment:

Taxes, fees, and levies

- d. the importance of maintaining consistency with section 22 of the Constitution Act 1986 (Parliamentary control of public finance)
- e. legislation should impose, or authorise the imposition of, a fee for goods or services only if the amount of the fee bears a proper relation to the cost of providing the good or service to which it relates
- f. legislation should impose, or authorise the imposition of, a levy to fund an objective or a function only if the amount of the levy is reasonable in relation to both—
 - i. the benefits that the class of payers is likely to derive, or the risks attributable to the class, in connection with the objective or function; and
 - ii. the costs of efficiently achieving the objective or providing the function:

Role of courts

- g. legislation should preserve the courts' constitutional role of ascertaining the meaning of legislation
- h. legislation should make rights and liberties, or obligations, dependent on administrative power only if the power is sufficiently defined and subject to appropriate review

Good law-making

- i. the importance of consulting, to the extent that is reasonably practicable, the persons or representatives of the persons that the responsible agency considers will be directly and materially affected by the legislation
- j. the importance of carefully evaluating—
 - i. the issue concerned; and
 - ii. the effectiveness of any relevant existing legislation and common law; and
 - iii. whether the public interest requires that the issue be addressed; and
 - iv. any options (including non-legislative options) that are reasonably available for addressing the issue; and
 - v. who is likely to benefit, and who is likely to suffer a detriment, from the legislation:

- k. legislation should be expected to produce benefits that exceed the costs of the legislation to the public or persons:
 - l. legislation should be the most effective, efficient, and proportionate response to the issue concerned that is available.
- 4. The second is through greater oversight. This is mainly through the creation of a Regulatory Standards Board to independently consider the consistency of proposed and existing legislation in response to stakeholder concerns, Minister for Regulation direction, or on its own accord.
- 5. Submissions on the Bill closed at 1pm on Monday 23 June. To meet this deadline, the draft submission was consulted out of session via email with all councilors and representatives on the Policy & Planning Committee. Feedback received is described below.

Issues

- 6. The Bill if passed would significantly influence the design of future legislation. This legislation in-turn determines the functions of Council and how these are carried out.

Discussion

- 7. The submission in Attachment One sets out the key three issues with the Bill from the Council's perspective.
- 8. First, the proposed principles do not include any reference to te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi and its principles. As set out in the Bill's regulatory impact statement, these are foundational documents of constitutional importance. Their omission does not preclude them from being considered in legislation. But it does invite uncertainty and creates, at least, a perceived inconsistency.
- 9. Second, the Bill as drafted would require local government bylaws to be assessed against the principles. These are considered secondary legislation under section 161A of the Local Government Act 2002. This fact has not been costed in the assessment of the Bill. Local government is also already subject to a number of robust tests when creating new bylaws.
- 10. Third, the Bill could undermine Council's ability to address current and future environmental issues. With its focus on individual rights, the Bill fails to provide a cohesive framework for advancing the public good and managing environmental externalities. Addressing issues such as water pollution or the decline of indigenous biodiversity also requires the impairment of private property rights in some circumstances. The Bill implies councils would need to provide compensation for such impairment.
- 11. When the draft submission was circulated for comment, some concern was raised from two representatives about the third point above. They noted compensation for impairment may sometimes be appropriate. The area of impairment, or regulatory takings, is particularly complicated – involving questions over what is and is not an environmental externality and the extent of parliamentary power. Determining fair compensation for impairment is also fraught. In response to the concerns raised, an additional sentence was added to the submission emphasizing that further consideration is required on the matter before it is integrated into law.

Options

- 12. The Council can endorse the submission, endorse the submission subject to amendments directed by the Council to then be communicated to the Select Committee, or not endorse the submission and ask the submission be withdrawn. It is recommended that the Council endorse the submission. The Regulatory Standards Bill will impact the ability of Council to effectively and efficiently undertake its functions. With submissions having closed, there is no guarantee the Select Committee will accept any amendments to the submission.

Significance

13. This decision is assessed as not significant with regards to the Significance and Engagement Policy. It will have no impact on levels of service, incur more than \$10,000,000 budgeted or \$5,000,000 of unbudgeted expenditure, or involve the transfer of ownership or control of a strategic asset. More broadly, final decision making authority rests with the Government.

Financial considerations—LTP/Annual Plan

14. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the Council's adopted Long-Term Plan and estimates. Any financial information included in this memorandum has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice.

Policy considerations

15. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the policy documents and positions adopted by this Council under various legislative frameworks including, but not restricted to, the *Local Government Act 2002*, the *Resource Management Act 1991* and the *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987*.

Climate change considerations

16. There are no climate change impacts to consider in relation to this item.

Iwi considerations

17. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the Council's policy for the development of Māori capacity to contribute to decision-making processes (schedule 10 of the *Local Government Act 2002*) as outlined in the adopted Long-Term Plan and/or Annual Plan. Considerations around te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi and its principles are outlined earlier in this memo.

Community considerations

18. This memorandum and the associated recommendations have considered the views of the community, interested and affected parties and those views have been recognised in the preparation of this memorandum.

Legal considerations

19. This memorandum and the associated recommendations comply with the appropriate statutory requirements imposed upon the Council.

Appendices/Attachments

TRCID-1553446934-87: [Taranaki Regional Council submission on Regulatory Standards Bill](#)

TRCID-1553446934-87: [Regulatory Standards Bill](#)



XX June 2025

Document: TRCID-1553446934-86

Committee Secretariat
Finance and Expenditure Committee
Parliament Buildings
Wellington
Via email: RegulatoryStandardsBill@parliament.govt.nz

Taranaki Regional Council Submission on Regulatory Standards Bill

Taranaki Regional Council (Council) welcomes the opportunity to submit on the Regulatory Standards Bill (the Bill).

Council supports the intent of improving the quality of New Zealand's regulatory system. We see opportunities for better regulatory standards to support the efficient and effective delivery of Council's functions. However, we are concerned that the framework in the Bill will not achieve this. And that it may conversely lead to legislation that undermines our ability to manage the environment and support our communities. We have three key concerns with the Bill.

First, it does not include any reference to te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi and its principles. As set out in the Bill's regulatory impact statement, these are foundational documents of constitutional importance. We note that decision-makers would still be free to consider te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi and its principles in creating legislation. However, as stated in the Bill's treaty impact statement, we are concerned this omission "creates uncertainty for decision-makers, given the perceived inconsistency with existing guidance or advice." We also note that the focus on individual liberties and property rights in the Bill may not adequately accommodate the collective rights and interests of iwi and hapū.

Second, the Bill would lead to significant and uncoded impacts on local government. As currently drafted, the requirement that all secondary legislation must also be reviewed against the principles would apply to all local government bylaws. These are considered secondary legislation under section 161A of the Local Government Act 2002. Local government is already subject to a number of robust tests when creating new bylaws. It is more appropriate that overarching regulatory stewardship of the bylaw system sit with the Minister of Local Government and the Department of Internal Affairs.

Finally, we are concerned that the Bill would undermine the ability of Council to address current and future environmental issues. With its focus on individual rights, the Bill fails to provide a cohesive framework for advancing the public good and managing environmental externalities. Addressing issues such as water pollution or the decline of indigenous biodiversity also requires the impairment of private property rights in some circumstances. The Bill implies councils would need to provide compensation for such impairment. This effectively requires the rate payer to subsidise environmental degradation caused by others. **Issues around compensation for impairment are particularly complicated and require greater consideration than has been given in the formation of the Bill.**

Council does not wish to be heard in support of this submission.

Yours faithfully

S J Ruru
Chief Executive

Regulatory Standards Bill

Government Bill

Explanatory note

General policy statement

Purposes of Bill

The Regulatory Standards Bill aims to reduce the amount of unnecessary and poor-quality regulation by increasing transparency and making it clearer where legislation does not meet standards. It intends to bring the same discipline to regulatory management that New Zealand has for fiscal management.

The Bill aims to—

- promote the accountability of the Executive to Parliament for developing high-quality legislation and exercising stewardship over regulatory systems; and
- support Parliament’s ability to scrutinise Bills; and
- support Parliament in overseeing and controlling the use of delegated powers to make legislation.

How Bill will achieve its purposes

The Regulatory Standards Bill will aim to achieve its purposes by—

- providing a benchmark for good legislation through a set of principles of responsible regulation (principles); and
- providing for the transparent assessment of the consistency of proposed and existing legislation with the principles (consistency accountability statements); and
- establishing a Regulatory Standards Board to independently consider the consistency of proposed and existing legislation in response to stakeholder concerns, Minister for Regulation direction, or on its own accord; and
- strengthening regulatory quality by supporting the Ministry for Regulation in its regulatory oversight role.

Key elements of Bill

The Bill establishes a benchmark for good legislation by introducing a set of principles of responsible regulation in primary legislation, focused on the effect of legislation on—

- existing interests and liberties, including the rule of law, liberties, taking of property, taxes, fees, and levies, and the role of courts; and
- good law-making processes, including consultation, options analysis, and cost-benefit analysis.

The Bill requires responsible Ministers, administering agencies, and other makers of legislation to assess the consistency of proposed and existing legislation (both primary and secondary) against these principles. Where inconsistency is identified, the Bill requires a statement from the responsible Minister (or maker of secondary legislation where not a Minister) to briefly explain the reasons.

Ministers, as well as makers of secondary legislation, must publish or present to the House of Representatives the results of those assessments and explanations. Some primary and secondary legislation is excluded or exempted from these requirements.

The Bill also establishes a Regulatory Standards Board, with members to be appointed by the Minister responsible for this Bill (the Minister for Regulation), to independently assess consistency of legislation, helping incentivise Ministers and agencies to complete robust consistency accountability statements. The board can carry out inquiries following a complaint, at the direction of the Minister, or on its own accord into whether legislation is inconsistent with the principles. Any recommendations it makes are non-binding. The board will only have a role in relation to legislation that is subject to consistency assessment requirements, and could investigate consistency with the principles in 2 broad ways as follows:

- it could look at consistency accountability statements of Bills as introduced into the House of Representatives, and provide a report to a select committee on its findings;
- it could inquire into whether existing legislation is consistent with the principles, and report to the Minister for Regulation and responsible Minister on its findings.

Finally, the Bill strengthens regulatory quality by supporting the Ministry for Regulation in its regulatory oversight role, including by requiring the Ministry to report on the overall state of the regulatory management system. It also strengthens regulatory stewardship expectations for agencies and information-gathering powers for the Ministry to support the efficient and effective conduct of regulatory reviews.

Departmental disclosure statement

The Ministry for Regulation is required to prepare a disclosure statement to assist with the scrutiny of this Bill. The disclosure statement provides access to information

about the policy development of the Bill and identifies any significant or unusual legislative features of the Bill.

A copy of the statement can be found at <http://legislation.govt.nz/disclosure.aspx?type=bill&subtype=government&year=2025&no=155>

Regulatory impact statement

The Ministry for Regulation produced a regulatory impact statement on 22 April 2025 to help inform the main policy decisions taken by the Government relating to the contents of this Bill.

A copy of this regulatory impact statement can be found at—

- <https://www.regulation.govt.nz/our-work/regulatory-impact-statements/>

Clause by clause analysis

Clause 1 is the Title clause.

Clause 2 provides for—

- *subparts 2 to 6 of Part 2* to come into force on a date or dates set by Order in Council (on or before 1 July 2026);
- the rest of the Bill to come into force on 1 January 2026.

The deferred commencement of *subparts 2 to 6 of Part 2* allows time to issue—

- notices that specify Bills and secondary legislation that are not required to be reviewed under this Bill (*see clauses 10 and 14*); and
- guidance under *clause 27*.

Part 1

Preliminary provisions

Clause 3 sets out the purposes of the Bill. The purposes are to—

- promote the accountability of the Executive to Parliament for developing high-quality legislation and exercising stewardship over regulatory systems; and
- support Parliament's ability to scrutinise Bills; and
- support Parliament in overseeing and controlling the use of delegated powers to make legislation.

The clause provides that the purposes are given effect to only in certain specified ways.

Clause 4 sets out an overview of the Bill.

Clause 5 defines various terms used in the Bill. It includes a definition of consistency accountability statement (a CAS). This is a statement from the chief executive of a responsible agency for legislation. The statement must—

- confirm that the agency has reviewed the legislation for consistency with the principles of responsible legislation; and
- summarise any inconsistency with the principles that is identified in the review.

The definition of principles of responsible legislation is set out in *clause 8*.

Clause 6 provides for transitional, savings, and related provisions set out in *Schedule 1*.

Clause 7 provides that the Bill binds the Crown.

Part 2

Principles of responsible regulation and regulatory stewardship

Subpart 1—Principles of responsible regulation

Clause 8 sets out the principles of responsible regulation (the **principles**). The Bill provides for legislation to be reviewed for consistency with the principles and for a Minister (or maker of secondary legislation) to explain the reasons for any inconsistency.

In summary, the principles are—

- the importance of maintaining consistency with various aspects of the rule of law; and
- legislation should not unduly diminish a person’s liberty, personal security, freedom of choice or action, or various property rights, except as is necessary to provide for, or protect, any such liberty, freedom, or right of another person; and
- legislation should not take or impair property without the owner’s consent unless certain requirements are met. The requirements include that there is a good justification for the taking or impairment and fair compensation is provided to the owner; and
- the importance of maintaining consistency with section 22 of the Constitution Act 1986. Section 22 of that Act provides that it is not lawful for the Crown, except by or under an Act, to levy a tax, borrow money, or spend public money; and
- legislation should impose a fee for goods or services only if the amount of the fee bears a proper relation to the cost of providing the good or service; and
- legislation should impose a levy to fund an objective or a function only if the levy is reasonable in relation to—
 - the benefits that the payers are likely to derive or the risks attributable to them; and
 - the costs of efficiently achieving the objective or providing the function; and

- legislation should preserve the courts' constitutional role of ascertaining the meaning of legislation; and
- legislation should make rights and liberties, or obligations, dependent on administrative power only if the power is sufficiently defined and subject to appropriate review; and
- the importance of consulting, to the extent that is reasonably practicable, the persons that the responsible agency considers will be directly and materially affected by the legislation; and
- the importance of carefully evaluating various matters as part of a good law-making process. These include—
 - the issue concerned; and
 - the effectiveness of any relevant existing law; and
 - the public interest; and
 - any reasonably available options (including non-legislative options); and
 - who is likely to benefit and who is likely to suffer a detriment; and
- legislation should be expected to produce benefits that exceed the costs of the legislation to the public or persons; and
- legislation should be the most effective, efficient, and proportionate response to the issue concerned that is available.

Subpart 2—How principles apply when developing legislation

Bills

Clause 9 requires the explanatory note of a Government Bill to include (or link to)—

- a CAS; and
- a statement from the responsible Minister that briefly explains the Government's reasons for any inconsistency with the principles that is identified in the CAS.

Clause 10 provides that the requirement in *clause 9* does not apply to certain Bills, including—

- Appropriation Bills;
- Statutes Amendment Bills;
- Treaty settlement Bills;
- Bills of a class specified in a notice issued by the Minister that is responsible for the Bill (the **regulatory standards Minister**).

A notice that disapplies *clause 9*—

- may be issued only if it is approved by a resolution of the House of Representatives; and
- is secondary legislation.

Government amendments

Clause 11 requires the explanatory note of a Government amendment to a Bill to include (or link to)—

- a CAS; and
- a statement from the responsible Minister that briefly explains the Government's reasons for any inconsistency with the principles that is identified in the CAS.

Generally speaking, Government amendments are Amendment Papers for a Government Bill that are lodged by the responsible Minister.

Clause 12 provides that the requirement in *clause 11* does not apply to a Government amendment if—

- the Bill to which it relates is of a kind referred to in *clause 10*; or
- it is not reasonably practicable to comply before the parliamentary scrutiny of the Government amendment occurs (but, if that is the case, the CAS and statement from the responsible Minister must be presented and published after the parliamentary scrutiny); or
- in the opinion of the regulatory standards Minister, the Government amendment would not materially change the Bill.

Secondary legislation

Clause 13 requires the explanatory note of secondary legislation to include (or link to)—

- a CAS; and
- a statement from the maker that briefly explains the maker's reasons for any inconsistency with the principles that is identified in the CAS.

Clause 14 provides that the requirement in *clause 13* does not apply to secondary legislation—

- made under certain excluded Acts. An **excluded Act** is a Treaty settlement Act or any other Act that has been enacted from a Bill of a kind referred to in *clause 10*, a private Act, a local Act, the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011, or Ngā Rohe Moana o Ngā Hapū o Ngāti Porou Act 2019; or
- made under the Defence Act 1990 or the Armed Forces Discipline Act 1971; or
- made by the House of Representatives, the Speaker of the House, or any judicial officer; or
- that is rules of court; or
- of a class specified in a notice issued by the regulatory standards Minister.

A notice that disapplies *clause 13*—

- may be issued only if it is approved by a resolution of the House of Representatives; and
- is secondary legislation.

Subpart 3—Regulatory stewardship and plans for regularly reviewing legislation

Regulatory stewardship

Clause 15 provides for the chief executive of a public service agency to be responsible for proactively engaging in stewardship of regulatory systems and ensuring that the agency also does so. The regulatory systems relate to legislation administered by the agency.

The responsibility is owed only to the Public Service Commissioner. This is aligned with the approach in section 12 of the Public Service Act 2020, which relates to the public service principles.

Clause 16 requires the chief executive of the regulatory standards Ministry to give a briefing to the regulatory standards Minister on the state of the regulatory management system at least once every 4 years. The Minister must present the briefing to the House of Representatives.

Plans for regularly reviewing legislation

Clause 17 requires a responsible agency to—

- develop plans for regularly reviewing its legislation for consistency with the principles; and
- prepare and publish regular reports on the agency’s progress under those plans.

Clause 18 provides that *clause 17* does not apply to—

- an excluded Act; or
- amending legislation (but the principal legislation being amended may be subject to review); or
- repealed or spent legislation.

Clause 19 provides that *clause 17* applies to secondary legislation only if—

- a CAS has been prepared for the legislation or for an amendment; or
- it is of a class specified in a notice issued by the regulatory standards Minister.

A notice that applies *clause 17* to secondary legislation—

- may be issued only if it is approved by a resolution of the House of Representatives; and
- is secondary legislation.

Clause 20 modifies how certain principles apply to reviews under this subpart. In effect, the good law-making principles in *clause 8(i) to (l)* are applied to take into account events that have occurred since the legislation was enacted or made. For

example, the principle in *clause 8(k)* refers to legislation being expected to produce benefits that exceed its costs. A review under this subpart can consider benefits and costs that have been actually produced or incurred since the legislation came into force.

Clause 21 requires a responsible agency to prepare a CAS after a review of an Act.

The responsible Minister must present to the House of Representatives—

- the CAS; and
- a statement from the Minister that briefly explains the Government’s reasons for any inconsistency with the principles that is identified in the CAS and that sets out any proposed actions to remedy the inconsistency.

Clause 22 requires a responsible agency to publish on an internet site after a review of secondary legislation—

- a CAS; and
- a statement from the maker that briefly explains the maker’s reasons for any inconsistency with the principles that is identified in the CAS and that sets out any proposed actions to remedy the inconsistency.

Subpart 4—Chief executives must act independently

This subpart requires the chief executive of a responsible agency to act independently in relation to making a CAS under this Part.

The subpart also applies to the chief executive of the regulatory standards Ministry in relation to a briefing on the state of the regulatory management system under *clause 16*.

Subpart 5—Act does not confer or impose legal rights or obligations or affect validity

This subpart clarifies that—

- most of the Bill does not confer or impose any legal right or obligation on any person that is enforceable in a court of law. However, a duty to supply information to the regulatory standards Ministry under *clause 43* is enforceable under *clause 47*; and
- a failure to comply with the Bill does not affect any power to make any legislation or the validity or operation of any legislation; and
- the Bill imposes no limits, restrictions, or requirements in connection with the nature, extent, or adequacy of any reasons that may be included in a statement under *subpart 2 or 3*.

Subpart 6—Guidance

This subpart provides for the regulatory standards Minister and the Attorney-General to jointly issue guidance that sets out recommended best practice or their expectations concerning certain matters under the Bill. For example, guidance about—

- how the principles should be applied; and
- how to review proposed or existing legislation for consistency with the principles; and
- the content and presentation of a CAS; and
- the development of plans for regularly reviewing legislation for consistency with the principles.

The guidance is non-binding.

Subpart 7—Regulatory Standards Board

This subpart establishes the Regulatory Standards Board (the **board**). The functions of the board are to promote the purposes of the Bill by—

- carrying out inquiries into whether legislation is inconsistent with the principles; and
- reporting on those inquiries to the regulatory standards Minister; and
- considering a CAS for a Government Bill and reporting to the select committee that is considering the Bill.

In summary,—

- *clause 30* provides for the board to carry out an inquiry, or consider a CAS, only on the papers (rather than holding a hearing); and
- *clause 32* provides for the Ministry for Regulation (the **regulatory standards Ministry**) to establish a complaints system to support the board's inquiry function; and
- *clause 33*—
 - provides that the board may inquire into an Act or secondary legislation only if the regular review requirements under *clause 17* apply; and
 - prevents the board from inquiring into the performance or non-performance of a particular act, or the bringing about of a particular result, in respect of a particular person or persons; and
- *clause 34* modifies how certain principles apply to reviews under this subpart. In effect, the good law-making principles in *clause 8(i) to (l)* are applied to take into account events that have occurred since the legislation was enacted or made (similar to *clause 20*); and
- *clause 35* requires the board to give a copy of its report on an inquiry to the complainant (if any), the chief executive of the responsible agency for the relevant legislation, the responsible Minister for that legislation, and the regulatory standards Minister; and
- *clause 36* requires the regulatory standards Ministry to publish the reports on an internet site; and

- *clauses 37, 38, and 40 and Schedule 2* provide for other matters for the board and its membership. In particular,—
 - the board must have not fewer than 5 and not more than 7 members who are appointed by the regulatory standards Minister; and
 - members hold office for up to 3 years but may be reappointed; and
 - the board and its members owe certain duties to the regulatory standards Minister; and
 - the board may regulate its own procedure except as provided in this Bill; and
 - the regulatory standards Ministry must provide the resources and administrative support necessary to enable the board to perform its functions; and
- *clause 39* requires the board to supply an annual report to the regulatory standards Minister.

Part 3

Regulatory reviews and information-gathering powers

Regulatory review reports

Clause 41 requires reports on regulatory reviews carried out by the regulatory standards Ministry to be presented to the House of Representatives together with a Government response.

Information for briefings on regulatory management system

Clause 42 gives the chief executive of the regulatory standards Ministry a power to require a public service agency to supply any information that is necessary or desirable to enable the preparation of a briefing on the state of the regulatory management system under *clause 16*.

Information for regulatory reviews

Clauses 43 to 47 give the chief executive of the regulatory standards Ministry a power to require various agencies or persons to supply any information that is necessary or desirable to enable the Ministry to carry out a regulatory review.

The agencies or persons that may be required to supply information include public service agencies, administering agencies or makers of secondary legislation, an agency or a person that performs a statutory function, and a contractor that supports or facilitates the performance of a statutory function.

Hon David Seymour

Regulatory Standards Bill

Government Bill

Contents

		Page
<u>1</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>Commencement</u>	<u>3</u>
	<u>Part 1</u>	
	<u>Preliminary provisions</u>	
<u>3</u>	<u>Purposes</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>Overview</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>Interpretation</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>Transitional, savings, and related provisions</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>Act binds the Crown</u>	<u>8</u>
	<u>Part 2</u>	
	<u>Principles of responsible regulation and regulatory stewardship</u>	
	<u>Subpart 1—Principles of responsible regulation</u>	
<u>8</u>	<u>Principles of responsible regulation</u>	<u>8</u>
	<u>Subpart 2—How principles apply when developing legislation</u>	
	<u>Bills</u>	
<u>9</u>	<u>Review of consistency of Bill with principles</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>10</u>	<u>When review of Bill is not required</u>	<u>10</u>
	<u>Government amendments</u>	
<u>11</u>	<u>Review of consistency of Government amendment with principles</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>12</u>	<u>When review of Government amendment does not apply</u>	<u>11</u>
	<u>Secondary legislation</u>	
<u>13</u>	<u>Review of consistency of secondary legislation with principles</u>	<u>11</u>

Regulatory Standards Bill		
<u>14</u>	<u>When review of secondary legislation is not required</u>	<u>12</u>
	<u>Subpart 3—Regulatory stewardship and plans for regularly reviewing legislation</u>	
	<u>Regulatory stewardship</u>	
<u>15</u>	<u>Responsibility to engage in regulatory stewardship</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>16</u>	<u>Four-yearly briefings on state of regulatory management system</u>	<u>13</u>
	<u>Plans for regularly reviewing legislation</u>	
<u>17</u>	<u>Responsible agency must develop plans for regularly reviewing legislation and report on progress</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>18</u>	<u>When regular review of Act is not required</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>19</u>	<u>When regular review of secondary legislation is required</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>20</u>	<u>How good law-making principles apply when responsible agency is carrying out review</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>21</u>	<u>Statements on review of Act</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>22</u>	<u>Statements on review of secondary legislation</u>	<u>15</u>
	<u>Subpart 4—Chief executives must act independently</u>	
<u>23</u>	<u>Chief executives must act independently</u>	<u>15</u>
	<u>Subpart 5—Act does not confer or impose legal rights or obligations or affect validity</u>	
<u>24</u>	<u>Act does not confer or impose legal rights or obligations</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>25</u>	<u>Validity of legislation not affected by failure to comply with this Act</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>26</u>	<u>Act does not regulate reasons</u>	<u>16</u>
	<u>Subpart 6—Guidance</u>	
<u>27</u>	<u>Guidance</u>	<u>16</u>
	<u>Subpart 7—Regulatory Standards Board</u>	
<u>28</u>	<u>Regulatory Standards Board established</u>	<u>16</u>
	<u>Functions</u>	
<u>29</u>	<u>Functions of board</u>	<u>17</u>
<u>30</u>	<u>Inquiries or considering statements must be carried out on papers</u>	<u>17</u>
	<u>Inquiries</u>	
<u>31</u>	<u>Application of inquiry provisions</u>	<u>17</u>
<u>32</u>	<u>Complaints system to support inquiry functions</u>	<u>17</u>
<u>33</u>	<u>When board may inquire into legislation</u>	<u>18</u>
<u>34</u>	<u>How good law-making principles apply when board is carrying out inquiry</u>	<u>18</u>
<u>35</u>	<u>Board must give final report to certain persons</u>	<u>18</u>
<u>36</u>	<u>Ministry must publish inquiry reports</u>	<u>19</u>

Regulatory Standards Bill		cl 2
	<u>Membership</u>	
<u>37</u>	<u>Membership of board</u>	<u>19</u>
<u>38</u>	<u>Minister must appoint members</u>	<u>19</u>
	<u>Annual report</u>	
<u>39</u>	<u>Annual report</u>	<u>20</u>
	<u>Other provisions</u>	
<u>40</u>	<u>Other provisions relating to board and members</u>	<u>20</u>
	<u>Part 3</u>	
	<u>Regulatory reviews and information-gathering powers</u>	
	<u>Regulatory review reports</u>	
<u>41</u>	<u>Regulatory review reports</u>	<u>20</u>
	<u>Information for briefings on regulatory management system</u>	
<u>42</u>	<u>Power to obtain information to enable preparation of briefings on regulatory management system</u>	<u>20</u>
	<u>Information for regulatory reviews</u>	
<u>43</u>	<u>Power to obtain information to enable regulatory reviews</u>	<u>21</u>
<u>44</u>	<u>Restriction on giving notice in connection with Parliament</u>	<u>21</u>
<u>45</u>	<u>Restriction on requiring information from non-public service agency</u>	<u>22</u>
<u>46</u>	<u>Restriction on requiring information from contracted person</u>	<u>22</u>
<u>47</u>	<u>Consequences of failing to comply with notice</u>	<u>22</u>
	<u>Schedule 1</u>	<u>24</u>
	<u>Transitional, savings, and related provisions</u>	
	<u>Schedule 2</u>	<u>25</u>
	<u>Other provisions relating to board and its members</u>	

The Parliament of New Zealand enacts as follows:

1 Title

This Act is the Regulatory Standards Act **2025**.

2 Commencement

- (1) This Act comes into force on **1 January 2026**. 5
- (2) However, **subparts 2 to 6 of Part 2** come into force on a date or dates set by Order in Council.
- (3) Any part of the Act that has not come into force by **1 July 2026** comes into force then.
- (4) An Order in Council made under this section is secondary legislation (see Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019 for publication requirements). 10

Part 1 Preliminary provisions

3 Purposes

- (1) The purposes of this Act are to—
 - (a) promote the accountability of the Executive to Parliament for— 5
 - (i) the development of high-quality legislation; and
 - (ii) the exercise of stewardship over regulatory systems; and
 - (b) support Parliament’s ability to scrutinise Bills; and
 - (c) support Parliament in overseeing and controlling the use of delegated powers to make legislation (*see* Part 5 of the Legislation Act 2019). 10
- (2) The purposes of this Act are given effect to only by—
 - (a) setting out principles of responsible regulation; and
 - (b) providing for—
 - (i) the review of the consistency of proposed and existing legislation with the principles of responsible regulation; and 15
 - (ii) the disclosure of the reasons for any identified inconsistencies; and
 - (iii) regulatory stewardship responsibilities; and
 - (c) providing for a Regulatory Standards Board to—
 - (i) inquire into whether existing legislation is consistent with the principles of responsible regulation; and 20
 - (ii) consider consistency accountability statements for Government Bills; and
 - (d) providing support to the regulatory standards Ministry in its work to improve the quality of legislation. 25

4 Overview

- (1) This Act—
 - Principles*
 - (a) sets out principles of responsible regulation (*see* **section 8**); and
 - Review of new legislation* 30
 - (b) provides for the explanatory note of a Government Bill, a Government amendment, or secondary legislation to include (or link to) the following (*see* **subpart 2 of Part 2**):
 - (i) a consistency accountability statement. This statement is made by the chief executive of the responsible agency for the legislation. It confirms that the agency has reviewed the legislation for consis- 35

- tency with the principles and summarises any inconsistency that is identified in the review:
- (ii) a statement from the responsible Minister for the Bill or amendment or the maker of the secondary legislation. This statement briefly explains the Government's or maker's reasons for any inconsistency with the principles that is identified in the consistency accountability statement; and 5
 - (c) provides for when an explanatory note is not required to include (or link to) the statements (*see sections 10, 12, and 14*); and 10
Stewardship of regulatory systems
 - (d) gives public service chief executives a responsibility to proactively engage in stewardship of regulatory systems and ensure that their agencies also do so (*see section 15*); and
 - (e) requires the chief executive of the Ministry that is responsible for this Act to give at least 4-yearly briefings on the state of the regulatory management system (*see section 16*); and 15
 - (f) requires responsible agencies for existing legislation to develop plans for regularly reviewing the legislation for consistency with the principles and to report on the reviews, with certain exceptions (*see sections 17 to 22*); and 20
 - (g) requires chief executives to act independently when making a consistency accountability statement or giving a briefing under **section 16** (*see section 23*); and
Act does not confer or impose legal rights or duties or affect validity
 - (h) confirms that the Act does not confer or impose legal rights or duties or affect the validity of any legislation (*see subpart 5 of Part 2*); and 25
Guidance
 - (i) provides for the regulatory standards Minister and the Attorney-General to jointly issue guidance (*see subpart 6 of Part 2*); and 30
Regulatory Standards Board
 - (j) establishes a Regulatory Standards Board to carry out inquiries into whether existing legislation is inconsistent with the principles and to consider consistency accountability statements for Government Bills (*see subpart 7 of Part 2*); and
Regulatory reviews and information-gathering powers 35
 - (k) provides for reports on regulatory reviews that are carried out by the Ministry that is responsible for this Act to be presented to the House of Representatives together with the Government's response (*see section 41*); and

- (l) gives the chief executive of that Ministry powers to obtain information to support the Ministry's role (*see sections 42 to 47*).
- (2) This section is only a guide to the general scheme and effect of this Act.

5 Interpretation

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,— 5

administering agency has the same meaning as in section 5(1) of the Legislation Act 2019

board means the Regulatory Standards Board established under **section 28**

central government entity means—

- (a) a department (within the meaning of section 2(1) of the Public Finance Act 1989): 10
- (b) the Reserve Bank of New Zealand:
- (c) a Crown entity that is a statutory entity (as those terms are defined in section 7(1) of the Crown Entities Act 2004)

consistency accountability statement means,— 15

- (a) in relation to **subpart 2 of Part 2**, a statement from the chief executive of the responsible agency for a Bill, Government amendment, or secondary legislation that—
 - (i) confirms that the agency has reviewed the Bill, Government amendment, or secondary legislation, and its process for developing it, for consistency with the principles of responsible regulation; and 20
 - (ii) summarises any inconsistency with the principles that is identified in the review; and
- (b) in relation to **subpart 3 of Part 2**, a statement from the chief executive of the responsible agency for an Act or secondary legislation that— 25
 - (i) confirms that the agency has reviewed the Act or secondary legislation for consistency with the principles of responsible regulation; and
 - (ii) summarises any inconsistency with the principles that is identified in the review 30

contract, in **Part 3**, does not include an employment agreement (within the meaning of section 5 of the Employment Relations Act 2000)

excluded Act means—

- (a) a Treaty settlement Act; or 35
- (b) any other Act that has been enacted from a Bill of a kind referred to in **section 10**; or
- (c) a private Act or a local Act; or

Regulatory Standards Bill

Part 1 cl 5

- (d) the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 or Ngā Rohe Moana o Ngā Hapū o Ngāti Porou Act 2019

Government amendment has the meaning set out in the rules and practice of the House of Representatives

maker, in relation to any secondary legislation, has the same meaning as in section 5(1) of the Legislation Act 2019 5

member, in **subpart 7 of Part 2 and Schedule 2**, means a member of the board

non-public service agency means an agency or a person other than a public service agency 10

principles of responsible regulation means the principles set out in **section 8**

public service agency has the same meaning as in section 5 of the Public Service Act 2020

regulatory standards Minister means the Minister of the Crown who, under the authority of a warrant or with the authority of the Prime Minister, is responsible for the administration of this Act 15

regulatory standards Ministry means the department or Ministry that, with the authority of the Prime Minister, is responsible for the administration of this Act 20

responsible agency means,—

- (a) in the case of a Bill or Government amendment, the central government entity primarily involved in developing the Bill or Government amendment (excluding the Parliamentary Counsel Office, unless that office will also be the administering agency for the resulting Act); or 25
- (b) in the case of an Act or secondary legislation, the administering agency for the legislation

responsible Minister means,—

- (a) in the case of a Bill or Government amendment, the Minister of the Crown who, under the authority of any warrant or with the authority of the Prime Minister, is primarily responsible for the development of the Bill or Government amendment; or 30
- (b) in the case of an Act, the Minister of the Crown who, under the authority of a warrant or with the authority of the Prime Minister, is responsible for the administration of the Act 35

rules of court includes rules of practice or procedure of any court or tribunal

Treaty settlement Act means—

- (a) an Act listed in Schedule 3 of the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975; and

- (b) any other Act that provides redress for Treaty of Waitangi claims, including an Act that provides collective redress or participation arrangements for claimant groups whose claims are, or are to be, settled by other legislation

Treaty settlement Bill means— 5

- (a) a Bill that, if enacted, will be listed in Schedule 3 of the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975; and
- (b) any other Bill that provides redress for Treaty of Waitangi claims, including a Bill that provides collective redress or participation arrangements for claimant groups whose claims are, or are to be, settled by other legislation. 10

6 Transitional, savings, and related provisions

The transitional, savings, and related provisions set out in **Schedule 1** have effect according to their terms.

7 Act binds the Crown 15

This Act binds the Crown.

Part 2

Principles of responsible regulation and regulatory stewardship

Subpart 1—Principles of responsible regulation

8 Principles of responsible regulation 20

The principles of responsible regulation are as follows:

Rule of law

- (a) the importance of maintaining consistency with the following aspects of the rule of law:
 - (i) the law should be clear and accessible: 25
 - (ii) the law should not adversely affect rights and liberties, or impose obligations, retrospectively:
 - (iii) every person is equal before the law:
 - (iv) there should be an independent, impartial judiciary:
 - (v) issues of legal right and liability should be resolved by the application of law, rather than the exercise of administrative discretion: 30

Liberties

- (b) legislation should not unduly diminish a person's liberty, personal security, freedom of choice or action, or rights to own, use, and dispose of

property, except as is necessary to provide for, or protect, any such liberty, freedom, or right of another person:

Taking of property

- (c) legislation should not take or impair, or authorise the taking or impairment of, property without the consent of the owner unless— 5
 - (i) there is a good justification for the taking or impairment; and
 - (ii) fair compensation for the taking or impairment is provided to the owner; and
 - (iii) the compensation is provided, to the extent practicable, by or on behalf of the persons who obtain the benefit of the taking or impairment: 10

Taxes, fees, and levies

- (d) the importance of maintaining consistency with section 22 of the Constitution Act 1986 (Parliamentary control of public finance):
- (e) legislation should impose, or authorise the imposition of, a fee for goods or services only if the amount of the fee bears a proper relation to the cost of providing the good or service to which it relates: 15
- (f) legislation should impose, or authorise the imposition of, a levy to fund an objective or a function only if the amount of the levy is reasonable in relation to both— 20
 - (i) the benefits that the class of payers is likely to derive, or the risks attributable to the class, in connection with the objective or function; and
 - (ii) the costs of efficiently achieving the objective or providing the function: 25

Role of courts

- (g) legislation should preserve the courts' constitutional role of ascertaining the meaning of legislation:
- (h) legislation should make rights and liberties, or obligations, dependent on administrative power only if the power is sufficiently defined and subject to appropriate review: 30

Good law-making

- (i) the importance of consulting, to the extent that is reasonably practicable, the persons or representatives of the persons that the responsible agency considers will be directly and materially affected by the legislation: 35
- (j) the importance of carefully evaluating—
 - (i) the issue concerned; and
 - (ii) the effectiveness of any relevant existing legislation and common law; and

- (iii) whether the public interest requires that the issue be addressed; and
- (iv) any options (including non-legislative options) that are reasonably available for addressing the issue; and
- (v) who is likely to benefit, and who is likely to suffer a detriment, from the legislation: 5
- (k) legislation should be expected to produce benefits that exceed the costs of the legislation to the public or persons:
- (l) legislation should be the most effective, efficient, and proportionate response to the issue concerned that is available. 10

Subpart 2—How principles apply when developing legislation

Bills

9 Review of consistency of Bill with principles

If a Government Bill is introduced into the House of Representatives, the responsible Minister must ensure that the Bill's explanatory note includes (or contains a link to)— 15

- (a) a consistency accountability statement; and
- (b) a statement from the responsible Minister that briefly explains the Government's reasons for any inconsistency with the principles of responsible regulation that is identified in the consistency accountability statement. 20

10 When review of Bill is not required

(1) **Section 9** does not apply to any of the following Bills:

- (a) Imprest Supply Bills or Appropriation Bills:
- (b) Bills that are Statutes Amendment Bills under the rules and practice of the House of Representatives: 25
- (c) Bills that primarily relate to the repeal or revocation of legislation identified as spent:
- (d) revision Bills prepared under subpart 3 of Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019: 30
- (e) Bills prepared for the purposes of confirmation under subpart 3 of Part 5 of the Legislation Act 2019:
- (f) Treaty settlement Bills:
- (g) Bills of a class specified in a notice issued under this section.

(2) The regulatory standards Minister may issue a notice for the purposes of **sub-section (1)(g)**. 35

- (3) A notice may be issued under this section only after it has been approved by a resolution of the House of Representatives.
- (4) A notice issued under this section is secondary legislation (*see* Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019 for publication requirements).

Government amendments 5

11 Review of consistency of Government amendment with principles

If a Government amendment is released in accordance with the rules and practice of the House of Representatives, the responsible Minister must ensure that the Government amendment's explanatory note includes (or contains a link to)— 10

- (a) a consistency accountability statement; and
- (b) a statement from the responsible Minister that briefly explains the Government's reasons for any inconsistency with the principles of responsible regulation that is identified in the consistency accountability statement. 15

12 When review of Government amendment does not apply

- (1) **Section 11** does not apply to a Government amendment if—
 - (a) the Bill to which it relates is of a kind referred to in **section 10(1)**; or
 - (b) it is not reasonably practicable to comply with **section 11** before the parliamentary scrutiny of the Government amendment occurs; or 20
 - (c) in the opinion of the regulatory standards Minister, the Government amendment would not materially change the Bill.
- (2) In the case of **subsection (1)(b)**, the responsible Minister must ensure that the statements required under **section 11(a) and (b)** are presented to the House of Representatives, and published on an internet site, as soon as is reasonably practicable after the parliamentary scrutiny of the Government amendment occurs. 25
- (3) In the case of **subsection (1)(c)**, the responsible Minister must ensure that the Government amendment's explanatory note includes (or contains a link to) a statement of the opinion of the regulatory standards Minister. 30

Secondary legislation

13 Review of consistency of secondary legislation with principles

- (1) The responsible agency for secondary legislation must ensure that an explanatory note for the secondary legislation includes (or contains a link to)—
 - (a) a consistency accountability statement; and 35

- (b) a statement from the maker that briefly explains the maker's reasons for any inconsistency with the principles of responsible regulation that is identified in the consistency accountability statement.
- (2) The explanatory note must be published or made available with the secondary legislation when the legislation is published or made available under Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019 or otherwise as required by law. 5
- 14 When review of secondary legislation is not required**
- (1) **Section 13** does not apply to secondary legislation—
 - (a) that is made under an excluded Act; or
 - (b) that is made under the Defence Act 1990 or the Armed Forces Discipline Act 1971 or is otherwise made by the Chief of the Defence Force; or 10
 - (c) that is made by the Speaker of the House of Representatives or by the House of Representatives; or
 - (d) that is rules of court; or
 - (e) that is made by any judicial officer; or 15
 - (f) of a class specified in a notice issued under this section.
- (2) The regulatory standards Minister may issue a notice for the purposes of this section.
- (3) A notice may be issued under this section only after it has been approved by a resolution of the House of Representatives. 20
- (4) A notice issued under this section is secondary legislation (*see* Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019 for publication requirements).

Subpart 3—Regulatory stewardship and plans for regularly reviewing legislation

Regulatory stewardship 25

- 15 Responsibility to engage in regulatory stewardship**
- (1) A chief executive of a responsible agency for legislation is responsible for—
 - (a) proactively engaging in stewardship of the regulatory system to which the legislation relates when carrying out their responsibilities and functions; and 30
 - (b) ensuring that the responsible agency also does so.
- (2) This section applies in relation to—
 - (a) a chief executive only if they are a public service chief executive (within the meaning of section 5 of the Public Service Act 2020); and
 - (b) a responsible agency only if it is a public service agency. 35

- (3) The chief executive is responsible only to the Public Service Commissioner for carrying out the responsibility under **subsection (1)**.
- (4) Sections 12(1)(e) and 52(1)(d) of the Public Service Act 2020 (which relate to stewardship) do not limit this section.
- 16 Four-yearly briefings on state of regulatory management system** 5
- (1) The chief executive of the regulatory standards Ministry must give a briefing to the regulatory standards Minister on the state of the regulatory management system at least once every 4 years.
- (2) The purpose of a briefing is to promote the maintenance of effective policies and processes for the development, implementation, monitoring, maintenance, and review of legislation and any associated regulatory systems. 10
- (3) The regulatory standards Minister must present a copy of the briefing to the House of Representatives as soon as is reasonably practicable after receiving it.
- Plans for regularly reviewing legislation*
- 17 Responsible agency must develop plans for regularly reviewing legislation and report on progress** 15
- The responsible agency for legislation must—
- (a) develop and publish plans for regularly reviewing the legislation for consistency with the principles of responsible regulation; and
- (b) prepare and publish regular reports on its performance in carrying out the plans. 20
- 18 When regular review of Act is not required**
- Section 17** does not apply to—
- (a) an excluded Act; or
- (b) an Act to the extent that it contains amendments to other legislation; or 25
- (c) an Act that has been repealed or is otherwise no longer in effect.
- 19 When regular review of secondary legislation is required**
- (1) **Section 17** applies to secondary legislation only if—
- (a) a consistency accountability statement has previously been prepared for— 30
- (i) the secondary legislation; or
- (ii) other secondary legislation that amends the secondary legislation; or
- (b) the secondary legislation is of a class specified in a notice issued under this section. 35
- (2) However, **section 17** does not apply to—

- (a) secondary legislation that is made under an excluded Act; or
 - (b) secondary legislation to the extent that it contains amendments to other legislation; or
 - (c) secondary legislation that has been revoked or is otherwise no longer in effect. 5
 - (3) The regulatory standards Minister may issue a notice for the purposes of **sub-section (1)(b)**.
 - (4) A notice may be issued under this section only after it has been approved by a resolution of the House of Representatives.
 - (5) A notice issued under this section is secondary legislation (*see* Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019 for publication requirements). 10
- 20 How good law-making principles apply when responsible agency is carrying out review**
- For the purposes of a review under **section 17**,—
- (a) the principle in **section 8(i)** (consultation) does not apply; and 15
 - (b) the principles in **section 8(j) to (l)** apply with any necessary modifications to allow the responsible agency to consider matters based on the events that have occurred since the legislation came into force, including—
 - (i) to evaluate who is likely to have benefited, and who is likely to have suffered a detriment, from the legislation (*see* **section 8(j)(v)**); and 20
 - (ii) to consider whether the legislation has produced benefits that exceed the costs of the legislation to the public or persons (*see* **section 8(k)**); and 25
 - (iii) to consider whether legislation is still the most effective, efficient, and proportionate response to the issue concerned that is available (*see* **section 8(l)**).
- 21 Statements on review of Act**
- (1) This section applies when a responsible agency reviews an Act under **section 17**. 30
 - (2) The responsible agency must, as soon as is reasonably practicable after completing the review, give to the responsible Minister a consistency accountability statement.
 - (3) The Minister must, as soon as is reasonably practicable after receiving the consistency accountability statement, present to the House of Representatives— 35
 - (a) the statement; and
 - (b) a statement from the responsible Minister that—

Regulatory Standards Bill		Part 2 cl 25
	(i) briefly explains the Government’s reasons for any inconsistency with the principles that is identified in the consistency accountability statement; and	
	(ii) sets out the proposed actions (if any) to remedy that inconsistency.	
22	Statements on review of secondary legislation	5
(1)	This section applies when a responsible agency reviews secondary legislation under section 17 .	
(2)	The responsible agency must, as soon as is reasonably practicable after completing the review, publish on an internet site—	
	(a) a consistency accountability statement; and	10
	(b) a statement from the maker that—	
	(i) briefly explains the maker’s reasons for any inconsistency with the principles that is identified in the consistency accountability statement; and	
	(ii) sets out the proposed actions (if any) to remedy that inconsistency.	15
	Subpart 4—Chief executives must act independently	
23	Chief executives must act independently	
(1)	A chief executive must act independently (and is not responsible to a Minister) in relation to—	
	(a) making a consistency accountability statement under this Part; or	20
	(b) giving a briefing under section 16 .	
(2)	This section applies despite section 52 of the Public Service Act 2020 or any other legislation to the contrary.	
	Subpart 5—Act does not confer or impose legal rights or obligations or affect validity	
		25
24	Act does not confer or impose legal rights or obligations	
(1)	This Act does not confer a legal right or impose a legal obligation on any person that is enforceable in a court of law.	
(2)	However, subsection (1) does not apply in relation to Part 3 .	
25	Validity of legislation not affected by failure to comply with this Act	30
	Failure to comply with this Act does not affect—	
	(a) any power to make any legislation; or	
	(b) the validity or operation of any legislation.	

26 Act does not regulate reasons

This Act imposes no limits, restrictions, or requirements in connection with the nature, extent, or adequacy of any reasons that may be included in a statement under **subpart 2 or 3**.

Subpart 6—Guidance 5

27 Guidance

(1) The regulatory standards Minister and the Attorney-General may jointly issue guidance that sets out recommended best practice or their expectations concerning the following matters:

(a) how the principles of responsible regulation should be applied: 10

Example

The guidance may set out circumstances—

- when consultation may be considered to be not reasonably practicable; or
- when not consulting may be considered to be justified. 15

(b) how to review proposed or existing legislation for consistency with the principles of responsible regulation:

(c) the content and presentation of consistency accountability statements:

(d) how to prepare, publish, carry out, and report on plans under **subpart 3**, including— 20

- (i) what agencies should have regard to; and
- (ii) how often plans should be prepared and how often reviews should be carried out; and
- (iii) the content of plans; and
- (iv) how plans should be published; and 25
- (v) how agencies should report about performance under the plans; and
- (vi) how agencies should publish those reports.

(2) The guidelines must be published on an internet site.

Subpart 7—Regulatory Standards Board 30

28 Regulatory Standards Board established

The Regulatory Standards Board is established.

Functions

29 Functions of board

- (1) The functions of the board are to promote the purposes of this Act by—
- Inquiries into existing legislation*
- (a) carrying out inquiries into whether Acts or secondary legislation are inconsistent with the principles of responsible regulation; and 5
- (b) reporting on those inquiries to the regulatory standards Minister and the other persons referred to in **section 35**; and
- Considering consistency accountability statements for Bills*
- (c) considering a consistency accountability statement for a Government Bill that— 10
- (i) has been introduced into the House of Representatives; and
- (ii) is being considered by a Committee of the House of Representatives in accordance with the rules and practice of the House of Representatives; and 15
- (d) reporting on its consideration under **paragraph (c)** to that Committee before the Committee finally reports to the House of Representatives on the Bill.
- (2) **Subsection (1)(a)** is subject to **section 33**.

- 30 Inquiries or considering statements must be carried out on papers** 20
- The board may only carry out an inquiry, or consider a consistency accountability statement for a Bill, on the papers (and must not hold a hearing).

Inquiries

- 31 Application of inquiry provisions**
- Sections 32 to 36** apply to the board's functions under **section 29(1)(a) and (b)**. 25

- 32 Complaints system to support inquiry functions**
- For the purpose of supporting the board in performing its inquiry functions, the regulatory standards Ministry must establish and maintain a system for receiving and dealing with complaints that legislation is inconsistent with the principles of responsible regulation. 30

33 When board may inquire into legislation

- (1) The board may inquire into an Act or secondary legislation only if **section 17** applies to the Act or secondary legislation.

Guidance note

Sections 18 and 19 provide for when legislation is subject to plans for regular review by the responsible agency under **section 17**. The board may inquire into the legislation only if it is subject to those review requirements. For example, the board—

- may not inquire into an excluded Act or secondary legislation made under an excluded Act; and
- may inquire into secondary legislation only if a consistency accountability statement has been prepared for the legislation (or an amendment) or it is specified in a notice issued under **section 19**.

- (2) The board must not inquire into the performance or non-performance of a particular act, or the bringing about of a particular result, in respect of a particular person or persons.

34 How good law-making principles apply when board is carrying out inquiry

When the board is carrying out an inquiry into whether legislation is inconsistent with the principles of responsible regulation,—

- (a) the principle in **section 8(i)** (consultation) does not apply; and
- (b) the principles in **section 8(j) to (l)** apply with any necessary modifications to allow the board to consider matters based on the events that have occurred after the legislation came into force, including—
 - (i) to evaluate who is likely to have benefited, and who is likely to have suffered a detriment, from the legislation (*see section 8(j)(v)*); and
 - (ii) to consider whether the legislation has produced benefits that exceed the costs of the legislation to the public or persons (*see section 8(k)*); and
 - (iii) to consider whether legislation is still the most effective, efficient, and proportionate response to the issue concerned that is available (*see section 8(l)*).

35 Board must give final report to certain persons

- (1) The board must give a copy of the final report on an inquiry to the following:
- (a) the complainant;
 - (b) the chief executive;
 - (c) the regulatory standards Minister;
 - (d) the responsible Minister for the legislation to which the inquiry relates.

- (2) In this section,—
- complainant**, in relation to an inquiry about legislation, means a person who has made a complaint about the matters to which the inquiry relates using the system maintained under **section 32**
- chief executive**, in relation to an inquiry about legislation, means the chief executive of the responsible agency for that legislation. 5
- 36 Ministry must publish inquiry reports**
- (1) If the board gives a report on an inquiry to the regulatory standards Minister, the regulatory standards Ministry must, as soon as is reasonably practicable, publish the report on an internet site. 10
- (2) However, the regulatory standards Ministry may redact any information from a report that is published if the Ministry considers there would be a good reason for withholding the information under the Official Information Act 1982 if a request for that information were made under that Act.
- Membership* 15
- 37 Membership of board**
- The board must have not fewer than 5 members and not more than 7 members.
- 38 Minister must appoint members**
- (1) The regulatory standards Minister must appoint the members of the board.
- (2) The appointment must be made by written notice to the member. 20
- (3) The notice must—
- (a) state the date on which the appointment takes effect, which must not be earlier than the date on which the notice is received; and
- (b) state the term of the appointment.
- (4) The Minister must ensure that the following are notified in the *Gazette* as soon as is reasonably practicable after an appointment is made: 25
- (a) the name of the appointee; and
- (b) the date on which the appointment takes effect; and
- (c) the term of the appointment.
- (5) The Minister may only appoint a person who, in the Minister’s opinion, has the appropriate knowledge, skills, and experience to assist the board to perform its functions. 30

Annual report

39 Annual report

- (1) The board must supply to the regulatory standards Minister, within 3 months after the end of each financial year, an annual report containing—
 - (a) information about the board’s activities during the financial year (including inquiries carried out); and 5
 - (b) a summary of the board’s reports made during the financial year.
- (2) The Minister must, as soon as is reasonably practicable after receiving the report, present the report to the House of Representatives.
- (3) In this section, **financial year** means a period of 12 months commencing on 1 July and ending with 30 June. 10

Other provisions

40 Other provisions relating to board and members

The provisions set out in **Schedule 2** regulate other matters relating to the board and its members. 15

Part 3

Regulatory reviews and information-gathering powers

Regulatory review reports

41 Regulatory review reports

- (1) This section applies when the regulatory standards Ministry reviews (in whole or in part) any regulatory system to which any legislation relates. 20
- (2) The regulatory standards Ministry must, as soon as is reasonably practicable after completing the review, give to the regulatory standards Minister a report on the review.
- (3) The regulatory standards Minister must, as soon as is reasonably practicable after receiving the report, present to the House of Representatives— 25
 - (a) the report; and
 - (b) a statement from the regulatory standards Minister that sets out the Government’s response to the report.

Information for briefings on regulatory management system 30

42 Power to obtain information to enable preparation of briefings on regulatory management system

- (1) The chief executive of the regulatory standards Ministry may, by a written notice, require a public service agency to supply to the chief executive any

information that is necessary or desirable to enable the preparation of a briefing under **section 16**.

- (2) A notice must state the date by which, and the manner in which, the information must be provided.
- (3) The public service agency must supply to the chief executive the information within the time, and in the manner, specified in the notice. 5
- (4) This section does not limit any legislation that imposes a prohibition or restriction on the availability of any information.

Information for regulatory reviews

43 Power to obtain information to enable regulatory reviews 10

- (1) The chief executive of the regulatory standards Ministry may, by a written notice, require an agency or a person referred to in **subsection (2)** to supply to the chief executive any information that is necessary or desirable to enable the regulatory standards Ministry to review (in whole or in part) any regulatory system to which any legislation relates. 15
- (2) The agencies or persons are—
 - (a) any of the following (a **principal agency**):
 - (i) a public service agency;
 - (ii) an administering agency of secondary legislation;
 - (iii) a maker of secondary legislation: 20
 - (iv) an agency or a person that performs a function that is imposed under legislation; and
 - (b) a person that is engaged under a contract with a principal agency to support or facilitate the performance of a function that is imposed under legislation. 25
- (3) A notice must state the date by which, and the manner in which, the information must be provided.
- (4) The agency or person must supply to the chief executive the information within the time, and in the manner, specified in the notice.
- (5) This section does not limit any legislation that imposes a prohibition or restriction on the availability of any information. 30

44 Restriction on giving notice in connection with Parliament

Despite **section 43**, a notice under that section may not be given to any of the following:

- (a) the House of Representatives or the Speaker of the House of Representatives: 35

- (b) an Office of Parliament (within the meaning of section 2(1) of the Public Finance Act 1989):
 - (c) the Office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives:
 - (d) the Parliamentary Service.
- 45 Restriction on requiring information from non-public service agency** 5
 - (1) This section applies to a notice that may be given under **section 43** to a non-public service agency if the notice is to be given to the agency in its capacity as—
 - (a) the administering agency or maker of secondary legislation; or
 - (b) an agency or a person that performs a function imposed under legis- 10lation.
 - (2) The chief executive of the regulatory standards Ministry may exercise the power under **section 43** only if they have first consulted the relevant chief executive.
 - (3) In this section, the **relevant chief executive** is the chief executive of a public 15service agency that is the administering agency for—
 - (a) the empowering Act for the secondary legislation referred to in **subsec- tion (1)(a)**; or
 - (b) the legislation referred to in **subsection (1)(b)**.
- 46 Restriction on requiring information from contracted person** 20
 - (1) This section applies to a notice that may be given under **section 43** to a non-public service agency if the notice is to be given to the agency in its capacity as a person that is engaged under a contract with a principal agency to support or facilitate the performance of a function that is imposed under legislation.
 - (2) The chief executive of the regulatory standards Ministry may exercise the 25power under **section 43** only if—
 - (a) they have first given a notice under **section 43** to the principal agency that requires the supply of the information, but the principal agency has been unable to supply the information within a reasonable time; or
 - (b) the chief executive of the regulatory standards Ministry and the chief 30executive of the principal agency give the notice jointly.
 - (3) The chief executive of the regulatory standards Ministry may give a notice under **section 43** jointly with the chief executive of a principal agency for the purposes of **subsection (2)(b)**.
- 47 Consequences of failing to comply with notice** 35
 - (1) If a non-public service agency fails to comply with a notice given under **sec- tion 43**, the chief executive of the regulatory standards Ministry may apply to the High Court for an order requiring the agency to supply the information.

Regulatory Standards Bill

Part 3 cl 47

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- (2) The court may make the order (on any terms and conditions that it thinks fit) if the court is satisfied that the information is necessary or desirable to enable the regulatory standards Ministry to review (in whole or in part) a regulatory system to which any legislation relates.

Schedule 1 Transitional, savings, and related provisions

s 6

Part 1 Provisions relating to this Act as enacted

5

1 Review requirements for Bills

- (1) **Section 9** does not apply to a Bill introduced before the commencement of that section.
- (2) **Section 11** does not apply to a Government amendment for a Bill referred to in **subclause (1)** (regardless of whether the Government amendment is released before or after the commencement of **section 9**). 10

2 Review requirements for secondary legislation

- (1) **Section 13** does not apply to secondary legislation made before the commencement of that section.
- (2) **Section 14(1)** applies regardless of whether the Act that empowers the making of the secondary legislation was enacted before or after the commencement of that section. 15

3 First briefing on state of regulatory management system

The regulatory standards Ministry must give its first briefing under **section 16** on or before 1 January 2030. 20

4 Regular reviews of existing legislation

Sections 17 to 19 apply in relation to legislation regardless of whether it is enacted or made before or after the commencement of those sections.

5 Board must not inquire into certain matters

- (1) **Section 33** applies in relation to an Act or secondary legislation regardless of whether it is enacted or made before or after the commencement of that section. 25
- (2) Before the commencement of **sections 17 to 19**, **section 33(1)** applies as if the following had come into force:
 - (a) **sections 17 to 19:** 30
 - (b) any notice that has been issued under **section 10, 14, or 19**.

6 Board's first annual report

The board's first report under **section 39** must be an interim report that covers the period of 6 months commencing on 1 January 2026 and ending with 30 June 2026. 35

Schedule 2

Other provisions relating to board and its members

s 40

Contents

		Page
	<i><u>Term, removal, and resignation of members</u></i>	
<u>1</u>	<u>Term of office of members</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>Removal of members</u>	<u>26</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>Resignation of members</u>	<u>26</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>No compensation for loss of office</u>	<u>26</u>
	<i><u>Duties of members</u></i>	
<u>5</u>	<u>Accountability of members to Minister</u>	<u>26</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>Collective duty of board</u>	<u>26</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>Member must be impartial</u>	<u>26</u>
<u>8</u>	<u>Member must act in good faith</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>9</u>	<u>Member must act with reasonable care, diligence, and skill</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>10</u>	<u>Obligation to disclose interest</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>11</u>	<u>What must be disclosed</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>12</u>	<u>Consequences of being interested in matter</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>13</u>	<u>Use of information</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>14</u>	<u>Protection from liability</u>	<u>28</u>
	<i><u>Other matters</u></i>	
<u>15</u>	<u>Procedure generally</u>	<u>28</u>
<u>16</u>	<u>Remuneration of members</u>	<u>28</u>
<u>17</u>	<u>Ministry must provide resources and administrative support</u>	<u>28</u>

Term, removal, and resignation of members

- | | | |
|----------|---|----------|
| 1 | Term of office of members | 5 |
| (1) | A member holds office for 3 years or any shorter period stated in the notice of appointment. | |
| (2) | A member may be reappointed. | |
| (3) | A member continues in office despite the expiry of their term of office until— | |
| | (a) the member is reappointed; or | 10 |
| | (b) the member's successor is appointed; or | |
| | (c) the regulatory standards Minister informs the member by written notice that the member is not to be reappointed and no successor is to be appointed at that time. | |

2 Removal of members

- (1) The regulatory standards Minister may, at any time and entirely at their discretion, remove a member from office.
- (2) The removal must be made by written notice to the member.
- (3) The notice must state the date on which the removal takes effect, which must not be earlier than the date on which the notice is received. 5
- (4) The Minister must notify the removal in the *Gazette* as soon as practicable after giving the notice.

3 Resignation of members

- (1) A member may resign from office by written notice to the regulatory standards Minister signed by the member. 10
- (2) The resignation is effective when the Minister receives the notice or at any later time specified in the notice.

4 No compensation for loss of office

A member is not entitled to any compensation or other payment or benefit relating to their ceasing, for any reason, to hold office as a member. 15

Duties of members

5 Accountability of members to Minister

- (1) Members must comply with—
 - (a) the board's collective duty; and 20
 - (b) their individual duties as members.
- (2) Members are accountable to the regulatory standards Minister for performing their duties as members.

6 Collective duty of board

The board must ensure that it— 25

- (a) performs its functions efficiently and effectively; and
- (b) acts in a manner consistent with the purpose of this Act.

7 Member must be impartial

A person may not act as a member in relation to a matter if there are reasonable grounds to believe that the person may not be— 30

- (a) impartial; or
- (b) able to consider the matter without a predetermined view.

Regulatory Standards Bill		Schedule 2
8	Member must act in good faith	
	A member, when acting as a member, must act in good faith and without regard to the member's own interests.	
9	Member must act with reasonable care, diligence, and skill	
	A member must, when acting as a member, exercise the care, diligence, and skill that a reasonable member would exercise in the same circumstances.	5
10	Obligation to disclose interest	
(1)	A member who is interested in a matter relating to the board must disclose details of the interest as soon as practicable after the member becomes aware that they are interested.	10
(2)	A general notice of an interest in a matter relating to the board, or in a matter that may in future relate to the board, that is disclosed in accordance with this clause is a standing disclosure of that interest for the purposes of this clause.	
(3)	A standing disclosure ceases to have effect if the nature of the interest materially alters or the extent of the interest materially increases.	15
(4)	The member must disclose details of the interest in an interests register kept by the board and to the regulatory standards Minister.	
(5)	In this clause and clauses 11 and 12 , matter and interested have the same meaning as in section 62 of the Crown Entities Act 2004 (applied with all necessary modifications).	20
11	What must be disclosed	
	The details that must be disclosed under clause 10 are—	
(a)	the nature of the interest and the monetary value of the interest (if the monetary value can be quantified); or	
(b)	the nature and extent of the interest (if the monetary value cannot be quantified).	25
12	Consequences of being interested in matter	
	A member who is interested in a matter relating to the board—	
(a)	must not vote or take part in any discussion or decision of the board relating to the matter or otherwise participate in any activity of the board that relates to the matter; and	30
(b)	is to be disregarded for the purpose of forming a quorum for that part of a meeting of the board during which a discussion or decision relating to the matter occurs or is made.	
13	Use of information	35
	A member who has information in their capacity as a member, being information that would not otherwise be available to the member, must not disclose	

Schedule 2

Regulatory Standards Bill

that information to any person, or make use of or act on the information, except—

- (a) for the purposes of the performance or exercise of the functions or powers of the board; or
- (b) as otherwise required by law.

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14 Protection from liability

No member is liable for anything that the member may do or say or fail to do or say in the course of the operations of the board, unless it is shown that the member acted in bad faith.

Other matters

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15 Procedure generally

The board may regulate its own procedure except as provided in this Act.

16 Remuneration of members

- (1) A member is entitled to be—

- (a) paid remuneration by the regulatory standards Ministry for services as a member at a rate and of a kind determined by the regulatory standards Minister in accordance with the fees framework; and
- (b) reimbursed by the regulatory standards Ministry for actual and reasonable travelling and other expenses incurred in carrying out the member's duties as a member in accordance with the fees framework.

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- (2) In this section, **fees framework** means the framework determined by the Government from time to time for the classification and remuneration of statutory and other bodies in which the Crown has an interest.

17 Ministry must provide resources and administrative support

- (1) The regulatory standards Ministry must provide the resources and administrative support necessary to enable the board to perform its functions.
- (2) Any information held by the board is held by the regulatory standards Ministry for the purposes of the Official Information Act 1982.

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Date: 24 June 2025

Subject: Meeting Dates 25 June – 5 August 2025

Author: M Jones, Governance Administrator

Approved by: M J Nield, Director - Corporate Services

Document: TRCID-1492626864-756

Purpose

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to notify members of the scheduled meeting dates for 25 June – 5 August 2025

Recommendations

That Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum Meeting Dates for 25 June – 5 August 2025
- b) notes the upcoming meeting dates.

Meeting Dates

Regional Transport Committee	10.30am Thursday 5 July 2025
Operations and Regulatory Committee	9.00am Tuesday 22 July 2025
Policy and Planning Committee	10.30am Tuesday 22 July 2025
Executive Audit and Risk Committee	10.00am Monday 28 July 2025
Ordinary Council	10.30am Tuesday 5 August 2025

Public Excluded Recommendations – Ordinary Council 24 June 2025

In accordance with section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, resolves that the public is excluded from the following part of the proceedings of the Ordinary Council Meeting on 24 June 2025 for the following reason/s:

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

Item 15:

Confirmation of Public Excluded Ordinary Council Minutes – 13 May 2025

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 (a) and [section 7](#) (2) (a) and (2) (g) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Item 16:

Confirmation of Public Excluded Operations and Regulatory Committee 10 June 2025

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 (a) and [section 7](#) (2) (a) and (2) (g) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Item 17:

Confirmation of Public Excluded Executive Audit and Risk Minutes – 16 June 2025

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 where the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information; and/or enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice, commercial activities.

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution	When can the item be released into the public
Item18: Maniapoto Relationship Agreement	To enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	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 exists under section 7(2)(i).	Upon the approval of the final agreement by Council.
Item 19: Appointment of Harbourmaster	To enable any local authority holding the information to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of	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	Upon the approval of the appointment by Council.

	deceased natural persons.	reason for withholding would exist under section 7 (2) (a) of <i>the</i> Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.	
Item20: Council Conduct Review Report	The Council Conduct Review has not been fully completed and therefore there is a need to protect the privacy of any individuals whose information is contained within the report and also ensure that any content within the draft report is used to improperly pressure members or officers.	Section 7 (2) a: to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons	The final report is expected to be formally adopted at the 5 August Council meeting.