

Climate Change Working Party
Wednesday 31 August 2022 at 9.30am

AGENDA

Climate Change Working Party Agenda

Meeting to be held in the Council Chamber
36 Water Street, Whangārei
on Wednesday 31 August 2022, commencing at 9.30am

Please note: working parties and working groups carry NO formal decision-making delegations from council. The purpose of the working party/group is to carry out preparatory work and discussions prior to taking matters to the full council for formal consideration and decision-making. Working party/group meetings are open to the public to attend (unless there are specific grounds under LGOIMA for the public to be excluded).

MEMBERSHIP OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING PARTY

Chairperson, Councillor Amy Macdonald

Councillor Joce Yeoman	Councillor Jack Craw	Councillor Marty Robinson
Councillor Penny Smart	TTMAC representative Mira Norris	TTMAC representative Rowan Tautari
TTMAC representative Lynette Wharerau	Te Rūnanga o Whāingaroa Rihari Dargaville	

KARAKIA

RĪMITI (ITEM)

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Opening Karakia

Whakataka te hau ki te uru,
Whakataka te hau ki te tonga.
Kia mākinakina ki uta,
Kia mātaratara ki tai.
E hī ake ana te atākura he tio,
he huka, he hauhunga.
Tuturu whakamaua kia Tina (Tina)
Haumi e! Hui e! Tāiki e!

Closing Karakia

Unuhia, unuhia
Unuhia ki te uru tapu nui
Kia wātea, kia māmā, te ngākau, te tinana, te wairua i
te ara tangata
Koia rā e Rongo, whakairia ake ki runga
Kia tina! TINA! Hui e! TĀIKI E!



TITLE: **Record of Actions – 25 May 2022**


From: Nicky Hansen, PA to GM Community Resilience

Authorised by Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience, on 22
Group Manager/s: August 2022

Whakarāpopototanga / Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to present the Record of Actions of the last meeting (attached) held on 25 May 2022 for review by the meeting.

Attachments/Ngā tapirihanga

Attachment 1: CCWP_20220525_MINUTES [↓](#) 

Climate Change Working Party
25 May 2022

Climate Change Working Party Record of Actions

Meeting held online via zoom link
on Wednesday 25 May 2022, commencing at 9.30am

Tuhinga/Present:

Chairperson, Councillor Amy Macdonald
Councillor Jocelyn Yeoman
Councillor Jack Craw
Councillor Marty Robinson
Councillor Penny Smart
TTMAC representative Rowan Tautari

I Tae Mai/In Attendance:

Full Meeting

NRC Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience, Victoria Harwood
NRC Climate Change Manager, Tom Fitzgerald
NRC Zero Carbon Transition Advisor, Natalie Child
NRC Working Party Secretariat, Nicky Hansen

Part Meeting

NRC CEO, Malcolm Nicholson *joined at 9.44am*

The meeting commenced at 9.32am.

Ngā Mahi Whakapai/Housekeeping (Item 1.0)

Ngā Whakapahā/Apologies (Item 2.0)

TTMAC representative Nora Rameka.

Record of Actions – 23 February 2022 (Item 4.1)

Presented by: Cr. Amy Macdonald

Agreed action points:

- No actions required

Receipt of Action Sheet (Item 4.2)

Presented by: GM. Victoria Harwood

Agreed action points:

- No actions required

Climate Change Working Party
25 May 2022

Emissions Reduction Work Programme Update (Item 4.3)

Presented by: Natalie Child

Agreed action points:

- No actions required

Progress of Ngā Taumata o Te Moana Implementation Plan (Item 4.4)

Presented by: Tom FitzGerald

Agreed action points:

- No actions required

Tracking Progress on Ngā Taumata o Te Moana (Item 4.5)

Presented by: Tom FitzGerald

Agreed action points:

- No actions required

Climate Change Governance Review (Item 4.6)

Presented by: Tom FitzGerald

Agreed action points:

- No actions required

Whakamutunga (Conclusion)

The meeting concluded at 11.17am.

TITLE: **Receipt of Action Sheet**

From: Nicky Hansen, PA to GM Community Resilience

Authorised by Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience, on 22
Group Manager/s: August 2022

Whakarāpopototanga / Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to enable the meeting to receive the current action sheet.

Nga mahi tutohutia / Recommendation

That the action sheet be received.

Attachments/Ngā tapirihanga

Attachment 1: Climate Change Working Party Schedule of Actions [↓](#) 

Climate Change Working Party Schedule of Actions						
as at 22/08/2022						
Action #	Meeting date	Agenda Item	Action	Responsible staff	Status	Notes
2	17-Jun-20	NRC CARBON FOOTPRINT (Item 9.0)	Investigate online area to store meeting documents to enable access for Councillors and TTMAC members.	Group Manager - Community Resilience	In Progress	23/02/2022 - IT have updated that no new Teams groups will be made for external parties access until after Enterprise is in place - sometime 2023 onwards 23/02/2022 - Victoria has raised a service ticket with the IT department as there may be an opportunity to have a Microsoft Teams working space for councillors and TTMAC members. 17/06/2020 - Raised again re access of documents for councillors and TTMAC
23	Sep-21	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) AR6 report update (Item 4.6)	IPCC report update to be presented to council workshop and to TTMAC.	Natural Hazards Advisor Monitoring Manager	Not Started	01/08/2022 - Awaiting NIWA commitment to commence report (2+ yrs) 02/11/2021 - NRC staff are applying for Environ Link funding to organise NIWA to update the report using the latest IPCC figures.
32	Nov-21	2022 Meetings Dates (Item 4.6)	Working Party Secretariat to confirm that the proposed date swap suits the TTMAC members on all Working Parties affected.	Working Party Secretariat	completed	23/02/2022 - Victoria currently in conversation with Auriole, NRC Pou Manawhakahaere, regarding TTMAC members not able to attend working party meetings. Long term solution required. This action is to stay on schedule of action sheet until resolved 21/12/2021 - Ben Lee, Policy & Planning Manager, delegated Rachael King, Planning and Policy Administrator, to ensure TTMAC members will be able to attend despite these working parties despite the change of date.
31	Feb-22	Receipt of Action Sheet (Item 4.2)	Cr. Jack Crow to feedback to the Climate Change Working Party what projects in the Biodiversity and Biosecurity implementaion plan can be included in the work plan for year 2.	Cr. Jack Crow	Completed	25/05/2022 - Jack Crow updated on track for yr2.
32a	Feb-22	Receipt of Action Sheet (Item 4.2)	Victoria Harwood currently in conversation with Auriole, NRC Pou Manawhakahaere, regarding TTMAC members not able to attend working party meetings. Long term solution required. This action is to stay on schedule of action sheet until resolved	GM Community Resilience	Completed	14/07/2022 - Endorsement that Mira Norris to replace Thomas Hohaia on the CCWP. 14/07/2022 - Endorsement that Rowant Tautari is appointed as the alternate for Rihari Dargaville on the JCCAC. 12/05/2022 - Discussion with Auriole, and met with Rihari Dargaville and Thomas Hohaia - an agenda item planned to go to TTMAC requesting an alternate representative for Thomas Hohaia as he is unable to attend due to work commitments.- Rihari requires some eupport with dates and agendas.
33	Feb-22	Progress Year 1 of Ngā Taumata o Te Moana (Item 4.4)	Website link to 'He Waka Eke Noa' to be distributed to the working group	GM Community Resilience	Completed	12/05/2022 - GM Community Resilience emailed out link
34	Feb-22	Progress Year 1 of Ngā Taumata o Te Moana (Item 4.4)	Year 2 project #38: There is potentially an opportunity for NRC to work with DOC in this space. Amy to send Jono and Victoria the contact details for the lead worker at DOC.	Cr Amy MacDonald	Completed	25/05/2022 - Amy sent to Jono and Victoria
35	Feb-22	Electric Vehicle Survey Report Summary (Item 4.5)	Future plans for our EV network needs to be embedded with our Northland council transport teams, working groups and agencies..	Rivers and Natural Hazards Manager / Zero carbon Transition Advisor	Completed	22/08/2022 - Dawn Spence from the Northland Transportation Alliance (NTA) is supporting the respective Council initiatives and plans regarding emissions reduction, and how this is incorporated into the development of strategies and forward work plans for the NTA. The NTA support rather than lead these initiatives which are primarily being driven by respective Council policy's, priorities and approved programmes which have not reached a reporting stage at this time. 12/05/2022 - Northland Transportation Alliance is aware of the need for EV planning, plan to raise awareness through Emission Reduction work programme.
36	Feb-22	EV - Bus update (Item 4.8)	Calvin Thomas, General Manager Northland Transportation alliance (NTA) to be invited to next working party to give further information regarding the strategic advances that the NTA are working towards for carbon reductions, more broadly in the transport sector.	GM Community Resilience	Completed	22/08/2022 - Dawn Spence from the Northland Transportation Alliance (NTA) is supporting the respective Council initiatives and plans regarding emissions reduction, and how this is incorporated into the development of strategies and forward work plans for the NTA. The NTA support rather than lead these initiatives which are primarily being driven by respective Council policy's, priorities and approved programmes which have not reached a reporting stage at this time. 12/05/2022 - GM Northland Transportation Alliance to be invited to the 31 August 2022 meeting

TITLE: Government Reforms Progress Update

From: Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience; Tom Fitzgerald, Climate Change Manager and Jan van der Vliet, Natural Hazards Advisor

Authorised by Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience, on 22
Group Manager/s: August 2022

Whakarāpopototanga / Executive summary

Central government is undertaking large legislative, policy and national plan reforms, reviews and development over the next few years and these changes will have an impact upon our climate change response actions into the future.

This agenda item will provide an update on legislative change progress and impacts for the council climate change work programme.

Staff will give a verbal update on aspects of the reforms.

Ngā mahi tūtohutia / Recommended actions

Updates will be brought to future Climate Change Working party meetings as reforms progress.

Background/Tuhinga

Central government legislative, policy and national plan reforms, reviews and development are underway concurrently. **Attachment 1** outlines the timing and progress of these reforms and updates in comparison to each other while impacting on local government. These include:

- Local Government Statutory Planning and reporting
- Future for LG Review
- Three Waters Reform
- Resource Management Act Amendments and Reform
- Climate Change Reform and ETS updates
- Emergency Management modernisation
- Waste minimisation strategy
- Health and Disability Reforms

Modernising the Emergency Management Framework

The Civil Defence Emergency Management Act (CDEM) 2002 has been in place for the last 20 years. Through learning from several emergency responses in New Zealand over the last five years and recommendations from an independent Technical Advisory Group regarding reforms of the wider emergency management sector, the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) are undertaking a review of the CDEM Act 2002, National CDEM Plan and the National Disaster Resilience Strategy under the trilecta programme.

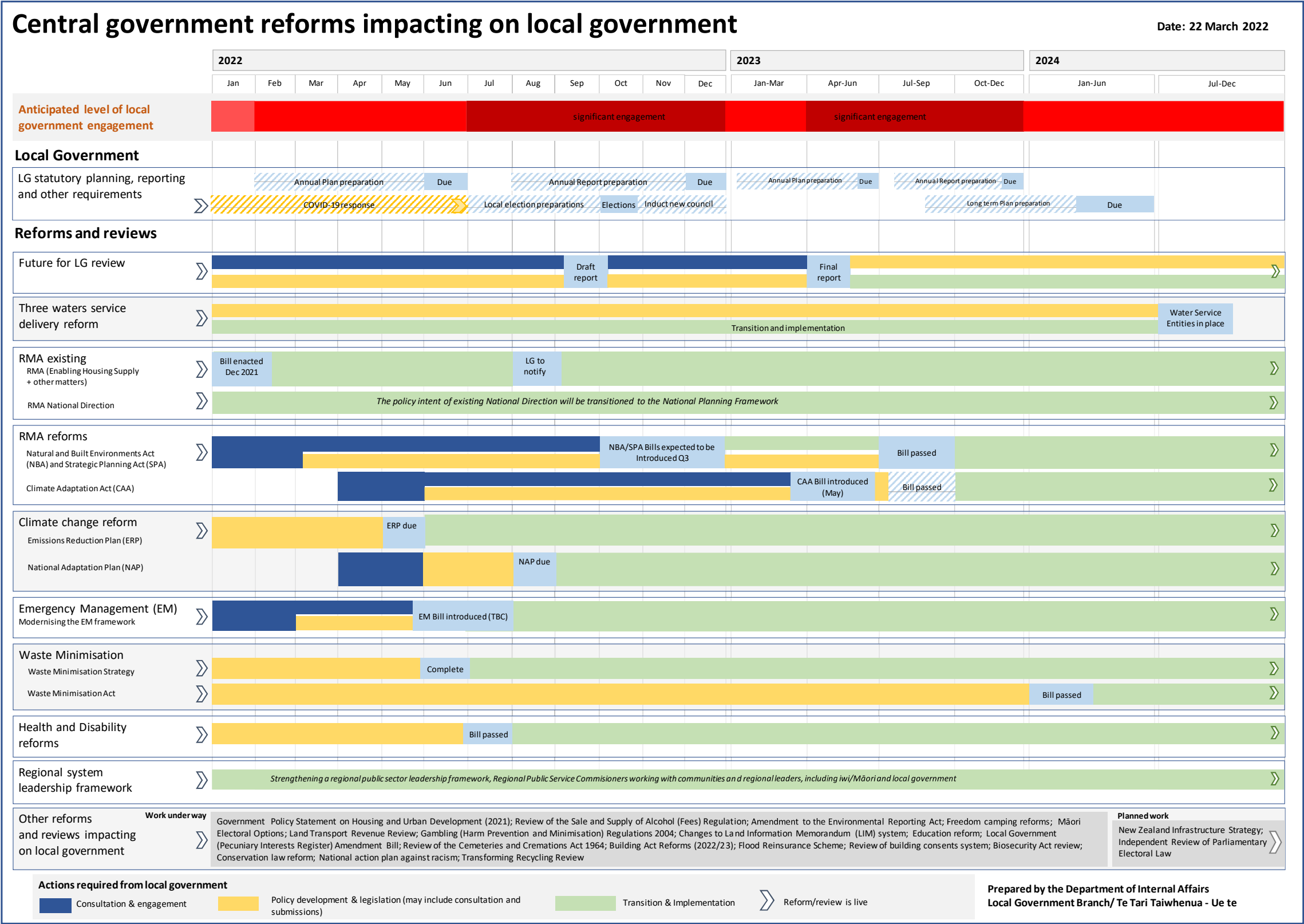
The timing of the trifecta review has been extended beyond the timeframe outlined in Attachment 1 due to feedback from the wider emergency management sector. Additional time to adequately contribute to the consultation is required as workloads are still high under current emergency responses especially the long response to COVID, floods and wildfires. The Minister of Emergency Management has delayed the draft Emergency Management (EM) Bill introduction to the House until late 2022. Key changes indicated are to the participation of Tangata whenua in the EM sector, and clarity of EM roles and responsibilities, managing risk and enabling and empowering and supporting community resilience.

There are implications for critical infrastructure, Māori engagement and hazard reduction programmes from these reforms into the climate change work programmes.

Other legislation and national policy is moving at a fast pace, hence Tom FitzGerald, Manager Climate Change will provide verbal update at the meeting to avoid a written update being inaccurate.

Ngā tapirihanga / Attachments

Attachment 1: Central Government Reforms and Impacting on Local Government [↓](#) 



TITLE: Progress of Ngā Taumata o Te Moana Implementation Plan

From: Tom FitzGerald, Climate Change Manager

Authorised by Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience, on 22
Group Manager/s: August 2022

Whakarāpopototanga / Executive summary

With Nga Taumata o Te Moana now over one year old, we have the opportunity to report on progress made against the actions in the Strategy. The Background section provides a snippet of the broader climate change context and identifies some of the achievements over the last year. Much of this is also set out in the Annual Report.

Operationally, Attachment 1 gives current progress updates of actions within the Implementation Plan of *Ngā Taumata o Te Moana: our strategy for tackling climate change*.

Ngā mahi tūtohutia / Recommended actions

1. Note the progress report.

Background/Tuhinga

The climate crisis is our generation's biggest challenge, and it's already an issue in Te Taitokerau. We must respond by transforming how our society and economy operate.

Northland Regional Council acknowledges the urgent need to respond to the climate change crisis. We are living in te ao hurihuri, the ever-changing world, where the historic and ongoing release of greenhouse gases is already altering the environment that supports us, threatening to cause severe social and environmental disruption. In the interests of unborn generations, our communities and our precious taonga, we must act now.

Northland Regional Councils Ngā Taumata o te Moana

Here at council, we've developed Ngā Taumata o te Moana: our strategy for tackling climate change, which was adopted in July 2021 along with the implementation plan for this strategy. Both documents guide councils work in this area and we've divided our work programme up into the three pou of the climate change crisis: adaptation, emissions reduction, and carbon removal. During the recent process of developing the Long-Term Plan 2021-2031, while climate change was identified as one of the key issues driving our work programme, we were explicit about the need for community values to drive place-based adaptation actions.

The Te Tai Tokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy

Te Taitokerau councils celebrated a unique milestone in April 2022 after the adoption of New Zealand's first region-wide climate adaptation strategy, one that is at the heart of our efforts to increase Northland's resilience and works alongside our own climate change strategy above.

The Te Tai Tokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy was developed by Climate Adaptation Te Tai Tokerau (CATT), a joint council working group under the governance of the Joint Climate Change Adaptation Committee. The strategy was formally adopted in April 2022 by the Northland Regional Council, Whangarei District Council, Kaipara District Council and Far North District Council, in a move

that will allow the alignment of climate adaptation work across Northland. It will also drive the delivery of place-based community adaptation plans.

The strategy is the culmination of four years of collaborative mahi with iwi and hapū representatives, elected members and council staff from across Northland.

Looking ahead

Northland communities are particularly exposed to climate change with many of our settlements, town centres, and roads sitting on coastal floodplains, exposed to sea level rise, and increased flooding. With coastal erosion and inundation becoming more prevalent along our region's coastline, difficult but important discussions about how to deal with those challenges are needed. Those discussions will need to canvas all options to manage risk, from holding the line through to moving away from hazardous areas.

We are working with communities, whanau and partner organisations to undertake adaptive planning processes that recognise and allow for the uncertainty inherent in our shared climate future.

Councils newly formed Climate Change team has recently begun work on project planning and tracking the progress of Ngā Taumata o te Moana and Te Tai Tokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy and determining exactly how we're going to achieve what we've set out to so that we can start to see our progress, and importantly, report on this.

Over the past year, we've also worked on a range of projects including:

- Partnering with Kaipara District Council on the region's first community adaptation planning project in Raupō and Ruawai, where work has commenced, and the first community events have been undertaken.
- Engaging Toitū to measure and verify our climate impact. This will provide us with a verified emissions baseline and drive emissions reduction action across council and its operations with a focus on priority areas.
- Funding two community housing projects under the Water Resilience Grant Fund Programme. Following on from the 2020 drought, this programme allows vulnerable communities to apply for funding to install new drinking water infrastructure to ensure greater resilience during times of need.
- Completing a climate risk assessment for our lifeline utilities. This work identifies current and future threats to the critical pieces of infrastructure that provide water, power, and transport connectivity. Council have also contributed to a risk assessment and adaptation planning work with the Northland District Health Board.
- Sending submissions on several key policy changes, including proposed changes to the Emissions Trading Scheme, the National Policy Statement on Indigenous Biodiversity, the Emissions Reduction Plan, and the National Adaptation Plan. Staff also wrote a submission in support of Renewable Energy Zones for Northland.
- Continuing work on the CoastCare programme with our coastal communities to encourage greater coastal resilience.

- Releasing updated coastal and riverine flood hazard maps, which are beginning to be incorporated into district council planning regimes.
- Continuing to invest in low or zero emissions technology to support our operations, including additional solar panels on the Water St office and an increase in the number of electric vehicles for operations.
- Changing our procurement policy, council reports, and business case planning to encourage alignment with climate goals.
- Providing funding to Whangārei, Kaipara, and Far North district councils towards planning for adaptation pilot projects.

Ngā tapirihanga / Attachments

Attachment 1: Climate Change Strategy Implementation - August 2022 [↓](#) 

NRC Climate Change Strategy Nga Taumata o te Moana – CCWP update

Ongoing programmes

*All actions current as of August 2022.

Project #	Area	Project	Brief project description	Timeframe	Responsible	Funding source	Status notes
1	Internal climate change planning	Governance support	Support and provide technical advice to NRC and regional governance, including Joint Climate Change Adaptation Committee and Climate Change Working Party. Includes preparing agendas, presentations, reports, workshops etc.	Ongoing programme	Climate Change Manager (CCM)	Existing funding allocations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ongoing.Governance project underway to streamline current arrangements and reporting requirements, but also to meet and be future fit for additional reporting requirements under the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Act. This will require external expertise to be procured to support and refine these structures.Given broad reach of climate change within NRC, staff considering need to re-establish internal steering group.
2	Internal climate change planning	Climate change communications	<p>Support ongoing public engagement on climate change, outlined in a rolling 12-month communications plan, highlighting the work we are doing around climate change, publicising milestones, and supporting engagement with various projects that arise from the implementation plan.</p> <p>Also supporting the development of community initiatives to reduce emissions through providing website information, environmental awards and promoting successes.</p>	Ongoing programme	CCM + Comms Manager	Existing resourcing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">New climate change comms staff in place.Brief communications plan drafted.Engagement and outreach activities currently opportunistic e.g., EV expo at Whangarei growers market 20th August, school engagement alongside EnviroSchools.Media activity currently reactive but work underway to be proactive in both internal communications and external media channels e.g., through CEO’s messages, and news articles.New NRC award established ‘Environmental Action on Climate Change’ but was not awarded in 2022No wider public engagement planned at this stage.
3	Internal climate change planning	Review of external-facing RMA policies and plans	Review of key NRC external plans and policies such as the Regional Plan and Regional Policy Statement, to ensure alignment with legislative requirements and updates, and any new information on climate risks and emissions reduction requirements. Also to test alignment with NRC’s climate change strategy, find areas for improvement and identify areas of potential inconsistency. Potential to embed rules and policies enabling better adaptation, emissions reduction and carbon removal across the region.	Ongoing programme	Policy + CCM	Existing funding allocations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">RPS Review initiated. Staff are collaborating with NRC Policy team on broadening out the efficiency and effectiveness review of the RPS to also include a review of best practice ‘climate change’ relevant policy in NZ with a view to identifying potential changes to the RPS.CCM team to provide additional funding support to Policy team to enable this review.
4	Adaptation	River flood management infrastructure	Continue to deliver flood-risk reduction programme across the region, using a prioritised approach. Continue working with WDC on aligning projects in the Whangārei Blue-Green Network programme.	Ongoing programme	Rivers Team	Existing resourcing	New work underway to scope out a regional flood risk management framework/strategy. It’s been identified that while there is a number of discrete projects underway, there is no coherent narrative that speaks to risk, prioritisation and justification for why some works are undertaken and not others. This project is a joint effort led by the Rivers Team with the support of the Climate

NRC Climate Change Strategy Nga Taumata o te Moana – CCWP update

							Change Team (now including the Natural Hazards role)
5	Adaptation	Water resilience project	Water-tank assistance programme delivered to support communities to catch, store and treat water for domestic use, to improve water resilience during drought. Potential to align with projects being delivered by the new hapū-focused climate change programme.	Ongoing programme	CCM	FY21-24 LTP funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Applications shortlisted for 2022/23 and 2023/24.Based on existing need and delivery capability, consideration being given to increasing the size of the fund from \$500K to \$1M from 2023/24 (including funding from partners). To be discussed at Te Taitokerau Water Resilience Working Group.
6	Adaptation	CoastCare programme	Improved alignment of the CoastCare programme with regional adaptation planning programme. Identify areas of high erosion risk and develop natural solutions as interim measures during adaptive pathways planning process.	Ongoing programme	CoastCare Coordinator	FY21-24 LTP funding	Work is ongoing

Project #	Area	Project	Brief project description	Timeframe	Responsible	Funding source	Status notes
7	Adaptation	Community resilience coordination	Coordinating and engaging with a range of community resilience-building programmes including multiple agencies, e.g. CDEM, FENZ, water resilience group, marae resilience (DIA, TPK), remote rural communities resilience (MPI), also funding partners and NGOs.	Ongoing programme	All agencies	Existing resourcing	Ongoing.
8	Adaptation	Adaptation community engagement - technical support	Coordination and technical support for the regional adaptation programme, delivered with district councils as proposed in the Te Taitokerau Joint Adaptation Strategy. May include development of engagement methodology and materials/resources, support for technical hazards investigations where required, and assistance with adaptation community engagement, options development and analysis, and adaptation plan drafting.	Ongoing programme	CCM	FY21-24 LTP funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ongoing.Ruawai/Raupo community adaptation planning pilot initiated by KDC. This project (and others around the region) will be supported by new Climate Resilience Advisor at NRC (currently interviewing).
9	Adaptation	Hapū-focused climate resilience programme	Development of the hapū-led adaptation planning facilitation programme. Will likely include identification of community needs, partnership with hapū, development of engagement methodology, facilitation of adaptation/resilience plans, and identification of potential funding opportunities.	Ongoing programme	CCM + Māori Engagement	FY21-24 LTP funding	<p>Currently interviewing for Climate Resilience Advisor.</p> <p>Dedicated summer student to investigate (and design) grant fund programme to support this mahi. Scope below:</p> <p><i>Provide support to help the establishment of a tangata whenua-focused grant fund to support community climate adaptation action. This will include undertaking a literature review, researching best practice and current practice, identifying key stakeholders (internal and external), liaising internally with other grant fund managers, identifying potential funding needs and uses, identifying funding sources and identifying a potential methodology for how such a programme could work. The output of this project will be to produce a report that identifies best practice, the pros and cons of such a fund and summarises the key findings. If justified, the report will eventually contribute to the production of a business case to establish the Fund.</i></p>

NRC Climate Change Strategy Nga Taumata o te Moana – CCWP update

10	Adaptation	On-farm adaptation support	Promote activities that enable adaptive management in a changing climate, while meeting goals of soil conservation, water resilience, freshwater management and animal welfare. This may include targeted hill-country soil conservation programmes, building demand for poplars and willows for integrated farm forestry, encouraging resilient pasture, aligning with NES-FWM farm plan implementation, and encouraging the provision of stock shelter and shade.	Ongoing programme	CCM + Land Management	Existing resourcing	Ongoing.
11	Adaptation	Rain radar and flood forecasting Northland Region	Access to rain radar data to provide high-resolution rainfall records in near real-time, increasing spatial coverage currently missed by existing rain gauges. Will enable three-hour 'now-casting' to assist flood hazard management and civil defence responses, as well as improving river flood models and improving projections for engineering standards for infrastructure planning, etc.	Ongoing programme	Science team	Existing resourcing	Mott MacDonald, in conjunction with MetService, are the engaged developers of this project. Workshops were held during the 1 st half of this year. NRC's lead is from our science team with input from the Rivers Team and Natural Hazards Advisor. Useable outcomes are expected before the end of this year A 'real time' flood forecasting model is being developed for Awanui / Kaitaia by DHI on behalf of NRC. Outcome / deliverable are expected before the end of this year.
12	Adaptation	River flood hazards	Complete region-wide river flood modelling and develop a community flood-hazard risk assessment that identifies future prioritised work programme.	Ongoing programme	Rivers Team + Natural Hazards Advisor	Existing resourcing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Natural Hazards Advisor role has moved to Climate Change team.Region-wide river flood modelling complete.A regional flood risk management framework/strategy is being developed which will form the corner stone of our future prioritisation work programme (see Action 4 above).
13	Adaptation	Coastal hazards	Ongoing development of coastal hazard assessment, including the development of hydrodynamic models for Whangārei and other large harbours and estuaries, as well as developing a region-wide coastal erosion risk assessment. Ongoing technical support for regional adaptation planning programme with districts and communities, including additional local hazard assessments where required.	Ongoing programme	Natural Hazards Advisor	Existing resourcing	The coastal hazard assessment and associated mapping has been completed. This includes detailed hydrodynamic models for our major harbours which are all publicly available. Continued support is being provided to our Districts with regards to further detailed hazard assessment, e.g., Raupō / Ruawai drainage scheme and community adaptation planning projects e.g. following the adoption of our regional Te Tai Tokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy (TTCAS)

Project #	Area	Project	Brief project description	Timeframe	Responsible	Funding source	Status notes
14	Adaptation	Coastal aquifer saline ingress	Installation of additional monitoring sites and long-term monitoring of salinity levels in coastal aquifers. Investigations and improvements to our understanding of at-risk aquifers and community supplies from sea level rise-related saline ingress. Commissioning of a research report with climate scenario projections may require external funding.	Ongoing programme	Science team	Existing resourcing	No update.

NRC Climate Change Strategy Nga Taumata o te Moana – CCWP update

15	Emissions reduction	NRC buildings	Continue to include LED lighting, solar power and other ‘easy’ low-carbon drivers in new builds. Investigation of further options for reducing embodied carbon in new buildings, such as using structural timber. Continue to invest in renewable energy infrastructure, efficiency and investigate efficiencies of alignment with EV charging. Align emissions reporting and forecasting methodology with UN Race to Zero criteria.	Ongoing programme	Strategic Projects and Facilities Manager	Existing resourcing	No update.
16	Emissions reduction	NRC bus fleet	Investigation of options for improvements in bus fleet efficiency and delivery modes; further develop optional analysis, business cases and timelines for complete transition to e-buses in alignment with emissions reduction targets. Align emissions reporting and forecasting methodology with UN Race to Zero criteria.	Ongoing programme	Group Manager – Community Resilience NTA	Existing resourcing	With the publication of the Emissions Reduction Plan and National Adaptation Plan and a number of additional transport initiatives (e.g. Sustainable Public Transport Framework), regular updates from the Transport sector will be required.
17	Carbon removal	On-farm carbon removal support	Providing advice to landowners to support on-farm carbon removal activities such as afforestation, soil carbon and wetland restoration. This may include: - supporting and promoting appropriate private native afforestation projects that provide co-benefits such as biodiversity and soil conservation - helping landowners understand options for afforestation that support good land management practices, and providing information on opportunities to access the ETS - help build demand for poplars and willows for integrated farm forestry - ensuring council's land and catchment management programmes align with government and industry programmes (e.g. He Waka Eke Noa) to document and reduce on-farm emissions - using spatial planning to identify land with high potential for afforestation to reduce erosion risk and capture carbon.	Ongoing programme	Zero Carbon Transition Advisor Land Management Team	Existing resourcing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ongoing.• Internal NRC working party established to encourage organisational alignment across Land Management, Biodiversity, Biosecurity, Planning and Policy and Climate Change programmes e.g., right tree, right place, right time.

NRC Climate Change Strategy Nga Taumata o te Moana – CCWP update

Year 1

Project #	Area	Project	Brief project description	Timeframe	Responsible	Funding source	Status notes
18	Internal climate change planning	Corporate climate positive transition plan	Development of corporate climate positive transition plan including an optimised greenhouse gas emissions reduction plan and carbon removal/offset investment plan. Will define organisational GHG emissions reduction and carbon removal targets using standard approach (UN Race to Zero criteria) and set out prioritised actions for council to become net-zero emissions before 2050, with an end goal of reaching climate positive (i.e. net negative emissions). Dependent on completion of NRC emissions reduction projects.	Deliverable Year 1	Zero Carbon Transition Advisor	FY21-24 LTP funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Toitū contract underway and carbon accounting data collection being coordinated by Zero Carbon Transition Advisor. Expected certification date approx. Nov 2022.• Work underway to define ‘boundary’ of reporting i.e., Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions and for example this will involve consideration of whether to include Council Controlled Organisations, bus fleet etc.• Corporate Climate Positive Transition Plan will be scoped up concurrently with carbon footprint and commissioned in 2022/23.• A summer student will also be delivering and analysing a staff survey on sustainability and climate change over the coming summer: <p><i>Design, deliver and analyse a staff-focused ‘climate change and sustainability survey’ that seeks to uncover current behaviour and actions, and helps identify potential actions that could reduce staff impact on the environment and meet our climate change and sustainability goals. This will include things like travel to work preferences, current obstacles and opportunities, current obstacles on transport mode shift, end of trip facility requirements and the like. The output of this project will be to produce a report detailing purpose, methodology, results, analysis, discussion and recommendations.</i></p>
19	Internal climate change planning	Annual Plan business cases	Development of Annual Plan business cases following adoption of NRC’s climate change strategy, recognising that some projects may require additional funding outside the Long-Term Plan process. Annual Plan business cases will be coordinated to align with the corporate zero-carbon plan and prioritise those requiring urgent investment in zero-emissions technology or investigations.	Deliverable Year 1	CCM	Existing resourcing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None planned as yet.
20	Internal climate change planning	NRC policy review - internal	Review of key NRC internal policies to test alignment with NRC’s climate change strategy, find areas for improvement and identify areas of potential inconsistency to embed adaptation, emissions reduction and carbon removal policies and standards across the organisation	Deliverable Year 1	CCM + Corporate Strategy	Existing resourcing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deep dive on corporate climate risk planned for March/April 2023. As a minimum, this will include updates to the risk register to reflect best practice.• External advice will also be sought to inform best practice against section 52W of the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Act.• FNDC developing a climate change policy (as per best practice advice) that may be useful for NRC to consider (see Action 38 of Te Taitokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy).

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							<p>Climate governance project will also dig into this aspect and cover corporate climate risk, policy, monitoring and reporting, and governance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes have been approved to Council report template to require all staff and elected members to consider climate change goals and impacts in decision-making. The Climate Change team is driving this work with the support of NRC's Governance Specialist. Changes have also been made to NRC's new procurement framework to include climate considerations. Climate Change team and Corporate Strategy holding monthly meetings to continually seek ways to improve.
21	Internal climate change planning	Zero-carbon procurement policy	Develop/amend policy to require all business cases involving significant investments that have associated emissions to show evidence that zero-emissions options or other alternatives have been sufficiently considered. Investigate potential for including cost of high-quality carbon offsets in procurement lifecycle cost forecasts, where emissions-generating purchases are being considered against zero-/low-emissions options.	Deliverable Year 1	Zero Carbon Transition Advisor	FY21-24 LTP funding	Draft procurement policy nearly finalised, with new inclusions around sustainability and climate change included.
22	Adaptation	Te Taitokerau Joint Adaptation Strategy	Coordination and drafting of Te Taitokerau Joint Adaptation Strategy and associated reports with joint staff group Climate Adaptation Te Taitokerau. Includes reports such as climate risk overview; coastal community profiles; adaptation toolbox; adaptive pathways engagement framework; and the adaptation strategy's implementation plan. Strategy to be presented to the Joint Climate Change Adaptation Committee in August 2021.	Deliverable Year 1	Climate Adaptation Te Taitokerau Working Group members	Existing resourcing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategy adopted by all Councils and implementation ongoing. 46 priority actions identified.
23	Adaptation	Te Taitokerau Joint Adaptation Strategy - climate risk and Māori engagement report	Commissioning of research report to improve council's understanding of appropriate and successful engagement approaches when working with hapū and iwi on climate change issues. Will involve literature review and interviews. Outputs will provide guidance for hapū-focused climate change programme. Conducted by local tangata whenua researcher.	Deliverable Year 1	Contractor	Existing resourcing	Report expected to be finalised in September.

Project #	Area	Project	Brief project description	Timeframe	Responsible	Funding source	Status notes
24	Adaptation	Te Taitokerau Joint Adaptation Strategy - communications and engagement plan	Communications and engagement plan for the Te Taitokerau Joint Adaptation Strategy, to help promote conversations with our communities about developing adaptive pathways plans.	Deliverable Year 1	Joint Communications Group (Climate Adaptation Te Taitokerau Working Group members)	FY21-24 LTP funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work on this plan largely stalled following a January hui that identified a number of fundamental issues around identity, purpose and governance of group. Communications and media around the TTCAS were therefore largely reactive. Interim website developed – see www.catt.org.nz No TTCAS-specific broader community engagement planned at this stage. Progress reported to JCCAC.

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25	Adaptation	Coastal habitat and sea level rise	Investigation of threats to coastal habitats, especially limits to landward migration with sea level rise. GIS analysis of existing mangrove, saltmarsh and seagrass habitat and expected impacts of sea level rise. Identification of potential areas for migration, and investigation of potential policy framework to enable land use change to allow landward habitat migration under sea level rise. (Also see Carbon removal - coastal blue carbon project.)	Deliverable Year 1	Science team	FY21-24 LTP funding	No update.
26	Emissions reduction	Corporate carbon footprint audit and emissions reduction options	Commissioning of corporate carbon footprint audit and verification using accredited provider. Investigate corporate emissions reduction options across major emissions sources (see below projects in emissions reduction section). Implement consistent and verifiable emissions reporting and forecasting methodology across organisation, using standard protocols (e.g., UNFCCC Race to Zero criteria).	Deliverable Year 1	Zero Carbon Transition Advisor	FY21-24 LTP funding	See update in Action 18 above.
27	Emissions reduction	NRC vehicle fleet	Investigate options to decarbonise NRC's vehicle fleet in line with zero-carbon transition plan and emissions reduction plan. Includes identification of viable alternatives, life-cycle assessments, options assessments and development of business cases. Possible short-term options may include transition of some vehicles toward EVs and hybrids; options for alternatives to replace some/all 4WD Hiluxes; optimising vehicle use behaviour; considering a shared EV fleet with WDC. Implement consistent and verifiable emissions reporting and forecasting methodology.	Deliverable Year 1	NRC Strategic Projects and Facilities Manager	Existing resourcing	No update.
28	Emissions reduction	NRC maritime fleet	Investigation of options for improving the efficiency of vessels, transition of vessels to high-performance hulls and electric/hybrid engines as well as fuel-saving trip programming and behaviour. Improvements in monitoring and reporting of vessel emissions. Implement consistent and verifiable emissions reporting and forecasting methodology.	Deliverable Year 1	Maritime Manager	FY21-24 LTP funding	No update.
29	Emissions reduction	Consents and GHG emissions	Professional development and training to support resource consent team to develop capacity to assess new consent requirements re: GHG emissions in RMA from 2022. May include improving technical literacy for consent considerations such as process heat standards and processes, alternative low-carbon heat methods, greenhouse gas emissions reduction plans, etc.	Deliverable Year 1	Consents Manager	Existing resourcing	Amendments to RMA to commence Nov 30. This will include requirement to have regard to National Adaptation Plan, Emissions Reduction Plan in consents, new plans and policies. Consents Manager seeking advice through Consents SIG and MfE.

Project #	Area	Project	Brief project description	Timeframe	Responsible	Funding source	Status notes
30	Carbon removal	Coastal blue carbon	Undertake a carbon stocktake of coastal blue carbon ecosystems using existing GIS data (including mangroves, saltmarsh, seagrass, kelp beds). Develop a risk assessment of the impact of sea level rise on these ecosystems and investigate the carbon removal potential of coastal blue carbon ecosystems, considering projected landward migration potential and limitations such as physical or planning barriers. Investigate options for conservation, restoration and re-establishment of blue carbon habitats, and estimate future carbon storage potential under different policy settings. Consider blue carbon ecosystem carbon values in adaptation planning programmes (see above adaptation engagement project - Awanui stopbanks).	Deliverable Year 1	CCM + Science team	FY21-24 LTP funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">PhD project underway to investigate feasibility of blue carbon approach for saltmarsh using Rangaunu Harbour as case study site. NRC supported via EnviroLink Small Grant.Broader investigation not started

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Year 2

Project #	Area	Project	Brief project description	Timeframe	Responsible	Funding source	Status notes
31	Adaptation	Adaptation community engagement - Awanui coastal stopbanks	Adaptive pathways planning project with FNDC, as per Te Taitokerau Joint Adaptation Strategy. Scoping, data collection, hazard analysis and pre-engagement during 2022, with community engagement beginning 2023 once additional adaptation staff are on board.	Deliverable Year 2	Rivers team + Climate Change Team + FNDC	FY21-24 LTP funding	Not started.
32	Adaptation	Climate impacts - scientific review	Revision and update of Northland's climate change impact report (NIWA 2017) following release of the upcoming IPCC AR6 report in 2022.	Deliverable Year 2	CCM	Existing resourcing	Downscaled IPCC 6AR projections expected in 2024 at earliest. These are needed to inform region-specific climate impact assessment.
33	Adaptation	Drought vulnerability	Development of further information on drought risk to community and rural water supplies with climate change. Development of climate vulnerability assessment of community and primary industry water supplies, drawing on information from Three Waters review process. Investigation of approaches for communicating drought as a natural/climate hazard.	Deliverable Year 2	Science team + Natural Hazards Advisor	Existing resourcing	Not started.
34	Adaptation	Freshwater resilience	Resilience of Northland's freshwater ecosystems in response to climate change, including maintaining/improving resilience of freshwater environments in Northland, including highly vulnerable areas; ensuring we are meeting NPS-FM and NES-FW objectives regarding accounting for climate change aspects; a study in the form of guidance/monitoring strategy by investigating historic information for identifying the risks associated with climate change on Northland's freshwater environments, and associated ecological and human health implications; continuous long-term water quality monitoring is undertaken in at least two reference river sites and one outstanding dune lake.	Deliverable Year 2	Science team	FY21-24 LTP funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Links with Actions 4, 4, 14.Freshwater Plan change project underway to give effect to Te Mana o Te Wai the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management, see https://www.nrc.govt.nz/environment/new-freshwater-rules/the-freshwater-plan/
35	Adaptation	Ecosystems, habitat and biodiversity	Commission literature review of at-risk ecosystems (e.g. lakes, terrestrial, freshwater and marine communities, coastal/estuarine habitats) and species threatened by climate impacts. May need to separate topics, limit scope and stage reports over time. (Funding likely to be both externally through Envirolink funding (research support grants) with some support via the new adaptive pathways LTP budget.)	Deliverable Year 2	Biodiversity Manager	Requires external funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">\$155K allocated in CAPEX budget 2023/24 for this work to commence, being led by BiodiversityNRC made a submission on the exposure draft of the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity, including specific recommendations around climate change impacts and considerations. See https://environment.govt.nz/acts-and-regulations/national-policy-statements/proposed-nps-indigenous-biodiversity/#development-of-the-npsib-process-to-date
36	Adaptation	Biosecurity threats	Preliminary review of high-risk sleeper and offshore biosecurity threats under future climate change scenarios, potentially including human health, agricultural and environmental threats. Project will support and align with a nationwide regional sector programme aiming for	Deliverable Year 2	GM Biosecurity	LTP 2021-24	The LTP provided resourcing of \$50K to undertake a climate change + biosecurity strategy. It is proposed that the aim of the strategy will be to prioritise the risks and management implications of climate change as they relate to biosecurity and recommend

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			consistent methodology and provide a gap analysis and identify areas requiring further investigation.				actions for risk mitigation. It is expected work will get underway prior to December and the strategy finalised during 2023 (see agenda item at Biodiversity and Biosecurity Working Party).
Project #	Area	Project	Brief project description	Timeframe	Responsible	Funding source	Status notes
37	Emissions reduction	Regional economy and industry leadership	Investigation of options to support the transition to a zero-carbon economy in Northland, including working with regional economic development partners, industry and the primary sector alongside government agencies and research groups. Investigate alternative funding possibilities to incentivise uptake of zero-emissions technologies and R+D.	Deliverable Year 2	Climate Change team + Economic Policy	FY21-24 LTP funding	Northland Inc leading the development of Regional Economic Development Strategy. Initial workshops underway and steering group members appointed. Climate change identified as a key priority.
38	Carbon removal	Peatland/wetlands carbon storage	Commission a carbon stocktake of wetlands and peatlands using existing GIS data, with the objective to understand the carbon emissions and removal potential of peatlands/wetlands in Northland; also investigate possible approaches to enable conservation, restoration and re-establishment including changes to land management practices.	Deliverable Year 2	Science team + Biodiversity	Requires external funding	CCM part of Aotearoa Future Coast 5 yr research project led by NIWA to tackle some of these challenges.

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Year 3+

Project #	Area	Project	Brief project description	Timeframe	Responsible	Funding source	Status notes
39	Internal climate change planning	NRC policy review - external	Review of key NRC external plans and policies such as the Regional Plan and Regional Policy Statement, to test alignment with council’s climate change strategy, find areas for improvement and identify areas of potential inconsistency to embed adaptation, zero emissions and carbon removal rules and policies, in line with legislative requirements, other updates and new information on climate risks and emissions reduction requirements.	Deliverable Year 3+	Policy and Planning team	Requires future AP/LTP funding	Not started.
40	Adaptation	Wildfire hazards	Understand council's responsibilities and the availability of data regarding increase in wildfire risk under climate change scenarios.	Deliverable Year 3+	Natural Hazards Advisor	Existing resourcing	CCM working with SCION (and others) on wildfire research project
41	Adaptation	Geotechnical hazards	Understand council's responsibilities and the availability of data regarding increase in risk of slips and landslides under climate change scenarios.	Deliverable Year 3+	Natural Hazards Advisor	Existing resourcing	Not started.
42	Emissions reduction	Regional EV charging network	Investigation of options for how NRC can support the development of a comprehensive regional EV charging infrastructure alongside other agencies, district councils and industry partners.	Deliverable Year 3+	Zero Carbon Transition Advisor	Requires future AP/LTP funding	No update.
43	Carbon removal	NRC carbon removal and emissions offset programme	Investigate approaches for emissions offsetting and carbon removal for council, including biological options such as wetland and coastal blue carbon restoration and afforestation projects. Consider options for measuring, reporting and verifying carbon removal including co-benefits such as biodiversity, water and social. Adopt best-practice approach for carbon offsets such as the 'Oxford principles for net-zero aligned offsetting'.	Deliverable Year 3+	Zero Carbon Transition Advisor	FY21-24 LTP funding	Cross-organisational discussions underway (see Action 17)

TITLE: **Climate Change Governance Review**

From: Tom FitzGerald, Climate Change Manager

Authorised by Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience, on 22
Group Manager/s: August 2022

Whakarāpopototanga / Executive summary

Staff have progressed work and undertaken further engagement around climate governance since the previous Climate Change Working Party meeting on 25 May 2022. Climate governance was discussed and workshopped at the Joint Climate Change Adaptation Committee on Monday 29 August 2022.

The intent of these discussions was to create some options for how we want climate governance to be realised in Tai Tokerau. This would consist of some changes we could recommend immediately to current governance arrangements for the next triennium as well as an indication of the longer-term aspirations.

It is anticipated that the immediate steps to be taken will seek to streamline and consolidate reporting requirements, particularly as they relate to Northland Regional Council, but also recognising our role as regional leaders.

Staff can give a verbal update of the current status of these ongoing discussions and outline the next steps at the meeting.

Ngā mahi tūtohutia / Recommended actions

1. Note this report and the verbal update.
2. Note that staff will continue to engage with partners to progress this mahi and identify the next steps.

Background/Tuhinga

A climate governance paper was presented to the Climate Change Working Party on 25 May 2022. The paper highlighted several aspects of current governance arrangements and identified areas for improved efficiency and effectiveness.

The climate governance workstream has arisen largely because of observations and insight from new staff but are also subsequent to the publication of both Ngā Taumata o Te Moana (July 2021) and the Te Taitokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy (April 2022). Both documents set extensive work programmes via their respective Implementation Plans.

The Te Taitokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy (TTCAS) in particular recognises that oversight of climate change issues is an area where partner organisations (including Northland Regional Council) can build capacity in reporting and disclosure of climate risks and governance (Action 37). This is also reinforced by section 5ZW of the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Act:

Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment
Act 2019

2019 No 61

Part 1 s 8

Power to request provision of information

5ZW Minister or Commission may request certain organisations to provide information on climate change adaptation

- (1) The Minister or the Commission may, in writing, request that a reporting organisation provide all or any of the following information:
 - (a) a description of the organisation's governance in relation to the risks of, and opportunities arising from, climate change;
 - (b) a description of the actual and potential effects of the risks and opportunities on the organisation's business, strategy, and financial planning;
 - (c) a description of the processes that the organisation uses to identify, assess, and manage the risks;
 - (d) a description of the metrics and targets used to assess and manage the risks and opportunities, including, if relevant, time frames and progress;
 - (e) any matters specified in regulations.
- (2) The reporting organisation must comply with a request made under subsection (1).
- (3) The Minister must, as soon as practicable, provide the Commission with a copy of any information received in response to a request made by the Minister.
- (4) The Commission must, as soon as practicable, provide the Minister with a copy of any information received in response to a request made by the Commission.
- (5) The Minister and the Commission must not publicly disclose any information received in response to a request, unless disclosure of the information is necessary to enable the Minister or the Commission to perform a function or duty imposed by this Part.
- (6) Subsection (5) does not apply in respect of information that is already in the public domain.
- (7) Before publicly disclosing any information received in response to a request, the Minister or Commission must consult with the person to whom the information relates.
- (8) For the purposes of this section and section 5ZX, the following are **reporting organisations**:
 - (a) the Public Service, as defined in section 27 of the State Sector Act 1988;
 - (b) local authorities, as defined in section 5(1) of the Local Government Act 2002;
 - (c) council-controlled organisations, as defined in section 6(1) of the Local Government Act 2002;
 - (d) Crown entities, as defined in section 7(1) of the Crown Entities Act 2004, but excluding school boards of trustees;

This Act identifies local authorities as *reporting organisations* that may be subject to requests from the Minister for Climate Change or the Climate Change Commission for information on climate risks, governance, potential climate impactys on an organisaitions operations and planning, a description

of how risks are being addressed, and measures and targets used to measure success or failure. Being ready to address these reporting requirements is currently within the forward work programme for 2022/23 of the Climate Change team and the Corporate Strategy team.

Legislative imperatives only provide one (important) aspect of our journey toward better governance. Reflecting our commitments to our Treaty partners and ensuring the right governance and decision-making structures are in place (or at least aiming to be constantly improving) is at the heart of the TTCAS (Action 1). In Action 3 the TTCAS goes further and asks Councils and their partners to clarify funding responsibilities in relation to adaptation (see for instance the Asher report completed for the Hawkes Bay Clifton to Tangioi Coastal Hazard Strategy).

Improved governance and greater collaboration and empowerment lie at the heart of many of these actions and will require some considered thinking and bold action to address the climate crisis in a fair, equitable and effective manner.

Ngā tapirihanga / Attachments

Nil