

Waimakariri District Council Community and Recreation Committee

Agenda

Tuesday 15 September 2026

1.00pm

Council Chambers
215 High Street
Rangiora

Members:

Cr Brent Cairns (Chairperson)

Cr Wendy Doody

Cr Bruce McLaren

Cr Niki Mealings

Cr Shona Powell

Deputy Mayor Philip Redmond

Mayor Dan Gordon (ex officio)

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A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 215 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA ON TUESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER AT 1PM

Recommendations in reports are not to be construed as
Council policy until adopted by the Council

BUSINESS

Page No

1 APOLOGIES

2 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Conflicts of interest (if any) to be reported for minuting.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee held on 18 August 2026

9-25

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Confirms** the circulated Minutes of the meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee, held on 18 August 2026 as a true and accurate record.

3.2 Matters arising (From Minutes)

4 DEPUTATIONS

Nil.

5 REPORTS

5.1 Draft Waimakariri Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy 2027 – 2037 – Approval for Consultation – Grant MacLeod (Greenspace Manager), Jill Borland (Greenspace Strategy and Partnerships Team Leader) and Chrissy Taylor-Claude (Parks Officer)

26-66

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 260811236177.
- (b) **Approves** the release of the Draft Waimakariri Play, Active Recreation and Sport (PARS) Strategy 2027-2037 for public consultation as noted in Attachment I (260902264832).

- (c) **Approves** the proposed consultation approach outlined in section 4.4 of this report which includes targeted consultation to Mana Whenua, sports clubs, community organisations, schools, recreation providers and will be available to the wider community.
- (d) **Notes** that the Draft Waimakariri Play, Active Recreation and Sport (PARS) Strategy 2027-2037 has been developed in response to population growth, demographic change and evolving participation trends, and has been informed by demographic analysis, participation data, research, and extensive engagement with stakeholders, sporting organisations, recreation providers, schools, community groups and communities of interest.
- (e) **Notes** that the Draft Waimakariri Play, Active Recreation and Sport (PARS) Strategy 2027-2037 recognises Council's role as a steward, provider, funder, partner, facilitator and regulator within the wider play, active recreation and sport system, and provides a framework to guide future planning, investment and partnership decisions.
- (f) **Notes** that, following public consultation and consideration of submissions, a final Draft Waimakariri Play, Active Recreation and Sport (PARS) Strategy 2027-2037 will be presented to the Community and Recreation Committee for recommendation to Council for adoption.
- (g) **Notes** that a Spaces and Places Implementation Plan is being developed to support implementation of the Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy and is informed by community engagement to understand community needs and aspirations.
- (h) **Notes** that the Spaces and Places Implementation Plan will be presented to Council as part of the Draft 2027 Long-Term Plan process, with any associated projects, levels of service changes, and funding requirements to be considered alongside other Council priorities and budget constraints through that process.
- (i) **Notes** that the social return on investment of every \$1 invested sees \$2.12 returned with an overall \$4.9 billion contributed to New Zealand's GDP through Play and Active Recreation and Sport.
- (j) **Notes** that consultation on the Draft Waimakariri Play, Active Recreation and Sport (PARS) Strategy 2027-2037 does not commit Council to specific projects, programmes or expenditure. Rather, the strategy establishes a strategic direction and decision-making framework to guide future planning, investment, service delivery and partnership decisions. Public consultation will help ensure the final strategy reflects community aspirations and priorities before being considered for adoption.

5.2 **Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw Update, Implementation Plan Progress and Results of the Beach User Survey 2026 – Lexie Mealings (Policy Analyst) and Mike Kwant (Senior Rangiora Biodiversity)**

67-185

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 260615141505.
- (b) **Receives** the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw Beach User Survey 2026 Public Facing Document (attachment iii – 260716171565).
- (c) **Receives** the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw Beach User Survey 2026 Infographic Poster (attachment iv – 260623148771).

- (d) **Circulates** this report (TRIM - 260615141505), the infographic poster (attachment iv - 260623148771), and the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw Beach User Survey 2026 Public Facing Document (attachment iii - 260716171565) to Community Boards and the Northern Pegasus Bay Advisory Group for their information.
- (e) **Notes** that the implementation of the NPBBIP is designed to take place over a period of four years, from the adoption of the NPBBIP in May 2025, through to the next review of the NPBB, scheduled for 2029.
- (f) **Notes** that the input received from beach users through the Beach User Survey 2026 will be used to help inform the next review of the NPBB, as well as play a key role in protecting and improving the coastal environment in the interim.

5.3 **Update of Management of Waimakariri District Art Collection – Mel Foster (Community Development Facilitator – Arts Strategy Implementation)**

186-200

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 260828257863.
- (b) **Notes** that the Waimakariri Art Collection Trust has now been dissolved and all art and financial assets of the Trust have reverted to Council guardianship.
- (c) **Notes** that over 70 pieces of art were accumulated over a period of years by the Trust through various means, including donations, Arts Council commission payments and Council grants. Therefore, while the Collection is a Council asset, it is also acknowledged as being 'owned' by the district's residents.
- (d) **Notes** for context, the attached draft documents for the newly established Arts Collection Trust subcommittee of the Waimakariri Arts Council. Final drafts will be tabled at the meeting.
- (e) **Notes** that Council has ring fenced the financial assets of the Waimakariri Art Collection Trust for the purpose of ongoing art maintenance.
- (f) **Notes** that new processes and projects are being developed to improve the acquisition, management and maintenance of the Collection.
- (g) **Notes** that storage has been secured within the Rangiora Service Centre for items not on display.
- (h) **Notes** that an updated valuation of the artworks will be undertaken and that all items in the Collection are covered by Council insurance.
- (i) **Approves** that full curatorship and management of the Collection, including a regular rotational programme, be delegated to the newly established Waimakariri District Art Collection Sub-Committee of the Community Arts Council.
- (j) **Circulates** this report to the Audit and Risk Committee for information.

5.4 **Inclusive Waimakariri – a Plan to Become a more Accessible District 2025 – 2028 – Year One Implementation Report – Martin Pugh (Community Development Facilitator)**

201-245

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 260722177923.
- (b) **Circulates** this report to Council and Community Boards and the Waimakariri Access Group for their information.
- (c) **Notes** that the implementation period for the Inclusive Waimakariri Plan is 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2028.
- (d) **Notes** that this is the first of four annual progress reports on the implementation of the Plan.
- (e) **Notes** that the next full review of the Plan will be in the second half of 2028.

5.5 **Aquatics August Update – Matthew Greenwood (Aquatics Manager)**

246-254

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 260903265947.
- (b) **Notes** total customer attendance of 22,705 customers for the month of August 2026. This is down 1,193 (4.9%) in comparison to 23,898 customers recorded in August 2025.
- (c) **Notes** the Aqualand event in the school holidays was well attended with 760 tickets sold.
- (d) **Notes** the successful implementation of BioTime, a time and attendance software package as part of the Council Enterprise System upgrade.
- (e) **Circulates** this report to the community Boards for their information.

5.6 **Libraries Update to September 2026 – Luke Sole (District Libraries Manager)**

255-262

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report 260902265249.
- (b) **Notes** increasing demand for library services in the district, which is evident in 2025/2026 preliminary performance results demonstrating a 4.1% increase in visitation across the sites and a 5.3% increase in memberships.
- (c) **Circulates** the report to the Community Boards for their information.

6 **PORTFOLIO UPDATES**

- 6.1 **Greenspace (Parks, Reserves and Sports Grounds) – Councillor Brent Cairns**
- 6.2 **Community Facilities (including Aquatic Centres, Multi-use Sports Stadium, Libraries/Service Centres, Town Halls and Museums) – Councillor Bruce McLaren**
- 6.3 **Community Development and Wellbeing – Councillor Shona Powell**
- 6.4 **Arts and Culture – Councillor Brent Cairns**
- 6.5 **Property – Deputy Mayor Philip Redmond**
- 6.6 **Housing – Councillor Wendy Doody**

7 **QUESTIONS**

8 **URGENT GENERAL BUSINESS**

9. **MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED**

Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

In accordance with section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act (or sections 6, 7 or 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may be), it is moved:

That the public is excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

- 9.1 Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes Community and Recreation Committee Meeting 18 August 2026
- 9.2 Briefing Notes Community and Recreation Committee 18 August 2026

Item No.	Subject	Reason for excluding the public	Grounds for excluding the public.
MINUTES			
9.1	Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes Community and Recreation Committee Meeting 18 August 2026	Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7	To protect the privacy of natural persons and enabling local authority to carry out without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial) negotiations and maintain legal professional privilege. LGOIMA Section 7 (2)(a), (g) and (i)
BRIEFING NOTES			
9.2	Briefing Notes Community and Recreation Committee 18 August 2026	Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7	To protect the privacy of natural persons and enabling local authority to carry out without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial) negotiations and maintain legal professional privilege. LGOIMA Section 7 (2)(a), (g) and (i)

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee is scheduled for Tuesday 24 November 2026 at 1pm in the Council Chamber, Rangiora Service Centre, 215 High Street, Rangiora.

Workshops

- *Waimakariri Events Plan: Emerging Direction – John Meeker (Senior Advisor Strategy and Business)*

WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 215 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA, ON TUESDAY 18 AUGUST AT 1PM

PRESENT

Councillors B Cairns (Chairperson), B McLaren, N Mealings, S Powell, Deputy Mayor Redmond and Mayor Gordon (left 2:17pm).

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillors T Bartle, T Fulton (left 2:05 pm) and J Ward.

J Millward (Chief Executive), C Brown (General Manager Community and Recreation), S Hart (General Manager Strategy, Engagement and Economic Development), G MacLeod (Greenspace Manager), M Greenwood (Aquatics Manager), L Sole (District Libraries Manager) G Stephens (Design and Planning Team Leader), A Huang (Greenspace Landscape Planner) and C Fowler-Jenkins (Governance Support Officer).

Two members of the public were present.

1 APOLOGIES

Nil.

2 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Item 4.1 - Councillor Cairns declared a conflict of interest as he was a part of the Kaiapoi Food Forest Trust

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee held on 16 June 2026

Moved: Councillor McLaren

Seconded: Councillor Mealings

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Confirms** the circulated Minutes of the meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee, held on 16 June 2026 as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED

3.2 Matters arising (From Minutes)

There were no matters arising.

4 DEPUTATIONS

4.1 Kaipoi Food Forest end of Year Report – Glenn Foley

G Foley reported that the Kaiapoi Food Forest (the forest) had continued to thrive throughout the year, demonstrating significant growth and maturity. The forest now maintained green cover year-round and produced an abundant fruit harvest. Visitors, volunteers, and trustees enjoyed the wide variety of produce available, particularly the

many plum and apple varieties, which encouraged both adults and children to explore the site and engage with the concept of community food growing. Because of the challenging economic environment and reduced funding opportunities, the Trust focused its efforts on maintaining and improving the forest rather than progressing the proposed Food Forest building project.

The Trust expressed appreciation to Natalie Leary for her consistent leadership and support of volunteers undertaking weeding, pruning, and general maintenance activities. As the Food Forest entered its ninth year, a programme of repairs and upgrades had been undertaken to ensure the site remained a safe, functional, and valuable community asset. The Trust thanked C Taylor-Claude, the Council Parks Officer, for her ongoing assistance and liaison with the Council.

It was reported that, as many trees reached a more mature stage, pruning and structural maintenance became increasingly important to support healthy growth, fruit production, and accessibility. The Trust acknowledged the contributions of a wide range of volunteers, including students from the University of Canterbury, who had assisted with weeding and mulching, as well as Corrections Department work crews led by Reuben, whose ongoing support had remained invaluable. The Trust also thanked Satisfy Food Rescue for providing refreshments for volunteers.

To strengthen future financial sustainability, the Trust developed a range of grafted fruit trees for future sale and acknowledged Chris and Mark for providing space to grow these plants. The Food Forest had participated in Food Secure North Canterbury's inaugural Grow and Tell trail event, providing an opportunity to showcase the site to a wider audience and promote community engagement with local food production. The Trust reaffirmed its support for Food Secure North Canterbury and welcomed the ongoing efforts of both the organisation and the Council to establish additional food forests throughout the region.

Looking ahead, priorities included continued repairs and maintenance, strengthening volunteer involvement and educational opportunities, developing a planting plan to increase future food production, improving on-site storage facilities, enhancing community engagement, exploring additional self-funding opportunities, and reviewing health and safety processes. The Trust concluded by thanking all volunteers, trustees, supporters, educators, funders, local businesses, community groups, visitors, and Council staff whose dedication and support had contributed to another successful year for the Kaiapoi Food Forest.

Councillor Ward asked if the building included toilets, and G Foley confirmed that it included a toilet and storage.

Mayor Gordon thanked G. Foley for the update and noted that he had enjoyed visiting the Food Forest and observing the progress made.

Councillor Cairns acknowledged G Foley's leadership as Chairperson of the Trust, particularly during some challenging periods, including the work undertaken in relation to the proposed education facility. He commented that it was wonderful to see the significant contribution of volunteer labour to the Food Forest and the ongoing support provided by the Corrections Department. Councillor Cairns further noted that the success of the Kaiapoi Food Forest had contributed to the establishment of 23 other food forests, highlighting its positive impact and influence across the wider community.

5 **REPORTS**

5.1 **Provision of Natural Burials Through a 24-Month Trial at Cust-West Eyreton Cemetery** – G Stephens (Design and Planning Team Leader) and A Huang (Greenspace Landscape Planner)

A Huang spoke to the report, noting staff had now completed a further investigation into providing natural burials in the Waimakariri District. Staff were recommending a 24-month trial at the Cust West Eyreton Cemetery as a practical first step. This would allow staff to test demand and work through the practical and management practices before considering any longer term or wider provision across the district.

Councillor Mealings referred to the report's discussion of planting arrangements and plot capacity and asked whether the proposed layout involved circular plots with trees positioned in the centre. G Stephens explained that the concept involved circular planting areas, with the entire circle being planted. He advised that the next stage of the trial would involve staff working with Natural Burials New Zealand to develop a detailed design and determine how to implement the layout.

Councillor Mealings also queried why councils applied a premium for natural burials. A Huang advised that, while the price comparison included in the report indicated natural burials appeared to be more expensive, a standard burial also incurred the additional cost of a headstone, which was paid separately. As a result, the overall cost of a natural burial could potentially be lower than that of a standard burial.

Councillor McLaren queried whether a natural burial could be accommodated within a standard burial plot. G Stephens advised that staff could consider this as part of developing the Cemetery Management Plan.

Councillor McLaren also enquired about the proposed \$1,500 premium and asked whether staff could identify the additional cost above that of a standard burial. G Stephens explained that the natural burial option was not being viewed as a commercial opportunity. He noted that the recommended fee had been based on a review of charges applied by other councils, together with the additional planting and operational costs associated with providing the service. As the initiative was a trial, staff recommended what they considered an appropriate interim fee. Following the trial period and subsequent reporting, staff would be able to assess whether the fee level was appropriate.

Deputy Mayor Redmond questioned whether natural burials complied with the current Cemetery Management Plan. A Huang confirmed that they did.

Deputy Mayor Redmond further noted that natural burials would not include headstones and asked whether graves would be marked in any way for identification purposes. G Stephens explained that natural burial sites were typically identified by the trees planted at the location, with the Council maintaining records within its cemetery system to accurately identify the burial locations.

Councillor Fulton queried what staff expected to learn from the proposed trial. A Huang advised that a key objective of the trial was to better understand community demand for natural burials.

Councillor Fulton noted that people generally preferred to be buried in places that held significance for them and were located within their local area and questioned whether there would be sufficient interest in using the proposed cemetery.

G Stephens agreed that people selected burial plots for a range of reasons, including proximity to places of personal significance. However, he noted that the availability of a natural burial option could also be a determining factor. G Stephens explained that undertaking a trial would enable the Council to better understand community interest in natural burials, as well as the associated design requirements and ongoing maintenance costs.

Councillor Cairns requested further clarification regarding the proposed \$1,500 premium for natural burials. G Stephens advised that the fee could be adjusted in the future, either increasing or decreasing as appropriate. He explained that staff sought to establish a fee during the trial period to cover the costs associated with providing natural burials. This included allowing space for the planting of trees and other vegetation to create and maintain an area of biodiversity.

Moved: Mayor Gordon

Seconded: Councillor Mealings

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 260720174500.
- (b) **Approves** a 24-month trial of natural burials at Cust-West Eyreton Cemetery.
- (c) **Notes** that if approved, staff will engage with Natural Burials NZ, at an estimated cost of \$2,500, to provide specialist advice and support throughout the planning and establishment of the natural burial area at Cust-West Eyreton Cemetery, including site assessment and certification.
- (d) **Notes** that the Annual Plan includes a budget of \$5,100 for natural burial provision, which would be available for use in the 2026/27 financial year and would support the engagement of Natural Burials NZ, including specialist advice, assessment and certification.
- (e) **Notes** that staff will continue to develop the operational arrangements required to implement and manage the natural burial trial, informed by advice from Natural Burials NZ.
- (f) **Notes** that staff will report back to the C&R Committee at the end of the trial period with results of the trial and recommendations going forward.
- (g) **Circulates** this report to all Community Boards for their information.

AND

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee recommends:

THAT Council:

- (h) **Approves** a fee of \$3,627.70 for a natural burial during the trial period with this fee to be reviewed at the end of the trial period.

CARRIED

Mayor Gordon expressed support for the Council undertaking the natural burial trial. He commented that, for a district of its size, it was appropriate to investigate options such as natural burials. Mayor Gordon noted that, provided the process was safe and hygienic, the Council should remain open to new approaches and evolving standards. He also observed that burial and funeral service costs were high and said the Council should seek to accommodate community needs. Mayor Gordon indicated that he would welcome lower fees if feasible, although any review of costs would be best considered after the trial is complete.

Councillor Mealings commented that burial options were currently limited and noted that the community had raised natural burials with the Council as an option worth exploring. She acknowledged the potential benefits that natural burials could provide for individuals and their families. Councillor Mealings noted that the Council would ultimately determine the fee structure and advised costs should be more closely aligned with those of a standard burial. However, she considered it reasonable during the trial period to set fees at a level that ensured the associated costs were covered.

Deputy Mayor Redmond also supported the proposed trial. He noted that the current Cemetery Policy was highly prescriptive and commented that it was interesting that natural burials could be accommodated within the existing policy framework. Deputy Mayor Redmond also advised that a resident had approached him seeking approval for a natural headstone, which is not currently permitted under the policy. He suggested that the Council may need to consider reviewing the policy in the future should there be increasing community demand for a wider range of burial options.

Councillor McLaren expressed support for the motion. He noted his concern regarding the proposed premium fee for natural burials but welcomed the trial and looked forward to reviewing its outcomes.

Councillor Cairns acknowledged Lesley Hurley for initiating the matter and bringing the report before the Committee. He advised that, since the issue had been raised, he had undertaken considerable research and viewed a range of material relating to the different ways people chose to celebrate and commemorate the lives of loved ones. Councillor Cairns commented that it was encouraging to see the Council being open to exploring alternative approaches, such as natural burials, and he looked forward to future reviews of the policy relating to burials and headstones.

In his right of reply, Mayor Gordon reiterated his support for the Council reviewing the provisions relating to headstones within the Cemetery Policy. He noted that such matters could be reviewed over time to ensure the policy remained appropriate and responsive to community needs. He also commented that any opportunity to reduce costs for families would be welcomed.

The meeting adjourned for a briefing on GP Hall, Oxford from 1:41pm to 2:17pm

5.2 **Report for Information – Kaiapoi Isite move from Enterprise North Canterbury to Waimakariri Libraries** – L Sole (District Libraries Manager) and S Hart (General Manager Strategy, Engagement and Economic Development)

L Sole took the report as read and advised that it related to the operational transfer of i-SITE functions, previously delivered by Enterprise North Canterbury, into the Library Service. He noted that there was a strong alignment of values between the two services, as many i-SITE users were digitally disadvantaged, older residents, or people with disabilities. Integrating the service within the library complemented the range of support and community services already provided.

Councillor Cairns noted that i-SITEs had previously sold tickets for a variety of events and enquired whether this service would continue. L Sole confirmed that staff were committed to providing the full suite of i-SITE services, including ticket sales.

Councillor Cairns further noted that businesses had previously been charged to display promotional brochures and flyers within i-SITE facilities and queried whether this practice would continue. L Sole explained that i-SITEs operated under a range of commercial models. Where i-SITE services were provided through libraries, they typically operated on a non-commercial or cost-recovery basis. Accordingly, the Council was not proposing to charge businesses for brochure display within the service.

Deputy Mayor Redmond noted that one reason the Council supported the proposal was the expectation that an enhanced level of service would be rolled out to libraries in Rangiora and Oxford. He observed that this had not yet occurred. L Sole advised that the proposal included a review of service delivery opportunities. He noted that space constraints currently limited the ability to provide a fully-fledged i-SITE service at Rangiora Library, although information centre functions were already available there. L Sole added that opportunities for service provision in Oxford would also be reviewed.

Deputy Mayor Redmond asked about the additional costs of operating the i-SITE service. L Sole advised that the primary additional cost was the software licence. He noted that existing budgets covered staffing costs.

Moved: Councillor Powell

Seconded: Councillor McLaren

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 260715169968.
- (b) **Notes** that the Kaiapoi i-SITE has relocated from the Enterprise North Canterbury building in Kaiapoi to the Kaiapoi Ruataniwha Civic Centre following a decision of Council during the 2026/27 Annual Plan deliberations meeting.
- (c) **Notes** that there has been a reduction to the Economic Development Grant (GL10.484.100.2502) Enterprise North Canterbury (ENC) receives from the Council of \$90,000 as a result of moving the i-SITE service from ENC to the Waimakariri Libraries, and that there is no anticipated level of service impact of this change.
- (d) **Notes** that a reduced offering is being provided between 13 July and 31 August, while the i-site service is fully transitioned. Full i-site services will resume at the library from 31 August 2026.
- (e) **Notes** that library staff will be provided training for full i-SITE duties, with support from Tourism New Zealand.
- (f) **Notes** a review would be done in six months and reported back to the Community and Recreation Committee.

CARRIED

Councillor Powell commented that she had seen the i-SITE setup to date and believed it had been implemented well. She noted that the arrangement further reinforced the library's role as a central hub where people could access information and services. Councillor Powell expressed interest in reviewing the service after six months and acknowledged the work staff had done to progress the initiative to a point where it would become fully operational within a relatively short timeframe.

Councillor McLaren commented that integrating the i-SITE service within the library was a natural fit. He noted that visitors to the town would naturally be drawn to the library and could access all the information and assistance they required in one location.

Councillor Cairns observed that the proposal would increase service levels. He noted that, when compared with the number of people who had previously visited the standalone i-SITE, the library setting offered the opportunity to reach a much larger audience. He supported extending the service across all libraries in the district. His only concern was that library staff were already managing significant workloads, and this would add another service responsibility.

Councillor Ward supported extending the service to Rangiora Library. She commented that the atmosphere at Ruataniwha Kaiapoi Civic Centre was warm, welcoming, and vibrant, making it an ideal location for the service.

Councillor Mealings noted integrating the i-SITE within the library was a natural fit and would enhance service through the library's extended opening hours. She noted that the library was an intuitive location for residents and visitors to seek information and highlighted the quality of the facility and the range of services it offered. Councillor Mealings looked forward to seeing the service become fully established.

In her right of reply, Councillor Powell reiterated her support for the initiative but noted some concerns regarding the available space within Rangiora Library and the extent to which additional services could be accommodated in the future.

6 **PORTFOLIO UPDATES**

6.1 **Greenspace (Parks, Reserves and Sports Grounds)** – Councillor B Cairns

- Kaiapoi Community Hub Play Space – The play space was now open for the public to use and enjoy. Staff received a quote to install a kerb cut to improve pedestrian access from the street. Staff would work with the contractor to programme this work in the coming weeks.
- Mandeville Sports Ground – At the 5 August 2026 Oxford-Ohoka Community Board meeting, the Board approved for the two draft concept plans to go out for public consultation, noting these were the club's plans and had been developed by the Club to establish their preferred long-term vision for the reserve. The plans were developed in response to operational challenges and future growth aspirations identified by the Sports Club and member clubs, such as access, parking, traffic circulation, site connectivity, ageing facilities, and the need to accommodate future sporting and recreational demand. The decision was to allow public consultation on the draft plans, not to approve a final plan, nor to fund, deliver, or commit Council resources to any of the projects identified within the concepts.
- Norman Kirk Park – The proposed report to the Committee in August 2026 did not proceed and it was expected that this may go forward in September 2026 subject to a meeting with the Nort Canterbury Sport and Recreation Trust (NCSRT) and senior management and some elected members, in regard to NCSRT's proposal for a gym, along with the outcomes for the Events Strategy would help to clarify the park's purpose and therefore any future infrastructure investment.
- Pegasus Youth – consultation on the designs had closed, and staff were currently working through this and writing the report for the Woodend-Sefton Community Boards September meeting. This last engagement raised some concern among residents (mainly around Maungatere Reserve) about the process and generated emails to elected representatives and staff, plus approximately 60 pages of feedback to analyse. The report would present the options to the Board and discuss the feedback results, with the intent of confirming final locations for implementation. If approved, construction would happen over the summer period.
- Southbrook Park – The group had sent out its first (proposed to be regular) community engagement newsletter, updating the community on its progress. The group would have its second workshop with Sport Guidance on 26 August 2026 to put a hub governance and management structure in place. An architect had been engaged to develop a concept plan, and a first meeting had been held to advance this. The concept plan development was dependent on clarity from Rangiora Bowls

on their inclusion (or not), as this impacted the potential size of the proposed gym. The concept would be costed to enable a submission to the Long Term Plan. The working group will make a deputation to the Rangiora-Ashley Community Board on 9 September 2026 and to the Community and Recreation Committee on 15 September 2026 to update on the project's progress.

- Welcome to Woodend sign – This was installed and had received positive feedback from the community. Whitiora also informed the Council that a kaumatua saw it and shared positive feedback, which was great to hear. This design would be saved and could be rolled out once the other three entrances were confirmed and budget was available.
- Welcome to Woodend Beach sign – This was combined into the Woodend Beach Project so that there was a strong link in aesthetic between the sign and the new development. Staff met with the Rūnanga-appointed artist, who was working with the Council on designs for cultural expression through the Woodend Beach project. Staff hoped to provide the Board with a design of the proposed sign for initial feedback and approval at either the September or October meeting.
- Welcome to Woodend Beach – The Council's Project Delivery Unit were working through the tender documentation phase, including a resource consent application which was currently being processed, as well as an archaeological authority (AA). Once the consent was approved, staff should be able to put the tender out for the civil works. Because of the site's complexity and the need for consent and AA, it was unclear how long the process would take; however, staff planned to have tenders out by September 2026. Once consent was approved, staff would be in a better position to lock in timeframes and plan accordingly, as they needed to be mindful of construction periods not negatively impacting people's use of the space through the main summer period. In the meantime, staff were working to complete the required tree work and engaging with the cultural artist to progress the design work. Staff have also engaged with the Pegasus Men's Shed, which was interested in supporting the project by making specific elements such as the whare play area and musical instruments. Staff would also work with the Kaiapoi Menzshed to provide a large picnic table similar to that provided in other reserves, such as by the BMX track.
- Sefton Domain – As staff begin work to increase Council leadership for the Sefton Hall replacement project, a staff site visit to Sefton Domain would look to clarify site considerations, amenity and pavilion need to support project planning.
- Murphy Park – Staff continue to work with the Northern Bulldogs to support them around consenting matters on their existing building. A report would go to the September Community and Recreation Committee meeting and would outline their proposal to develop new amenities on their site and seek the Committee's position, given the site's location relative to the stop banks and the associated risks. Staff had a lease in final review to provide tenure certainty for the club at Murphy Park.
- Play, Active Recreation and Sports (PARS) planning – staff have received the draft PARS strategy and spaces, and places plan for internal review. This was expected to be put to the September 2026 Community and Recreation Committee (or Council) meeting for approval to consult. Implementation planning would continue to deliver on all pillars of the strategy with the Council and PARS sector partners.
- Events and Activations – A was completed with the event manager following the Matariki event. A follow-up call with the complainant resulted in positive discussion, and she was on board with working with us to resolve issues going forward. Planning for the Town Hall Centenary events was progressing. Tickets were due to be released for the variety shows for that weekend and planning for the cocktail event was well underway. Welcome the Birds planning continued; however, they were monitoring the bird flu situation to ensure that delivery of this event remained 'in good taste' should infection rates escalate.

- Sparks Reserve naming – Progress was being made on installing a naming sign in Sparks Reserve following approval of this name at the July Rangiora-Ashley Community Board meeting.
- Play research five to twelve year olds – work had commenced to enable research with five to twelve year olds to understand their local play needs and local barriers to play to inform future play opportunity provision planning and partnerships. This work is aligned with the PARS strategy and funded by Sport New Zealand through the Council's Play Advocacy contract.
- The Design and Planning Team was currently working with developers on 17 subdivision and development consents, each of varied size and stages of the development process. Early engagement often begun at the pre-application stage, where staff work with developers to ensure a clear understanding of the Council's Levels of Service (LOS) and expectations. This included consideration of reserve size, location and function, as well as advocating for strong pedestrian connectivity, walkability, and legibility within new communities. Once applications are formally lodged, staff assess proposals against the relevant Levels of Service, Council policies, and guidelines, including the Play space Guidelines and other reserve development standards. The level of collaboration varies between developers, with some proactively incorporating Council feedback throughout the design process, while others require more detailed guidance and direction.
- Subdivision developments – following approval of development plans, staff continued to work closely with developers through the practical completion and final handover stages. This process ensures all agreed infrastructure and landscape elements are delivered to the required standard before being accepted into Council ownership. As an example, staff recently declined final handover of several planting areas within a local subdivision due to concerns about plant health and establishment. The maintenance period has since been extended by six months, giving the developer the opportunity to replant and ensure successful establishment through the upcoming spring and summer growing seasons before the assets are reconsidered for handover. Ensuring that these outcomes are achieved at the planning stage, before construction commences and residents move into new neighbourhoods, remains a key priority for the team. Taking the time to establish appropriate reserve provision, connectivity, and recreational opportunities upfront delivers lasting benefits for both current and future residents.
- Elm Green – This play space has been approved by the Board, and tender documentation is underway with the Council's Project Delivery unit. In the meantime, tenders have been received from playground providers for the play equipment, which will be reviewed and approved. This project was still on track for completion by December 2026.
- Kaiapoi entrance sign – The revised design for the Kaiapoi Entrance Signs was currently out for pricing, with prices requested from four local signage contractors. Prices will be submitted by the end of August 2026 and then reviewed by staff for approval of the final contractor. Works would begin on site a week after approval, with completion expected by the end of September 2026.
- StoryWalk Kaiapoi – the design of the panels for the new storywalk was complete, and staff were currently reviewing pricing received following a request for pricing from three suppliers. The plan is to install these before 23rd August 2026 to enable an opening event. The new storywalk signs would be installed at Rangiora and the current panels on display there will be relocated as part of this process to the Te Koro Tuaeheka Reserve (Honda Forest). Over time, as each new storywalk comes online, these will circulate through the network.

Councillor Powell asked whether, once the issues causing delays to the Woodend Beach Playground Project had been resolved, an update could be provided to the community. C Brown advised that staff were still working through a number of planning matters. He noted that once these issues were resolved, staff would be able to provide the community with an update on the project and its progress.

6.2 **Community Facilities (including Aquatic Centres, Multi-use Sports Stadium, Libraries/Service Centres, Town Halls and Museums)** – Councillor B McLaren

- Rangiora Town Hall 100-year celebration. There would be two concerts held.
- Rangiora Museum was the only museum that had regular public speakers every month. On Sunday 23 August 2026, there was a talk on the history of how Rangiora got its street names. On 24 September 2026 at 7:30 pm, Edward Luisetti would be speaking.
- Ruataniwha Kaiapoi Museum still had concerns about their private storage archive area. Health and safety considerations were still ongoing.
- With Kaiapoi Subway having moved, the old site at the entrance to the library was owned by the Council. It was an opportune time to bring the earthquake-prone building up to code and search for new tenants.
- Pegasus Community Centre had a site visit; it was an impressive asset which would be the jewel in the crown of community facilities in the district. It was on time and under budget, with the official opening in October.
- MainPower Stadium continued to be incredibly popular with a wide range of activities including non-sport events. The roof remained a major issue; responsible parties were still discussing a solution at no extra cost to ratepayers. He noted the addition of disc golf, which had received a lot of attention and was a great addition to the circuit.

Councillor Cairns referred to the deputation received by the Committee regarding padel ball and enquired whether any progress had been made since that presentation. C Brown advised that staff were currently preparing a lease agreement, which would be presented to the Committee for consideration and approval in due course.

6.3 **Community Development and Wellbeing** – Councillor S Powell

- Youth:
 - It was reported that, following the adoption of the Youth Action Plan (YAP) at the previous Community and Recreation Committee meeting, promotional videos and social media reels were being developed to support a district-wide campaign to launch the new Youth Action Plan. The launch event was scheduled for 17 September, from 7.00pm to 9.00pm, at MainPower Stadium.
 - It was noted that the Ashley River Clean-up had recently been held, with approximately 30 Youth Councillors and WaiYouth members participating in the event, which continued to be a popular and well-supported activity.
 - It was further reported that the Youth Futures Employment Expo had been successfully held, attracting strong attendance and featuring more than 75 exhibitors.
- Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ):
 - It was reported that two young people had secured employment placements in recent weeks.
 - It was noted that the Weekly Job Opportunities Hub continued to attract regular attendance. Support provided through the programme included CV preparation, interview skills coaching, driver licensing assistance, and personal development support for a number of young people.
- Homelessness:
 - It was reported that the Homelessness Response Navigator Lead role had commenced with the Salvation Army, with funding provided through the Department of Internal Affairs. An application was also submitted for funding for a Pastoral Support Navigator role, which was scheduled to be considered at the organisation's September meeting.

- It was further reported that funding had been secured from the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (MHUD) for additional outreach support through a 12-month fixed-term position. The Salvation Army and Methodist Mission had signed a contract to deliver the service. The funding would support a Social Navigator role, working alongside the Homelessness Response Navigator Lead to assist individuals living in unsafe or inadequate housing situations.
- Welcoming Communities:
 - It was reported that work was underway on a Welcoming Week Campaign that would highlight the cultural diversity of Council staff, including those who were multilingual.
 - It was further reported that a cultural competency programme was being developed for people leaders across the District to strengthen cultural awareness, inclusion, and engagement within Council and the wider community.
- Food Resilience:
 - It was reported that, following the Food Secure North Canterbury presentation, staff were working with a range of Council business units to identify the appropriate role for Council in supporting a more food-resilient district and to confirm the initiatives already being undertaken in this area. The intention was to ensure that Council acted as an enabler and facilitator without requiring additional ratepayer-funded resources. Engagement was planned with representatives from Greenspace, Environmental Services, Civil Defence, and Strategy and Business.
 - It was further reported that Food Secure North Canterbury was planning to establish a regional Food Resilience Governance Group.
- Kaiapoi Community Hub
 - It was reported that the Kaiapoi Menz Shed had received the necessary permit for its new building and construction was well underway.
 - Staff advised that interim options for a community space in Kaiapoi were being explored. Preliminary engagement would be undertaken through Social Services Waimakariri and the Kaiapoi Community Networking Forums to better understand community needs and identify opportunities to provide a temporary community space.
- Community Resilience:
 - It was reported that Kaiapoi High School had agreed to deliver the successful “Loves Me Not” programme as part of its curriculum from 2027. The programme focused on promoting safe and healthy relationships.
 - It was further reported that the Community Wellbeing North Canterbury Trust had recently secured project funding for a one-year rural suicide prevention initiative. Staff were working alongside the Trust, the Rural Support Trust, and the Oxford Community Trust to support the project, which was expected to include mentoring opportunities for young farmers. Alongside this initiative, staff were also exploring the revival of a previous programme focused on nutrition, wellbeing, and life skills for young farmers. Work was additionally underway on the development of a Men’s Wellbeing Series.
 - Staff advised that another aspect of this work involved facilitating a local series of The Yarns Men gatherings. The programme aimed to create opportunities for men to connect, discuss issues affecting their lives, and support one another to improve their mental wellbeing.
 - It was noted that a recent Parenting Workshop focusing on addiction and its various forms had been attended by nearly 60 local parents, with a number of additional apologies received due to illness.

- It was reported that the Waimakariri Bike Project continued to attract strong participation at its regular Wednesday evening sessions, including during the winter months, as well as at outreach events. Plans were being explored to expand the programme and extend its reach across the District.
- Staff advised that evaluations from the recent Mini Social and Community Sector Conference, which attracted 90 registrations, indicated significant value in continuing to offer the event. Staff were currently exploring funding opportunities to support future conferences.
- Accessibility
 - It was reported that two Core Boards had now been installed at Victoria Park and Trousselot Park, providing additional recreational opportunities and supporting active use of these open spaces by the community.
- Upcoming Events
 - It was reported that the North Canterbury Disability Expo would be held on 29 August 2026, from 1pm to 3.30pm at the Rangiora High School Hall. The event would provide an opportunity for attendees to learn about available support services and explore opportunities for people with disabilities within the community.
 - It was noted that Welcome to the Birds would be held on 30 August 2026. Participants would meet at 9 am at the Annie Currie Bird Viewing Platform at the Ashley Rakahuri Estuary for a presentation by the Ashley Rakahuri Rivercare Group, with the main event commencing at 10 am at the Waikuku Beach Hall.
 - It was reported that Welcoming Week would take place from 4 to 13 September 2026. The initiative would celebrate the connections that bring communities together by encouraging people to share their stories, cultures, and experiences. The programme aimed to foster communities where everyone felt valued, included, and at home, and to promote openness, respect, and a sense of belonging.
 - It was further noted that the Youth Action Plan Launch Event would be held on 17 September 2026, from 7 pm to 9 pm at MainPower Stadium. The event would mark the official launch of the newly adopted Youth Action Plan and promote youth engagement across the district.

Councillor Ward acknowledged the recent appointments to homelessness support roles and noted that the initiative grew out of the advisory group established in April following the homelessness forum. She advised that the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) had subsequently approached the group regarding potential support, which had resulted in funding being secured. Through a strong working relationship with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (MHUD), additional funding had also been arranged for a second position. Councillor Ward noted that these roles would help address the needs of people who may technically have accommodation but were living in housing that was unsafe, unsuitable, or inadequate.

Councillor Ward further noted that the Social Navigator role would complement existing support services. She highlighted the Council's developing "one-stop-shop" referral approach, whereby individuals experiencing homelessness or housing hardship could be identified, referred, and either supported directly or triaged to the appropriate service provider to ensure their needs were addressed effectively.

6.4 **Arts and Culture** – Councillor B Cairns

- Regional Representation
 - Mayor and Council staff had a meeting with the Creative New Zealand Chief Executive.
- Art installations
 - Mainpower Stadium sculpture
 - It was reported that work on the artwork installation was progressing, with a visit planned to the artist in Amberley to view progress and capture photographs and video footage for a Facebook update to the community.
 - It was further noted that the engineering report associated with the project had yet to be completed and remained outstanding.
 - Howard Kippenberger Sculpture
 - Panels being signed off by the Waimakariri Public Arts Trust (WPAT) at its August 2026 meeting. Ongoing meetings/discussions with the artist and WPAT. Family communication in progress. Information board to be developed.
- A number of different projects being considered by WPAT including:
 - It was reported that a potential benefactor for a sculpture project in Kaiapoi had been met on site. A report was being prepared for the Kaiapoi-Tuahiwi Community Board regarding a proposal to replace the existing balustrade at the southern entrance to Kaiapoi on Main North Road with pictorial panels, similar to those installed on the Williams Street bridge balustrade.
 - It was noted that an offer to create a mural for the skatepark had been received. An initial meeting had been delayed and subsequently rescheduled for mid-August.
 - It was further reported that information was being gathered regarding the proposed donation of a large Oamaru stone lizard sculpture for placement at Kaiapoi Lakes. This information would form the basis of a report to the Kaiapoi-Tuahiwi Community Board for consideration.
 - Staff advised that discussions were continuing regarding the painting of transformer boxes, potentially in partnership with MainPower. The project remained a work in progress.
- Public Art Asset Register still needed to be completed – Intention to focus on these once other significant projects and documentation were completed.
- Supporting Arts Organisations
 - Waimakariri Public Arts Trust:
 - It was reported that ongoing governance support continued to be provided to the organisation. Staff advised that a strategic planning session was scheduled for September 2026 to support future planning and governance priorities. It was also noted that the induction process for a new trustee had been completed.
 - Waimakariri Community Arts Council (WCAC)
 - Gallery Operating Guide and Terms of Reference for Art Collection Subcommittee now with WCAC Working Group for review. Next Music Committee Strategy meeting scheduled for 13 August 2026 to review progress to date on new processes/documentation. New Treasurer to commence next week, transfer to Xero to follow.
 - Art Collection Trust
 - Memo to Audit and Risk and Community and Recreation Committees being prepared.

- Staff meeting with the Chair to discuss project/priorities early August 2026 before inaugural meeting of the Art Collection sub-committee. Suitable storage space for artworks not on display has been identified within Rangiora Service Centre.
- Arts Strategy activation plan
 - It was reported that staff were working on a redraft of the document, incorporating feedback received from the community. Staff advised that this work remained in progress, with community input being reviewed and considered as part of the revised draft
- Public Arts framework
 - With Council Communications staff to finalise before going to C Brown for formal approval.
- Workshop pilot
 - Staff meeting with J Watson and Councillor Cairns to discuss a schedule of possible evening/weekend arts-related workshops.
- Proposed Youth Arts Week 2027
 - Staff had initial meeting with Youth Development Facilitators to discuss possibility of an arts week over the school holidays in 2027. Scheduling an initial meeting with Head of PA at Rangiora High School to discuss ideas, then other schools for joint meeting. Wai Youth/Youth Council would also be involved. Libraries to be consulted, programme to be developed.
- Video creation of community groups
 - M Foster meeting with M Cullen and Tracey Kitchingman (new WPAT trustee) to talk about WPAT Facebook reels and potential creation of a new video profiling a sample of community groups. M Cullen reviewing with staff a request to display this and temporary digital artwork displays on the TV screen on High Street.
- Survey/database
 - Survey to be drafted to arts community to reconnect/create database.
- E-newsletter/website
 - Content management plans on list to be created. Work in progress.
- Arts Incorporated Society
 - Further exploration required – what were other regions doing, how to progress.
- Arts Strategy Update report to Council.
 - To present in September/October.

6.5 **Property** – Deputy Mayor P Redmond

- Property Assets Working Group Meeting (Date 12 August 2026)
 - Kaiapoi Club Deputation
 - Kaiapoi Club provided an overview of community services and contributions and an update on the current financial position.
 - 176 Williams Street, Kaiapoi (Former Subway Premises)
 - Subway vacated the site on 24 July 2026 and returned the premises in satisfactory condition.
 - Building was now ready for seismic strengthening works (aim to lift to approx. 880% NBS)
 - Ten tenders were received for the strengthening project, with Holmes Construction recommended
 - Forecast total project cost approximately \$100,000, well below the approved \$350,000 budget.

- Construction expected to commence mid-August 2026 and take two to three months.
- Commercial leasing proposals invited from agencies, due 14 August 2026 with appointment by 21 August 2026
- Marketing campaign expected to begin late August 2026.
- Property remained on reserve land under the Reserves Act so leasing was permitted, but tenants must align with reserve purposes i.e. community-serving uses (for example cafés servicing Council facilities); however, purely commercial retail uses may face additional scrutiny.
- 1683 Cust Road, Cust - Septic Tank Failure
 - Existing shared septic system serving: FENZ building / Plunket / Cust Service Centre (garage)
 - System failing due to age, overload, and soak pit limitations.
 - Potential contamination risk existed given proximity to the Council water infrastructure.
 - No formal easements or agreements covering wastewater arrangements.
 - Access arrangements across neighbouring properties were informal.
 - FENZ had expressed interest in acquiring the building and possibly the Plunket building.
 - Options investigated:
 - ✓ Increase pump-out frequency (Higher ongoing costs but did not solve long-term problem).
 - ✓ Replace soak pit (Consent challenges likely / may trigger review of the whole system).
 - ✓ Convert existing septic tank to sealed holding tank - Recommended Option (Estimated cost: \$4,500-\$5,000 including consent / No discharge consent required / FENZ would cover future pump-out costs)
 - ✓ Install completely new wastewater treatment system (Estimated cost around \$35,000 / resource consent required with uncertain outcome).
 - Recommendation:
 - ✓ Convert existing treatment plant servicing FENZ to a sealed holding tank.
 - ✓ Engage affected parties on future wastewater arrangements.
 - ✓ Viewed as the most practical and cost-effective short to medium-term solution.
- 21 Courtenay Drive, Kaiapoi
 - Owners had approached the Council regarding a possible sale.
 - Property was one of the last privately owned sites within the former residential red zone.
 - Site area: 1,038m² with a Rateable Value of \$465,000.
 - Staff Commentary: It was reported that no current operational need had been identified by the Greenspace Unit, nor had any strategic rationale been identified by the Strategy and Business Unit for the proposed acquisition. Staff advised that removing the house would result in only minimal infrastructure savings for Water Services, while existing reserve and land management plans already accommodated the property.
 - Conclusion: It was concluded that no significant strategic, operational, or service delivery benefit had been identified that would justify proceeding with the acquisition at this time.

- Cornershop Development - 70 High Street, Rangiora
 - Update received from Murray Irvine with the project on track for completion in December 2026. A tenant mix of retail and business services is in place, with some fit-out not completed until early 2027.
- Housing Update
 - Courtenay Drive Development:
 - ✓ 18 of 20 units now occupied.
 - ✓ Heating and solar systems performing well.
 - ✓ Slip hazards caused by winter icing have been addressed.
 - ✓ Defects liability period ongoing with only minor issues identified.
- 54 Durham Street Development
 - Resource consent granted.
 - Building consent lodged.
 - Construction anticipated to commence October 2026.
 - Completion expected during 2027.
- Tyler Court Refurbishment
 - Building Consents issued for first stage (12 Units)
 - Tender process underway.
 - Refurbishment expected to take approximately 12 months.
 - Structural issues identified in some other units due to historic ground conditions.
- Occupancy / Vacancies and Waiting List
 - Current occupancy approximately 88.6% with 15 vacancies across the housing portfolio.
 - 9 vacancies are unavailable for letting due to refurbishment, fire damage or structural issues.
 - Housing waiting list remains around 40 applicants.
- Other Matters
 - Abbeyfield MOU signed with consultant procurement closing out for Reserve Management Plan nearing completion.
 - Additional housing staff appointed.
 - New lease management system expected to go live within 2 to 3 months.
 - Roughly 40 small and modest-sized acquisition and disposal projects are in progress

6.6 **Housing** – Councillor W Doody

Councillor Doody was not present to provide an update.

7 **QUESTIONS**

Nil.

8 **URGENT GENERAL BUSINESS**

Nil.

9. **MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED**

Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

In accordance with Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act it was moved:

Moved: Councillor Cairns

Seconded: Councillor Powell

That the public is excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting:

- 9.1 Briefing notes Community and Recreation Committee 16 June 2026
- 9.2 ICE Gym Sports North Canterbury Lease to Own Update

Item No.	Subject	Reason for excluding the public	Grounds for excluding the public.
BRIEFING NOTES			
9.1	Briefing notes Community and Recreation Committee 16 June 2026	Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7	To protect the privacy of natural persons and enable the local authority to carry out negotiations (including commercial and industrial) without prejudice or disadvantage, and maintain legal professional privilege. LGOIMA Section 7 (2)(a), (g) and (i)
REPORTS			
9.2	ICE Gym Sports North Canterbury Lease to Own Update	Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7	To protect the privacy of natural persons and enable the local authority to carry out negotiations (including commercial and industrial) without prejudice or disadvantage, and maintain legal professional privilege. LGOIMA Section 7 (2)(a), (g) and (i)

CARRIED

10. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee was scheduled for Tuesday 15 September 2026 at 1 pm in the Council Chamber, Rangiora Service Centre, 215 High Street, Rangiora.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING CLOSED AT 4:09PM.

Briefing

- *Mainpower Cricket Oval Future Options, Key Challenges and Recommendations – C Brown (General Manager Community and Recreation)*
- *GP Hall, Oxford – C Brown (General Manager Community and Recreation)*

CONFIRMED

Chairperson

Date

WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL**REPORT FOR DECISION**

FILE NO and TRIM NO: RES-01-12 / 260811236177

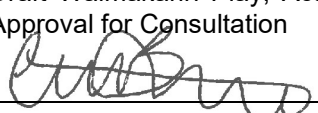
REPORT TO: COMMUNITY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

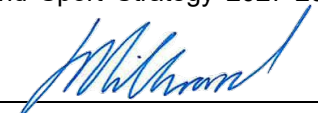
DATE OF MEETING: 15 September 2026

AUTHOR(S): Grant MacLeod, Greenspace Manager
Jill Borland, Greenspace Strategy and Partnerships Team Leader
Chrissy Taylor-Claude, Parks Officer

SUBJECT: Draft Waimakariri Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy 2027-2037 – Approval for Consultation

ENDORSED BY:
(for Reports to Council, Committees or Boards)


 General Manager


 Chief Executive

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Community and Recreation Committee to release the Draft Waimakariri Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy 2027-2037 (Draft PARS Strategy) for public consultation and to endorse the proposed consultation programme.
- 1.2. Play, active recreation and sport make a significant contribution to the health, wellbeing, social connection and quality of life of Waimakariri residents and are important contributors to thriving and resilient communities.
- 1.3. Waimakariri District is experiencing significant population growth and demographic change, creating both opportunities and challenges for the future planning, provision and investment in play, active recreation and sport facilities, services, programmes and spaces. Continued growth, an ageing population, increasing diversity, and the ongoing expansion of urban areas into surrounding rural communities will influence participation preferences, community expectations and future demand across the district.
- 1.4. The Draft PARS Strategy establishes a ten-year strategic direction for play, active recreation and sport across the district. It provides a framework to guide future decision-making, investment, partnerships and service delivery, while recognising Council's role as a steward, provider, funder, partner, facilitator and regulator within the wider recreation and sport system.
- 1.5. The Draft PARS Strategy has been informed by research, demographic analysis, participation data and a comprehensive stakeholder engagement process involving communities of interest, sporting organisations, recreation providers, community groups, schools and key sector partners. This engagement has helped identify current challenges, future opportunities and priorities for play, active recreation and sport across the district.
- 1.6. The Draft PARS Strategy proposes a vision of an active and connected Waimakariri, where diverse spaces, places and experiences enhance quality of life for current and future generations.
- 1.7. The strategy adopts a systems-based approach that recognises the interconnected nature of play, active recreation and sport. It identifies opportunities to improve participation outcomes, reduce barriers to access, strengthen partnerships, optimise existing assets, protect community assets and social infrastructure, and ensure investment is targeted to areas of greatest community need and benefit.

- 1.8. Targeted consultation will provide mana whenua, sports clubs, community organisations, schools, recreation providers and other stakeholders with an opportunity to review the Draft PARS Strategy and provide feedback on its vision, guiding principles, strategic priorities and proposed direction. This will run alongside general consultation for the wider community.
- 1.9. Feedback received through the consultation process will be considered in the preparation of the final strategy, which will be presented to the Community and Recreation Committee before being recommended to Council for adoption.

Attachments:

- i. Draft Waimakariri Play, Active Recreation and Sport (PARS) Strategy 2027-2037 Trim no: 260902264832

2. **RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 260811236177
- (b) **Approves** the release of the Draft Waimakariri Play, Active Recreation and Sport (PARS) Strategy 2027-2037 for public consultation as noted in Attachment i.
- (c) **Approves** the proposed consultation approach outlined in section 4.4 of this report which includes targeted consultation to Mana Whenua, sports clubs, community organisations, schools, recreation providers and will be available to the wider community.
- (d) **Notes** that the Draft Waimakariri Play, Active Recreation and Sport (PARS) Strategy 2027-2037 has been developed in response to population growth, demographic change and evolving participation trends, and has been informed by demographic analysis, participation data, research, and extensive engagement with stakeholders, sporting organisations, recreation providers, schools, community groups and communities of interest.
- (e) **Notes** that the Draft Waimakariri Play, Active Recreation and Sport (PARS) Strategy 2027-2037 recognises Council's role as a steward, provider, funder, partner, facilitator and regulator within the wider play, active recreation and sport system, and provides a framework to guide future planning, investment and partnership decisions.
- (f) **Notes** that, following public consultation and consideration of submissions, a final Draft Waimakariri Play, Active Recreation and Sport (PARS) Strategy 2027-2037 will be presented to the Community and Recreation Committee for recommendation to Council for adoption.
- (g) **Notes** that a Spaces and Places Implementation Plan is being developed to support implementation of the Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy and is informed by community engagement to understand community needs and aspirations.
- (h) **Notes** that the Spaces and Places Implementation Plan will be presented to Council as part of the Draft 2027 Long-Term Plan process, with any associated projects, levels of service changes, and funding requirements to be considered alongside other Council priorities and budget constraints through that process.
- (i) **Notes** that the social return on investment of every \$1 invested sees \$2.12 returned with an overall \$4.9 billion contributed to New Zealand's GDP through Play and Active Recreation and Sport.
- (j) **Notes** that consultation on the Draft Waimakariri Play, Active Recreation and Sport (PARS) Strategy 2027-2037 does not commit Council to specific projects, programmes or expenditure. Rather, the strategy establishes a strategic direction and decision-making framework to guide future planning, investment, service delivery and partnership decisions. Public consultation will help ensure the final strategy reflects community aspirations and priorities before being considered for adoption.

3. **BACKGROUND**

- 3.1. Play, active recreation and sport are important contributors to the health, wellbeing, social connection and quality of life of Waimakariri residents. Access to quality parks, reserves, recreation facilities, trails, sportsgrounds and play opportunities is a significant part of what attracts people to live in, and remain connected to, the district. Through its provision of spaces, places, partnerships and community support, Council plays an important role in enabling these outcomes for current and future communities.
- 3.2. Council plays a leading role in the play, active recreation and sport system as a steward, provider, funder, partner, facilitator and regulator. Communities often look to Council to lead long-term planning, coordinate investment, support community organisations, and ensure that appropriate spaces, places and opportunities are available to meet current and future needs. This leadership role becomes increasingly important as the district grows and community expectations evolve.
- 3.3. The district continues to experience strong population growth and is projected to exceed 97,000 residents by 2053. Growth is expected to be concentrated in the eastern part of the district, while the proportion of residents aged over 65 years will increase significantly over the coming decades. The district is also becoming increasingly diverse. Continued urban expansion into surrounding rural areas will create a dynamic shift in the composition and character of some communities, particularly those experiencing significant residential growth. These changes will influence participation preferences, levels of service expectations, and future demand for play, active recreation and sport facilities, programmes and services.
- 3.4. To respond to these changes, Council commissioned the development of a district-wide Play, Active Recreation and Sport (PARS) Strategy. The draft strategy has been informed by:
 - Demographic and growth analysis.
 - Sport New Zealand participation data.
 - Community surveys involving individuals, organisations, schools and play providers.
 - Waimakariri district youth, pre-schooler and caregiver active recreation and play research undertaken in 2025.
 - Stakeholder workshops and discussions with clubs, schools, recreation providers and community groups.
 - Consideration of relevant national and regional policy direction.
- 3.5. Extensive stakeholder engagement was undertaken during January and February 2026 to inform development of the draft strategy. Engagement included surveys, workshops and direct discussions with sports clubs, recreation providers, schools, community organisations and communities of interest. Participation included:
 - 524 responses to the individual community survey.
 - 106 responses from organisations, including sports clubs, recreation providers and community organisations.
 - 27 responses from schools across the district.
 - 13 responses from organisations involved in the provision of play opportunities.
- 3.6. Development of the draft strategy was supported by an internal Project Steering Group and a Community Reference Group. The Project Steering Group was comprised of internal staff as well as the Greenspace Portfolio Holder (Cr Brent Cairns) and the Community Facilities Portfolio Holder (Cr Bruce McLaren). The Community Reference Group included representatives from the North Canterbury Sport and Recreation Trust, Waimakariri Accessibility Trust, Waimakariri Biodiversity Trust, Sport Canterbury, and the North Canterbury Primary Principals' Association.
- 3.7. Community engagement identified recurring themes including access and inclusion, affordability, belonging and wellbeing, quality spaces and places, planning for growth, stronger partnerships, volunteer capability, and improved coordination across the recreation and sport sector. Community engagement also identified a need to reconsider how investment decisions are made in response to

changing participation patterns and barriers to participation, accessibility and inclusion. The draft strategy responds to these findings through a systems-based approach that prioritises participation outcomes, stronger partnerships, optimisation of existing assets, and targeted investment where a demonstrated need exists.

- 3.8. The draft strategy recognises the importance of strengthening relationships with mana whenua and ensuring planning and decision-making are informed by Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles and Māori aspirations. Public consultation will provide further opportunities for engagement with mana whenua and Māori communities, helping to inform the final strategy.
- 3.9. Once adopted, the Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy will guide future planning and decision-making across the play, active recreation and sport network. The Strategy provides a strategic framework to support future implementation planning and related planning documents, including a Spaces and Places Plan, and will inform decision-making relating to aquatics, community facilities, sports facilities, play spaces, and supporting recreation infrastructure.
- 3.10. Development of the Strategy has been informed by community engagement, providing an opportunity to test and validate community needs, aspirations, and priorities for play, active recreation and sport across the district, while helping ensure provision is responsive to both current and future community needs.
- 3.11. Any future projects, levels of service changes, and funding requirements identified through the Spaces and Places Plan will be presented to Council for consideration through future Long-Term Plan and Annual Plan processes. Inclusion will be subject to Council prioritisation and affordability considerations alongside other competing projects, services, and budget requirements, and may not ultimately be included in the final Long-Term Plan budget.
- 3.12. The draft strategy does not commit Council to specific projects or expenditure. Rather, it establishes a strategic framework to guide future investment, service delivery, partnerships and planning decisions through future Long-Term Plans and annual planning processes. The strategy recognises that maintaining an active and connected community requires ongoing consideration of the spaces, places, programmes and services that support participation, wellbeing and social connection. Failure to appropriately plan for future demand and community needs may impact the quality, accessibility and sustainability of these outcomes over time.

4. KEY ISSUES

4.1. Strategy Purpose

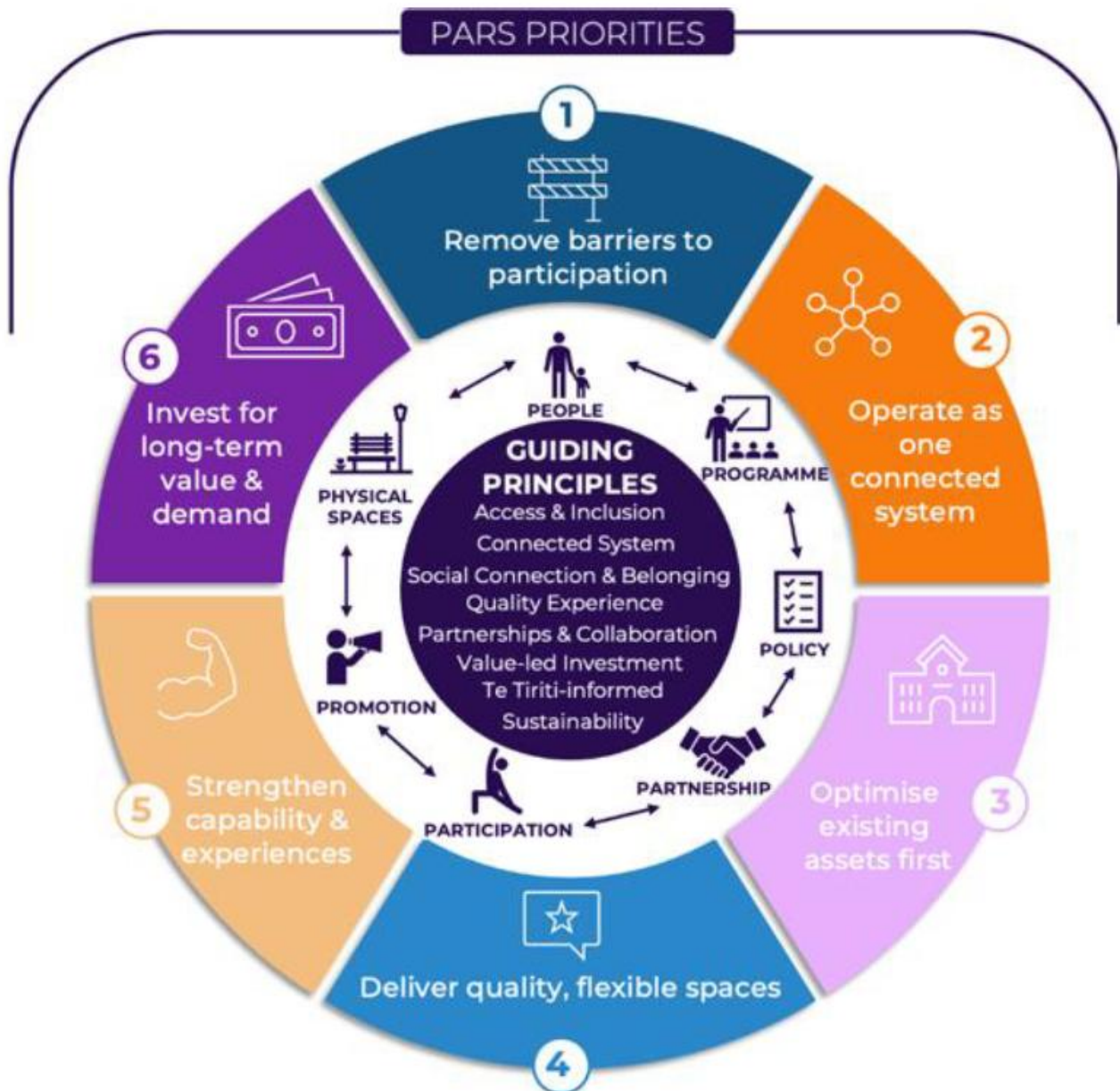
- 4.1.1. The Draft Waimakariri Play, Active Recreation and Sport (PARS) Strategy recognises that play, active recreation and sport contribute to:
 - Physical health.
 - Mental wellbeing.
 - Social connection.
 - Cultural outcomes.
 - Economic outcomes and community wellbeing.
- 4.1.2. The strategy adopts a broad definition of participation, encompassing play, informal active recreation, organised sport, tākarō Māori, and other culturally grounded forms of participation.

4.2. Strategic Framework

- 4.2.1. The strategy establishes a district-wide vision and guiding principles for decision-making. It identifies seven system levers that influence participation outcomes, six strategic priorities, and an investment framework to guide future planning and investment decisions.
- 4.2.2. The six strategic priorities are:
 - Remove barriers to participation.

- Operate as one connected system.
- Optimise existing assets first.
- Deliver quality, flexible spaces.
- Strengthen capability and experiences.
- Invest for long-term value and demand.

4.2.3. These priorities provide direction for future planning, investment decision-making, partnership development, programme delivery, and the provision of spaces, places and services across the district. This is represented within the following graphic that informs the PARS framework with six priorities displayed.



4.3. Importance of Consultation

4.3.1. While the draft strategy has been informed by previous engagement activities, public consultation provides an important opportunity to:

- Confirm whether the strategy reflects community aspirations.
- Identify any gaps, opportunities or concerns.

- Improve understanding of community priorities.
 - Strengthen relationships with key stakeholders.
 - Increase awareness of the role play, active recreation and sport have in supporting community wellbeing.
 - Test whether the proposed strategic direction and decision-making framework are appropriate to support future community needs.
- 4.3.2. Consultation will be particularly important in seeking feedback from mana whenua, Māori communities, sports clubs, recreation organisations, community groups, schools, young people, older adults, and other groups that may experience barriers to participation.

4.4. **Proposed Consultation Approach**

4.4.1. It is proposed that consultation be undertaken over a six-week period.

4.4.2. Consultation activities is to include:

- Publication of the draft strategy on the Council website.
- An online feedback form via Let's Talk.
- Targeted communication to key PARS system stakeholders.
- Direct distribution of the draft strategy to the PARS Community Reference Group.
- Direct distribution of the draft strategy to contributing stakeholders.
- Distribution of the draft strategy to sports clubs, recreation providers, schools and community organisations.
- Targeted engagement with mana whenua and Māori communities.
- Promotion through Council communication channels and social media.

4.4.3. Feedback would be sought on:

- The proposed vision.
- The strategic priorities.
- The guiding principles.
- The investment approach.
- Key opportunities and challenges facing play, active recreation and sport in Waimakariri.

4.4.4. Following consultation, submissions will be analysed and any proposed amendments incorporated into a final strategy for the Community and Recreation Committee's consideration and recommendation to Council.

4.5. **Next Steps**

- 4.5.1. Subject to Committee approval, public consultation will be undertaken during September and October 2026. Feedback will be analysed and considered, and any required amendments incorporated into the draft strategy.
- 4.5.2. A final PARS Strategy 2027-2037 will be presented to the Community and Recreation Committee for consideration and recommendation to Council for adoption. This is anticipated to occur in late 2026.
- 4.5.3. An implementation plan and supporting Spaces and Places Plan will be developed to translate the strategic direction into actions, priorities and future planning initiatives.
- 4.5.4. These plans will help inform future investment proposals and priorities for consideration through the 2027-2037 Long Term Plan process.

5. **OPTIONS**

5.1. **Option 1 (Preferred) Release the Draft PARS Strategy for Public Consultation**

- 5.1.1. Approve the release of the Draft Waimakariri Play, Active Recreation and Sport (PARS) Strategy 2027-2037 for public consultation and endorse the proposed consultation approach.
- 5.1.2. This option would enable mana whenua, residents, sports clubs, recreation providers, schools, community organisations and other stakeholders to review the draft strategy and provide feedback on its vision, guiding principles, strategic priorities and proposed direction. It supports Council's commitment to informed and transparent decision-making and provides an opportunity to confirm that the draft strategy appropriately responds to future growth, demographic change, participation trends and community aspirations.
- 5.1.3. Following consultation, submissions would be analysed and considered, and any appropriate amendments incorporated into a final strategy for consideration by the Community and Recreation Committee prior to being recommended to Council for adoption.

5.1.4. Advantages

- Provides the community and stakeholders with an opportunity to influence the final strategy.
- Builds on the extensive engagement already undertaken during development of the draft strategy.
- Enables further engagement with mana whenua and Māori communities.
- Allows Council to test and refine the proposed strategic direction, priorities and investment framework before adoption.
- Supports transparent and evidence-based decision-making.

5.1.5. Disadvantages

- Requires staff time and resources to undertake consultation and analyse submissions.
- May result in amendments to the draft strategy and extend the timeframe before adoption.

5.2. **Option 2 Do Not Release the Draft PARS Strategy for Public Consultation**

- 5.2.1. Do not approve the release of the Draft Waimakariri Play, Active Recreation and Sport (PARS) Strategy 2027-2037 for public consultation.
- 5.2.2. Under this option, Council would not seek wider community feedback on the draft strategy and would need to determine whether further work should be undertaken prior to consultation or whether work on the strategy should be deferred.

5.2.3. Advantages

- Avoids the immediate costs and staff resources associated with public consultation.
- Allows further refinement of the draft strategy should the Committee consider additional work is required.

5.2.4. Disadvantages

- Community, stakeholder, school, club and mana whenua feedback would not be sought on the draft strategy.
- Delays development of a district-wide strategic framework for play, active recreation and sport.
- Reduces the opportunity to confirm that the draft strategy reflects community aspirations and priorities.
- Delays future implementation planning and the strategy's ability to inform future planning and investment discussions.

5.3. **Preferred Option**

- 5.3.1. Option 1 is the preferred option. The Draft PARS Strategy has been developed in response to population growth, demographic change and evolving participation trends and has been informed by research, demographic analysis, participation data and extensive engagement with stakeholders, sporting organisations, recreation providers, schools, community groups and communities of interest. Public consultation is the next step in the strategy development process and will provide an opportunity to test the proposed strategic direction with the wider

community before a final strategy is presented to the Community and Recreation Committee and recommended to Council for adoption.

5.4. The Management Team has reviewed this report and supports the recommendations.

6. STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT AND COMMUNITY VIEWS

Mana Whenua Engagement

6.1. The subject matter and/or recommendations contained within this report are of interest to mana whenua. As such, Council staff have engaged with Whitiara Centre Limited, as key advisors to Te Ngai Tūāhuriri Runanga, who have confirmed they will be providing feedback on this strategy.

Groups, Organisations and the Wider Community

6.2. There are groups, organisations, or members of the wider community likely to be affected by, or to have an interest in, the subject matter of this report.

6.3. The PARS Strategy will provide an overarching framework to guide future planning, investment, and partnerships relating to play, active recreation, and sport across the district. It is intended to align with Council's community outcomes, future Long-Term Plans, the Spaces and Places Plan, and relevant regional and national strategies. Therefore, all citizens, organisations and groups with an interest in play, active recreation and/or sport may have interest in this subject matter.

Implications for Community Wellbeing

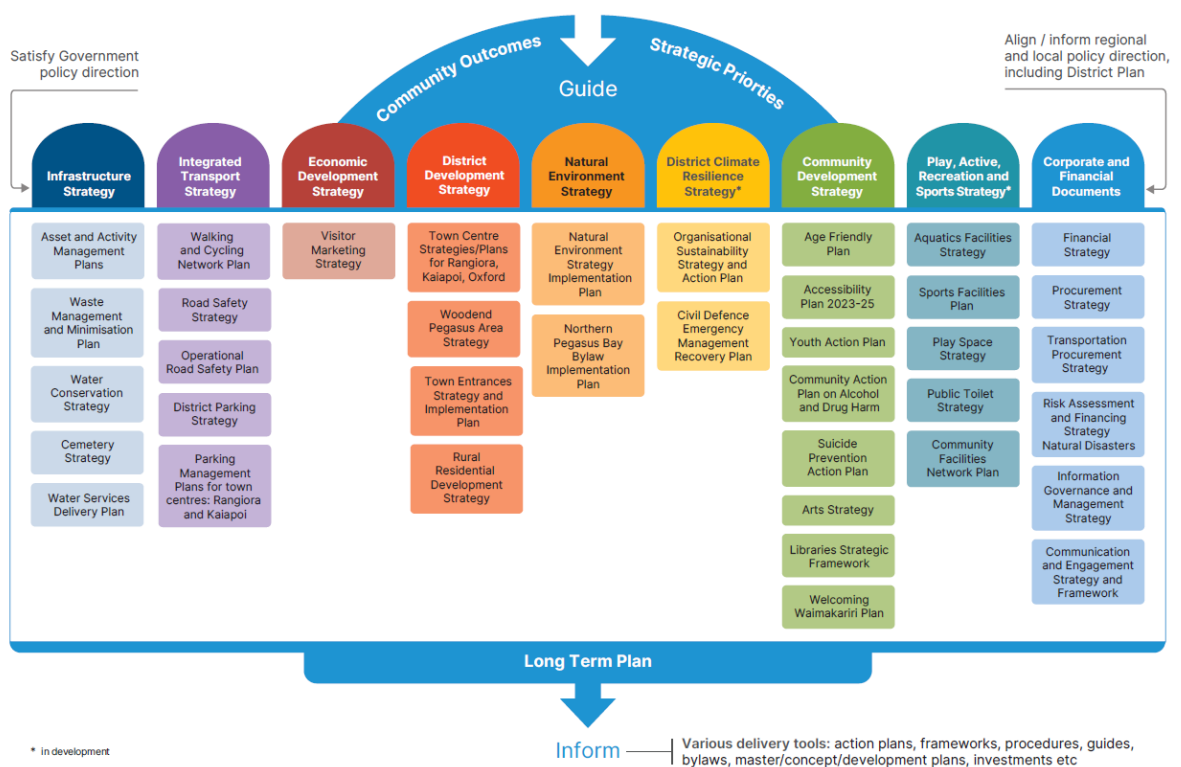
6.4. There are implications on community wellbeing by the issues and options that are the subject matter of this report.

6.5. Although the draft strategy has already been informed by community and stakeholder engagement, public consultation provides an opportunity for the wider community to review and comment on the proposed strategic direction prior to adoption. This provides opportunity for greater community ownership for the Strategy and lays the foundations of trust from which to build partnerships to deliver on any subsequently adopted PARS strategy.

Community Outcomes and Strategic Priorities

6.6. The Play and Active Recreation and Sports Strategy is a key pillar within the Council's strategic priorities / community outcomes framework. The purpose of this framework is to align / inform regional and local policy direction.

Waimakariri District Council Strategic Framework



6.7. The Council's community outcomes are relevant to the actions arising from recommendations in this report.

- The scope of community outcomes across Economic, Social, Cultural and Environmental are relevant through this strategy and the implementation plan that would follow.

6.8. The Council's Strategic Priorities are relevant to the actions arising from recommendations in this report.

- The Play and Active Recreation and Sport Strategy is a key pillar in the structure of Councils pending strategies.

7. **OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISK MANAGEMENT**

Financial Implications

- 7.1. There are no financial implications for the decisions sought by this report, or in approving the draft strategy for consultation beyond the costs associated with community engagement, which can be accommodated within existing Communications and Engagement operational budgets.
- 7.2. Adoption of the Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy does not in itself commit Council to any additional expenditure beyond existing approved budgets.
- 7.3. The Spaces and Places Plan, including its implementation programme and any associated operating and capital funding requirements, will be presented to Council as part of the Draft 2027 Long-Term Plan process.
- 7.4. Any funding proposals arising from the Spaces and Places Plan will be considered alongside all other Long-Term Plan bids, projects, levels of service, and budget requirements. Approval of funding will be subject to Council's prioritisation process and assessment of affordability within the overall financial framework of the Long-Term Plan.

Community Resilience and Sustainability

- 7.5. The recommendations in this report do not have sustainability and/or climate change impacts.

- 7.6. The draft PARS strategy has been developed in alignment with the Council's Natural Environment Strategy Framework. This is referenced within the document and its planning framework.
- 7.7. The strategy recognises the importance of the district's natural environments in supporting recreation opportunities and promotes sustainable planning and investment approaches that balance community access with environmental stewardship and kaitiakitanga.

Risk Management

- 7.8. There are no risks arising from the adoption/implementation of the recommendations in this report.

Health and Safety

- 7.9. There are no health and safety risks arising from the adoption/ implementation of the recommendations in this report.

8. CONTEXT

Consistency with Policy

- 8.1. This matter is a matter of significance in terms of the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy and the engagement plan follows advice from internal teams including the Policy and Communications arms of Council.

Authorising Legislation

- 8.2. Local Government Act

Authorising Delegations

- 8.3. The Community and Recreation Committee has the delegation to consider the actions arising from this report.

WAIMAKARIRI PLAY, ACTIVE RECREATION AND SPORT STRATEGY



69,800+

District residents

5

Growing townships

10yr

Strategic horizon

1

Shared vision

This strategy sets the direction for play, active recreation and sport across the Waimakariri District for the next decade. It has been shaped by our community, guided by evidence, and designed to create lasting wellbeing for every resident.

Foreword

Whakataukī - To be completed by Waimakariri District Council following community consultation.

1 What is PARS and Why It Matters

Play, active recreation and sport are essential to a healthy, connected community.

Play, Active Recreation and Sport (PARS) encompasses the full range of physical activity and movement across our district.

Definitions of Play, Active Recreation and Sport

The following definitions are based on those adopted in the regional Our Places Strategy.

Domain	What It Looks Like
Play	Is an innate human activity. It is a fun, accessible, challenging, social and repeatable activity that is spontaneous and can happen anywhere. Play has no predetermined outcome, is intrinsically motivated, personally directed and freely chosen. Play Spaces are those areas with elements or features designed to encourage play. They can be highly structured with built equipment or less formal spaces designed for nature play or creative play. When people have time and permission to play, any space can be a play space.
Active Recreation	Is non-competitive physical activity for the purpose of wellbeing and enjoyment. It includes activities that: • occur in built, landscaped and natural environments (including outdoor recreation, fitness/exercise, community recreation, aquatics) • are undertaken by individuals and by groups • occur with and without the involvement of a 'provider' group or organisation (i.e. can be undertaken independently).
Active Recreation and Sport	Are activities that are done for fun, challenge and fitness that involve movement. Active Recreation and Sport includes a wide range of activities such as walking, fishing, stand-up paddle boarding and a huge range of individual and team sports. Participation can occur in a range of settings from informal to organised competitions and individual to group and club environments.
Sport	Is usually defined as physical activity that is competitive, organised and involves the observation of rules. It may be participated in either individually or as a team. The reality is that often there is no real differentiation between active recreation and sport, particularly from the view of community participants.

The Evidence: Why Play, Active Recreation and Sport Matters

Physical Health	Mental Wellbeing
Regular physical activity reduces the risk of chronic diseases, including cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes and some cancers. Active tamariki/children and rangatahi/young people develop stronger bones, better coordination and healthier habits for life	Physical activity is one of the most effective interventions for anxiety, depression and stress. Play, recreation and sport provide purpose, structure, confidence and joy, all protective factors for mental health
Social Connection	Economic Value
Sport and recreation are among the most powerful creators of social bonds. Clubs, teams and community programmes reduce loneliness, build trust and foster a sense of belonging that is fundamental to community resilience.	Active communities are productive communities. PARS investment reduces long-term health costs, supports local businesses, attracts visitors and events, and makes our district an attractive place to live and work.

He Tirohanga Māori | A Māori Lens

- National Māori participation frameworks such as Sport NZ's He Oranga Poutama recognise that participation in play, active recreation and sport contributes to holistic wellbeing, strengthening connections to whānau, culture, identity and place.
- These frameworks acknowledge the importance of connection to te taiao (the natural environment) and kaitiakitanga of te whenua and ngā awa (guardianship of the land and waterways), alongside culturally grounded forms of participation, in supporting physical, social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing.

The Waimakariri Context

Our district is one of the fastest growing in New Zealand. This growth will bring new residents, new demands, and new opportunities. At the same time, communities across the Waimakariri District have diverse characteristics and needs that require thoughtful planning and investment.

The natural environment is central to Waimakariri's identity and quality of life. The district's maunga/mountains, awa/rivers, mānia/plains and tapātai/coastline provide unique opportunities for recreation, exploration and connection. Community engagement confirms that access to te taiao/the natural environment is a key reason people choose to live in Waimakariri.

This strategy recognises the importance of connecting people with te taiao/natural environment while supporting their long-term protection, kaitiakitanga/guardianship and sustainability for future generations.

Waimakariri at a Glance - Key Demographic Trends

The following table represents the key demographic trends for the next 30 years, to 2053, in the Waimakariri district. *This data was taken from 2023 census.*

	Trend	What this means for PARS
	Growing Fast + 32,000 residents by 2053 Population expected to grow by 47%, exceeding 100,000 residents.	Demand for spaces, places and programmes, especially in eastern growth areas
	Growth in the East Most future growth will continue to occur in the east of the district.	Infrastructure and programme investment to keep pace with population distribution changes
	Ageing Community The 75+ age group will increase by 13,910 (215%) people by 2053 The 60–74 age group is expected to grow rapidly, increasing by approximately by 47% The over 65+ age group will account for approximately 33% of the population in 2053. (currently 21%)	Significant growth needed in accessible, inclusive programmes for older adults
	Changing Age Profile The number of younger residents (0-19 years old) is expected to increase by 19% over the next 30 years.	Sustained focus on tamariki/children and rakitahi/young people programmes to maintain youth engagement
	Diversity 86% of the Waimakariri district population identifies as European / Pākehā. 8% currently identify as Māori, and this proportion is expected to increase.	Programmes and spaces that are culturally welcoming, including for Māori whānau to support inclusion.
	Equity Gaps While deprivation is generally low, some communities continue to face barriers to participation and access.	Targeted investment to reduce barriers for those least able to participate

2 The Value Play, Active Recreation and Sport Delivers

Every dollar invested in play, active recreation and sport delivers lasting benefits through healthier people, stronger communities and a more vibrant district.

\$2.12

Social return per \$1 invested

\$4.9B

PARS contribution to NZ GDP

A Whole-of-Community Return

Play, Active Recreation and Sport investment is not simply expenditure, it is one of the most effective forms of social and economic infrastructure a council can provide. The value it creates ripples across every aspect of community life.

What the Research Tells Us¹

- Physical inactivity costs New Zealand's health system billions each year. Prevention through movement is significantly more cost-effective than treatment.
- Tamariki/children and rakatahi/young people who are regularly active perform better academically, have stronger social skills and are more likely to be active adults.
- Community sport and recreation clubs are among the most effective builders of social capital, the trust and networks that make communities resilient.
- Access to quality green space and recreational infrastructure increases property values and supports local economic development.
- Active ageing programmes reduce falls, hospitalisation and dependency, delivering significant savings to health and social services.
- For Māori, sport and recreation strengthen intergenerational relationships, reinforce cultural values, and provide opportunities to connect with whenua and identity.

Value Beyond the Numbers

Some of the most important values that PARS creates cannot be captured in statistics. It is found in the confidence of a child who learns to swim, the friendship forged on a sports field, the pride of a representing and reflecting culture and pūrakau and performing for whānau, friends and the wider community, and the dignity of an older adult who remains independent and connected.

These intangible values matter. They are the fabric of community life. Our PARS strategy is designed to create conditions in which they can flourish.

Equity: The Difference Between Access and Participation

Having a facility or programme is not enough. True value is only delivered when people can actually participate regardless of age, income, ability, cultural background or geography. This means designing for those who face the greatest barriers: Whānau on low incomes, people with disabilities, recent migrants, older adults, and communities far from urban centres.

3 Participation Trends

Understanding how our community moves today and into the future.

Key Participation Trends

Sport New Zealand's Insights tool shows the top 5 participation activities¹ in the Waimakariri district broadly align with national trends, with one standout: road cycling², participation is significantly higher than the national average, reflecting our district's geography and active culture.

Area	Walking for sport or leisure	Jogging/running	Individual workout	Swimming	Road Cycling
					
All of New Zealand	45.1%	25.6%	20.1%	13.1%	10.3%
Canterbury Region	45%	26%	19%	15.4%	14.8%
Waimakariri District	46.4%	25.9%	19.3%	15.7%	15.1%

A survey for individuals (524 responses), undertaken for the development of the PARS and Spaces and Places Strategy, recorded self-reported activity respondents had undertaken within the last 12-month period. The top ten activities reported were closely aligned with the Sport NZ Insights data above.

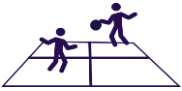
These top activity preferences share common characteristics in that they are typically:

- Informal or casual participation opportunities
- Allow participation in activities as an individual, as opposed to team-based activities

¹ Combined data from 2022 adn 2023 Active NZ survey (last 7 days participation rates)

² Road cycling in Sport NZ insights includes general biking on roads, and the use of e-bikes

What Our Community Told Us

Activity		Participation Rate	Activity		Participation Rate
	Walking for sport or leisure	52.5%		Playing on a playground	28.6%
	Swimming	41.4%		Running / Jogging	28.6%
	Individual workout	39.1%		Mountain Biking	26.7%
	Playing/games with children	35.1%		Fitness Class / Group Fitness	22.5%
	Gardening	34.0%		Tramping	20.2%

Source: 2026 Survey — n=524

What These Trends Tell Us

Most top activities are informal, individual or casual, not requiring club membership. This has important implications for how we invest:

- Trails, parks, and open green spaces are as important as formal sports facilities.
- Enabling access (affordability, proximity, safety) matters as much as providing infrastructure.
- Drop-in, low-commitment programmes will reach more people than highly structured offerings.

4 Key Themes and Implications

What our community told us and what it means for how we invest.

Community engagement was central to developing this strategy. Through surveys, workshops and discussions with residents, schools, kura, clubs, and other stakeholders, consistent themes emerged.

These themes reflect what matters most to the community and provide important insights into the opportunities, challenges and priorities that will guide future planning, investment and decision-making.

Theme	What We Heard	Strategic Response	Strategic Risk
Access, Choice and Inclusion	Residents want affordable, safe and welcoming opportunities for all ages, abilities and cultures, including Māori communities seeking culturally appropriate spaces.	Reduce barriers through affordability initiatives, accessible design and culturally responsive programming, including a strong connection to te taiao/natural world.	Participation inequity, including cost, location, accessibility, cultural relevance and other barriers, may continue to limit participation for some communities, resulting in unequal access to PARS opportunities and benefits.
Affordability and Sustainability	Affordability remains a significant barrier for some residents and organisations.	Balance immediate needs with long-term sustainability in all investment decisions.	Financial sustainability, increasing capital, renewal and operating costs, alongside constrained external funding, may affect the affordability and long-term sustainability of PARS provision.
Belonging, Wellbeing and Social Connection	People value opportunities that bring communities together and create a sense of belonging.	Invest in community-led, multi-use spaces that enable social gathering alongside physical activity.	Investment that does not respond to changing demographics, participation preferences and community needs may reduce opportunities for connection, belonging and participation.
Connected System	Greater alignment between Councils, schools, kura, clubs, mana whenua and regional partners is critical.	Strengthen coordination mechanisms, spaces and places and shared use agreements.	Fragmented planning and delivery, limited coordination, competing priorities or unclear roles

Theme	What We Heard	Strategic Response	Strategic Risk
			between organisations may result in duplication, gaps in provision and inefficient use of resources.
Health, Confidence and Personal Development	PARS is valued for physical and mental well-being, and for building confidence and leadership.	Support programmes that go beyond sport to build whole-person wellbeing.	Traditional delivery models may not respond to changing preferences and behaviours, limiting the ability of the PARS system to realise its wider health, wellbeing and development benefits.
Māori Sport and Cultural Expression	Māori voices were underrepresented in the engagement process, limiting opportunities to capture Māori perspectives and aspirations.	Strengthen relationships with mana whenua and Māori communities through ongoing, meaningful engagement that supports shared understanding, partnership, and co-design. This will help ensure future planning better reflects Māori aspirations, cultural values, and priorities.	Insufficient Māori participation and partnership could lead to future planning and investment that may not adequately reflect mana whenua and Māori aspirations, cultural values or opportunities.
Planning for Growth	Population growth will place increasing pressure on infrastructure.	Plan for eastern growth corridors; use evidence to anticipate demand.	Differences in projections may result in provision not keeping pace with demand or investment occurring at the wrong scale, location or time.
Partnerships	There was a strong desire for more meaningful engagement with Council. Many stakeholders felt their relationship with Council was primarily transactional, centred on funding agreements, facility access, or service delivery arrangements.	Strengthen trust and collaboration by shifting from a transactional approach towards a partnership model, working together to deliver outcomes.	Failure to strengthen relationships may limit opportunities for shared investment and delivery. Reliance on clubs, community organisations, schools, kura and other partners creates delivery risk where partner capacity, capability, funding or priorities change.

Theme	What We Heard	Strategic Response	Strategic Risk
Quality Spaces and Places	Both built facilities and natural environments matter. Residents want to be active close to where they live. Improve the quality of existing spaces and places, i.e. car parking, lighting, and toilets.	Ensure local spaces and places are within the benchmark national guidelines ³ for drive times. 15-20 min drive within urban areas, 30-40 mins within rural areas. Protect and activate natural spaces. Investment into upgrades, repairs and maintenance with a focus on improving amenities in existing spaces and places	Ageing assets, renewal backlogs, land availability, increasing construction and maintenance costs, natural hazards and climate-related impacts may affect Council's ability to provide and maintain a quality, accessible and resilient network of spaces and places.
Volunteer and Club Capability	Clubs and volunteers are the backbone of PARS. Reducing volunteer burden and strengthening volunteer capability is a priority.	Invest and support workforce capability and capacity.	Declining or changing patterns of volunteering, workforce pressures and capability constraints may affect the sustainability of clubs, providers and community organisations.

³ Sport New Zealand National Indoor Active Recreation and Sport Facilities Strategy

5 Our Vision and Purpose

The direction that guides everything we do.

Vision

"An active and connected Waimakariri, where diverse spaces, places and experiences enhance quality of life for current and future generations."

Our Purpose

Waimakariri District Council's purpose in leading this strategy is to create the conditions in which all people in our district can access and enjoy meaningful play, active recreation and sport throughout their lives by playing our role as strategic leader, funder, partner and provider.



6 The PARS Framework

An integrated system for creating an active and connected district

Our framework provides the structure for how we think about and invest in play, active recreation and sport. Like an ecosystem: when all parts are healthy and balanced, the whole thrives.

Guiding Principles. Our Decision-Making Filter

The Guiding Principles act as the decision-making filter for the strategy. They provide a consistent lens through which priorities, investment decisions, partnerships and future opportunities will be assessed, ensuring resources are directed where they can deliver the greatest value for Waimakariri communities.



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Access & Inclusion
- Connected System
- Social Connection & Belonging
- Quality Experience
- Partnerships & Collaboration
- Value-led Investment
- Te Tiriti-informed
- Sustainability

Principles in detail

Guiding Principle	What It Means in Practice	Examples
Accessibility and Inclusion	Everyone should be able to participate regardless of age, ability, culture, gender, income, location, or background. Barriers to participation are actively identified and removed.	Designing playgrounds with accessible equipment, providing affordable programmes, ensuring spaces and places are welcoming for people with disabilities, supporting culturally relevant activities, and offering transport solutions where access is a challenge.
Connected System	Play, active recreation and sport are delivered as a coordinated network rather than isolated facilities,	Schools, kura, clubs, Council, community organisations and facility operators coordinate programming, facility use, and investment decisions

Guiding Principle	What It Means in Practice	Examples
	programmes, or organisations. Collaboration improves community outcomes and user experiences.	to create seamless participation pathways from casual play through to organised sport.
Sustainability	Decisions balance environmental responsibility, financial viability, and long-term community benefit. Investments consider whole-of-life costs, operating models, and future affordability	Developing spaces and places with energy-efficient design, reducing water use, protecting natural environments, and ensuring new spaces and places have realistic operating, maintenance, and renewal funding plans before construction occurs.
Quality Experiences	Participation should be safe, welcoming, enjoyable, and delivered to a high standard. This includes both physical infrastructure and the people delivering experiences.	Maintaining quality sports fields, trails, parks, playgrounds and spaces and places while investing in coach development, volunteer capability, programme delivery standards, and customer service to create positive participant experiences.
Social Connection and Belonging	Play, active recreation and sport strengthen community wellbeing by creating opportunities for people to connect, build relationships, and feel part of their community.	Supporting programmes and spaces that bring people together, such as community sport leagues, social recreation groups, multi-generational activities, and events that foster whanaungatanga and community pride.
Partnership and Collaboration	Sustainable outcomes are achieved through collective effort. Council works alongside community organisations, mana whenua, government agencies, schools, kura and sector partners.	Joint planning and delivery with Environment Canterbury, Department of Conservation, mana whenua, schools, kura, sport trusts and organisations, health providers, and community groups to maximise resources and achieve shared outcomes.
Te Tiriti Informed	Planning and decision-making are guided by Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles, recognising mana whenua as partners and ensuring Māori aspirations, values, and perspectives are reflected.	Working in partnership with mana whenua to inform facility design, place naming, environmental restoration projects, programme development, and cultural narratives and values.
Value-Led Investment	Investment decisions are informed by evidence, community need, strategic priorities, and the outcomes sought for the district. Resources are directed where they deliver the greatest benefit.	Using participation data, demographic trends, facility utilisation, community feedback, wellbeing outcomes, and demand forecasting to prioritise investment, renewals, programmes, and future infrastructure development.

The Seven PARS System Levers

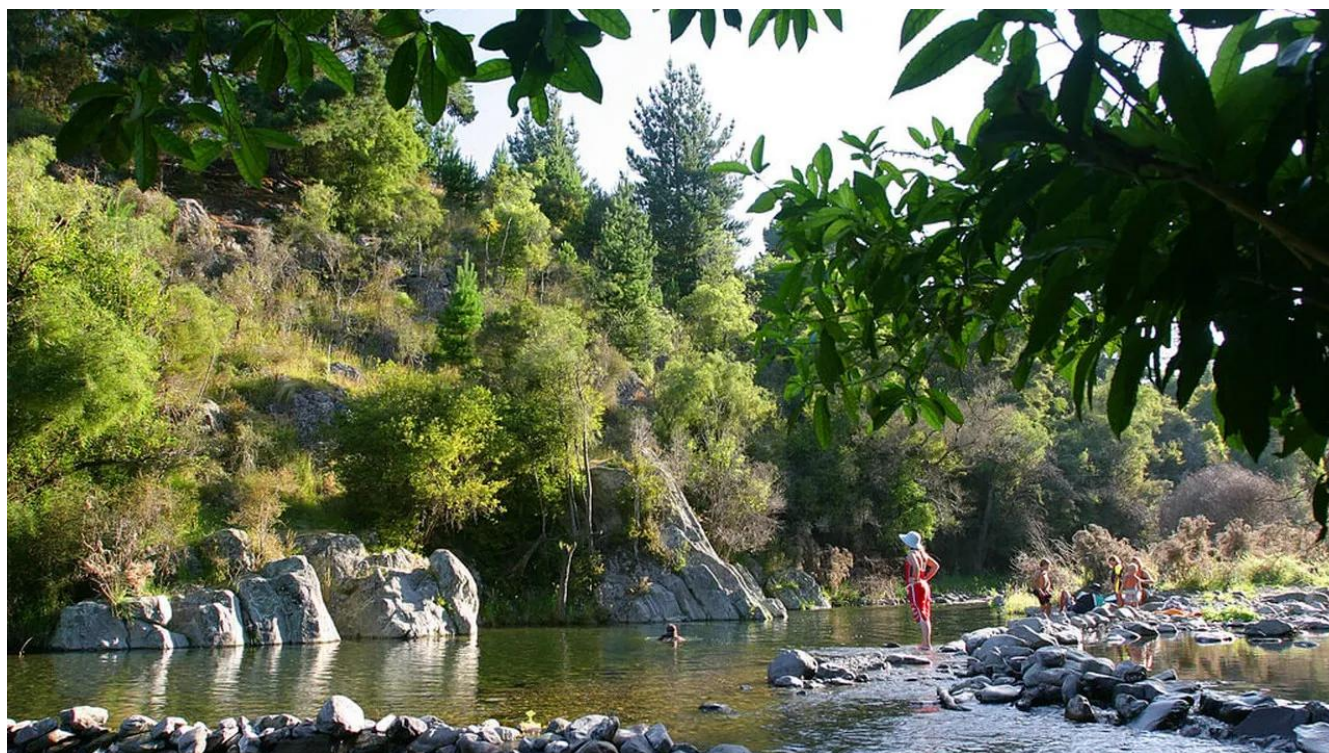
Achieving our desired outcomes requires more than investment in spaces and places alone. Participation in play, active recreation and sport is shaped by a range of interconnected factors that together influence how people access, experience and engage in opportunities across the district.

The seven PARS system levers, People, Programmes, Promotion, Partnerships, Policy, Physical Spaces and Participation, represent the practical areas through which we can influence outcomes and support an active, connected community



By adopting a systems approach, we acknowledge that lasting outcomes are achieved when all parts of the network work together. This enables us to consider the full range of opportunities available to improve participation, maximise the value of existing assets and deliver better outcomes for our communities.

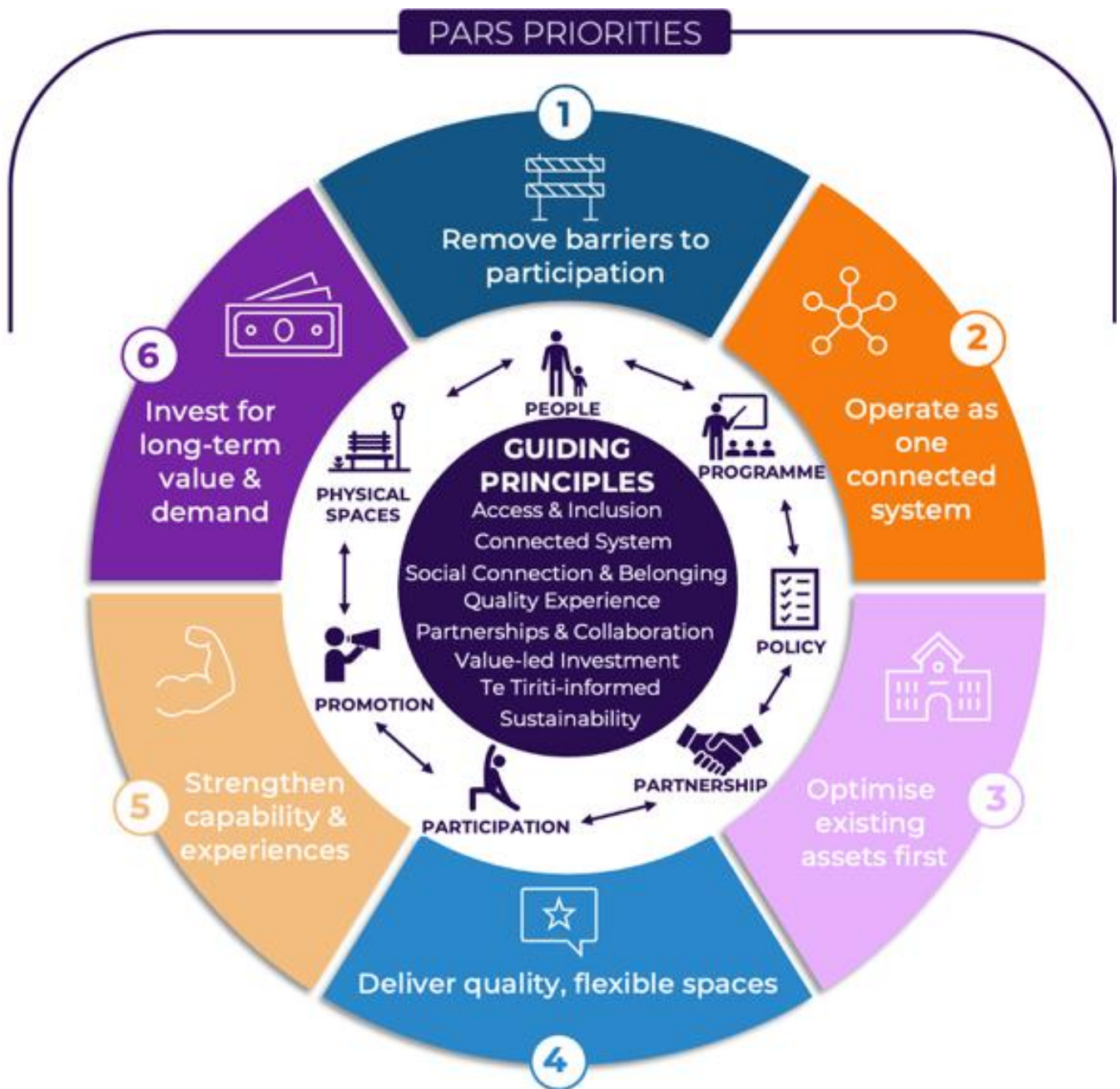
Lever	Key Question
People	How do we support, develop and retain the volunteers, coaches, leaders, facility operators and workforce that enable play, active recreation and sport opportunities across Waimakariri?
Programmes	How do we work with communities and providers to deliver accessible, affordable and locally relevant programmes that encourage participation across all ages, abilities and backgrounds?
Participation	How do we understand and respond to changing participation trends, remove barriers to participation, and ensure more people can be active in ways that suit their interests, abilities and lifestyles?
Promotion	How do we improve awareness of local opportunities, spaces and places, programmes and events so residents can easily find and access ways to be active?
Physical Spaces	How do we optimise, connect and sustainably invest in parks, playgrounds, reserves, facilities, tracks, trails and open spaces to meet the needs of current and future communities?
Policy	How do Council's policies, planning frameworks and investment decisions (data, insights and community voice) create environments where being active is safe, accessible, encouraged and easy?
Partnership	What opportunities exist for collaboration, and how do we strengthen relationships with the key partners, mana whenua, schools, kura, clubs, community organisations, neighbouring councils and regional agencies to achieve shared outcomes? How do we move from service-based relationships to genuine partnerships that leverage the strengths, expertise and resources of organisations across the district?



7 PARS priorities 2027-2037

Where we will focus our effort, resources and investment over the next decade.

Informed by the PARS Framework, evidence and community feedback, these six PARS priorities will guide investment, partnerships and decision-making to create an active and connected Waimakariri over the next decade.



The PARS priorities in detail:

PARS Priority	What It Means
Remove Barriers to Participation	Address affordability, accessibility, transport, confidence and awareness so all residents can participate and belong.
Operate as One Connected System	Strengthen connections across spaces and places, parks, trails, schools, kura clubs, community organisations and active transport networks.
Optimise Existing Assets First	Improve utilisation, accessibility and functionality of existing spaces before significant new infrastructure investment.
Deliver Quality, Flexible Spaces	Provide a network of high-quality, adaptable spaces that meet changing community needs, including parks, reserves, tracks and waterways.
Strengthen Capability and Experiences	Invest in the people, organisations and volunteers who deliver PARS opportunities.
Invest for Long-Term Value and Demand	Take a long-term approach considering future demand, operational sustainability and whole-of-life costs.



8 Investment Approach

How we prioritise investments.

The Investment Approach provides a framework for prioritising investment decisions and ensuring resources are directed where they can deliver the greatest community benefit.

Investment Approach – How we Prioritise



The three investment priorities (IP) are not intended to be applied sequentially to every project. Instead, they represent a hierarchy of preferred investment responses.

When a need, issue or opportunity is identified, Council and its partners should first consider whether it can be addressed through IP 1 actions. If a suitable solution cannot be achieved, consideration should then move to IP 2, followed by IP 3, only where a clear unmet need remains.

Tier	Key Question	Examples
Investment Priority 1 Optimise the System	Can the need be met through better use of existing assets, partnerships or networks?	Shared use agreements with schools, kura, multi-use hubs and sports fields improved allocation and affordable programmes.
Investment Priority 2 Strengthen What Exists	Can the need be addressed by improving an existing facility, space or service?	Upgrades, renewals, amenity and accessibility improvements, and culturally responsive facility upgrades.
Investment Priority 3 Targeted New Investment	Is there a demonstrated need that cannot be met through IP 1 or 2?	New spaces and places or significant capital investment, where evidence demonstrates an unmet need.

9 Council's Role

Clarity about the role the Council plays and the roles played by our many partners.

Delivering this strategy requires clarity about the role we play as a Council and the roles played by our many partners. No single organisation can or should do this alone.

Waimakariri District Council plays five distinct roles in the PARS ecosystem.

Council Role	Description
Provider	- Administer, manage and operate play, active recreation and sport spaces and places - Administer and maintain land and buildings that are leased to other organisations to operate community facilities - Provide leases and licences to enable community organisations to deliver community facilities.
Funder	- Provide operational grants to support community facilities in response to a community need - Provide capital grants to build or upgrade facilities that are responding to a community need
Partner	- Recognises mana whenua (Ngāi Tūāhuriri) as Tiriti partners with a distinct and senior relationship. - Form partnerships with schools, kura, clubs, mana whenua, community organisations and regional agencies to ensure that spaces and places are available in response to community need and network provision
Facilitator	- Connects the system, enabling shared use, coordination, awareness, and access. - Coordinate groups and organisations to ensure increased utilisation of existing spaces and places - Promote the interests of community facilities to funders and investors in spaces and places
Regulator	- Sets policy, planning and land use frameworks that make the active choice the easy choice and provides kaitiakitanga/guardianship to te taiao/the natural environment. - Ensure community facilities meet regulatory and legal obligations



10 Strategy Partners

This strategy will be delivered in partnership.

Our key partners are:

Partner	Role
Department of Conservation (DOC)	Outdoor recreation access, conservation and stewardship of natural environments significant to mana whenua.
Environment Canterbury (ECan)	Active transport, regional recreation connectivity and environmental sustainability.
Kaupapa Māori Organisations involved in PARS	Delivery of Tākaro Māori, Kī-o-rahi, Waka Ama, Kapa Haka, and other culturally grounded activities. Key partners in reaching Māori whānau and rangatahi.
Neighbouring Councils	Cross-boundary planning, shared investment and connected recreation and sport networks.
North Canterbury Sport and Recreation Trust	Facility management and community activation.
Schools and Kura	School sport pathways and shared spaces and places. Kura kaupapa Māori are recognised as distinct partners with specific cultural requirements.
Sport Canterbury	Regional investment and organisation development.
Sport New Zealand	National strategy alignment, investment and capability support.
Regional and local play, active recreation and sport clubs and providers	Delivery of play, active recreation and sport opportunities across the Waimakariri District
Te Kōhaka O Tūhaitara Trust	Rehabilitation and management of Tūhaitara Coastal Park, approximately 700ha
Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri and Ngāi Tahu	Treaty partnership, kaitiakitanga of natural environments, cultural authenticity and practice across all PARS activities.
Te Whatu Ora / Health Providers	Health-linked programmes including green prescription, cancer rehabilitation, mental health sport programmes and wellbeing initiatives.

11 Case Study: MainPower Stadium

A living example of the PARS Framework layers working in harmony.

MainPower Stadium has become much more than a recreation facility for the Waimakariri community. While the stadium, located within a wider sport and recreation precinct, provides a hub for physical activity, sport and wellbeing programmes, its greatest value is found in the social connections and sense of belonging it creates for people of all ages and backgrounds.

Each week, a wide range of community groups use the facility; from e-bike riding groups and walking clubs to Blue Brothers (a provider of cancer support and wellbeing sessions). Many stay long after their activity ends, gathering in the cafe to share coffee, conversation and connection.

PARS Framework	MainPower Stadium in Action	PARS Priorities
Enabling the Environment	Council investment, corporate sponsorships and community outcome agreements created the foundation. Health provider partnerships enable rehabilitation programmes at an accessible cost.	Invest for long-term value and demand
Spaces and Places	High-quality indoor courts and activity spaces alongside great amenities, cafe, toilets, seating areas and informal gathering spaces. Accessibility has been prioritised, making the facility genuinely welcoming to all.	Deliver quality, flexible spaces
Programmes and People	A diverse portfolio from e-bike groups to cancer rehabilitation ensures a wide range of people have reasons to attend. Programmes are designed with inclusivity at their core.	Remove barriers for participation
Connection and Activation	The cafe has become the social engine of the stadium, where strangers become acquaintances and acquaintances become friends. This informal social infrastructure amplifies the impact of every programme.	Strengthen capability & experiences



Case Study: Tūhaitara Coastal Park

Recreation Through Partnership

Tūhaitara Coastal Park demonstrates how recreation, biodiversity, cultural identity, and community wellbeing can be achieved through a long-term collaborative approach. Rather than creating a traditional recreation reserve, the park has evolved through restoration, shared stewardship, and thoughtful planning. Established in 1998 through a Treaty of Waitangi settlement, the park spans around 740 hectares across Tūhaitara Coastal Park and Huria Reserve. It is co-governed by Ngāi Tūāhuriri/Ngāi Tahu and Waimakariri District Council through Te Kōhaka o Tūhaitara Trust.



The park provides opportunities for walking, cycling, running, horse riding, nature play, environmental education, bird watching, cultural learning, and quiet recreation, while protecting significant natural and ecological values. This includes culturally significant sites such as Tūtaepatu Lagoon, valued for mahinga kai.

PARS Framework	Tūhaitara Coastal Park in Action	PARS Priorities
Partnership	Strong partnership between Ngāi Tūāhuriri/Ngāi Tahu, Waimakariri District Council, community groups and the Trust, formalised through co-governance arrangements. Partnerships can deliver outcomes that no single organisation could achieve alone.	Operate as one connected system.
Spaces and Places	Enhances the value of natural assets rather than relying solely on new infrastructure	Optimising existing spaces and places.
Te Tiriti Informed	Recreation planning considers environmental, cultural, and social outcomes together. Investment in natural environments is an investment in people's recreation and wellbeing.	Remove barriers to participation. Deliver quality flexible spaces. Strengthen capability and experiences.

PARS Framework	Tūhaitara Coastal Park in Action	PARS Priorities
Connect System	Linking recreation, ecology, education and active transport.	Operate as one connected system
Sustainability	A shared long-term vision that balances conservation with public access. Investment over many years, rather than relying on a single capital project. Long-term stewardship creates resilient, valued community assets. Demonstrates how sustained investment creates enduring benefits for the community.	Invest for long-term value and demand. Deliver quality, flexible spaces.
People and Participation	Community volunteers contributing to planting, restoration and ongoing stewardship. This includes a dedicated volunteer trapper programme and regular school and community planting days.	Strengthen capability & experiences. Optimise existing assets first

"Tūhaitara Coastal Park illustrates that some of the most valuable recreation outcomes are created not by building new facilities, but by investing in partnerships, restoring natural environments, and empowering communities to care for the places they value."



12 What success looks like

The following recommendations provide the foundation for implementing the PARS Framework across the district. Together, they respond to community aspirations, emerging trends and future growth, while guiding investment, decision-making and partnerships to create an active and connected Waimakariri.

Number	Recommendation	Suggested success measures
1	Adopt and implement the PARS Framework as the primary planning and investment framework, with annual reporting against recommendations and priorities.	Framework implementation. Annual reporting demonstrates progress against PARS recommendations and priorities. Decision alignment with relevant Council planning, funding and investment decisions demonstrates alignment with the PARS Framework.
2	Partner with mana whenua to support aspirations, embed te ao Māori and Tākaro Māori, and reflect Māori aspirations throughout the PARS system.	Mana whenua partnership. Evidence of ongoing engagement and partnership with mana whenua in PARS planning and delivery. Agreed initiatives supporting te ao Māori, Tākaro Māori and mana whenua aspirations are identified and progressively implemented.
3	Prioritise social connection, wellbeing and community belonging as core PARS outcomes.	Participants report positive experiences of connection, belonging and wellbeing through play, active recreation and sport. Funding and initiatives increasingly demonstrate contribution to social connection and community wellbeing outcomes.
4	Improve equitable access to participation through affordable, inclusive and culturally responsive opportunities.	Participation gaps for identified communities and groups experiencing barriers are reduced over time. Increased availability and uptake of affordable, accessible, inclusive and culturally responsive opportunities.
5	Deliver and maintain a network of quality spaces and places guided by the WDC Spaces and Places Plan.	Spaces and places increasingly meet agreed levels of service, accessibility, quality and utilisation expectations. Investment and renewal decisions align with the priorities and framework established through the Spaces and Places Plan.
6	Plan for growth by aligning infrastructure investment with population demand and changing participation patterns.	Provision of parks, play, active recreation and sport infrastructure keeps pace with population growth. Population and participation projections inform infrastructure planning and investment decisions.

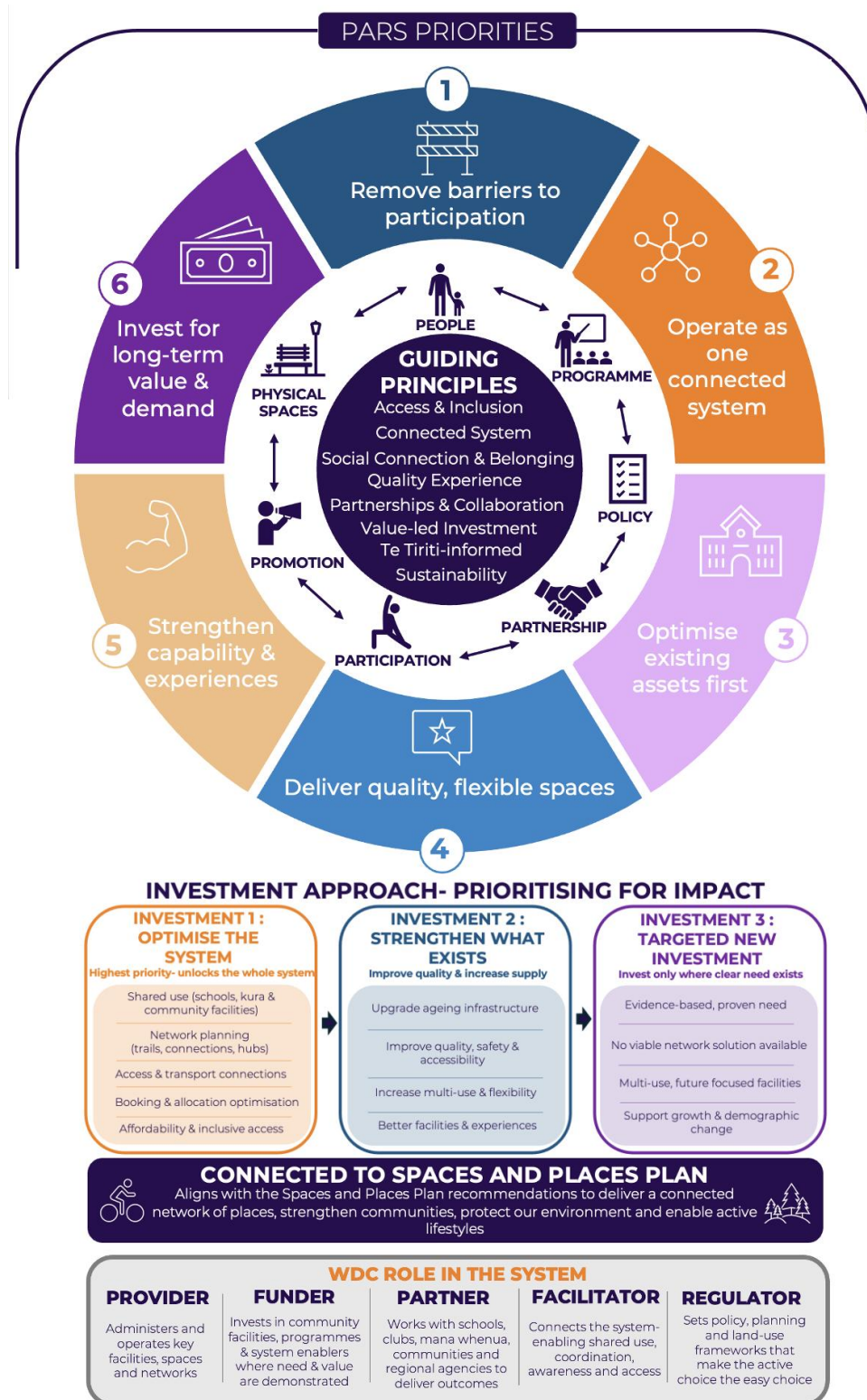
Number	Recommendation	Suggested success measures
7	Strengthen system-wide collaboration through partnerships, shared planning and coordinated delivery.	Increased evidence of joint planning, partnerships and coordinated delivery across Council, mana whenua, community, education, sport and recreation partners. Increased use of collaborative delivery, co-investment and shared-use opportunities where these provide community benefit
8	Apply a long-term sustainability lens balancing community need with financial affordability, asset sustainability, environmental responsibility and climate resilience.	Asset renewal requirements and whole-of-life costs are incorporated into investment decisions, with asset renewal backlogs monitored and managed. Energy efficiency, carbon reduction and environmental outcomes are considered in projects and asset management. Climate risks and resilience measures are incorporated into relevant planning, renewal and investment decisions.
9	Build the capability of volunteers, clubs, providers and community organisations as critical enablers of participation.	Clubs, providers and community organisations report improved capability and confidence to deliver sustainable participation opportunities. Volunteer capacity, recruitment, retention and development are monitored and supported. More organisations demonstrate sustainable governance, planning, workforce and financial practices.



13 Strategy on a Page

How all the parts work together.

This Plan on a Page provides a visual summary of the Waimakariri Play, Active Recreation and Sport (PARS) Strategy. It demonstrates how the Guiding Principles, Delivery Levers, Strategic Priorities, Council Roles, Roles of other Partners and Investment Approach work together as an integrated system.



14 Alignment, Implementation and Monitoring

This is a living document; success depends on all of us.

How does the Plan fit within the broader work of Council?

This strategy serves as the central connector among community outcomes, Council priorities, government direction, and future planning and investment decisions across the Waimakariri District.

Waimakariri District Council is committed to the provision of play, active recreation and sport spaces and places as part of the overall provision of good quality community infrastructure. This supports the Council's mission statement:

'To pursue with the community a high quality physical and social environment, safe communities and a healthy economy'.

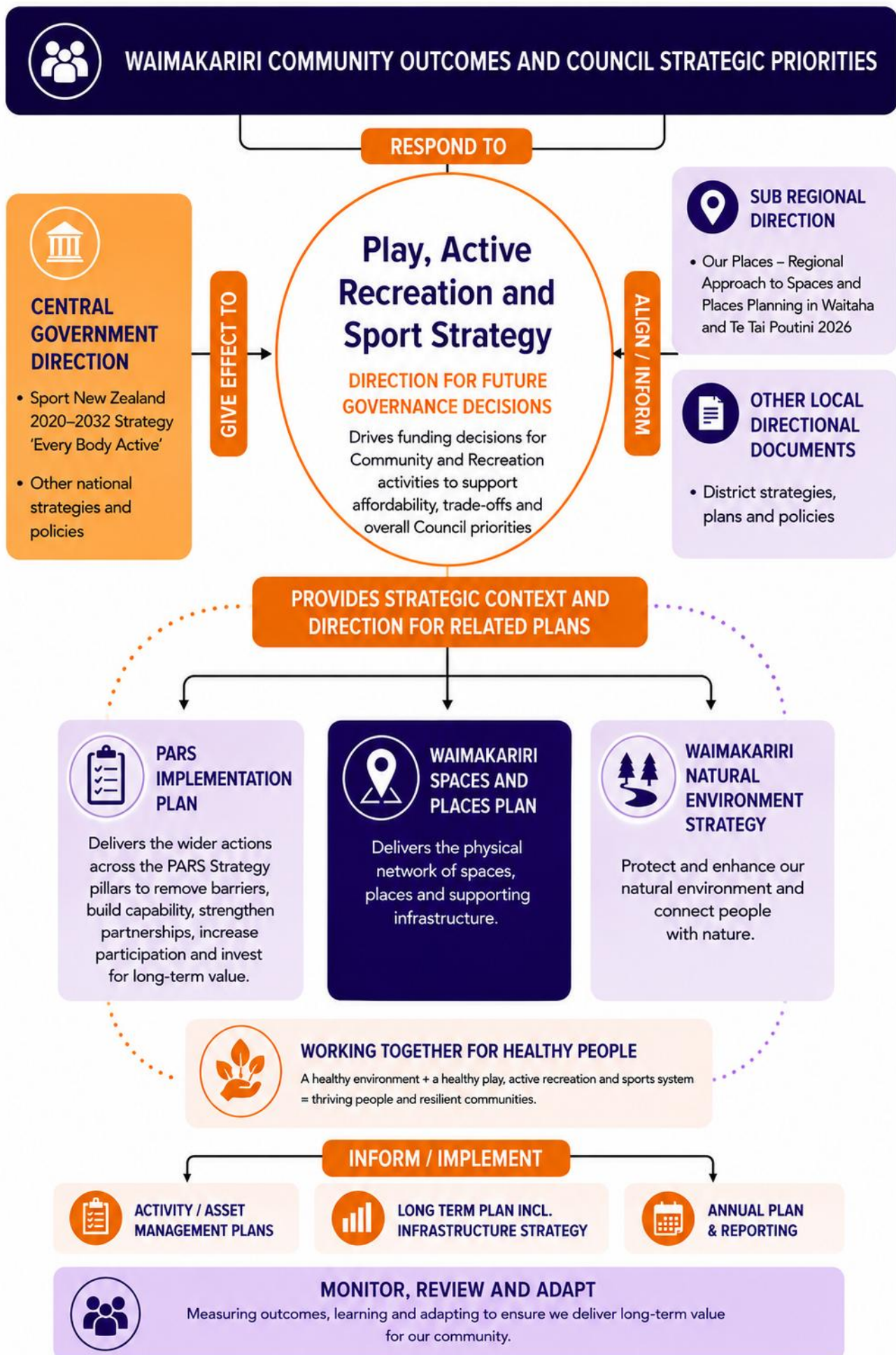
Play, active recreation and sport spaces and places are recognised as core infrastructure within the Waimakariri District. With a growing population, the Spaces and Places Plan aims to support the development and delivery of the PARS infrastructure network by addressing two key questions:

1. What PARS spaces and places are needed now and into the future?
2. How Council investment is prioritised?

The following diagram demonstrates how the Play, Active Recreation and Sport (PARS) Strategy acts as the central strategic connector between community outcomes, council priorities, government direction, and the future planning and investment decisions for the Waimakariri District Spaces and Places Plan.

Future investment decisions align with:

- Waimakariri community outcomes.
- Council strategic priorities.
- Central government direction.
- National sport strategic direction
- Regional priorities and related local strategies, including the Spaces and Places Plan.
- Treaty obligations and mana whenua aspirations.



Implementing the PARS Strategy

The PARS Strategy provides the long-term direction for play, active recreation and sport across the district. Delivery of the Strategy will be supported by two complementary implementation mechanisms:

The Spaces and Places Plan provides the framework for planning, prioritising and investing in the physical spaces and places that support play, active recreation and sport.

A PARS Strategy Implementation Plan 2027–2030 will be developed to guide delivery of the wider actions required to achieve the Strategy's priorities that sit outside the Spaces and Places Plan. This will translate the strategic direction into practical actions, including responsibilities, partnerships, timeframes and measures of progress.

Together, the Spaces and Places Plan and PARS Strategy Implementation Plan will provide the framework for delivering the Strategy and monitoring progress towards its intended outcomes.

Monitoring and Review

Progress against the PARS Strategy recommendations and success measures will be monitored and reported annually. The Strategy will be formally reviewed every five years, aligned where practicable with the Long Term Plan (LTP) cycle. The timing of the review may be brought forward where significant legislative, local government reform, community or sector changes require the Strategy to be reconsidered.

Our Commitment:

This strategy is a shared commitment across the Waimakariri district. Its success depends on collaboration between Council, mana whenua, community organisations, clubs, schools, kura, partners and residents.

Working alongside PARS partners to understand achievements, challenges and emerging needs. Waimakariri District Council will support implementation by providing leadership, monitoring and annual reporting on progress.

We will openly share what is working, acknowledge where we need to improve, and engage with our communities, including mana whenua, to help shape future priorities and responses.

Together, we are building a district where everyone can move, connect and thrive.

Waimakariri District Council | PARS Strategy 2027-2037

ⁱ Physical inactivity / economic and health costs

- [Ministry of Health – The Cost of Long-Term Conditions in New Zealand](#)

- [Ministry of Health – Full Cost of Long-Term Conditions Report \(PDF\)](#)
- [Sport NZ – Social Return on Investment \(SROI\) Report](#)
- [Sport NZ – SROI Technical Report \(PDF\)](#)
- [Sport NZ – SROI Key Takeaways](#)
- [Sport NZ – Economic and Social Value of Sport and Active Recreation](#)

Tamariki/Rangatahi – academic, social and lifelong benefits

- [Sport NZ – Active Bodies, Active Minds](#)
- [Systematic Review – Childhood Sport Participation and Adult Physical Activity \(PubMed\)](#)
- [Sport NZ – Sport in Education Project](#)

Social capital / community resilience

- [Sport NZ – The Value of Sport](#)
- [Sport NZ – Social Resilience \(PDF\)](#)
- [Peer-reviewed research – Social Cohesion Within Sport and Physical Activity](#)
- [Sport NZ – Understanding Social Value and Contribution to Wellbeing](#)

Green space / recreational infrastructure / economic value

- [Lincoln University – Economic Value of New Zealand's Parks](#)
- [Massey University – NZ Research on Urban Parks and Residential Property Values](#)
- [Department of Conservation – Social and Economic Effects of Parks \(PDF\)](#)
- [Sport NZ – Economic Value of Sport and Active Recreation 2023](#)
- [Sport NZ – Social Value of Spaces and Places \(PDF\)](#)

Active ageing / falls prevention / independence

- [Ministry of Health – Guidelines on Physical Activity for Older People \(PDF\)](#)
- [University of Otago – Exercise Programmes to Prevent Falls Among Older Adults](#)
- [NZ Research – Otago Exercise Programme and Falls Prevention](#)

Māori wellbeing / culture / intergenerational relationships

- [Sport NZ – Social Return on Investment Report](#)
- [Sport NZ – SROI Key Takeaways](#)
- [Sport NZ – SROI Summary Report \(PDF\)](#)
- [Sport NZ – Guidance on Applying SROI in Aotearoa New Zealand \(PDF\)](#)

Best overarching reference for the entire section

- [Sport NZ – The Value of Play, Active Recreation and Sport for Local Government](#)

WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL**REPORT FOR INFORMATION**

FILE NO and TRIM NO: BYL-78 / 260615141505

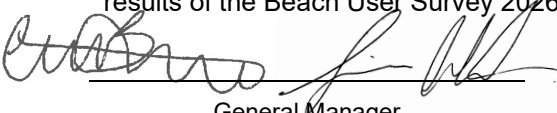
REPORT TO: COMMUNITY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE OF MEETING: 15 September 2026

AUTHOR(S): Lexie Mealings – Policy Analyst
Mike Kwant – Senior Ranger Biodiversity

SUBJECT: Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw update, Implementation Plan progress, and results of the Beach User Survey 2026

ENDORSED BY:
(for Reports to Council, Committees or Boards)


 General Manager


 Chief Executive

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to provide the Community and Recreation Committee with:
 - 1.1.1. An annual update on the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2025 (NPBB) and the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw Implementation Plan (NPBBIP); and
 - 1.1.2. The results of the Beach User Survey 2026.
- 1.2. Over the past year, the NPBB has continued to support the management of recreational activities on Waimakariri beaches within the Northern Pegasus Bay area, while balancing this use with the need to protect the coastal environment. This is reflected in the 25 service requests relating to issues occurring within the NPBB area between 1 July 2025 and 27 July 2026.
- 1.3. Council staff have been working on the ongoing commitments and projects included in the NPBBIP since its adoption by Council on 6 May 2025. Overall, 77.5% of the ongoing commitments in the NPBBIP and 69.2% of projects are either completed, actively being progressed at the time of this report, or are ongoing. These results highlight that implementation of this plan is currently on track.
- 1.4. The NPBBIP was designed to give effect to the objectives of the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2025 (NPBB), and as such, will continue to be implemented until the Bylaw's next review scheduled for 2029, giving it a scope of four years.
- 1.5. As noted under the 'research and monitoring' section of the NPBBIP, an ongoing commitment has been made to completing a Beach User Survey every two years. There have been three surveys run prior to the 2026 version, with an additional survey scheduled for 2028, prior to the next review of the NPBB.
- 1.6. The Beach User Survey 2026 was available for completion online via Council's Let's Talk platform, as well as through in-person interviews at beaches across the Northern Pegasus Bay. In total, the survey received 252 responses. Additionally, staff received two letters relating to the survey through email. Key themes that arose from these responses are as follows:
 - 1.6.1. Waimakariri beaches are valued as a local, accessible community asset
 - 1.6.2. Growing concern regarding vehicles and motorbikes
 - 1.6.3. Dog-related behaviour can contribute to conflict
 - 1.6.4. Awareness of the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw is improving

- 1.6.5. Balancing different recreational users within an increasing busy shared coastal environment.

Attachments:

- i. Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2025 (TRIM – 251219243943)
- ii. Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw Implementation Plan (TRIM – 250417068374)
- iii. Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw Beach User Survey 2026 Public Facing Document (TRIM – 260716171565)
- iv. Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw Beach User Survey 2026 Infographic Poster (TRIM – 260623148771)
- v. Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2025 Boundary Map (TRIM – 260824250614)

2. **RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 260615141505.
- (b) **Receives** the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw Beach User Survey 2026 Public Facing Document (attachment iii – 260716171565).
- (c) **Receives** the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw Beach User Survey 2026 Infographic Poster (attachment iv – 260623148771).
- (d) **Circulates** this report (TRIM - 260615141505), the infographic poster (attachment iv - 260623148771), and the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw Beach User Survey 2026 Public Facing Document (attachment iii - 260716171565) to Community Boards and the Northern Pegasus Bay Advisory Group for their information.
- (e) **Notes** that the implementation of the NPBBIP is designed to take place over a period of four years, from the adoption of the NPBBIP in May 2025, through to the next review of the NPBB, scheduled for 2029.
- (f) **Notes** that the input received from beach users through the Beach User Survey 2026 will be used to help inform the next review of the NPBB, as well as play a key role in protecting and improving the coastal environment in the interim.

3. **BACKGROUND**

3.1. **Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw and Implementation Plan**

- 3.1.1. The first Implementation Plan for the NPBB was adopted by Council on 5 December 2017 following the first review of the Bylaw.
- 3.1.2. On 1 October 2024, when the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2024 (the Bylaw) was adopted by Council, it was signalled that an updated Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw Implementation Plan was necessary to enable effective implementation of the Bylaw.
- 3.1.3. The current Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2025 was adopted by Council on 2 September 2025 following some minor administrative changes. These changes were made in response to feedback received from members of the Northern Pegasus Bay Advisory Group.
- 3.1.4. The purpose of the Bylaw is to control activities on the beaches, including the foreshore and adjacent land areas of the Northern Pegasus Bay, in order to:
 - Protect the natural values of the foreshore and estuary environment while acknowledging community values associated with its use
 - Manage recreational uses for the benefit and enjoyment of all users
 - Minimise environmental impacts arising from this recreation activity
 - Protect, promote and maintain public health and safety
 - Protect the public from nuisance

- Minimise the potential for offensive behaviour in public places
- 3.1.5. The current NPBBIP is split into 11 different sections, all based on the content of the Bylaw, and the requirements necessary to support its effective implementation. These are:
- Cultural values
 - Ashley/Rakahuri Estuary
 - Beach amenities/physical structures
 - Signage
 - Education
 - Publicity
 - Working with others
 - User agreements
 - Enforcement
 - Research and monitoring
 - Review
- 3.1.6. Each section of the NPBBIP outlines the Council's aspirations for the relevant area, together with ongoing commitments and projects to be undertaken. Measures of success are included alongside these actions to enable the Council to assess progress achieved to date.
- 3.1.7. The NPBBIP is integral to the effective implementation of the NPBB's objectives, providing a collaborative framework to guide Council's work towards achieving its vision: *'Northern Pegasus Bay coastal strip - valued, protected, and enjoyed by all'*.

3.2. Beach User Survey 2026

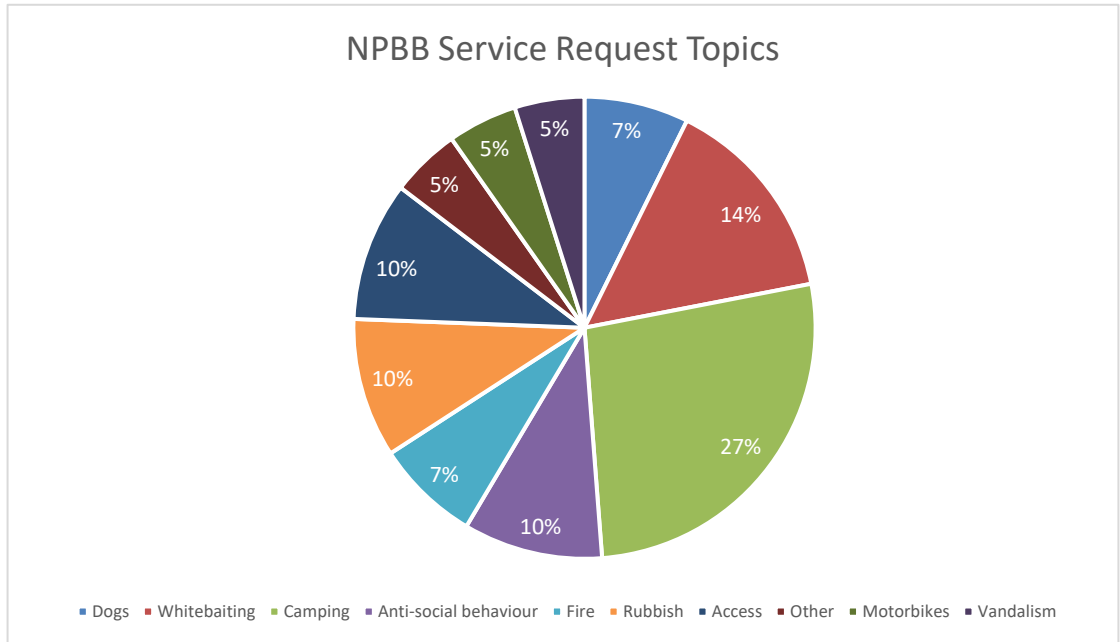
- 3.2.1. Between 2019 and 2026, the Council has undertaken four Beach User Surveys within the Northern Pegasus Bay area. Each survey has focused on the experiences of beach users, as well as their awareness of the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw.
- 3.2.2. The Beach User Survey has the following purposes:
- To provide Council with an understanding of how well the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2025 is working to manage activities along our beaches, foreshore, and adjacent land areas of the Northern Pegasus Bay
 - To act as a valuable data source for the next review of the NPBB (scheduled for 2029) to ensure the Bylaw review is driven by best practice and accurate information
 - To ensure that Council and partner agencies are empowered by insights from genuine beach users to allow for better protection and improvement of the coastal environment for everyone to enjoy.
- 3.2.3. The Beach User Survey 2026 was available for completion between 15 December and 1 March 2026.
- 3.2.4. The survey was accessible online via Council's Let's Talk platform, as well as through in-person interviews at beaches across the Northern Pegasus Bay.
- 3.2.5. The next Beach User Survey is scheduled to take place in 2028, prior to the next review of the NPBB.

4. KEY ISSUES

4.1. Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2025

- 4.1.1. Between 1 July 2025 and 27 July 2026, Council received 25 service requests relating to issues occurring within the NPBB area.

4.1.2. The chart below depicts the topics covered in these service requests:



4.1.3. Further analysis of these service requests over this time period indicates that:

- Camping on beaches in the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw area is the most significant issue arising from service requests over the past year
- The 2025 whitebaiting season contributed to community tension, particularly in the Kairaki Beach area
- A number of requests reference environmental and health concerns relating to the presence of litter, fires, animal faeces and human waste
- Dog control continues to be an issue within the coastal area, with dogs being walked off-leash presenting nuisance and/or health and safety concerns to others using this space
- Anti-social behaviour was cited in a number of the requests received by Council, noting threats and aggression, vandalism, and intimidation. This was primarily mentioned in relation to the whitebaiting season
- Access and infrastructure issues also came up, where it related to sand blocking wheelchair access to viewing platforms, broken safety meshing, and blocked emergency vehicle access.

4.1.4. Staff will continue to work with partner organisations, such as Environment Canterbury, and community groups, such as the Northern Pegasus Bay Advisory Group, to ensure that the above issues are dealt with accordingly.

4.1.5. The topics noted through these service requests continue to demonstrate the need for the NPBB and will help shape Council's approach to the 2026 whitebaiting season in particular.

4.2. Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw Implementation Plan

4.2.1. Following the adoption of the NPBBIP on 6 May 2025, Council staff have been working on ongoing commitments and the implementation of different projects in the coastal area.

4.2.2. Overall, 77.5% of the ongoing commitments in the NPBBIP and 69.2% of projects are either completed, actively being progressed at the time of this report, or are ongoing.

4.2.3. Key progress highlights from implementation of the NPBBIP over the past year are summarised in the table below, together with the relevant aspirations from the Plan and the success measures achieved.

Highlight	Relevant aspiration	Success measure met
Strengthening Council's connection with GEOG309 students at the University of Canterbury to undertake research projects within the Northern Pegasus Bay area, contributing to vital research and monitoring initiatives.	Research efforts in the Northern Pegasus Bay coastal strip are coordinated and research partners are actively sought.	Suitable research partners are identified to study the effectiveness of Bylaw provisions, contributing to the useful collection of data in the coastal area to inform review processes and environmental/social impacts.
The installation of accessible viewing platforms at the Ashley-Rakahuri Estuary and Waikuku Beach, in collaboration with key community groups.	Continued pedestrian access for beach users, including those with mobility issues and young children is given priority over physical structures required for enforcement reasons.	Scheduled projects are carried out within budget. A viewing platform is installed at the Ashley-Rakahuri Estuary, meeting accessibility needs.
A refresh of the terms of reference for the Northern Pegasus Bay Advisory Group (NPBAG), allowing for a wider range of beach users to be involved, alongside regular attendance of group meetings (held quarterly).	Community members help to change the 'beach culture' by acting as role models and promoting stewardship.	Advisory Group members maintain regular attendance of meetings.
Strengthened collaborative working relationships with Hurunui District Council (HDC) colleagues who have been working on reviewing their version of the Bylaw, including onsite visits, workshops at HDC, and regular contribution to the NPBAG.	Agencies and community groups involved with the coast collaborate and work closely together.	Advisory Group meetings are regularly attended by relevant recreation organisations, ensuring their members are aware of Bylaw rules.
The establishment of an Aircraft User Agreement between the Council and the Canterbury Recreational Aircraft Club, successfully drafted and adopted by both parties.	The Operation of Aircraft User Agreement is effective in continuing to allow this activity to occur in the restricted area on Ashworths beach whilst protecting the unique coastal environment.	The Aircraft User Agreement between the Waimakariri District Council and the Canterbury Recreational Aircraft Club is successfully drafted and adopted by both parties.
Updating signage in the coastal area by way of QR code stickers, ensuring beach users are linked to the current Bylaw, without needing to completely replace these signs.	Visitor information is well-sited, appropriate to its setting and fit for purpose.	Signage in the coastal area is not outdated, and reflects the current rules contained in the Bylaw, whilst meeting the design standard.

The completion of the Council's fourth Beach User Survey, providing important insights from genuine beach users which will shape the ongoing maintenance of Waimakariri's coastal areas, and the next review of the NPBB.	Monitoring programmes are in place for the effectiveness of Bylaw enforcement.	The results of the Beach User Survey are used to inform Bylaw review processes and demonstrate high levels of satisfaction amongst beach users.
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4.2.4. Over the next year, staff will continue to work on fulfilling the ongoing commitments and completing projects listed throughout the NPBBIP. Some areas of the NPBBIP have been identified as priorities over this time period, including:

- Ensuring that beach users know who to contact to report a Bylaw-related issue through increased communications and updated signage
- Encouraging beach users and other voluntary groups, such as the Waimakariri Youth Council, to hold an annual beach clean-up day
- Investigating community support for reinvigorating a residents' group at Waikuku Beach to support NPBBIP actions
- Carrying out a formal review of each user agreement to ensure they are still fit for purpose

4.2.5. Staff will continue to work through the NPBBIP until it is next due to be refreshed, alongside the review of the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw, in 2029.

4.3. Beach User Survey 2026

4.3.1. In total, the Beach User Survey 2026 received 252 responses. This is a lower level of engagement in comparison to previous years, attributed to poor weather conditions over the 2025/2026 summer period. Despite this, the level of response is still sufficient for identifying trends in data and understanding general experiences of beach users.

4.3.2. Survey questions and methodology have been altered over the years based on previous learnings to improve the quality of findings. Information on the changes made can be found within attachment iii (TRIM - 260612141142).

4.3.3. The Beach User Survey 2026 public-facing document (attachment iii – 260612141142) contains the full analysis of the 2026 survey, alongside a comparative analysis of this year's results, and the results of prior surveys. For the purposes of this report, the below key findings have been summarised.

4.3.4. Key findings for the 2026 survey included:

- At 36.9% of respondents, Waikuku Beach continues to be the most frequented coastal location among beach users in Waimakariri
- At 73.4%, the coastal location visited being 'close to home' was most commonly noted by survey respondents as the thing they enjoy most about the beach they visited
- At 30.2%, vehicles were noted as the most prevalent issue in the Northern Pegasus Bay area by survey respondents, followed by litter at 21.8% and motorbikes at 19.4%
- When asked if they have observed any conflict (e.g. between people) on our beaches over the past two years, 26.2% answered yes
- Those who observed conflict noted dogs as the most common cause at 22.5%, followed by motorbikes at 14.5% and vehicles at 12.6%
- 79.3% of respondents answered that they are aware of why the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw rules exist. Only 4% answered no to this question
- In terms of specific Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw rules, those concerning dogs were reported with the highest awareness from beach users at 69.4%, followed by rules for vehicles at 65%, and rules for fires/fireworks at 56%

- At 42%, signage was noted as the most common way that beach users have gained awareness of the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw. When asked how they'd prefer the Council to communicate with them about beach rules and changes, 85% of respondents had also noted that signage at beach entrances is their preference.
- 4.3.5. These key findings, along with the identified trends in data over the past four Beach User Surveys, will be crucial to the next review of the NPBB, and will assist in protecting and improving the coastal environment in the interim.
- 4.3.6. The full public-facing document containing the results of the 2026 survey will be uploaded to the Council's website for viewing, and circulated among members of the Northern Pegasus Bay Advisory Group.

5. STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT AND COMMUNITY VIEWS

Mana Whenua Engagement

- 5.1. The subject matter and/or recommendations contained within this report are likely to be of interest to mana whenua.

One of the ongoing commitments listed in the NPBBIP under the 'Cultural Values' section is that Te Kōhaka o Tūhaitara Trust is recognised as the representative of Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga for any work related to the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw. Representatives of Te Kōhaka o Tūhaitara Trust are in regular attendance of the Northern Pegasus Bay Advisory Group, where matters relating to the NPBB are discussed quarterly.

Over the past 18 months, Council staff have attended four Crown Agent and Tangata Tiaki Inaka hui hosted by Environment Canterbury. These hui have allowed Council staff to engage with mana whenua on matters relating to the NPBB, particularly where it relates to mahinga kai gathering.

Council staff will include views, advice and/or contributions from mana whenua in appropriate future documentation where available.

Groups, Organisations and the Wider Community

- 5.2. There are groups, organisations, or members of the wider community likely to be affected by, or to have an interest in, the subject matter of this report.

The Northern Pegasus Bay Advisory Group (NPBAG), comprised of local beach users, community members, and relevant organisations, are likely to have an interest in the subject matter of this report. The NPBAG is paramount to meeting the objectives of the Bylaw through their collective offering of feedback and guidance to assist with the successful implementation of the NPBBIP. Quarterly meetings of the NPBAG ensure that these groups and organisations are provided with a platform to have their voice heard on all matters pertaining to this topic.

In terms of the Beach User Survey specifically, 80% of respondents reported to be living in the Waimakariri District, 32% of which live in one of the beach communities. For this reason, there is a reasonable expectation that as members of the local community, these respondents are likely to be part of groups or organisations which may have an interest in the subject matter of this report.

Additionally, the data collected through this survey will be of use to partner organisations who also play a role in maintaining the Northern Pegasus Bay area and enforcing the rules of the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw.

Implications for Community Wellbeing

- 5.3. There are implications for community wellbeing by the issues and options that are the subject matter of this report.

Some of the topics discussed by survey respondents, such as observation of conflict and issues occurring in the coastal area, would have implications on community wellbeing as they affect feelings of safety and the ability to fully enjoy this public space.

Community Outcomes and Strategic Priorities

- 5.4. The Council's community outcomes are relevant to the actions arising from recommendations in this report, in particular:
- Social:
 - Public spaces are diverse, respond to changing demographics and meet local needs for leisure and recreation
 - Council commits to promoting health and wellbeing and minimising the risk of social harm to its communities
 - Environmental
 - People are supported to participate in improving the health and sustainability of our environment
 - Land use is sustainable; biodiversity is protected and restored
 - The natural and built environment in which people live is clean, healthy and safe
 - Our communities are able to access and enjoy natural areas and public spaces
- 5.5. The Council's Strategic Priorities are relevant to the actions arising from recommendations in this report, in particular:
- Protect and enhance the resilience of our natural and built environment
 - Enhance community wellbeing, safety, inclusivity, and connectedness
 - Embrace partnership with Ngāi Tūāhuriri

6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Financial Implications

- 6.1. There are no financial implications for the decisions sought by this report.
- 6.2. Funding is currently provided within the Annual Plan and Long Term Plan to support the implementation of the NPBB. This funding is allocated between capital (GL - 101268.000.5223) and operational (GL - 101268.000.5223) budgets.

Community Resilience and Sustainability

- 6.3. The recommendations in this report do not have sustainability and/or climate change impacts.

Risk Management

- 6.4. There are no risks arising from the adoption/implementation of the recommendations in this report.

Health and Safety

- 6.5. There are no health and safety risks arising from the adoption/implementation of the recommendations in this report.

7. CONTEXT

Consistency with Policy

- 7.1. This matter is not a matter of significance in terms of the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

Authorising Legislation

- 7.2. The legislation and associated documents relevant to the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2025 and Implementation Plan are as follows:
- Local Government Act 2002

- Treaty of Waitangi
- New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990
- Resource Management Act 1991
- Marine and Coastal Area (Tukutai Moana) Act 2011
- Wildlife Act 1953
- Marine Mammals Protection Act 1978
- Conservation Act 1987
- Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998
- Land Transport Act 1998
- Reserves Act 1977
- Dog Control Act 1996
- Forest and Rural Fires Act 1977
- New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010
- Regional Coastal Environment Plan for the Canterbury Region
- Proposed Canterbury Conservation Management Strategy
- Waimakariri District Council District Plan
- Waikuku Beach Reserve Management Plan 2010 (Reserves Act 1977)
- 2018 Waimakariri Coastal Natural Character Study
- Environment Canterbury Ashley Rakahuri Management Plan 2023
- WDC Memorandum of Understanding with Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga
- Mahaanui Iwi Management Plan 2013
- Kemp's Deed
- WDC Northern Pegasus Bay 2010 Bylaw
- WDC Dog Control Bylaw 2009
- WDC Fire Control Bylaw 2014
- Environment Canterbury Navigation Safety Bylaws 2010

Authorising Delegations

- 7.3. The Community and Recreation Committee has delegated authority to administer bylaws for its activities. The most relevant of the listed activities is parks and reserves but only a small parcel of Council-owned reserve land at Kairaki Beach is located within the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw area.
- 7.4. The full Council is the decision maker in relation to the adoption of the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw and Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw Implementation Plans, due to the significance of the coastal area.

WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL

NORTHERN PEGASUS BAY BYLAW 2025

Adopted Council meeting
held on 2 September 2025



Chief Executive



Governance Manager



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WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL NORTHERN PEGASUS BAY BYLAW 2025

PREAMBLE

This preamble is intended to explain the bylaw's context and general intention.

A number of agencies own or manage land within or adjacent to the area covered by this bylaw. These are the Waimakariri District Council, Environment Canterbury, the Department of Conservation, Land Information NZ Toitū Te Whenua and Te Kōhaka o Tūhaitara Trust.

The proposed bylaw seeks to address the following key issues:

- Health and safety of beach users.
- Conflicts between incompatible recreation activities.
- The impact of offensive behaviour on other beach users' enjoyment or use of the beach.
- Impacts of recreation use on the dune systems and on the wildlife and vegetation of the estuaries and lagoons.
- Disturbance and destruction of foreshore habitats.

Legislative Context and Links to other Documents

The management of the coastal environment is legislated by various Acts. These include, but are not limited to, the Resource Management Act 1991, Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998, Marine and Coastal Area (Tukutai Moana) Act 2011, Local Government Act 2002, Land Transport Act 1998, Reserves Act 1977, Conservation Act 1987, Wildlife Act 1953, Marine Mammals Protection Act 1978, Dog Control Act 1996, Fire and Emergency NZ Act 2017, Freedom Camping Act 2011 and Whitebait Fishing Regulations 2021.

Additional documents that have been taken into consideration in developing this bylaw include the following:

- Treaty of Waitangi.
- Kemp's Deed.
- Waimakariri District Council Memorandum of Understanding with Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga.
- Mahaanui Iwi Management Plan 2013.
- NZ Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Resource Management Act 1991).
- Regional Coastal Environment Plan for the Canterbury Region 2005 (Resource Management Act 1991).
- Waimakariri District Council District Plan 2025 (Resource Management Act 1991).
- Waikuku Beach Reserve Management Plan 2010 (Reserves Act 1977).
- 2018 Waimakariri Coastal Natural Character Study
- Environment Canterbury Ashley Rakahuri Management Plan 2023.
- Canterbury (Waitaha) Conservation Management Strategy 2016 (Conservation Act 1987).
- Environment Canterbury Navigation Safety Bylaw 2016 (Local Government Act 1974).
- Estuarine Research Report 38 – impacts of vehicles on juvenile tuatua on Pegasus Bay surf beaches 2010.
- Estuarine Research Report 39 – assessment of intertidal tuatua 2009.

The legislative boundaries map at the end of this section shows the interface between the various rules and policies contained within the Regional Coastal Environment Plan (coastal marine area boundary), the Waimakariri District Council's District Plan (coastal marine area boundary), the Canterbury Conservation Management Strategy (conservation areas), the proposed Ashley/Rakahuri Regional Park Management Plan, the Reserves Act 1977 (local purpose reserves) and the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 (Fenton Reserves and Entitlements).

There are also other Council bylaws that apply to the coastal area. These include the Waimakariri District Council Dog Control Bylaw 2019 and the Alcohol Control Bylaw 2018. Reference has been made in this bylaw to the relevant clauses in bylaws listed, to prevent coastal users having to research other Council bylaws to find out what rules apply.

Significance of Ashley River/Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek Estuarine Areas

The Ashley River/Rakahuri and associated estuarine areas link up with the 550-hectare Tūhaitara Coastal Reserve which stretches 10.5 km from the estuary and contains many protected wetlands. This string of wetlands has important values for some special invertebrate and plant communities and combined creates a large area of significant attraction to birdlife, the majority of which are indigenous and regarded as taonga by local iwi. The estuary, with its large areas of tidal mudflats at the conjunction of the Ashley River/Rakahuri and Pacific Ocean, is recognised as one of the best shorebird feeding sites on the South Island's eastern coastline. It is the largest, least modified estuary in Canterbury with a variety of ecosystems and habitats and observations of up to sixty bird species at any visit are common.

The Ashley River/Rakahuri estuarine area is recognised by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as a wetland of 'international significance'. The Regional Coastal Environment Plan for the Canterbury Region lists the Ashley River/Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek Estuary as an area of 'significant natural value with Māori cultural values; wetlands, estuaries, and coastal lagoons; marine mammals and birds; ecosystems, flora and fauna habitats; historic places; and coastal landforms and associated processes' occurring in the area. The Ashley River/Rakahuri Estuary and wider Pegasus Bay wetlands are designated 'Important Bird Areas' by Birdlife International (of which Forest and Bird is the NZ partner) and the threatened native braided river birds breeding on the river are a priority for protection in the Biodiversity Strategy for the Canterbury Region. The Department of Conservation rates the area as being of 'significant conservation value' and is the administering body for five Local Purpose Reserves under the Reserves Act 1977 and two stewardship areas under the Conservation Act 1987 located in the area. One of these stewardship areas, known as the Conservation Area Pacific Ocean Foreshore, is described by the Department as being a 'priority ecosystem'. The Banks Peninsula Marine Mammal Sanctuary runs up the coastline extending four nautical miles out to sea from the mean high water springs mark.

The estuarine wetlands are the feeding, roosting, and breeding grounds of a large number of native birds, including some threatened and critically endangered species such as the black-billed gull (the world's most endangered gull), the black-fronted tern, banded dotterel and wrybill. Wrybill, the only bird in the world with a bill that bends sideways, feed in the estuary and breed upstream in the braided river. The wetlands are an important summer resting and feeding site for a large number of locally resident and migrant wader species. Wrybills, banded dotterels, pied stilts and pied oystercatchers start to pass through in late August with small numbers of other northern hemisphere wading birds arriving in September and staying into April. Godwits also arrive in September to feed and rest after an 11,000 km non-stop trip from Alaska, preparing for their return journey in later March. In winter the Estuary is home to the white heron and very rare black stilt. The area is also an important breeding ground for fish such as flounder and whitebait.

Local conservation-orientated organisations and bird specialists identify a number of activities that could have a negative impact on the important ecological and wildlife values of the Ashley River/Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek estuarine areas. The bylaw attempts to reduce the tension between environmental protection and recreational use by prohibiting activities that are able to be carried out elsewhere on the beach and restricting other site-specific activities. Examples of prohibited activities that can be carried out in other less ecologically sensitive coastal areas are horse riding, exercising dogs, land yachting, using model aircraft and drones, and taking off or landing aircraft, including microlights and helicopters.

Aerial activities can be seen as a threat to some birds who stay in the air while these are taking place. This interferes with their normal feeding, resting, nesting and roosting activities and puts chicks at risk of overheating or predation.

Scientific studies show that the presence of dogs causes disturbance and stress to birds causing physical displacement that impacts where the birds feel safe to feed, breed and rest. The 2016 bylaw prohibited dogs from the estuary, apart from permitted gamebird dogs during the gamebird hunting season, in order to offer greater protection to critically endangered or threatened bird species. Consultation for the 2023/24 bylaw review identified a need to extend the prohibited area for dogs in the estuarine area to include the entirety of the spit south of the Ashley River/Rakahuri. This 2025 bylaw has also removed the exemption for gamebird dogs.

The estuary is the only safe training and self-landing area for kite surfing within the district and this is a restricted activity, subject to an agreement between the Council, kite surfing community and bird conservation groups.

The bylaw also recognises the significance of the area as a regional sport fishery and provides limited vehicle access via a permit system for the annual open season set by the Whitebait Fishing Regulations 2021, currently 1 September to 30 October (inclusive)..

Protection of Foreshore Habitats

The intertidal coastal area is a very important feeding area for birds. Vehicles disturb birds feeding, resting, and nesting in built-up areas of driftwood. They also disrupt their food sources by killing or stressing species such as tuatua that live in the sand.

A 2010 study of tuatua found that juvenile tuatua were largely found just adjacent to and beneath the high tide line along the beach whilst adult tuatuas were found closer to the low tide line along the beach. Another study in 2010 found a relationship between the number of vehicle passes and tuatua damage with juvenile tuatua being more at risk from crushing than the larger more mature adults. The compactness of wet sand was also found to favour tuatua survival.

The bylaw offers some protection to tuatua by providing vehicle free areas and attempting to reduce the number of vehicles driving on the rest of the beach. Vehicles are also required to be driven below the high tide mark, apart from at the Waimakariri River Mouth where this is unsafe because of changes in levels along the side of the river. While vehicles driving on wet sand will damage adult tuatua, the more vulnerable juvenile tuatua living higher up the beach will be better protected. The impact of horse hooves on tuatua has been found to be similar to that of vehicles and the equestrian free area at Waikuku offers some protection.

Protection of Dune System

The 2018 Waimakariri Coastal Natural Character Study identifies the most significant dunes of the Canterbury coastline are located along the backshore of Pegasus Bay. The dunes provide beach settlements with some protection against coastal hazards, including those exacerbated by climate change. Damage to the vegetation caused by vehicles and motorbikes accelerates coastal erosion.

Vehicles have been prohibited from the dunes, and motorcycles have been prohibited from the beach altogether to try and address this problem as well as other safety concerns.

Safety Concerns of Beach Users, Conflicts between Different Types of Recreational Activity and Public Nuisance

A Beach User Survey has been conducted in 2019, 2021 and 2023/24. These surveys provide Council staff and the Northern Pegasus Bay Advisory Group with feedback and evidence of what's important to locals and visitors to our beaches as well as highlighting main issues and any conflict occurring along the Northern Pegasus Bay coastline. All three surveys identify unsafe or inappropriate driving of vehicles as the main issue followed by the lack of dog control by some users. Vehicles and motorbikes continue to be a problem, particularly in Waikuku, Pines, Kairaki and Ashworths Beaches. A summary report for each of the surveys is available on the council's website.

The bylaw attempts to resolve identified public health, safety and nuisance issues in a way that is no more than reasonably necessary by:

- Giving priority to the most vulnerable beach users, such as children, bathers and other people on foot.
- Designating zones away from the most popular swimming beach (Waikuku Beach) for activities such as recreational horse riding, horse training, land yachting and driving.
- Prohibiting dogs, vehicles and horse trainers from passing through flagged surf patrol areas and requiring recreational horse riders to take due care and land yacht operators to dismount if passing through on a return trip is unavoidable.
- Reducing the number of vehicles on the beach by prohibiting recreational driving and motorcycles.
- Clearly setting out personal responsibilities around the use of a vehicle on the beach (the same as on a road).
- Requiring beach users to have effective control of their dogs at all times.
- Prohibiting or restricting dogs from areas with high biodiversity value, where there are critically endangered or threatened bird species.
- Requiring the use of the beach for horse training to be in accordance with a user agreement.
- Requiring all beach users to be aware of each other and not impact on another's use or enjoyment of the beach.

Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Values

Ngāi Tūāhuriri concepts involving land, water and resources are determined by a very complex system of inter-relations and while free to utilise the resources, Ngāi Tūāhuriri are also restrained by a system of controls.

In an economic sense, the resources of an area determined the welfare of the people. The abundance, or lack of, directly affected the mana (prestige) of every tribal group. Traditionally the acquisition and maintenance of the exclusive right to those resources was central to the core of Māori society. The seasonal collection of these resources and the resulting community effort therefore also formed a very important part of the community's strength.

These seasonal activities were a time for Whanaungatanga – renewing contacts with distant relations, Whakatinana o ngā uara – of reinforcing traditional and cultural values, and Tikanga – of maintaining controls; thus providing a tangible link with the past. Another important example of cultural resource values is that of Manaakitanga – hospitality, towards guests. Tradition dictates that as hosts, Tūāhuriri whānau of this area must prepare the best local foods for manuhiri.

Mahinga kai was specifically recognised and protected in Kemp’s Deed in 1848 and advanced within Te Kerēme, the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998. It describes the natural resources gathered by Māori and the places and practices used in doing so. Mahinga kai is an important value and activity that will be acknowledged and provided for within the bylaw process and through ongoing partnership.

The Rakahuri Awa/Ashley River and Northern Pegasus Bay coastal area was a significant area for mahinga kai. Fenton Reserves and Fenton Entitlements were set aside for occupation and access to mahinga kai and some of these are located in or close to the estuary. Fenton Reserve owners and holders of Fenton Entitlements have a legal right to access waterways associated with these reserves and entitlements for mahinga kai purposes. The Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 makes provision for Fenton Reserve owners and holders of Fenton Entitlements to have access up to 210 days per year for the above purposes, including the erection of temporary camping shelters. In the preparation of this bylaw these rights have been considered and applied.

Traditional values and controls regarding water are included in the Tribe’s spiritual beliefs and practices. This recognises and reinforces the absolute importance of water quality and quantity to both mahinga kai and hygiene. Water is held in the highest esteem because the welfare of all life that it contains determines the welfare of the people reliant on those resources.

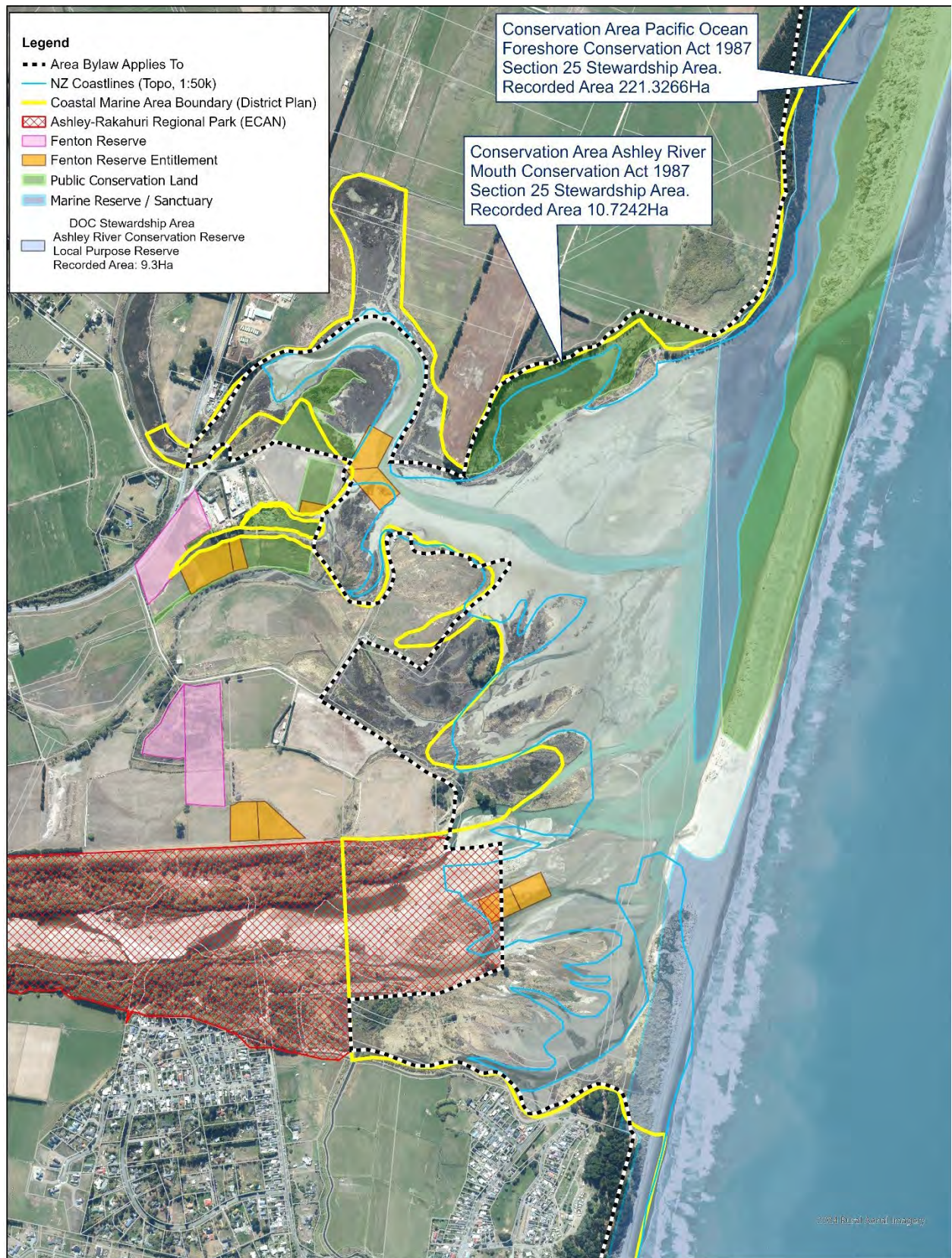
Traditionally water was the centre of all activity within Māori society. It provided the preferred transport medium, supported fish and shellfish populations and was used in religious ceremonies, including burials, and also for recreational activities. For these reasons and like most other cultures, settlements were centred beside, or in close proximity to major waterways.

This dependence on kai-moana, kai-awa and kai-roto is a subject that has remained constant throughout Ngāi Tūāhuriri history. Over time Ngāi Tūāhuriri accumulated an extensive amount of knowledge about the resources within its’ rohe, particularly water-sourced foods. Harvesting methods reflect a sophisticated understanding of the breeding cycles, migration times and feeding habits of all the important fresh and salt-water species, with different names being used for the same fish at different parts of its life cycle.

Connected to the concept of water guardianship is the matter of tapu. Water was declared tapu for several reasons. The best examples of Wai-Tapu are those waterways that act as burial places. Because of their primary use, food is not taken from these places. One such incident associated with this bylaw area is along the South bank of the Rakahuri, where Te Rauparaha dug up the remains of an elderly Ngai Tūāhuriri woman. Subsequently those Tūāhuriri whānau knowledgeable in this history do not gather kai awa from that particular stream and surrounding area.

The Council acknowledges the sensitivity around the scattering of human ashes within the area covered by this bylaw and the concern Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Runanga has for the impact on cultural values and customs and advises avoiding using mahinga kai areas and associated waterways for this purpose.

NORTHERN PEGASUS BAY BYLAW 2025 LEGISLATIVE AREAS



Legislative Areas Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2025

Job	SCALE (A3)
24-027	1:10,000
Version	DATE
D	20/08/2025



1. Title

- 1.1. This bylaw is made pursuant to sections 145, 146 (b)(vi) and 153 (3) of the *Local Government Act 2002*, sections 22AB(1)(b), 22AB(1)(c), 22AB(1)(f) and 22AB(1)(zk) of the *Land Transport Act 1998* and the *Dog Control Act 1996*.
- 1.2. This bylaw is the Waimakariri District Council *Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2025*.

2. Date of Commencement

- 2.1. This bylaw replaces the Waimakariri District Council *Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2024* and comes into force on 3 September 2025.

3. Application and Purpose

- 3.1. The purpose of this bylaw is to control activities on the beaches, including the foreshore and adjacent land areas of Northern Pegasus Bay, in order to:
 - a) Protect the natural values of the foreshore and estuary environment while acknowledging community values associated with its use
 - b) Manage recreational uses for the benefit and enjoyment of all users
 - c) Minimise environmental impacts arising from this recreation activity
 - d) Protect, promote and maintain public health and safety
 - e) Protect the public from nuisance
 - f) Minimise the potential for offensive behaviour in public places.
- 3.2. Activities that are prohibited from the whole of the bylaw area include recreational driving, all motorcycles and unregistered and unlicensed vehicles. Freedom camping, fires, fireworks, interfering with wildlife, erecting or interfering with buildings and permanent structures without permission and introducing substances that could harm other people, animals or plants are also prohibited.
- 3.3. Activities that are prohibited from the Ashley River/Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek estuarine areas include equestrian and dog-related activities; operating land yachts, drones and model aircraft. Driving vehicles without a permit or exemption is also prohibited in this area.
- 3.4. Vehicles are also generally prohibited from between the Ocean Outfall and the Ashley/Rakahuri River Mouth. Land yachts are prohibited from the area between the beach entrance to the Waikuku Beach Horsefloat Car Park and Access Trail and the District's northern boundary.
- 3.5. Restricted activities (activities that have conditions attached) include:
 - 3.5.1. Driving vehicles
 - a) between the Kairaki Beach Car Park and the Ocean Outfall;
 - b) within the Ashley River/Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek estuarine areas;
 - c) from the northern boundary of the district to the north of the Ashley/Rakahuri River Mouth;

- 3.5.2. Horse training
- 3.5.3. Dog-related activities
- 3.5.4. Kite surfing in the Ashley River/Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek estuarine area
- 3.5.5. Using a land yacht between the Kairaki Beach Car Park and the beach entrance to the Waikuku Beach Horsefloat Car Park and Access Trail.
- 3.5.6. Landing and taking off of aircraft
- 3.6. This bylaw applies to all of the beach, including the foreshore and adjacent land and water areas of Pegasus Bay between the southern boundary of the Waimakariri District, located at the Waimakariri River Mouth, and the northern boundary with Hurunui District, as described and set out in schedules 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8. Some of this land is under the control of the Waimakariri District Council and some is under the control of Environment Canterbury, Department of Conservation, Land Information NZ Toitū Te Whenua and Te Kōhaka o Tūhaitara Trust.
- 3.7. This bylaw acknowledges the Hurunui District Council (HDC) Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw noting similar issues and purpose. Clauses in the HDC bylaw are not necessarily the same as this bylaw.

4. Definitions and Interpretation

In this bylaw, unless the context requires otherwise:

Absolutely protected or partially protected wildlife means all wildlife throughout New Zealand and New Zealand fisheries waters except for those specified in Schedules 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the Wildlife Act 1953.

Access Route means an unformed track through sand that provides vehicle access, including that from the Ashley/Rakahuri River Mouth Car Park to the Ashley/Rakahuri River Mouth and foreshore, as shown in schedules 1 and 7.

Access Trail means a cleared defined pathway providing access to the beach for horses, as shown in schedule 2.

Aircraft means any vehicle, with or without an engine, that can fly, including microlight and helicopter.

Authorised Officer means any person appointed by the Council to perform duties required under this bylaw, irrespective of the designation given to that person.

Beach means any land in the Waimakariri District adjacent to any seacoast which is part of the foreshore, as defined in this bylaw, or is land contiguous to and used in connection with the foreshore and including dunes, and to which the public has a right of access. For the purposes of this bylaw, the beach therefore includes the foreshore and coastal land on both sides of the level of mean high-water spring. The coastal marine areas diagram included in this section depicts the location of mean high-water spring.

Bed means in relation to the sea, the submarine land areas covered by the sea. The coastal marine areas diagram depicts the location of the bed.

Building means a temporary or permanent movable or immovable structure (including a structure intended for occupation by people, animals, machinery or chattels) as defined in section 8 (1)(a) of the Building Act 2004. This does not include any structure erected by beach users for shade or shelter for less than one day's duration.

Coastal Environment means the environment in which the coast is a significant part or element. It includes the coastal marine area and, the water, plants and animals associated with that area, and the atmosphere above it, and dunes, beaches, areas of coastal vegetation and fauna, areas subject to coastal erosion or flooding, salt marshes, coastal wetlands and estuaries, and coastal landscapes. The coastal marine areas diagram included in this section depicts the location of the coastal environment.

Coastal Marine Area means the foreshore, seabed, and coastal water, and the air space above the water:

- a) of which the seaward boundary is the outer limits of the territorial sea:
- b) of which the landward boundary is the line of mean high-water springs, except that where that line crosses a river, the landward boundary at that point shall be whichever is the lesser of –
- c) one kilometre upstream from the mouth of the river; or
- d) the point upstream that is calculated by multiplying the width of the river mouth by 5.

Council means the Waimakariri District Council, or any Officer authorised to exercise the authority of the Council.

Council/s means the Waimakariri District Council and/or the Environment Canterbury (ECan), or any Officer authorised to exercise the authority of one of these Councils.

Detritus means a build-up of organic matter such as driftwood, shells and seaweed on the foreshore due to wave or tide action.

District means the district within the jurisdiction, and under the control of the Waimakariri District Council.

Enforcement Officer means an officer or other person appointed by the Council/s to enforce the provisions contained in this bylaw and includes:

- a) any person warranted by the Council/s in accordance with section 177 of the Local Government Act 2002 as an enforcement officer.
- b) any ranger appointed by the Council/s under the Reserves Act 1977.
- c) any dog ranger or dog control officer appointed by the Council under the Dog Control Act 1996.
- d) any parking warden appointed by the Council under the Land Transport Act 1988.
- e) any enforcement officer defined as an enforcement officer under the Land Transport Act 1998.

Fenton Entitlement means an entitlement granted in favour of the holder (in this instance, particular people within Ngāi Tahu Whānui and their descendants) to occupy temporarily and exclusively the entitlement land for up to 210 days in any calendar year (excluding days on and from 1 May to 15 August). The entitlement is granted for the purposes of permitting the holders to have access to the waterway for lawful fishing and gathering of other natural resources on the terms and conditions set out in the Entitlement and allows holders to erect camping shelters or similar temporary dwellings.

Fenton Reserve means a Fenton Reserve established by Judge Fenton in 1868 in accordance with Kemp's Deed to ensure on-going access by the beneficial owners to the associated waterways and their mahinga kai.

Firework means an object containing hazardous substances with explosive properties.

Foreshore means any land covered and uncovered by the flow and ebb of the tide at mean spring tides and, in relation to any such land that forms part of the bed of a river, does not include any area that is not part of the coastal marine area. The coastal marine areas diagram depicts the location of the foreshore.

Freedom Camp means to camp (other than at a camping ground) within 200 metres of a motor vehicle accessible area or the mean low-water springs line of any sea or harbour, or on or within 200 metres of a formed road or a Great Walks Track, using one or more of the following:

- a) a tent or other temporary structure.
- b) a caravan.
- c) a car, campervan, housetruck, or other motor vehicle.

Freedom camping does not include the following activities:

- a) temporary and short-term parking of a motor vehicle.
- b) recreational activities commonly known as day-trip excursions.
- c) resting or sleeping at the roadside in a caravan or motor vehicle to avoid driver fatigue.

Horse training/Horse trainers means an equestrian activity that is carried out in relation to an involvement with the horse racing industry.

Kite Surfing means being propelled over water by means of a kite on a board or similar craft.

Land Yacht means a wind-driven recreation vehicle, usually consisting of three wheels supporting a bare-frame structure, mast and sail. In this context the term also refers to recreation vehicles known as blokarts and sand yachts. Land yachts are used especially on beaches and other sandy areas.

Last High Tide means the last time after a low tide (there is approximately a 12-hour cycle from high tide to high tide) that the tide has been at its fullest so that the sea water reaches its highest level on the foreshore. The last high tide mark is generally able to be identified by a band of wet sand and detritus.

Mean High Water Spring means the highest level to which spring tides reach on average. This level is generally close to being the 'high water mark' where detritus accumulates on the shore annually. The coastal marine areas diagram depicts the location of mean high-water spring.

Mean Low Water Spring means the lowest level to which spring tides retreat on average. The coastal marine areas diagram depicts the location of mean low water spring.

Motorcycle means a motor vehicle, running on 2 wheels, or not more than 3 wheels when fitted with a sidecar, as defined in section 2 (1) of the Land Transport Act 1998 and any amending or replacement legislation. It includes a vehicle with motorcycle controls that is approved as a motorcycle by the Transport Agency but does not include a moped.

Motor Vehicle means a vehicle drawn or propelled by mechanical power, including a trailer, as defined in section 2 (1) of the Land Transport Act 1998 and any amending or replacement legislation. It does not include a mobility device.

Permission shall include a permit or exemption under this bylaw.

Recreational Driving means driving on the beach as an activity in itself and/or primarily for the pleasure of driving.

Recreational Horse Riders means the leading/riding/driving of horses along trails and the foreshore for pleasure/leisure, and for the enjoyment of the natural environment. This includes horse trainers delivering organised equestrian activities that fall outside of the horse racing industry such as riding lessons and treks.

Regional Council means the Environment Canterbury (ECan), or any officer authorised to exercise the authority of the Council.

Shall indicates a mandatory requirement while the use of **should** indicates a recommendation.

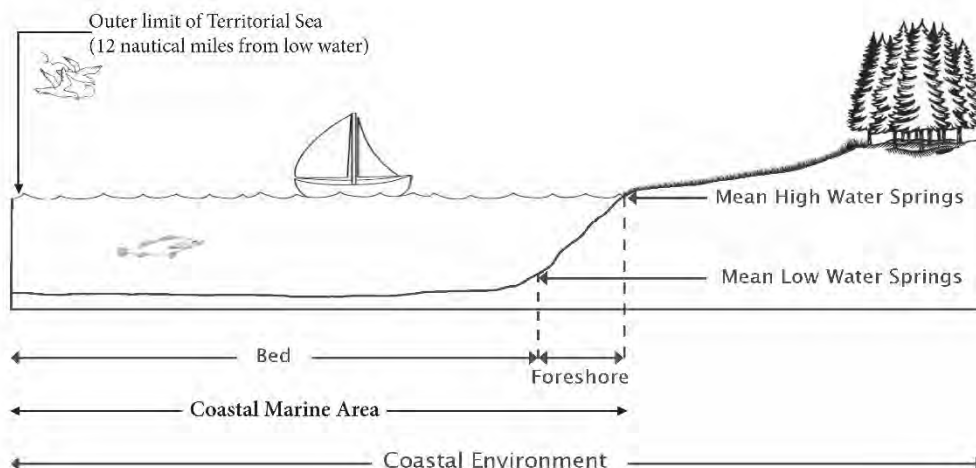
Sign includes a notice, label, inscription, billboard, plaque or placard.

Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu means Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu established by Section 6 of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu Act 1996.

Under Control means that the dog is not causing a nuisance or danger and that the person in charge of the dog is able to obtain an immediate and desired response from the dog by use of a leash, voice commands, hand signals, whistles or other effective means.

COASTAL MARINE AREAS DIAGRAM

The following diagram shows where the various marine terms referred to in this bylaw are located within the coastal environment.



PART 1 – PROHIBITED AND RESTRICTED ACTIVITIES IN BEACH AND ADJACENT LAND AREAS

5. Prohibited Vehicle Access

- 5.1. No person shall drive a motor vehicle to, from or on a beach, including the dunes, if prohibited from doing so by any clause within this bylaw.
- 5.2. No person shall ride a motorcycle on the beach, including the dunes.
- 5.3. No person shall drive a motor vehicle on the beach except in the areas outlined in Section 6 - Restricted Vehicle Access and described and set out in schedules 1 and 7 of this bylaw.
- 5.4. No person shall drive a motor vehicle on the beach for any purpose other than those specified in clauses 6.2, 6.3, 6.4 and 6.5 of this bylaw.
- 5.5. Recreational driving on the beach, as defined in section 4 is prohibited.

6. Restricted Vehicle Access

- 6.1. Clauses 6 and 7, and the sub-clauses thereto, set out restrictions that apply to driving on any Council beaches that are authorised by this bylaw, notwithstanding the provisions of clauses 5.1 to 5.5.
- 6.2. A person may drive a motor vehicle from the Kairaki Beach Car Park, located at the Waimakariri River Mouth, to the Ocean Outfall, as described and set out in schedule 1. Vehicle access in this area is only for the purposes of boat launching or retrieval, taking machinery and equipment used for legitimate recreational purposes (this may include, but is not limited to jet skis, wind surfing boards and land yachts) to and from the water's edge, fishing, whitebaiting, mahinga kai gathering, or to enable disability access for holders of mobility parking permits.
- 6.3. A person may drive a motor vehicle in the restricted vehicle area, as described and set out in schedule 1, from the Waimakariri District's northern boundary to the north of the Ashley/Rakahuri River Mouth. Vehicle access in this area is only for the purposes of boat launching or retrieval, taking machinery and equipment used for legitimate recreational purposes (this may include, but is not limited to jet skis, wind surfing boards and land yachts) to and from the water's edge, fishing, whitebaiting, mahinga kai gathering, or to enable disability access for holders of mobility parking permits.
- 6.4. A person, upon obtaining a permit, may drive a motor vehicle through the locked gate at the Ashley/Rakahuri River Mouth Car Park and along the access route, as described and set out in schedules 1 and 7, to gain access to the Ashley/Rakahuri River Mouth. Permits may be issued for the purposes of boat launching or retrieval, fishing, whitebaiting and mahinga kai gathering, and are subject to the terms and conditions described and set out in schedule 9 of this bylaw.
- 6.5. A person holding a permit in accordance with clause 6.4 of the bylaw shall remain on the access route marked by the Council, from the Ashley/Rakahuri River Mouth Car Park to the beach and then remain below the last high tide mark, as described and set out in schedules 1 and 7.

- 6.6. The access route marked by the Council from the Ashley/Rakahuri River Mouth Car Park to the River Mouth, as described in schedules 1 and 7, may be physically relocated from time to time by the Council, following receipt of river management engineering and ecological advice. Signage will be used to advise users of any changes to the location of the route.
- 6.7. People driving permitted or exempted motor vehicles shall stay clear of areas of driftwood and other detritus likely to be used for bird habitats in the Ashley River/Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek estuarine areas or on beach areas adjacent to the estuary.

7. Use of Vehicles - General Conditions

- 7.1. The *Land Transport Act 1998* defines the beach as a road and therefore all motor vehicles driven on the beach are required to be registered and licensed, and all drivers are required to be licensed, where they are required to be registered and licensed under the Act.
- 7.2. No person shall drive a motor vehicle on a beach other than below the last high tide mark, unless it is unsafe to do otherwise, except when using an access route specified in this bylaw, or when at the Waimakariri River Mouth.
- 7.3. No person shall drive a motor vehicle through a beach area that is flagged for surf lifesaving patrols, except as provided for by approval under clause 17, and subject to the conditions set out in any such approval.
- 7.4. No person shall drive a motor vehicle on a beach area that has been reserved, by the Council from time to time and for periods set by the Council, for events from which vehicular activities are excluded.
- 7.5. No person shall drive a motor vehicle on any beach, adjacent land area or access track at a speed in excess of 30 kilometres per hour or at a speed in excess of 10 kilometres per hour within 50 metres of any other person not in the motor vehicle.
- 7.6. No person shall drive or ride a vehicle on any part of the beach where vehicles are allowed, in a manner, which having regard to all the circumstances of the case, is or might be dangerous to the public or to any person.
- 7.7. All persons operating a motor vehicle on a beach shall give way and show due consideration to all bathers, persons on foot, horses and other animals at all times. Birds and their nests must be avoided.
- 7.8. Any person who obtains a permit, permission or exemption under this bylaw to take a motor vehicle onto any beach shall strictly comply with any terms and conditions included within that permit or permission.

8. Prohibited Horse Access

- 8.1. No person shall drive, ride, lead, let wander or otherwise use any horse or horses within the prohibited area extending from immediately north of the beach entrance to the Waikuku Beach Horse Float Car Park and Access Trail to the north of the Ashley /Rakahuri River Mouth, as described and set out in schedule 2 of this bylaw.

- 8.2. Horse training is prohibited on the beach outside of the permitted northern and Woodend Beach areas, as described and set out in schedule 2 of this bylaw.
- 8.3. Horses are prohibited from accessing the beach via the Pines Beach horse accessway at the end of Reid Memorial Avenue.

9. Restricted Horse Access

- 9.1. Clauses 9 and 10, and the subclauses thereto, set out the restrictions on horse access that are authorised by this bylaw, notwithstanding the provisions of clauses 8.1 to 8.3.
- 9.2. Recreational horse riders and horse trainers may drive, ride, lead or otherwise use a horse or horses in the restricted horse area, as described and set out in schedule 2, from the Waimakariri District's northern boundary to the north of the Ashley/Rakahuri River Mouth.
- 9.3. Recreational horse riders may drive, ride, lead or otherwise use a horse or horses in the restricted horse area, as described and set out in schedule 2, from Kairaki Beach to the south side of the beach entrance to the Waikuku Beach Horse Float Car Park and Access Trail.
- 9.4. Horse trainers may drive, ride, lead or otherwise use a horse or horses in the restricted horse training area, as described and set out in schedule 2, which runs approximately 3.2 km's (2-mile training run) either side of the beach entrance to the Woodend Beach Horse Float Car Park and Access Trail.
- 9.5. Open access to the beach for recreational horse riders will be provided from the Kairaki Beach Car Park and at Pines Beach, via a horse step over bar located at the eastern end of Reid Memorial Avenue, as described and set out in schedule 2.
- 9.6. Open access to the beach for recreational horse riders and horse trainers will be provided along a trail from the Woodend Beach Horse Float Car Park, via a horse step-over bar, as described and set out in schedule 2. Access via a gate is also available during day light hours at the discretion of Te Kōhaka o Tūhaitara Trust. That trail only, and not surrounding land, shall be used for horse access.
- 9.7. A permit shall be required by all people seeking to take a horse through the locked access gate at the Waikuku Beach Horse Float Car Park and then along a trail to the beach, as described and set out in schedule 2. That trail only, and not surrounding land, shall be used for horse access.
- 9.8. Recreational horse riders should not pass through flagged surf lifesaving patrol areas. In the event this is unavoidable on a return trip, riders must take all care to safely pass through the flagged area.
- 9.9. Horse trainers shall not drive, ride, lead or otherwise pass with a horse through a flagged surf lifesaving patrol area.
- 9.10. No person shall drive, ride, lead, let wander or otherwise use any horse or horses, on a beach area that has been reserved by the Council from time to time and for periods set by the Council, for events from which those equine activities are excluded.

10. Equine Activities – General Conditions

- 10.1. Any person undertaking an equine-related activity on a beach area shall remain below the last high tide mark, except when on an access trail as described and set out in schedule 2, when moving from the access trail to the last high tide mark, when at the Waimakariri River Mouth, or to avoid a potentially unsafe situation.
- 10.2. Any person undertaking an equine-related activity on a beach area shall give way and show due consideration to pedestrians at all times.
- 10.3. Any person driving a horse and sulky shall stay well clear of pedestrians at all times and ensure their driving does not endanger any person, bird or other animal.
- 10.4. The use of the designated horse training area at Woodend Beach will be in accordance with a user agreement between the Council and Woodend Beach horse training representatives. This agreement is to be reviewed annually prior to the start of each summer season.
- 10.5. Any person in charge of a horse shall remove the faeces passed by their horse/s from the horse float car parks.

11. Interference with Beach Areas and other Beach Users

- 11.1. Without the prior written permission of an authorised officer, no person shall on a beach, or adjacent land area:
 - a) Remove, destroy, damage, displace, deface, or otherwise interfere with any sign, post, fence, barrier, warning device, structure or building erected by the Council, Environment Canterbury, Te Kōhaka o Tūhaitara Trust, Department of Conservation, Canterbury Surf Life Saving Association or an approved surf lifesaving club.
 - b) erect, construct, fix or place any sign, post, fence, barrier, warning device, structure or building except when the person is otherwise expressly authorised by the Council, Environment Canterbury, Te Kōhaka o Tūhaitara Trust, Department of Conservation, Canterbury Surf Life Saving Association or an approved surf lifesaving club to do so.
 - c) introduce any substance that may cause injury to another person, animal or plant life.
 - d) destroy, injure, disturb or otherwise interfere with or cause distress to any roosting, nesting, resting or feeding birds or remove or destroy any bird nest or the contents of a bird nest.
- 11.2. No person shall intentionally obstruct, disturb, or interfere with any other person's legitimate use or enjoyment of the beach or adjacent land areas.
- 11.3. No person shall, without lawful authority, hunt, kill, dispose of, or have in his or her possession, any part of any absolutely protected or partially protected wildlife or marine wildlife, or rob, disturb, destroy, or have in his or her possession the nest of any such wildlife as per sections 3, 63 and 63A of the Wildlife Act 1953.

12. Prohibited Freedom Camping Area

No person shall freedom camp within the bylaw area (See glossary for definition).

13. Restricted and Prohibited Areas for Specified Recreational Activities

- 13.1. The use of a drone or model aircraft within the Ashley River/Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek estuarine areas is prohibited, as described and set out in schedule 6.
- 13.2. The landing and taking off of aircraft — including microlights and helicopters — within the Ashley River/Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek estuarine areas are permitted only within the designated restricted area at Ashworths Beach, as described and set out in Schedule 5. These activities must be carried out in accordance with a user agreement between the Council and the Canterbury Recreational Aircraft Club. This agreement is subject to annual review, and may be reviewed more frequently if significant changes to the coastal environment warrant it.
- 13.3. The Ashley River/Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek estuarine area, as described and set out in schedule 6, is a restricted area for kite surfing in accordance with a user agreement between the Council, and the Northern Pegasus Bay kite surfing community. This user agreement is to be reviewed annually prior to the start of the kite surfing season, which runs from November to April, and whenever significant changes to the coastal environment during this period necessitate additional reviews.
- 13.4. Land yachts shall only be operated on the beach in the area between Kairaki Beach and the beach entrance to the Waikuku Beach Horse Float Car Park and Access Trail.
- 13.5. Land yacht operators shall not pass through flagged surf lifesaving patrol areas. In the event this is unavoidable on a return trip, operators must dismount and push their yacht through the flagged area.
- 13.6. Environment Canterbury's Navigation Safety Bylaw 2016 applies to the Ashley River/Rakahuri and estuary area. This bylaw requires powered watercraft to stay within a 5-knot speed limit when on the river or any of its tributaries, downstream of the State Highway 1 Bridge.

14. Fires

- 14.1. Fires in the open air are prohibited within the bylaw area. Exemptions may be granted with prior written approval from the Waimakariri District Council.

15. Fireworks

- 15.1. Setting off any firework, flare or any other explosive material within the bylaw area is prohibited. Exemptions may be granted with prior written approval from the Waimakariri District Council.

16. Dog Control

- 16.1. All dogs on the beach shall be kept under continuous and effective control at all times in accordance with this bylaw and the Dog Control Bylaw 2019.

- 16.2. All dogs are prohibited from the Ashley River/Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek estuarine areas, as described and set out in schedule 6, notwithstanding the provisions of clause 16.3.
- 16.3. Holders of Fish and Game Hunting Licenses are restricted to use dogs for the activity of gamebird hunting in a specified area of the Ashley River/Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek estuarine areas during gamebird hunting season, as described and set out in schedule 8.
- 16.4. All dogs shall be on a leash on the seaward facing spit adjacent to the estuarine area to the low tide mark north of the Waikuku northern car park and south of the Ashley/Rakahuri River Mouth, as described and set out in schedule 3. In accordance with this Bylaw and the Dog Control Bylaw 2019.
- 16.5. All dogs are prohibited from staying within the areas marked by surf lifesaving patrol flags and from an area extending 50 metres beyond the flags but can pass directly through provided the dog is on a short leash and under effective control, in accordance with this bylaw and the Dog Control Bylaw 2019.
- 16.6. Dogs which are not able to be kept under effective voice control around horses shall be placed on a leash when in the vicinity of a horse.
- 16.7. Any dog found not under continuous and effective control on the beach may be seized and detained by any authorised officer, or a person employed by the Council, and be impounded in accordance with this bylaw and the Dog Control Bylaw 2019.
- 16.8. No person being the owner of, or having the control of, any dog shall permit the dog to foul any part of the beach with droppings, provided that no offence shall be deemed to have been committed against this bylaw and the Dog Control Bylaw 2019 when the person having control of the dog removes the droppings immediately.
- 16.9. The owner or person in charge of any dog on the beach shall carry a suitable receptacle for the removal of any faeces defecated by that dog in accordance with this bylaw and the Dog Control Bylaw 2019.

PART 2 – OTHER MATTERS

17. Exemptions

- 17.1. This bylaw does not apply to any person who commits an act that is done:
 - a) in accordance with a valid and current contract for services with the Council; or
 - b) on a voluntary basis in accordance with a valid and current agreement entered into with the Council; or
 - c) by a member of the emergency services in the course of carrying out his or her duties as a member of the emergency services; or
 - d) in accordance with any operative reserve management plan, or pursuant to any resource consent under the Resource Management Act 1991.

- 17.2. This bylaw does not apply to owners of Fenton Reserves and holders of Fenton Entitlements located within the bylaw area when exercising their legal rights to access waterways associated with these reserves and entitlements for mahinga kai purposes.
- 17.3. Notwithstanding any prohibition or restriction on driving a vehicle set out in this bylaw, a person may drive a vehicle on a beach in the following circumstances, providing permission is first obtained from an authorised officer:
- a) by or on behalf of the Council, Environment Canterbury, a government agency, or the Fish and Game Council, or an approved voluntary group, for the provision of enforcement services, for monitoring or ranger services, or for the rescue, protection, or disposal of marine animals or other wildlife or animals; or
 - b) by or on behalf of the Council, Environment Canterbury or a government agency for water quality sampling, flood protection, the control or cleanup of contaminants, or resource investigations or monitoring; or
 - c) by or on behalf of the Council, Environment Canterbury or a government agency, the Canterbury Surf Lifesaving Association or a surf lifesaving club, Te Kōhaka o Tūhaitara Trust, an approved 4WD club, or an approved voluntary group, for track maintenance, beach and beach facility maintenance, pest control, or the removal of rubbish or beach cast material; or
 - d) by or on behalf of the Council, Environment Canterbury, a government agency, the New Zealand Police, the New Zealand Fire Service, the New Zealand St. Johns Ambulance Service, the New Zealand Defence Force, the Canterbury Surf Lifesaving Association or a surf lifesaving club, the New Zealand Coastguard or an approved 4WD club, for the undertaking of civil defence, police, medical, temporary military training activities, rescue or firefighting training.

18. Permission under this Bylaw

- 18.1. A written permission granting exemption from a provision or provisions of this bylaw may be given on written request to the Council or an authorised officer of the Council who has been delegated this role by the Council.
- 18.2. A permission given under this bylaw may relate to:
- a. an activity or event or a series of activities or events, as the case may be.
 - b. one or more clauses under this bylaw as is appropriate in the circumstances.
- 18.3. Any permission given under this bylaw may be subject to such terms and conditions as the Council or authorised officer giving the permission thinks fit.
- 18.4. The permission shall set out:
- a. the activity or event or activities or events which is, or are permitted or exempted; and
 - b. the duration of the permission or exemption; and
 - c. the areas to which the permission or exemption relates; and
 - d. any conditions to which the permission or exemption is subject.

- 18.5. The Council may review and alter or cancel any permission or exemption given under this bylaw and will provide reasonable notice of any alteration or cancellation to the affected party.
- 18.6. Where this bylaw refers to written permission, that permission may be in electronic form.

19. Fees

- 19.1. For every application made for a permit, permission or exemption or other authority under this bylaw, the applicant shall pay to the Council such fee as the Council may prescribe in accordance with section 150 of the *Local Government Act 2002*.
- 19.2. The Council may, from time to time, by resolution that is publicly notified, specify the fees payable in respect of the issue of any permit, permission or exemption under this bylaw. The Council will consult on, and publicly notify its intended fees prior to making a resolution to fix such fees.

20. Breaches and Penalties

- 20.1. Every person commits a breach of this bylaw who:
 - a) commits, or causes to be committed, any act contrary to this bylaw; or
 - b) omits, or knowingly permits to remain undone, any act required by this bylaw; or
 - c) refuses or neglects to comply with any direction, permit, permission, exemption, notice or any condition in any such notice whether public or private, given pursuant to this bylaw; or
 - d) obstructs or hinders any authorised or enforcement officer of the Council in the performance of any power, or duty conferred upon him or her by this bylaw or fails to comply with the instructions of an authorised or enforcement officer given pursuant to this bylaw; or
 - e) fails to give their name and address to an enforcement officer when requested to do so if the officer considers this bylaw has been breached.
- 20.2. A breach of this bylaw is an offence, and every person is liable on summary conviction to the applicable penalty provided for in the *Local Government Act 2002* and the *Land Transport Act 1998*, or such other penalty as may be prescribed in any other legislation in force at any applicable time.
- 20.3. In addition to summary conviction, a person may also be liable for an infringement fee as prescribed in the *Land Transport Act 1998*, *Resource Management Act 1991*, *Dog Control Act 1996* or in regulations made under the *Local Government Act 2002*.
- 20.4. The Council may apply to the District Court to grant an injunction restraining a person from committing a breach of this bylaw, notwithstanding that proceedings for any offence constituted by the breach have not been taken.
- 20.5. On being shown a current warrant of appointment by an enforcement officer, any person who is requested to do so shall provide their name and address and the name and address and whereabouts of any person connected in any way with the alleged breach, to the enforcement officer if that officer believes on reasonable grounds that a provision of the bylaw has been or is being breached.

- 20.6. Every person who breaches this bylaw, shall on request by an enforcement officer immediately stop the activity, and leave the beach or adjacent land area, including any prohibited area, if instructed to do so by the enforcement officer and may be prohibited from returning for such period as the enforcement officer deems fit.
- 20.7. Any person failing with all reasonable speed to comply with a request under clause 20.6 commits a further offence against this bylaw.
- 20.8. The Council reserves the right to cancel a vehicle or horse access permit, any user agreement or any written permission or exemption held by a person who is breaching or has breached this bylaw.

21. Revocations and Savings

- 21.1. The Waimakariri District Council Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2016 (amended 2023) is hereby revoked.
- 21.2. Any approval, permission or authorisation under the Waimakariri District Council Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2016 (amended 2023) that is in effect at the commencement of this bylaw, continues to have full force and effect for the purposes of this bylaw, as long as it is consistent with any relevant clause in this bylaw.
- 21.3. The revocation of the Waimakariri District Council Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2016 (amended 2023) under clause 21.1 does not prevent any legal proceedings, criminal or civil, being taken to enforce that bylaw and such proceedings shall continue to be dealt with and completed as if the bylaw had not been revoked.

22. Review of Bylaw

- 22.1. A comprehensive review of this bylaw shall be carried out no later than 2029 as required by the *Local Government Act 2002*.
- 22.2. The Council reserves the right to carry out an early review of any aspect of the bylaw that has not been found to have been effective in addressing identified user conflicts, health and safety concerns, matters of public nuisance and environmental issues.

PART 3 – SCHEDULES

23. Schedule 1: Vehicle Access Map

Schedule 1 is a map (see attached) showing approved vehicle access routes and prohibitions and restrictions on vehicle use on Waimakariri District beaches, as specified in clauses 5, 6 and 7 of this bylaw.

24. Schedule 2: Horse Access Map

Schedule 2 is a map (see attached) showing designated horse float car parks, horse access trails and permitted areas for recreational riding and horse training on the Waimakariri District's beaches as well as prohibited areas, as specified in clauses 8 and 9 of this bylaw.

25. Schedule 3: Dog Access Map

Schedule 3 is a map (see attached) showing prohibited and restricted areas for walking dogs on the Waimakariri District's beaches, as specified in clauses 16.2, 16.4 and 16.5 of this bylaw.

26. Schedule 4: Land Yacht Access Map

Schedule 4 is a map (see attached) showing permitted and prohibited areas for operating land yachts on the Waimakariri District's beaches, as specified in clauses 13.4 and 13.5 of this bylaw.

27. Schedule 5: Aircraft Access Map for Ashley River/ Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek Estuarine Areas

Schedule 5 is a map (see attached) showing where landing and taking off of aircraft is permitted in the Ashley River/Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek estuarine area, as specified in clause 13.2 of this bylaw.

28. Schedule 6: Recreation Activity Map for Ashley River/ Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek Estuarine Areas

Schedule 6 is a map (see attached) showing the Ashley River/Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek estuarine areas where the recreational activities specified in clauses 8.1, 13.1 and 16.2 of the bylaw are prohibited. It also shows the activities that are restricted, as specified in clauses 13.3 and 13.6 of this bylaw.

29. Schedule 7: Vehicle Access Map for Ashley River/Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek Estuarine Areas

Schedule 7 is a map (see attached) showing where vehicles are prohibited in the Ashley River/Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek estuarine areas, the location of the car park, vehicle access gate and access route for permitted vehicles, as specified in clauses 6.4 and 6.5 of this bylaw. Permitted vehicles shall stay clear of areas of driftwood and other detritus likely to be used for bird habitats on the access track, as set out in clause 6.7 of this bylaw. The map also shows the Fenton Reserves and Entitlements located in the general area.

30. Schedule 8: Dog Access for Gamebird Hunting Permit Holders Map for Ashley River/Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek Estuarine Areas

Schedule 8 is a map (see attached) showing where holders of Fish and Game Hunting Licences are permitted to use dogs while hunting during gamebird hunting season in the Ashley River/Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek estuarine areas, as set out in clause 16.3 of this bylaw.

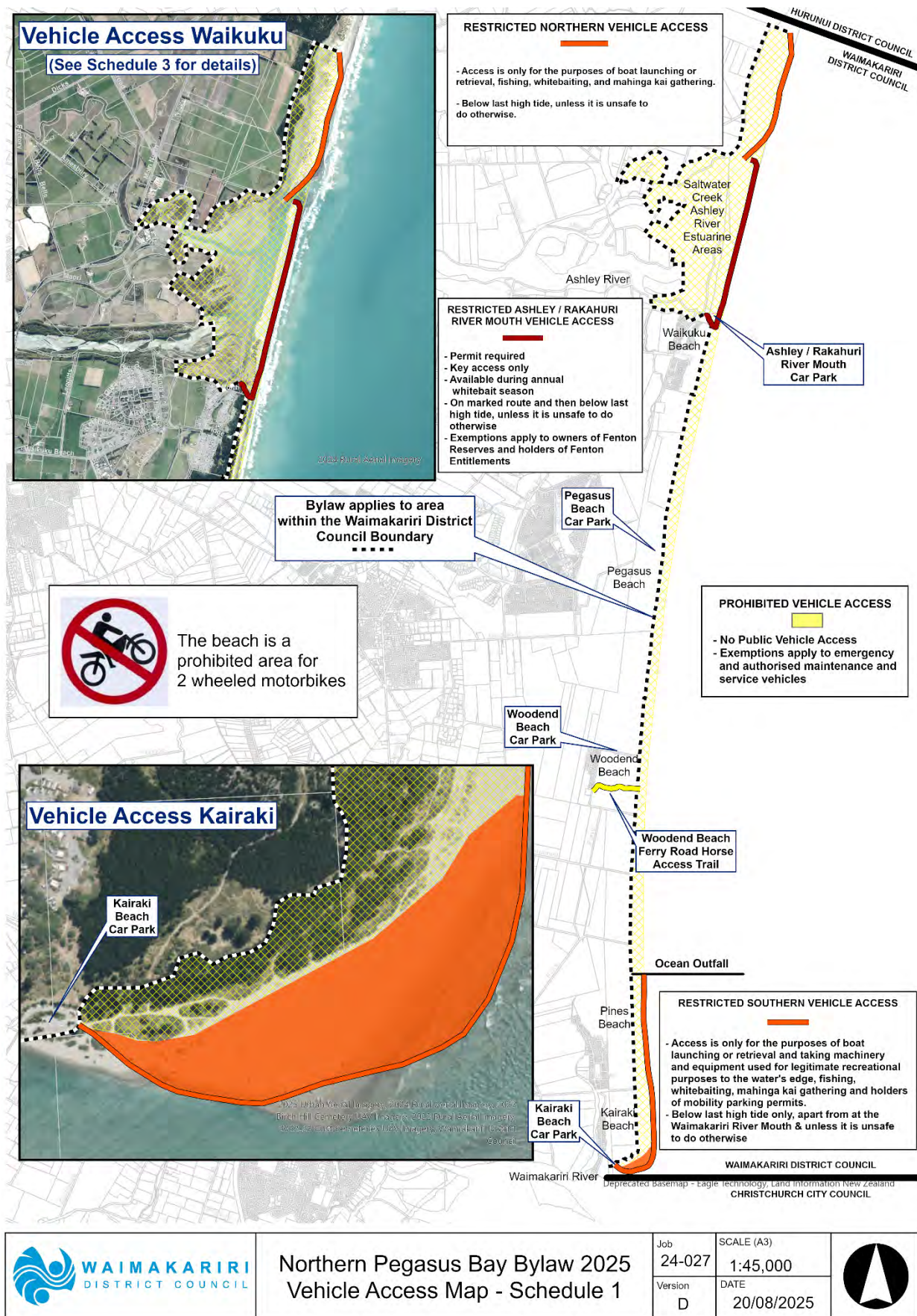
31. Schedule 9: Ashley/Rakahuri River Mouth Motor Vehicle Access Permit System

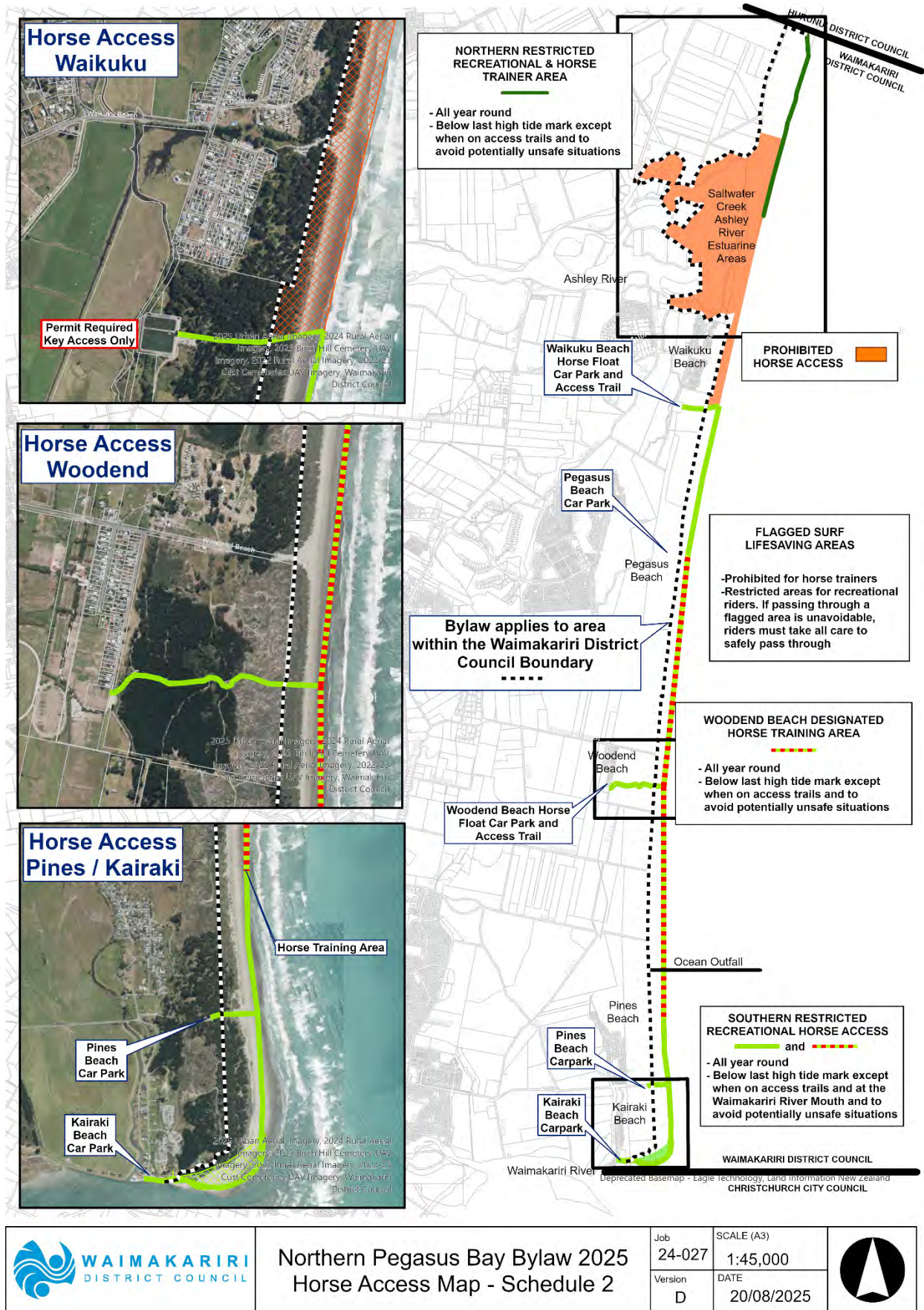
31.1. The schedule below specifies the terms and conditions, as determined by Council resolution from time to time, which apply to the permits required for vehicle use in the restricted areas described and set out in schedules 1 and 7 and is in addition to clauses 6 and 7 of the bylaw.

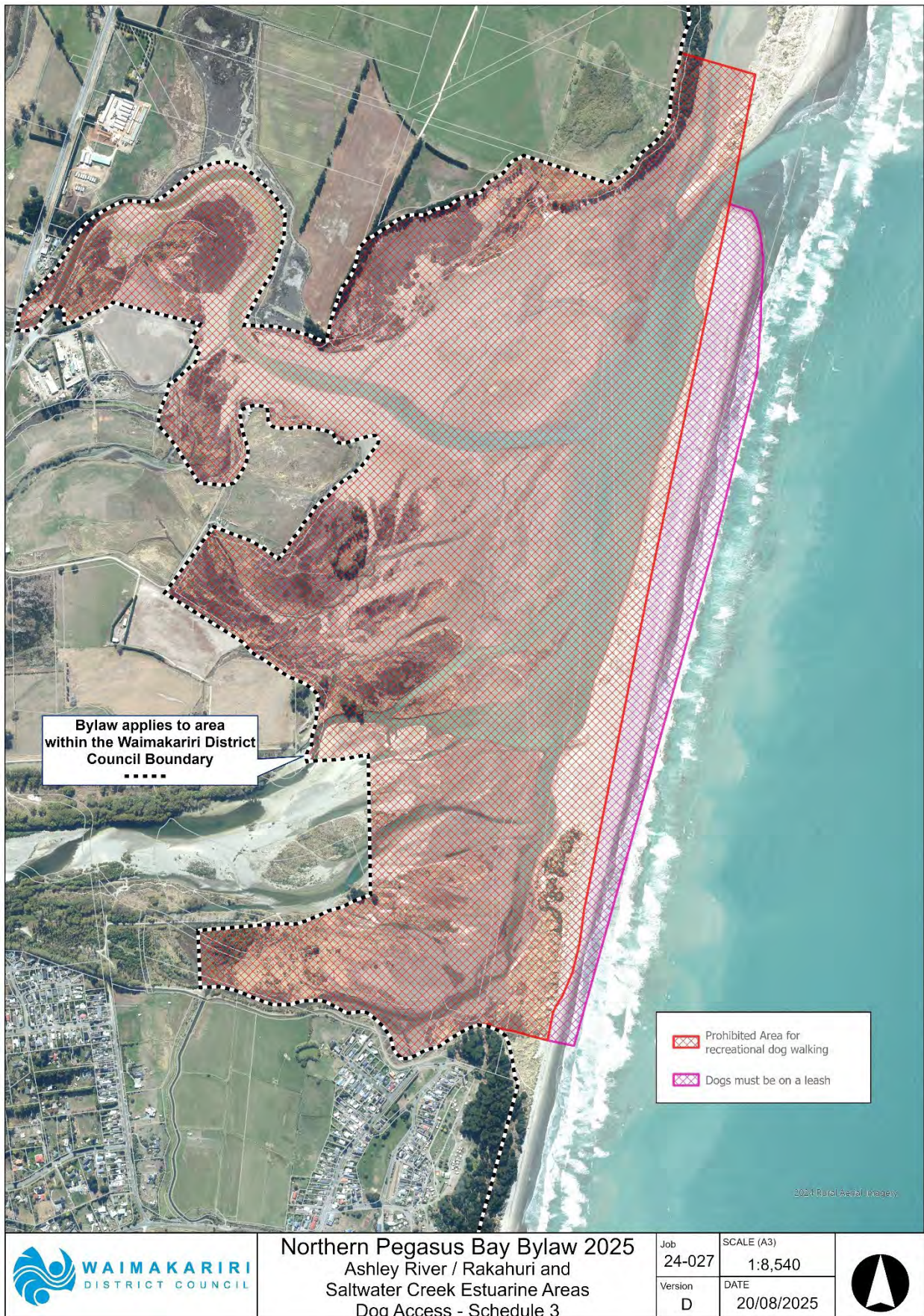
- a) A permit is issued to a person, not a vehicle, and shall be carried by the holder at all times they seek to make use of it.
- b) Permits are not transferable to any other person. They may be immediately revoked, and penalties and/or prosecution may be imposed for breaches of the conditions. They do not supersede any requirements under other legislation including by way of example only, but not limited to, the *Land Transport Act 1998*, *Resource Management Act 1991* and the *Wildlife Act 1953* and their amendments and replacements, etc.
- c) A sticker issued to a permit holder shall be displayed on the vehicle in a prominent position to enable it to be easily identified by an enforcement officer.
- d) Applicants shall be required to provide vehicle registration and license details and other vehicle description details, as well as the purpose the permit is being applied for, as part of their permit application for any vehicle that is intended for use on the beach.
- e) Approved permit holders will be issued a key upon payment to the Council of a fee as specified by the Council by resolution from time to time. These permits are only available for use during the whitebait season as defined by the Department of Conservation.

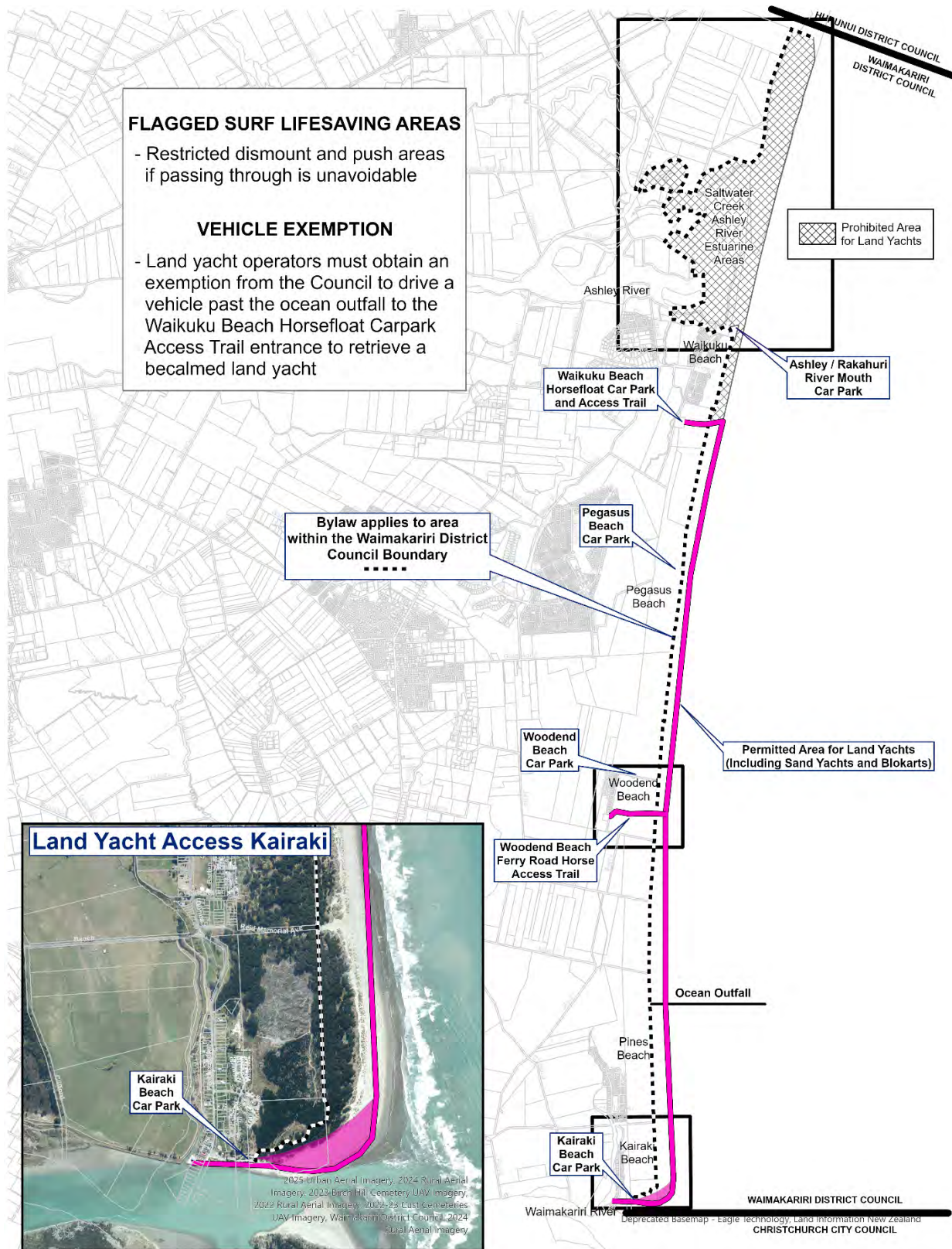
32. Amendment of Schedules 1 to 8

Schedules 1 to 8 may be amended by the Council from time to time as new aerial photography becomes available and/or to indicate physical changes that are occurring to the characteristics or topography of the beaches and estuarine areas included in the bylaw area.







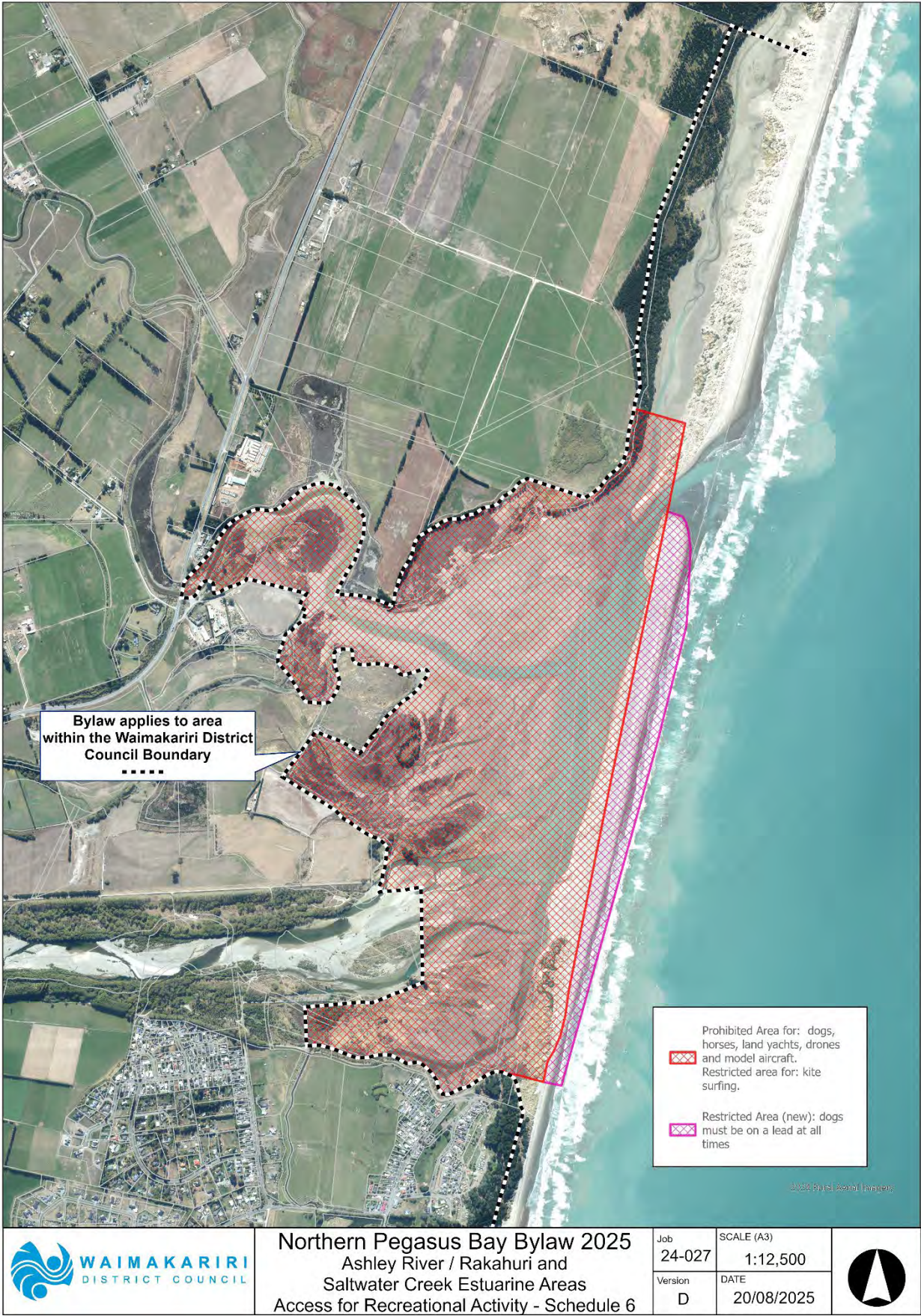


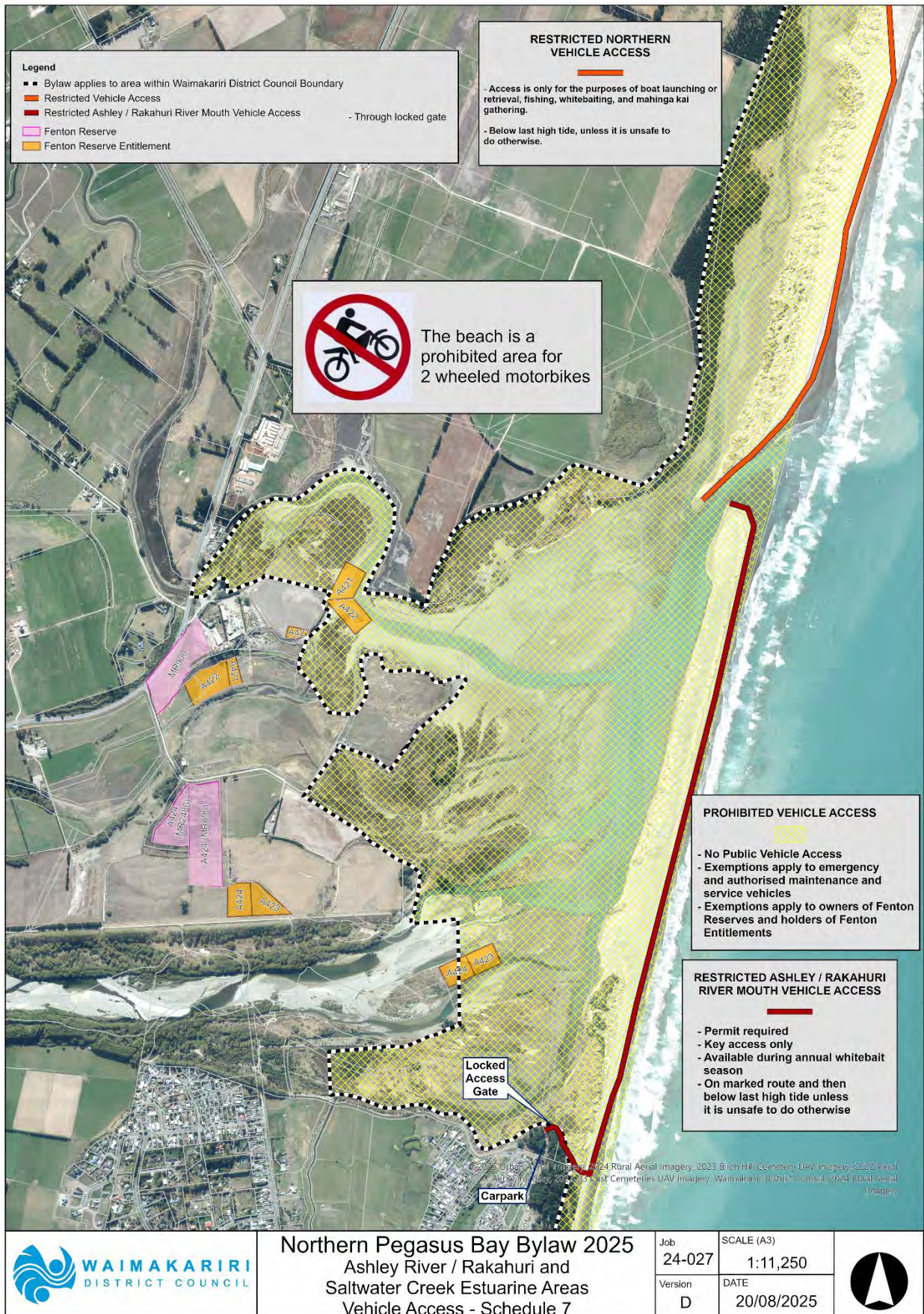
Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2025 Land Yacht Access Map - Schedule 4

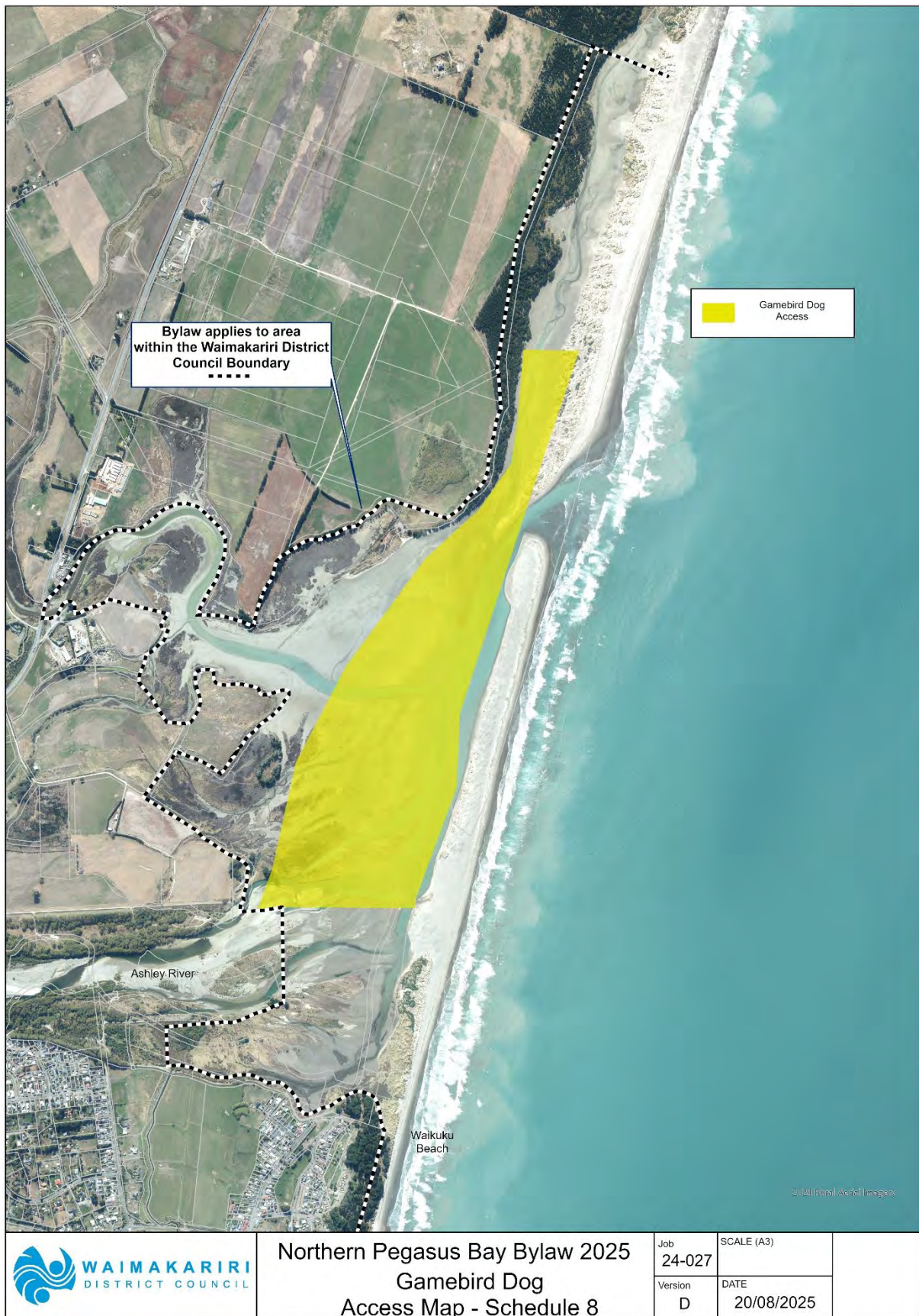
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Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2024 Implementation Plan

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Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2024

The Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2024 regulates recreational activities along the coastal strip from the north side of the Waimakariri River (Kairaki Beach) to the district boundary south of Ashworth's Beach and includes the environmentally significant Ashley/Rakahuri River Estuary.

Vision

Northern Pegasus Bay coastal strip — valued; protected and enjoyed by all.

Purpose

The Bylaw is in place to ensure wildlife, and the natural environment are not harmed and so that everyone can enjoy the district's beaches. The Bylaw applies to all of the beaches within the Waimakariri District and became operative on 1 November 2024.



Reasons for the Bylaw

- The significance of Ashley/Rakahuri River and Saltwater Creek estuarine areas
- Protection of foreshore habitats
- Protection of dune systems
- Safety concerns of beach users, conflicts between different types of recreational activity and public nuisance
- Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri values.

Priorities for the Bylaw

Following the 2023/24 review the priorities remain unchanged and include:

- Protecting foreshore habitats, dune systems, and the wildlife and vegetation in the estuaries and lagoons
- Minimising the potential for conflict between different recreation activities
- Promoting a safe environment.



Summary of the Bylaw Rules

THEME	BYLAW SUMMARY
Driving on the beach	For the safety and enjoyment of all users, and to protect special wildlife areas, there are areas along the Northern Pegasus Bay coastal strip where vehicles are prohibited or restricted. Schedules 2 and 3 of the Bylaw provide maps of the areas you can and can't go. Here are some of the key rules related to taking your motor vehicle to the Northern Pegasus Bay beaches: • Recreational driving or driving for pleasure is prohibited on any area of the Northern Pegasus Bay coastal strip. • To protect our fragile coastal dune system, vehicles are prohibited to drive on any dunes in Northern Pegasus Bay. • All vehicles must drive below the last high tide mark, unless it's unsafe to do otherwise, except at the Waimakariri River Mouth or using a specified access route. • Vehicles must give way and show consideration to people, horses, other animals and birds at all times. • Approved four-wheel drive clubs may obtain exemptions which allow them to drive on prohibited or restricted areas of the beach for civil defence or rescue training, and for track, beach or facility maintenance, rubbish removal and pest control. • No vehicles are to drive through a flagged surf lifesaving patrol area. • Speed limits apply, you should drive no faster than 30km/h and slow down to 10km/h when within 50 metres of people. • Access from the Waimakariri District's northern boundary at Ashworth's Beach to the Ashley/Rakahuri Estuary is only for the purpose of boat launching or retrieval, fishing, white baiting and mahinga kai gathering. • Access from the Waimakariri River mouth to the Pines Ocean Outfall is for the purpose of boat launching or retrieval, fishing, white baiting and mahinga kai gathering as well as taking recreation equipment to the water's edge and for holders of mobility stickers. • Vehicle access is available from the Ashley/Rakahuri River mouth car park to the Ashley/Rakahuri River mouth during the whitebait season. This access is by permit only.
Motorbikes	Two-wheel motorbikes are prohibited from all beaches and dunes along the Northern Pegasus Bay Coastal strip.

THEME	BYLAW SUMMARY
Quad bikes	Quad bikes are permitted to drive on the beach as they are classified as a motor vehicle. They can't be used for recreational driving or driving for pleasure, they must be legal to drive on the road and follow the rules for driving on the beach (page 3).
Dogs on the beach	Dogs are welcome on most beaches and areas of the Northern Pegasus Bay coastal strip. However, to protect ecological values and bird habitats around the Ashley/Rakahuri Estuary, wetlands and the spit south of the Ashley/Rakahuri River mouth, dogs are not allowed in that area. Here are the key rules for dogs on the beaches: - Dogs must be on a leash when on the seaward facing spit, adjacent to the estuarine area, to the low tide mark north of the Waikuku northern carpark and south of the Ashley/Rakahuri River mouth. • Holders of Fish and Game Hunting Licenses are restricted to use dogs for the activity of gamebird hunting in a specified area of the Ashley/Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek estuarine areas during gamebird hunting season. • Dogs are prohibited from staying within the areas marked by surf lifesaving patrol flags and from an area extending 50 metres beyond the flags but can pass directly through provided the dog is on a short leash and under effective control. • Dogs must always be under continuous and effective control. • Dogs which are unable to be under effective voice control around horses must be on a leash. • Carry plenty of poo bags to pick up after your dog.
Recreational horse riding	The Pegasus Bay Coastal Reserve track network allows casual horse riding along designated back dune areas between Kairaki-Pines Beach and Waikuku Beach. There are horse float parking areas provided at the end of Ferry Road in Woodend Beach, and at the southern end of Waikuku Beach settlement, off Reserve Road. Free key—This access is by permit only and available 12 months of the year free of charge. Schedule 2 of the Bylaw provides a map of float parking locations, beach access areas, and areas that are prohibited for horse riding and training. Here are the key rules for recreational horse riding: - Horse riding is prohibited in the Ashley/Rakahuri Estuary area. • Stick to the designated horse trails and give way to pedestrians. • Stay below the last high-tide mark when riding on the beach, unless using a designated access trail. • You should avoid riding through flagged surf patrol areas.
Horse training	Horse training at Woodend Beach has been restricted to an area extending 3.2km (two-mile training run) either side of the beach entrance to the Woodend Beach horse float car park and access trail and is subject to a user agreement.

THEME	BYLAW SUMMARY
Swimming at the beach	Surf Life Saving crews patrol at Waikuku, and also cover Woodend Beach and Pegasus Beach during the peak summer season. The public are advised to swim at these locations.
The Ashley/Rakahuri Estuary	The Ashley/Rakahuri Estuary is a special place in our district and home to a lot of rare and endangered birdlife. To protect the estuary, the following are prohibited: • Dogs (If walking on the nearby stop bank, please use a leash) • Horses • Land yachts • Drones and model aircraft • Taking off and landing of aircraft including microlights and helicopters • Vehicles are prohibited from entering the estuary. The vehicle access for whitebait is outside of the estuary and the route prescribed onto and along the beach must be strictly followed. It is a restricted area for kite surfing and there is a 5-knot speed limit for water craft. Schedule 5 of the Bylaw provides a map of where the prohibitions apply.
Camping	Camping, including freedom camping is not allowed in the dunes or beaches of Northern Pegasus Bay within the Bylaw area.
Fires	All open air fires are prohibited in the Bylaw area unless an exemption has been granted with prior written approval from the Council.
Fireworks	Setting off any firework, flare or other explosive material within the Bylaw area is prohibited unless an exemption has been granted with prior written approval from the Council.
Kite surfing	The Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2024 restricts kite surfing in the Ashley/Rakahuri Estuary to a designated area. Within this there is a launch area, transit area and main riding area. Kite surfing is prohibited in all other Ashley/Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek estuarine areas. • Stay clear of bird feeding areas in shallow water or exposed mudflats at low tide. • Stay clear of dry shingle, driftwood, sand banks or islands where birds might be nesting or roosting. • Only use the kite surfing transition area for moving to and from the launch area to the main riding area or the ocean. • Stay 50m away from the north-west bank and 25m from the south-west bank of the Ashley/Rakahuri Estuary at all times.

THEME	BYLAW SUMMARY
Land yachting	Land yachts are prohibited between the beach entrance of the Waikuku Beach horse float car park access trail and the District's northern boundary. Schedule 6 of the Bylaw provides a map of restricted access.
Aircraft operation	Taking off and landing of aircraft (including a microlight or helicopter) is allowed in the restricted area at Ashworths Beach, as set out in schedule 5, and in accordance with a user agreement between the Council and the Canterbury Recreational Aircraft Club.



Background

The Northern Pegasus Bay was established to give effect to the agreements arising from the Northern Pegasus Bay Coastal Management Plan. The Bylaw was adopted by the Council and became operative on 1 July 2010.

A review of the Bylaw was conducted between 2014 and 2016 in accordance with Section 158 of the Local Government Act 2002. The review recommended that the Bylaw was still the most appropriate mechanism for controlling public behaviour and recreation activities on the beaches.

The Council adopted the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2016 on 5 July 2016 and became operative on 15 August 2016. The first Implementation Plan was co-developed by the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2016 Implementation Plan Working Party (NPBBIPWP). This group consisted of representatives from the Waimakariri District Council, Kaiapoi-Tuahiwi Community Board, Woodend-Sefton Community Board, Environment Canterbury, Department of Conservation, Te Kōhaka o Tūhaitara Trust, Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga and the Ashley-Rakahuri Rivercare Group. The NPBBIPWP recommended in the draft Plan that it be replaced by an advisory group that also included representation from beach communities and user groups, once the Implementation Plan had been adopted by Council.

The Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2016 Implementation Plan was adopted by Council on 5 December 2017.

A review of the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2016 has been undertaken in two stages; an administrative review was undertaken to meet Local Government Act requirements; the review confirmed the Bylaw continues to be the most appropriate approach. The Council adopted an interim Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2016 (amended 2023) with the request that staff undertake a full review including a robust consultation process in the latter part of 2023. The full review began in August 2023 and concluded in October 2024 when Council formally adopted the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2024, inclusive of a range of changes which reflected the feedback received during consultation and hearings process. The Bylaw then came into effect on 1 November 2024.

A review of the 2016 Implementation Plan identified a number of achievements and outstanding actions. This refresh of the

Implementation Plan will sit alongside the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2024 to provide a roadmap for effective implementation of the Bylaw and will include a number of non-Bylaw issues raised in the public consultation that can be better dealt with through non-regulatory approaches.





Northern Pegasus Bay Advisory Group

The Northern Pegasus Bay Advisory Group is responsible for carrying out the following tasks:

- Overseeing the implementation of the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2024 Implementation Plan
- Monitoring progress of the Implementation Plan
- Providing updates on the Implementation Plan to Council on an annual basis
- Oversee the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw research and monitoring programme in conjunction with other interested parties
- Carrying out annual reviews of the kite surfing, commercial horse training, and aircraft user agreements
- Overseeing periodic reviews of the Ranger Service contract(s) with the Council
- Encouraging user groups, residents' associations and community boards to educate the community about the Bylaw to bring about a cultural shift in attitudes.

Membership of the Advisory Group includes one representative from each of the following organisations and communities:

- Waimakariri District Council
- Kaiapoi-Tuahiwi Community Board
- Woodend-Sefton Community Board
- Department of Conservation
- Environment Canterbury
- Ashley-Rakahuri Rivercare Group
- Te Kōhaka o Tūhaitara Trust
- Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga
- Hurunui District Council
- Waikuku Beach kite surfers
- Customary fishing representative
- Ashworths Beach / Ashley Fishermans Association Inc
- Kairaki Beach / Waimakariri river mouth fishing
- Woodend Beach horse trainers
- Fenton Reserve Trustees
- Waikuku Beach residents
- Pegasus Beach residents
- Pines/Kairaki Beach residents
- Woodend Beach residents
- Canterbury Recreational Aircraft Club
- Waimakariri Youth Council.



Photo Credit: Grant Davey

Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2024 Implementation Plan Overview

Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2024 Implementation Plan Overview

OUR ASPIRATIONS		ONGOING COMMITMENT	PROJECTS	MEASURES OF SUCCESS
1. Cultural values				
1.1	Ngāi Tahu and Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri history and values regarding the use of coastal land, water and natural resources are acknowledged and promoted.	Te Kōhaka o Tūhaitara Trust recognised as the representative of Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri for any work related to the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw.	Develop interpretation signs explaining the rich cultural history of the coastal area in consultation with Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga and place in key locations.	Having regular representation from Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri on the NPBAG through a specific representative or Te Kōhaka o Tūhaitara Trust.
1.2	Relevant Mahaanui Iwi Management Plan 2013 objectives and policies are taken into account in implementing the Bylaw.		Develop a coastal cultural values brochure and make available to the general public.	Signage and media relating to the cultural values of the Bylaw are updated and promoted as required

BUDGET ►

Senior Biodiversity Ranger time – BAU
NPBB capital budget

Communication and Engagement staff time – BAU

Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2024 Implementation Plan Overview

OUR ASPIRATIONS		ONGOING COMMITMENT	PROJECTS	MEASURES OF SUCCESS
2. Ashley/Rakahuri Estuary				
2.1	The community, ECan, DOC, Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri, Fenton Reserve Trustees and the Council recognise the estuary is a wetland of international significance and actively seek to protect it.	Continue to support the operation of patrols within the coastal area to ensure they have the ability to be as effective as possible.	Investigate the feasibility and benefits of providing Te Kōhaka o Tūhaitara and the Ashley/Rakahuri Estuary with sentient status.	Ranger patrols are regularly in the area to monitor adherence to the Bylaw rules during high use times.
2.2	Recreation activities carried out in the estuary are compatible with protecting the estuary ecosystem.	Work alongside community groups to investigate the feasibility of infrastructure projects at the Ashley/Rakahuri Estuary that may aid in making the environment there more accessible.	Initiate discussions with other organisations, such as Environment Canterbury, to decide on a process, timeframe and funding for the development of a management plan for the estuary.	Ongoing research is undertaken to collect evidence of environmental impacts had on the estuary area and identifies emerging and ongoing trends.
2.3	The wildlife in the estuary thrives with safe feeding, resting and breeding areas for all species.	Ensure that the level of signage at this location is appropriate in relation to the environment at the estuary, and that this signage serves the purpose of highlighting the rules to abide by the risks associated with specific recreational activities.		Effective trapping efforts in the estuary area translate into increased bird populations and variety of species in the area.
2.4	Organisations and community members work together to achieve an agreed vision for the estuary.	Endeavor to collect as much evidence as possible relating to the environmental impact of conflicting recreational activities in the estuary, as well as the results of trapping/predator control and bird nesting patterns in this area.		Continued collaboration between Council staff and local community groups on estuary-related projects. Additional infrastructure that enhances public awareness and enjoyment of the estuary is installed.
BUDGET ►		NPBB patrol services budget NPBB capital budget	Senior Biodiversity Ranger time – BAU Natural Environment Strategy Implementation Plan	

Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2024 Implementation Plan Overview

OUR ASPIRATIONS		ONGOING COMMITMENT	PROJECTS	MEASURES OF SUCCESS
3. Beach amenities / physical structures				
3.1	The design and location of physical structures are appropriate to their setting and intended purpose and user-friendly.	Monitor the effectiveness of physical structures in the Bylaw coastal area.	Accessibility structure (and associated infrastructure) at Pegasus and Waikuku beaches.	Renewals and improvements on physical structures are identified early on and addressed within a timely manner.
3.2	'Less is better'. Physical structures installed to enforce the Bylaw are the most effective solution to an identified problem.	Deliver a rolling programme of renewals and improvements for the Bylaw coastal area.	Accessibility infrastructure in the Ashley/Rakahuri Estuary area	Scheduled projects are carried out within budget.
3.3	Continued pedestrian access for beach users, including those with mobility issues and young children is given priority over physical structures required for enforcement reasons.	Continue working alongside the Waimakariri Accessibility Group in order to ensure that the design and location of beach amenities and physical structures takes into account accessibility considerations.		When relevant, the Waimakariri Access Group are consulted with and reported back to on the progress of project implementation to communicate updates.
3.4	Physical structures are provided to support the development of the coastal strip as a managed park space.	Ongoing review condition assessment of coastal assets are carried out on a regular basis.		All assets are maintained to a high standard for safety and use by the community.

BUDGET ►

NPBB capital budget
 NPBB operational budget
 Senior Biodiversity Ranger time – BAU

Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2024 Implementation Plan Overview

OUR ASPIRATIONS		ONGOING COMMITMENT	PROJECTS	MEASURES OF SUCCESS
4. Signage				
4.1	Visitor information is well sited, appropriate to its setting and fit for purpose.	Signage on the Bylaw rules is available at all beach locations and estuary. The signage will be clear and consistent, effective, and take the specific location into consideration.	Update existing signage that includes older Bylaw content with temporary amendments in the form of stickers and QR codes with information that is relevant to the updated version of the Bylaw.	Members of the public are aware of the Bylaw rules and the special values being protected within the coastal area.
4.2	Signage provides clear, consistent messaging and is visually appealing and engaging.			
4.3	The amount of signage in the Northern Pegasus Bay coastal strip is minimised.	Determine the minimum signage needed to inform beach users and the adequacy of existing signage. Prepare a signage programme including estimated costs, priorities and time frames.	A review of signage requirements that includes community feedback during the 2023/24 Bylaw review. Ensure clear signage is provided about the Bylaw rules relevant to the Estuary, such as dog control and no-go areas.	Effective signage contributes to a decreased number of Bylaw infringements. The natural character of the coastal environment is protected by the design and number of signs in the Bylaw area. Signage in the coastal area is not outdated, and reflects the current rules contained in the Bylaw, whilst meeting the design standard.
4.4	There is a coordinated approach amongst organisations installing signage.			
4.5	Beach users are educated through the use of interpretive signage.			

BUDGET ►

Senior Biodiversity Ranger time – BAU
Creative Admin time – BAU
Strategy and Business staff time – BAU

NPBB capital budget
NPBB operational budget

Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2024 Implementation Plan Overview

OUR ASPIRATIONS		ONGOING COMMITMENT	PROJECTS	MEASURES OF SUCCESS
5. Education				
5.1	Education is used as a tool to prevent and resolve user conflict and conflicts between use and environmental values.	Encourage user groups, residents' associations and community boards to educate the community about the Bylaw to bring about a cultural shift in attitudes.	Develop and implement an annual communications plan for the beaches/estuary that reflects seasonal activities/issues.	Educational resources are updated seasonally and communicated to the public to convey key Bylaw messaging.
5.2	Beach communities, user groups, Te Kōhaka o Tūhaitara Trust and the Kaiapoi-Tuahiwi and Woodend-Sefton Community Boards play a role in bringing about a 'cultural shift' in attitudes towards the Northern Pegasus Bay coastal strip, both in how it can be protected and enjoyed for recreational purposes.	Work with the community to develop and review educational resources (videos, leaflets etc) on key Bylaw issues and the cultural significance of the area.		The Communications and Engagement plan is prepared, implemented and reviewed as required.
5.3	Beach users are informed of the significant wildlife and environmental values and rich cultural history associated with the Northern Pegasus Bay coastal strip and Tūhaitara Coastal Park.	Make whitebaiters aware of wildlife issues, including the importance of driftwood areas above high tide for nesting birds, and whitebaiting rules, by handing out educational brochures when keys are given out and during interactions with Rangers. Monitor and provide advice about the use of kontikis for long lines on the beach with a view to keeping all beach users safe. Promote the cultural and ecological values of the Tūhaitara Coastal Park.		Whitebaiters are aware of wildlife issues within the coastal area, and adhere to the Bylaw rules to protect the natural environment. There are fewer breaches of the Bylaw rules and conflict between beach users is minimised, measured through complaints and service requests. Beach users are aware of the cultural and ecological values of the Tūhaitara Coastal Park, measured through surveying members of the public. Te Kōhaka o Tūhaitara Trust are supplied with copies of educational resources relating to the Bylaw.

BUDGET ►

Senior Biodiversity Ranger time – BAU
 Communications and Engagement staff time – BAU
 Strategy and Business staff time – BAU

Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2024 Implementation Plan Overview

OUR ASPIRATIONS		ONGOING COMMITMENT	PROJECTS	MEASURES OF SUCCESS
6. Publicity				
6.1	Beach users are aware they are in a managed environment when entering the coastal strip.	Work with relevant recreation organisations to ensure their members are aware of Bylaw rules.	Develop and implement an annual communications plan for the beaches/estuary that reflects seasonal activities/issues.	Renewals and improvements on physical structures are identified early on and addressed within a timely manner.
6.2	Beach users and community groups and organisations working and recreating in the Northern Pegasus Bay coastal strip are well informed about the new Bylaw's objectives and rules	Ensuring that seasonal campaigns are being implemented on time.		Scheduled projects are carried out within budget.
6.3	People know who to contact to report a Bylaw-related issue.			When relevant, the Waimakariri Access Group are consulted with and reported back to on the progress of project implementation to communicate updates. All assets are maintained to a high standard for safety and use by the community.

BUDGET ►

Senior Biodiversity Ranger time – BAU
 Communications and Engagement staff time – BAU
 Strategy and Business staff time – BAU

Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2024 Implementation Plan Overview

OUR ASPIRATIONS		ONGOING COMMITMENT	PROJECTS	MEASURES OF SUCESS
7. Working with others				
7.1	Beach communities are empowered to take positive action to protect the beach environment.	Discuss inter-related coastal matters, including the implementation of the two Bylaws and representation on the advisory group with the Hurunui District Council. Encourage beach users and other voluntary groups, such as the Waimakariri Youth Council, to hold an annual beach clean-up day. Support predator control efforts in the Ashley/Rakahuri Estuary by locals. Supporting the capacity and capability of community groups to contribute to the protection and promotion of the coastal environment in the Bylaw area. Maintaining collaborative working relationships with Environment Canterbury and Te Kōhaka o Tūhaitara Trust in order to encourage ongoing efforts to protect and preserve the coastal environment.	Support the Tūhaitara Coastal Park foredune bio-node project and look for opportunities to extend this programme into the Northern Pegasus Bay coastal strip.	Advisory Group members maintain regular attendance of meetings. The Waimakariri Youth Council plans and carries out at least one beach clean-up each year. Conversations have occurred between Council staff and Waikuku Beach residents to determine whether or not a residents' group would be suitable for the community.
7.2	Community members help to change the 'beach culture' by acting as role models and promoting stewardship.		Investigate community support for reinvigorating a residents' group at Waikuku Beach to support the Implementation Plan actions.	A viewing platform is installed at the Ashley/Rakahuri Estuary, meeting accessibility needs.
7.3	Agencies and community groups involved with the coast collaborate and work closely together.		Work alongside the Ashley-Rakahuri Rivercare Group and the Waimakariri Access Group to provide disabled access at the Ashley/Rakahuri Estuary in the form of a viewing platform.	Bio-node projects are successfully extended into the Northern Pegasus Bay coastal strip.
7.4	Development in the Northern Pegasus Bay coastal strip is done in consultation with relevant community groups and affected parties.			The number of predators recorded in the Estuary area decrease, as a result of control programmes implemented in partnership with local communities.
BUDGET ►		Senior Biodiversity Ranger time – BAU Strategy and Business staff time – BAU Youth Development Facilitator time – BAU	Natural Environment Strategy Implementation Plan NPBB capital budget	

Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2024 Implementation Plan Overview

OUR ASPIRATIONS		ONGOING COMMITMENT	PROJECTS	MEASURES OF SUCCESS
8. User agreements				
8.1	The Woodend Beach Commercial Horse Trainer's User Agreement is an effective tool for managing user conflict.	Carry out an annual review of the Commercial Horse Trainers User Agreement prior to the start of summer as per Bylaw clause 10.4.	Establish an Aircraft User Agreement between the Waimakariri District Council and the Canterbury Recreational Aircraft Club.	The Aircraft User Agreement between the Waimakariri District Council and the Canterbury Recreational Aircraft Club is successfully drafted and adopted by both parties. All user agreements are reviewed within the specified timeframes, and/or as triggered by issues as they arise, and adhered to.
8.2	The Kite Surfing User Agreement – Ashley/Rakahuri Estuary is effective in achieving the necessary balance between using the Estuary for kite surfing and protecting environmental and wildlife values.	Carry out an annual review of the Kite Surfing User Agreement prior to the start of the kite surfing season or whenever significant changes to the coastal environment during this period necessitate additional reviews as per Bylaw clause 13.2.		
8.3	The Operation of Aircraft User Agreement is effective in continuing to allow this activity to occur in the restricted area on Ashworths beach whilst protecting the unique coastal environment.	Carry out an annual review of the Operation of Aircraft User Agreement between the Council and the Canterbury Recreational Aircraft Club. This user agreement will also be reviewed whenever significant changes to the coastal environment during this period necessitate additional reviews, as per Bylaw clause 14.2		

BUDGET ►

Senior Biodiversity Ranger time – BAU
Strategy and Business staff time – BAU

Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2024 Implementation Plan Overview

OUR ASPIRATIONS		ONGOING COMMITMENT	PROJECTS	MEASURES OF SUCCESS
9. Enforcement				
9.1	There is a coordinated approach to enforcing activities occurring within the Northern Bay coastal strip.	Develop a regular, combined agency enforcement approach to be carried out seasonally in the Northern Pegasus Bay coastal strip each year.	Review current level of provision/ funding — contract and scope.	All relevant agencies and organisations are regularly patrolling the coastal area to monitor adherence to the Bylaw.
9.2	Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw Ranger Services are highly visible, effectively targeted and well supported by local beach communities.	Report regularly to the advisory group on beach users perceived level of awareness of Bylaw rules and number of incidents recorded on the ECan database.	Review the Enforcement Services contract between ECan and the Council, including the determination of new levels of service.	Quarterly ranger patrol reports are used to report to the Advisory Group on incidents relating to the Bylaw.
9.3	Systems are in place to ensure complaints are promptly responded to and followed up.	Review annually the effectiveness of the shared enforcement process.	Establish a baseline for monitoring the number of incidents received by ECan and WDC related to Bylaw enforcement.	A standardised incident reporting template is designed and supplied to Te Kōhaka o Tūhaitara Trust for their use.
9.4	Waimakariri District Council and Environment Canterbury have appropriate processes in place to ensure breaches of the Bylaw are effectively enforced.	Encourage estuary users via promotional material and on signage to report offences to ECan for follow up, including recording licence plate numbers.	Monitor the potential for changes to legislation relating to bylaw enforcement powers under the Local Government Act 2002.	A review of administrative/enforcement efforts is completed following any legislation changes impacting bylaws.
			Establish a standardised incident reporting template that can be provided to Te Kōhaka o Tūhaitara Trust for them to input their data into.	An annual report on the effectiveness of enforcement within the Bylaw area is generated and shared to the Advisory Group.
				Promotional material contributes to a higher proportion of incident reports submitted to ECan for follow up.
				The need for new levels of service is identified and addressed in the reviewed enforcement contracts.

BUDGET ►

Senior Biodiversity Ranger time – BAU
NPBB patrol services budget

NPBB capital budget
NPBB operational budget

Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2024 Implementation Plan Overview

OUR ASPIRATIONS		ONGOING COMMITMENT	PROJECTS	MEASURES OF SUCCESS
10. Research and monitoring				
10.1	Monitoring programmes are in place for the following identified priority areas: a. Effectiveness of Bylaw enforcement b. Effectiveness of the Woodend Beach Commercial Horse Trainer's User Agreement c. Effectiveness of the Kite Surfing User Agreement – Ashley/Rakahuri Estuary d. Effectiveness of the Fenton Reserve MOU e. The effectiveness of Bylaw provisions in protecting Ashley/Rakahuri Estuary wildlife values from the impact of recreation use f. The effectiveness of Bylaw provisions in protecting coastal dune systems from the impact of recreation use g. The achievement of the Implementation Plan.	Monitor progress on achieving the Implementation Plan and report annually to the Advisory Group and Council. Ensure research carried out within the Northern Pegasus Bay coastal strip is prioritised and coordinated. Beach Users Survey completed every two years. Regularly monitor the use of the designated commercial horse training area at Woodend Beach as per agreed methodology contained within the user agreement. Monitoring the breeding of shorebirds around the estuary (the species, their nest locations, and their breeding outcomes) alongside the Ashley-Rakahuri Rivercare Group.	Refresh the research and monitoring programme for the Northern Pegasus Bay and use to report to Advisory Group on an annual basis. Investigate the possibility of finding a research partner to study the effectiveness of Bylaw provisions in protecting Ashley/Rakahuri Estuary wildlife values from the impact of recreation use. Establish permanent sample points on the coastal dune system in problem areas for ongoing monitoring of the impact of vehicle use. Outline a research programme for locations across the Bylaw area including 5-6 different issues/projects that could be researched, ensuring there is a mix of both social and environmental topics to look into.	Council staff report to Council and the Advisory Group on an annual basis to communicate progress on the Implementation Plan. The results of the Beach User Survey are used to inform Bylaw review processes and demonstrate high levels of satisfaction amongst beach users. Research and monitoring undertaken within the coastal area provides a meaningful evaluation of the environmental condition and public safety/enjoyment, which can be reported back on when required. Suitable research partners are identified to study the effectiveness of Bylaw provisions, contributing to the useful collection of data in the coastal area to inform review processes and environmental/social impacts. Permanent sample points in the coastal dune system are established and contribute to the effective monitoring of vehicle use on the beaches.
10.2	Research programmes are in place where a knowledge gap has been identified.	Monitor the impact of vehicle use on the coastal dune system.		
10.3	Research efforts in the Northern Pegasus Bay coastal strip are coordinated and research partners are actively sought.	Continue to develop working relationships with tertiary education providers.		

BUDGET ►

Senior Biodiversity Ranger time – BAU
Strategy and Business staff time – BAU

Natural Environment Strategy Implementation Plan

Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2024 Implementation Plan Overview

OUR ASPIRATIONS		ONGOING COMMITMENT	PROJECTS	MEASURES OF SUCCESS
11. Review				
11.1	User-related issues are identified before they escalate or before irreversible environmental damage occurs and prompt action is taken to address these.	The Northern Pegasus Bay Advisory Group regularly review monitoring data to identify any significant or new issues in the coastal Bylaw area. Produce an annual report on the implementation of the Bylaw to present to Council.	Five-year review (S155 Report) of the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw to commence mid-2028. S155 Report due no later than 1 October 2029, five years after Bylaw was adopted as a legislative requirement.	Relevant Council staff from Greenspace and Strategy and Business Unit commence review of the Bylaw in mid-2028. A s155 report is presented to Council by the 1st of October 2029 with recommendations, in line with legislative requirement. The Northern Pegasus Bay Advisory group are enabled to identify any significant/new issues to account for in the regular review process, or before the specified deadline if necessary. Council staff report to Council and the Advisory Group on an annual basis to communicate progress on the Implementation Plan.
11.2	The annual reviews of user agreements, as required by the Bylaw, are completed.			

BUDGET ►

Senior Biodiversity Ranger time – BAU
Strategy and Business staff time – BAU





215 High Street
Private Bag 1005
Rangiora 7440, New Zealand
Phone 0800 965 468
waimakariri.govt.nz

250417068374



Beach User Survey 2026

Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw



Prepared by Strategy and Business Unit

Executive Summary

The Northern Pegasus Bay Beach User Survey 2026 is the fourth survey of its kind, previously carried out in 2019, 2021 and 2024. The survey helps Waimakariri District Council to understand how effective the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2025 is at regulating activities on the beaches, including the foreshore and adjacent land areas of the Northern Pegasus Bay.

The main objectives of the survey are to:

1. Understand the current community use and recreational activities in the Northern Pegasus Bay.
2. Identify any issues and/or conflict in the Northern Pegasus Bay.
3. Understand the level of awareness of the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw rules.

The 2026 Beach User Survey was available from 15 December 2025 to 1 March 2026, run both online via Council's Let's Talk platform, and in person with Council staff. The survey was advertised by way of posters with QR codes at beach entrances across the Northern Pegasus Bay area, promoted across social media channels, and through circulation with Northern Pegasus Bay Advisory Group members.

In total, the survey received 252 responses. This is a lower level of engagement in comparison to previous years, attributed to poor weather conditions over the 2025/2026 summer period. Despite this, the level of response is still sufficient for identifying trends in data and understanding general experiences of beach users.

Key findings

At 80%, the percentage of respondents living in the Waimakariri District remained fairly consistent between the 2024 survey and the most recent version. This is reflected in the number of respondents stating that they most enjoy visiting beaches in the Northern Pegasus Bay area because they are 'close to home' at 73%.

What do they like?

The top five things that people liked about the Northern Pegasus Bay area are that it is close to home, peaceful, accessible, scenic, and clean/tidy. These general themes are similar to what we heard in 2019, 2021, and 2024.

Range of activities

The 2026 survey took a slightly different approach when asking respondents about the range of activities they partake in within the Northern Pegasus Bay area. Instead of just asking about the activities they normally participate in, respondents were also asked to share how often they partake in them. When adding the number of responses for daily, weekly, and monthly under

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each activity, walking/running came out on top at 66%, followed by dog walking (48%), water sports (29%), recreation (24%) and cycling (17%).

Issues raised

79% of survey respondents identified issues occurring in the Northern Pegasus Bay area, an increase of 14% from the results of the 2024 survey. The issues were split between those which are Bylaw-related (70%), and issues not managed by the Bylaw (30%).

In 2026, vehicles and motorbikes were reported as the two most significant Bylaw-related issues in the Northern Pegasus Bay area, together accounting for 49% of the overall response in this category. Issues with vehicles alone, as reported by beach users, have increased by 9% since the 2024 survey, with motorbike issues increasing by 15%.

As closely related issues, animal faeces (18%) and dogs (17%) were the next most commonly identified Bylaw-related issues. Issues relating to dogs were the second most commonly reported in the 2024 survey, dropping down to fourth in 2026. Animal faeces was not reported as a top Bylaw-related issue in 2024.

In terms of non-Bylaw-related issues, litter was by far the most significant, accounting for 22% of responses in this category. This is an increase of 10% from the 2024 survey. Other non-Bylaw-related issues in 2026 included 'other' (8%), facilities (4%), signage (4%), and accessibility (3%).

Conflict

First introduced to the 2021 survey, the questions related to conflict were adapted for the 2024 survey

to restrict conflict observed only in the last two years. This change was maintained for the 2026 survey.

Between 2024 and 2026, there has been an increase of 9% in regard to survey respondents who have observed conflict over the past two years, from 17% in 2024 to 26% in 2026. This is a relatively significant increase, although the majority of respondents (67%) have not witnessed conflict, so this is still a positive. In 2021, fishing/whitebaiting was reported as the top reason for conflict at 34%, this shifted to vehicles at 29% in 2024, and then to dogs at 23% in 2026, showing no signs of any specific trend.

Awareness of the Bylaw

Since the results of the 2024 survey and the most recent review of the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw, there has been a concerted effort to increase Bylaw awareness, particularly where it relates to rules that may have changed. Between 2024 and 2026, there has been an increase in beach users' awareness of the Bylaw, from 29% being completely unaware in 2024, to only 18% in 2026. One notable change between the 2024 and 2026 results is the level of awareness around rules relating to dogs, which has increased by 24% since

2024. Despite the increase, raising awareness of Bylaw rules will remain a focus for the Council.

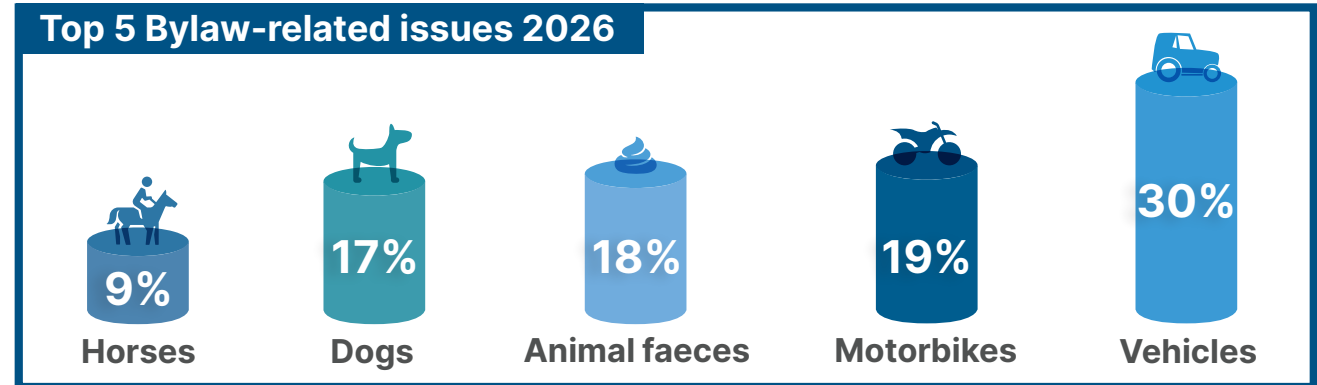
Summary

There are no significant changes across the four surveys in regard to how people use the beaches in the Northern Pegasus Bay. This is also reflected in what people like about the area.

Bylaw rules are currently in place to manage the main issues identified in the surveys. An increase in the number of issues reported from 65% in 2024 to 79% in 2026 is a concern, however, having access to this data will allow Council to take any relevant issues into consideration when next reviewing the Bylaw. Council will also consider these findings through progression of the ongoing commitments and projects outlined in the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw Implementation Plan, as well as when undertaking operational activities.

The results of the Beach User Survey 2026 continue to demonstrate the value of the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2025 in managing activities in the Northern Pegasus Bay, and the ongoing requirements for support and resources aimed at implementation to achieve the Bylaw's objectives.

Top 5 Bylaw-related issues 2026



Introduction

Objectives

The Northern Pegasus Bay Beach User Survey 2026 was undertaken between 15 December 2025 and 1 March 2026. It is one component of a wider research and monitoring programme led by the Waimakariri District Council to ensure that future reviews of the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw are evidence-based.

The Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2025 was most recently reviewed and adopted in 2024, with minor administrative changes then made in 2025. As signalled following the last Beach User Survey, a refresh of the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw Implementation Plan 2016 was required following the Bylaw review, as it had identified a number of achievements and outstanding actions that needed to be considered through a refreshed Plan.

The current Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2024 Implementation Plan took these achievements and actions into account and was adopted by Council on 6 May 2025. The Implementation Plan sits alongside the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2025 to provide a roadmap for effective implementation of the Bylaw. Under the Research and Monitoring section of the Implementation Plan, an ongoing commitment has been made to complete a Beach User Survey every two years.

The survey aims to assess who our beach users are, their awareness of the Bylaw, an understanding of how they use and enjoy the beach, identification of factors that limit their

enjoyment, and insight to their views on key issues affecting the coastal environment, as managed by the Council.

Survey methodology

The results of the 2026 Beach User Survey are representative of 252 genuine beach users. All beach users were invited to participate, including respondents that lived outside of the Waimakariri District. The only requirement was that the respondents be at least 18 years of age.

The survey was administered online, only accessible by way of QR code posters at the entrances of the beaches and face-to-face with Council staff and local rangers. Responses were anonymous and limited personal information was collected.

The sample size of 252 means that the survey results are likely to be a good representation of beach users' views, although the views of those under 18 years of age are excluded.

This survey is the fourth completed to investigate the effectiveness of the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw. It will therefore provide useful trend information that can be used to help the Council track the effectiveness of the Bylaw and how to best respond to the changing needs of the users and environment.

Over time, some of the questions asked have been altered or added based on previous learnings. For the purposes of the 2026 survey, this included the addition of questions 10 and 11, asking survey respondents to describe how much the issues they had identified had an impact on



Photographer: Grant Davey

their general enjoyment of the beach and feeling of safety. The reasoning for this was to aid in the next review of the Bylaw, and to add more context to the issues raised.

Question 14 was added to the survey to ask respondents who indicated they were aware of the Bylaw to then expand on their answer and let us know whether they were aware of why the Bylaw rules exist. This was added to provide Council with a better understanding of how effective communications on the Bylaw rules are, and where gaps in beach users' understanding may exist.

Questions 17 and 18 were also added to the survey to provide respondents with the opportunity to tell the Council what improvements would make their beach experience better, as well as if there were any comments they would like to make on the Bylaw itself. These were presented as open-ended questions.

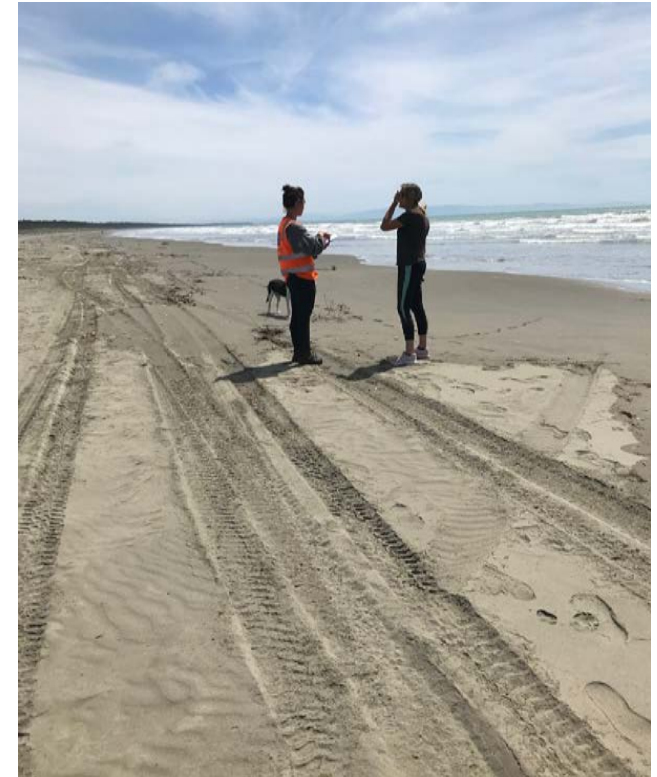
Some of the questions were also changed. For the 2026 survey, another option was added,

splitting 'Waimakariri District' into 'Waimakariri District (general)' and 'Waimakariri District (beach community)'. This change was made to acknowledge that some beach users may be temporarily living in one of the beach settlements during specific seasons but would normally be living elsewhere.

In previous versions of the survey, question 7 simply asked if respondents 'normally' participate in a range of activities in the coastal environment. For the 2026 survey, this was altered to a multiple-choice question, providing beach users with an opportunity to note how often they partake in each activity.

A copy of the Survey questions can be found in the appendices on pages 42–44.

In this report n = number of people

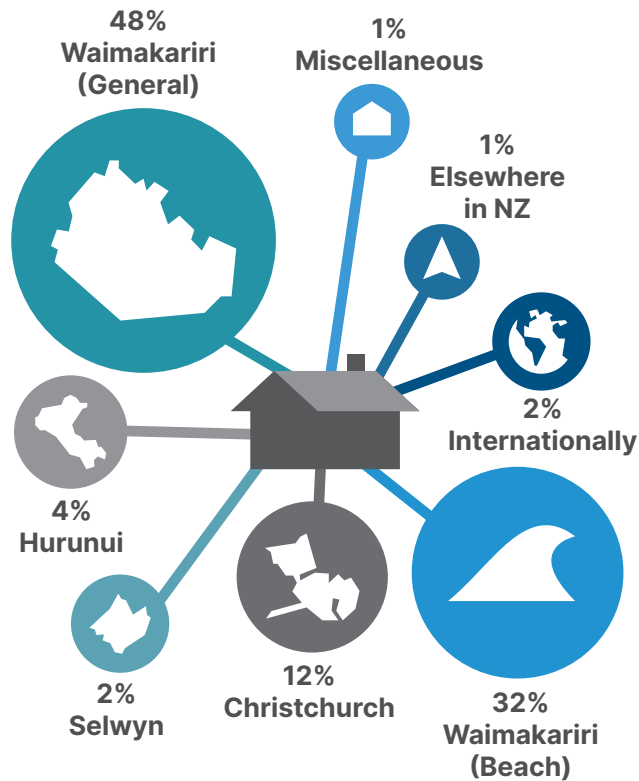




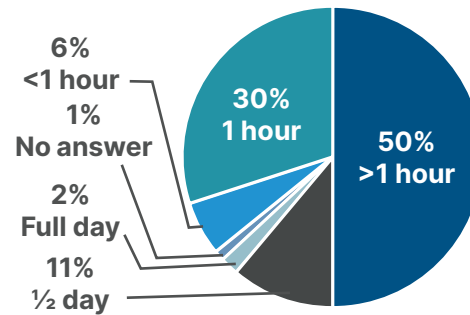
The Respondents

A Quick Summary

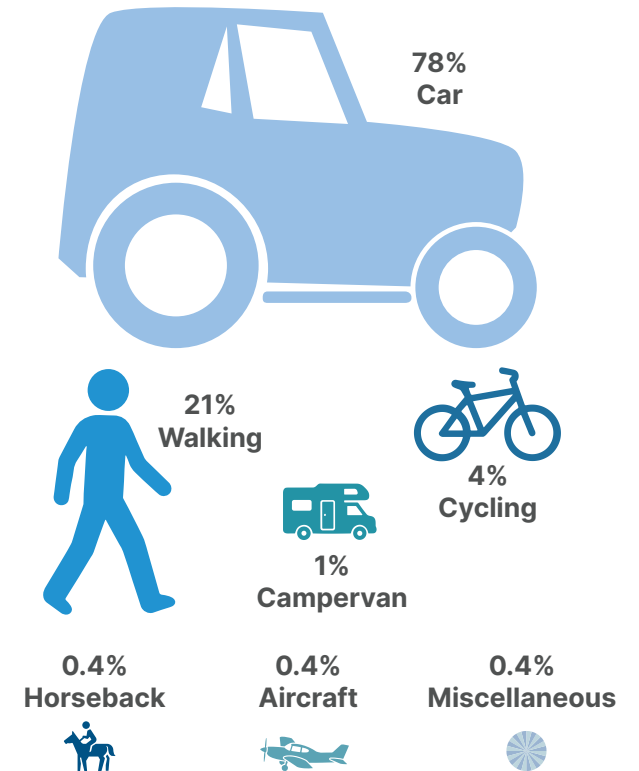
Where the respondents normally live



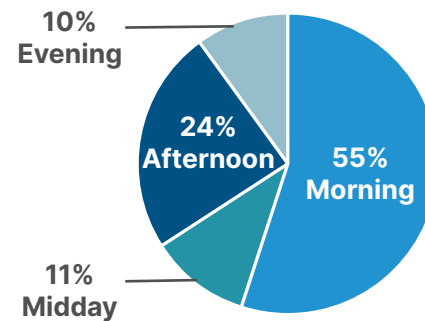
How long respondents spent at the beach



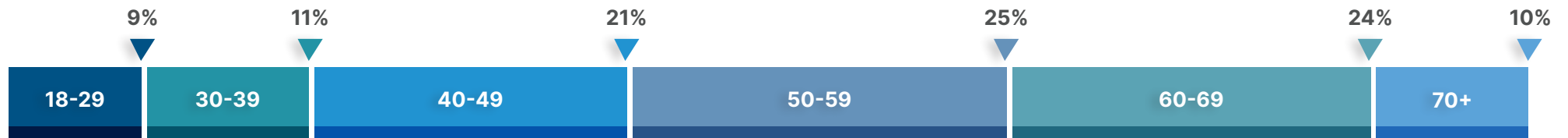
How the respondents got to the beach



Time of day respondents visited the beach



Age of respondents



The Respondents

Respondents were asked questions about their age group, where they normally live, how they get to the beach, when they generally visit the beach and how long they spend when they do. These questions were asked to construct a general profile of beach users, and to gain an understanding of where people using the beaches in the Waimakariri District were coming from.

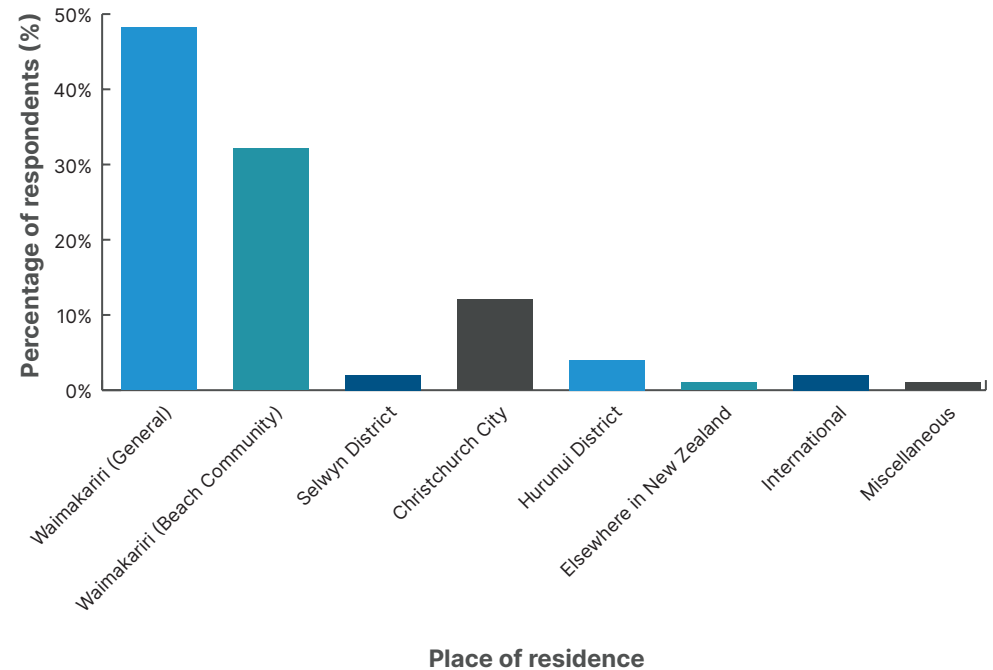
Place of residence

Figure 1 displays the place of residence for survey respondents. 80% of respondents lived in the Waimakariri District, split between 32% living in beach communities and the remaining 48% in the wider Waimakariri District. The next highest proportion of respondents live in Christchurch City (12%), followed by Hurunui District (4%), and Selwyn District (2%).

International visitors accounted for 2% of the total number of respondents, while those from elsewhere in New Zealand accounted for 1% of respondents. Please note that some respondents selected more than one answer.



Figure 1: Place of residence of respondents (n=259)



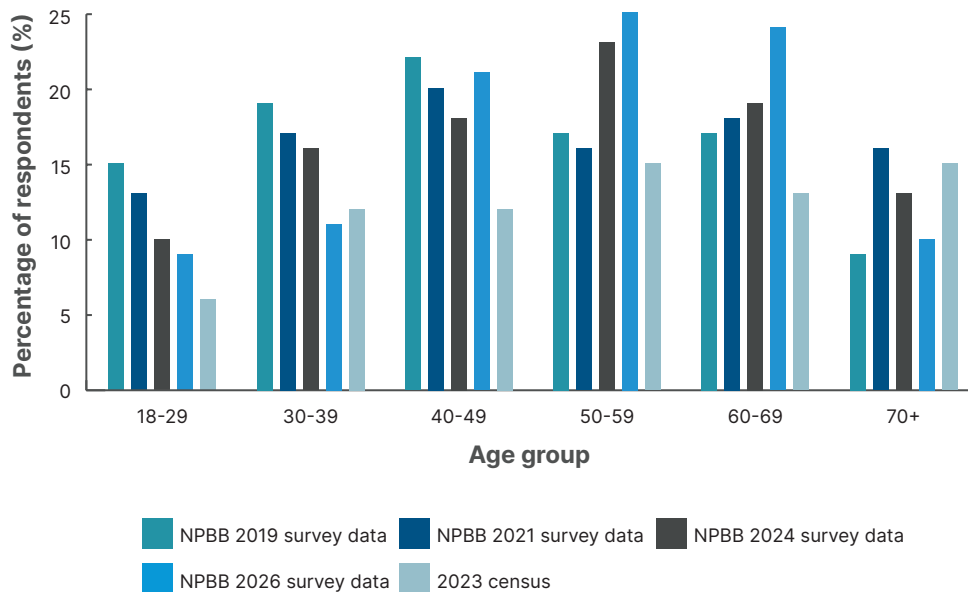
Age of respondents

Those aged 50–59 accounted for the highest proportion of users (25%), which was followed by 60–69 (24%), 40–49 (21%) and 30–39 (11%). The 40–49, 50–59, and 60–69 age groups are consistently over-represented in the Beach User Survey, when comparing to census data for the Waimakariri District population structure.

Those aged 18–29 accounted for the lowest proportion of respondents (9%), which remains true across the four Beach User Surveys completed to date. This is broadly comparable to the proportion that this age group makes up in comparison to other age groups within Waimakariri District population data (as per 2023 Census data).

Respondents 70+ (10%) were the second lowest age group represented in this survey.

Figure 2: Age of respondents



Please note Census data is for Waimakariri residents only and has been adjusted to reflect that only those over 18 were surveyed. Not all respondents were from the Waimakariri District.

How respondents get to the beach

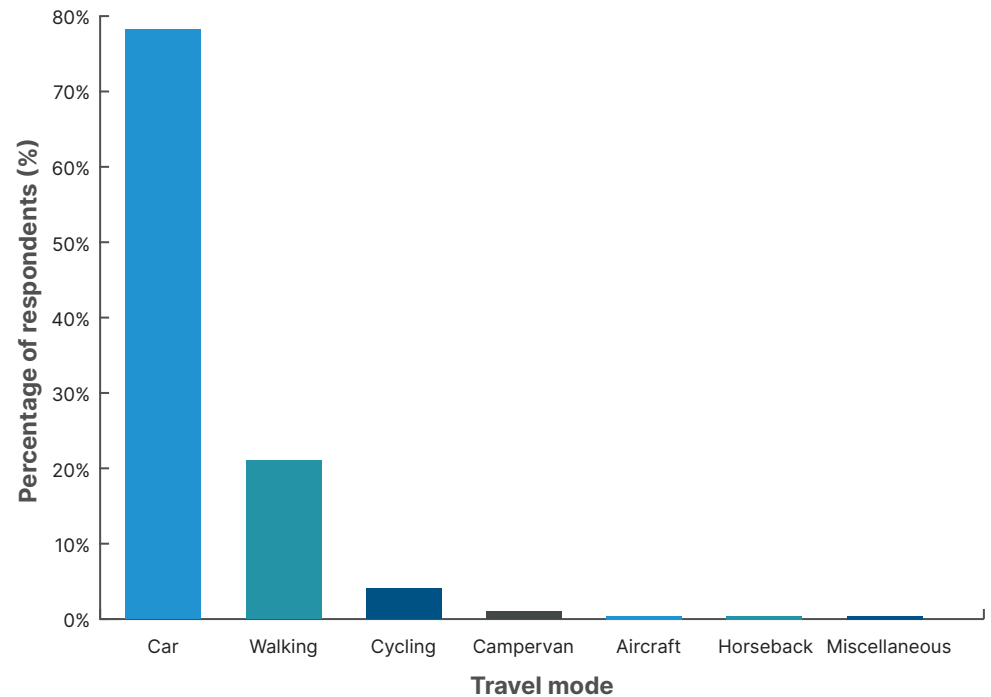
Figure 3 displays the ways that survey respondents travel to get to the Northern Pegasus Bay. This was a new question added for the 2026 survey to better understand the different travel modes being utilised by beach users.

Those who travel by car accounted for the highest proportion of users (78%), which was followed by walking (21%), cycling (4%), and campervan (1%).

Those travelling by horseback and aircraft accounted for the lowest proportion of respondents, both at 0.4%.

13 respondents provided more than one answer to this question, and two did not answer.

Figure 3: How respondents travelled to get to the beach (n=266)



Please note respondents could select multiple responses, therefore totals may exceed the number of participants

The Range of Activities

The Range of Activities

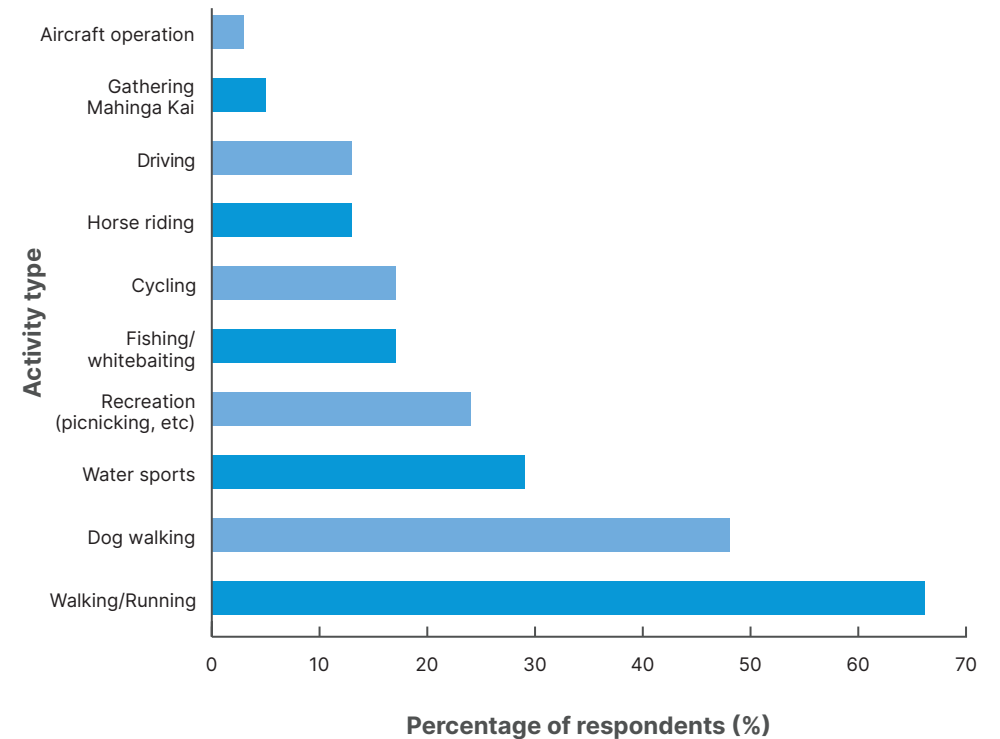
The 2026 survey took a different approach when it came to asking respondents about the range of activities they participate in on our beaches. Rather than simply asking what activities beach users normally participate in within the coastal environment, respondents were able to indicate how often they do these activities. Options for each activity included daily, weekly, monthly, few times a year, rarely, and never.

Figure 4 provides a high-level breakdown of the range of activities regularly participated in by beach users. This has been calculated by adding up the 'daily', 'weekly', and 'monthly' responses to each activity, as it could be argued these are the only options that would be considered as equating to regular participation in an activity.

Based on this analysis, it is clear that walking/running continues to be the most popular activity among beach users in the Northern Pegasus Bay (66%), followed by dog walking (48%) and water sports (29%).

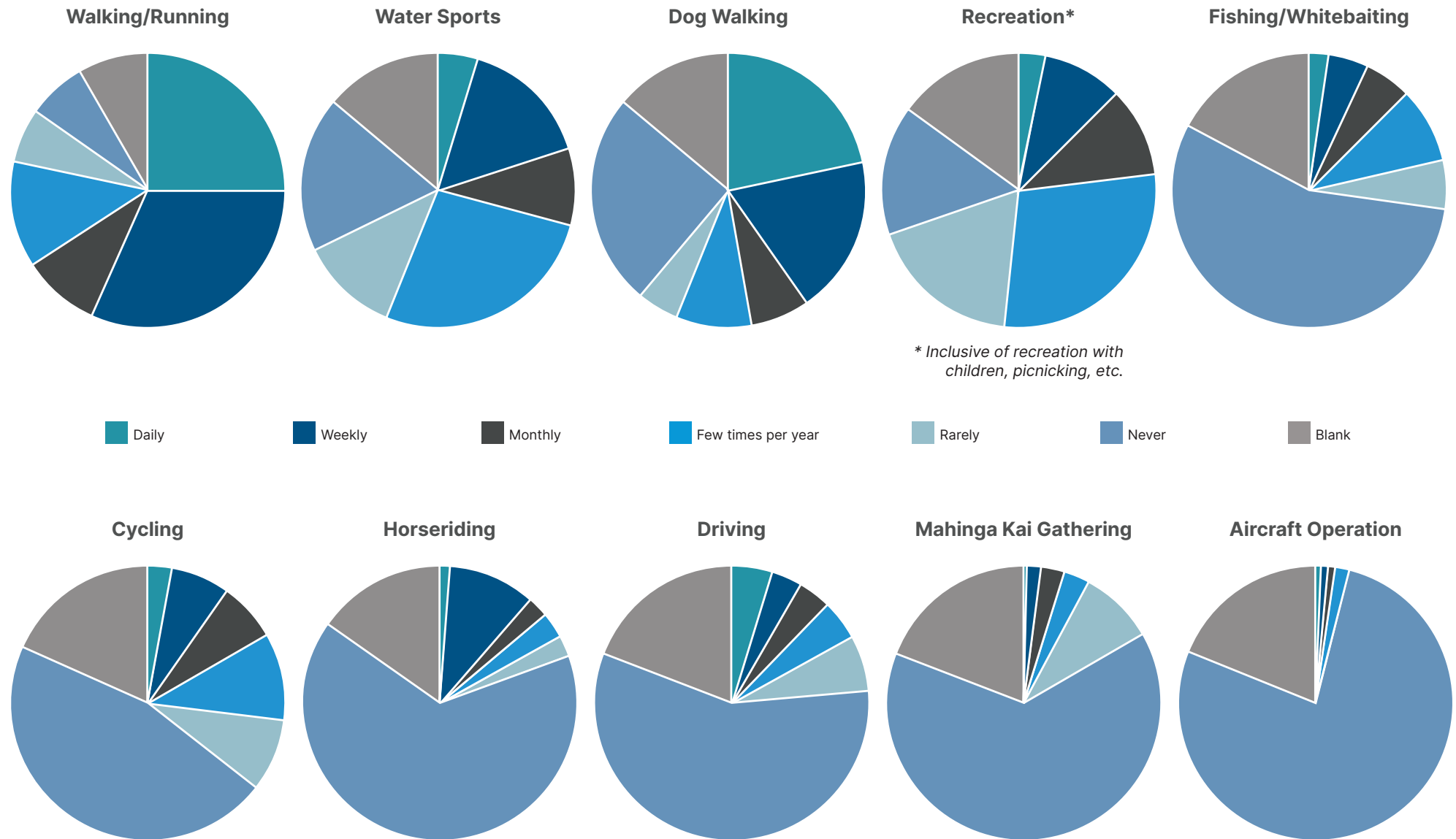


Figure 4: The range of activities regularly participated in by survey respondents (n=235)



Please note that responses can add up to over 100% as the majority of respondents indicated they partake in more than one activity.

The following pie charts have also been included to provide a more detailed breakdown for how often beach users are participating in each activity:

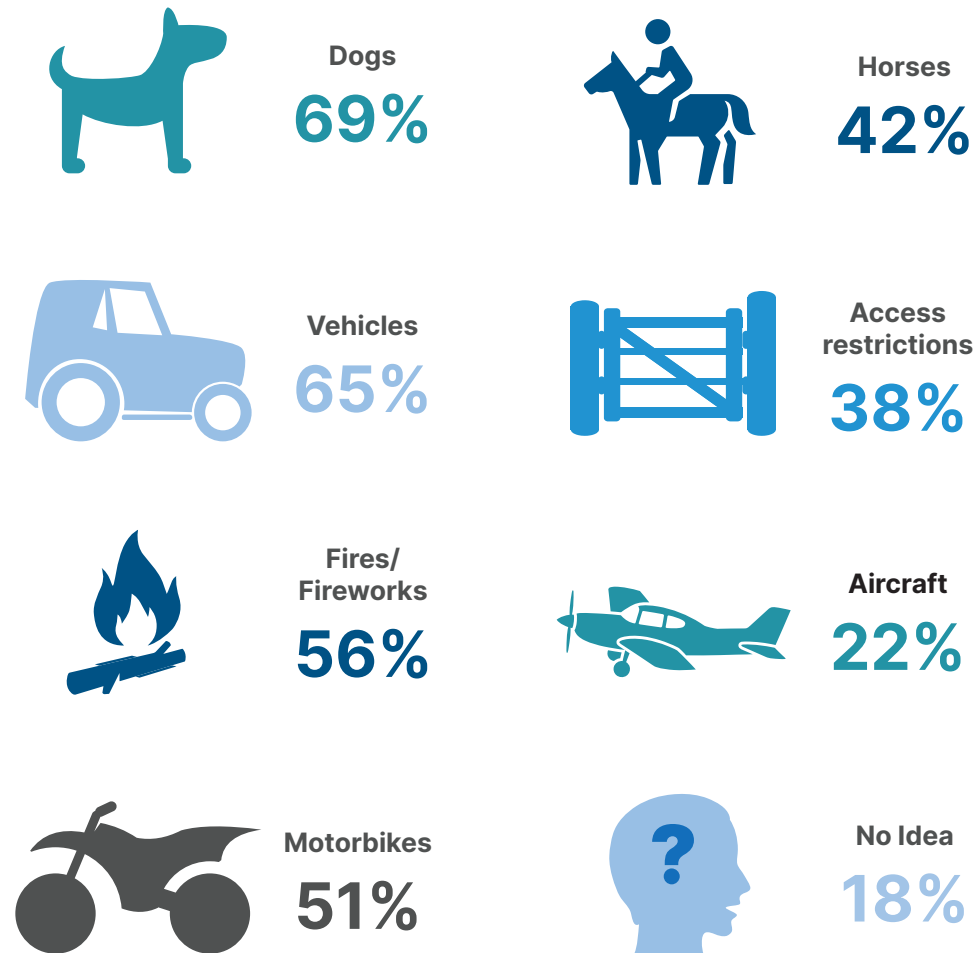




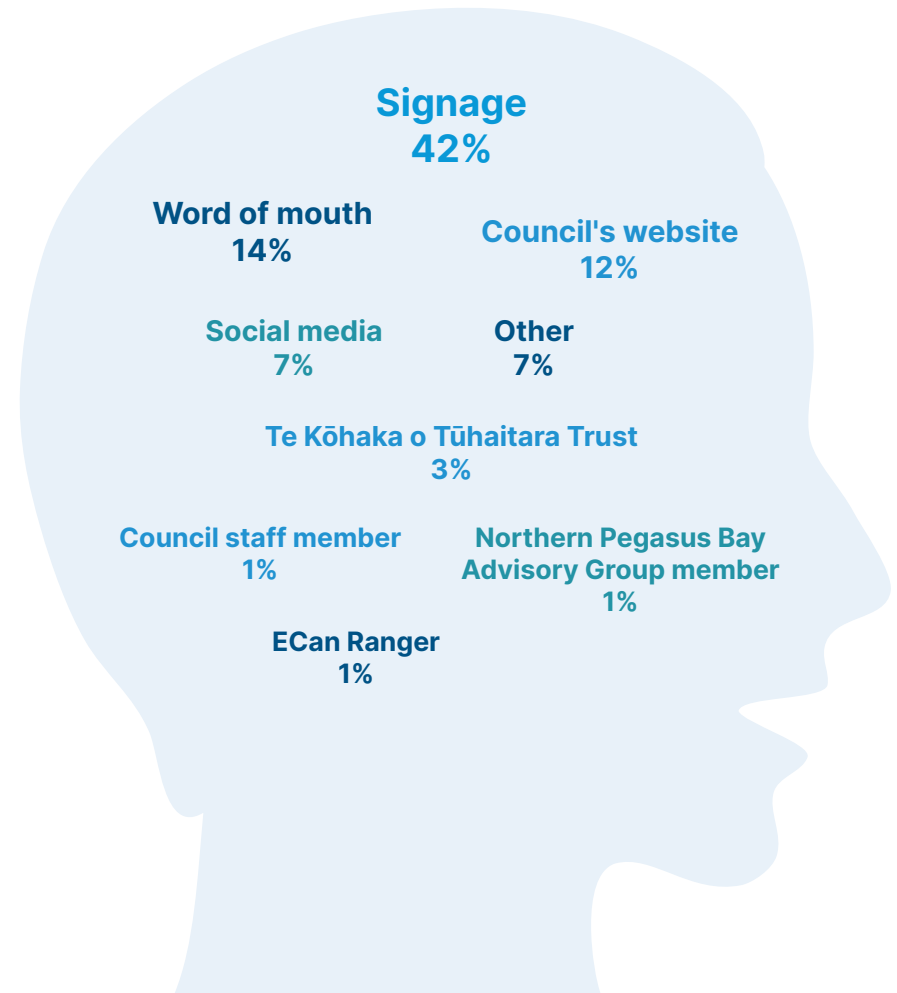
Bylaw Awareness

A Quick Summary

Respondents' awareness of Bylaw rules at the beach



How respondents became aware of Bylaw rules



Bylaw Awareness

Awareness of rules in the coastal environment

Respondents were asked about their awareness of any rules in the coastal environment. There are seven different activities in the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw that have restrictions. This question was to gauge how well the Bylaw was known by beach users, or whether respondents were at least aware of any prohibited/restricted activities.

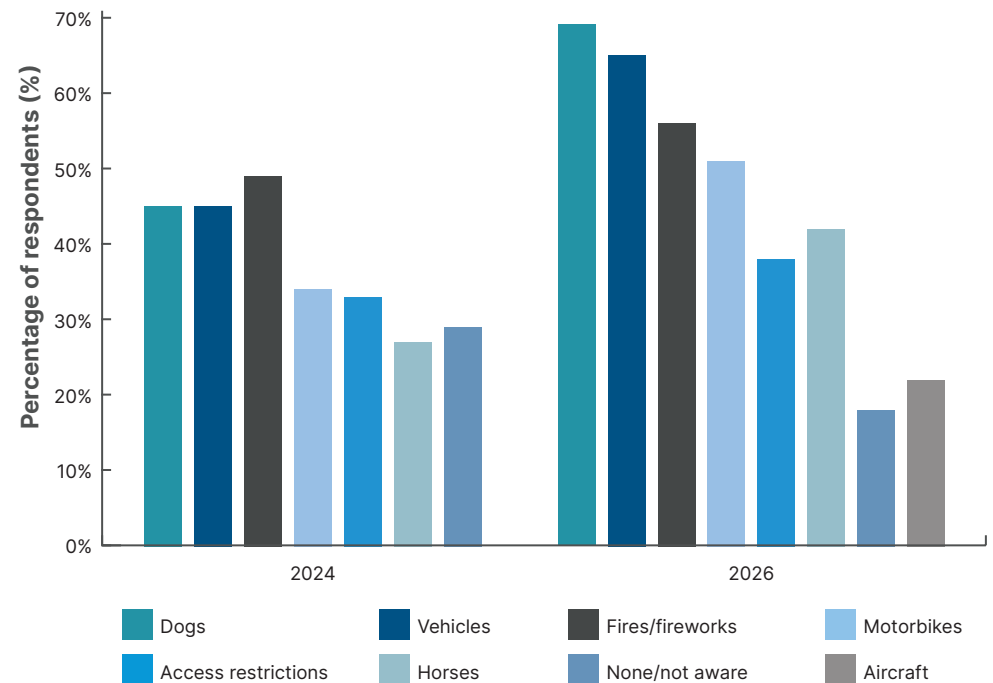
Overall, only 18% of all respondents had no awareness of there being any rules in the coastal environment. This is a significant improvement in comparison to other years, with 50% unaware in 2019, 36% in 2021, and 29% in 2024, demonstrating a consistent decline in users who have no awareness of the Bylaw.

The area with the highest awareness of rules for the 2026 survey was dogs (69%), followed by vehicles (65%), and fires/fireworks (56%). Although the top areas of awareness were consistent with the results of the 2024 survey, the ranking is slightly different to what was reported in 2024 where the area with the highest awareness of rules was fires (49%), followed by dogs (45%) and vehicles (45%). Since the changes to rules regarding dogs on the beach during the most recent Bylaw review, there has been a push in communications relating to dogs on the beach, so this may have contributed to the increase.

The lowest awareness of rules in the coastal environment was around aircraft on the beach (22%). This makes sense based on the fact that Bylaw rules concerning aircraft were only added following the most recent review of the Bylaw, and it is an activity that is relatively uncommon among beach users.

Figure five displays a comparative analysis between the 2024 and 2026 surveys of which Bylaw areas respondents were able to identify as being subject to rules in the coastal environment. Beach user awareness of Bylaw rules has significantly increased since the 2024 survey, with the number of survey respondents not knowing anything about Bylaw rules decreasing by 9%.

Figure 5: Awareness of specific Bylaw rules between 2024 and 2026



How respondents became aware of rules in the coastal environment

Respondents who indicated they were aware of rules within the coastal environment were then asked how they were made aware of these rules. Of the 222 respondents that were aware of rules in the coastal environment, 47% gained awareness through signage, 16% were advised through 'word of mouth', and 14% got the information from Waimakariri District Council's website. These were the top three methods reported as contributing to awareness in 2026.



The Best Aspects of the Coastal Environment

A Quick Summary

The best aspects



73%

Enjoy that the beach is close to home.

69%

Enjoy the peaceful atmosphere.

63%

Enjoy the accessibility of
Northern Pegasus Bay.

54%

Enjoy the scenery.

52%

Enjoy that the beach is clean and tidy.

The Best Aspects of the Coastal Environment

Respondents were asked what they enjoy most about the coastal environment. This was a multi-choice question which allowed respondents to select more than one option.

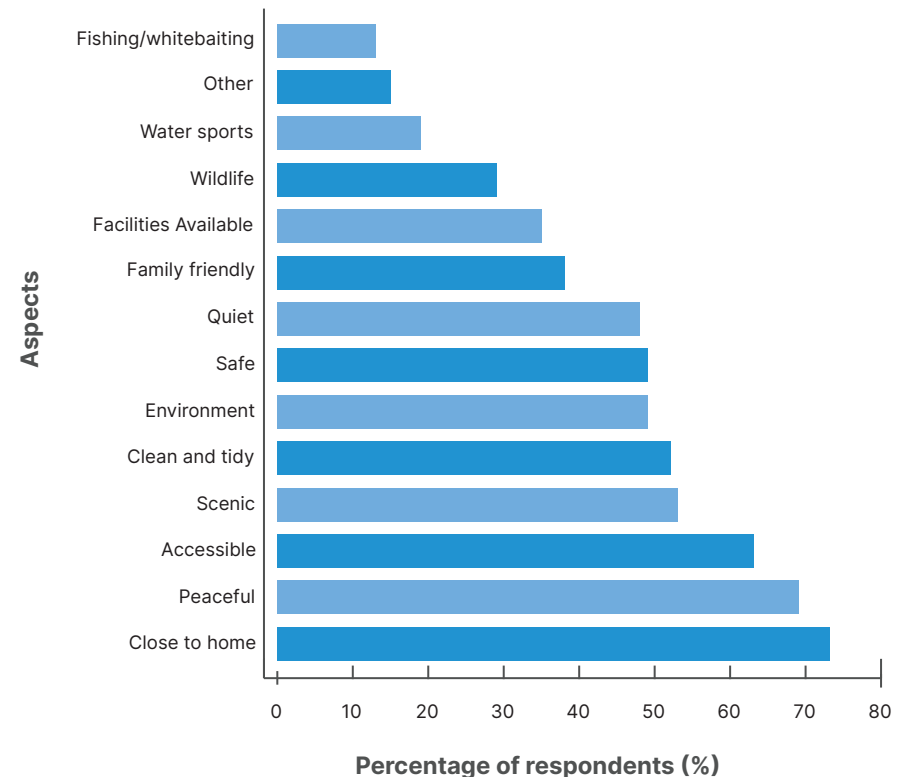
Being close to home was a key factor that 73% of respondents mentioned contributed to their enjoyment of the coastal environment. A large number (69%) of respondents also highlighted peacefulness as one of the best aspects when visiting the Northern Pegasus Bay. 63% of respondents also attributed their enjoyment of the coastal area to its accessibility.

Many respondents enjoy the scenery of the coast at 54%, with 52% also noting the coastal environment as being clean and tidy. This was discussed in relation to the presence of litter and the condition of the environment itself, and has increased from the 38% of respondents who noted this in the 2024 Beach User Survey.

Other themes included the natural environment (49%), feelings of safety (49%), quietness (48%), family-friendliness (38%), the availability of facilities (35%) and water sports (19%), wildlife (29%), and fishing/whitebaiting (13%).

The full list of aspects and the response rate for each is shown in figure six.

Figure 6: The best aspects of the coastal environment (n=252)



Please note that responses can add up to over 100% as the majority of respondents chose more than one aspect.



The Main Issues

A Quick Summary

Total number of issues



79% of people reported issues.

In total **200** people,



raised **389** issues.



Issue type

Top 5 Bylaw-related issues

70% were Bylaw-related



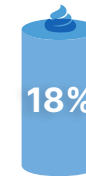
Horses

9%



Dogs

17%



Animal faeces

18%



Motorbikes

19%



Vehicles

30%

Top 5 Non-Bylaw-related issues

30% were non-Bylaw-related



Accessibility

3%



Signage

4%



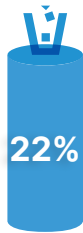
Facilities

4%



Other

8%



Litter

22%



9% of respondents indicated that the issues they raised significantly affect their enjoyment of the beach.



7% of respondents indicated that the issues they raised significantly affect their safety on the beach.

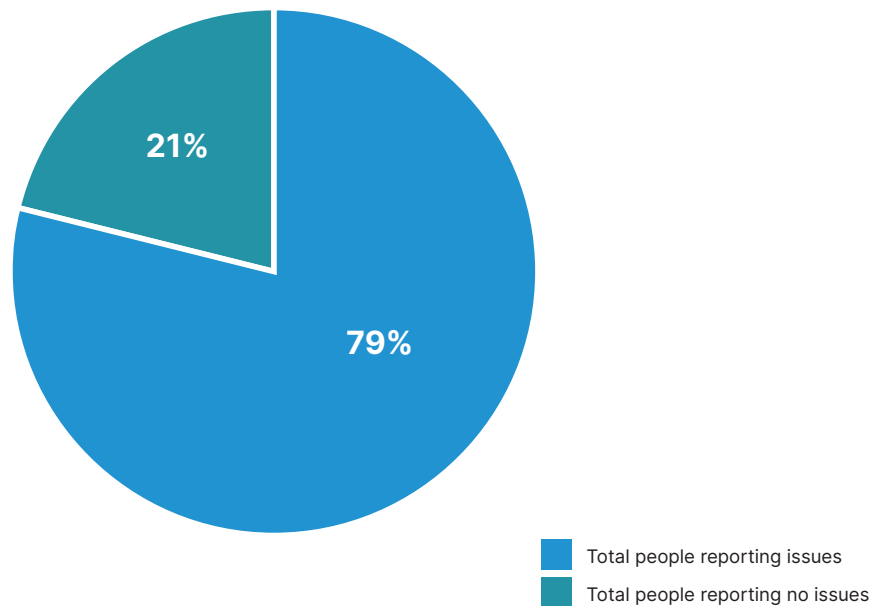
The Main Issues

Total number of issues versus no issues

This question was asked to determine what the main issues were for beach users in the coastal environment. Respondents often reported a range of issues, some of which fell outside the scope of the Bylaw.

As shown in figure seven, 79% of respondents reported at least one issue, whilst 21% reported none. The percentage of respondents reporting at least one issue has risen since the results of the 2024 survey, in which only 65% of respondents were reporting issues.

Figure 7: Total number of respondents reporting issues versus number of reporting no issues (n=252)

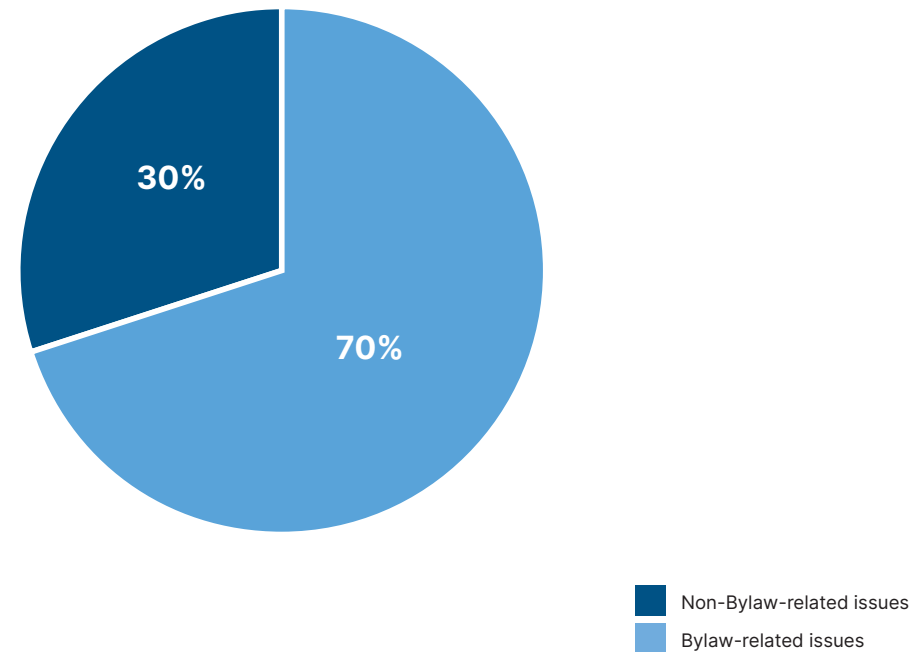


Bylaw-related issues versus non-Bylaw-related issues

Figure eight displays the total number of Bylaw-related issues raised by respondents compared to non-Bylaw-related issues. Non-Bylaw-related issues referred to the types of issues raised by respondents that were either not covered by the Bylaw or were not caused as a result of the Bylaw.

In total, 200 people raised 389 issues. Of these 389 issues, 70% were Bylaw-related compared to 30% which were non-Bylaw-related.

Figure 8: Bylaw-related issues versus non-Bylaw-related issues (n=200)



List of Bylaw-related issues

As shown in figure nine, of the 252 respondents to the survey, 200 raised 272 Bylaw-related issues.

Vehicles accounted for the highest proportion of Bylaw-related issues (30%), followed by motorbikes which had the second highest proportion of Bylaw-related issues (19%).

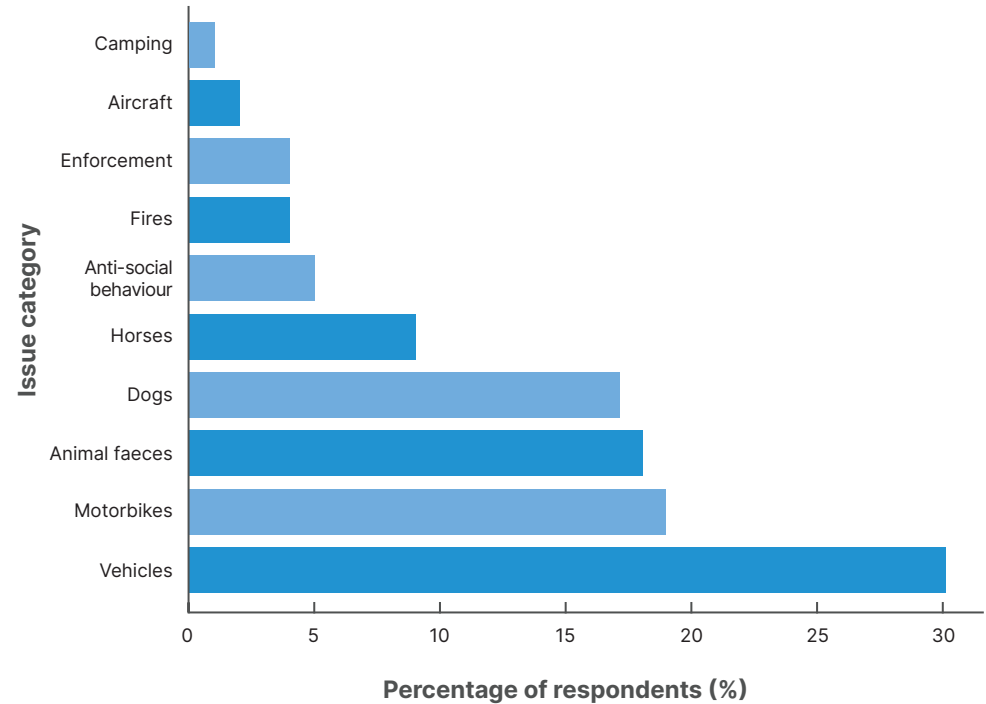
Issues relating to animal faeces (18%) were the third highest bylaw-related issue reported by respondents, closely followed by dogs at 17%. These two issues were some of the most commonly discussed by in-person survey respondents.

Horses were also an issue for 9% of respondents. A total of 23 complaints included the general presence of horses on the beach, and horse faeces.

Anti-social behaviour was an issue for a smaller number of respondents (5%), followed by fires and enforcement, both at 4%.

The remaining issues included aircraft (2%) and camping (1%).

Figure 9: Bylaw-related issues raised (n=272)



List of non-Bylaw-related issues

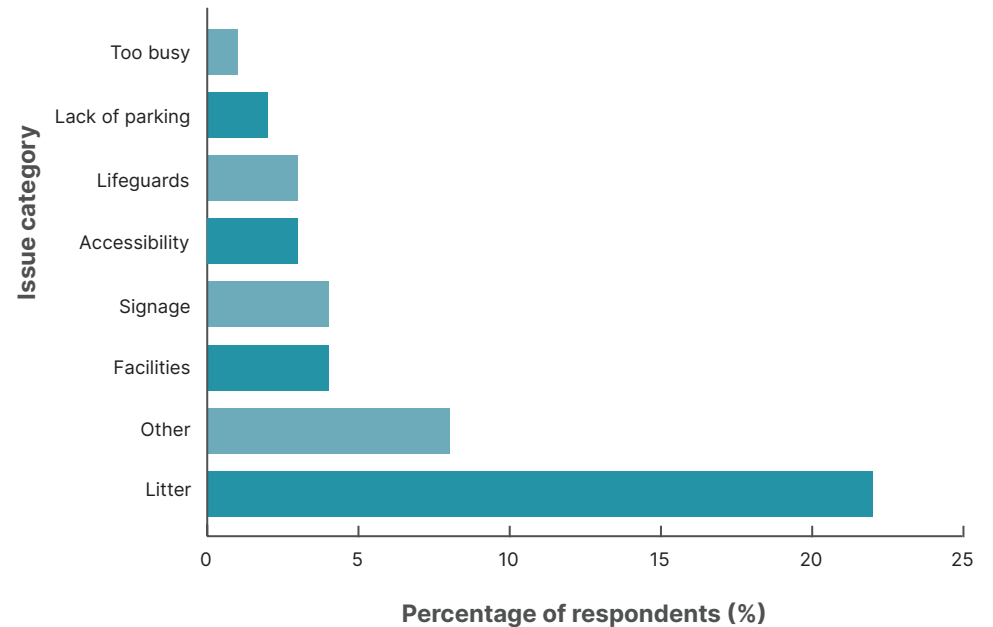
Figure ten displays the total number of non-Bylaw-related issues raised by respondents. In total 117 non-Bylaw-related issues were raised.

Litter accounted for the highest proportion of non-Bylaw-related issues (22%). Litter was by far the most significant non-Bylaw-related issue that arose from the survey responses, with the following issues trailing well behind it.

Issues that fell under 'other' came up at 8%. Facilities and signage were both at 4%, followed by concerns around accessibility and lifeguards which both contributed 3% of the total number of non-Bylaw-related issues.

The other categories of non-Bylaw-related issues accounted for 3% of all issues raised: Lack of parking (2%) and beaches being 'too busy' (1%).

Figure 10: Non-Bylaw-related issues (n=117)





Observed Conflict

A Quick Summary



Not observed any conflict

81%
2021

83%
2024

67%
2026



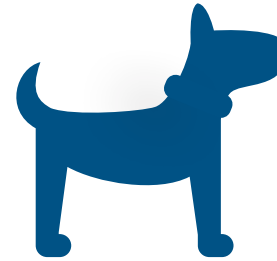
Observed conflict

19%
2021

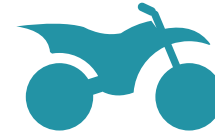
17%
2024

26%
2026

Top three topics of conflict observed:



Dogs 23%



Motorbikes 15%



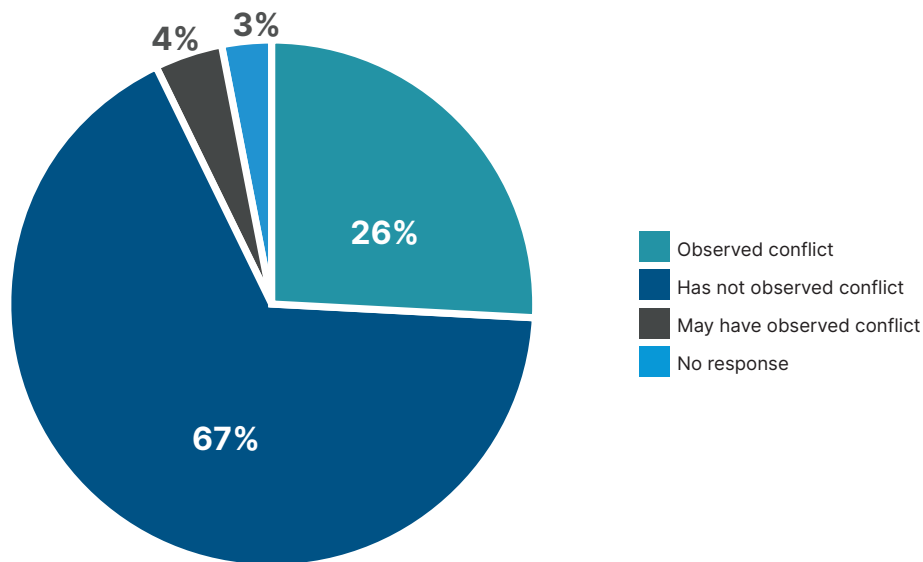
Not specific 13%

Observed Conflict

The question, "Have you observed any conflict on the beach?" was added to the 2021 survey to invite visitors that had witnessed other users' negative encounters to further expand on the information collected concerning coastal environment issues. The question was updated in the 2024 Survey to "Have you observed any conflict on the beach within the last 2 years?" to avoid any potential double up of data. This version of the question was maintained for the 2026 survey.

As shown in figure 11, of the 252 respondents surveyed, 26% reported observing conflict between other beach users. This is an increase of 9% from the results received on the 2024 survey, where only 17% of respondents reported having observed conflict in the past two years.

Figure 11: Observance of conflict over the past two years (n=252)



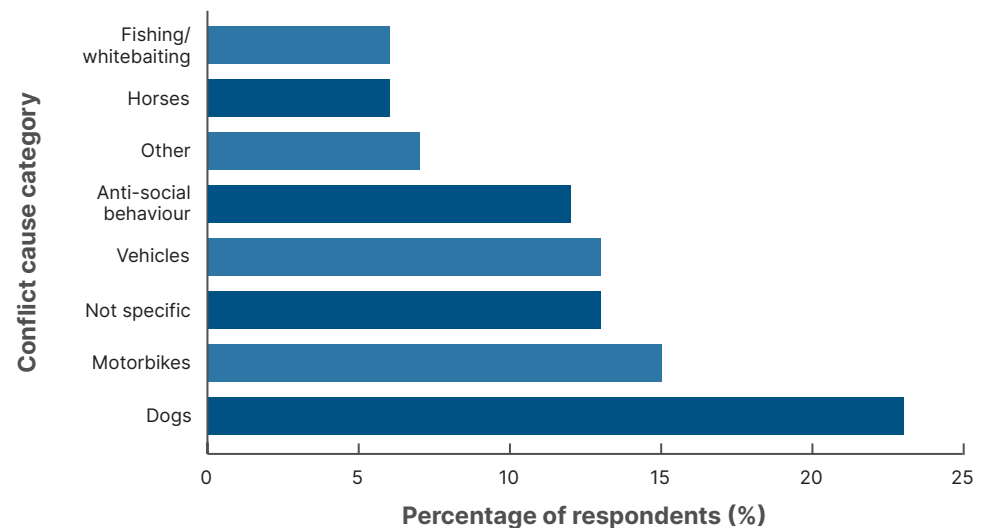
The most common cause of conflict has also shifted since the 2024 survey. In 2024, the most common cause was reported as vehicles on the beach. However, the results of the 2026 survey showed dogs to be the most common cause, with 23% of observed conflict being attributed to issues relating to dogs on the beach.

This was followed by motorbikes at 15%, with beach users commenting on the increase in popularity of e-bikes/motorbikes, and the issues this can cause on shared trails.

Other reported causes of conflict included issues that were non-specific or categorised as 'other' (19%), anti-social behaviour (12%), fishing/whitebaiting (6%), horses (6%), litter (3%), and seasonal issues (3%).

This is shown in detail in figure 12.

Figure 12: Main causes of conflict (n=151)

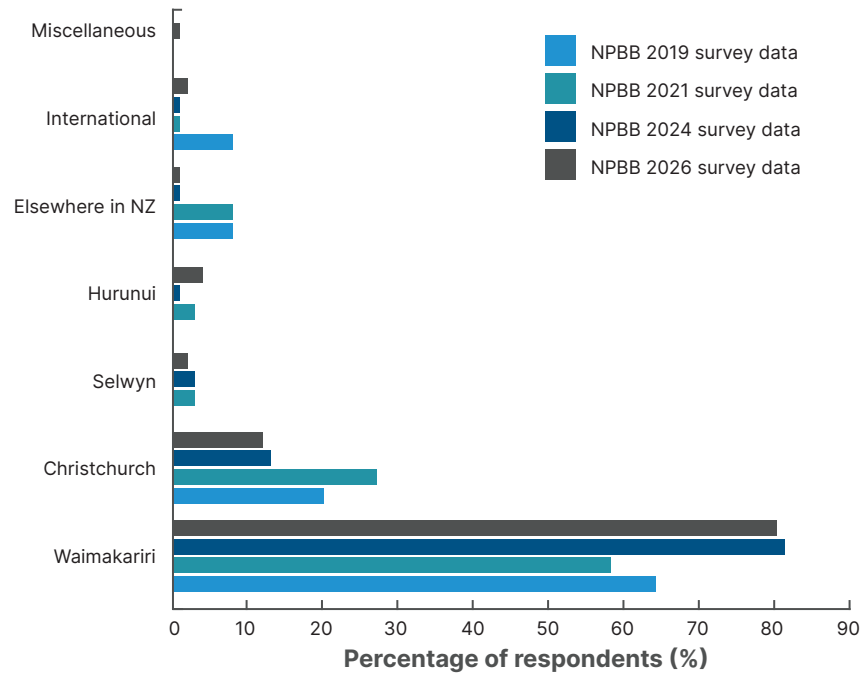




Trends

A Quick Summary

Where are our visitors from?



The main issues



In 2019 **6 out of 10** people surveyed reported issues



In 2021 **5 out of 10** people surveyed reported issues



In 2024 **6.5 out of 10** people surveyed reported issues



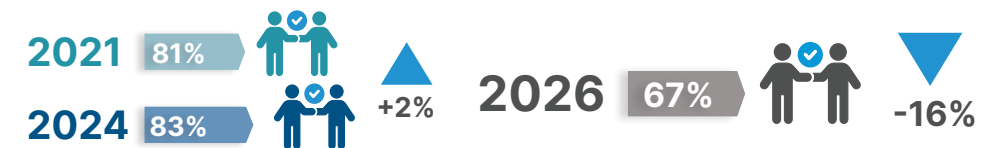
In 2026 **7.9 out of 10** people surveyed reported issues

Conflicts observed/not observed

Observed conflict



Not observed conflict



Trends

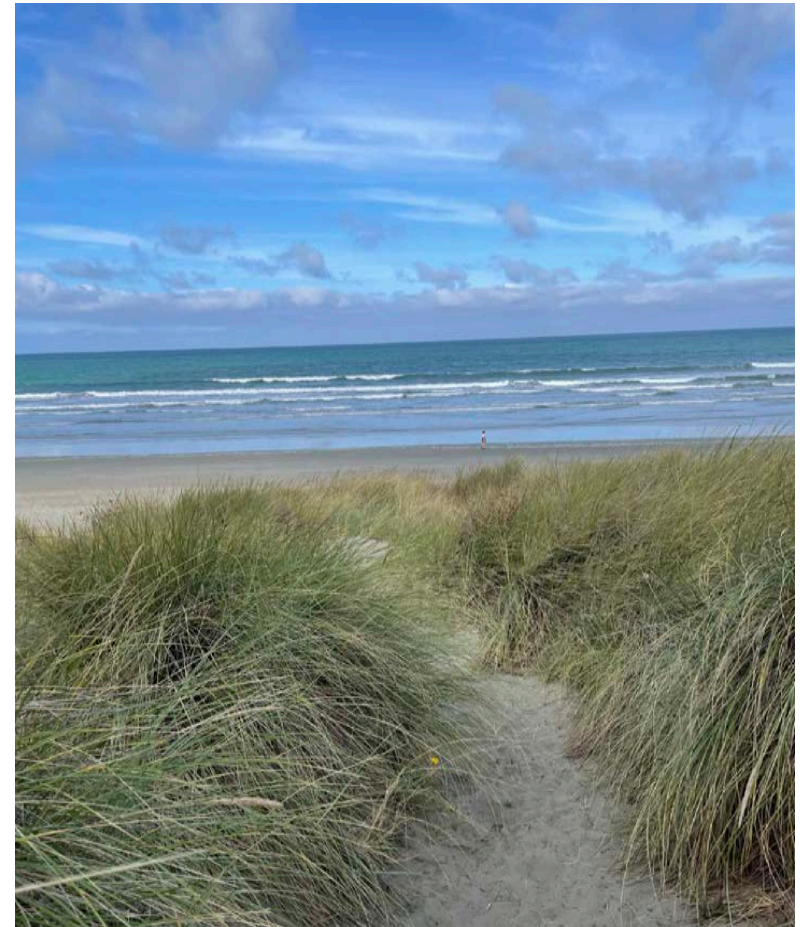
The proposed targets from the 2019 Intercept Survey report are based on maintaining the status quo or improving on the baselines established.

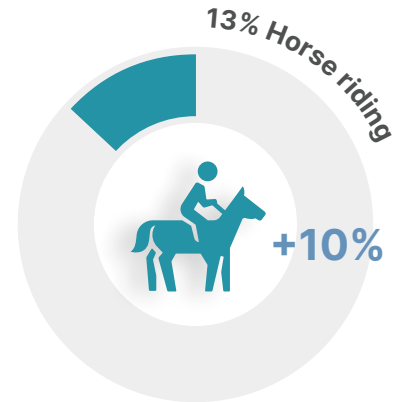
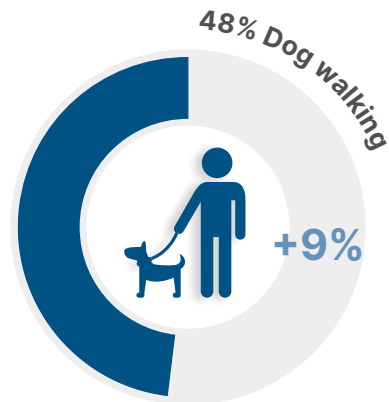
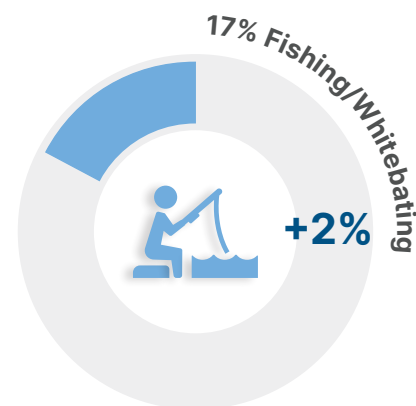
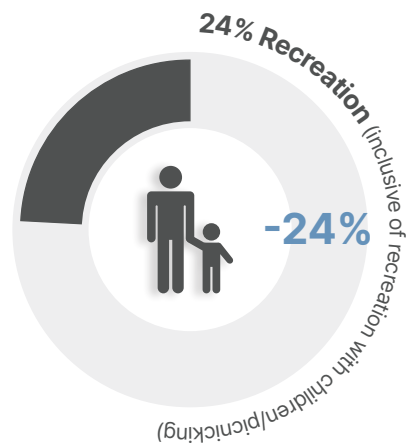
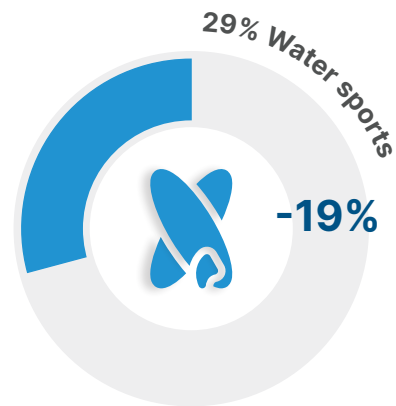
2019 Survey targets	2021 Survey results	2024 Survey results	2026 Survey results
No more than 6% dissatisfaction with horses	12%	7%	9%
No more than 37% dissatisfaction with litter	32%	12%	22% ✓
Less than 33% dissatisfaction with vehicles	44%	21%	30% ✓
Less than 24% dissatisfaction with dogs	23%	19%	17% ✓
Less than 17% dissatisfaction with motorbikes	8%	4%	19%

In 2021, three of the five targets established were achieved. The vehicle target was not achieved by 11% and the horse target by 6%.

In 2024, four of the five targets were achieved. The horse target was not achieved but was only over the target by 1%.

In 2026, three of the five targets were achieved. The horse target was not achieved for the third time in a row, this time by being 3% over, and the motorbike target was not achieved by 2%.





The range of activities

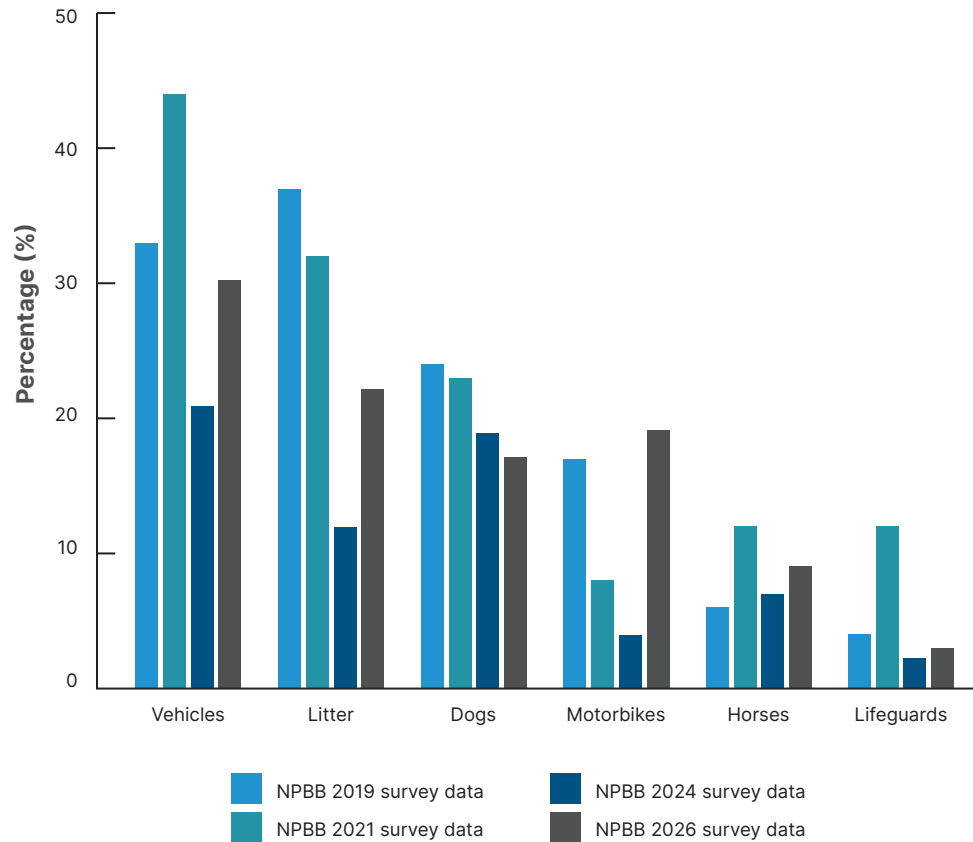
The Beach User Survey 2026 introduced a new way to ask beach users about the range of activities they were partaking in within the Northern Pegasus Bay area. Instead of simply asking what activities they normally do, survey respondents were also asked to indicate how often they do these activities. Options for each activity were daily, weekly, monthly, a few times a year, rarely, and never.

In order to undertake a comparative analysis on the range of activities participated in by beach users between the 2024 and 2026 surveys, the combined percentage of those indicating they do an activity either daily, weekly, or monthly has been combined from the 2026 survey results. This decision was made based on the wording from the 2024 survey, which asked what activities respondents would normally do, and the agreement that anything up to monthly could be perceived as an activity 'normally' participated in.

The main issue

In 2026, 200 respondents identified 389 issues for beach users in the coastal environment. 70% of the issues reported were Bylaw-related, leaving 30% of these being unrelated to the Bylaw.

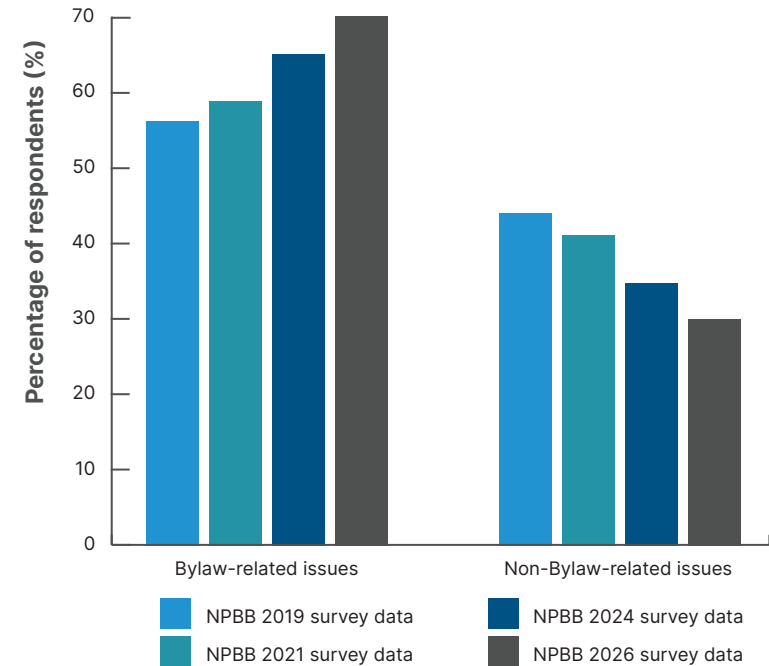
Figure 14: Comparison of the main issues arising from the 2019, 2021, 2024 and 2026 surveys



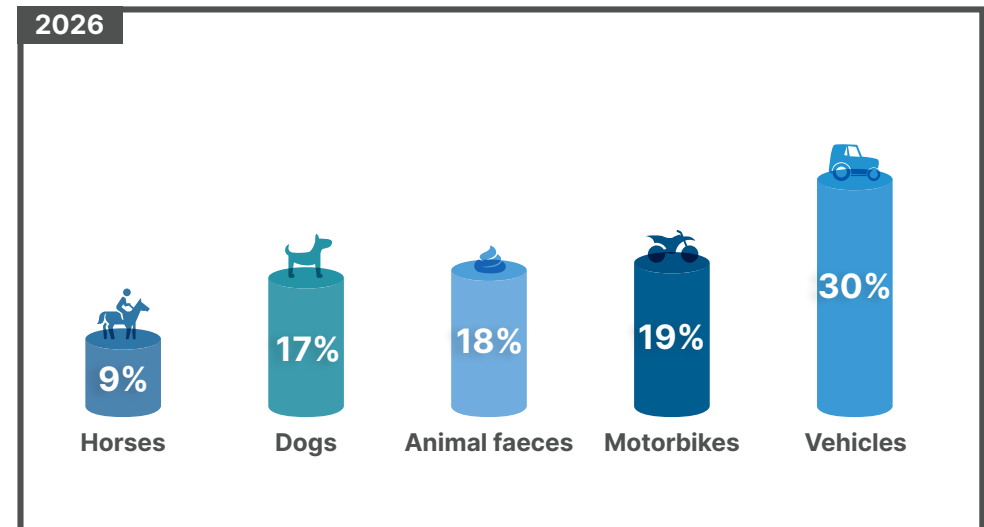
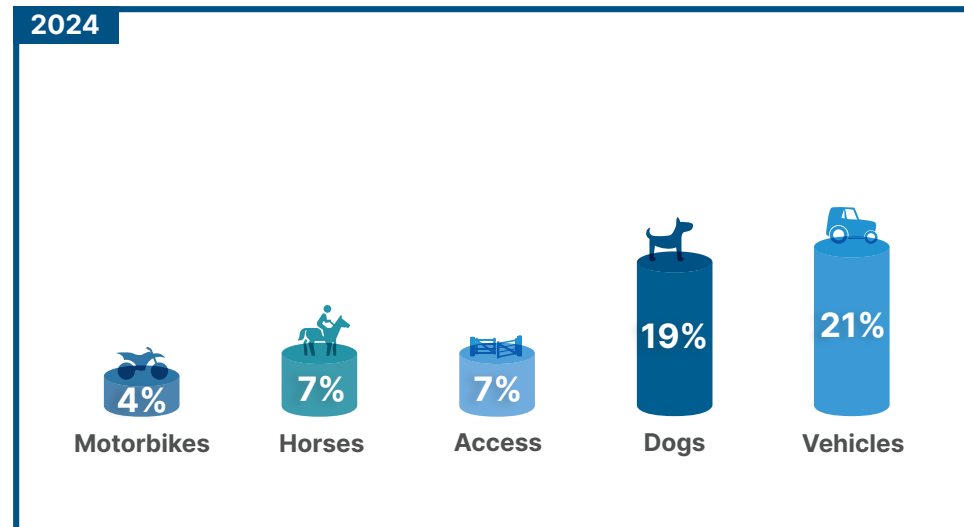
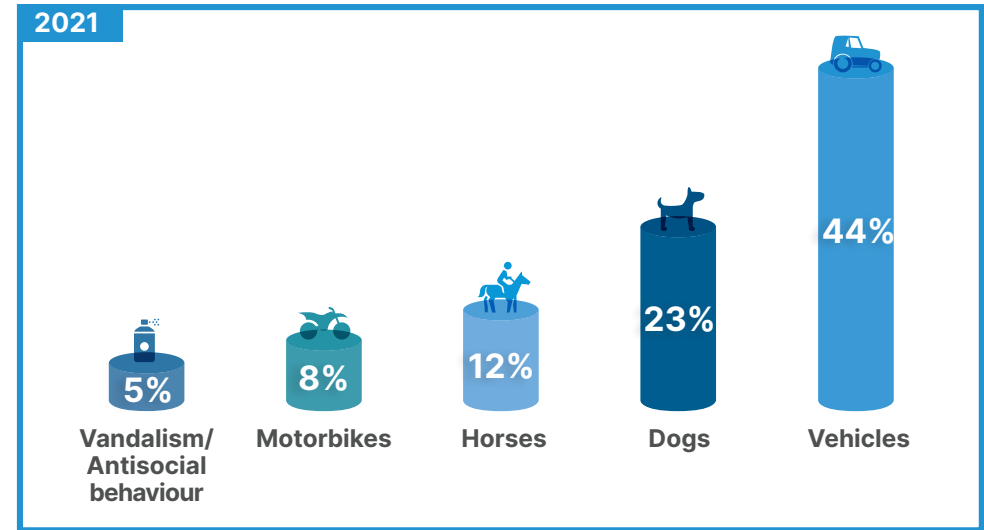
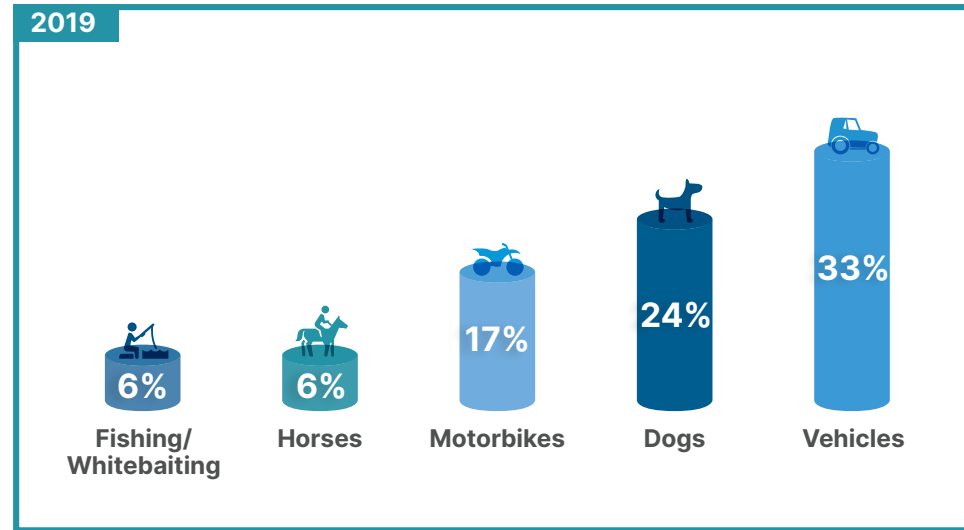
As shown in figure 14, vehicles, litter, and dogs were consistently the top three issues raised between the 2019, 2021, and 2024 surveys. In 2026, this shifted slightly to vehicles (30%), litter (22%), and motorbikes (19%).

Figure 15 depicts the percentage of respondents reporting Bylaw and non-Bylaw-related issues over the past four iterations of the survey. The number of Bylaw-related issues reported by beach users has consistently increased, with the number of non-Bylaw-related issues steadily decreasing over the years.

Figure 15: Percentage of respondents reporting issues



Top 5 Bylaw-related issues



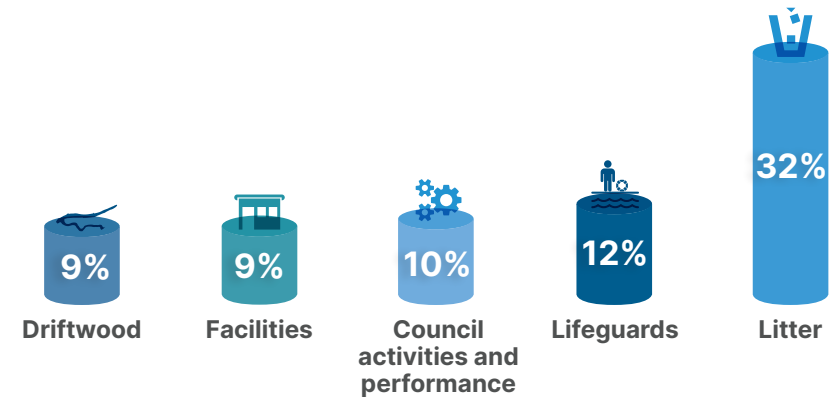
In total, there were **272 Bylaw-related issues** raised by respondents in the **2026** survey, which is **37 more Bylaw-related issues** than reported in the **2024** survey, **156 more** than in the **2021** survey, and **128 more** than in the **2019** survey.

Top 5 non-Bylaw-related issues

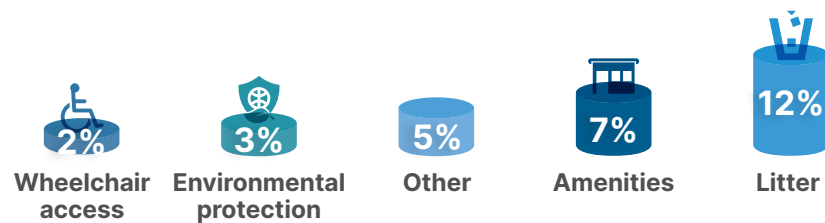
2019



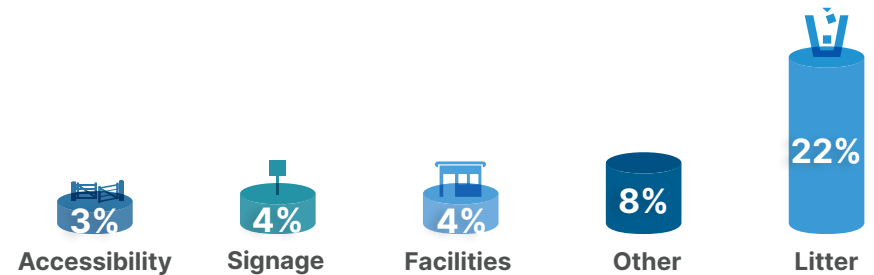
2021



2024



2026



In total, there were **117 non-Bylaw-related issues** raised by respondents in the **2026** survey, which is **12 fewer non-Bylaw-related issues** than reported in the **2024** survey, **35 more** than in the **2021** survey, and **17 more** than in the **2019** survey.



Appendices

Survey Form.....	42
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Map of Survey Locations	46
Facebook Posts	47
North Canterbury News Article.....	50

JANUARY 2026

Beach User Survey 2025/26

Time: _____ Survey location: _____

1. What is your age group? (Do not approach people under 18 years)

☐ 18–29 ☐ 30–39 ☐ 40–49 ☐ 50–59 ☐ 60–69 ☐ 70+

2. Where do you usually live?

☐ Waimakariri (general) ☐ Waimakariri (beach community)
☐ Selwyn District ☐ Christchurch
☐ Hurunui District ☐ Other (Please specify) _____

3. How did you get to the beach?

☐ Car ☐ Walking ☐ Cycling ☐ Public Transport
☐ Other (Please specify) _____

4. What time of day do you usually visit the beach?

☐ Morning ☐ Midday ☐ Afternoon ☐ Evening

5. How long do you usually spend at the beach?

☐ Less than 1 hour ☐ An hour ☐ More than an hour ☐ Half a day ☐ Full day

6. How often do you partake in the following activities at the beach?

Activity	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Few times a year	Rarely	Never
Walking and/or Running						
Water Sports (Swimming, Surfing etc.)						
Dog Walking						
Recreation (Picnicking etc.)						
Fishing/Whitebaiting						
Cycling						
Horse riding						
Driving						
Gathering Mahinga Kai						
Aircraft operation						

7. What do you enjoy most about this beach? (select all that apply)

- ☐ Close to home ☐ Quiet ☐ Family friendly ☐ Fishing/whitebaiting
☐ Peaceful ☐ Environment ☐ Water sports available ☐ Other
☐ Accessible ☐ Safe ☐ Facilities available
☐ Scenic ☐ Clean and tidy ☐ Wildlife

8. In your opinion, what are the main issues, and whereabouts do they occur at this beach?**9. How much does this issue/s affect your general enjoyment of the beach?**

- ☐ Not at all ☐ A little ☐ Quite a lot ☐ Significantly ☐ No response

10. How much does this issue/s affect your feeling of safety on the beach?

- ☐ Not at all ☐ A little ☐ Quite a lot ☐ Significantly ☐ No response

11. Have you observed any conflict on the beach in the last 2 years? Where? What did you see?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Maybe

12. Which of the following activities are you aware there are rules for within the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw? (select all that apply)

- ☐ Dogs ☐ Fires/fireworks ☐ Access restrictions ☐ Aircraft
☐ Vehicles ☐ Motorbikes ☐ Horses ☐ None at all. I'm not aware.

13. Do you understand why these rules exist?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No (skip to question 15) ☐ Unsure

14. If aware, how did you become aware of the Bylaw rules?

- ☐ Signage ☐ Waimakariri District Council staff member
☐ Council website ☐ Environment Canterbury ranger presence
☐ Word of mouth ☐ Northern Pegasus Bay Advisory Group member
☐ Social media ☐ Other (Please specify) _____
☐ Te Kōhaka o Tūhaitara Trust

15. How would you prefer the Council communicates with you about beach rules and changes?
(select all that apply)

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ Signage at beach entrances | ☐ Email newsletters | ☐ Local newspapers |
| ☐ Council website | ☐ Community noticeboards | ☐ Community cuppa/meetings |
| ☐ Social media
(e.g. Facebook, Instagram) | ☐ Other (Please specify) _____ | |

16. What improvements would make your beach experience better?

17. Are there any comments you would like to make about the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw?

GOT A MINUTE?

**BEACH
SURVEY**

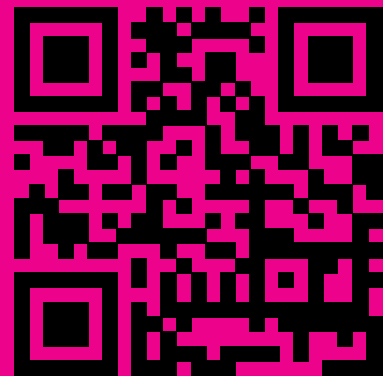
HOW DO YOU USE THE BEACHES?

We want to know what activities you like to do on the beach, and how, where and when you like to do them. This survey will help us form strategies and policies to ensure everyone's experiences of our beaches are the best they can be.

Please take a couple of minutes to complete the survey.

waimakariri.govt.nz/beachsurvey

SCAN ME.



Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw.





Waimakariri District Council

20 January · 🌐

Heading to the beach? 🏖️ Look for the pink signs while you're there! 💖



If you're at the beach, scan the QR code to take our Beach Users Survey. We're keen to know what you enjoy most while you're here - maybe it's walking, swimming, horse riding, fishing, surfing or something else.

By sharing your experience you'll help shape the next review of the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw (scheduled for 2030) and play a key role in protecting and improving this special coastal environment for everyone to enjoy in the meantime 🌊 See less





Waimakariri District Council ✓

6 February · 🌐

The sun seems to want to join us this weekend... finally 🌤️☀️

If you're heading to the beach, keep an eye out for our pink signs!

Scan the QR code and complete the online survey about your experience at our beaches. Your responses will contribute to the next review of the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw. [See less](#)





Waimakariri District Council ✓

26 February · 🌐

This week's your last chance to take part in the beach user survey.

It may not have been the summer we all hoped for, but many of you have still enjoyed heading to our beaches for walking, swimming, picnicking and more 🏖️🍷🐕

If you're at the beach this week and haven't taken the survey yet, please follow the instructions on our pink signs. Your feedback will help us with our next review of the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw. [See less](#)





Focus on Waimakariri

with Mayor Dan Gordon



Pegasus Bay user survey under way

While the weather hasn't exactly played ball so far this summer, I know many of you will still have been out enjoying our beautiful Waimakariri coastline whenever the sun has shown itself. If you've visited our beaches recently, Council would really like to hear from you.

The Northern Pegasus Bay Beach User Survey 2025/26 is currently underway, with signs up at key beach access points. This survey is an important way for us to understand how people are using our beaches and how well the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2025 is working to manage activities across the foreshore and surrounding areas.

By taking a few minutes to share your experience, you'll help inform the next review of the bylaw, scheduled for 2030. Just as importantly, your feedback helps us protect and improve this special coastal environment in the years between reviews, so it remains safe, accessible and enjoyable for everyone.

It has also been a busy start to the year at council as we work through the Annual Plan and review our budget for the year ahead.

As always, councillors and staff have gone through the numbers line by line to make sure we are achieving every possible savings.

We have agreed on an average rate increase of 4.91 per cent.

This Annual Plan closely reflects what we signalled in year three of our Long Term Plan.

We've cut our cloth where possible, without compromising the core services our communities rely on, and we've scaled back our capital programme to a level that is realistic, achievable and, importantly, affordable.

Within that overall figure, the general average rate increase for most ratepayers across the district is 2.7 per cent.

I hope everyone has something enjoyable planned for the upcoming Long Weekend.

I'll be travelling to Waitangi in my role as Vice President of Local Government New Zealand.

While I've visited Waitangi before, this will be my first time attending the official commemorations.

The significance of that place, and the opportunity to be part of such an important moment for our country, is something I'm really looking forward to.

As always, I welcome contact from anyone who needs assistance or has an issue that you might want to discuss.

Email me at dan.gordon@wmk.govt.nz or phone 021 906 437.

I'm here to help.





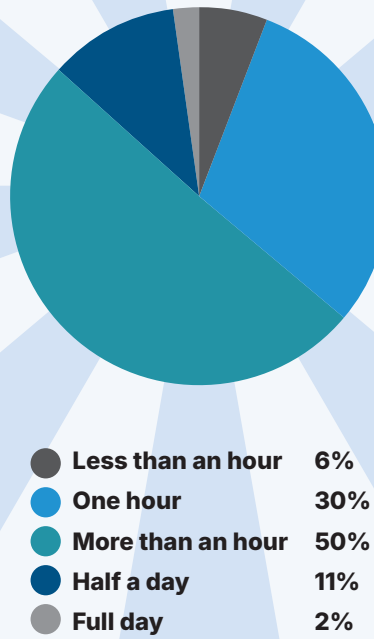
215 High Street
Private Bag 1005
Rangiora 7440, New Zealand
Phone 0800 965 468
waimakariri.govt.nz

Northern Pegasus Bay Beach User Survey 2026

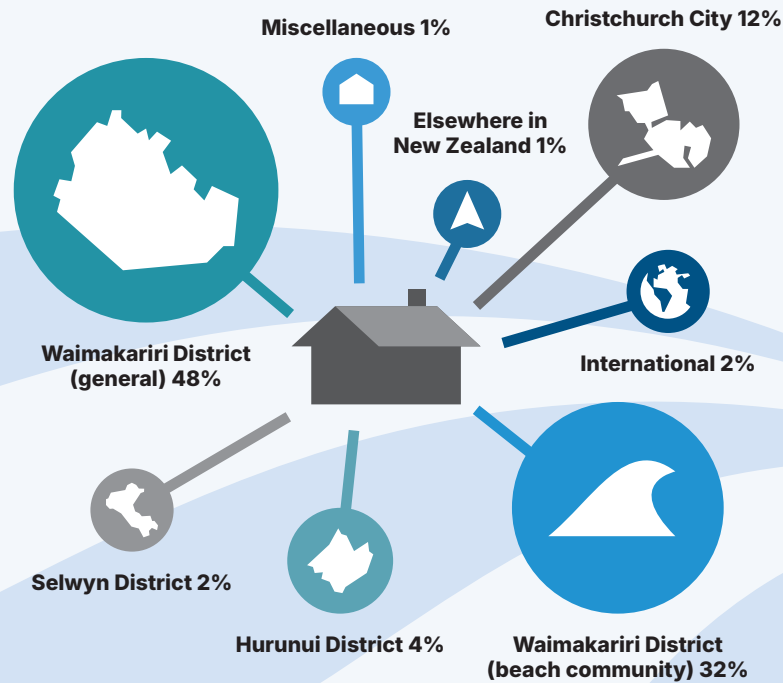
Between December 2025 and March 2026, 252 beach users were asked for their views on the coastal environment within the Northern Pegasus Bay.

Below is what they had to say...

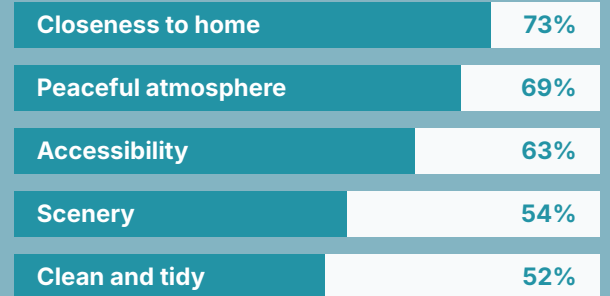
How long do they spend at the beach?



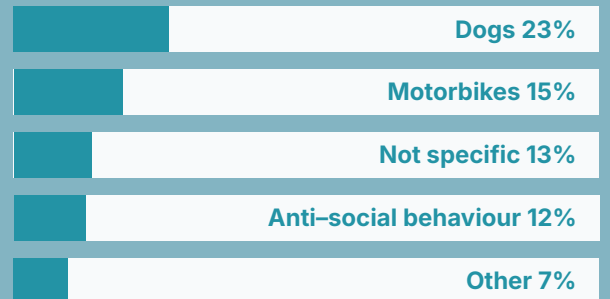
Where the respondents live



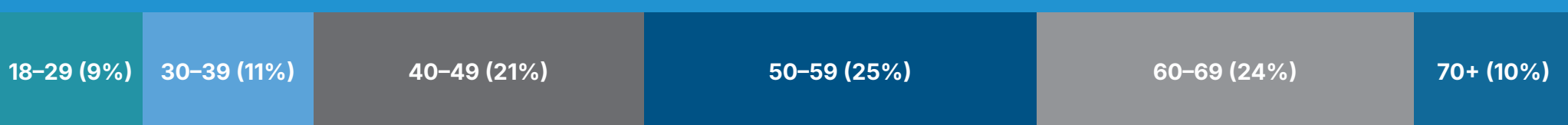
What do they enjoy?



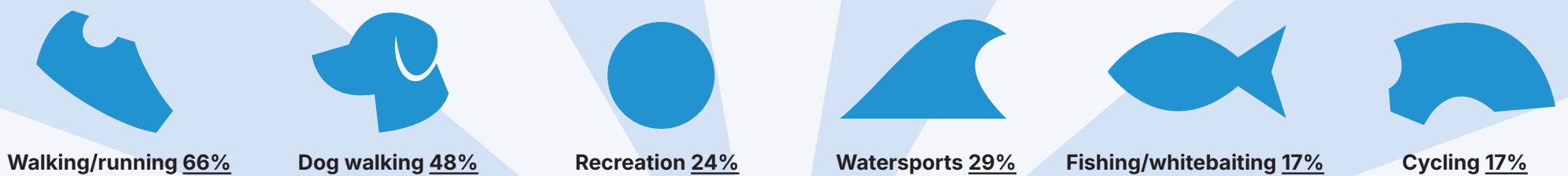
What do they think causes conflict?



Age of respondents

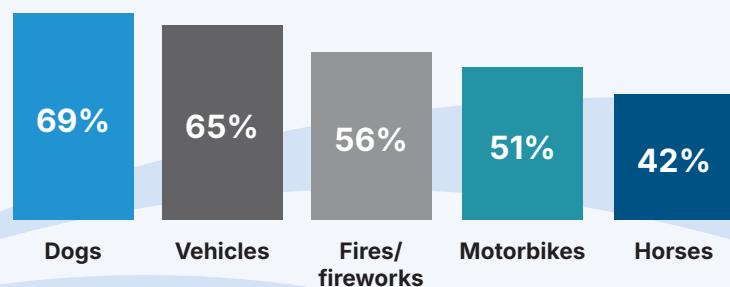


What are the most popular activities?

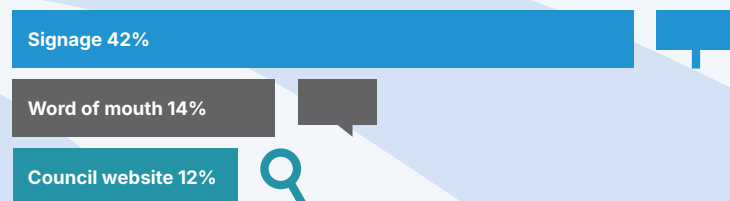


Awareness of the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw

Awareness of specific rules



How they became aware

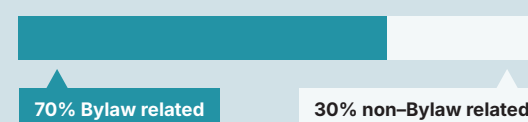


Issues?

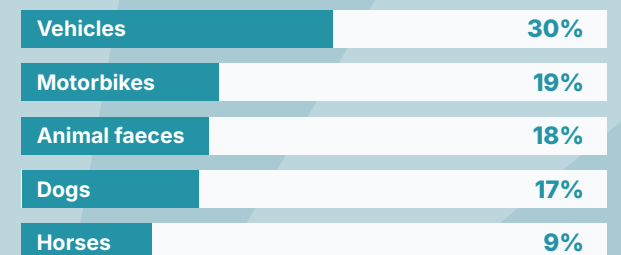
79% of respondents reported issues



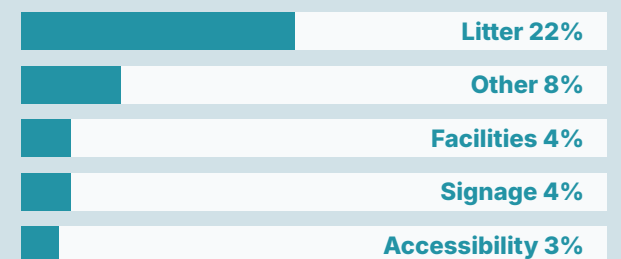
In total, 200 respondents raised 389 issues



Top 5 Bylaw related issues



Top 5 non-Bylaw related issues



Quotes

"Need better signage so people are aware of the rules"

"We're fortunate to have such beautiful and accessible beaches on our doorstep"

"Lots of issues with cars and motor-bikes in prohibited areas of beach"



WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL**REPORT FOR DECISION**

FILE NO and TRIM NO: GOV-04-04 / CMS-03-02/ 260828257863

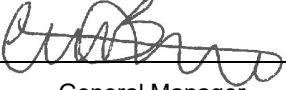
REPORT TO: COMMUNITY & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE OF MEETING: 15 September 2026

AUTHOR(S): Mel Foster, Community Development Facilitator – Arts Strategy Implementation

SUBJECT: Update on Management of Waimakariri District Art Collection

ENDORSED BY:
(for Reports to Council, Committees or Boards)



 General Manager



 Chief Executive

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1. This report gives an update on management of the art contained in the Waimakariri District Art Collection (the Collection) following the dissolution of the Waimakariri Art Collection Trust
- 1.2. It updates the Community and Recreation Committee on the creation of the Waimakariri District Art Collection Sub-Committee (the Sub-Committee), within the Waimakariri Community Arts Council (Arts Council). This sub-committee has taken over the acquisition and curation functions previously held by the dissolved Trust.
- 1.3. The report outlines work underway to improve the processes, management, storage and display of the Collection.
- 1.4. It seeks formal approval for full curatorship and management of the Collection, including a regular rotational programme, to be delegated to the newly established Waimakariri District Art Collection Sub-Committee.

Attachments:

- i. Waimakariri District Art Collection Sub-Committee Terms of Reference (draft) TRIM 260828257827
- ii. Waimakariri District Art Collection Removal and Rotation Process (draft) TRIM 260828257841

2. RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Community & Recreation Committee:

- a) **Receives** Report No. 260828257863.
- b) **Notes** that the Waimakariri Art Collection Trust has now been dissolved and all art and financial assets of the Trust have reverted to Council guardianship.
- c) **Notes** that over 70 pieces of art were accumulated over a period of years by the Trust through various means, including donations, Arts Council commission payments and Council grants. Therefore, while the Collection is a Council asset, it is also acknowledged as being 'owned' by the district's residents.
- d) **Notes** for context, the attached draft documents for the newly established Arts Collection Trust subcommittee of the Waimakariri Arts Council. Final drafts will be tabled at the meeting.
- e) **Notes** that Council has ring fenced the financial assets of the Waimakariri Art Collection Trust for the purpose of ongoing art maintenance.
- f) **Notes** that new processes and projects are being developed to improve the acquisition, management and maintenance of the Collection.

- g) **Notes** that storage has been secured within the Rangiora Service Centre for items not on display.
- h) **Notes** that an updated valuation of the artworks will be undertaken and that all items in the Collection are covered by Council insurance.
- i) **Approves** that full curatorship and management of the Collection, including a regular rotational programme, be delegated to the newly established Waimakariri District Art Collection Sub-Committee of the Community Arts Council.
- j) **Circulates** this report to the Audit and Risk Committee for information.

3. **BACKGROUND**

- 3.1. A review of the structure and processes around three art groups closely interconnected with council-operated facilities and spaces was undertaken in early 2025. This was in line with a review of the Art in Public Places Policy created in 2016, which had not progressed to formal adoption by Council.
- 3.2. One of these groups was the Waimakariri Art Collection Trust which was established in 1995. It was initiated by the Ashley Community Arts Council (now the Waimakariri Community Arts Council), with Waimakariri District Council as Settlor. The Art Collection Trust was a partnership between the Arts Council, Council and three secondary schools in the district to establish a collection of artworks of merit associated with North Canterbury. In later years, the schools stepped away from involvement.
- 3.3. Curation of the Collection had been undertaken by a committee on behalf of the Trust, most of whom were also members of the Arts Council.
- 3.4. Over 70 pieces of art were accumulated over a period of years by the Trust through various means, including donations, Arts Council commission payments and Council grants. To this end, the Collection was acknowledged as being owned by District residents and managed as a Council asset on their behalf.
- 3.5. With limited display space, the acquisition of new work had decreased significantly in recent years, and the administrative, auditing requirements and costs far outweighed the amount of activity the Trust conducted.
- 3.6. In September 2025, the Community and Recreation Committee agreed to a staff recommendation that the function of the Art Collection Trust be absorbed into a new Waimakariri District Art Collection Sub-Committee of the Arts Council and the Trust be dissolved.
- 3.7. In 2026, the Waimakariri Art Collection Trust was dissolved, and the funds and artwork were transferred to Council, who would hold the assets on behalf of the community and the Art Collection subcommittee.
- 3.8. The new Art Collection sub-Committee was formed at the Arts Council AGM and the following representatives appointed: Kathy Anderson (Chair), Miranda Hales, Terry Bennett and Alastair Blackie. Cr Brent Cairns is the nominated Elected Member representative and the Community Development Facilitator - Arts Strategy acts as an ex-officio member with no voting rights. On 11 July 2026 the new sub-committee had its inaugural meeting where they reviewed their Terms of Reference draft document (Appendix i).
- 3.9. As part of community development's business as usual role in supporting the capacity and capability of local groups and organisations, staff have been working with the new Sub-Committee towards the development, maintenance and storage of the artwork collection.
- 3.10. The current value of the artworks is estimated to be around \$195,000. However, an updated valuation still needs to be undertaken. The balance of the cash transferred was \$18,446.88. This has been ring fenced alongside Council's annual grant of \$2,790 + GST, for the Subcommittee, to cover any maintenance of existing pieces, going forward.
- 3.11. The Art Collection Subcommittee will seek external funding for any future acquisitions that have not been donated.

4. **KEY ISSUES**

- 4.1. **Asset register** – a working document is being developed to gather information on the artworks including artist, medium and dimensions, current location and estimated value. Once this information is complete, an updated valuation will be undertaken, and the artworks will be loaded onto the Asset Information Management system. Where possible, each artwork will be physically labelled with artist, name and asset number for easy identification.

A similar process is being worked through for the outdoor public art sculptures and murals managed by the Waimakariri Public Arts Trust.

- 4.2. **Policies to ensure effective care and management** – draft documents have been prepared and are currently with the Sub-Committee for review (Appendix ii). These include a more formal process for the installation, relocation and handling of artworks to ensure health and safety protocols are followed, the asset register is accurately maintained and Council buildings are protected from damage.
- 4.3. **Storage** – historically there has been an issue finding a central, safe and secure storage option for artwork items not currently on display. A walk-in cupboard in the Rangiora Service Centre, previously storing obsolete computer equipment, has been repurposed and is now available for items to be secured. The Sub-Committee will be assessing each item to ensure they are secured safely in appropriate packaging.

The Sub-Committee will be looking at items currently held in storage that are unlikely to be displayed in the future, due to content or size, for possible sale or loan to another collection. For future purchases or sales, the Sub-Committee will follow the criteria and process as outlined in the Draft Terms of Reference and Removal and Rotation Process document.

- 4.4. **Regular rotation of artworks** – staff are working alongside the new Sub-Committee to develop a plan of all available locations for displaying art. This will include assessment of current location of artworks and acquisition of additional plinths and display cases for sculptures. Once this is finalised, members will create a rotational schedule to allow the maximum appreciation of the pieces in the collection throughout the district.
- 4.5. **Development of artwork catalogue content** – the final step will be to develop gallery-standard public-facing labels, which will include the name of the artist and artwork with a short description of the piece. A QR code will be added to link to further information. A suitably sized font will be used to support accessibility for visually impaired viewers

The Sub-Committee is currently working through the archives and old Trust minutes to generate some of this information and complete the details required for the asset management records. A list of artists to interview is being compiled with the possibility of a journalism student or contractor being able to help with this.

It is envisaged that this content will be collated so that stories from the Collection can be shared through other channels, such as e-newsletters and social media. Information will be scanned and held in TRIM as it comes to hand.

This process will also be implemented for the outdoor public sculptures managed by the Waimakariri Public Arts Trust.

5. **OPTIONS**

- 5.1. **Option 1** – Approval that full curatorship and management of the Collection, including a regular rotational programme, be delegated to the newly established Waimakariri District Art Collection Sub-Committee.

This is the preferred option as it continues the work already carried out by the dissolved Trust and confirms the intended role of the new Sub-Committee through the Arts Council MOU. It also

significantly reduces the amount of staff time associated with the Arts Collection, in that it removes the need for reports to Council when an artwork needs to be moved, sold or purchased.

The Collection is acknowledged as being owned by District residents and managed as a Council asset on their behalf. This option supports the original intention of the Trust, which was that Elected Members would remain at arm's length from decisions about artwork acquisition for the Collection.

- 5.2. **Option 2** – Approve curatorship of the Collection by the newly established Waimakariri District Art Collection Sub-Committee. Decisions on the sale, purchase and movement of artwork would be managed by Council.

This is not the preferred option, as it would be inconsistent with the decision made by Council to establish the Sub-Committee responsible for artwork curation and management.

This option is more staff heavy in terms of report writing to Council regarding any sale, purchase or loaning of Arts Collection pieces. Furthermore, the necessary involvement of all Elected Members in decisions about the Collection, could create conflict-of-interest implications and a perception that Council is actively controlling acquisition and display decisions.

- 5.3. The Management Team has reviewed this report and supports the recommendations.

6. **STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT AND COMMUNITY VIEWS**

Mana Whenua Engagement

- 6.1. The subject matter and/or recommendations contained within this report are not likely to be of interest to mana whenua.

Groups, Organisations and the Wider Community

- 6.2. There are groups, organisations, or members of the wider community likely to be affected by, or to have an interest in, the subject matter of this report.

- Waimakariri Community Arts Council
- Waimakariri District Art Collection Sub-Committee

These groups have agreed in principle to the recommendations in this report. Feedback on the Draft MOU is currently being worked through with signing of the amended documents expected shortly.

Implications for Community Wellbeing

- 6.3. There are implications for community wellbeing arising from the issues and options that are the subject matter of this report. Improved care, interpretation and rotation of the Collection will support public access to local art, strengthen community identity and belonging, and encourage participation in the district's cultural life.

Community Outcomes and Strategic Priorities

- 6.4. The Council's community outcomes are relevant to the actions arising from recommendations in this report.

Cultural

- Public spaces express our cultural identities and help to foster an inclusive society.
- The distinctive character of our takiwā / district, arts and heritage are preserved and enhanced.
- Waimakariri's diversity is freely expressed, respected and valued.
- There is an environment that supports creativity and innovation for all.

Social

- Public spaces are diverse, respond to changing demographics and meet local needs for leisure and recreation.

6.5. The Council's Strategic Priorities are relevant to the actions arising from recommendations in this report.

This report meets the following goals and objectives in the Ngā Toi o Waimakariri - Waimakariri Arts Strategy:

- Reflect Belonging and Identity
 - Ensure that identity and belonging are reflected in our creativity.
- Connect Community and the Arts
 - Develop and strengthen opportunities for the community and the arts to connect.
 - Put Waimakariri on the map as an arts destination.
- Activate Artistic Expression
 - Activate and enhance diverse creative expression.
 - Encourage collaboration and the sharing of knowledge and practice.
 - Facilitate accessible platforms for creative expression.
- Strengthen Our Arts Sector
 - Support initiatives that facilitate a more sustainable local arts sector.
 - Champion, promote and develop Waimakariri arts.

7. **OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISK MANAGEMENT**

Financial Implications

- 7.1. There are financial implications for the decisions sought by this report.
- 7.2. The current value of the artworks is estimated to be around \$195,000. However, an updated valuation still needs to be undertaken. The balance of the cash transferred was \$18,446.88. This has been ring fenced alongside Council's annual grant of \$2,790 + GST, to cover any maintenance of existing pieces, going forward.
- 7.3. The Art Collection Subcommittee will seek external funding for any future acquisitions that have not been donated.
- 7.4. Any staff support for the Arts Collection Subcommittee is carried out as part of already budgeted business as usual community development – "supporting community groups and organisations to increase their capacity and capability."

Community Resilience and Sustainability

- 7.5. The recommendations in this report do not have sustainability and/or climate change impacts.

Risk Management

- 7.6. There are risks arising from the adoption and implementation of the recommendations in this report.
 - There is a risk in granting the Sub-Committee full management around the Collection on behalf of the District and Council. However, this is considered low risk as the Sub-Committee members are former members of the dissolved Trust, and Council has previously entrusted

them to make those decisions. Recently introduced processes require a more formal assessment of artwork for acquisition, removal or sale.

- It is possible that some members of the community may not like particular artworks on display. One important outcome of public art is the stimulation of conversation and opinion, and an appreciation of the role art can play in public spaces. The diversity of the Collection is expected to generate constructive discussion about art.
- With any public art, there is a risk of theft or vandalism. As the artworks are displayed within Council facilities during opening hours, this is considered a low risk.
- There is a risk that some artworks in the Collection may not be considered suitable for public display. In such cases, these works may be sold, with the funds tagged for future artwork acquisitions, in consultation with the Sub-Committee.

Health and Safety

7.7. There are health and safety risks arising from the adoption and implementation of the recommendations in this report.

- The installation of artworks may require the use of tools, ladders and other equipment. Processes are in place to ensure all work is undertaken safely, in accordance with health and safety requirements, and with appropriate care for Council facilities and assets.

8. CONTEXT

Consistency with Policy

8.1. This matter is not a matter of significance in terms of the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

Authorising Legislation

8.2. Waimakariri Community Arts Council is an independent incorporated society with 15 members and its own Constitution. The Constitution grants right of membership to Waimakariri District Council through the appointment of an elected member.

8.3. The main purpose of the Society is to encourage, promote and support arts within the Waimakariri District.

Authorising Delegations

8.4. The Community & Recreation Committee has delegated authority to approve the recommendations in this report.

Waimakariri District Art Collection Sub-Committee Terms of Reference

Waimakariri Community Arts Council

1. Purpose of the Sub-Committee

- 1.1. The Waimakariri District Art Collection Sub-Committee (the Sub-Committee), operating under the Waimakariri Community Arts Council (WCAC), exists to:
 - Establish and maintain a high quality collection of artworks of merit that reflect the identity, heritage, and creativity of the Waimakariri District.
 - Acquire artworks connected to the district through gift, bequest, commission, or purchase, in accordance with Sub-Committee processes.
 - Help ensure the long-term preservation, documentation, and maintenance of the Waimakariri District Art Collection (the Collection).
 - Support public appreciation, education and access to the Collection.
 - Management of the collection, including decisions on purchases and sales of existing artwork, has been delegated to the Sub-Committee.

2. Background

- 2.1. The Waimakariri Art Collection has been accumulated over a period of years by the Waimakariri Art Collection Trust through various means including donations, WCAC commission payments and Waimakariri District Council (WDC) grants. To this end, the collection is acknowledged as being owned by district residents but managed as a WDC asset on their behalf.
- 2.2. In 2026 the Waimakariri Art Collection Trust was dissolved, and the funds and artwork were transferred to Waimakariri District Council to hold the assets on behalf of the community.
- 2.3. A Sub-Committee under the Waimakariri Community Arts Council will manage the collection including curation, sales of unwanted items or purchase of future acquisitions.

3. Sub-Committee structure

- 3.1. The Sub-Committee will comprise a minimum of 5, maximum of 8 members made up of the following:
 - WCAC representatives – initial set-up to include members of the dissolved Waimakariri Art Collection Trust.
 - One WDC elected representative.
 - One WDC staff representative (ex-officio) with no voting rights.
- 3.2. Non-Council appointments to the Sub-Committee will be managed by the Waimakariri Community Arts Council through their agreed election process.
- 3.3. A member of the Sub-Committee is to be nominated as the direct liaison person for day-to-day communication between the Committee and the WDC staff representative.

4. Sub-Committee Responsibilities

The Sub-Committee agrees to:

- 4.1. Follow the Artwork Acquisition Process for acquiring new artwork pieces as detailed in this document.
- 4.2. Ensure a diverse range of artists and styles are maintained in new acquisitions to create an inspiring and engaging collection.
- 4.3. Uphold a fair and transparent process for selecting and acquiring artwork for the Collection.
- 4.4. Work closely with WDC staff to maintain accurate records of all artworks within the collection and their locations.
- 4.5. Work closely with WDC staff to implement a rotational programme to refresh artworks in Council locations to ensure maximum community appreciation.
- 4.6. Arrange external funding applications and fundraising as needed towards the acquisition of new artwork.
- 4.7. Report on damage or deterioration to artwork to WDC staff.
- 4.8. Evaluate any artwork not on display that could potentially be sold or gifted to another collection. The decision to sell must be agreed by majority vote of Sub-Committee members.
- 4.9. Keep any gifted works of historical significance in perpetuity, these items must not be sold.
- 4.10. Consider gifting or loaning any artwork currently not on display, or unlikely to be on display, to other public collections.

5. WDC Responsibilities

WDC agrees to:

- 5.1. Hold funds specifically tagged for the Waimakariri District Art Collection for the purpose of acquiring artwork to be publicly displayed.
- 5.2. Ensure a clear, straightforward process for the Sub-Committee to access funds towards new artwork acquisition.
- 5.3. Hold records of each artwork in the WDC Asset Information Management system.
- 5.4. Be responsible for arranging regular valuations and insuring the art collection.
- 5.5. Work with WCAC to implement a rotational programme for refresh of artworks. This will include providing suitable equipment and labour to remove and install the artworks.
- 5.6. Provide a centralised area for safe and secure storage of artwork.

6. Artwork acquisition process

The following process will apply for purchase of new artwork for the Waimakariri District Art Collection:

- 6.1 Identify potential artwork(s) for purchase and confirm indicative price, availability, and any delivery/installation requirements.
- 6.2 Assess the artwork against the Sub-Committee's selection criteria, including (as applicable):
 - artistic excellence and innovation;
 - relevance/connection to the Waimakariri District and community engagement value;
 - diversity in the collection including whether there are already similar or too many pieces by the same artist;
 - suitability for display within Council public spaces, including the practicality of installation and the appropriateness of the content for public settings;
 - durability and long-term integrity;
 - any ownership or management considerations (e.g. movement, relocation, or disposal);
 - in which WDC location the artwork would be displayed.
- 6.3 Declare and manage any conflicts of interest before discussion and decision. Conflicts and any abstentions must be recorded in the meeting minutes.

- 6.4 Decision to purchase must be agreed by the Sub-Committee (noted in minutes), including approved purchase price and the funding source.
- 6.5 Confirm purchase details with the artist/vendor in writing, including price (GST if applicable), payment terms, delivery/collection arrangements, and any required documentation (e.g., authenticity/provenance information, care instructions).
- 6.6 Obtain an invoice addressed to Waimakariri District Council (WDC) with all required details (supplier name, bank account, description of artwork, total amount, and any agreed delivery costs if applicable).
- 6.7 Send the invoice (and supporting documentation/approval note) to the nominated WDC staff representative for processing. Allow 21 days for payment from the date the invoice is received by WDC.
- 6.8 On completion of purchase, coordinate delivery/collection and any installation planning with WDC staff as required.
- 6.9 Ensure the artwork details are provided to WDC staff for recording in the Collection/asset records (artist, title, date, medium, dimensions, purchase price, provenance, location, and any care/handling requirements).

7. Conflict of interest in acquisition process

- 7.1. All members must act in the best interests of the Collection and the community and avoid situations where personal, professional, or financial interests could improperly influence (or be seen to influence) Sub-Committee decisions.
- 7.2. Members must promptly disclose any actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest, including (for example) where a member (or their partner, whānau/family, or close associate):
 - is the artist, vendor, agent, gallery representative, framer, conservator, insurer, or otherwise has a commercial interest in an artwork or service being considered;
 - stands to gain a benefit (financial or non-financial) from a decision, including a commission, referral, discount, sponsorship, or future work;
 - has a close personal relationship with an artist or vendor whose work is being considered; or
 - holds another role (paid or voluntary) that could reasonably be seen as influencing their advice or vote.
- 7.3 Declared conflicts must be recorded in meeting minutes.

8. Reporting

- 8.1 Work with WDC staff each year to produce an annual report including descriptions of purchases, sales and any plans for relocation of artworks managed by the Waimakariri District Art Collection Sub-Committee.

9. Acknowledgment

I have read and understood the WCAC District Art Collection Sub-Committee Terms of Reference.

Name _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Name _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Name _____

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Waimakariri District Art Collection

Artwork Removal and Rotation Process

This document applies to:

Waimakariri District Art Collection Sub-Committee

Waimakariri District Council staff

Purpose of the Collection

The Waimakariri Art Collection has been accumulated over a period of years by the Waimakariri Art Collection Trust through various means including donations, Waimakariri Community Arts Council (WCAC) commission payments and Waimakariri District Council (WDC) grants.

The Trust was dissolved in 2025 and assets were transferred to Council to manage on behalf of the newly formed Waimakariri Art Collection Sub-Committee which sits under the Waimakariri Community Arts Council. The collection is acknowledged as being owned by district residents but managed as a WDC asset on their behalf.

The purpose of the art collection is to display high quality collection of artworks of merit in Council premises that reflect the identity, heritage, and creativity of the Waimakariri District.

Management of the collection, including decisions on purchases and sales of existing artwork, has been delegated to the Sub-Committee.

A WDC staff representative sits on the Sub-Committee as an ex-officio member with no voting rights.

Artwork removal and rotation process

The following process will apply for the removal, relocation, rotation, temporary storage, and reinstallation of artworks in the Waimakariri District Art Collection.

1. WDC staff and the Sub-Committee will maintain a current location register for all artworks, including the artwork title, artist, asset record, current location, installation date, condition notes, and any special handling requirements.
2. The Sub-Committee will review artwork locations annually and identify artworks recommended for rotation, removal or conservation assessment. Recommendations should take into account artwork condition, display suitability, security and environmental conditions such as light, heat, humidity, and exposure.

3. The Sub-Committee will agree proposed rotations or removals by majority decision and record the decision in the meeting minutes. Where urgent removal is required due to damage or security concerns, nominated WDC staff may remove the artwork immediately and notify the Sub-Committee liaison person as soon as practicable.
4. Before any planned rotation or removal, the WDC staff representative will confirm practical arrangements with WDC Property staff and confirm whether any specialist handling or conservation advice is required.
5. Only nominated WDC staff, approved contractors, or suitably authorised persons may physically remove, install or store artworks. Artworks must be handled carefully and in line with any recorded care instructions. Other WDC staff at the display location should not move artworks unless specifically authorised.
6. A condition check should be completed before removal and after reinstallation or placement in storage. Any damage, missing labels, or deterioration concerns must be recorded and reported to the WDC staff representative and the Sub-Committee liaison person.
7. The WDC staff representative will ensure the asset records follow each movement, including the date removed, previous and new location or storage area, condition notes and any follow-up action required.
8. Any artwork identified for potential sale or loan, disposal, or long-term removal from display must follow the Sub-Committee decision-making requirements in this document, including majority agreement, minuted decisions, and any valuation or condition advice required before action is taken.

Artwork sale process

The following process will apply when the Sub-Committee recommends that a painting from the Waimakariri District Art Collection be sold.

1. The Sub-Committee will identify the painting proposed for sale and confirm the reasons for sale.
2. Before a sale decision is made, the WDC staff representative will confirm the artwork record, ownership status, provenance information, condition notes, and whether any donor, legal, cultural, or other restrictions apply.
3. The Sub-Committee will obtain appropriate valuation or market advice where required, and may seek conservation or specialist advice before setting a reserve price or recommended sale method.
4. The Sub-Committee will agree to sell the painting by majority decision and record the decision, reasons for sale, agreed sale method, reserve price if applicable, and any conditions of sale in the meeting minutes.
5. The WDC staff representative will coordinate the agreed sale process, which may include offering the artwork through an appropriate gallery, auction house, public sale, or other transparent method approved by the Sub-Committee.

6. All sale proceeds will be receipted and recorded in accordance with WDC financial processes. Unless otherwise agreed, proceeds should be used to support the care, conservation, display, or future acquisition of artworks for the collection.
7. Following the sale, the WDC staff representative will update the collection register and asset records to show the artwork as sold, including the sale date, sale price, purchaser or sale agent where appropriate, and any supporting documentation.

Display of artwork in non-public areas

The collection is intended to be accessible to, and appreciated by, Waimakariri District residents through display in public areas wherever practicable.

WDC Management may request artwork for display in their office areas. Where appropriate, the WDC staff representative will provide options from artworks held in storage that are not currently included in the rotational display programme.

Artwork displayed in offices will remain subject to the WDC rotation process to ensure the collection continues to be available for appreciation by as many Waimakariri District residents as possible.

WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL**REPORT FOR INFORMATION**

FILE NO and TRIM NO: GOV-01-04 / 260722177923

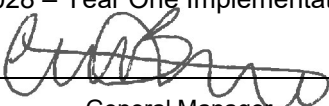
REPORT TO: Community and Recreation Committee

DATE OF MEETING: 15 September 2026

AUTHOR(S): Martin Pugh – Community Development Facilitator

SUBJECT: Inclusive Waimakariri – a Plan to become a more Accessible District 2025 – 2028 – Year One Implementation Report

ENDORSED BY:
(for Reports to Council, Committees or Boards)


 General Manager


 Chief Executive

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to update Community and Recreation Committee on progress toward the goals of Inclusive Waimakariri – A Plan to become a more Accessible District 2025 – 2028 (the plan)
- 1.2. One year into the Plan's four-year term, staff have progressed 18 of the Plan's 40 priority actions and strengthened accessibility considerations across Council projects, services and programmes through cross-departmental collaboration.
- 1.3. Implementation is on track for Year One, with a focus on strengthening staff awareness, and embedding accessibility into decision-making and project planning.
- 1.4. A staff led, cross departmental Project Control Group has been established and will continue monitor progress to ensure all priority actions of the plan are achieved by 2028, when the plan is due for review.

Attachments:

- i. Inclusive Waimakariri – a plan to become a more Accessible District 2025 – 2028 (Trim# 221128205745)

2. RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 260722177923
- (b) **Circulates** this report to Council and Community Boards and the Waimakariri Access Group for their information.
- (c) **Notes** that the implementation period for the Inclusive Waimakariri Plan is 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2028
- (d) **Notes** that this is the first of four annual progress reports on the implementation of the Plan.
- (e) **Notes** that the next full review of the Plan will be in the second half of 2028.

3. **BACKGROUND**

- 3.1. The Inclusive Waimakariri Plan was adopted by Council on the 25th February 2025.
- 3.2. This plan continues the work of the Waimakariri Accessibility Strategy 2017 – 2021 and is due for review in 2028.
- 3.3. 'Inclusive Waimakariri – a plan to become a more Accessible District 2025 – 2028' details eight goals:
- 1) *Communication allows and encourages full access to information about Council events, services and facilities.*
 - 2) *Everyone is able to participate in Council consultation and decisions that impact their living in the District.*
 - 3) *Council services, programmes and events are accessible to everyone.*
 - 4) *Everyone has access to public facilities and spaces.*
 - 5) *The rights of disabled people are supported and promoted through advocacy and empowerment.*
 - 6) *Injuries are avoided and rates of impairment reduced.*
 - 7) *The Council has an equal employment opportunities environment and a diverse workforce.*
 - 8) *Councillors and staff are upskilled in understanding and working with disabled people.*
- 3.4. There are 40 priority actions identified in the plan, which relate and expand on the eight goals. One or more Council departments have been identified as responsible for each action.
- 3.5. Staff have established a Project Control Group (PCG) to ensure progress towards the achievement of the priority actions. This group is made up of representatives from the Waimakariri Access Group (WAG) and the following Council Units:
- Project Delivery Unit
 - Strategy and Policy
 - Greenspaces
 - Roading
 - Planning
 - Communications
 - Community
 - Libraries
 - Aquatics
 - Community

4. **KEY ISSUES**

- 4.1. One year into the four-year implementation period, 18 of the 40 priority actions - 45% have been progressed.
- 4.2. Staff consider the implementation to be on track, with accessibility being incorporated into departmental process and project planning and service delivery.

4.3 The below table represents a selection of the highlights achieved since the approval of the plan.

Highlight	Goal and Action	Lead Unit	Outcome
Bollards installed at Norman Kirk park play space are appropriately spaced to allow wheelchairs to pass in between.	2.2 2.3	204 Project Delivery Unit	People using mobility aids are able to access our Greenspaces.
Hāpai card accreditation achieved and training provided for staff to Support Disabled people to interact with Library Staff and Services.	3.1	Libraries	Peoples with disabilities and Hāpai cards can be better served by District Libraries' staff.
Incorporating accessibility standards into playground design process in landscape architect team.	4.1	Greenspace	Children with disabilities can engage with our playspaces.
Choosing accessible venues for community events and workshops and listing the accessible features in the marketing material.	3.4	Community	The needs of people with disabilities are acknowledged, and people with disabilities are better able to access local events.
Seeking input from the Waimakariri Access Group (WAG) regarding development of the South Mixed Use Business Area (MUBA) development	2.4	Planning	Accessible pathing and connection to infrastructure is considered by Council's Planning Team and the project developer.
Publicising the location of mobility parks on an online map available to the public	4.5	Environmental Services unit and Roding	People with mobility passes know where they can find a park, close to services and businesses.
Providing support to the WAG to organise the Annual Training Day for Council Staff and elected members.	2.1	Community and Waimakariri Access Group	Council staff are upskilled in the experiences of disabled persons, making it more likely that accessibility is considered in planning.
Supporting WAG members to submit an annual plan submission and coordinating the speakers to present their submissions in person	4.4	Community and Strategy and Policy	The voice of our disabled residents is strongly considered by Council decision makers.

4.4 The table below represents the status of the priority actions.

Goal Number	Number of Priority Actions	Number of Goals Progressed	Status
Goal 1	5	3	On Track
Goal 2	4	4	On Track
Goal 3	5	1	In Progress
Goal 4	7	4	In Progress
Goal 5	4	1	In Progress
Goal 6	7	2	In Progress
Goal 7	5	1	In Progress
Goal 8	3	2	On Track
Totals	40	18	

4.5 As staff have monitored progress against this plan, they have identified an opportunity to strengthen organisational reporting on accessibility. To support this, the following measures will be considered for the remainder of the reporting period:

4.5.1 The number of Council projects reviewed by the Waimakariri Access Group.

4.5.2 The number of staff and elected members who have completed accessibility, disability inclusion, or neurodiversity training.

4.6 Staff and PCG members have identified several challenges that may affect the pace of implementation:

4.6.1 Some accessibility improvements to existing infrastructure require additional capital investment and may need to be considered through Long Term Plan budget processes where they fall outside planned asset renewal programmes. This was flagged a

4.6.2 The implementation of major organisational projects, including the transition from TechOne to Datascape, has required significant staff resources. This has reduced capacity in some areas to progress accessibility initiatives during the reporting period.

4.6.3 Measuring progress across a large organisation remains challenging. Accessibility-related activities are not consistently captured through existing reporting systems, making it difficult to quantify progress and outcomes across all departments.

4.7. Despite the challenges, there have been a number of key learnings that have resulted from the PCG. These include:

4.7.1. Cross departmental collaboration leads to better incorporation of accessible design.

4.7.2. Consulting the Waimakariri Access Group provides a perspective and input that is beneficial to project outcomes.

4.7.3. Considering accessibility early in a projects timeline prevents changes to the plan at a later stage, preventing delays and added costs.

4.8. Some examples of this cross departmental collaboration are in the table below:

Issue	Inclusive Waimakariri Plan Goal	Departments and Action
Libraries had a heavy door making it difficult for people in wheelchairs to access the accessible toilets.	Goal 4: Everyone has access to public services, facilities and spaces.	Project Development Unit (PDU) suggested some engineering improvements and are working with Property about the type of door.
Council units identified accessible design features were not being considered in design and costing phase.	Goal 3: Council services, programmes and events are accessible for everyone.	Greenspace shared, with WAG and other Council unit representatives their process to cost accessible features before finalising project budgets.
There was lack of clarity which projects would benefit from advice from WAG.	Goal 2: Everyone is able to fully participate in Council consultation and decisions that impact their living in the district.	Council's Project Development Unit (PDU) and WAG have developed a stronger relationship and collaborate over an increased number of projects.
Information on accessibility of events was not provided when promoting events and workshops	Goal 1: Communication allows and encourages full access to information about Council events, services and facilities.	Libraries shared with Community Team how they add accessible features to the Humanitix event ticketing platform. This has now become standard practice.

- 4.9. Over the next three years, Staff will continue to progress the remaining commitments of the plan. In particular, the PCG will play an important role in ensuring accessibility is consistently considered in the planning, design and implementation of Council projects and becomes a standard part of departmental practice.
- 4.10. Priorities for the next reporting period are as follows:
- 4.10.1. Earlier consideration of accessibility in project planning
 - 4.10.2. Increase the presence of accessible considerations, written into departmental processes.
 - 4.10.3. Develop stronger accessibility measures and reporting indicators.
 - 4.10.4. Increase the opportunities and number of projects considered by WAG.
- 4.11. Staff will continue to liaise and report to the Waimakariri Access Group on the progress against the plan.
- 4.12. The Management Team has reviewed this report and support the recommendations.

6. **STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT AND COMMUNITY VIEWS**

Mana Whenua Engagement

- 6.1 The subject matter contained within this report is not likely to be of interest to mana whenua, who did not wish to engage directly with this iteration of the Inclusive Waimakariri Plan. However, staff will engage mana whenua by seeking Whitiara input in 2028, when the plan is reviewed.

Groups, Organisations and the Wider Community

- 6.2 There are groups, organisations, or members of the wider community likely to be affected by, or to have an interest in, the subject matter of this report.

The Waimakariri Access Group (WAG) are Council's official advisory group on accessibility matters. This group represents the voices of the disabled persons and organisations that operate in our community. The organisations represented in the WAG group include disabled school programs, transport providers, disabled persons organisations (DPO's), care providers and individuals in our community with lived experience of disabilities.

Implications for Community Wellbeing

- 6.3 There are implications on community wellbeing by the issues and options that are the subject matter of this report.

The highlights listed in the above table (see 4.1) provide a snapshot of the progress Council has made in improving the usability of our services and spaces for people that have accessibility requirements. This progress contributes to building inclusive communities and services that support people to feel an increased sense of belonging and empowerment to be able to access local places and spaces, services, supports and recreational offerings

Community Outcomes and Strategic Priorities

- 6.4 The Council's community outcomes are relevant to the actions arising from recommendations in this report.

6.4.1 Social

- Public spaces are diverse, respond to changing demographics and meet local needs for leisure and recreation.
- Council commits to promoting health and wellbeing and minimising harm to its communities.
- Housing is available to match changing needs and aspirations of our community.
- Our community groups are sustainable and able to get the support they need to succeed.
- Our community has access to the knowledge and skills needed to participate fully in society and to exercise choice about how to live their lives.
- Our community has equitable access to the essential infrastructure and services required to support community wellbeing.

6.4.2 Cultural

- Public spaces express our cultural identities and help to foster an inclusive society.
- All members of our community are able to engage in arts, culture and heritage events and activities as participants, consumers, creators or providers.
- Waimakariri's diversity is freely expressed, respected and valued.

6.4.3 Environmental

- Our communities are able to access and enjoy natural areas and public spaces.

6.4.4 Economic

- There is access to meaningful, rewarding, and safe employment within the District.

6.5 The following Council Strategic Priorities are relevant to the actions arising from recommendations in this report.

6.5.1 “Enhance community wellbeing, safety, inclusiveness and connectedness.”

6.5.2 “Advance an integrated and accessible transport network.”

7 OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Financial Implications

7.1 There are no financial implications for this report.

Community Resilience and Sustainability

7.2 Ensuring accessible design is considered early in project planning reduces the likelihood that new Council assets require retrofitting of accessible features, therefore reducing cost and waste caused.

7.3 Community resilience is strengthened by ensuring public facilities and spaces are designed to support Waimakariri’s growing and aging population, ensuring these facilities remain accessible, usable and relevant for the years to come.

Risk Management

7.4 Key implementation risks:

7.4.1 Accessibility considerations may not be consistently applied across all departments.

7.4.2 Progress may slow if accessibility remains dependent on a small number of staff champions.

7.4.3 Some physical improvements may require future funding decisions.

7.4.4 Limited organisational data makes it difficult to measure long-term outcomes.

Health and Safety

7.5 There are no health and safety risks arising from the implementation of the recommendations in this report.

8 CONTEXT

Consistency with Policy

8.1 This matter is not a matter of significance in terms of the Council’s Significance and Engagement Policy.

Authorising Legislation

8.2 The following legislation is relevant to the content of this report:

8.2.1 Local Government Act 2002

8.2.2 Treaty of Waitangi

8.2.3 New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990

8.2.4 Land Transport Act 1998

8.2.5 Reserves Act 1977

8.2.6 Waimakariri District Council District Plan

8.2.7 The New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016 – 2026

8.2.8 Accessibility Charter - Canterbury

Authorising Delegations

8.3 The Community & Recreation Committee has delegated authority to approve the recommendations in this report.



Waimakariri—Tāngata whaikaha pursue a good life with support

Inclusive Waimakariri

A plan to become a more accessible District 2025–2028





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Acknowledgements



The Waimakariri District Council would like to thank the representatives of the following organisations for their contribution to the review of this strategy:

- Waimakariri Access Group
- CCS Disability Action
- Blind Low Vision New Zealand
- Older Persons Health
- IDEA Services
- People First
- NZ Disability Advisory Trust.



Introduction

What is Accessibility?

Accessibility is the practice of making information, activities, and/or environments sensible, meaningful, and usable for as many people as possible. In this context it refers to the removal of barriers that prevent people participating fully in community and civic life.

Accessible design benefits everyone, which includes families with young children as well as people with impairments and age-related disability.

The New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016–2026 defines “disability” as:

“Disability is something that happens when people with impairments face barriers in society that limit their movements, senses or activities.

Disabled people are people who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which, in interaction with various barriers, may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.”

An inclusive environment for all means providing equitable opportunity, regardless of a person’s abilities or circumstances. This includes changing Council and community attitudes towards disabled people and providing a plan to encourage and support the participation of disabled people in the democratic process and community life.

In light of current issues and barriers faced by disabled people, as well as growing demands, this plan sets out a vision for a society where all people can engage in personal, community and civic life with independence. It identifies key goals and objectives which together contribute towards achieving the vision and outlines a number of high level priority areas and Council actions for contributing towards an inclusive environment.



“Anyone is only a drunk driver, a work accident, or a banana skin away from being disabled.”

Source: Inclusive Communities Disabled Persons Assembly, August 2010

Why do we need an Accessibility Plan?

The Council's mission statement is “to make Waimakariri a great place to be, in partnership with our communities.” To give effect to this statement the Council needs to ensure its services, buildings, infrastructure and activities are accessible to everyone by working towards removing the barriers that prevent people from participating fully in community and civic life.

The Local Government Act 2002 gives local authorities the purpose of providing democratic and effective local government that recognises the diversity of New Zealand communities. It also provides for local authorities to play a role in promoting the wellbeing of their communities.

This plan will act as a guide to enhance people's independence and ability to participate, engage in, and benefit from Council services. Providing accessible services, communication channels, transportation options (including footpaths and road crossings), buildings and public spaces will make the Waimakariri District more inclusive for everyone. It will enhance the diversity of the district and make it attractive to residents and visitors of any age and ability.

Through this plan the Council is able to advocate for accessibility by leading by example and influencing and enabling others to be inclusive so that in the future more services and facilities are inclusive, not just those owned by the Council.



How has the 2017 Accessibility Strategy been reviewed?



The survey was distributed at the end of March 2021 and closed at the end of April. Some face-to-face interviews were undertaken, for example, with eight members of the Youth Space crew. Their support co-ordinator filled in the survey online during the meeting on their behalf. The survey co-ordinator also met with some other participants and completed the form for people who do not read or write.

Additionally, workshops were held with representatives of service providers to identify challenges and opportunities regarding accessibility for their clients in the district. The review has been undertaken collaboratively, beginning with a review of the associated action plan and the progress the Council has made towards achieving the strategies goals. This has been a two-way review with Waimakariri Access Group members reporting back to Council their views on the achievements of Council since the strategy was adopted in 2017.

The action plan was discussed with Council staff and their views on progress towards the goals set out in the strategy were canvassed. Feedback received through consultation has been considered and, where appropriate, reflected in the strategy. A survey, originally designed in 2017, was refreshed with an additional question regarding challenges experienced during the Covid lockdown. The survey was in Easy Read format and sought to receive feedback about Council's service provision from people in our communities who live with permanent disability. It created an opportunity to hear from people whose needs are often overlooked. The collated feedback helps to inform the Council about how

the delivery of its services could be improved, particularly with regard to removing barriers to inclusion in everyday community life.

The survey was distributed to key stakeholders and individual residents who expressed an interest. It was promoted through email groups and networks, Chatter newsletter, Compass FM, the Council website and via digital slides in the libraries and service centres and available online (although only one person took advantage of this).

A provision was made for parents or caregivers to assist with filling in the survey. No demographic or identifying data was requested but the survey was restricted to those people who identified as having a permanent disability, and lived in, or were visiting the district.



Setting the Scene

National context

Measuring inequality for disabled New Zealanders: 2018¹

This document compares a range of home, economic, and social outcomes for disabled and non-disabled people in New Zealand. It brings together data from three Statistics New Zealand (Stats NZ) surveys to explore differences between the lives of disabled and non-disabled people in Aotearoa. New insights from the 2023 New Zealand Disability Survey and relevant data from the 2023 Census are expected to be released in late 2025.

The goal of government policy and international agreements about disability is the improvement of disabled people's lives. Monitoring the difference between disabled and non-disabled people in a consistent way, and over a wide range of outcomes, is a key step towards achieving this goal.

In 2018, findings about disabled people could be published from the census for the first time due to the inclusion of the *Washington Group Short Set of questions on functioning*². By bringing together 2018 data sourced from census, the household labour force survey (HLFS) and the general social survey (GSS), it has been possible to provide an overview of disabled people's lives at a snapshot in time. The activities included are those that are most often found to limit an individual's participation in everyday life.

- Disability and age are strongly related, with disabled people being older on average than non-disabled people. This needs to be accounted for when comparing outcomes for these two groups.
- Compared with non-disabled people, disabled people fare worse across a range of outcomes relating to their homes and neighbourhoods, as well as their economic and social lives.

- Crime victimisation rates were similar irrespective of disability status, as were levels of face-to-face contact with family (living elsewhere).
- Compared with non-disabled people, disabled people were less likely to live in a suitable home that is warm, affordable, and free from damp and mould.
- Disabled people were more likely to live in neighbourhoods where they were relatively disadvantaged and in households where total income was considered to be inadequate.
- Lower levels of labour force participation and employment for disabled people resulted in greater dependency on government benefits, and kept average personal incomes low.
- Compared with non-disabled people, disabled people on average had lower educational attainment.
- Disabled people tended to have lower job satisfaction, but longer job tenure than non-disabled people.
- The underutilisation rate was higher for disabled people, suggesting a greater unmet need for work.
- On average, disabled people were more likely to be lonely and to experience discrimination.
- Disabled people reported having less access to emotional and instrumental support from others, and lower levels of trust in other people and in public institutions.

According to the 2018 census, 29 percent of New Zealanders have activity limitations. If people who experience temporary disability (e.g. from injuries or illness) are included, the number of people with disabilities in society is much higher. This shows that all of us are likely to experience a form of disability at some point in our lives. It is important that our local environment is inclusive to allow and encourage full participation in all aspects of community life.

¹ Measuring inequality for disabled New Zealanders: 2018 (Statistics New Zealand, 28 October 2020)

² (washingtongroup-disability.com/questions-sets/wg-short-set-on-functioning-wg-ss/).

The Disability Survey, a survey that was conducted by Statistics New Zealand in conjunction with the 2013 census, provided information focusing mainly on the prevalence and nature of disability. The survey also collected information on barriers that people with impairments encounter in their everyday life. This survey was repeated in 2023, the findings are yet to be published.



The New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016–2026

The New Zealand Disability Strategy presents a long term plan for changing New Zealand from a disabling to an inclusive society. A fully inclusive society is the vision of the strategy and it suggests that this will be achieved when people with impairments can say they live in:

“A society that highly values our lives and continually enhances our full participation.”

The strategy emphasises the importance of the decisions made by territorial authorities and non-departmental public bodies that have an impact on the lives of people with impairments and can reduce a number of key barriers faced by people with impairments.

The strategy sees territorial authorities, as well as other public bodies, as vital in supporting and assisting with the implementation of the strategy. By implementing an Accessibility Strategy for the Waimakariri District and including complementary key goals and actions, the Council can contribute towards the achievement of the New Zealand Disability Strategy vision at a local level.

Outcomes – priorities for change

The New Zealand Disability Strategy identifies eight outcomes that will contribute towards achieving the vision of the strategy:

- **Education:** We get an excellent education and achieve our potential throughout our lives.
- **Employment and economic security:** We have security in our economic situation and can achieve our potential.
- **Health and wellbeing:** We have the highest attainable standards of health and wellbeing.
- **Rights protection and justice:** Our rights are protected; we feel safe, understood and are treated fairly and equitably by the justice system.
- **Accessibility:** We access all places, services and information with ease and dignity.
- **Attitudes:** We are treated with dignity and respect.
- **Choice and control:** We have choice and control over our lives.
- **Leadership:** We have great opportunities to demonstrate our leadership.

Whāia Te Ao Mārama 2018-2022

“Tāngata whaikaha pursue a good life with support”

The Māori Disability Action Plan³ is a culturally anchored approach to supporting Māori with disabilities (tāngata whaikaha) and their whanau because Māori are more likely to be disabled than the general population. Most tāngata whaikaha identify as Māori first, so access to Te Ao Māori (the Māori world) is important to them.

Whāia Te Ao Mārama recognises that everyone must work together to achieve the vision — tāngata whaikaha pursue a good life with support. It outlines what the Ministry of Health is committing to do from 2018 to 2022 and provides examples of actions tāngata whaikaha, whanau, health and disability providers, iwi and other organisations can take.



The six goals for this action plan are that by 2022 tāngata whaikaha will:

- participate in the development of health and disability services
- have control over their disability support
- participate in Te Ao Māori
- participate in their community
- receive disability support services that are responsive to Te Ao Māori
- have informed and responsive communities.

3 Ministry of Health. 2018. Whāia Te Ao Mārama 2018 to 2022: The Māori Disability Action Plan. Wellington: Ministry of Health. (health.govt.nz/publication/whaia-te-ao-marama-2018-2022-maori-disability-action-plan)

Accessibility Charter - Canterbury

On 3 November 2017 the Waimakariri District Council became a foundation signatory to the Canterbury Accessibility Charter – Te Arataki Taero Kore.

Vision

Our region will become a model of best-practice accessibility through our community and business leaders advocating for places and spaces that are accessible for all people.

Purpose

By signing this Charter, we are:

- Ensuring that places and spaces in our region become universally accessible
- Enabling residents and visitors to live, work, learn, explore and play equally
- Setting an expectation of best-practice design and development, which goes beyond minimum expectations of the Building Code.

Commitments and Actions

Our organisation supports the vision and purpose of this Charter. We will implement the following Charter Commitments and Actions and formally review our progress in these areas:

Hautūtanga – Leadership

Our leaders will demonstrate a pro-active commitment to best-practice accessibility when setting policy and practice expectations, budgets and accountability provisions.

Tohungatanga – Technical expertise

We will seek the technical advice and guidance of professional and independent universal-design experts, appropriate to the scale and type of projects we undertake.

Te Oranga o te Tangata – Health and Wellbeing

We will actively promote the link between the creation of accessible spaces and places, and the health and wellbeing of our people.

By committing to the Charter, accessibility becomes part of business-as-usual for the Waimakariri District Council.

Local Context

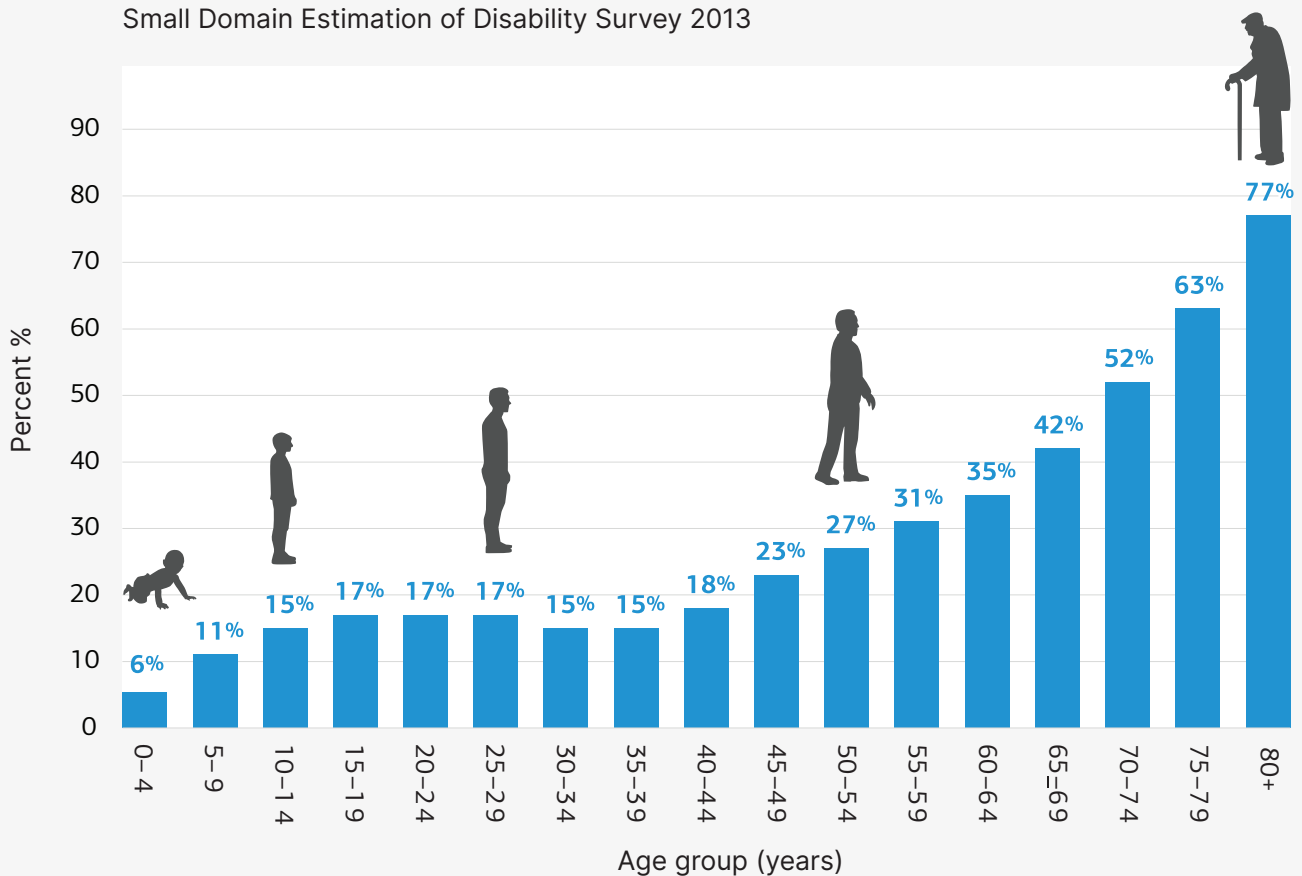
People with impairments in the Waimakariri District

The 2013 New Zealand Disability Survey is made up of two surveys: the 2013 Household Disability Survey taken on Census night and the Disability Survey of Residential Facilities. The data for the

Waimakariri District is a release from Statistics New Zealand using a statistical model to produce estimates for areas smaller than regions.

Prevalence of overall disability for the Waimakariri District

Small Domain Estimation of Disability Survey 2013



The above graph shows that there are approximately 12,890 people with impairments living in our District, 25.8% of a total population of 49,989 (2013 Census, usually resident population). The number of people with impairments increases with age. In fact, over half (53%) of district residents aged 65 and over have an impairment. The proportion is likely to be much higher when looking at those aged over 80 years.

The population of the Waimakariri district is increasing steadily. As a percentage of the total district population, people aged 65+ years have increased from 14% (n=5,967) in 2006 to 19% (n=11,500) in 2018. The number of people aged 65+ years is projected to increase to 25% (n=17,400) of the population by 2028, whereas those aged under 15 years is projected to decrease to 17% (n=11,800) of the total population (Statistics NZ medium projections). This is a key feature of an aging population.

With impairments being much more prevalent in older age, as shown in the graph, Waimakariri's increasingly aging population may mean greater demands on health and disability services and an even greater need to ensure the local environment is inclusive for all in order to enable people with impairments to lead an independent life.

Implementation of the plan

Council is accountable to disabled people and their organisations for the actions it has committed to in the plan. Monitoring is a two way process where Council reports to disabled people and their organisations; and disabled people report to Council regarding the impact and effectiveness of the plan.

In 2021 a survey (designed in 'easy read' format) was distributed to key stakeholders and individual residents who expressed an interest. The questions related to the key themes in the Council's Accessibility Strategy/Action Plan 2017-21 and sought to identify progress towards the goals identified in the strategy from the point of view of disabled people, their family and carers.

The survey report identified some notable improvements for people living with disability in the district such as:

- An increase in planning consultation with the Waimakariri Access Group before the design phases in Council-led projects (e.g. community facility and parks upgrades and improvements).
- Significant upgrades of toilet facilities, some Council facilities and reserves with particular mention of the accessible entry at the Rangiora Town Hall.
- Improved safety features at street crossings across the district.
- Receiving letter box drops and information in the newspapers.
- Improved emergency management with cell phone texts containing messages and information during emergencies.

And, highlighted some opportunities for Council to play a role in facilitating a more accessible district such as:

- Promoting, advising and advocating for barrier-free options to developers and residents building new houses to address the limited supply of accessible, future-proofed homes available in the District.
- Providing signing services at Council meetings. The growing use of subtitles on website videography is acknowledged.
- Producing Council information in more than one language, typically it is produced only in English.
- Ensuring Council documents are produced in formats that are easily read i.e. apply 'easy read' principles.
- Providing more accessible parking.
- Advocating for accessible and affordable public transport.

Since the last review in 2017, the Council has considered accessibility across many aspects of the work it undertakes with a goal of minimising the barriers experienced by people with impairments in our District.

Council staff have continued to undertake awareness training through the Waimakariri Access Group, which includes representation from CCS Disability Action and Blind Low Vision NZ. This training aims to heighten awareness of disability issues so staff members can consider the impact their work has on people with impairments and ensuring plans and projects do not have a negative impact on accessibility.

The Pedestrian Planning and Design Guide is under review by Waka Kotahi. The draft guidance is promoting pedestrian design principles where "designing an environment for pedestrians should take a safe system approach of harm minimisation and meet universal design principles to ensure they meet the needs of all people." The update is currently available in draft on their website as the Pedestrian Network Guide.⁴

4 nzta.govt.nz/walking-cycling-and-public-transport/walking/walking-standards-and-guidelines/pedestrian-network-guidance/

There is an ongoing programme of maintenance and/or reconstruction for footpaths to ensure they remain physically accessible, comfortable and safe. Associated with this is the installation of directional and tactile pavers.

Accessible routes to schools are prioritised which includes upgrading/installing footpaths and cycle ways.

The international standards for symbols and indicators are now incorporated into standard project briefs for all works.

All public transport buses provided by Environment Canterbury are 'kneeling' buses. Council has improved public transport infrastructure with more seats and shelters at bus stops along with tactile ground surface indicators (TGSi) to locate boarding position for blind or low vision patrons. Park and ride sites (established in 2020) included mobility parking allowances.

A local transport flier has been developed and distributed online and in hard copy.

The Council's aquatic facilities provide swimming lessons for the Special Olympics North Canterbury team. There are a number of aquatics instructors qualified to teach swimmers with disabilities. The Council's aquatic facilities are also recognised as a provider with the Cerebral Palsy 'Get Physical' programme in conjunction with the Halberg Trust.

While the Council already addresses some key barriers faced by people with impairments through its current activities, it is recognised that more can be done to contribute towards an inclusive environment for all. This will in turn contribute towards community wellbeing and achieving key community outcomes.



The role of accessibility in community wellbeing.



Community Outcomes describe how Waimakariri District Council aims to achieve meeting the current and future needs of our communities with good quality local infrastructure, providing local public services and performance of regulatory functions. Each community outcome is associated with one or more Wellbeing.

The Accessibility Plan contributes towards achieving a number of Community Outcomes, particularly:

Social: A place where everyone can have a sense of belonging:

- Public spaces are diverse, respond to changing demographics and meet local needs for leisure and recreation.
- Council commits to promoting health and wellbeing and minimising the risk of social harm to its communities.
- Housing is available to match the changing needs and aspirations of our community.
- Our community groups are sustainable and able to get the support they need to succeed.
- Our community has access to the knowledge and skills needed to participate fully in society and to exercise choice about how to live their lives.

- People are able to enjoy meaningful relationships with others in their families, whanau, communities, iwi and workplaces.
- Our community has equitable access to the essential infrastructure and services required to support community wellbeing.

Environmental: A place that values and restores our environment:

- People are supported to participate in improving the health and sustainability of our environment.
- Land use is sustainable; biodiversity is protected and restored.
- Our district is resilient and able to quickly respond to and recover from natural disasters and the effects of climate change.
- Our district transitions towards a reduced carbon and waste district.
- The natural and built environment in which people live is clean, healthy and safe.
- Our communities are able to access and enjoy natural areas and public spaces.

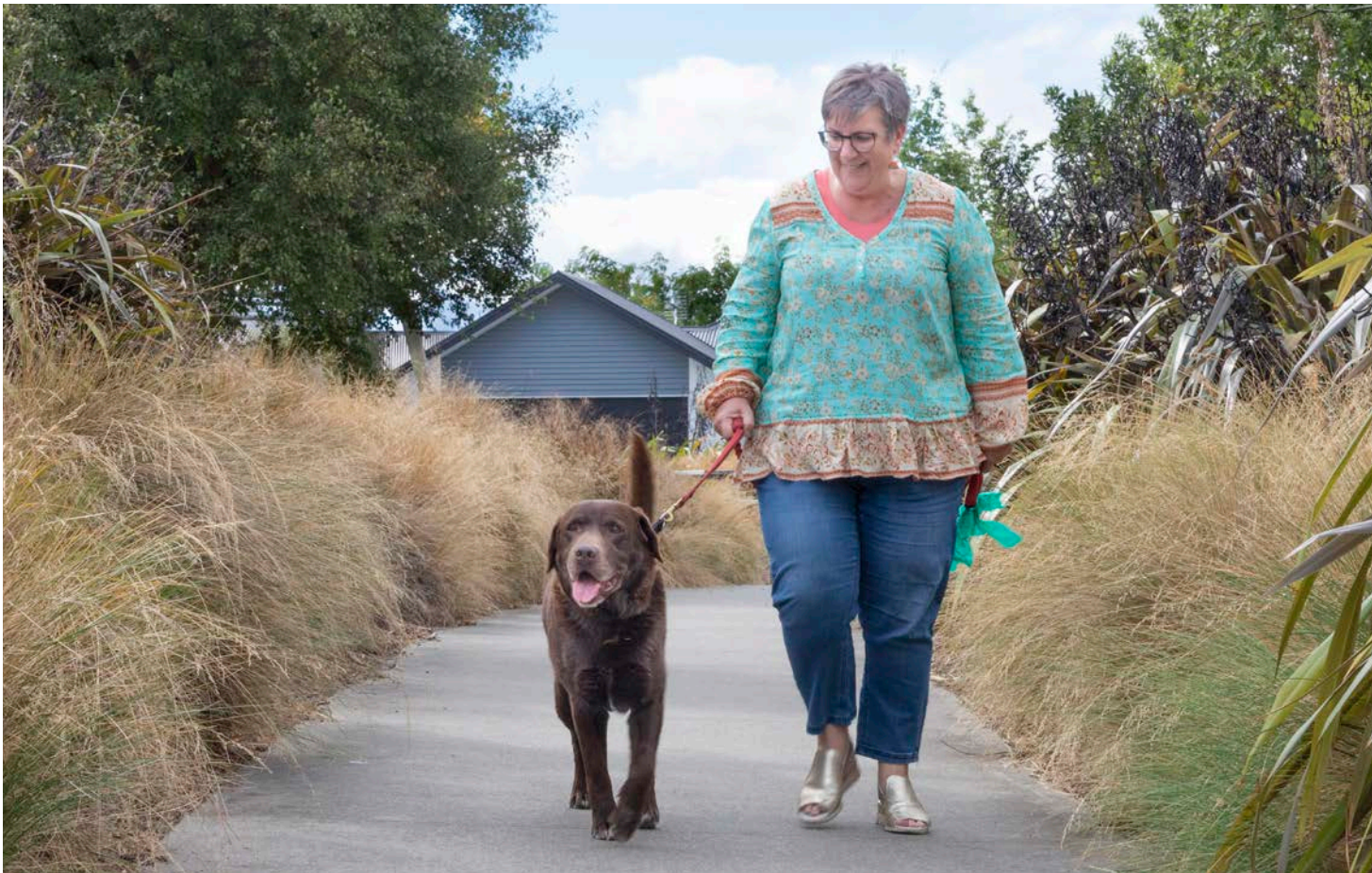
Cultural: A place where our people are enabled to thrive and give creative expression to their identity and heritage:

- Public spaces express our cultural identities and help to foster an inclusive society.
- All members of our community are able to engage in arts, culture and heritage events and activities as participants, consumers, creators or providers.
- Waimakariri's diversity is freely expressed, respected and valued.

Economic: A place that is supported by a resilient and innovative economy:

- There is access to meaningful, rewarding, and safe employment within the district.
- Our district recognises the value of both paid and unpaid work.

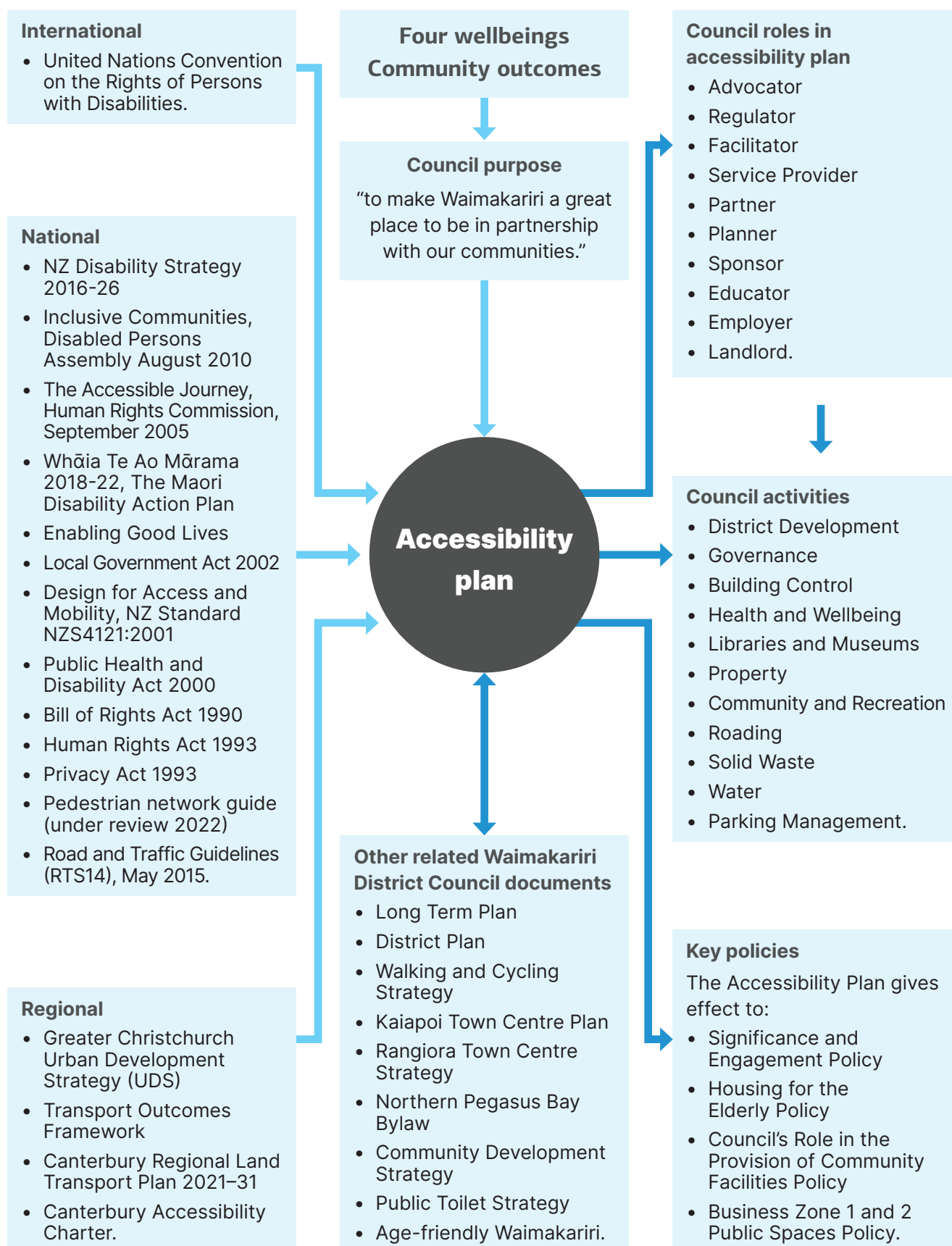
The high-level implementation table within this document outlines more specifically how key priorities and Council actions contribute towards achieving the above Community Outcomes.





Overall planning framework

The following statutes, policies, plans and strategies provide a framework for the development and implementation of the Accessibility Plan for the Waimakariri District.



The Strategy

The Waimakariri Vision

The Waimakariri District Council has a vision for an inclusive District where all people can engage in personal, community and civic life without

barriers. The associated nine key words represent overarching guiding principles that are accepted as vital and true for creating an inclusive society.



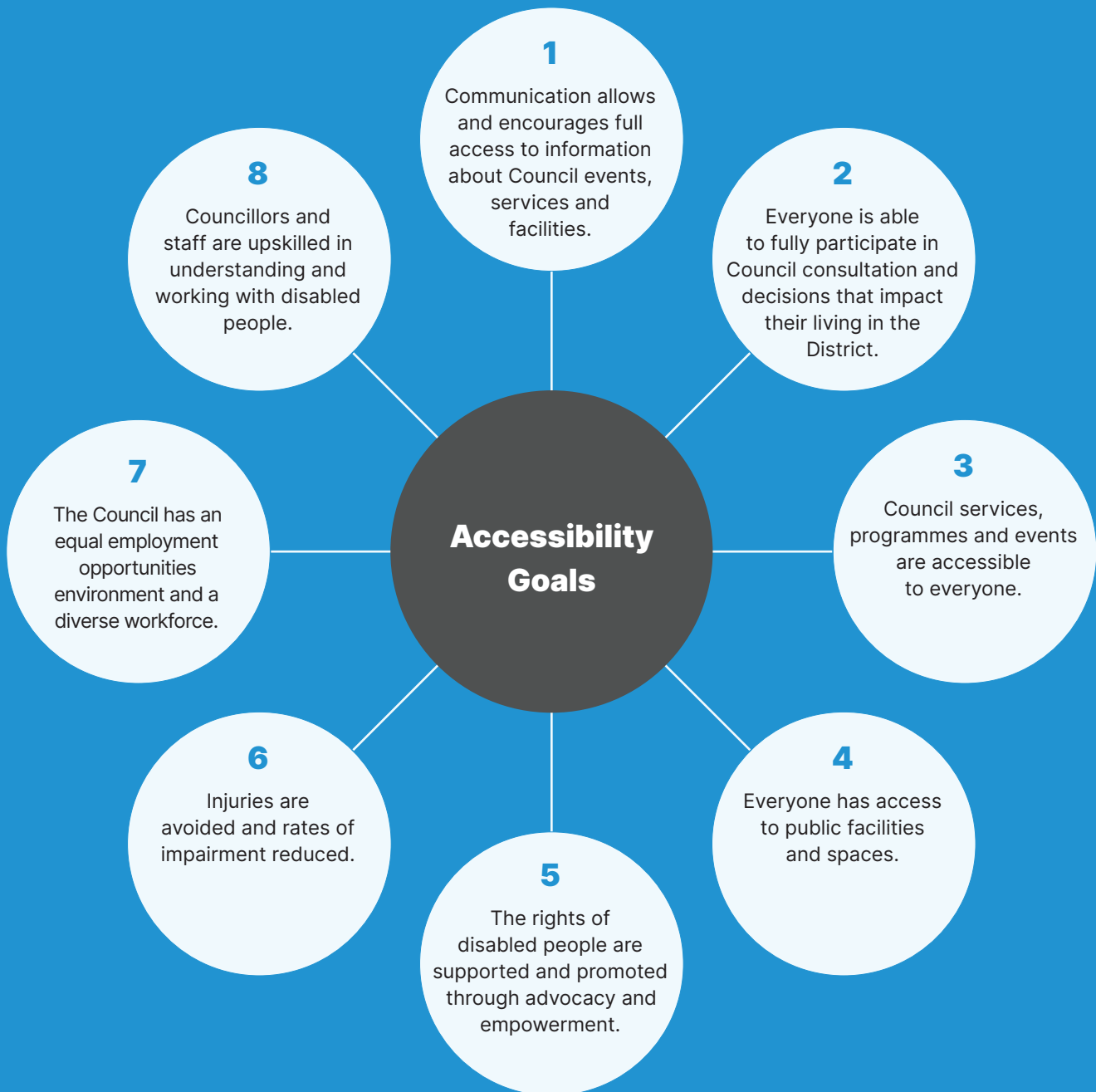
Goals

Goals

The following eight goals have been identified for the Council to create a more inclusive environment within the Waimakariri

District. These are accompanied by more descriptive objectives.

At a glance, the eight goals are:



Communication

The Council communicates a lot with the community, whether in person at Council service centres and libraries, through signs and advertisements, in newspapers, via the website or emails, through pamphlets, policies, strategies and plans.

Some people with impairments (intellectual, vision and/or hearing), who are elderly, or new migrants (with English as a second language), face barriers to being able to access or understand commonly used forms of communication. It is important that the Council communicates information in a way that is appropriate to people's needs.

While online services can dramatically improve the experience of those who engage digitally, communication still needs to be designed and provided in a way that accommodates everyone, including those who are not online. A recent report from the Citizens Advice Bureau "A CAB Spotlight Report into the Impacts of Digital Public Services on Inclusion and Wellbeing"⁵ discusses the broad impact of digital exclusion experienced by their clients.

Goal 1: Communication allows and encourages full access to information about Council events, services and facilities:

- Information about services, events and facilities is provided in a variety of ways and media to meet different needs.
- Information about Council services and events is publicised through disability networks.
- Targeted information for disabled people and service providers is provided.
- Council facilities have clear signs including internationally recognised symbols and indicators.

Consultation and decision making

The Council regularly consults with the wider community on issues that affect them. These issues may include proposed changes to services, proposals for new services, changes to the physical environment such as roads, intersections or spaces in their neighbourhoods, and more.

The Council also conducts a number of surveys that gauge the community's views about particular matters, or involves representatives in developing strategic directions to address particular issues facing the district and its residents.

It is essential that the Council ensures its consultation and decision making mechanisms are accessible to all people and that it specifically consults with people with impairments and relevant agencies on matters that impact their lives.

Goal 2: Everyone is able to fully participate in Council consultation and decisions that impact their living in the district:

- Council consultation processes do not create barriers that prevent anyone from participating in making decisions that affect their lives.
- Council engages in ongoing dialogue with disabled people and their agencies to ensure their needs are recognised and considered when making decisions.
- Carers of people who experience disability are able to contribute to decisions that affect them.
- Involve disabled people in the planning, implementation and evaluation of services, new developments and redevelopment.
- The Waimakariri Access Group is utilised as a disability reference group to ensure appropriate expertise is available for planning, reviewing and implementing services.

⁵ Citizens Advice Bureaux New Zealand (2020) *Face to Face with Digital Exclusion: A CAB Spotlight Report into the Impacts of Digital Public Services on Inclusion and Wellbeing*.

Access to Council service, programmes and events

The Council provides a number of district services such as water supply and sewer, collecting rubbish and recycling and renting Council housing. Council services, programmes and events play a significant role in the wider community in creating a functional and enjoyable district in which to live and create stronger communities.

It is important that access to services, programmes and events is inclusive for all and allows maximum opportunities for participation for people with impairments. For example, the increase in services that are accessible over the phone or internet have significant benefits for people with vision or mobility impairments. It is important to ensure services are delivered without discrimination against people with impairments.

Goal 3: Council services, programmes and events are accessible to everyone:

- Council services meet the specific needs of people with impairments.
- Council housing is of appropriate design, is accessible, available and safe for disabled people.
- Rubbish and recycling collection services are accessible and do not create hazards.
- Council-run and sponsored events and programmes are accessible to people with impairments and physical access needs are met.
- Recreation and sports programmes are accessible to everyone, including disabled people.



Physical access

The Council is responsible for providing and maintaining a number of public spaces such as roads, footpaths, parks and recreational areas, laneways, squares and on and off-street car parking. It also provides public facilities and buildings which house services including libraries, service centres, sports facilities, museums, swimming pools, town halls and information centres. At the same time, the Council regulates requirements for other buildings the public regularly uses such as commercial and retail facilities, health care services, cafés and restaurants.

Public spaces and facilities provide an important community function. They are places where people meet and socialise; where people learn, work, shop or do business; where people obtain health care or other services; or are simply a means of getting from one place to another. Physical barriers such as steps, heavy doors, lack of colour contrasting, high door handles or lift buttons, poor lighting, lack of accessible way finding and signage, can all become obstacles for people in accessing facilities and services.





Public spaces and buildings are heavily utilised by the community. It is essential that these are accessible for everyone to maximise the opportunity for all people to fully participate in this important aspect of community life. This means no-one is prevented from participation in recreational, social or employment activities because of architectural or attitudinal barriers.

Goal 4: Everyone has access to public facilities and spaces.

- Footpaths, crossings, paved areas and streets are designed, constructed and maintained in ways that are safe, usable and accessible for everyone.
- Specific road safety issues raised by people with impairments such as particular pedestrian crossings, intersections and footpath surfaces are addressed.
- Mobility car parking is accessible, safe, appropriately located and monitored.
- Footpaths and streets are unobstructed to enable people to move about safely and easily.
- Existing Council services, facilities and public spaces maximise the opportunities for access and participation of all people.
- Statutory requirements for buildings and amenities to ensure their compliance with the Building Act 2004 S118 relating to design for access and mobility are enforced.
- Appropriately designed changing facilities and public toilets are available at Council facilities.
- Public transport is accessible and affordable.

Advocacy

The Council has a role to advocate for access and equity issues such as, but not limited to, education, employment and training, cultural events and programmes and youth disability services, as they relate to disabled people in the Waimakariri District. This includes supporting advocacy groups and agencies such as the Waimakariri Access Group, Social Services Waimakariri and the Waimakariri Health Advisory Group. At the same time, disabled people need to be empowered to self-advocate to achieve independent living.

Goal 5: The rights of disabled people are supported and promoted through advocacy and empowerment.

- Advocacy is provided for policies, programmes, practices and procedures that guarantee equal opportunity for all disabled people.
- Disabled people have the opportunity to advocate on their own behalf.
- Disability advocacy services and agencies are supported.
- Advocacy is provided for the planning and development of an inclusive and accessible environment for everyone.
- Disabled people are portrayed by the media in a positive way, particularly through the Council's own publications and publicity material.



Prevention

The Council acknowledges that one fifth to one third of impairments are caused by lasting effects of injury as identified by the Ministry of Health. It is therefore important that injury caused by a variety of things including motor vehicle accidents, poor diet and health are minimised, thereby reducing the overall rate of incidence of some forms of impairments in the district.

Goal 6: Injuries are avoided and rates of disability, both long and short term, are reduced.

- Advocacy is provided for policies and strategies which influence health in order to improve people's standard of living and vulnerability to injury and disease.
- Preventative measures to reduce injury or disease which can lead to impairments are advocated.
- Healthy living is encouraged and promoted.
- Injury prevention programmes are supported.
- Road safety is promoted.
- Environmental health statutes such as food licensing, dangerous goods, sale of liquor, insanitary buildings, offensive trades and hazardous substances are enforced.
- Civil defence practices are in place in order to plan for and respond to emergencies.



Diverse workforce

For most people the chance to get and keep a job is central to their independence and participation in society. For people with impairments, this can often be far more difficult than for those without impairments. People with impairments are amongst those in society with the lowest employment rates.

It is widely recognised that there is a positive correlation between gainful employment and wellbeing. Positive attributes of employment include time structure, shared experiences, contacts and social networks, which often lead to an increase in self-esteem. Work can in itself be an important step in the road to recovery and rehabilitation, as well as providing obvious personal economic benefits.

People with impairments have the right to productive and meaningful employment that provides flexibility, equal opportunity and career path development. The Council is one of the district's largest employers. It provides a wide range of workplace opportunities for local residents. It is vital that the Council provides equitable employment opportunities for people with impairments in order to ensure that assumptions and stereotypes do not prejudice the selection of candidates. Equal Employment Opportunities (EEO) allow the Council to recruit the best person for the job, once they (the Council) have made any reasonable adjustments.

Goal 7: The Council has an equal employment opportunities environment and a diverse workforce.

- Employment and development of staff with impairments is facilitated and key service providers and disability agencies consulted regarding the removal of barriers.
- Communication services, resources and flexible workplace options are available.
- Job modification, skills training and on the job training is available.
- The requirements of the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 are implemented.
- There is no discriminatory or insensitive behaviour towards disabled employees.

Cultural change

In many cases it is society's attitudes towards people with impairments that create problems or a "disability". Cultural change is one of the most fundamental steps in creating an environment that is truly inclusive for all, independent from whether an individual suffers an impairment or not.

Cultural change is about considering and appropriately providing for the needs of disabled people in everyday work. Attitudes and ignorance towards people with impairments must be challenged to avoid institutional discrimination. This will ensure all in Council understand why rights are necessary and what they mean.

Goal 8: Councillors and staff are upskilled in understanding and working with disabled people:

- All Council staff and elected members will undertake disability awareness training.
- Staff whose work impinges directly on the wellbeing of people experiencing disabilities undertake more specific training to ensure

they are appropriately educated about removing barriers faced by disabled people.

- Offer provision of Universal Design seminars for Council officers to improve staff understanding and ability to be responsive to needs of people with impairments are sponsored.
- Resource material and the expertise of the Waimakariri Access Group is available and communicated to Council staff. This aims to enhance awareness and understanding of potential barriers, appropriate consultation processes, available networks and strategies to integrate the needs of the disabled community into services, facilities and decision-making processes.

The following pages outline key priority areas and Council actions for achieving these goals.



"The training literally opened my eyes to the difficulties that were posed for others who have accessibility challenges, by things that I can easily negotiate when I'm out and about. It was certainly food for thought."

Kitty

"From the accessibility training, I gained a better understanding and perspective of those in our community who are living with visual, verbal, or physical impairments. The current design of everyday services and visiting retail shops are difficult for those with impairments."

Emily

Priority Areas and Council Actions



The Waimakariri District Accessibility Plan is one of several community focused development plans that sit under the Community Development Strategy. The Community Development Strategy provides a guiding vision and framework for a broad range of community development activities and initiatives across the district, with the individual plans giving effect to specific priorities identified within the broader Strategy.

The following table represents a high level schedule of actions. The priority areas and actions in this table build on existing good practice or are new initiatives to assist in achieving our vision of an inclusive community where all can engage in their personal, community and civic life with independence.

While some actions may already be underway, many can be improved; it is our priority following this Plan to create an Accessibility Policy for use within Council enabling staff to apply an inclusive lens over all Council business and ensuring it becomes a Business As Usual approach.

This table identifies how each action contributes to the District's Community Outcomes and aligns to the objectives of the New Zealand Disability Strategy. The success of this strategy is largely dependent on the whole of Council working in partnership with people with impairments to identify needs, priorities and practical responses from Council to support the vision of this strategy.



COMMUNICATION

Goal 1: Communication allows and encourages full access to information about Council events, services and facilities.

Priority areas and Council actions	Who	Community outcomes	New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026 (NZDS)
Incorporate different formats and access features in the Council website complying with the "New Zealand Government Web guidelines".	Communication Team	Our community has access to the knowledge and skills needed to participate fully in society and to exercise choice about how to live their lives.	Accessibility We access all places, services and information with ease and dignity
Make key Council communications available in a range of accessible formats that are easier for the wider disabled community.	Communication Team		
Target communication for disabled people and their service providers about information that directly affects them.	Communication Team Community Team		
Ensure that Council facilities have accessible signage including internationally recognised symbols and indicators.	Greenspace Team Communication Team Project Delivery Unit		
Publicise information about Council services and events through disability networks, including the Waimakariri Access Group.	Communication Team Community Team		

CONSULTATION AND DECISION MAKING

Goal 2: Everyone is able to fully participate in Council consultation and decisions that impact their living in the District.

Priority areas and Council actions	Who	Community outcomes	New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026 (NZDS)
Develop the role of the Waimakariri Access Group as a disability reference group.	Community Team Greenspace Team Planning Team	Our community has access to the knowledge and skills needed to participate fully in society and to exercise choice about how to live their lives.	Choice and control We have choice and control over our lives. Leadership We have great opportunities to demonstrate our leadership.
Council units ensure that accessibility is considered when planning, reviewing and implementing services	Community Team Communication Team Greenspace Team Planning Team Project Delivery Unit		
Ensure that Council does not create barriers for disabled people to be able to participate.	All		
Participate in ongoing dialogue with disabled people, their support people and agencies in order to recognise their specific needs when making decisions that affect them.	All		

ACCESS TO COUNCIL SERVICES, PROGRAMMES AND EVENTS

Goal 3: Council services, programmes and events are accessible for everyone.

Priority areas and Council actions	Who	Community outcomes	New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026 (NZDS)
Ensure that services meet the specific needs of people with impairments and continue to audit physical access to libraries, swimming pools and community buildings.	Greenspace Team Aquatic Facilities Team Library Team	Public spaces are diverse, respond to changing demographics and meet local needs for leisure and recreation.	Health and Wellbeing We have the highest attainable standards of health and wellbeing. Accessibility We access all places, services and information with ease and dignity.
Ensure provision of Council housing that is of appropriate design, accessible, safe and available to disabled people.	Property Team		
Encourage good practice to ensure rubbish and recycling services are accessible and do not create hazards.	Utilities		
Ensure that Council-run and sponsored events and programmes are as accessible for disabled people and their participation is encouraged.	Communication Team Community Team Greenspace Team Library Team		
Facilitate provision of recreation and sports programmes that are accessible.	Greenspace Team		

PHYSICAL ACCESS

Goal 4: Everyone has access to public services, facilities and spaces.

Priority areas and Council actions	Who	Community outcomes	New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026 (NZDS)
Work towards a "barrier free" environment with accessible footpaths, public spaces and buildings including public toilets, ensuring appropriate facilities are available through planning and regulatory requirements.	Greenspace Team Roading Building Unit	Public spaces are diverse, respond to changing demographics and meet local needs for leisure and recreation.	Accessibility We access all places, services and information with ease and dignity
Identify and address in a timely fashion specific road safety issues that have been raised by disabled people.	Roading	Our community has equitable access to the essential infrastructure and services required to support community wellbeing.	
Work with local business to help them align with the objective of the Signage bylaw, which is "To seek to avoid public nuisance by ensuring advertising displays and signage on footpaths does not obstruct the passage of pedestrians and/or disabled people".	Environmental Services	Our communities are able to access and enjoy natural areas and public areas.	
Continue to implement a program of replacements that looks to bring all buildings up to current code	Building Unit		
Provide an appropriate number of mobility car parks that are suitably located, monitored and labelled.	Project Delivery Unit Roading Planning		
Work with Environment Canterbury (Canterbury Regional Council) to ensure public transport is accessible for disabled people as well as affordable.	Roading Elected Officials Community Team Project Delivery Unit Waimakariri Access Group Strategy and Business Unit		
Monitor and enforce the restrictions of mobility car parks.	Environmental Services		

ADVOCACY

Goal 5: The rights of disabled people are supported and promoted through advocacy and empowerment.

Priority areas and Council actions	Who	Community outcomes	New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026 (NZDS)
Consider equity and access for disabled people through policies, programmes, practices and procedures.	Mayor and Councillors All staff	Waimakariri's diversity is freely expressed, respected and valued. Our community has equitable access to the essential infrastructure and services required to support community wellbeing.	Education We get an excellent education and achieve our potential throughout our lives.
Support and encourage disabled people to advocate on their own behalf and provide the opportunity for this to occur.	Community Team	Our community has access to the knowledge and skills needed to participate fully in society and to exercise choice about how to live their lives.	Employment and Economic Security We have security in our economic situation and can achieve our potential.
Support disability advocacy services and agencies	Community Team	Council commits to promoting health and wellbeing and minimising the risk of social harm to its communities.	Health and Wellbeing We have the highest attainable standards of health and wellbeing.
Facilitate increased representation of the stories, aspirations and needs of disabled people particularly through Council's communications function and in the local media.	Communication Team Community Team		Attitudes We have the highest attainable standards of health and wellbeing. Choice and Control We have choice and control over our lives.

PREVENTION

Goal 6: Injuries are avoided and rates of disability, both long and short term, are reduced.

Priority areas and Council actions	Who	Community outcomes	New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026 (NZDS)
Advocate for policies and strategies that influence health, such as access to education, employment opportunities, adequate income and safe housing in order to improve people's standard of living and avoid preventative disease and people being unwell that can lead to impairment.	Community Team Strategy and Business Unit	Council commits to promoting health and wellbeing and minimising the risk of social harm to its communities.	Education We get an excellent education and achieve our potential throughout our lives. Health and Wellbeing We have the highest attainable standards of health and wellbeing.
Support injury prevention programmes.	Community Team		
Promote road safety through monitoring, research, physical changes and educational programmes.	Roading Project Delivery Unit		
Support road safety through monitoring, research, physical changes and educational programmes.	Community Team Greenspace Team Aquatic Facilities Team Library Team		
Ensure environment health statutes such as food licensing, dangerous goods, sale of alcohol, offensive trades and hazardous substances are administered and enforced.	Environmental Services		
Maintain a civil defence capability to plan for and respond to emergencies.	Emergency Management		
Manage insanitary buildings	Building Unit		

DIVERSE WORKFORCE

Goal 7: The Council has an equal employment opportunities environment and a diverse workforce.

Priority areas and Council actions	Who	Community outcomes	New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026 (NZDS)
Ensure that communication services, resources and flexible workplace options are available.	Human Resources Health and Safety	There is access to meaningful, rewarding, and safe employment within the district.	Education We get an excellent education and achieve our potential throughout our lives. Employment and Economic Security We have security in our economic situation and can achieve our potential Choice and Control We have choice and control over our lives. Leadership We have great opportunities to demonstrate our leadership.
Implement the requirements of the Health and Safety Act and the Council's employment policies.	Health and Safety	Our district recognises the value of both paid and unpaid work.	
Ensure there is no discriminatory or insensitive behaviour towards disabled employees.	All staff		
Enable volunteering and internship opportunities for people with disabilities.	Human Resources All Council Departments		
Educate people leaders about the value of differently abled people in the workplace.	All Managers		

CULTURAL CHANGE

Goal 8: Councillors and staff are upskilled in understanding and working with disabled people.

Priority areas and Council actions	Who	Community outcomes	New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026 (NZDS)
Encourage all Council staff and elected members to undertake disability awareness training.	Mayor and Councillors Human Resources	Waimakariri's diversity is freely expressed, respected and valued. Our communities are able to access and enjoy natural areas and public spaces.	Objective 6: Foster an aware and responsive public service.
Offer provision of Universal Design seminars to improve staff understanding and ability to be responsive to the needs of disabled people.	Management Team		
Promote and offer the expertise of the Waimakariri Access Group to Council staff.	Community Team Communication Team		

Monitoring and Review



What is the Accessibility Plan?

This plan will develop over time, issues and priorities may change, however, it is important that Council is accountable to disabled people and their organisations for the actions it has committed to.

Council staff annually report to Community and Recreation Committee and the Waimakariri Access Group on progress against the priority actions detailed in this plan.

The process will include:

- The establishment of an Accessibility Plan Project Control Group, consisting of a core team of Council officers and Waimakariri Access Group members.
- Engagement with people with impairments and those who support them.
- Inclusion of information in Council reports regarding consultation with people with impairments.

The plan will be reviewed two years from adoption by Council.



Glossary

Access / Accessibility / Barrier Free

These terms are used interchangeably throughout the plan. They refer to the removal of barriers, attitudinal or environmental, which increases the opportunity for people of all ages, life stages and abilities to participate in their community safely, easily and equitably.

Accessible Journey

In order to comply with access requirements (the Building Regulations 1992 First Schedule, Clause A2 p.9) a building must have an “accessible route”. This is defined as a “...continuous route that can be negotiated unaided by a user of a wheelchair, walking frame or guide dog.” The route must extend from a street boundary or car parking area to those spaces within the building required to be accessible to enable people with impairments to carry out independently, normal activities and processes within the building.

Approachability, Accessibility, Disability-friendly and Usability

These concepts enable a person with an impairment to approach, enter and use a building and its facilities and carry out the normal functions and activities for which the building was designed.

Disability

Disability is the outcome of the interaction between a person with impairment(s) and the environment and attitudinal barriers he/she/they/them may face. It is also the process that happens when one group of people create barriers by designing a world only for their way of living, taking no account of the impairments other people may have.

Impairments

Impairments are something that individuals have, they are long term (greater than six months) and may be physical, sensory, neurological, psychiatric or intellectual.



Tactile ground surface indicators (TGSi)

These provide blind, deafblind and vision impaired pedestrians with visual and sensory information.

There are two types of TGSi – warning indicators and directional indicators. Warning indicators alert pedestrians to hazards in the continuous accessible path of travel, indicating they should stop to determine the nature of the hazard before proceeding further. They do not indicate what the hazard will be.

Directional indicators give directional orientation and designate the continuous accessible path of travel when other tactile or environmental cues are missing. When combined with other environmental information, TGSi assist blind, deafblind and vision impaired people with their orientation and awareness of impending obstacles, hazards and changes in the direction of the continuous accessible path of travel.

Universal Design

Also known as human centred design. This holistic approach ensures buildings, public spaces and transport amenities are easy and intuitive to use for a wide range of people no matter their age, physical ability, or level of language comprehension.



215 High Street
Private Bag 1005
Rangiora 7440, New Zealand
Phone 0800 965 468
waimakariri.govt.nz

250213023495

WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL**REPORT FOR INFORMATION**

FILE NO and TRIM NO: GOV-01-04 / AQU-02-09 / 260903265947

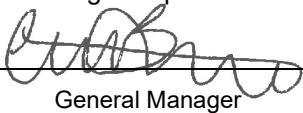
REPORT TO: COMMUNITY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE OF MEETING: 15 September 2026

AUTHOR(S): Matthew Greenwood, Aquatics Manager

SUBJECT: Aquatics August Update

ENDORSED BY:
(for Reports to Council,
Committees or Boards)


 General Manager


 Chief Executive

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to provide the Community and Recreation Committee with a summary of the Aquatic Facilities year to date progress, as measured against the unit's most significant Key Performance Indicators.
- 1.2. Customer attendance for the previous 12 months remains relatively consistent. Population growth and growing interest in Aquarobics and Learn to Swim programming have been balanced by increased community sickness, growing pressures on household budgets and a programmed maintenance closure have resulted in a relatively neutral outcome.
- 1.3. The report contains updates on Aqualand holiday fun and the implementation of new time and attendance systems.

Attachments:

- i. Nil

2. RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 260903265947.
- (b) **Notes** total customer attendance of 22,705 customers for the month of August 2026. This is down 1,193 (4.9%) in comparison to 23,898 customers recorded in August 2025.
- (c) **Notes** the Aqualand event in the school holidays was well attended with 760 tickets sold.
- (d) **Notes** the successful implementation of BioTime, a time and attendance software package as part of the Council Enterprise System upgrade.
- (e) **Circulates** this report to the community Boards for their information.

3. BACKGROUND

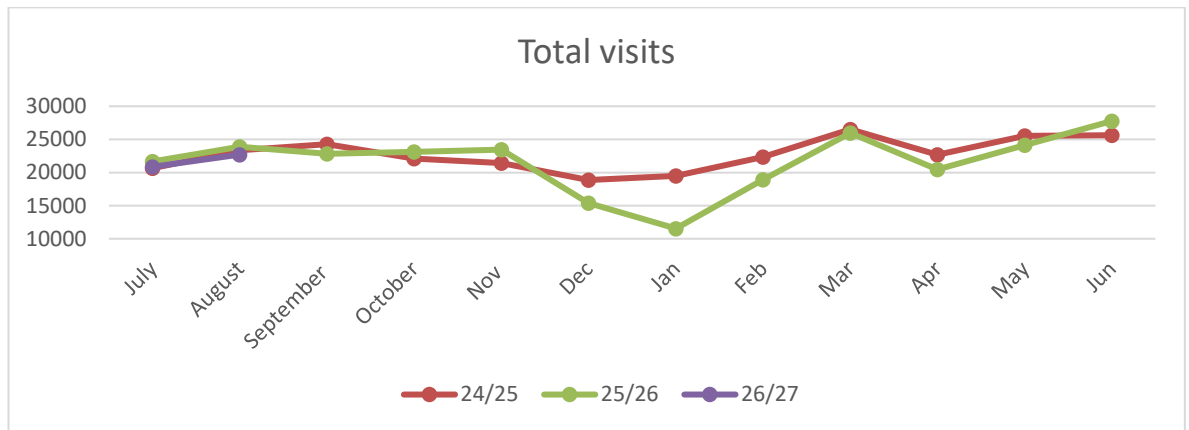
- 3.1. The Waimakariri District Council's Aquatic Facilities team deliver best practice aquatic programmes and enjoyable recreation opportunities for the ongoing wellbeing of our community and visitors. We do so from four sites: two indoor, year-round facilities and two seasonal summer pools, which operate over the summer period.

- 3.2. The Aquatic Facilities team work closely with partner organisations, clubs, trusts and interest groups to support water safety programmes, grow and develop swimming and Aquatic exercise initiatives, and works with the Council to ensure our facilities are inclusive places, accessible to all members of the community.
- 3.3. While the Aquatic Facilities operate with the support of Council and rates funding, they do so in a busy and competitive market. It is important that the facilities continue to utilise all tools available to attract and retain customers, growing attendance and ensuring income targets are met.

4. **KEY ISSUES**

4.1. Customer Attendance

The following tables provide a summary of attendance across the facilities as at 31 August 2026. This period includes a three-week closure of Dudley pool in January which impacted attendance as shown.



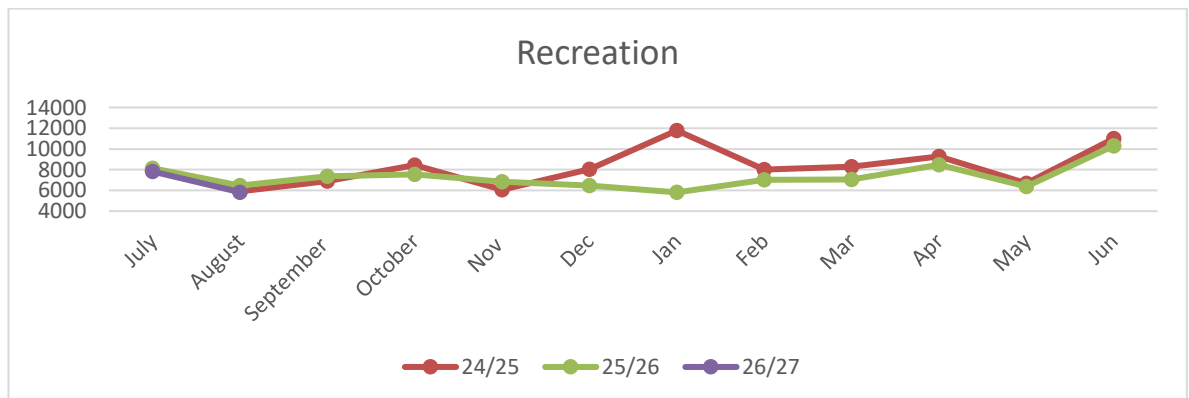
4.2.

Attendance at the facilities is tracking closely in line with previous years, with just over 22,700 total visits recorded in August. This represents a slight decrease of approximately 1,200 visits compared with the same period last year.

The tail end of winter sickness has had quite an impact with customers following public health advice to stay home until they are well and not go to busy public places. Equally fuel pricing and other economic factors continue to place pressure on already tight household budgets.

The following tables provide a breakdown of the three core activity areas: Recreation, including casual swimming, leisure use, and lane swimming; Programmes, including Learn to Swim, school bookings, and aquarobics; and Prepaid Entries, including concessions and memberships, across the three facilities.

4.3. Recreation totals and summary



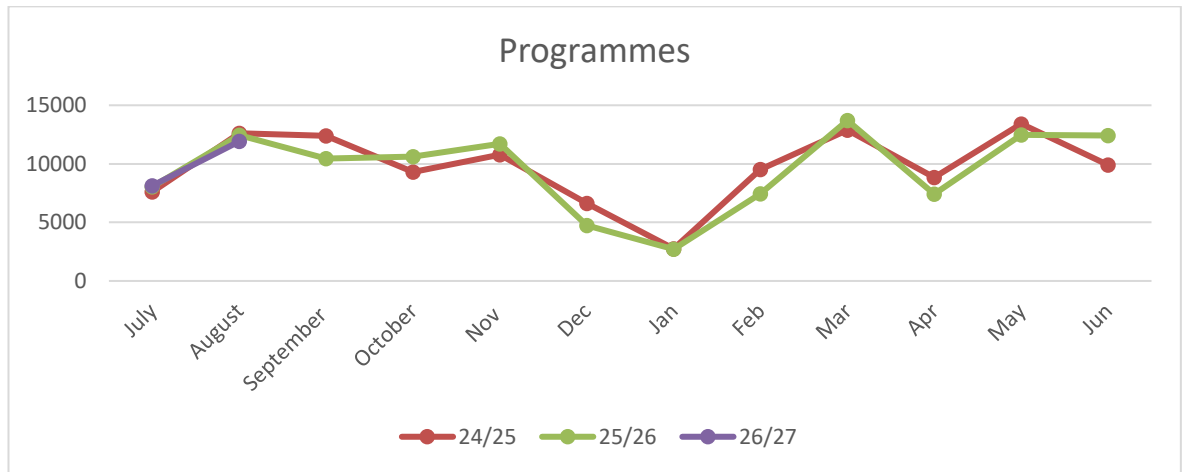
4.4.

Recreation figures remain relatively consistent at 5,800 visit, just over 600 fewer recreation visits recorded in August compared with the same period last year. Volatility in fuel prices has likely contributed to a modest decline in attendance over the past few months, with some families needing to reassess discretionary travel and activity costs.

Christchurch City Council opened its flagship Parakiore Recreation and Sport Centre in December 2025. The facility includes a 50 metre competition pool, dive pool, five hydrosides, a large aquatic leisure area, and a sensory aqua space designed to support inclusive participation. It also incorporates nine indoor courts, a three court show court with retractable seating, fitness and movement studios, and a High Performance Sport New Zealand training base.

As is typical with the introduction of a new recreation facility, there is likely to be an initial impact on attendance as customers seek out a new experience and adapt to other options in the market.

4.5. Programmes total and summary



4.6.

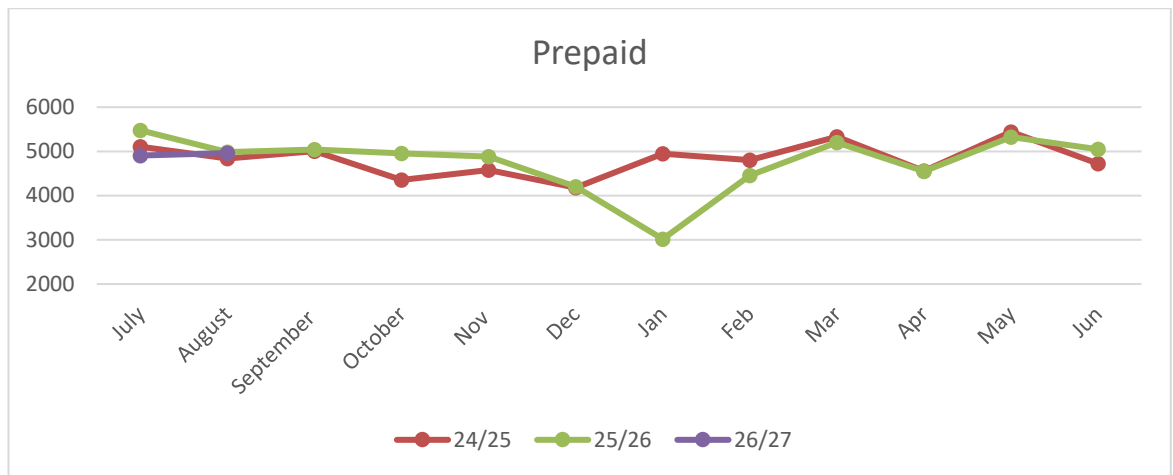
Programme attendance continues to track closely with the previous year, although it is slightly lower, with just over 16,900 visits recorded in August.

The winter school terms are typically lower attendance periods, as families balance winter sports and other commitments. As noted in the media we have seen a wave of winter bugs which has had an impact both on customer attendance and staff wellness, with a number of roles working in close proximity to customers.

The schools programme is structured seasonally. During the summer period, schools located closer to the facilities are prioritised, as weather conditions allow for walking access. In winter, programming shifts to include schools that are located further away and require transport. In response to increased transport costs, and in collaboration with Water Safety New Zealand, North Canterbury Sport and Recreation Trust, and participating schools, the programme has been adjusted to eight sessions rather than the usual ten. This approach has helped us reduce transport cost to ensure the programme remains a viable option for schools.

Attendance within the schools programme can fluctuate, reflecting the need for schools to balance swimming within their curriculum alongside other activities. Variations in October, December to January, and April align with school holiday periods, while the main Learn to Swim programme operates on a term-based schedule

4.7. Prepaid totals and summary



4.8.

Prepaid attendance remains stable, with 4,962 visits recorded in August.

At \$4.40 for a child and \$7.80 for an adult, swimming continues to represent an affordable recreational option for most families. When compared with other leisure activities, such as cinema attendance, it provides strong value for money while supporting physical activity, social connection, and overall wellbeing. This accessibility contributes to its ongoing appeal as a family focused recreation option. As identified in Option 4.2, it is important that the facilities continue to actively market and promote their activities to maintain relevance, retain customers, and support continued growth in attendance.

This appeal is further reinforced by current economic conditions. Ongoing cost of living pressures and global financial uncertainty are influencing discretionary spending, with households seeking affordable options to stay active and connected. In this context, swimming remains a practical and cost effective choice that supports both physical health and social engagement.

4.9. **Aqualand Inflatables a Major Success at Dudley Pool**

Dudley Pool welcomed the return of the Aqualand inflatables from 16 to 18 July, delivering three days of high energy aquatic recreation for local families during the school holiday period.

The event proved to be a significant success, attracting strong attendance across all three days and creating a vibrant atmosphere throughout the facility. Demand remained consistently high, with sessions well utilised and positive feedback received from participants and their families.

4.10. Over the three-day event, a total of **760** participants enjoyed the inflatable experience, which is 40 more than during their previous visit, a year ago.

4.11. .

The growing attendance and success of this years event highlights the value of providing unique recreational opportunities during school holidays, encouraging community participation and supporting increased use of council aquatic facilities.

Overall, the Aqualand inflatables programme was a highly successful addition to the winter school holiday schedule, delivering a safe, enjoyable, and well attended experience for the community.



4.12. **Successful Introduction of BioTime Workforce Management Software**

The introduction of BioTime workforce management software at the district's aquatic facilities has been a significant operational success, delivering improved workforce visibility, streamlined administration, and enhanced staff accountability.

- 4.13. Since implementation, BioTime has replaced several manual and fragmented processes associated with staff rostering, attendance monitoring, and timesheet management. The system provides real time oversight of staff attendance and enables managers to quickly identify staffing levels across facilities, supporting more efficient operational decision making.
- 4.14. One of the key benefits we are working towards is a reduction in administrative workload. Automated time and attendance recording has minimised manual data entry and reduced the risk of payroll errors, resulting in greater accuracy and consistency. Staff have adapted well to the new system, with high levels of engagement observed during the transition period.
- 4.15. The implementation was completed with minimal disruption to daily operations, supported by staff training, clear communication, and ongoing support throughout the transition process. The successful adoption of BioTime reflects the willingness of teams to embrace digital solutions that enhance operational efficiency and service delivery.

While we are still in the early stages of implementation, the adoption of BioTime has delivered measurable improvements in workforce management practices, reducing administrative workload and enabling greater focus on developing staff capability and improving the customer experience across the district's aquatic facilities.

- 4.16. The Management Team has reviewed this report and supports the recommendations.

5. **STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT AND COMMUNITY VIEWS**

Mana Whenua Engagement

- 5.1. The subject matter and/or recommendations contained within this report are not likely to be of interest to mana whenua.

Groups, Organisations and the Wider Community

- 5.2. There are a number of groups, organisations, or members of the wider community likely to be affected by, or to have an interest in, the subject matter of this report. Aquatics staff continue to work closely with key community partners and wider industry organisations, including North Canterbury Swim Club, Water Skills for Life, Waimakariri Access Group, Recreation Aotearoa, Swimming NZ and the North Canterbury Sports and Recreation Trust, to name a few.

Implications for Community Wellbeing

- 5.3. The successful operation of the Aquatic facilities is fundamentally tied to the wellbeing of our community and customers. Beyond the obvious physical benefits, our facilities promote the mental, and social wellbeing of residents. As a hub for recreation, education, and connection, the pool provides far-reaching benefits that extend well beyond its walls.
- 5.4. Through Leisure, Lane swimming and Aquarobics programmes we encourage regular physical activity across all age groups, contributing to improved health, strength, and mobility. They also serve as a platform for water safety education, equipping children and adults with essential life-saving skills. Programmes such as learn-to-swim classes and survival skills training are instrumental in reducing drowning risks.
- 5.5. The pool fosters social cohesion by bringing together people from diverse backgrounds. We offer a welcoming environment for families, youth, seniors, and individuals with disabilities. Community events, school programmes, and recreational activities hosted at the pool such as the Kane Shield, strengthen local ties and promote a sense of belonging.

- 5.6. By hosting school programmes, holiday lessons, and training courses, the pool supports local education initiatives and employment opportunities, contributing to the local economy and reinforcing the pool's role as a valued community asset.
- 5.7. Ensuring the pool remains accessible is key to its continued impact. Working to ensure we meet community needs, efficient operation and inclusive programming help remove barriers to participation, ensuring that all members of the community can benefit from our facilities.

Community Outcomes and Strategic Priorities

- 5.8. The Council's community outcomes are relevant to the actions arising from recommendations in this report.
- Public spaces are diverse, respond to changing demographics and meet local needs for leisure and recreation.
 - Council commits to promoting health and wellbeing and minimising the risk of social harm to its communities.
 - Our community has access to the knowledge and skills needed to participate fully in society and to exercise choice about how to live their lives
 - People are able to enjoy meaningful relationships with others in their families, whanau, communities, iwi and workplaces.
 - Our community has equitable access to the essential infrastructure and services required to support community wellbeing.
 - Public spaces express our cultural identities and help to foster an inclusive society.
 - All members of our community are able to engage in arts, culture and heritage events and activities as participants, consumers, creators or providers.
 - Waimakariri's diversity is freely expressed, respected and valued.
 - People are supported to participate in improving the health and sustainability of our environment.
 - Our district transitions towards a reduced carbon and waste district.
 - The natural and built environment in which people live is clean, healthy and safe.
 - Our communities are able to access and enjoy natural areas and public spaces.
 - Enterprises are supported and enabled to succeed.
 - There is access to meaningful, rewarding, and safe employment within the district.
 - Our district recognises the value of both paid and unpaid work.
 - Infrastructure and services are sustainable, resilient, and affordable.
 - Our district readily adapts to innovation and emerging technologies that support its transition to a circular economy.
- 5.9. The Council's Strategic Priorities are relevant to the actions arising from recommendations in this report.
- Enhance community wellbeing, safety, inclusivity and connectedness - Waimakariri District is a high growth area with an increasingly diverse population. We want to build a wellbeing centred community where all feel safe and welcome; are accepted and connected.
 - Protect and enhance the resilience of our natural and built environment - Respond to the challenges posed by climate change by building resilient infrastructure, managing adaptation, and minimising council's carbon emissions.

6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Financial Implications

- 6.1. There are no financial implications for the decisions sought by this report.

- 6.2. Funding is currently provided within the Annual / Long Term Plan.
- 6.3. The following table summarises the Aquatics operational financial position as at 31 July 2026. At present, some key information has not yet been fully migrated into the new Datascape system, including asset financial data required for depreciation calculations, overhead allocations, and insurance cost allocations. Work is underway to complete the migration and validation of this information. As a result, a more complete and reliable financial position is expected to be available for the September accounts. Until this process is complete, the financial information presented below should be considered indicative and may be subject to change as the remaining data is migrated and verified.

	Actual	Budget	
Revenue			
Revenue	151,961	146,016	➡
Rates	391,561	396,041	➡
	543,522	542,057	➡
Operating Expenses	332,638	360,613	⬆
Maintenance	21,981	27,430	⬆
Overheads	76,362	76,362	➡
Internal Interest	22,304	22,304	➡
Depreciation	78,927	78,927	➡
	532,211	565,635	⬆
Surplus/ (Deficit)	11,311	(23,578)	⬆

Arrow Key:

Green: Expenditure is tracking better than budget. Revenue is better than budget.

Yellow: Expenditure is tracking within 5% over budget. Revenue is within 5% less than budget.

Red: Expenditure is tracking greater than 5% of budget. Revenue is greater than 5% less of budget.

Overall income remains up on budget due to growth within the programmes. With the higher demand for lessons, we are better positioned to fill out class numbers which has seen a stronger than forecast revenue income result.

The underspend in the Maintenance budget is due to an underspend in insurance premiums, which were lower than anticipated and are accounted for within the maintenance budget.

Direct staffing costs remained on budget due to the need to continue to meet contractual obligations and safe operating requirements.

Community Resilience and Sustainability

- 6.4. While the recommendations in this report do not have a direct sustainability or climate change impact, the impact our operation has on the community and environment are key drivers for the delivery of services and our planning processes.

While ticket sales account for around 40% of the Aquatics income budget, to ensure the continued sustainability of the business, it is important that the aquatics team are able to utilise the same promotional and marketing tools available to other similar businesses in what is a dynamic and competitive market.

As explored in the District Aquatic Strategy, ensuring the efficiency of our operation is key to managing the sustainability of current and future offerings. This ensures that facilities will be well utilised and continue to be good value for money for future generations.

Aquatic staff continue to investigate more sustainable and climate conscious alternatives with examples including switching to LED lighting, closely monitoring our water quality to reduce the need for additional chemical balancing and switching products to prioritise less impactful chemicals for cleaning and filtration.

To minimise its environmental impact, our pool plant utilises systems to recirculate water and recover heat, which decrease the overall resources required to operate. However, with changes underway within the Three Waters sector, there is an increasing likelihood of water usage charging for Council facilities, including Aquatics. While the details are yet to be finalised, this potential change will have implications for budgets and long-term planning. Staff will continue to monitor developments, engage with the three waters team and refine our water quality and efficiency processes to minimise impact.

Risk Management

- 6.5. There are no risks arising from the adoption/implementation of the recommendations in this report.

Changing attitudes around the risks from winter colds and communicable diseases continue to impact on both our staffing ability but also on customers attendance for recreation and programmed activities especially as we move through the colder winter months.

The cost and availability of fuel impacts both staffing availability and also the cost of supplies and consumables. Where possible we are looking to work with staff to minimise travel and promote carpooling and other fuel saving initiatives.

Treatment systems and processes around the ongoing monitoring of water quality are designed to minimise risk to customers from water borne illness and communicable disease. Staff will continue to work closely with Te Whatu Ora to address situations as we are made aware of them and take the appropriate steps.

Staff will continue to monitor revenue and expenses closely, identifying new initiatives such as visiting attractions and partnership opportunities, refining the business model to identify efficiencies, retain customers attract new business and meet the community demand for low cost, safe and enjoyable recreation opportunities.

Health and Safety

- 6.6. There are no health and safety risks arising from the adoption/ implementation of the recommendations in this report.

Customer and staff safety is key to the ongoing success of the facilities with leadership staff working closely with Council's Health and Safety team, Police, Poolsafe, and other key groups to ensure we provide a safe and enjoyable environment for our customers.

Staff take the safety our customers as their highest priority with any unusual behaviour addressed or escalated to the proper authorities.

With staff working in close proximity to customers, community spread from colds, viruses and notifiable diseases can impact our availability to safely operate facilities. The Aquatics Standard Operating Procedures and Pool Water Quality Risk Management Plan outline the steps taken around effective treatment of pool water to ensure we provide a safe environment for our customers. Our Aquatics BCP outlines how we will manage staffing pressures to ensure we continue to operate a safe and secure environment for our customers at all times.

Poolsafe accreditation requires robust practices around reporting, investigation, trending and management of both staff and public accidents. This is on top of the Council's Health and Safety requirements and ensures a comprehensive overview.

7. **CONTEXT**

Consistency with Policy

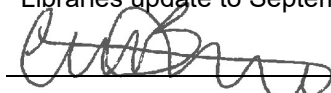
- 7.1. This matter is not a matter of significance in terms of the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

Authorising Legislation

- 7.2. Poolsafe - Though not currently a legislative requirement, Poolsafe accreditation is recognised as industry best practice, representing a base safe standard for operating a public aquatic facility following a coronial enquiry delivered in October 2006

Authorising Delegations

- 7.3. The Community and Recreation Committee has delegated authority for the governance of the Aquatic Facilities.

WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL**REPORT FOR INFORMATION****FILE NO and TRIM NO:** LIB-04-01/260902265249**REPORT TO:** COMMUNITY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**DATE OF MEETING:** 15 September 2026**AUTHOR(S):** Luke Sole – District Libraries Manager**SUBJECT:** Libraries update to September 2026**ENDORSED BY:**
(for Reports to Council,
Committees or Boards)

 General Manager


 Chief Executive
1. SUMMARY

- 1.1. This report provides an update on notable services, programmes and experiences offered to our community | hapori by Waimakariri Libraries from June to September 2026. This includes some preliminary performance results for 2025/2026, a significant contribution with WORD Christchurch literary festival, and the launch of the i-SITE service at Ruataniwha Kaiapoi Civic Centre.

2. RECOMMENDATION**THAT** the Community and Recreation Committee

- (a) **Receives** Report 260902265249
- (b) **Notes** increasing demand for library services in the district, which is evident in 2025/2026 preliminary performance results demonstrating a 4.1% increase in visitation across the sites and a 5.3% increase in memberships.
- (c) **Circulates** the report to the Community Boards for their information.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1. Waimakariri Libraries promote literacy and lifelong learning to support healthier and more resilient communities, support pathways to learning, contribute to economic and social wellbeing, and deliver excellence in public service.
- 3.2. Our District's libraries are vibrant and increasingly busy spaces, with visitation equating to almost 400,000 unique in-person visits and 500,000 books issued.
- 3.3. Since the last update report there have been several initiatives which have been undertaken which are described in more detail below.

4. ISSUES AND OPTIONS

- 4.1. Preliminary data collection results show significant increases in visitation and membership
 - 4.1.1. Across the three Waimakariri Libraries in Rangiora, Kaiapoi and Oxford, the digital door counter system recorded 399,606 in-person visits during 2025/26, compared with 383,959 visits in 2024/25. This represents an increase of 15,647 visits, or 4.1% across the sites, demonstrating continued growth in

community engagement with library spaces, collections, programmes and services across the district.

- 4.1.2. These statistics have been compiled as part of the [Public Libraries of New Zealand \(PLNZ\)](#) National Data Collection programme, which gathers library service data from public libraries throughout New Zealand. The programme enables councils and libraries to benchmark performance against comparable library services nationally, supports evidence-based decision-making, and provides insights into changing trends in library use and community engagement.
- 4.1.3. Trevor Inch Memorial Library continues to lead this growth, recording an approximate 8% year-on-year increase in visits. Growth has also been reported at Ruataniwha Kaiapoi Civic Centre, supported by staff-led events and programmes designed to encourage community participation and visitation. In particular, the ongoing development of Thursday evening late-night programming has contributed to increased use of the facility and strengthened community engagement.
- 4.1.4. Library membership has also grown significantly. Active membership increased from 18,344 in 2024/25 to 19,330 in 2025/26, an increase of 986 members, or approximately 5.3%. This substantial growth in membership, alongside increased physical visitation, highlights the continuing value of Waimakariri Libraries as welcoming community hubs that support learning, connection, creativity and access to information across the district.
- 4.1.5. A more comprehensive analysis of the 2025/26 results, including benchmarking outcomes from the PLNZ National Data Collection programme and service performance trends, will be presented to the Community & Recreation Committee as part of the November update.

4.2. Waimakariri Libraries partner with WORD Christchurch Festival



Contributors to Fuego Volume 4 at the National Poetry Day event at Rangiora Town Hall.

- 4.2.1. Waimakariri Libraries continued to strengthen its partnership with the WORD Christchurch Festival, one of New Zealand's leading literary festivals. The collaboration provides opportunities for local writers, readers, and young people to connect with high-quality literary experiences while raising the profile of Waimakariri within the wider Canterbury literary community.
- 4.2.2. A key initiative was the From Page to Stage programme, delivered at Rangiora and Oxford Libraries. The workshops supported young people to develop skills in songwriting, spoken word, rap, and slam poetry, culminating in a youth showcase. The programme gave participants a pathway from creative development to public performance, helping build confidence and foster emerging local talent.
- 4.2.3. The partnership also supported aspiring authors through fully booked self-publishing workshops at Rangiora and Kaiapoi, providing practical guidance on publishing options and helping writers develop a greater understanding of how to take their work from manuscript to audience.
- 4.2.4. A further highlight was the launch of *Fuego Volume 4*, the World Congress of Poets Literary Journal, held at the Rangiora Town Hall. Featured within the WORD Christchurch Festival programme and the National Poetry Day calendar, the event showcased local writers, young performers, and artists alongside nationally and internationally recognised poets.
- 4.2.5. The launch featured live readings by 16 of the contributors, including Heather McQuillan, Ciaran Fox, Annabel Wilson, Pat White, students from the library Page to Stage workshops, and James Norcliffe.
- 4.2.6. Together, these initiatives demonstrate how the partnership with WORD Christchurch Festival supports literary development, provides meaningful opportunities for local creatives, and connects Waimakariri audiences with one of the country's most significant celebrations of books, writing, and ideas.

4.3. Kaiapoi i-SITE Launch at Ruataniwha Kaiapoi Civic Centre



Figure 2: Zoe Lister, Tourism & Social Services Coordinator, at Ruataniwha Kaiapoi Civic Centre.

- 4.3.1. In August 2026, the Kaiapoi i-SITE was successfully relocated to the Ruataniwha Kaiapoi Civic Centre and Library, creating a convenient and accessible hub where visitors and residents can access tourism information, community services, and local knowledge in one location.
- 4.3.2. The integration reflects the strong alignment between library and visitor information services, with a dedicated tourism information area established within the library. The service is supported by Zoe Lister, Tourism and Social Services Coordinator, who is leading the development of the i-SITE function and strengthening connections with local tourism operators, community organisations, and visitors. Zoe has been enjoying leading the service and getting to know another segment of the community that are engaging with our services and spaces. In the week following the launch, Zoe has assisted with tourist information, travel and activity bookings, maps, brochures, and general enquiries about the district.
- 4.3.3. Zoe hopes that the offering will further promote Ruataniwha Kaiapoi Civic Centre as a destination facility where people come to engage with museum, art and library experiences and enjoy the rich historical and cultural value of the building and surrounding area.
- 4.3.4. tourism information, accommodation and activity bookings, travel advice, local event information, maps, brochures, and general enquiries about the district.
- 4.3.5. Promoted through the Waimakariri Libraries website and Facebook page, the launch highlights the growing role of libraries as community information hubs that support both residents and visitors while enhancing the district's tourism offering.

4.4. Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori Programme for All Ages



- 4.4.1. During September, Waimakariri Libraries delivered a month-long Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori programme designed to celebrate and promote the use of te reo Māori across the district. The programme extended beyond the national celebration week, encouraging ongoing engagement with te reo Māori through performances, language learning opportunities, and community participation.
- 4.4.2. Key activities included kapa haka performances by local kura at Rangiora, Kaiapoi, and Oxford, providing opportunities for tamariki and whānau to celebrate te ao Māori and showcase local talent. Libraries also launched Kawhe and Kōrero, a regular te reo Māori support group where learners can practise everyday language skills in a welcoming environment.
- 4.4.3. Additional initiatives included daily Kupu o te Rā challenges, encouraging customers to learn and use a new Māori word each day, as well as Kiriāhua (Selfie Frame) activities that encouraged community members to show their support for te reo Māori through social media participation. These activities were promoted through the Waimakariri Libraries website and Facebook page, extending the programme's reach and encouraging community-wide involvement.
- 4.4.4. The programme reflects the library's commitment to supporting language revitalisation, celebrating Māori culture, and creating accessible opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to engage with te reo Māori.

4.5. Waimakariri Libraries Supporting District's Local History and Heritage



Figure 3: Sally O'Connell, Local History & Heritage Coordinator, speaking at the 2026 Careers in Heritage event at Tūranga, Christchurch City Central Library.

- 4.5.1. Waimakariri Libraries continued to make a significant contribution to the preservation and promotion of local history and heritage during August 2026, led by Sally O'Connell, Local History & Heritage Coordinator. Through programmes, community events, and advocacy for the heritage sector, Sally helped strengthen connections between residents, local stories, and the district's rich historical collections.
- 4.5.2. As part of Family History Month in August, libraries delivered a comprehensive programme of genealogy-focused activities, including Ancestry Library classes, a six-week Family History Writing Workshop series, and slide-scanning sessions to help residents digitise family photographs and preserve personal histories. The writing workshops encouraged participants to explore their ancestry, record oral histories, and contribute stories to the Waimakariri Heritage platform, ensuring local memories are preserved for future generations.
- 4.5.3. On 4 August 2026, Sally was invited to speak at the Careers in Heritage 2026 event at Tūranga, Christchurch City Central Library. The event brought together heritage professionals from across the galleries, libraries, archives, museums, and archaeology sectors to showcase career pathways for secondary and tertiary students. Representing Waimakariri Libraries, Sally shared insights into her work in local history and heritage, helping inspire the next generation of heritage practitioners and promoting the important role libraries play in preserving community stories.
- 4.5.4. Libraries are also supporting the Rangiora Town Hall Centenary celebrations throughout 2026 by promoting historical photographs, stories, and heritage resources through Waimakariri Heritage. By highlighting archival material and encouraging community contributions, libraries are helping celebrate 100 years of a landmark that has played a central role in the cultural and civic life of Waimakariri.

Implications for Community Wellbeing

There are various initiatives that promote positive community wellbeing outcomes in the issues and options that are the subject matter of this report. Notably, the initiatives delivered

by the libraries team and/or external partners are developed to promote community wellbeing, foster community connection, and provide opportunities for lifelong learning.

4.6. The Management Team has reviewed this report and support the recommendations.

5. **COMMUNITY VIEWS**

5.1. **Mana whenua**

Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri hapū are likely to be affected by, or have an interest in, the subject matter of this report. Waimakariri Libraries provide access to important historical resources, promoting cultural preservation and fostering educational opportunities. Our libraries hold collections relating to Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri, including art, photographs, maps, and books, which are vital for preserving and promoting mātauranga māori (Māori knowledge). Our libraries regularly connect with mana whenua through programmes and events, including Matariki and Te Wiki o te Reo Māori, also known as Māori Language Week.

5.2. **Groups and Organisations**

While there are no specific groups or organisations affected as a result of the recommendations in this report, the Waimakariri Libraries service provides events and programmes for a number of groups and organisations. The events and programmes vary, however, all initiatives provide significant benefit for the groups and individuals involved.

5.3. **Wider Community**

Waimakariri Libraries has growing visitor numbers, attendance at events and programmes, and borrowing across physical and digital collections.

6. **OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISK MANAGEMENT**

6.1. **Financial Implications**

Library			
Summary Report July 2026			
	Actual	Budget	
Revenue			
Revenue	4,430	4,128	
Rates	496,112	501,993	⇒
Grants	-	-	
Development Contributions	-	33,442	↓
	500,542	539,563	
Operating Expenses			
Operating Expenses	278,061	287,667	⇒
Maintenance	44,609	40,088	↓
Overheads	105,036	105,036	⇒
Internal Interest	899	899	⇒
Depreciation	92,313	92,313	⇒
	520,916	526,003	⇒
Surplus/ (Deficit)	(20,374)	13,560	↓

Arrow explanation:

- Green: Expenditure is tracking better than budget. Revenue is better than budget.
- Yellow: Expenditure is tracking within 5% over budget.
- Revenue is within 5% less than budget
- Red: Expenditure is tracking greater than 5% of budget. Revenue is greater than 5% less of budget

6.2. **Sustainability and Climate Change Impacts**

The recommendations in this report do have sustainability and/or climate change implications. Libraries promote sustainability by providing wide-ranging collections and resources that are borrowed extensively, including digital resources that carry a reduced carbon footprint. In addition, public libraries are providers of information and play a role in teaching environmental literacy by educating communities to learn about climate issues. The availability of emergent technologies and equipment such as sewing machines in a library setting reduce the need for community members to purchase their own technology and enable the community to repair and repurpose their own items.

6.3. **Risk Management**

There are no specific risks arising from the adoption/implementation of the recommendations in this report. Given the

6.4. **Health and Safety**

There are no Health and safety risks arising from the adoption/implementation of the recommendations in this report.

7. **CONTEXT**

7.1. **Consistency with Policy**

This matter is not a matter of significance in terms of the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

7.2. **Authorising Legislation**

7.3. **Consistency with Community Outcomes**

The Council's community outcomes are relevant to the actions arising from recommendations in this report.

7.4. **Authorising Delegations**

The Community and Recreation Committee have the delegation to receive this report.