

## Notice of Meeting:

I hereby give notice that an ordinary Meeting of the Environment Committee will be held on:

**Date:** Tuesday 30 November 2021  
**Time:** 1.00pm  
**Meeting Room:** Council Chamber and Audio Visual Link  
**Venue:** Municipal Building, Garden Place,  
Hamilton

Lance Vervoort  
Chief Executive

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## Environment Committee *Komiti Taiao* OPEN AGENDA

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### Membership

**Chairperson** Cr Gallagher  
*Heamana*

**Deputy Chairperson** Cr S Thomson  
*Heamana Tuarua*

**Members** Cr M Bunting  
Cr A O'Leary  
Cr K Naidoo-Rauf  
Cr D Macpherson  
Cr M Donovan  
Mayor P Southgate (Ex Officio)  
Maangai Maaori – N Hill

**Quorum:** A majority of members (including vacancies)

**Meeting Frequency:** Six weekly

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Becca Brooke  
Governance Manager  
*Menetia Mana Whakahaere*

**23 November 2021**

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## Purpose

The Environment Committee is responsible for:

1. Governance of strategies, policies and plans relating to the wellbeing, protection, enhancement and sustainability of Hamilton's natural environment.

***In addition to the common delegations, the Environment Committee is delegated the following Terms of Reference and powers:***

### Terms of Reference:

1. To develop policy, approve strategies and plans concerning Hamilton's contribution and response to climate change, and to monitor their implementation.
2. To develop policy, approve strategies and plans for the sustainable use of Hamilton's natural resources, and to monitor their implementation.
3. To develop policy, approve strategies and plans for efficient and sustainable waste management and recycling, and to monitor their implementation.
4. To develop policy, approve strategies and plans for Council's corporate environmental sustainability and to monitor their implementation.
5. To develop policy, approve strategies and plans for Council's biodiversity, and to monitor their implementation.
6. To develop policy, approve and monitor implementation of strategies in relation to the Climate Action Plan.

### Special Notes:

- The Committee may request expert external advice through the Chief Executive as necessary.

### The Committee is delegated the following powers to act:

- Approval of matters determined by the Committee within its Terms of Reference.

### The Committee is delegated the following recommendatory powers:

- The Committee may make recommendations to Council.

The Committee may make recommendations to other Committees.

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**1 Apologies – *Tono aroha***

**2 Confirmation of Agenda – *Whakatau raarangi take***

The Committee to confirm the agenda.

**3 Declaration of Interest – *Tauaakii whaipaaanga***

Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as an elected representative and any private or other external interest they might have.

**4 Public Forum – *Aatea koorero***

As per Hamilton City Council's Standing Orders, a period of up to 30 minutes has been set aside for a public forum. Each speaker during the public forum section of this meeting may speak for five minutes or longer at the discretion of the Chair.

Please note that the public forum is to be confined to those items falling within the terms of the reference of this meeting.

Speakers will be put on a Public Forum speaking list on a first come first served basis in the Council Chamber prior to the start of the Meeting. A member of the Council Governance Team will be available to co-ordinate this. As many speakers as possible will be heard within the allocated time.

If you have any questions regarding Public Forum please contact Governance by telephoning 07 838 6727.

# Council Report

Item 5

**Committee:** Environment Committee  
**Author:** Carmen Fortin  
**Position:** Governance Advisor  
**Report Name:** Confirmation of the Open Environment Committee Minutes - 26 August 2021

**Date:** 30 November 2021  
**Authoriser:** Becca Brooke  
**Position:** Governance Manager

<b>Report Status</b>	<i>Open</i>
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## **Staff Recommendation - *Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi***

That the Environment Committee confirm the open Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 26 August 2021 as a true and correct record.

## **Attachments - *Ngaa taapirihanga***

Attachment 1 - Environment Committee Unconfirmed Open Minutes - 26 August 2021

## Environment Committee *Komiti Taiao* OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Environment Committee held via Audio Visual Link on Thursday 26 August 2021 at 1.05pm.

### PRESENT

**Chairperson** Cr Gallagher

*Heamana*

**Deputy Chairperson** Cr S Thomson

*Heamana Tuarua* Cr M Bunting

**Members** Mayor P Southgate

Cr A O'Leary

Cr K Naidoo-Rauf

Cr D Macpherson

Maangai N Hill

### In Attendance

Sean Hickey – General Manager Strategy and Communication  
Eeva-Liisa Wright – General Manager Infrastructure Operations  
Lance Vervoort – General Manager Community  
Maria Barrie – Unit Director Parks and Recreation  
Kelvin Powell – City Safe Unit Manager  
Julie Clausen – Unit Manager Strategy and Corporate Planning  
Charlotte Catmur – Sustainability and Environment Advisor  
Carmen Norris – Programme Manager  
Karen Saunders – Growth Programmes Manager  
Emily Botje – City Waters Unit Manager  
Robyn Denton – Operations Team Leader  
Phil Hazeldon – Transport Strategy Principal  
Mihi Bennett-Smith – Community Engagement Advisor  
Paula Gardiner – Executive Assistant  
Sandra Murray – Consultant, Business Support

### Governance Staff

Becca Brooke – Governance Manager  
Tyler Gaukrodger and Carmen Fortin – Governance Advisors

1. **Apologies – Tono aroha**  
**Resolved:** (Cr Gallagher /Cr Thomson)  
That the apologies for absence from Cr Bunting and Cr Naidoo-Rauf are accepted.
2. **Confirmation of Agenda – Whakatau raarangi take**  
**Resolved:** (Cr Gallagher /Cr Thomson)  
That the agenda is confirmed.

**3. Declarations of Interest – *Tauaakii whaipaaanga***

No members of the Council declared a Conflict of Interest.

**4. Public Forum – *Aatea koorero***

A written submission from Jo Wrigley (GoEco) was circulated to members prior to the meeting, and attached to these minutes as **appendix 1**.

**5. Confirmation of the Open Environment Committee Minutes - 1 June 2021**

**Resolved:** (Cr Thomson/Cr Macpherson)

That the Environment Committee confirm the open Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 1 June 2021 as a true and correct record.

**6. Chair's Report**

The Chair took the report as read and responded to questions from Members concerning the emissions reduction targets and the inclusion of the Waikato region in these target plans.

**Resolved:** (Cr Gallagher/Cr Thomson)

That the Environment Committee:

- a) receives the report; and
- b) notes that a report on regional efforts in respect of climate change action will come to the Committee through a future General Manger's report.

**7. Open Air Burning Bylaw Deliberations Report (*Recommendation to the Council*)**

The Consultant Business Support took the report as read. Staff responded to questions from Members concerning benefit to burning wood in comparison to coal, for heating of homes, and the impact of fireplaces.

**Resolved:** (Cr Gallagher/Cr O'Leary)

That the Environment Committee:

- a) receives the report; and
- b) recommends that the Council revokes the Open Air Burning Bylaw 2015.

**8. 2021/2022 Climate Change Action Plan**

The Sustainability and Environment Advisor introduced the report noting the inclusions within the new Action Plan. Staff responded to questions from Members concerning timelines and impediment of fleet vehicle change to EV, targets and monitoring of fleet EVs and electric bikes, reporting from other Committees, cross referencing to other plans, cost benefit of whole of life for hybrid vehicle including assessment of benefits prior to purchase, actions which would result in high reduction of emission, methods of energy production and use, staff travel plan actions, fleet opportunities through car share, monitoring of fleet vehicle purchase, collaboration with DHB, visibility and monitoring of actions, onsite energy use, waste minimisation targets, monitoring and prioritisation, maatauranga Maaori consideration in the Action Plan, and inclusion of rangatahi.

**Resolved:** (Cr Thomson/Cr O'Leary)

That the Environment Committee:

- a) receives the report;
- b) approves the 2021/2022 Climate Change Action Plan subject to inclusion of a one - two page document within the Climate Change Action Plan with clear targets and timeframes for the actions in the Climate Change Action Plan to enable monitoring; and
- c) request staff report back to the Infrastructure Operations Committee regarding options for measurable targets for the electrification of the corporate fleet.

**The meeting was adjourned from 2.42pm to 2.52pm.**

## 9. Environment Committee - Forward Work Programme

The General Manager Strategy and Communication introduced the report, noting that the purpose of the report is to confirm how the Committee is direction setting, monitoring and advocating, communication and engagement through other Committees. He also outlined some of the future reports that were expected to be reported to the Committee.

**Resolved:** (Cr Gallagher/Cr Thomson)

That the Environment Committee:

- a) receives the report; and
- b) approves the Environment Committee Forward Work Programme (Attachment 1 of the staff report).

## 10. General Managers Report

The General Manager Strategy and Communication took the report as read. Staff responded to questions from Members concerning Ministry for the Environment consultation and engagement with public, Council promotion of community consultation opportunities, ability to engage with the Climate and Environment Ministers, and cooperation with Waikato Regional Council.

**Staff Action:** *Mayor Southgate undertook to write letters to the Climate Change Minister and Environment Minister concerning key actions and strategic direction being undertaken by the Hamilton City Council and extend an invitation for a meeting to the relevant ministers ( which would included the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Environment Committee).*

**Resolved:** (Cr O'Leary/Mayor Southgate)

That the Environment Committee:

- a) receive the report; and
- b) approves the deferral of the infill and loss of vegetation in gullies report to a future meeting of the Environment Committee.

**The meeting was declared closed at 3.06pm.**



Ka ora te whenua; Ka ora te tangata.  
Healthy Environments, Thriving Communities.

26 August 2021

He mihi nui ki a koutou katoa  
He mihi nui ki a rangatira o teenei rohe, Kingi Tuheitia  
He mihi nui ki ngaa mana whenua o te rohe, Ngaati Wairere, Ngaati Hauaa, Ngaati Mahanga, Ngaati Korokii Kahukura, Ngaati Tamainupoo.  
No reira, teenaa koutou, teenaa koutou, teenaa koutou katoa.

Go Eco works for a vision of healthy environments supported by thriving communities. More than 20,000 people interact with us every year. Many of these people share their concerns and hopes with us and we bring their voices with us today. We endorse the sentiment and statements of the Chair's report today.

The recent IPCC Science Report clearly re-states the urgency required for adaptation and resilience, without urgency we face extinction within 2 generations. We urge councilors to push harder, to challenge communities to hold a vision for an abundant, climate resilient city that supports our descendants and their ongoing adaptation in seven generations time.

Go Eco maintains the view outlined in our presentation to council June 20, 2019 that such a declaration is at risk of being a grand gesture unless there is recognition of Te Tiriti and of Mana Whenua as Kaitiaki, a recognition that acknowledges the reciprocity between land and people. We consider that attention to Te Tiriti and to the aspirations of Mana Whenua and Tangata Whenua for restored environment is the urgent work required and we endorse the staff recommendation that a climate change action plan is resourced and undertaken in partnership with Waikato Tainui. We invite Council to identify other key stakeholders and reiterate our previous advocacy for the inclusion of climate scientists and environmental stakeholders. It is important that the community at large is engaged with the development and annual review of our city's Climate Action Plan.

We note that the Hamilton City Council Facilities Grant is highlighted as a climate investment with Go Eco. The facilities grant is a contribution towards operating a facility that is available and accessible to the community in the same way that all of the community centres are. Our accountability to this putea requires us to deliver services, facilities and education across the city. These services include administrative, communications, education and resource support for volunteer groups operating across

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the city. These include the Restoration Network, Friends of Waiwhakareke, Project Echo, food rescue & redistribution, cycle repair education and a network of bike hubs, Predator Free Hamilton and Waikato Ecological Restoration, rainwater harvesting, sustainability education for both business and community and enterprise initiatives for climate action. While Climate Action as a Tangata Tiriti organisation is core to our being, we are a charitable community organisation that is constrained by contestable funding models in the delivery of our vision.

We applaud the goal of 50% reduction in carbon emissions by 2030 and the potential of this to help the Waikato Region to reduce by a minimum of 25% over this period. As climate Manu Taki and community participants in the Waikato Wellbeing Plan it is heartening to see this support and intention of transparency.

Go Eco supports Council's investment into walking, cycling and scootering networks - 55 million over the next ten years. This is heartening. We also support the planned improvements in public transport. Go Eco is developing a transport policy (workplace travel plan) and is pleased to see that Council is doing the same. The District Plan review does present a great opportunity to create a resilient city - building up not out and building on well supported ideas like the 20 minute city. We look forward to supporting and actively being a part of these positive changes.

We applaud these investments and encourage the city to make the story and vision that you are building visible in communities. An easy to get around city is a vision, communities can get behind, particularly if we understand how our adaptation is being supported. Promote the green heaven you are investing in.

Our community gardens appreciate the tronpost, however, our vision for waste minimisation is inspired by the work of Extreme Zero Waste - creating hubs at a community and suburb level means local jobs and more efficient use of resources. Creating circular economies at a local suburb level helps educate and normalise circular economy thinking. If people are practicing and witnessing and talking about these local activities, innovation will be the love you receive back from the communities you represent.

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Our thanks and appreciation to Charlotte. Their accessibility and willingness to listen and engage gives us hope.

No reira, teenaa koutou, teenaa koutou, teena taatou katoa.

Jo Wrigley

Go Eco.

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# Council Report

## Item 6

**Committee:** Environment Committee

**Date:** 30 November 2021

**Author:** Carmen Fortin

**Authoriser:** Becca Brooke

**Position:** Governance Advisor

**Position:** Governance Manager

**Report Name:** Chair's Report

<b>Report Status</b>	<i>Open</i>
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### Recommendation

That the Environment Committee receives the report.

### Attachments

Attachment 1 - Chair's Report



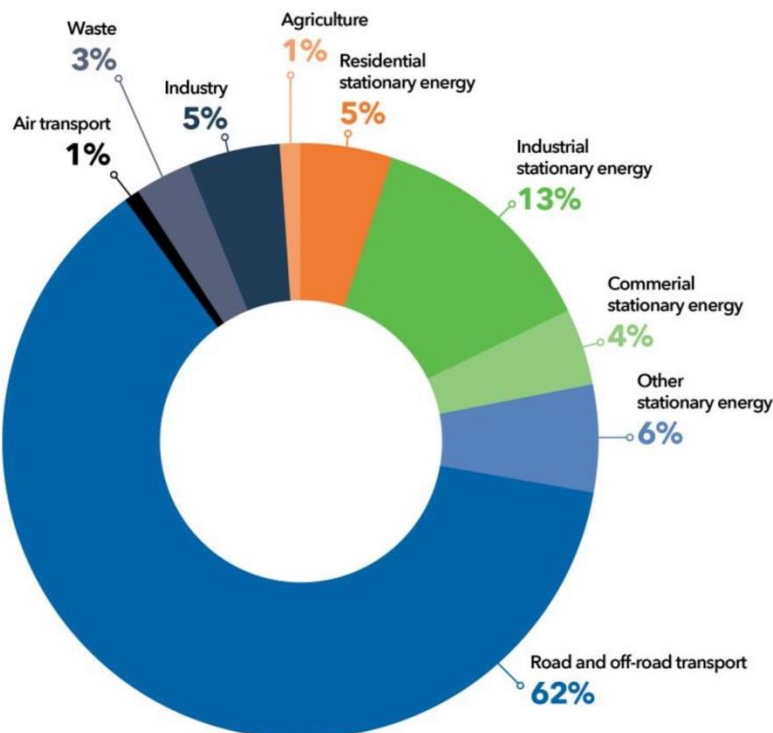
## Chair's Report

### A big thank you!

First of all, we wish to sincerely thank Charlotte Catmur, our Sustainability and Climate Change Manager, for her incredible work to date and the knowledge and expertise she brings to the role. Charlotte has been the driving force behind the development of our climate change strategy and climate change policy, which are both coming to this committee early in the new year and will be cornerstones to Hamilton's climate response going forward.

Charlotte will be taking parental leave and we wish her all the best over this special and busy time. We warmly welcome Cathy Kopeke who will be taking on the role of Sustainability and Climate Senior Advisor, and we look forward to welcoming Charlotte back sometime in 2022!

### Progress on reducing transport emissions



We applaud the further progress made on Te Huia, with services now able to run directly to The Strand Station in central Auckland on weekdays (once Auckland's borders open again).

We also acknowledge the work that the Waikato Regional Council is doing to establish direct, high frequency bus routes, and the excellent work of our transport team as they continue to make progress on safer walking

and cycling infrastructure. The likely green light for co-funding for the Eastern Pathways School Link project is very exciting.

However, we are acutely aware that we're going to need to work faster. Transport is the largest source of carbon emissions within Hamilton Kirikiriroa and we have a responsibility to do as much as we can in this space—as quickly as possible.

The approach Wellington City Council is taking to its cycling network could be the way forward, with a plan to roll out as much of their 147km cycling network as possible within the next three years using 'transitional infrastructure' such as paint, planters and cycle wands:

<https://www.transportprojects.org.nz/current/bikenetwork/proposed-network/>



*Work underway on the Claudelands Bridge right turn.*

Transitional infrastructure presents an exciting opportunity for Hamilton to provide a significantly safer and more connected cycling and scooting network within a few years, while delivering key projects such as Eastern Pathways in parallel. Moving at speed is critical given that New Zealand needs to reduce transport emissions by 41 percent by 2035, and the enormity of this task should not be underestimated.

The draft Emissions Reduction Plan sets a target to reduce Vehicle Kilometres Travelled (VKT) nationally by 20 percent by 2035, with cities expected to do the heavy lifting given their potential to support walking, cycling and public transport.

The government cannot expect councils to deliver on these targets without significantly greater support. We are disappointed that important projects that received strong community support through the Long Term Plan process, such as the Active Modes Bridge, University Link and Biking and Micro-mobility Programme, are now at risk of delay due to a lack of co-funding.

We are also concerned that important work to improve our public transport infrastructure remains largely unfunded, and that more needs to be done to improve the accessibility and affordability of public transport for our community.

We would like to see this Council make it an urgent priority to advocate to the government, including the Transport and Climate Change ministers, to support Hamilton in its work to provide residents with safe, convenient and low carbon transport choices.

#### Looking ahead - our next Waiwhakareke?



*Arbour day 2021 at Waiwhakareke Natural Heritage Park*

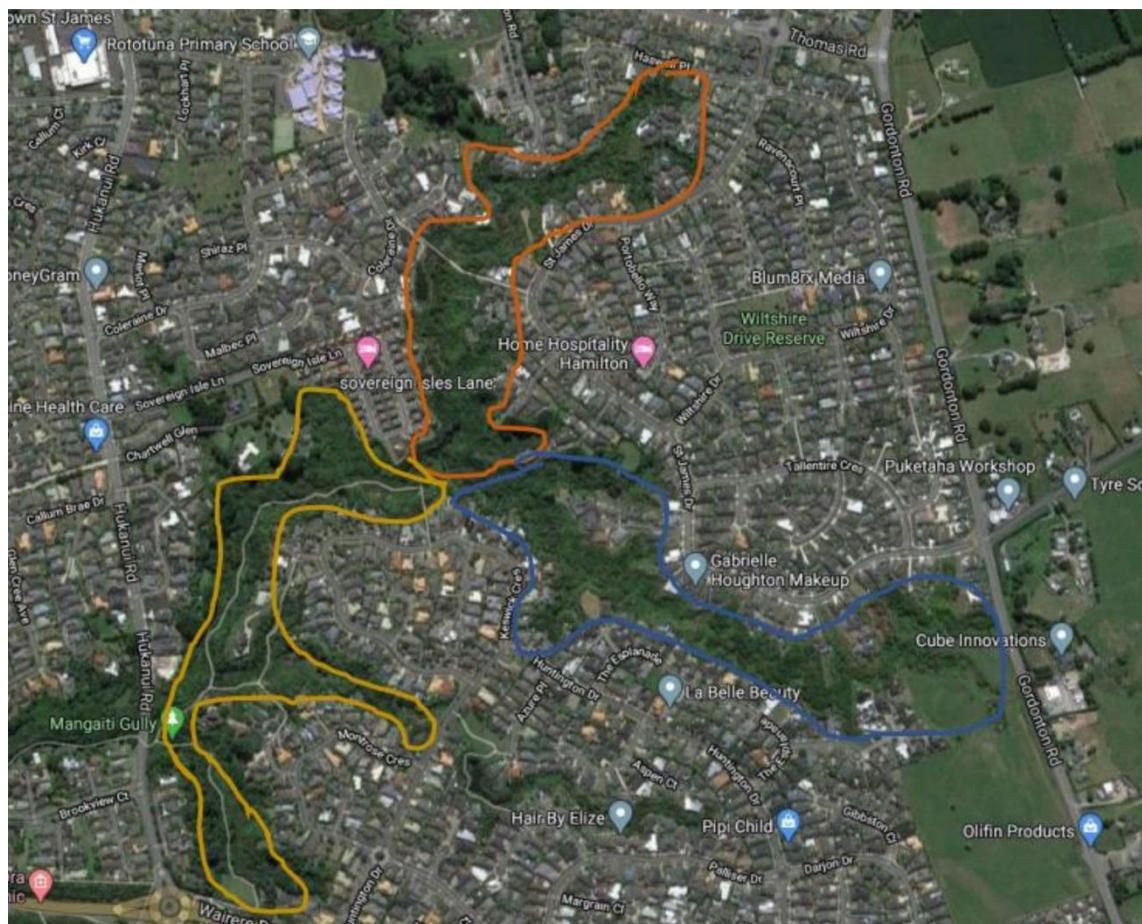
Another significant issue which we also believe needs discussing by council sooner rather than later is how we create opportunities for carbon sequestration and biodiversity offsetting at a local level, as well as enhancing Hamiltonians' access to nature.

Lake Waiwhakareke has been transformed through hundreds of hours of work from dedicated community volunteers. However, it was thanks to the vision of previous city leaders, Mayors Rogers and Minogue, that the land was secured for the benefit of Hamilton residents and able to be restored. We believe it is important for us to again look forward and engage in green space planning at the broadest level—not just planning for parks and soccer fields, but also opportunities to grow the 'green lungs' of our city.

We are interested in working with the Growth and Community Groups to consider opportunities for appropriate greenspaces within the Metro-Hamilton Urban Growth Strategy.

## Nature in the City

Finally, we'd like to acknowledge some of the great work going on within the community to restore nature in the city. Mangaiti Gully Restoration Trust, in partnership with Go Eco and HCC, recently secured funding through the Jobs for Nature scheme to employ a team lead and three trainees to carry out restoration work in the Mangaiti Gully over the next three years. This work will mainly focus on controlling invasive weeds within Zone 2 (the yellow section) of the gully to protect native plantings and prepare for new plantings.



### Chair's Recommendation

That the Environment Committee receives the report.

### Councillors Martin Gallagher and Sarah Thomson

Chair and Deputy Chair, Environment Committee

# Council Report

Item 7

**Committee:** Environment Committee

**Date:** 30 November 2021

**Author:** Luke Archbold

**Authoriser:** Helen Paki

**Position:** Parks Operational Planning  
and Capital Projects Manager

**Position:** General Manager Community

**Report Name:** Nature in the City - Update

Report Status	Open
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## Purpose - *Take*

1. To inform the Environment Committee on the progress with the Nature in the City programme.

## Staff Recommendation - *Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi*

2. That the Environment Committee receives the report.

## Executive Summary - *Whakaraapopototanga matua*

3. Through approval of the Nature in the City strategy and implementation plan on 1 December 2020, the Environment Committee recognised the benefits of increasing the native vegetation cover across Hamilton.
4. The 2021-31 LTP confirmed investment of \$29,097,000 allocated to Nature in the City programme across the 10-years.
5. Staff focus to date has been on establishment and recruitment into key roles, establishment of the programme leadership group, development of programme plan and communications plan, and to ensure a strong foundation is in place for success.
6. The developed benefits map (**Attachment 1**) defines the key elements of the programme including the measures and targets for the first 10 years of Nature in the City.
7. The Significant Natural Area (SNA) review is underway and due in December 2021. It will provide key baseline data for the programme's core measure for vegetation cover, including the key metric of Indigenous Dominance.
8. Programme phasing (**Attachment 2**) has been developed for the first three years of the programme, with Donny Park / Kukutaaruhe being identified as the first area for implementation of native restoration and infrastructure improvements.
9. Both external and internal collaboration and engagement has been identified as key to overall programme success and is a key focus area of the programme in the first 3 years.
10. Staff consider the matters in this report have low significance and that the recommendations comply with the Council's legal requirements.

## Background - *Koorero whaimaarama*

11. Approximately 98% of Hamilton's native vegetation cover has been removed, with less than 2% remaining. At least 10% native vegetation cover is required to ensure that ecosystems are sustainable over time and to provide habitat for native fauna.
12. There are several legislative requirements to restore indigenous biodiversity (including RMA requirements, the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River) as well as delivering on the aspirations contained in the Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy 2020.
13. There has been an increasing public awareness of biodiversity loss and the need to address climate change at a local level, resulting in a community expectation that action will be taken to invest in reversing this decline.
14. The Nature in the City strategy and implementation plan were approved at the 1 December 2020 the Environment Committee, recognizing the need to respond to the ecological imperative, community interest and legislative requirements.
15. The 2021-31 LTP confirmed investment of \$29,097,000 allocated to Nature in the City programme across the 10-years.

## Discussion - *Matapaki*

16. Initial effort has been focused on standing up the programme structure so that immediate progress in planning can enable key implementation activities in year one.
17. Initial work includes recruitment of key personnel, and establishment of a staff leadership group (programme board) to enable oversight, decision making and ensure programme benefits are realised.
18. The Programme Board includes a representative from Waikato Regional Council to ensure greater connection and partnership in this area of common interest. A place has also been reserved for Iwi representation at the Programme Board.
19. The Nature in the City [webpages](#) have been refreshed and updated and a Nature in the City advocacy video has been created as a key communications tool for the programme.
20. A benefits map ( **Attachment 1**) has been developed as part of our programme planning to ensure clarity of the related strategic objectives, outcomes, and corresponding outputs for Nature in the City.
21. The benefits map also defines the measures and targets for the first ten years of Nature in the City that will contribute to the overall objective of 10% native vegetation cover in Hamilton by 2050.
22. The outputs defined in the benefits map have been grouped into four main workstreams to focus implementation activities in an aligned and coordinated way.
23. Most of the work within the first three years of the programme centres around the Collaboration & Engagement workstream. The programme team has identified a strong dependence on working with others as key to overall success.
24. Through engagement with ecological experts, the team have identified that Indigenous Dominance is the most appropriate metric to use for establishing what constitutes native vegetation coverage. The SNA Review underway and due this December will provide key baseline data for understanding current levels of indigenous dominance in our flora based SNAs.
25. The development of a programme management plan has determined the activities and projects to be initiated in the first three years of the programme (see attachment 2). The plan

shows key milestones along the top timeline and what activities will occur within the defined workstreams.

26. The first delivery project that will be implemented is Donny Park / Kukutaaruhe. This was identified as an ideal first location due to the existing groups in the area, opportunities to enhance collaboration and scope for development to enhance community access.

### Financial Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro Puutea*

27. The 2021-31 Long Term Plan has \$29,097,000 allocated to Nature in the City programme across the 10-years.
28. The programme team have developed an implementation plan for the first three years that aligns with the phasing of the LTP budget.
29. Current planning work to date has cost \$45,000 in consultant fees and approximately \$12,000 in staff time.

	First 3 years of the programme			Future Years
Nature in the City	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25 – 2031/32
Capital	\$ 581,000	\$ 970,775	\$ 1,483,138	\$ 16,262,409
Operating	\$ 980,000	\$ 980,000	\$ 980,000	\$ 6,860,000
Total	\$ 1,561,000	\$ 1,950,775	\$ 2,463,138	\$ 23,122,409

30. The remaining budget for Year 1 will be expended in the second half of the year when new staff start in roles and consultants and contractors undertake work at Donny Park.

### Legal and Policy Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro-aa-ture*

31. Staff confirm that the Nature in the City strategy and this report complies with the Council's legal and policy requirements.

### Wellbeing Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro-aa-oranga tonutanga*

32. The purpose of Local Government changed on the 14 May 2019 to include promotion of the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future ('the 4 wellbeings').
33. The subject matter of this report has been evaluated in terms of the 4 wellbeings during the process of developing this report as outlined below.
34. The recommendations set out in this report are consistent with that purpose.

### Social

35. Research indicates that spending time in nature, particularly through recreation, increases physical and mental wellbeing.
36. Having significant areas of native forest and vegetation within an urban environment provides opportunities for the community to find respite from the 'busy-ness' of the city and reduces stress levels for those who spend time in nature.
37. By restoring the natural areas and gully networks, we create more opportunities to connect with nature. When people connect with nature, they are more likely to then take action to protect nature, which in turn results in more people undertaking ecological restoration.

## Economic

38. Native restoration activities will be delivered through several different ways – staff will undertake work; contractors will be engaged for new planting; and volunteers will be enabled to participate in native restoration. In all cases the programmes funding will be injected into the local economy through wages, the cost of services and purchase of plants, equipment, and other supplies.
39. Additional revenue opportunities will be explored and secured to enable further employment opportunities to undertake native restoration. E.g., Jobs for Nature funding via the Department of Conservation.

## Environmental

40. Restoring Hamilton's gully systems will provide greater ecological resilience for the city through the improvement of green infrastructure.
41. By realising this core object of the programme, we will be contributing to other organisational objectives by using ecological processes to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change and reduce pollutants being discharged to air and water.
42. Through native restoration habitat will be created for endemic native species, water quality will be improved, erosion and sediment loss into water ways will be reduced.

## Cultural

43. The Nature in the City programme recognizes that Maatauranga Maaori values draw from generations of learning that far exceeds colonial understanding of the New Zealand environment.
44. By developing a wholistic approach to urban native restoration that includes both western science and Maatauranga Maaori we will create a modern, culturally unique, way of caring for our native flora. This will provide another avenue for a wider group of mana whenua to reconnect with their cultural heritage.
45. Mana whenua will be a part of the Programme Board, should they have an interest being part of the leadership of the programme.
46. The programme will seek opportunities to support and enable mana whenua to undertake native restoration on their own land.

## Risks - *Tuuraru*

47. The programme team have completed risk workshops to identify and collate known risks relating to Nature in the City. These have been provided to the Programme Board for ongoing review, mitigation, and management to ensure successful implementation of the programme.
48. The Programme Board has a key role of escalating risks to senior leaders or elected members should the likelihood and criticality exceed set tolerances.

## Significance & Engagement Policy - *Kaupapa here whakahira/anganui*

### Significance

49. Having considered the Significance and Engagement Policy, staff have assessed that the matters in this report has low significance.

### Engagement

50. Community views and preferences are already known to the Council through the engagement undertaken with development of the Nature in the City strategy.

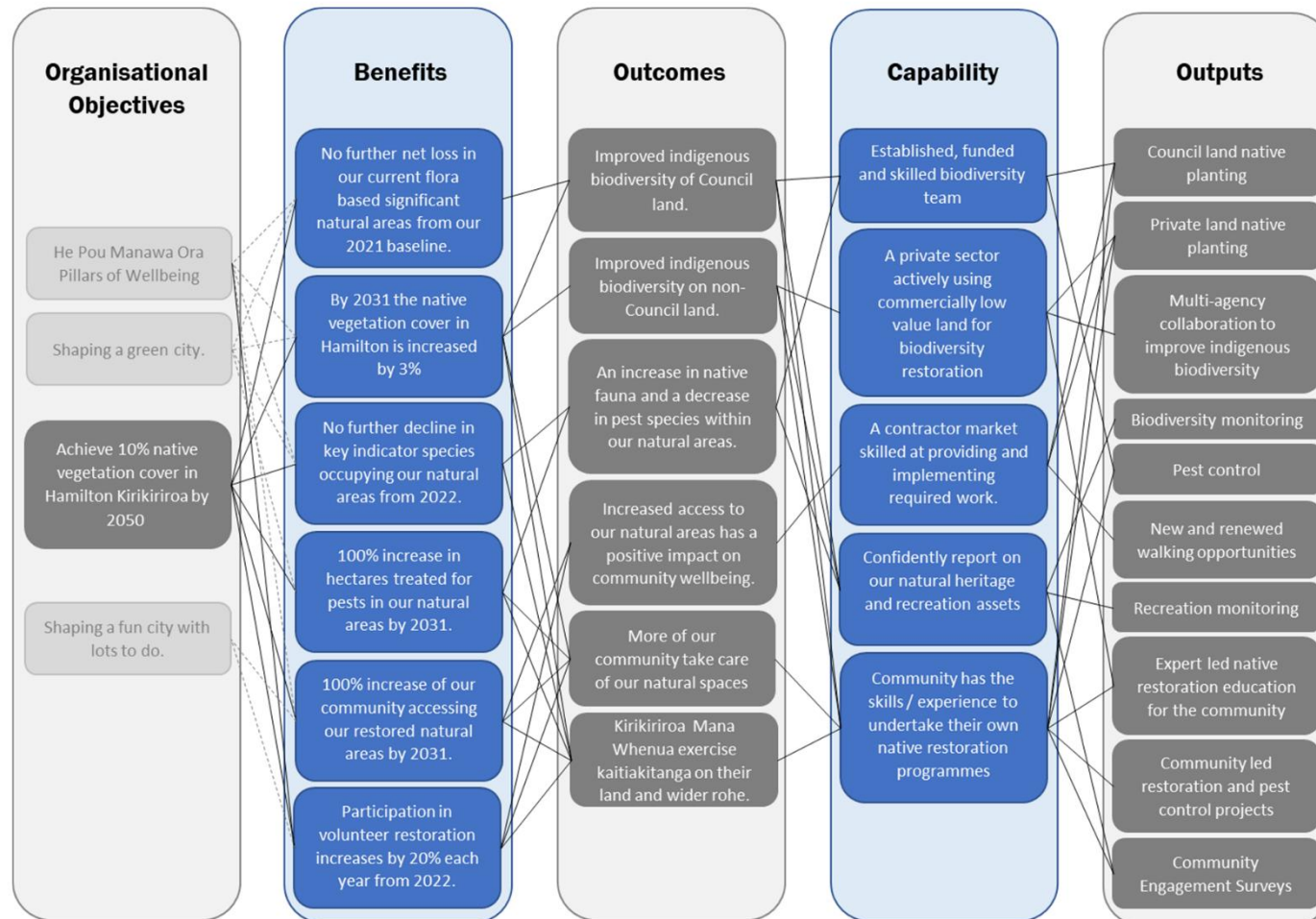
## **Attachments - *Ngaa taapirihanga***

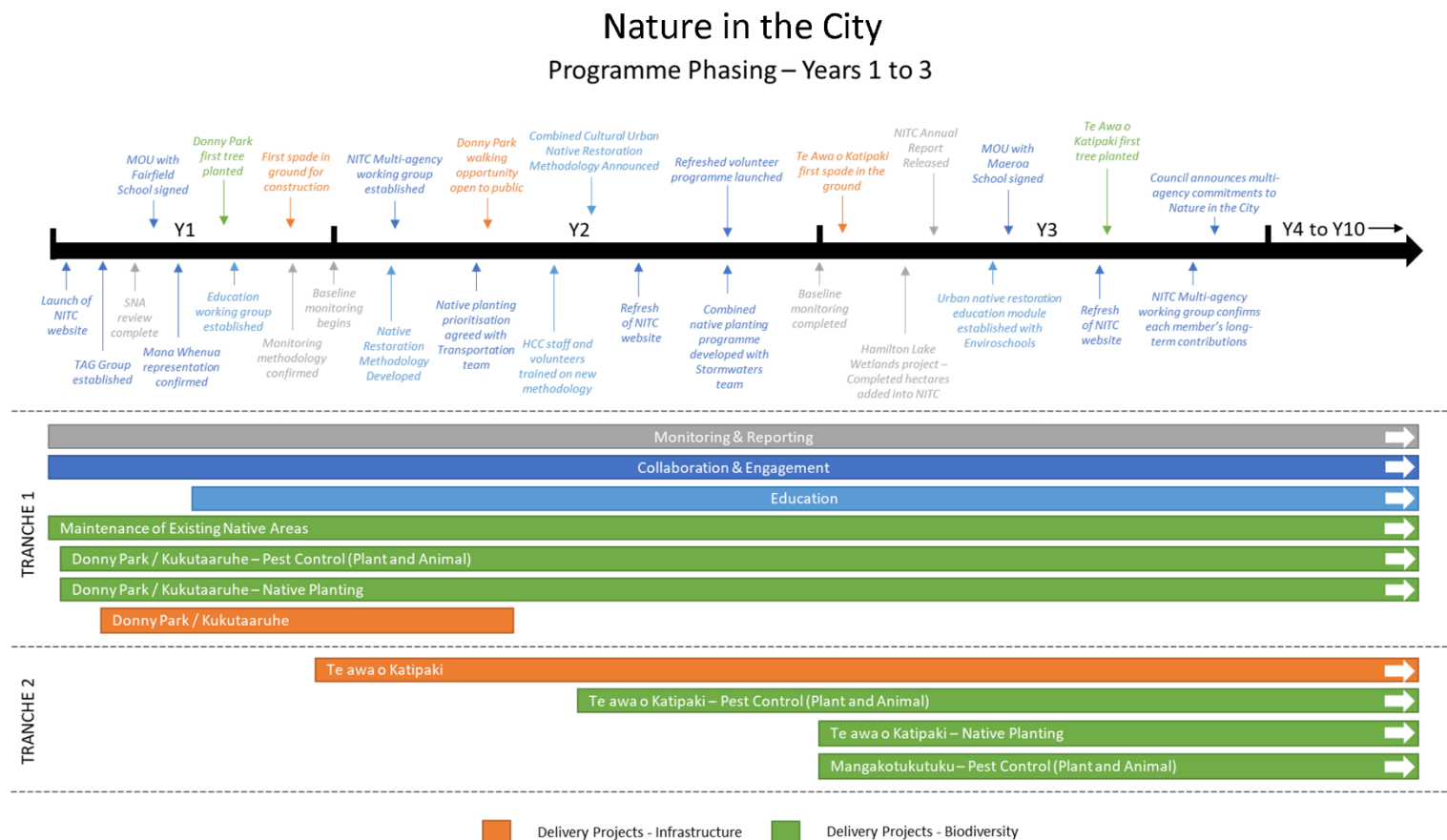
Attachment 1 - Benefits Map

Attachment 2 - Programme Phasing Y1-3

**Item 7**

## Nature in the City – Benefits Map





# Council Report

**Committee:** Environment Committee **Date:** 30 November 2021  
**Author:** Charlotte Catmur **Authoriser:** Sean Hickey  
**Position:** Sustainability and Environment Advisor **Position:** General Manager Strategy and Communications  
**Report Name:** Update on 2021/2022 Climate Change Action Plan

Report Status	Open
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## Purpose - *Take*

1. To inform the Environment Committee on the delivery of the 2021/2022 Climate Change Action Plan to date.
2. To inform the Environment Committee of the 2020/2021 Hamilton City Council greenhouse gas emissions profile.

## Staff Recommendation - *Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi*

3. That the Environment Committee:
  - a) receives the report; and
  - b) approves the changes to the 2021/2022 Climate Change Action Plan as indicated in **Attachment 1** of the staff report.

## Executive Summary - *Whakaraapopototanga matua*

4. As resolved at the 26 August 2021, the 2021/2022 Climate Change Action Plan has been updated to include details of the actions and associated emissions reductions that are currently funded to achieve the 50% emissions (non-biogenic) reduction target for our corporate emissions.
5. The first monitoring update for the 2021/2022 Climate Change Action Plan can be seen in **Attachment 2** and notes that most actions are on track, 8 out of 41 actions require additional monitoring or have had timing adjustments as a result of COVID-19 restrictions.
6. The data for Hamilton City Council's 2020/21 emissions profile has been collated and the emissions calculated to be 10,802 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent. This is an increase from 2019/20 emissions, which were lower due to COVID-19 lockdowns, but is an overall decrease of 1% from our 2018/19 baseline.
7. Staff have updated the 2021/2022 Climate Change Action Plan (**Attachment 1**) with additional information on the actions that are currently funded to meet the 50% emissions reduction target for our corporate emissions.
8. Staff consider the matters in this report have medium significance and that the recommendations comply with the Council's legal requirements.

## Background - *Koorero whaimaarama*

9. On 10 September 2020, the Environment Committee approved the first Climate Change Action Plan which was for the 2020/21 period. In the 2020/21 Action Plan Council set two emissions reduction targets for our operational emissions and outlined actions to support emissions reduction and adaptation across the city.
10. On 1 June 2021 staff presented a final report to the Environment Committee of the actions delivered in the 2020/21 Action Plan.
11. Staff presented an updated Action Plan for this financial year to the Environment Committee on 26 August 2021. The report was approved subject to an additional section being included in the Action Plan regarding the targets, actions, and timing for emissions reduction. At the same Committee meeting a forward work programme was approved for the Environment Committee, this included a quarterly monitoring report on the delivery of the 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan.

## Discussion - *Matapaki*

12. At the 26 August 2021 Environment Committee, the 2021/2022 Climate Change Action Plan was approved subject to inclusion of a one - two page document within the Climate Change Action Plan with clear targets and timeframes for the actions in the Climate Change Action Plan to enable monitoring.
13. Staff have updated the 2021/2022 Climate Change Action Plan with additional information on the actions that are currently funded to meet the 50% emissions reduction target for our corporate emissions. This can be found on pages 8 and 9 in **Attachment 1**. It outlines the emissions reduction potential of each action and when they are due to be implemented.
14. Targets for city wide emissions are currently being developed through the Climate Change Strategy and will be brought to the Environment Committee on 22 February 2022 for approval. The Strategy will also include the outcomes and goals.

## Monitoring of the delivery of the 2021/2022 Climate Change Action Plan

15. As outlined in the Action Plan staff will provide an update to each Environment Committee meeting on the implementation of the actions in the plan.
16. The update on the delivery of the Action Plan to date is provided in **Attachment 2**.
17. Whilst progress is being made on many of the actions in the plan, the changes to the COVID-19 alert levels have had some impacts on staff ability to progress some actions. These are all noted in the attachment.

## 2020/21 Hamilton City Council emissions profile

18. Each year we calculate our corporate non-biogenic emissions. For 2020/21 this has been calculated at 10,802 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent. **Attachment 3** shows our emissions profile for 2020/21, as well as the emissions data for the last three years by source.
19. In 2019/20 we saw a drop in our emissions of 4.5% from the baseline (2018/19), as reported last year, much of the reduction was due to COVID-19 restrictions from March 2020 to June 2020.
20. In 2020/21 our corporate emissions increased from the previous year meaning we are now at a 1% reduction from our 2018/19 baseline. There are several factors that have influenced this change to our emissions, including an increase in electricity use as we have shifted away from natural gas, an increase in biosolids generation and fuel use rebounding from 2019/2020. More details are outlined in **Attachment 3**.

### **Financial Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro Puutea***

21. This is a regular operating activity funded through the Long Term Plan.

### **Legal and Policy Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro-aa-ture***

22. Staff confirm that the staff recommendation complies with the Council's legal and policy requirements.

### **Wellbeing Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro-aa-oranga tonutanga***

23. The purpose of Local Government changed on the 14 May 2019 to include promotion of the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future ('the 4 wellbeings').
24. The subject matter of this report has been evaluated in terms of the 4 wellbeings during the process of developing this report as outlined below.
25. The recommendations set out in this report are consistent with that purpose.

### **Social**

26. Climate change has the potential to reduce our community's social wellbeing, especially our more vulnerable community members. This Climate Change Action Plan includes actions that will support Council to identify these potential risks and to take action to minimise the risks and to enhance social wellbeing.

### **Economic**

27. The delivery of the 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan outlines how we are supporting the transition to a low carbon economy in Hamilton. As we gain a better understanding of the potential economic risks and opportunities facing the city, we can collaborate with others to address them.

### **Environmental**

28. The delivery of the actions in the 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build our resilience. This includes reducing the Council's operating emissions and enabling others to reduce emissions through actions like improved cycleways and public transport.

### **Cultural**

29. The long-term impacts of climate change may have impacts on the cultural wellbeing of our community, for example if values and customs are unable to be undertaken.
30. Collaboration is required through the delivery of this Action Plan to understand these future risks and to build these considerations into long term decisions.

### **Risks - *Tuuraru***

31. There are no known risks associated with the decisions required for this matter.

## **Significance & Engagement Policy - *Kaupapa here whakahira/anganui***

### **Significance**

32. Staff have considered the key considerations under the Significance and Engagement Policy and have assessed that the recommendation(s) in this report has/have a medium level of significance.

### **Engagement**

33. Community views and preferences on the items in the Climate Change Action Plan are already known to the Council through previous engagements including through consultation on the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan. Additional engagement on the implementation of specific projects will occur on a case-by-case basis.
34. Given the medium level of significance determined, the engagement level is medium. No engagement is required.

## **Attachments - *Ngaa taapirihanga***

Attachment 1 - Updated 2021-2022 Climate Change Action Plan

Attachment 2 - 2021-22 Climate Change Action Plan - November 2021 monitoring update

Attachment 3 - 2020-21 Hamilton City Council Greenhouse Gas Emissions Profile

# 2021/2022 Climate Change Action Plan

AUGUST 2021



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## INTRODUCTION

The impacts of climate change are already affecting communities here in New Zealand. The risks are real and if we fail to act, they will continue to impact on our community, economy, and natural environment.

Climate change presents an opportunity for us to rethink how we live, work, and play in our city, now and into the future. To realise these opportunities, we need to ensure we are well informed, and we are acting together.

### Whats included in this Plan?

The 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan sets out actions that we aim to deliver in 2021 and 2022, that will help to shape our response to climate change.

We will focus on:

- Developing our long-term climate change response
- Reducing our operational carbon emissions
- Supporting the city to transition to a low carbon future
- Building the resilience of our natural environment

Each quarter we will report on how we are progressing with the implementation of this Action Plan. In these updates we will provide more detail on the actions and whether we are on track with the implementation.

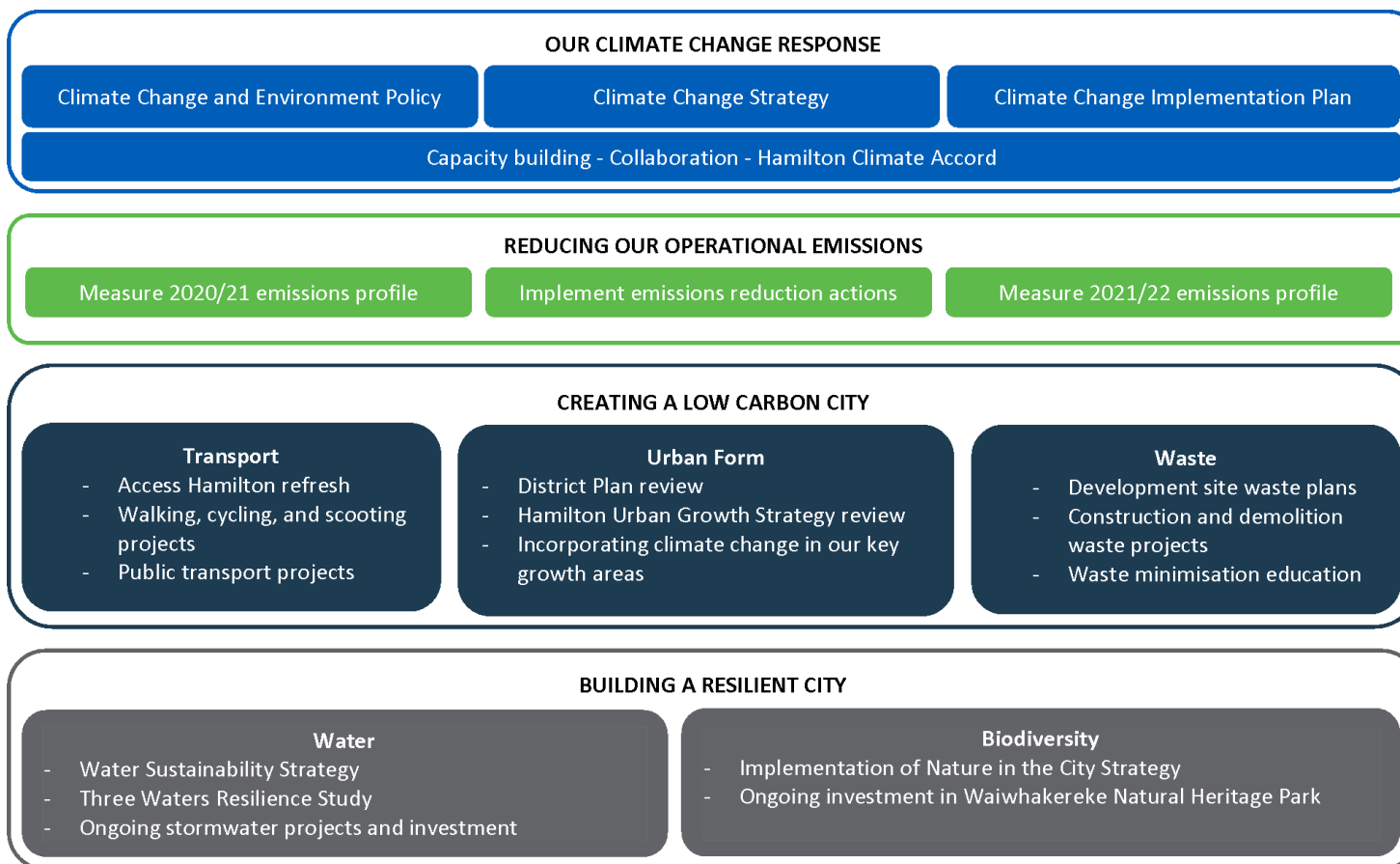
*“It is unequivocal that human influence has warmed the atmosphere, ocean and land.*

*Widespread and rapid changes in the atmosphere, ocean, cryosphere and biosphere have occurred.”*

*– IPCC, 2021<sup>1</sup>*

<sup>1</sup>IPCC, 2021: Summary for Policymakers. In: *Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis Contribution of Working Group I to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* Cambridge University Press. In Press.

## 2021/22 PLAN ON A PAGE



## OUR CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE

As well as implementing actions to reduce emissions and build resilience, we are establishing our long-term climate change response.

### Develop a long-term strategy for climate change

We are developing our Climate Change Strategy, which will outline our vision for Kirikiriroa Hamilton in 2050 and how we will transition to a low carbon, resilient City. The strategy will be developed in collaboration with iwi, stakeholders, and our community. Once the strategy is adopted the Climate Change Implementation Plan will be developed.

### Develop a Climate Change and Environment Policy

We are developing a Climate Change and Environment Policy, which will ensure that climate change is embedded in our decision-making process across Council.

### Capacity building

We will continue to build capacity on climate change across the organisation. We have established an internal governance structure for the climate change programme and are developing an internal learning and development programme for all staff.

### Collaborate with community and stakeholders

Addressing climate change requires everyone to act. There are already businesses, community groups and individuals taking action to reduce emissions in Hamilton.

We will continue to collaborate with our community and stakeholders, for example by attending community events like Your Neighbourhood, working with other Councils and being part of events like the Waikato Climathon.

We are also developing the Hamilton Climate Accord in 2021/22. Through the development of the Climate Change Strategy, we will invite leading organisations across the city to be a part of the Accord and to partner with us in taking action on climate change.

We are always working with and funding key stakeholders. We currently support the Enviroschools Programme with \$35,500 funding to work with 32 schools in the city.

Our multi-year community grant has supported the operational costs of Go Eco with \$50,000 per year for the next three years.

## REDUCING OUR OPERATIONAL EMISSIONS

### Hamilton City Council emissions

Our Council's emissions profile includes emissions from all our council activities and operations, buildings, facilities, and our fleet.

We have calculated our emissions baseline and set two emissions reduction targets for our operational emissions. They are:

- 50% reduction of gross emissions (excluding biogenic<sup>2</sup> methane) by 2030<sup>3</sup>
- 25% reduction of emissions of biogenic methane by 2030<sup>4</sup>

In 2018/19 the Council generated 22,091 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents (tCO<sub>2</sub>e). 11,159 tCO<sub>2</sub>e were biogenic emissions from the treatment of Hamilton's wastewater. 10,932 tCO<sub>2</sub>e were from non-biogenic emissions, and we'll continue to measure the non-biogenic emissions each year.

In 2020, we calculated our non-biogenic emissions for the 2019/20 period. The Council generated 10,438 tCO<sub>2</sub>e of non-biogenic emissions. This was a 4.5% reduction from 2018/19, much of which occurred as a result of the COVID-19 lockdown and staff working from home.

<sup>2</sup> Biogenic emissions are those produced from biological (plant and animal) sources.

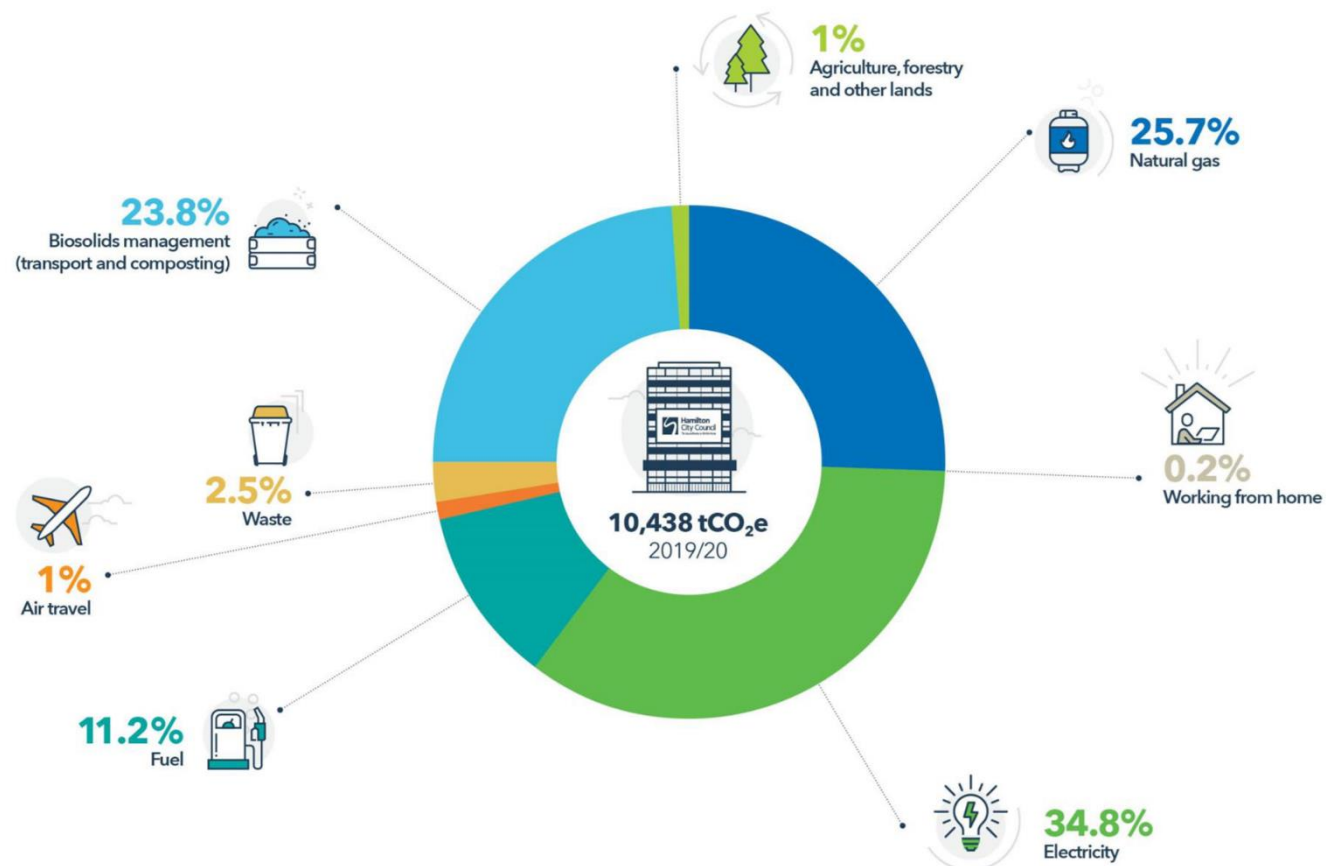
<sup>3</sup> Reduction will be measured from the 2018/19 baseline of 10,932 tCO<sub>2</sub>e.

<sup>4</sup> Reduction will be measured from the 2018/19 baseline of 11,159 tCO<sub>2</sub>e.

Our 2019/20 emissions are equivalent to 746 trips to the UK and back again.



### Hamilton City Council emissions profile 2019/20 (excluding biogenic methane)



### Addressing our Council emissions

The actions below outline how we will achieve our target of a 50% reduction of gross emissions (excluding biogenic methane) by 2030<sup>5</sup>. Actions shown in 2019/20 and 2020/21 have been completed.

Emissions source	2019/ 2020	2020/ 2021	2021/ 2022	2022/ 2023	2023/ 2024	2024/ 2025	2025/ 2026	2026/ 2027	2027/ 2028	2028/ 2029	2029/ 2030	Reduction from baseline <sup>5</sup> (%)
Energy  59% of 2018/19 baseline emissions	Renewable energy in the grid gradually increases from 85% to 95%											22.2
	Upgrade lighting in Council Municipal Building											0.2
	Energy efficiency upgrades at libraries											0.4
		Energy efficient blowers at WWTP										1.2
			Renew HVAC in Municipal Building									0.5
	Replacement of LPG boiler at Zoo											0.1
	LED upgrades to streetlights											3.3
	Lighting upgraded in car park											0.1
				Waterworld low carbon heat source								4.4

<sup>5</sup> Reduction will be measured from the 2018/19 baseline of 10,932 tCO<sub>2</sub>e.

Emissions source	2019/ 2020	2020/ 2021	2021/ 2022	2022/ 2023	2023/ 2024	2024/ 2025	2025/ 2026	2026/ 2027	2027/ 2028	2028/ 2029	2029/ 2030	Reduction from baseline <sup>5</sup> (%)
		Natural gas engines at WWTP are no longer used daily										10.0
						New engine at WWTP uses biogas to create electricity						2.4
			Changes to planting and heating at nursery									0.4
			Ongoing behaviour change projects									1.0
												2.8
Fuel	Reducing fleet emissions with improved fuel efficiency and new vehicle types (e.g., hybrids, electric vehicles)											2.8
12.4% of 2018/19 baseline emissions			Ongoing behaviour change projects, e.g., Workplace Travel Plan									0.2
			Replace 27 vehicles with hybrids									0.3
Waste		New rubbish and recycling service at Council buildings and facilities										0.4
2.4% of 2018/19 baseline emissions			Ongoing behaviour change projects									0.1
Total emissions reduction by 2030 (%)												50.0

Note: WWTP = Wastewater Treatment Plant, HVAC = Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning.

## CREATING A LOW CARBON CITY

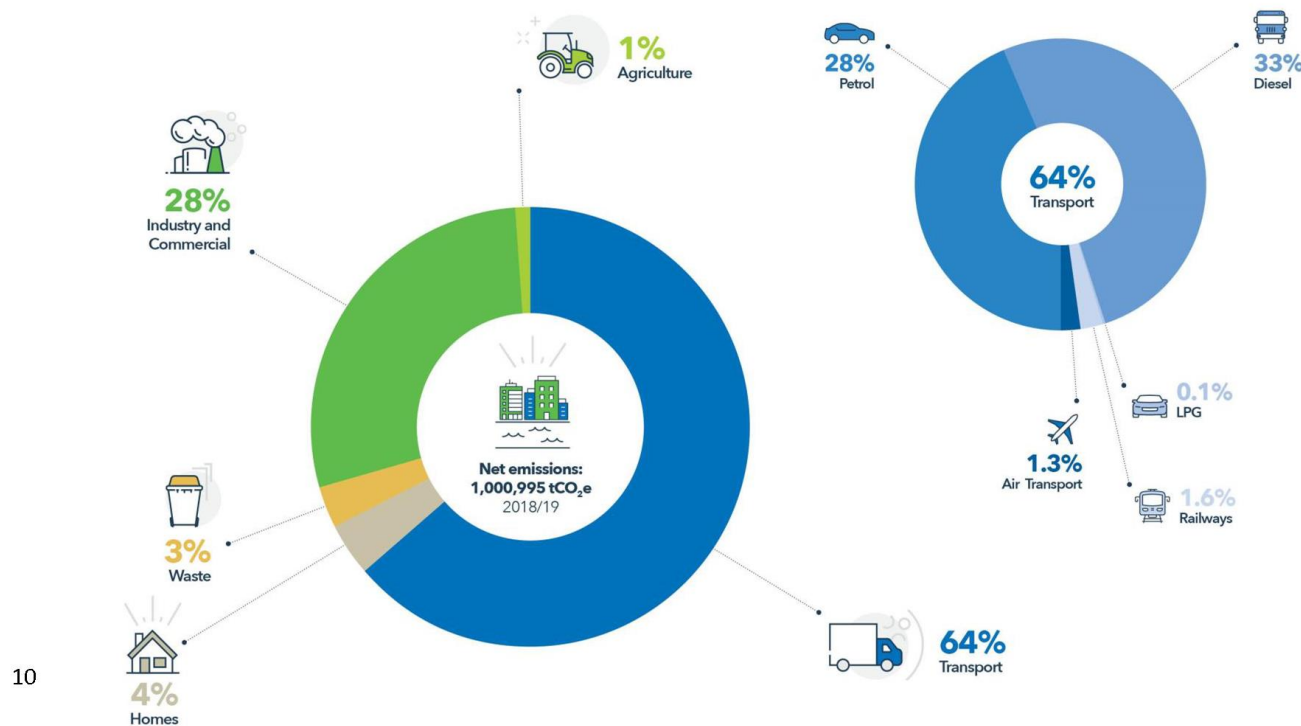
### Hamilton's emissions profile

The city's carbon footprint includes emissions generated by the activities of residents, visitors, businesses, and industries.

In 2018/2019 Hamilton City generated a total of 1,000,995 tCO<sub>2</sub>e gross emissions and 1,000,243 tCO<sub>2</sub>e net emissions (excluding forestry). This represents 6 tCO<sub>2</sub>e per capita emissions and approximately 8% of the total gross emissions in the Waikato.

Being a city, transport is the biggest contributor to our emissions and in 2018/19 they made up 64% of emissions.

We do not have direct control of these emissions, but we can influence them through the way we design our city, through our policies and plans, and by partnering with others.



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### Reducing Hamilton's emissions

Creating a low carbon city will require action by Council, Central Government, businesses, and individuals. The areas where Council has the most influence is through our transport decisions, designing the future development and growth in the city, and through our waste services.

### Transport

Our emissions profile shows that transport is the primary source of emissions in Hamilton. We know that we can influence transport emissions by enabling more people to ride their bikes, walk, or use a scooter, and by supporting a shift to public transport and car sharing.

### Access Hamilton Strategy refresh

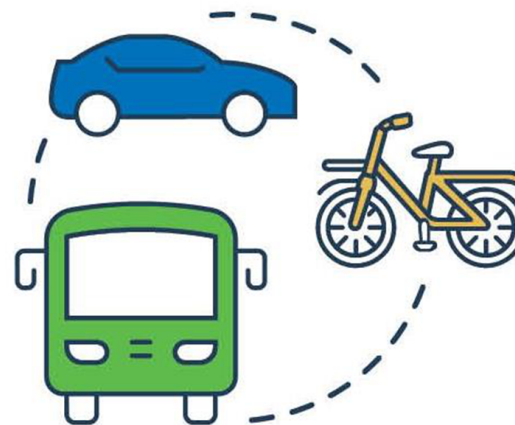
We are currently starting work on a refresh of our transport strategy, Access Hamilton. This will guide how we plan our transport infrastructure and services; how we will reduce our transport emissions; and the role of mode shift (moving to walking, cycling, and public transport) and alternative fuels in reducing emissions. We expect the strategy refresh will be completed in 2022.

While this is underway, we continue to make investments across the city to improve safety and accessibility, and encourage more people to choose walking, cycling, and public transport.

### Investing in our walking, cycling, and scooting networks

We have budgeted \$55 million over the next 10 years to support the implementation of our biking and micro-mobility programme. We are seeking Waka Kotahi funding to support the implementation of the programme. This programme aims to make it easier for people to walk, ride, and scoot around our city, reduce our transport emissions, and reduce dependency on private vehicles. In 2021/22 we will:

- Upgrade biking infrastructure at locations across the city, including cycle wands, green cycle lanes, cyclist footrests at intersections, and new bike racks
- Improve cycle/pedestrian connectivity at key intersections, including at the intersection of Collingwood Street and Tristram Street
- Provide a cycle skills programme which includes training for both schools and the community to build riders skills and confidence





We are also working on the Eastern Pathways – Schools Link Project and are now seeking co-funding from Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency. This project will improve safety and accessibility for pedestrians, cyclists, and public transport.

### Public Transport

A shift to public transport from private vehicle use is an important part of reducing transport emissions. The Central Government has set a target for public buses to be zero emissions by 2035.

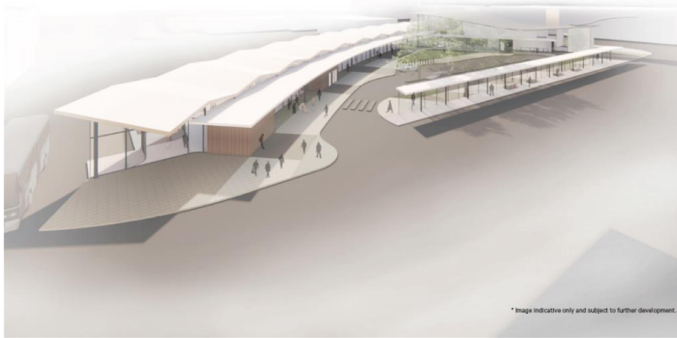
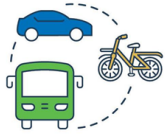
We are working with Waikato and Waipa District Councils on our future sub-regional transport networks such as bus routes, rapid transit options, cycleways, and walkways.



### Improving our bus network

We are currently investigating, in partnership with Waikato Regional Council and Waka Kotahi, what is required to make our key public transport routes more reliable and to make it easier for people to catch buses. These studies will inform long-term planning for public transport and investment priorities.

There are a number of incentives currently run by Waikato Regional Council to encourage bus use in Hamilton and the wider region, for example the 'bus for a buck' scheme (Bee card holders can travel within the central city fare zone for only \$1), and fare capping (regular bus users travel cheaper with weekly fare caps). A new direct service linking the east and west of Hamilton, called The Meteor, is also expected to start in 2021, along with a trial of an on-demand bus service.



#### Transport Centre Rejuvenation

The Transport Centre Rejuvenation Project focuses on improving accessibility, safety, and operational efficiency. Construction of this estimated \$7.7 million project (funded by Council and Waka Kotahi) is anticipated to start in 2022/23. Our improved Transport Centre will help encourage more people to use public transport as it will provide a better experience and more reliable service. *Note: Image above is a concept design of Transport Centre Rejuvenation. This is indicative only and subject to further development.*

#### Travel planning

Local governments and other organisations are working towards including workplace travel planning to provide more sustainable modes of traveling, and this is becoming more of a requirement as the city grows and the demand for parking and congestion increases. Work is currently underway on a Hamilton City Council Workplace

Travel Plan for staff. The intention is to share the process and learnings with other local businesses and organisations, and to support others in developing their own plans.

We are also looking into partnership opportunities for electric vehicle charging stations throughout the city, including Hamilton City Council venues, and public places. We will also work with Waikato Regional Council to see how any future projects can align with their Regional Charging Plan.

### Urban form

The way we plan and build our city, now and in the future, will impact on the emissions we generate as a result of the way we live, play, and work.

### Embedding climate change in our District Plan and Growth Strategy

We are currently reviewing the District Plan to respond to the National Policy Statement for Urban Development. A key part of this review is to embed climate change considerations into the way the city develops.

We are also reviewing the Hamilton Urban Growth Strategy, Council's spatial vision for the city, and climate change will be considered throughout the review process. This review is expected to be completed by July 2022.

### Incorporating climate change in our key growth areas

We are planning for a low carbon future by integrating active transport, green spaces, and climate change impacts into our growth areas.

### Rotokauri

In our future plans for Rotokauri we are integrating walking, cycling and public transport infrastructure and services. We have funded this infrastructure in the 2021-31 Long-Term Plan. We are also using other opportunities to improve the network. For example, the greenway corridor will primarily act as a stormwater management device, mitigating the effects of climate change by improving flood capacity, but it will also create a corridor for cycleways and

walkways. The greenway will also provide the opportunity for planting and habitats on a footprint of over 12 hectares.

### Peacocke

As we design the future for Peacocke we will:

- Create the opportunity to build a modern suburb with high ecological and transport outcomes
- Increase density to support public transport and a vibrant committee
- Protect the natural environment and ensure development is compatible with the natural environment

We are incorporating an extensive walking and cycling network into our designs and have allocated funding of \$2.2 million to build the paths and infrastructure. The timing of the construction work has not yet been confirmed.



**Waste**

Waste accounts for 3% of our city's carbon emissions. We can reduce this by decreasing the amount of waste we send to landfill (particularly food waste). Hamilton's new rubbish and recycling service kicked off in August 2020 and has increased diversion rates of waste from landfill from 28% to 51% in 2020/21.

**Tronpost**

Council has been sharing the compost made from Hamilton's food waste, dubbed 'Tronpost', with community groups. To date Tronpost has been provided to Progress to Health for their community garden at Caro Park and to Te Papanui Enderley Community Centre for the development of raised garden beds



We will continue to share the compost with community groups in 2021/22. Tronpost is also available for purchase at Hamilton Organic Centre.





#### **Collaboration with the construction industry**

We will continue to collaborate with key stakeholders to address the growing construction and demolition waste issue. In July 2021 we held two workshops on construction and demolition waste management. We plan to hold more events over the next few years to address the many challenges in this area.

#### **Waste plans for new developments**

We require all new properties and developments to have a waste plan that includes storage space for rubbish and recycling bins, and access for collection vehicles. We are developing resources to make it easier for developers to produce a waste plan, including a new online [waste calculator](#). This will allow for more new properties and developments to receive Council's rubbish and recycling service, encouraging the diversion of waste to landfill.

#### **Waste minimisation education**

We will continue to educate the community about waste minimisation via our Fight the Landfill website, and in the new Education Room for schools and community groups at the Materials Recovery Facility (where Hamilton's recycling goes). The Education room is a dedicated space for groups to learn about the importance of reducing, reusing, and recycling waste correctly, which will encourage diversion rates across the city. Increasing diversion of waste from landfill will help to reduce emissions.



## BUILDING A RESILIENT CITY

### Adaptation

Climate change is already impacting New Zealand and we must prepare for the climate changes that are already locked in and are likely to get worse in the future.

### Hamilton's climate future

Climate models are used to predict what the climate might look like in the future under different climate scenarios.

The modelling we commissioned shows that for Hamilton, it is very likely there will be:



Increase in  
rainfall



Temperatures  
will rise



Longer hot  
summer season



Increase in  
extreme rainfall



Increase in the  
number of hot days



Increase in the  
number of hot nights

Following the release of the 2021 IPCC report we will update our modelling to understand the potential medium- and long-term impacts for the city.

*“Global surface temperature will continue to increase until at least the mid-century under all emissions scenarios considered.”*

*Global warming of 1.5°C and 2°C will be exceeded during the 21st century unless deep reductions in CO<sub>2</sub> and other greenhouse gas emissions occur in the coming decades.”*

– IPCC, 2021<sup>6</sup>

<sup>6</sup>IPCC, 2021: Summary for Policymakers. In: *Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis Contribution of Working Group I to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* Cambridge University Press. In Press.

## Water

As the effects of climate change become more apparent, it will be increasingly important to conserve and protect our water. There will be times when we have too much water and times when we have too little – we need to prepare for both.

### Stormwater adaptation

Future climate modelling predicts that we will experience more intense rainfall events, without the right infrastructure we will experience an increase in flooding around the City. Funding of \$13.3m has been set aside in the 2021-31 Long Term Plan for our stormwater network, to ensure that climate change considerations are embedded into the way we design & improve stormwater.

### Three Waters Resilience Study

As part of our three waters services, we are identifying and assessing our vulnerabilities to different hazards including flooding, drought, water allocation and access to resources, all of which are impacted by climate change. This study will help us to improve the resilience of our three waters services. This study will be completed in March 2022.

Conserving water is an important part of adapting to the effect of climate change. As part of our own operations, we are using a number of water-saving techniques at our H3 venues, including:

- Reusing water collected in rainwater tanks on the roof of the Claudelands building to flush the toilets
- Using moisture meters to make decisions around irrigation and watering of turf
- Irrigating fields at night so there is less water evaporation from the sun
- Planting warm season grass at Beetham Park, which requires less watering in the summer period



**Water Sustainability Strategy**

We are developing a Water Sustainability Strategy to guide the future direction of our water activity. In the Strategy we will set a vision for sustainable water supply and identify key objectives and outcomes. To support the implementation of the Strategy we are also developing an internal Decision-Making Policy and Guidelines which will seek to embed climate change consideration and water sustainability into our internal decision making. These will be completed in March 2022.

**Water demand management zones**

We will continue to address water leakage across the city by creating supply zones and associated Demand Management Areas (DMAs). These allow us to better manage consumption and leakage by monitoring network pressures and flows at discrete locations. This gives Council the ability to detect and proactively address leakage before it becomes a larger issue. Six of the nine proposed supply zones have been implemented, with the remaining due to be completed over the next two years.



We will continue to promote water conservation, for example through the Smart Water summer campaign to minimise municipal water use, and by applying District Plan rules that require development water impact assessments and for low flow plumbing fittings to be installed.

### Biodiversity

Protecting and restoring biodiversity can help us adapt to the effects of climate change.

#### Nature in the City Strategy implementation

In 2020 Council approved the Nature in the City Strategy, which aims to achieve 10% native vegetation cover in Hamilton by 2050. \$19.6 million of capital funding has been set aside in the 2021-31 Long Term Plan for this program, for development and additional maintenance of our gully systems.



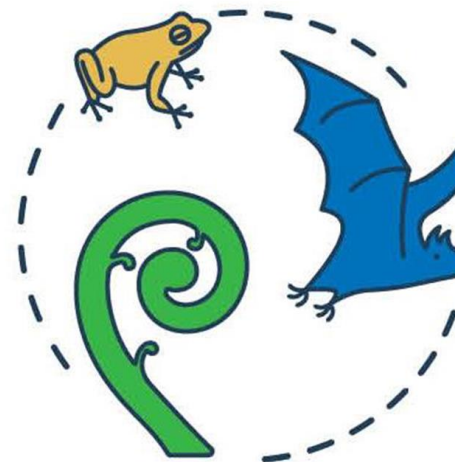
This year the focus will be on planning work to enable the capital development, including consents and procurement. We will start the on the ground works in 2022.

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We are also setting up monitoring systems which will help us track our progress in bringing flora and fauna back to the city.

The Municipal Nursery will become the centre of operational activities for implementing our Nature in the City Strategy. We are more than doubling the number of staff on the ground for this project, including a new ranger and several community planting roles.

We will also continue to collaborate with existing community groups and the Department of Conservation and Waikato Regional Council to ensure our efforts are aligned and complementary.



**Waiwhakareke Natural Heritage Park**

We are continuing to invest in Waiwhakareke, the City's flagship natural heritage park, with funding (\$1.4 million) set aside in the Long-Term Plan 2021-31 to develop path networks and enhance the attractiveness of the park as a visitor destination.

The annual Arbor Day planting at Waiwhakareke is a key date for our ecological restoration projects. In 2021, we had over 700 volunteers who planted 18,000 trees, covering 1.8 hectares.



## REPORTING

We will report on the implementation of this action plan quarterly to the Environment Committee with a final report delivered in August/September 2022. The schedule below provides an outline of this. We will also update our website following the Committee meetings.

		November 2021	Feb/March 2022	May/June 2022	August 2022 Final report
OUR CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE		Climate Change and Environment Policy			
		Climate Change Strategy development		Climate Change Strategy Implementation	
		Capacity building - Collaboration - Hamilton Climate Accord			
REDUCING OUR EMISSIONS		Measure 2020/21 emissions profile			Measure 2021/22 emissions profile
		Implement emissions reduction actions			
CREATING A LOW CARBON CITY	Transport	Access Hamilton refresh			
		Walking, cycling, and scooting projects			
		Public transport projects			
	Urban Form	District Plan review			
		Hamilton Urban Growth Strategy review			Peacocke structure plan
	Waste	Rubbish and recycling service updates			
BUILDING A RESILIENT CITY	Water			Construction and demolition waste projects	Waste education
		Water Sustainability Strategy			
	Biodiversity	Three Waters Resilience Study		Stormwater projects and investment	
		Implementation of Nature in the City Strategy			Waiwhakereke Natural Heritage Park

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# 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan – Monitoring Report

Attachment 2

Item 8

Our climate change response			
Action	Description	Update	Status
Climate Change and Environment Policy	We are developing a Climate Change and Environment Policy, which will ensure that climate change is embedded in our decision-making process across Council.	An initial workshop with Elected Members was held in August 2021, and a first draft of the policy has been reviewed by the Steering Group. Due to delays and resourcing constraints caused by COVID-19 lockdowns, the timeframe for the policy development has been extended. We now expect the policy to be presented to the Environment Committee in February 2022. Subject to approval, the policy will be implemented in March 2022.	Timelines delayed
Climate Change Strategy	We are developing our Climate Change Strategy, which will outline our vision for Kirikiriroa Hamilton in 2050 and how we will transition to a low carbon, resilient city.	Consultants have been engaged to assist with further defining emissions sources and target setting. Initial ideas and a working draft of the strategy have been tested with the Climate Change Working Group and Steering Group. A workshop will be held with Elected Members on 29 November 2021 to discuss emissions reduction targets for Hamilton and a working draft of the strategy.	On track
Climate Change Strategy Implementation Plan	This plan will be developed following adoption of the Climate Change Strategy.	Relevant ideas from the Strategy development have been noted to assist with developing the Implementation Plan at a later date.	On track
Capacity building	We will continue to build capacity on climate change across the organisation.	We have established a Corporate Sustainability Working Group (in addition to the existing programme governance structure), who will champion climate change and sustainability initiatives across the business. We have reviewed the first draft of a climate change learning and development model for staff. We have worked with other business units to integrate climate change into their key messages and stories, for example “ <i>every drop counts</i> ” for Waters messaging and “ <i>building a climate-ready city</i> ” for Growth messaging.	On track

Action	Description	Update	Status
Collaboration and communication	We will continue to collaborate with our community and stakeholders.	COVID-19 Alert Levels have impacted opportunities for collaboration, for example Your Neighbourhood events and the Waikato Climathon. We continue to represent Hamilton City Council in climate-focussed groups in the region, such as the Waikato Plan (climate change workstream) and WLASS (Energy and Carbon Management Group). We are currently running a social media series, and the key messages align with the 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan. We will report on this engagement and other communications to the Environment Committee in the February 2022 monitoring report.	Timelines delayed
Hamilton Climate Accord	We will invite leading organisations across the city to be a part of the Accord and to partner with us in taking action on climate change.	We have engaged a consultant to assist with developing the Hamilton Climate Accord and are currently in the planning phase of this piece of work. However, due to delays caused by COVID-19, and based on advice from the consultant, the timelines for this project have been delayed. We still expect this project to be delivered this financial year (2021/22).	Timelines delayed

Reducing our operational emissions				
Action	Description	Update	Emissions profile source	Status
Measure 2020/21 emissions profile	Each year we will measure the non-biogenic emissions from council activities and operations, building, facilities, and our fleet.	Our emissions profile for 2020/21 has been calculated, and we generated 10,802tCO <sub>2</sub> e of non-biogenic emissions.	N/A	Completed
Fleet improvements	As vehicles are renewed, they will benefit from continuous fuel efficiency improvements. We will replace petrol and diesel fleet vehicles with lower-emissions alternatives, and implement behaviour change projects that encourage more sustainable travel.	<p>Following a decrease in fuel emissions from 2018/19 to 2019/20 we have now seen an increase in fuel emissions in the latest emissions profile.</p> <p>2018/19 - 1319tCO<sub>2</sub>e  2019/20 - 1,160tCO<sub>2</sub>e  2020/21 - 1,245tCO<sub>2</sub>e</p> <p>Further monitoring is required to ensure reductions in fleet emissions are maintained.</p> <p>We are replacing 27 vehicles with hybrids (five have arrived and 22 are expected in May 2022). A stocktake of assets is currently underway and this will inform a strategy or policy to guide future procurement and planning, and to ensure alignment with the Climate Change Strategy. Further information will be provided to the Environment Committee at a workshop on 29 November 2021, with a future report planned for the Infrastructure Operations Committee in early 2022.</p>	Fuel	Increase monitoring of emissions
Energy efficiency and sustainability upgrades at community libraries	Emissions reductions plans are being scoped out as part of libraries renewals programmes over the next 10 years.	Staff are working on the designs for a new heating and ventilation system at Garden Place library. The main carbon reductions will occur once the new system is installed and natural gas will no longer be required, which is expected to be in 2022/23.	Electricity Natural gas	On track

Action	Description	Update	Emissions profile source	Status
Upgrade lighting in Council Municipal Building	Lighting in the Municipal Building will be upgraded to LED lights which adjust based on the amount of natural light and motion.	Level 1 was completed in 2019/20. The remaining upgrades (involving 3 floors) are going ahead as planned.	Electricity	On track
Renew heating, ventilation, and air conditioning in Municipal Building	The centralised air conditioning system will be replaced with a decentralised one. The two gas boilers and cooling towers will become redundant.	Work is progressing with the Caro Wing completed, and all floors will be completed by July 2022. This is when the main carbon reductions will occur as the centralised plant will be decommissioned and natural gas will no longer be required.	Natural gas	On track
Change to a low-carbon heat source at Waterworld	The current heating source used at Waterworld will change to a low-carbon heating source in 2021/22, with an objective to reduce carbon emissions from water heating by at least 80%.	Staff are currently exploring options for the low carbon heating source and undertaking initial analysis of what will be most appropriate to study. The feasibility study is expected to begin prior to Christmas 2021. The low-carbon heat source will be implemented in 2022/23 and this is when the emissions reduction will be realised.	Natural gas	On track
Changes to heating and planting at the nursery	Changes in planting will reduce the need for heating, and we are investigating options for the heating that is required.	The Nursery boilers have not needed to run so far this year, and we have implemented heat beds which have reduced gas usage.	Natural gas	On track
Change to an alternative energy source at Pukete Wastewater Treatment Plant	We are investigating options to utilise biogas (that is currently being flared) as an energy source.	A long-list options assessment has been completed, and staff are working on short listing options and agreeing a solution. Funding for this project has been secured across 2024/25 - 2025/26 and this is when the emissions reduction will be realised. This project would also significantly reduce biogenic emissions.	Electricity Natural gas	On track

Creating a low carbon city					
Outcome area	Action	Description	Update	Responsible committee	Status
Transport	Access Hamilton refresh	We are updating our transport strategy, Access Hamilton. This will guide how we plan our transport infrastructure and services; how we will reduce transport emissions; and the role of walking, cycling, public transport and alternative fuels in reducing emissions. We expect this to be completed in 2022.	We have completed the scoping report to outline the purpose and required content of the refresh. This scope has been workshopped with Elected Members and will be taken to the Infrastructure Operations Committee for approval. Further information can be found in the Chair's Report of the <a href="#">Infrastructure Operations Committee Open Agenda, 9 November 2021</a> .	Infrastructure Operations	On track
	Biking & micro-mobility connectivity projects	We are making it easier for people to walk, ride, and scoot around our city, and to reduce our transport emissions and dependency on private vehicles.	We have upgraded biking infrastructure across the city, including cycle wands, green surfacing, sharrows, cyclist footrest rails, and bike parking facilities. Key actions for improving pedestrian and cyclist connectivity and safety have been completed, and further projects are being investigated, including as part of the Collingwood Street/Tristram Street intersection upgrade. Further information can be found in the <a href="#">Infrastructure Operations Committee Open Agenda, 9 November 2021</a> .	Infrastructure Operations	On track
	Biking & micro-mobility Programme Business Case	This programme focuses on extending Hamilton's multi-modal transport network, to encourage biking and micro-mobility as a safe and attractive transport options.	Staff are working with Waka Kotahi to finalise the business case for this programme so it can be considered by the Waka Kotahi board in early 2022. Further information can be found in the <a href="#">Infrastructure Operations Committee Open Agenda, 9 November 2021</a> .	Infrastructure Operations	On track

Outcome area	Action	Description	Update	Responsible committee	Status
Transport (cont.)	Eastern Pathways – Schools Link Programme Business Case	Eastern Pathways – Schools Link is a programme of active transport and public transport infrastructure along Hukanui Road and Peachgrove Road.	Staff have continued to work with Waka Kotahi to complete the required review work for the Eastern Pathways School Link & Connections business case following committee approval in April 2021. We are awaiting funding approval from Waka Kotahi and expect this to be confirmed in early 2022. Staff are currently focussed on pre-implementation work. Further information can be found in the <a href="#">Infrastructure Operations Committee Open Agenda, 9 November 2021</a> .	Infrastructure Operations	On track
	Education and training	Provide education and training, including a cycle skills programme for both schools and the community to build rider skills and confidence.	Staff have run events including equipment giveaways, a bike helmet competition and skills training, including for Hamilton City Council staff. There are currently two adult biking courses planned for November 2021. Further information can be found in the <a href="#">Infrastructure Operations Committee Open Agenda, 9 November 2021</a> and on the <a href="#">Hamilton City Council website</a> .	Infrastructure Operations	On track
	Improving our bus network	We are working with Waikato Regional Council and Waka Kotahi to make our key public transport routes more reliable and to make it easier for people to catch buses.	Additional bus services and improved frequencies have been investigated and projects are currently underway, including the trial of two on-demand bus services. Further information can be found in the <a href="#">Infrastructure Operations Committee Open Agenda, 28 September 2021</a> and <a href="#">Waikato Regional Council Regional Connections Committee (Regional Focus) Agenda, 17 September 2021</a> .	Infrastructure Operations	On track

Outcome area	Action	Description	Update	Responsible committee	Status
Transport (cont.)	Transport Centre Rejuvenation Project	This project focuses on improving accessibility, safety, and operational efficiency of the Transport Centre.	The rejuvenation business case is approved with construction expecting to commence in mid-2022. Pre-implementation work is underway, and the tender for detailed design will go to market at the end of 2021. Further information can be found in the <a href="#">Infrastructure Operations Committee Open Agenda, 9 November 2021</a> .	Infrastructure Operations	On track
	Hamilton City Council Workplace Travel Plan	Work is underway to provide more sustainable modes of traveling to, from, and during work for Hamilton City Council staff.	The draft Workplace Travel Plan has been completed, with further information being included following senior management review. The plan will be presented to the Environment Committee in early 2022. We expect to finalise the plan for the organisation in December 2021 and be on track to announce the plan and launch most of the activities in the early 2022, subject to plan and funding approval.	Infrastructure Operations	On track
	Electric vehicle charging stations	We are looking into partnership opportunities for EV charging stations throughout the city, to align with WRC Regional Charging Plan.	We are in the early investigation/scoping stages of a project for charging infrastructure and operations within the city and are discussing opportunities with local electric vehicle charging companies. Any development will be presented to the relevant committees in due course.	Infrastructure Operations	On track

Outcome area	Action	Description	Update	Responsible committee	Status
Urban form	Hamilton Urban Growth Strategy review	Climate change will be considered throughout the review process of the Hamilton Urban Growth strategy, which is our spatial vision for the city.	Following a pause on work in September to ensure alignment with other programmes such as the District Plan review, staff have now met with the HUGS Reference Group to confirm the direction of work. Further information can be found in the <a href="#">Strategic Growth Committee Open Agenda, 19 October 2021</a> .	Strategic Growth	On track
	District Plan review	We are currently reviewing the District Plan to respond to the National Policy Statement for Urban Development. A key part of this review is to embed climate change considerations into the way the city develops.	Initial workshops were held with the Technical Advisory Group in September, and staff have engaged a consultant to assist with embedding climate change considerations in the District Plan review. However, the Resource Management (Enabling Housing Supply and Other Matters) Amendment Bill released on 19 October means that staff are rescoping requirements and timeframes for this project. Any updates will be provided to Elected Members and relevant committees in due course. Further information can be found in the <a href="#">District Plan Committee Open Agenda, 4 November 2021</a> and <a href="#">Council Open Agenda, 11 November 2021</a> .	District Plan	Increased monitoring required
	Greenway corridor for Rotokauri	The greenway corridor will act primarily as a stormwater device for Rotokauri, but will also create an opportunity for cycleways, walkways, planting and habitats.	Pre-implementation work is underway, and staff are working with developers and central government agencies to address construction funding options of the greenway. The development of the Specimen Design is expected to commence by early 2022. Further information can be found in the <a href="#">Strategic Growth Committee Open Agenda, 19 October 2021</a> .	Strategic Growth	On track

Outcome area	Action	Description	Update	Responsible committee	Status
Urban form (cont.)	Walking, cycling and public transport for Rotokauri	We are integrating walking, cycling and public transport infrastructure and services in our future plans for Rotokauri.	There have been upgrades to the network structure to improve walking, cycling, and public transport options. The Baverstock Road upgrade is complete, improving safety and connectivity for walking and cycling. Rotokauri Road Urban Upgrade is also completed between Baverstock Road and Te Wetini Drive, which provides bus services for the community. Further information can be found in the <a href="#">Strategic Growth Committee Open Agenda, 19 October 2021.</a>	Strategic Growth	On track
	Peacocke Green Star Community rating	We are using the Green Star Communities Framework to guide and support the development of a sustainable community for Peacocke.	The Green Star Communities rating application is progressing well.	Strategic Growth	On track
	Environmental wellbeing activities for Peacocke	We will protect and enhance the natural taonga, green spaces, and biodiversity as we develop Peacocke.	Work is ongoing to implement the Ecological Monitoring and Management Plan. The first lizard restoration site has been completed as part of the Southern Links Transport Designation, and work continues to restore a 1-hectare gully site. Further information can be found in the <a href="#">Strategic Growth Committee Open Agenda, 19 October 2021.</a>	Strategic Growth	On track

Outcome area	Action	Description	Update	Responsible committee	Status
Urban form (cont.)	Peacocke Plan Change 5	As we design for Peacocke, we are incorporating high ecological and transport outcomes, increasing density to support public transport, and protecting the natural environment.	<p>We have publicly notified Plan Change 5, which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing Significant Natural Area cover and further protections for indigenous species</li> <li>Identification of the indicative transport corridor including proposed public transport</li> <li>Requiring development to ensure connections for pedestrians and cyclists</li> </ul> <p>Further information on Plan Change 5 can be found in the <a href="#">Strategic Growth Committee Open Agenda, 19 October 2021</a>. Due to the requirements and timeframes outlined in the Resource Management (Enabling Housing Supply and Other Matters) Amendment Bill released on 19 October, there is a risk that staff made need to withdraw Plan Change 5 and restart the notification process in 2022. Any updates will be provided to Elected Members via Executive Updates and to the relevant committees.</p>	Strategic Growth	Increased monitoring required
Waste	Tronpost	Council has been sharing the compost made from Hamilton's food waste, dubbed 'Tronpost', with community groups.	<p>Since the Climate Change Action Plan 2021/22 was approved, Tronpost has been provided to an additional two community groups. To date, four community groups have been provided with Tronpost. Further information can be found in the <a href="#">Infrastructure Operations Committee Open Agenda, 9 November 2021</a>.</p>	Infrastructure Operations	On track

Outcome area	Action	Description	Update	Responsible committee	Status
Waste (cont.)	Waste plans for new developments	We require all new properties and developments to have a waste plan that includes storage space for rubbish and recycling bins, and access for collection vehicles.	The process for requesting and receiving waste plans has been delayed due to resource constraints, however they are currently in development and are expected to be completed in early 2022. We have updated our Fight the Landfill website with resources and details of local businesses who may be able to assist with developing a site waste plan and reducing waste on site.	Infrastructure Operations	Increased monitoring required
	Collaboration with the construction industry	We will continue to collaborate with key stakeholders to address the growing construction and demolition waste issue.	We are working collaboratively with Waikato Regional Council and local businesses who are already practicing waste minimisation behaviours. We plan to use these as case studies for other businesses, and to trial ways we can help them to divert more waste from site.	Infrastructure Operations	On track
	Waste minimisation education	We will continue to educate the community about waste minimisation via our Fight the Landfill website, and in the new Education Room for schools and community groups.	A Waste Education Advisor was recently appointed to lead sessions at the Education Room and is currently focussed on establishing relationships (both internally and externally). We are finalising the booking process for this space and, once COVID-19 Alert Levels allow, will be advertising this to key stakeholders. In the meantime, the Fight the Landfill website is updated regularly with resources and information.	Infrastructure Operations	Increased monitoring required

Building a resilient city					
Outcome area	Action	Description	Update	Responsible committee	Status
Water	Stormwater adaptation	We are ensuring that climate change considerations are embedded into the way we design and improve stormwater networks.	The flood modelling project is progressing well, with work focused on Te Rapa area at the moment.	Infrastructure Operations	On track
	Rainwater Storage Tanks Incentivisation Study	This project investigates the use, benefits and incentives for rainwater tanks and grey-water reuse as a tool for meeting potable water demand needs.	Scoping and benchmarking work is underway, and the report is in final review. The final phase of project will be undertaken in alignment with the Water Sustainability Strategy. Further information can be found in the <a href="#">Infrastructure Operations Committee Open Agenda, 9 November 2021.</a>	Infrastructure Operations	On track
	Water Sustainability Strategy	We are developing a Water Sustainability Strategy to guide the future direction of our water activity.	Staff are co-ordinating engagement with iwi, and work on technical inputs to support strategy and internal policy development is underway. Further information can be found in the <a href="#">Infrastructure Operations Committee Open Agenda, 9 November 2021.</a>	Infrastructure Operations	On track
	Three Waters Resilience Study	As part of our three waters services, we are identifying and assessing our vulnerabilities to hazards including flooding, drought, water allocation and access to resources, all of which are impacted by climate.	A resilience scorecard has been developed and follow-on actions arising from the scorecard assessment are now underway. Further information can be found in the <a href="#">Infrastructure Operations Committee Open Agenda, 9 November 2021.</a>	Infrastructure Operations	On track

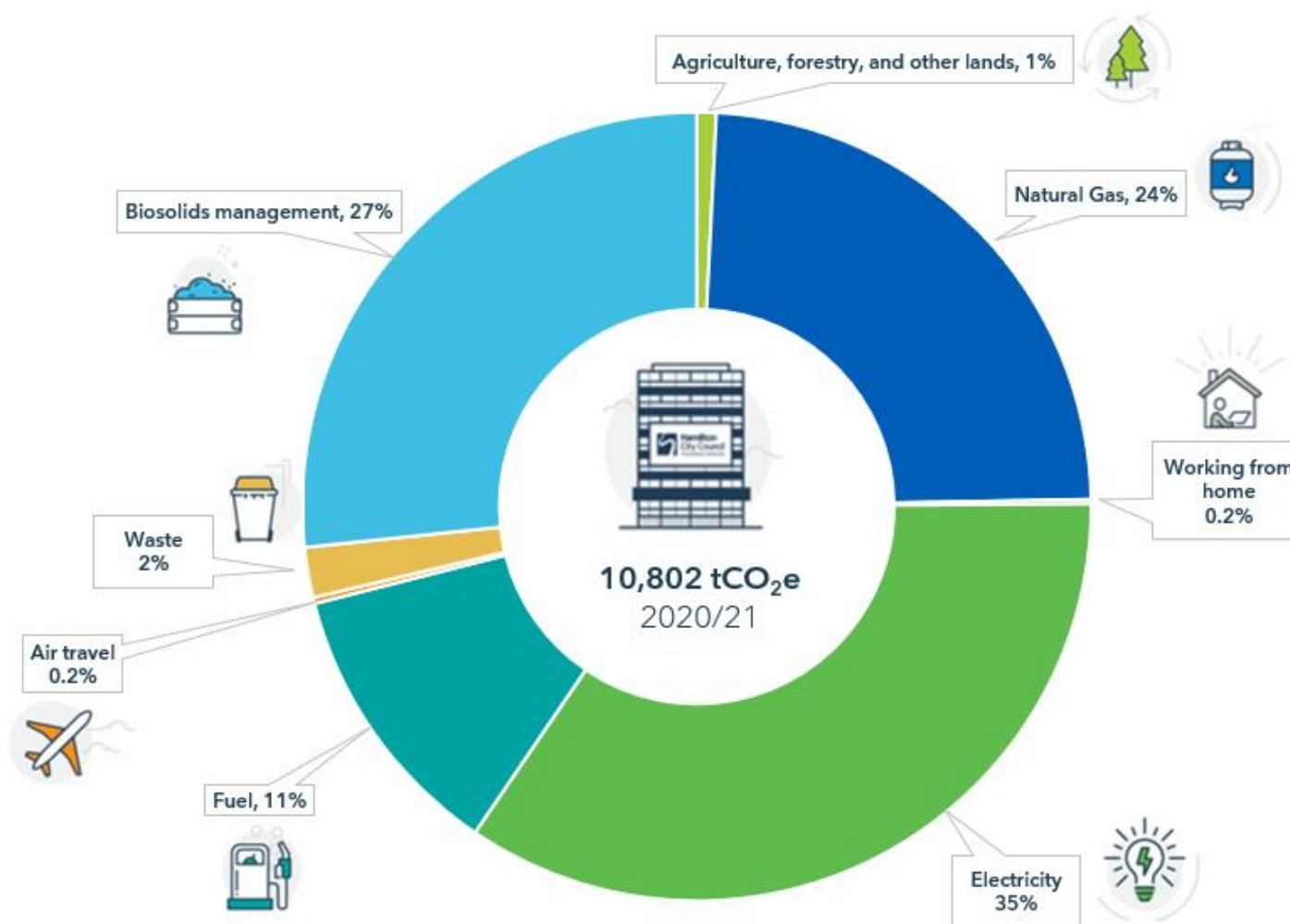
Outcome area	Action	Description	Update	Responsible committee	Status
Water (cont.)	Water demand management zones	We will continue to address water leakage across the city by creating supply zones and associated Demand Management Areas. These allow us to better manage consumption and leakage by monitoring network pressures and flows at discrete locations.	The Water Leak Detection Programme is progressing well. Six of the nine proposed supply areas have been implemented, and work is progressing well on the remaining three. Further information can be found in the <a href="#">Infrastructure Operations Committee Open Agenda, 9 November 2021</a> .	Infrastructure Operations	On track
Biodiversity	Nature in the City Strategy	This strategy aims to achieve 10% native vegetation cover in Hamilton by 2050.	Pre-implementation work is underway, including staff recruitment, a programme management plan, and programme benefits mapping. Further information will be provided to the Environment Committee on 30 November 2021.	Environment	On track
	Waiwhakareke Natural Heritage Park	We are continuing to invest in Waiwhakareke to develop path networks and enhance the park as a visitor destination.	Work on the Zoo/Waiwhakareke Shared Entry Precinct is progressing well, including landscaping at the site. Further information can be found in the <a href="#">Strategic Growth Committee Open Agenda, 19 October 2021</a> and the <a href="#">Community Committee Open Agenda, 12 October 2021</a> .	Community	On track

## 2020/2021 Hamilton City Council greenhouse gas emissions profile

In 2020/21 Hamilton City Council operations resulted in 10,802 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions (excluding biogenic emissions).

**Item 8**

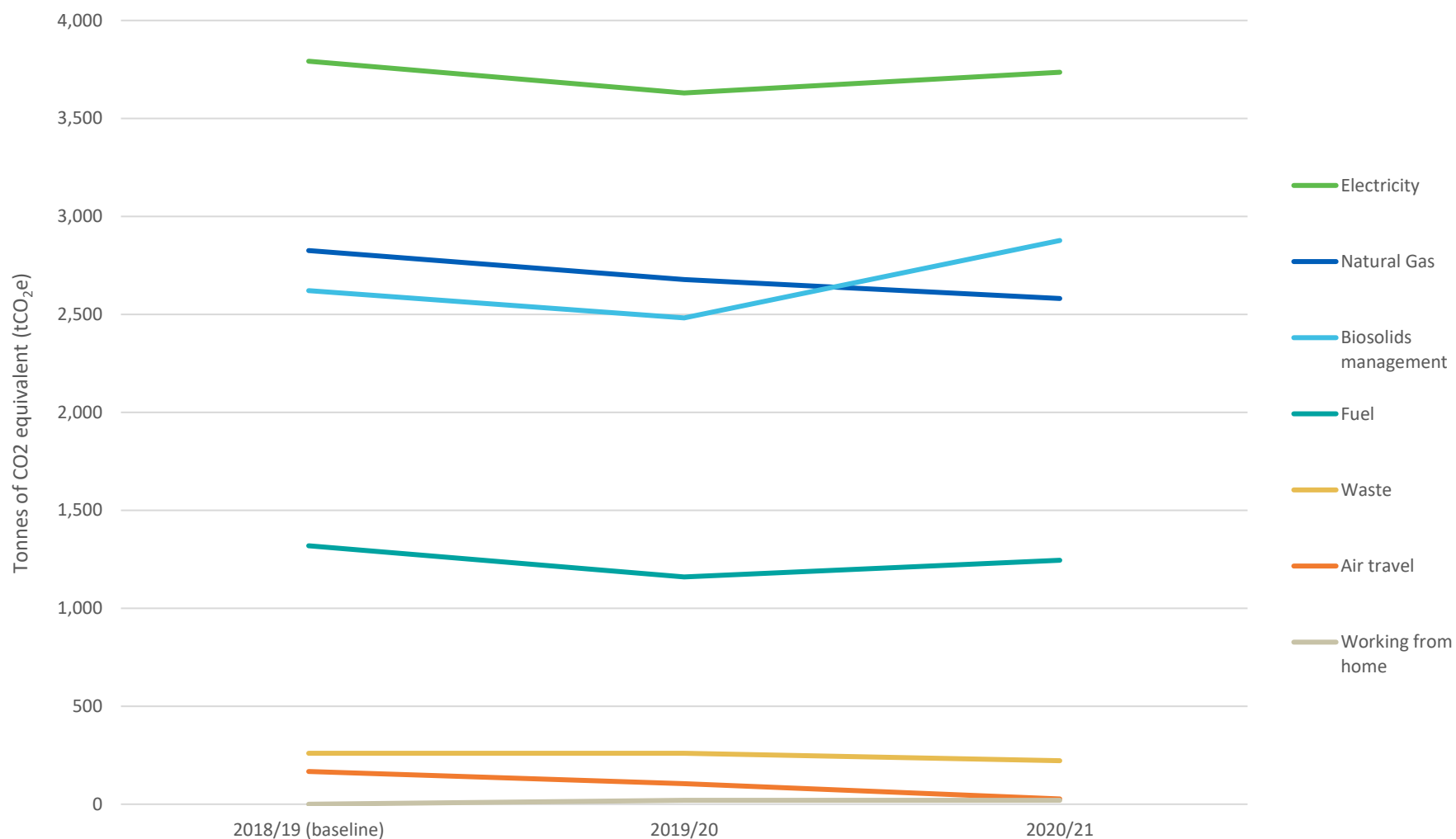
**Attachment 3**



**Figure 1. Hamilton City Council emissions profile 2020/21 (excluding biogenic methane)**

This is the third emissions profile we have completed for our corporate emissions. Our first profile in 2018/19 is the baseline for our 50% non-biogenic emissions reduction target by 2030.

**Figure 2. Hamilton City Council emissions profiles for 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21 (excluding biogenic methane)**



In 2019/20 our corporate emissions reduced by more than expected due to the COVID-19 restrictions. It was anticipated that this reduction would not be sustained in 2020/21 and this has been in the case.

**Electricity**

In 2020/21 electricity use was more than 2019/20 but still less than our base year. The increases in electricity use in the last year came from:

- The wastewater treatment plant, due to more power being taken from the grid and less power being generated onsite
- Waterworld, with the new pool hall ventilation systems using more electric heat pumps for heating instead of natural gas
- Water pumping electricity usage increased due to new reservoirs and a change in operational strategy
- Central Library and the Zoo also reported notable increases in electricity use.

The biggest reduction in electricity was from the new LED upgrades to streetlights.

**Natural Gas**

We continue to make reductions in natural gas use, a significant source of GHG. Natural gas use has fallen by 4% since 2018/19. The wastewater treatment plant gas fired engine has been re-prioritised for emergency backup only which will see an ongoing reduction in natural gas use.

**Biosolids management**

In 2020/21 the emissions for this source, which includes the transport and vermicomposting of the biosolids, increased due to population growth and an increase in commercial and industry discharges.

**Fuel**

Following reductions in 2019/20 as a result of the COVID-19 restrictions, the use of diesel and petrol have returned to previous levels. Upcoming fleet projects should see these emissions start to reduce again from 2021/22.

**Waste**

In 2020 the new rubbish and recycling service commenced, which included improved recycling services at Council buildings and facilities. Whilst a minor change was seen in 2020/21 it is anticipated that there will be further reductions in 2021/22.

**Travel**

The emissions from air travel, hotels, and rental cars are well below the baseline due to ongoing changes as a result of COVID-19 restrictions.

# Council Report

Item 9

**Committee:** Environment Committee **Date:** 30 November 2021  
**Author:** Sean Hickey **Authoriser:** Sean Hickey  
**Position:** General Manager Strategy and Communications **Position:** General Manager Strategy and Communications  
**Report Name:** General Managers Report

<b>Report Status</b>	<i>Open</i>
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## Purpose - *Take*

To inform the Environment Committee on topical issues or areas of concern which do not necessitate a separate report or decision.

## Staff Recommendation - *Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi*

2. That the Environment Committee:
  - a) receives the report;
  - b) notes that a report will be presented to the Environment Committee regarding options and improvement to litter management in parks and reserves prior to end of 2022; and
  - c) notes that additional Waste Minimisation funding will be considered at the appropriate time within the 2024-34 Long-Term Plan.

## Background - *Koorero whaimaarama*

3. This report provides updates to Environment Committee Members on activities, actions or projects contained within the plans or strategies for which this Committee and the relevant General Manager have responsibility over and for which significant progress has been made.
4. The following updates are included in this report:
  - i. Climate change programme update
  - ii. Regional update
  - iii. National and international update
  - iv. Resource
  - v. Waste minimisation in parks
5. Staff consider the matters in this report have medium significance and that the recommendations comply with the Council's legal requirements.

## Discussion - *Matapaki*

### Climate Change Programme update

#### Climate Change Strategy

6. At a workshop on 29 November 2021 staff are presenting to Elected Members on the Climate Change Strategy development and seeking input from Elected Members on the vision, outcomes and goals for the Strategy, as well as a discussion on emissions reduction targets.
7. The draft Climate Change Strategy will be presented at the 22 February 2022 Environment Committee for approval.

#### Climate Change and Environment Policy

8. In the approved forward work programme for the Environment Committee the Climate Change and Environment Policy was due to be presented to this Committee meeting. The latest two COVID-19 alert levels have significantly impacted the ability for staff to develop the policy. The team leading the project as well as key areas of Council that need to input into the policy have had to prioritise work deliverables.
9. The Policy will now be presented to the 22 February 2022 Environment Committee for recommendation to Council. If approved, it would see the Policy approved and implemented from March 2022.

#### Climate change working group and steering group

10. In 2020, two staff climate change groups were established to support the delivery and oversight of the climate change work programme.
11. The Climate Change Working Group is made up of 18 staff members from across Council. Through the working group we are building capacity across the organisation as well as ensuring that the climate change programme reflects the breadth of services and operations that Council delivers. The working group have been actively involved in shaping the Strategy.
12. The Climate Change Steering Group is made up of 9 senior staff, with Sean Hickey as the Chair. The Steering Group provides strategic oversight of the climate change programme, ensuring it aligns to organisational objectives and priorities. The Steering Group have provided strategic direction on both the Climate Change Strategy and the Climate Change and Environment Policy.

#### Embedding climate change across Council programmes and projects

13. As well as developing the Climate Change and Environment Policy to embed climate change considerations across Council decision making the Sustainability and Climate Change team are supporting priority programmes/projects to include climate change.
14. Key programmes include:
  - i. District Plan change in response to the National Policy Statement for Urban Development, including the mode shift work and area plans
  - ii. Growth Programmes
  - iii. Access Hamilton - Transport strategy review
  - iv. Hamilton Urban Growth Strategy review
15. Climate change has also been identified as one of Council's key risks which is reflected in our Infrastructure Strategy and Activity Management Plans.

### Regional update

#### Climate Collaboration Forum - Waikato Regional Council & Hamilton City Council

16. In July 2021 an initial meeting was held between Councillors from the Waikato Regional Council Climate Action Committee and Hamilton City Council's Environment Committee. Following this initial meeting, it was proposed that a Councillor climate collaboration forum be established for the Chairs and Deputy Chairs of the two Committees.
17. The first meeting of the Climate Collaboration Forum occurred on 16 November 2021.
18. A verbal update of this meeting will be provided.

#### Waikato Regional Council

19. At the 12 August 2021 Waikato Regional Council Climate Action Committee a [report](#) was presented on the implementation of the [Council's Climate Action Roadmap](#). It includes the actions that Waikato Regional Council propose to take over the next three financial years and beyond, including an action to develop science-based regional emissions reduction targets.
20. In the 18 November 2021 Waikato Regional Council Climate Action Committee [agenda](#) an update on the development of the science based emissions reductions target is provided. This includes reference to a workshop that a number of Hamilton City Council staff attended on 17 November 2021.

#### University of Waikato

21. The University of Waikato recently launched a [Bachelor of Climate Change](#), with the first intake commencing in 2022. The degree is the first of its kind in the world and combines scientific knowledge of the biophysical world with understanding of economic and political systems and the impacts on Māori, Pacific and Indigenous communities.
22. In year three of the degree students will be required to complete a climate change mitigation group project. The students will work as part of a multi-disciplinary team to solve a real climate change problem. There is an opportunity for Council to provide problems and to work with the students to apply their knowledge to challenges that we are experiencing in relation to climate change mitigation.

#### Waikato Plan – Climate change workstream

23. Over September and October 2021, a series of climate change related engagements were led by the Impact Hub and supported by the Waikato Plan. These sessions were initially designed to be pre-events for a Climathon. This was originally due to happen in November 2021. However due to COVID-19 alert levels the decision was made to delay the Climathon to 2022.
24. Hamilton City Council agreed to sponsor the Climathon and will continue to be involved in the event planning and delivery in 2022.

#### **National and international update**

##### Climate Change Risk Assessment guidance update

25. In September 2021 the Ministry for the Environment released [A guide to local climate change risk assessment](#). The guide:
  - i. outlines the context for risk assessments within adaptation planning
  - ii. sets out a step-by-step process to carry out local risk assessments
  - iii. provides resources and sample templates for practical use.
26. The guide outlines that a local climate change risk assessment will take around 12-18 months to complete and should be developed in collaboration with iwi and the community.
27. The Ministry have noted that webinars and additional guidance will be developed to support local government in completing their risk assessments.

#### United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference (COP 26)

28. The United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference (COP 26) was held in Glasgow, Scotland from 31 October 2021 to 12 November 2021. The purpose of COP 26 was to build on the COP 21 agreement made in Paris in 2015.
29. At COP 26 the New Zealand Government increased its previous Paris Agreement pledge of cutting emissions by 30 per cent by 2030, to 41 per cent (on 2004 levels). Government modelling indicates that around two thirds of the target would be achieved through buying international carbon credits.
30. New Zealand has committed to Glasgow's Breakthrough Agenda with 40 world leaders including the US, India, EU, China, representing more than 70% of the world's economy and every region, with a commitment to dramatically scale and speed up the development and deployment of clean technologies in power, road transport, steel, agriculture, and hydrogen and drive down costs this decade.
31. The government has also signed a pledge which commits countries to work together to reduce global emissions of methane by at least 30 per cent, (on 2020 levels) by 2030. This could signal higher domestic targets as New Zealand is currently committed to a 10 per cent reduction in methane and biological sources by 2030 and between 24 and 47 per cent by 2050.
32. There has been criticism in the media that despite pledges made the world is still nowhere near its goals on limiting global temperature rise to 1.5°C.
33. On the 4<sup>th</sup> of November, the government released New Zealand's long-term low-emissions development strategy, '[Transitioning to a low-emissions and climate-resilient future](#)', which was communicated to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change during COP26. It reinforces New Zealand's commitment to the Paris Agreement and serves as the first part of the [emissions reduction plan](#), currently being consulted on.

#### Resource

34. In the [General Managers report](#) on 26 August 2021, it was noted that the Climate Change team was resourced for 2020/21 with 80% FTE Environment and Sustainability Manager and 40% FTE support from Research and Insight Analyst and noted that this resource is at the lower end of what is required to deliver the Committee's climate change work programme.
35. With the current Environment and Sustainability Manager being on leave from December 2021 to May 2022, staff identified additional resource is required to deliver the Committee's work programme of the Climate Change and Environment Policy and Climate Change Strategy, along with the increasing influencing opportunities through submissions to central government and regional partnerships.
36. The follow two roles have been created and appointed:
  - i. 90% FTE Sustainability and Climate Change Senior Advisor role
  - ii. 100% FTE Sustainability and Climate Change Advisor role
37. These roles have been covered in the 2020/21 year from other unfilled vacancies within the wider strategy team. However ongoing budget allocation of \$190,000 per annum is being requested through the Annual Plan process to resource these roles.

#### Waste Minimisation in Parks

38. Staff prepared a waste minimisation proposal for inclusion in the 2021-31 10 year plan. The proposal aimed to address waste management by rolling out recycling options in 5 of our busiest Parks across the city.

39. The resolution that the proposal was unfunded for the purposes of the LTP, noted that it was to be considered in the 2022/23 Annual Plan following consideration of a report to the Environment Committee on managing litter in parks and reserves.
40. Staff have not yet had an opportunity to present a full report with options on managing litter in parks and reserves due to current workloads. It is recommended that staff report back to the Environment committee by the end of 2022 with options and any improvements that can be made using existing budgets.
41. Staff recommend that any funding consideration for Waste minimisation in Parks be deferred until after the staff report is presented and considered in the 2024-34 Long-Term Plan plan.

#### **Hamilton City Council Workplace Travel Plan Delay**

42. Work is underway to provide more sustainable modes of traveling to, from, and during work for Hamilton City Council staff.
43. The draft Hamilton City Council Workplace Travel Plan has been completed with further information being included following senior management review of the draft plan prior to being presented to the Environment Committee.
44. As a result of COVID-19 impacts on staff workloads and alert level restrictions the information updates have yet to be all completed as some required alignment with external businesses. This has meant the HCC workplace travel plan will be deferred from being presented to the Environment Committee on the 30 November 2021 to a future committee yet to be finalised in early 2022. We expect to finalise the plan for the organisation in December 2021 and be on track to announce the plan and launch most of the activities in the early 2022, subject to the workplace travel plan and funding approval.

#### **Financial Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro Puutea***

45. This is a regular operating activity funded through the Long Term Plan.

#### **Legal and Policy Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro-aa-ture***

46. Staff confirm that the staff recommendation complies with the Council's legal and policy requirements.

#### **Wellbeing Considerations - *Whaiwhakaaro-aa-oranga tonutanga***

47. The purpose of Local Government changed on the 14 May 2019 to include promotion of the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future ('the 4 wellbeings').
48. The subject matter of this report has been evaluated in terms of the 4 wellbeings during the process of developing this report as outlined below.
49. The recommendations set out in this report are consistent with that purpose.

#### **Risks - *Tuuraru***

50. There are no known risks associated with the decisions required for this matter.

## **Significance & Engagement Policy - *Kaupapa here whakahira/anganui***

### **Significance**

51. Staff have considered the key considerations under the Significance and Engagement Policy and have assessed that the recommendation(s) in this report has/have a low level of significance.

### **Engagement**

52. Community views and preferences are already known to the Council through previous consultation and engagement with the public.
53. Given the low level of significance determined, the engagement level is low. No engagement is required.

## **Attachments - *Ngaa taapirihanga***

There are no attachments for this report.