



Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ngāmotu

**New Plymouth
District Council**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE
AGENDA**

**Tuesday 28 February 2023
at 10am**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER
LIARDET STREET, NEW PLYMOUTH**

Chairperson:	Cr Dinnie	Moeahu
Members:	Cr Murray	Chong (Deputy)
	Cr David	Bublitz
	Cr Anneka	Carlson
	Cr Amanda	Clinton-Gohdes
	Cr Bali	Haque
	Cr Te Waka	McLeod
	Mayor Neil	Holdom

COMMITTEE PURPOSE

Purpose of Local Government

The reports contained in this agenda address the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 in relation to decision making. Unless otherwise stated, the recommended option outlined in each report meets the purpose of local government and:

- Promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future.
- Would not alter significantly the intended level of service provision for any significant activity undertaken by or on behalf of Council, or transfer the ownership or control of a strategic asset to or from Council.

END

OPENING KARAKIA

Kia uruuru mai	I draw in (to my being)
Ā hauora	The reviving essence
Ā haukaha	The strengthening essence
Ā haumāia	The essence of courage
Ki runga, ki raro	Above, below
Ki roto, ki waho	Within, without
Rirerire hau paimarire	Let there be peace



Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ngāmotu

**New Plymouth
District Council**

Health and Safety Message / Te Whaiora me te Marutau

In the event of an emergency, please follow the instructions of Council staff.

Please exit through the main entrance.

Once you reach the footpath please turn right and walk towards Pukekura Park, congregating outside the Spark building. Please do not block the footpath for other users.

Staff will guide you to an alternative route if necessary.

If there is an earthquake – drop, cover and hold where possible. Please be mindful of the glass overhead.

Please remain where you are until further instruction is given.

APOLOGIES / NGĀ MATANGARO

None advised

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST / NGĀ ARA KŌNATUNATU

1. People who fill positions of authority must undertake their duties free from real or perceived bias. Elected members must maintain a clear separation between their personal interests and their duties as an elected member. Failure to do so could invalidate a Council decision and leave the elected member open to prosecution and ouster from office.
2. An elected member is entitled to interact with the Council as a private citizen. However, they cannot use their position as an elected member to gain an advantage not available to the general public.
3. Elected and appointed members will:
 - Declare any interest whether pecuniary or non-pecuniary at a meeting where the interest is relevant to an item on that agenda.
 - Exclude themselves from any informal discussions with elected members relating to a matter they have an interest in.
 - Seek guidance from the Chief Executive if they are unclear of the extent of any interest.
 - Seek guidance or exemption from the Office of the Auditor General if necessary.

ADDRESSING THE MEETING

Requests for public forum and deputations need to be made at least one day prior to the meeting. The Chairperson has authority to approve or decline public comments and deputations in line with the standing order requirements.

PUBLIC FORUM / ĀTEA Ā-WĀNANGA

Public Forums enable members of the public to bring matters to the attention of the committee which are not contained on the meeting agenda. The matters must relate to the meeting's terms of reference. Speakers can speak for up to 5 minutes, with no more than two speakers on behalf of one organisation.

- None advised

DEPUTATIONS / MANUHIRI

Deputations enable a person, group or organisation to speak to the meeting on matters contained on the agenda. An individual speaker can speak for up to 10 minutes. Where there are multiple speakers for one organisation, a total time limit of 15 minutes, for the entire deputation, applies.

- None advised

REPORTS

ITEMS FOR DECISION BY COMMITTEE

- 1 Proposed Community Development Committee Work Programme
- 2 Creative Communities Advisory Committee
- 3 Natural Heritage Protection Fund – 89 Okoki Road
- 4 Food Security Taranaki

END

PROPOSED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2023

MATTER / TE WHĀINGA

1. The matter for consideration by the Council is to approve a high-level work programme for the Community Development Committee (the Committee).

RECOMMENDATION FOR CONSIDERATION / NGĀ WHAIKUPU

That having considered all matters raised in the report the Community Development Committee Work Programme be approved.

COMPLIANCE / TŪTOHU	
Significance	This matter is assessed as being of some importance
Options	<p>This report identifies and assesses the following reasonably practicable options for addressing the matter:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Community Development Committee Work Programme be approved. 2. The Community Development Committee Work Programme not be approved.
Affected persons	The persons who are affected by or interested in this matter are individuals and community groups of New Plymouth who wish to improve social and community wellbeing.
Recommendation	This report recommends option 1 for addressing the matter.
Long-Term Plan / Annual Plan Implications	No
Significant Policy and Plan Inconsistencies	No

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY / WHAKARĀPOPOPTOTANGA MATUA

2. This report recommends that Council approve the proposed Community Development Committee Work Programme for 2023.
 3. The work programme aims to address Committee priorities of funding allocation, food security and housing through a range of initiatives.
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4. By approving the work programme, the Committee can efficiently and effectively deliver on its mandate and make a positive impact in the community.
5. Approval of the work programme is the next step in ensuring the Committee's success in promoting community development.

BACKGROUND / WHAKAPAPA

6. The Committee was established in December 2022 with a mandate to address pressing community development issues, particularly in funding distribution and the areas of food security and housing. As a new committee, it represents a commitment by the Council to tackle these critical challenges.
7. The Committee has been allocated \$150,000 from the Agility Fund, approved in December 2023, to support its food security initiatives. The Committee will work closely with stakeholders and community partners to ensure that its efforts have a meaningful and lasting impact.
8. The formation of the Committee and the allocation of funding are significant steps towards improving the quality of life for residents and building stronger, more resilient communities. The Committee is poised to play a key role in addressing the community development challenges facing the area and securing a better future for all.

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT AND CONSIDERATIONS / HURINGA ĀHUARANGI

9. The implementation of food rescue initiatives as part of the work programme will also have positive implications for the environment by reducing food waste and associated greenhouse gas emissions.

THREE WATERS REFORM IMPLICATIONS

10. This matter does not involve an intended decision relating to, or affecting, the provision of water services.

NEXT STEPS / HĪKOI I MURI MAI

11. Next steps involve collaboration between Council Officers, stakeholders, and community partners, with regular progress reports presented to the Committee to ensure effective implementation and impactful results and a Creative Communities funding round.
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SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT / KAUPAPA WHAKAHIRAHIRA

12. In accordance with the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, this matter has been assessed as being of some importance.

OPTIONS

Option 1 The Community Development Committee Work Programme be approved.

Financial and Resourcing Implications / Ngā Hiraunga ā-pūtea, ā-rauemi

13. The financial implications of the Committee's work programme include the \$150,000 budget approved from the Agility Fund, which will be used to support food security initiatives.

Risk Analysis / Tātaritanga o Ngā Mōrearea

14. No risks have been identified with this option

Promotion or Achievement of Community Outcomes / Hāpaitia / Te Tutuki o Ngā Whāinga ā-hāpori

15. The Committee's work programme aligns with the community outcome of Partnerships and Community by fostering strong partnerships with stakeholders and community partners to collectively address pressing community development issues and improve the quality of life for residents.

Statutory Responsibilities / Ngā Haepapa ā-ture

16. There are no statutory responsibilities that apply to this option

Consistency with Policies and Plans / Te Paria i ngā Kaupapa Here me ngā Mahere

17. The work programme is consistent with the Long Term Plan through the Community Partnerships Significant Activity.

Participation by Māori / Te Urunga o Ngāi Māori

18. There has been no consultation with Māori stakeholders at this stage. However, the Council officers recognise the importance of early engagement and will include provisions for meaningful consultation and partnership with Māori in any future work plans.

Community Views and Preferences / Ngā tirohanga me Ngā Mariu ā-hāpori

19. The views of the community regarding the work programme have not yet been formally assessed. However, Council officers are committed to ensuring that its initiatives are informed by and responsive to the needs and aspirations of the community and will take steps to engage with and gather feedback from residents as it implements its work programme.

Advantages and Disadvantages

20. The Committee's work programme addresses important community development issues and has the potential to improve the quality of life for residents.

Option 2 The Community Development Committee Work Programme not be approved.

Financial and Resourcing Implications / Ngā Hīraunga ā-pūtea, ā-rauemi

21. There will be no financial or resourcing implications under this option.

Risk Analysis / Tātaritanga o Ngā Mōrearea

22. The risk of not approving the work programme is the potential for unaddressed community development issues, such as food security and housing, to persist, leading to decreased quality of life for residents. There is also a risk that funding rounds are not as effective or efficient as possible.

Promotion or Achievement of Community Outcomes / Hāpaitia / Te Tutuki o Ngā Whāinga ā-hāpori

23. There may be less promotion of community outcomes under this option.

Statutory Responsibilities / Ngā Haepapa ā-ture

24. There are no statutory responsibilities that apply to this option.

Consistency with Policies and Plans / Te Paria i ngā Kaupapa Here me ngā Mahere

25. This option is not consistent with Council's policies or plans.

Participation by Māori / Te Urunga o Ngāi Māori

26. There has been no consultation with Māori stakeholders at this stage.
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Community Views and Preferences / Ngā tirohanga me Ngā Mariu ā-hāpori

27. The views of the community regarding the work programme have not yet been formally assessed.

Advantages and Disadvantages

28. The disadvantage of not adopting the Committee's work programme is the potential for important community development issues, such as food security and housing, to go unaddressed, leading to a decreased quality of life for residents.

Recommended Option

This report recommends option one *The Community Development Committee Work Programme be approved* for addressing the matter.

APPENDICES / NGĀ ĀPITI HANGA

Appendix 1 Community Development Committee Work Programme 2023
(ECM8923981)

Report Details

Prepared By: Callum Williamson (Community Partnerships Lead)
Team: Community Partnerships
Approved By: Kathryn Scown (Acting General Manager Strategic Partnerships)
Ward/Community: District Wide
Date: 8 February 2023
File Reference: ECM8923982

-----*End of Report*-----

PROPOSED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2023

1. As per the Community Development Committee Terms of Reference, the Committee's purpose is to:
 - Build governance level relationships with communities, government agencies and non-government organisations to build strong, resilient communities; and
 - Promote and consider matters relating to social and community wellbeing; and
 - Determine how Council can better connect and coordinate community development across the New Plymouth District and Taranaki region.

2. In order to fulfil that purpose, the Committee should adopt a work programme which reflects its delegated authority. This delegated authority relates to:
 - Authority to approve granting of funds for the above schemes in accordance with the Council's policies and rules.
 - Authority to approve granting of funds within the requirements of Creative Communities New Zealand Scheme.
 - Authority to appoint a Creative Communities Advisory Committee comprising at least two members of Community Funding Investment Committee together with community representatives as required, such advisory committee to have the authority to:
 - Approve the granting of funds under the Creative Communities New Zealand Scheme.
 - Determining the Annual Work Programme (including any subsequent amendments) in conjunction with Council staff.

3. The table that follows outlines the key tasks that the Committee, a will complete (and when) as part of its work programme, in accordance with its delegated authority. The meeting dates take into account the requirements in the table above.

4. Other tasks and reports will be considered by the Committee as required, for example, relating to major projects. Extra meetings will also be scheduled if necessary.

Meeting Date	Tasks	
28 February 2023	Proposed Work Programme	Update on Food Security and Housing
XX May 2023	Update on Food Security and Housing	
14 June 2023	Creative Communities (Deputations and Deliberations)	
2 August 2023	Community Funding Investment (Deputations)	
3 August 2023	Community Funding Investment (Deliberations)	
XX August 2023	Update on Food Security and Housing	
XX November 2023	Update on Food Security and Housing	

APPOINTMENT OF CREATIVE COMMUNITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MATTER / TE WHĀINGA

1. The matter for consideration by the Council is the establishment of the Creative Communities Advisory Committee.

RECOMMENDATION FOR CONSIDERATION / NGĀ WHAIKUPU

That, having considered all matters raised in the report the Community Development Committee:

- a) **Establish a Creative Communities Advisory Committee for the 2022–2025 Council Term with the following terms of reference:**

Chairperson	Cr XXXX
Members	Cr XXXX Community Representative #1 Community Representative #2 Community Representative #3 Community Representative #4 Community Representative #5

Quorum	Four members
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Meeting frequency	Twice yearly
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Purpose	To implement and administer the following funding schemes operated by the Council or administered by the Council on behalf of other organisations:
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- **Creative Communities New Zealand**

Delegations	To approve the granting of funds allocated by Creative New Zealand under the Creative Communities New Zealand Scheme.
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- b) **Note that Council officers will call for expressions of interest for the Community Representatives.**
 - c) **Note that the Chair of the Community Development Committee and Councillors appointed to the Creative Communities Advisory Committee will shortlist, interview (if necessary) and advise the Mayor of the preferred appointees.**
-

d) Note that the appointment of Community Representatives to the Committee will be formalised by the Mayor, acting under authority delegated by Council resolution on 22 November 2022.

e) Set the following funding priorities for the next round of Creative Communities funding applications:

XXXXX

XXXXX

COMPLIANCE / TŪTOHU	
Significance	This matter is assessed as being some importance
Options	<p>This report identifies and assesses the following reasonably practicable options for addressing the matter:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a Creative Community Advisory Committee and adopt the Committee’s Terms of Reference. 2. Not establish a Creative Community Advisory Committee
Affected persons	The persons affected by or interested in this matter are those community members creating, producing, contributing, participating and/or benefiting from the creation of creative arts.
Recommendation	This report recommends Option one for addressing the matter.
Long-Term Plan / Annual Plan Implications	No
Significant Policy and Plan Inconsistencies	No

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY / WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA

2. Creative New Zealand encourages, promotes, and supports the arts in New Zealand including through the Creative Communities Scheme (CCS). CCS is designed to support local community access and participation in a wide range of arts activities.

3. Each year Creative New Zealand provide New Plymouth District Council (NPDC) with funding to administer and allocation of local grants. Creative New Zealand has rules around compositions of Committees which can allocate funding. Council is therefore required to set up a committee with external appointees to meet this criteria.
4. Council delegated authority to the Community Development Committee to establish a Creative Communities Advisory Committee (the Committee) and set local priorities for the grants scheme.
5. Once approved officers will undertake an expression of interest process and applicants will be interviewed for selection to the Committee.
6. Creative New Zealand encourages local Creative Communities schemes to set local priorities. It is recommended that the Committee consider these priorities at the end of each funding round, in preparation for the following round of funding applications. Due to timing, the Community Development Committee will set the priorities for the first funding round.

BACKGROUND / WHAKAPAPA

7. Each year Creative New Zealand provides funding to local authorities around the country to distribute towards projects in their area that:
 - a) Create opportunities for local communities to engage with and participate in local arts activities;
 - b) Support the diverse artistic cultural traditions of local communities; and
 - c) Enable young people (under 18 years) to engage with and participate in the arts.
 8. While funding is provided by Creative New Zealand, the Council administers the grants fund and covers administrative costs. Funding from Creative New Zealand is allocated per head of population (reviewed approximately every three years). The funding allocated to NPDC for the 2023/24 financial year is \$64,140.00. Councils must hold a minimum of two, and maximum of four, funding rounds per financial year. New Plymouth District Council currently holds two funding rounds per financial year.
 9. The purpose of the Committee is to grant funds under the Creative Communities Scheme. The Committee is responsible for assessing and allocating funding in line with Creative New Zealand criteria and guidelines, and any local priorities as determined by the Community Funding Investment Committee. Decisions of the Committee are made under delegated authority and do not need to be confirmed by the full Council.
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10. Collectively the Committee should have a broad knowledge of the arts activity in the local area.

Committee Structure

11. Creative New Zealand strongly recommends that there be at least seven, but no more than 11 members on an assessment committee. The Committee has previously had seven members. Creative New Zealand requires that all bodies allocating Creative Communities Scheme funding should:
 - a) have no more than two elected members (councillors and/or community board members). The number of elected members must not make up more than half of the Committee and members are expected to have an arts and culture focus or knowledge;
 - b) ensure the balance of the assessment committee consists of community representatives who are familiar with the range and diversity of local arts activities;
 - c) ensure appointed community representatives are not elected council or community board members; and
 - d) include a member of Māori descent who has local knowledge of Māori arts activity.
 12. Guidelines for good governance state that the Committee:
 - a) have a combination of new and experienced members;
 - b) reflect the make-up of the local community where possible; and
 - c) elect a chairperson annually, with a maximum of three consecutive years as chair.
 13. Community representatives can serve a maximum of two consecutive terms on the Committee. There is no limit for Council representatives.
 14. Creative New Zealand's allows for community representatives to serve a maximum of two consecutive terms on the Committee. Two previous members have completed the maximum terms of service and will be required to retire by rotation in 2023.
-

Committee appointments

15. Creative New Zealand states that the community representatives must be appointed in a public and open way. Council Officers will facilitate an open process by calling for expressions of interest through public channels. Council Officers will also reach out to eligible incumbent community representatives to serve a further term.

Setting local priorities

16. The Community Development Committee will set the Committee's local funding priorities for the first funding round. The Committee will set future funding priorities at the conclusion of the next funding round.
17. Council Officers will provide guidance to ensure funding priorities are set in alignment with Council's overarching Strategic Vision and Community Outcomes.

NEXT STEPS / HĪKOI I MURI MAI

18. The appointed elected members along with the Chair of the Community Development Committee will shortlist and interview the candidates. The Mayor, acting under delegated authority, will formalise appointment of the preferred candidates.
19. Following appointment of the community representatives, Council Officers will arrange an induction for all Committee members. This will occur prior to the Committee's first meeting in April 2023.

SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT / KAUPAPA WHAKAHIRAHIRA

20. In accordance with the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, this matter has been assessed as being of some importance. It does not impact on levels of service and there are no budgetary implications.
21. The Creative Communities Scheme funding is provided by Creative New Zealand, which aims to increase local participation in a diverse range of arts activities.
22. Administration of the scheme is undertaken by the Community Partnerships Team within existing levels of service.

OPTIONS

Option One

Establish a Creative Community Advisory Committee and adopt the Committee's Terms of Reference.

Financial and Resourcing Implications / Ngā Hīraunga ā-pūtea, ā-rauemi

23. The Creative Communities Scheme is administered by the Community Partnerships Team within existing levels of service. There are two funding rounds per year.
24. Creative New Zealand provides grant funding. Council pays meeting fees to the external appointees in line with Council's [Remuneration and Reimbursement for External Appointments to Council Committees and Working Parties Policy](#).

Risk Analysis / Tātaritanga o Ngā Mōrearea

25. No risks have been identified.

Promotion or Achievement of Community Outcomes / Te Tutuki o Ngā Whāinga ā-hāpori

26. Providing the Creative Communities Scheme aligns strongly with the Council's strategic vision of building a Sustainable Lifestyle Capital and supports the Community Outcomes of Partnership, Community and Prosperity.

Statutory Responsibilities / Ngā Haepapa ā-ture

27. Council is required to establish a Creative Communities Assessment Committee through the contract with Creative New Zealand and as a designated community arts provider under Section 14 of the Arts Council of New Zealand Toi Aotearoa Act 2014.
28. A least one member of a committee must be an elected member of the Council.

Consistency with Policies and Plans / Te Paria i ngā Kaupapa Here me ngā Mahere

29. Establishment of the Committee is consistent with the Council's Community Funding Investment Policy.

Participation by Māori / Te Urunga o Ngāi Māori

30. There has been no participation by Māori in the preparation of this report.
-

31. Creative New Zealand require the Committee to have a member of Māori descent with local knowledge of Māori arts activity. Previous Committees have had Māori representation. Council officers will be contacting iwi and hapū to advise of the opportunity to participate on the Committee.

Community Views and Preferences / Ngā tirohanga me Ngā Mariu ā-hāpori

32. The diverse local creative community contributes greatly to the vibrancy of the New Plymouth District. Creative Communities Scheme funding supports a number of varied local arts programmes and is an important part of growing our local talent. The fund helps meet project shortfalls but also provides upcoming artists with opportunities for broad exposure in the wider community.

Advantages and Disadvantages / Ngā Huanga me Ngā Taumahatanga

33. The appointment and establishment of the Committee will meet our legislative obligations and provide our community with access to public art and creative activity.

Option Two

Do not appoint the Council and community representatives to the Creative Communities Advisory Committee

Financial and Resourcing Implications / Ngā Hiraunga ā-pūtea, ā-rauemi

34. The Creative Communities Scheme is administered by the Community Partnerships Team within existing levels of service. Two funding rounds are held each year.

Risk Analysis / Tātaritanga o Ngā Mōrearea

35. Option two is inconsistent with Council's agreement with Creative New Zealand and relevant legislation.

Promotion or Achievement of Community Outcomes / Te Tutuki o Ngā Whāinga ā-hāpori

36. This decision does not achieve any community outcomes.

Statutory Responsibilities / Ngā Haepapa ā-ture

37. Option two is inconsistent with our contractual agreement with Creative New Zealand.
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Consistency with Policies and Plans / Te Paria i ngā Kaupapa Here me ngā Mahere

38. Option two is inconsistent with the Community Funding Investment Policy.

Participation by Māori / Te Urunga o Ngāi Māori

39. Option two does not enable participation by Māori.

Community Views and Preferences / Ngā tirohanga me Ngā Mariu ā-hāpori

40. Council officers expect that the local arts community would not support loss of the Creative Communities scheme.

Advantages and Disadvantages / Ngā Huanga me Ngā Taumahatanga

41. A lack of creative funding available for distribution would disadvantage the creative community and the wider community who enjoy the arts this funding supports.

Recommended Option

This report recommends Option one for addressing the matter: that Council agrees to establish the Creative Community Advisory Committee and appoint the elected members and the community representatives recommended in this report.

Report Details

Prepared By: Jane Hickmott and Kate Duncan
Team: Governance/Community Partnerships
Approved By: Julie Straka and Callum Williamson (Governance Lead/Community Partnerships Lead)
Ward/Community: District Wide
Date: 21 February 2023
File Reference: ECM8932129

-----End of Report -----

PROTECTING 16 HECTARES OF NATIVE BUSH ON THE WAITOETOE RIVER HEADWATERS

PURPOSE / TE WHĀINGA

1. The matter for consideration by the Council is allocating a grant from the Natural Heritage Protection Fund to contribute to the protection of 16 hectares of native bush at the top of Okoki Road in North Taranaki.

RECOMMENDATION FOR CONSIDERATION / NGĀ WHAIKUPU

That having considered all matters raised in the report the Community Funding Investment Subcommittee grant \$32,748.59 to contribute to the protection of a total of 16ha of native bush in three covenants at 89 Okoki Road subject to the following:

- a) **The area is protected through three Open Space Covenants with Queen Elizabeth II Trust (QEII).**
- b) **The fencing is completed to a standard satisfactory of Manager Planning (or nominee).**
- c) **The funds be available until June 2024.**
- d) **If the work is not completed to the Council's satisfaction and the grant not paid by that date, the grant shall cease to be available under this decision unless applications for time extension is made and approved by the Manager Planning (or nominee).**

COMPLIANCE / TŪTOHU	
Significance	This matter is assessed as being of some importance.
Options	This report identifies and assesses the following reasonably practicable options for addressing the matter: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Support the protection of 16 hectares of native bush in three covenants at 89 Okoki Road with a Natural Heritage Protection Fund grant.2. Not support the bush protection.

COMPLIANCE / TŪTOHU	
Affected persons	The persons who are interested in this matter are the general community who benefit from a healthy living environment. Gavin Griffin, the applicant, owns the area of bush at 89 Okoki Road.
Recommendation	This report recommends option one for addressing the matter.
Long-Term Plan / Annual Plan Implications	No
Significant Policy and Plan Inconsistencies	No

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY / WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA

2. Supporting landowners to voluntarily protect native bush by fencing and registering an open space covenant with QEII is the most efficient and long-lasting option available to address the district's main threat to biodiversity which is from browsing animals. The Council's role in maintaining and enhancing indigenous biodiversity is outlined in the Resource Management Act (RMA) requirements; it involves the following activities:
 - a) Natural Heritage Protection Fund
 - b) Identification of Significant Natural Areas and vegetation clearance rules in the District Plan
 - c) Rates remissions on protected areas of native bush
 - d) Participation in the regional biodiversity forum, Wild for Taranaki
 - e) Monitoring and maintaining land cover data
 - f) Plant and animal pest control and habitat enhancement in Council parks
 - g) Advocacy and education via the landowner liaison project that promotes active management of biodiversity
 - h) Community funding and operational support of voluntary conservation projects.
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Figure 1: Location Map

SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT / KAUPAPA WHAKAHIRAHIRA

3. In accordance with the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, this matter has been assessed as being of some significance because of the importance of protecting native bush.
4. Native bush provides fresh water, clean air and food, upon which human life and health depends. It influences disease occurrence and spread and supports sustainable economies. Native bush benefits people's mental, physical, cultural, and spiritual health and well-being.
5. When ecosystems are disturbed, biological diversity is lost. Protected areas of native bush restore and safeguard nature. Protected areas are critical for healthy and sustainable communities. In an urbanising world, with a growing population, protected areas are natural solutions for securing our health and well-being while adapting to the impact of climate change.
6. This protection project contributes to halting the decline of biodiversity which is the New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy's main objective.

BACKGROUND / WHAKAPAPA

Site Significance

7. The site is a gully ecosystem which forms the headwaters of the Waitoetoe River. It has been not been identified as a Significant Natural Area (SNA) in the Proposed District Plan, however it does meet the criteria for an SNA but wasn't identified in the desktop exercise undertaken for SNA's.

8. This gully has never been cleared of native vegetation and is unusually intact for this remnant type. The forest that existed in this area in pre-human times was tawa kohekohe rewarewa, hinau, podocarp forest, and the site still contains all the species found in the original forest type. The area is home to several threatened plant species including king fern, white rata, climbing rata and northern rata.
9. The understory is varied and includes species such as pate, kanono, tree ferns nikau, pidgeonwood and mahoe. The steeper areas of the gully provide a refuge from goats, where the vegetation is very dense.
10. The forest forms habitat for a range of native birds, including tui, fantail, grey warbler, and kereru. QEII considers North Island Brown Kiwi are likely to be present, as they are present in nearby areas, and perhaps also native bats.



Fig. 2: Proposed QE11 covenant areas 16368, 16461 and 16462 at 89 Okoki road. Key for the Burnside Covenant Area
Red Line Covenant boundary; Purple line Property boundary

TABLE 1: INDICATIVE SPECIES LIST

Type	Remnant, primary forest
Canopy Species	Dominant: Tawa Kohekohe, Rewarewa, Hinau Present: Rimu, Miro, Northern Rata, Tawa, Kohekohe, Hinau, Rewarewa, Pukatea
Understorey	Dominant: Mahoe, Kohekohe, Tree Ferns, Nikau, Pidgeonwood, Mahoe Nationally vulnerable: Kingfern, White Rata, Climbing Rata, Northern Rata.
Native Animals	Tui, Fantail, Grey Warbler, Kereru, (likely North Island Brown Kiwi and Long Tailed Bat)



Fig. 3 – Site photos. Clockwise from top: view of gully; view of gully looking out to sea; native clematis festoons a branch; large northern rata trunk, large northern rata canopy; king fern seedlings (note – adults are also present at the site).

11. The site meets National Priority 4 of the QEII assessment criteria as it seeks to protect the habitat of threatened indigenous species.
 12. There are many other small protected blocks of native bush within a 10km radius (see Figure 1), so this block contributes to connectivity within the landscape, providing a food source and habitat for very mobile native birds like tui and kereru.
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TABLE 2: QEII SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Rarity	Medium
Diversity Pattern	Medium
Distinctiveness	Medium
Size and Shape Characteristics	Medium
Representativeness	High
Sustainability Prospects	High
Connectivity	Medium
LENZ threat category and protection	Less reduced and better Protected >30% left and >20% protected.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

13. This project has been assessed using the Natural Heritage Protection system to determine whether it qualifies for funding; provided in Appendix One. The assessment includes the following criteria:
- a) Identification of a Significant Natural Area in the District Plan
 - b) Confirmation of legal protection through a covenant
 - c) The extent of threat from livestock or feral animals
 - d) The contribution to a wildlife corridor and connectivity in the landscape
 - e) Identification of natural and cultural heritage values
 - f) The financial contribution of other agencies towards protection
 - g) Complementary TRC management regime
 - h) Public access to site
14. Using the system the proposal scores 100 out of a possible 130.

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT AND CONSIDERATIONS / HURINGA ĀHUARANGI

15. Native bush provides fresh water, clean air and food, upon which human life and health depends. It influences disease occurrence and spread and supports sustainable economies. Native bush benefits people's mental, physical, cultural, and spiritual health and well-being.

16. When ecosystems are disturbed, biological diversity is lost. Protected areas of native bush restore and safeguard nature. Protected areas are critical for healthy and sustainable communities. In an urbanising world, with a growing population, protected areas are natural solutions for securing our health and well-being while adapting to the impact of climate change.

THREE WATERS REFORM IMPLICATIONS

17. The grant to protect the native bush at 89 Okoki Road does not relate to or affect the provision of water services. There are no implications for the Three Waters Reform.

OPTIONS

Option 1

Grant \$32,748.59 to contribute to the protection of 16 hectares at 89 Okoki Road subject to conditions.

Financial and Resourcing Implications / Ngā Hiraunga ā-pūtea, ā-rauemi

18. The Natural Heritage Protection Fund was commissioned through the 2015 - 2025 Long Term Plan process. The fund recognises that private landowners should have community support where they are custodians of items recognised to be of community value. It is allocated
19. \$100,000.00 per year from rates. Applications are assessed by Council officers and reported to the Community Funding Investment Subcommittee or Monitoring Committee for determination. Applications \$10,000.00 or less are processed under delegated authority subject to specific safeguards and reporting.
20. Four other grants with an average of \$7,433.00 have been made from this fund in this financial year. There remains \$70268 available for allocation before 30 June 2023.
21. The Council generally contributes to a portion of the costs for fencing in association with registration of an Open Space Covenant. The Council contribution for this project is approximately 33% of the total fence costs. This project involves an eight wire post and batten fence, with seven plain wires and one electric and is required to control stock and feral goat movement and ensure long term protection.
-

TABLE 3: PROJECT COSTS

Funding Partner	Contribution	Task
Landowner	\$32,748.59	Fencing
QEII	\$32,748.59	Fencing
NPDC	\$32,748.59	Fencing
	\$98,245.77	FENCING TOTAL
QEII	\$2,000.00	Weed and Pest Control
	\$5,000.00	Survey
	\$105,245.77	PROJECT TOTAL

Risk Analysis / Tātaritanga o Ngā Mōrearea

22. If the Council does not approve a grant the landowners will need to seek other funding. This could result in the protection of the native bush not going ahead and the loss of the bush area and habitat for nationally at risk species is possible as the area is not currently protected.

Promotion or Achievement of Community Outcomes / Te Tutuki o Ngā Whāinga ā-hāpori

23. The recommended option promotes the People and Place community outcomes. The protection of native bush ensures the ongoing sustainability of the districts biodiversity.

Statutory Responsibilities / Ngā Haepapa ā-ture

24. Support for voluntary native bush protection via community funding is a proactive method of fulfilling the Resource Management Act (RMA) requirement to maintain and enhance indigenous biodiversity.

Consistency with Policies and Plans / Te Paria i ngā Kaupapa Here me ngā Mahere

25. The recommended option is consistent with the Long Term Plan Community Development Plans and the Blueprint's Environment Key direction.

Participation by Māori / Te Urunga o Ngāi Māori

26. Protecting native bush is consistent with Māori values as it enhances and maintains valued flora and fauna.

Community Views and Preferences / Ngā tirohanga me Ngā Mariu ā-hāpori

27. The regional biodiversity forum 'Wild for Taranaki' support the protection of native bush. Wild for Taranaki is a regional collaboration of organisations and individuals (including the Council) who contribute to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity.

Advantages and Disadvantages / Ngā Huanga me Ngā Taumahatanga

28. This option has the advantage of perpetual protection of a 16Ha area of native bush on the headwaters of the Waitoetoe River in the Okoki area. This secures important habitat for nationally at risk species.
29. A disadvantage of funding this bush protection is that demand increases and the fund becomes oversubscribed.

Option 2

Do not grant \$32,748.59 to contribute to the protection of 16 hectares of native bush at 89 Okoki Road.

Financial and Resourcing Implications / Ngā Hiraunga ā-pūtea, ā-rauemi

30. There will be no budgetary or resource implications.

Risk Analysis / Tātaritanga o Ngā Mōrearea

31. If the Council does not approve funding for the project the organisers will have to seek other funding avenues and it may jeopardise the project.

Promotion or Achievement of Community Outcomes / Te Tutuki o Ngā Whāinga ā-hāpori

32. This option will not impact on the Community outcomes.

Statutory Responsibilities / Ngā Haepapa ā-ture

33. Statutory responsibilities are not affected as there are other methods of implementing RMA responsibilities.

Consistency with Policies and Plans / Te Paria i ngā Kaupapa Here me ngā Mahere

34. This option will not have any impact on any policies or plans.
-

Participation by Māori / Te Urunga o Ngāi Māori

35. This option will not have an impact on Māori participation.

Community Views and Preferences / Ngā tirohanga me Ngā Mariu ā-hāpori

36. The landowner would be disappointed by this option if the project did not proceed.

37. The regional biodiversity forum may also be disappointed if the Council decides not to support the protection of this 16Ha area of native bush.

Advantages and Disadvantages / Ngā Huanga me Ngā Taumahatanga

38. An advantage of not funding this bush protection is that the fund could be utilised by other landowners wishing to covenant and protect their native bush.

39. A disadvantage of not funding this bush protection is that native bush remains unprotected in our district and the decline of biodiversity continues.

Recommended Option

This report recommends Option One, Support the protection of 16 hectares of native bush in three covenants at 89 Okoki Road with a Natural Heritage Protection Fund grant.

APPENDICES / NGĀ ĀPITI HANGA

Appendix One Pre Eligibility Check List – Natural Heritage Protection Fund (ECM8931792)

Appendix Two Natural Heritage Funding Assessment (ECM8931794)

Report Details

Prepared By: Kim Northcott (Landscape Architect)
Team: Planning and Design
Approved By: Renee Davies (Planning and Design Lead)
Ward/Community: Clifton Community Board
Date: 8 November 2022
File Reference: ECM8931711

-----End of Report -----

APPENDIX ONE

PRE ELIGIBILITY CHECK LIST - NATURAL HERITAGE PROTECT FUND

Criteria 1: Is the area identified in the District Plan to be a Significant Natural Area?

Yes (go to question 3) No (go to question 2)

Yes = 20 points No = 0 points

Criteria 2: If not a Significant Natural Area identified in the District Plan, does the area meet the criteria for a Significant Natural Area?

Yes No

Yes = 10 points No = 0 points

Comments

The identification process for Significant Natural Areas was a desktop exercise, based on aerial maps, and this area appears to have been missed.

Criteria 3: Is the area subject to a binding agreement to covenant or is it subject to a registered covenant?

Yes No

Yes = 20 points No = 0 points

Comments

The area is with the QEII head office awaiting approval ref no. 16368, 16461, 16462. There are three individual covenants as the area covers three separate titles.

Criteria 4: To what extent is the area under threat from livestock, goats, pigs or deer requiring control by fencing?

High Medium Low

High = 20 points Medium = 10 points Low = 0 points

Comments

Protection and associated fencing will aid in the site's long term sustainability and regeneration; both from clearance, or sustainable logging and ongoing livestock and feral goat intrusion.

Criteria 5: Does the area function as a wildlife corridor or contribute to connectivity in the landscape?

Yes Yes, but requires significant rehabilitation or restoration No, exists as an isolated remnant

Yes = 20 points Yes, but requires rehabilitation etc = 10 points No = 0 points

Comments

The proposed covenant is within 10km of multiple other protected sites, supporting meta populations of highly mobile birds.

Criteria 6: Does the site contain both natural and cultural heritage values?

Yes No

Yes = 10 points No = 0 points

Comments

The area includes the headwaters of the Waitoetoe River.

Criteria 7: Has matching partnership funding been sought from other sources such as Taranaki Regional Council, Biodiversity Condition and Advice Funds, QEII Trust, Taranaki Tree Trust, NZ Landcare Trust, Nature Heritage Trust, Nga Whenua Rahui etc?

Yes No

Yes = 10 points No = 0 points

Comments

QEII will contribute to the cost of fencing, in conjunction with the landowner.

Criteria 8: Is the site being managed in accordance with a Taranaki Regional Council Biodiversity Plan or equivalent proactive and documented management regime?

Yes No

Yes = 10 points No = 0 points

Comments

Criteria 9: Will public access to the site be enhanced or enabled by the proposal?

Yes - voluntary provision of pedestrian access

Yes - Mobile Natural Heritage values e.g. native birdlife, bats, insects, seeds and genetics

No

Yes - Voluntary = 20 points Yes- Mobile = 10 points No = 0 points

Total score out of a possible 130 points

100

APPENDIX TWO

NATURAL HERITAGE FUNDING ASSESSMENT TO THE GROUP MANAGER STRATEGY

APPLICANT:	Gavin Eric Griffin
MAIL ADDRESS:	89 Okoki Road RD 45 Urenui 4375
LEGAL DESCRIPTION:	Part Subdivision B Section 26 Block IV Waitara Survey District Section 26A Block IV Waitara Survey Section 29-30 Block IV Waitara Survey
PROPERTY AREA:	59.6 ha
PROPOSED AREA:	16 ha
QEII COVENANT REFERENCE:	16368, 16461, 16462
LSNA REFERENCE:	None
ENVIRONMENT AREA:	RURAL
PROPOSAL:	Contribution towards fencing
FUND:	NATIONAL HERITAGE PROTECTION GRANT

1.0 PROPOSAL

The applicant seeks to legally protect remnant primary forest near Okoki, at the start of Okoki Road. Assistance is sought for the cost of fencing.

This gully (Figure 1) has never been cleared of native vegetation and contains all most all elements of the original vegetation type. It is home to king fern (At Risk – Declining) and several other threatened plant species. A large northern rata tree is located within the gully. In addition to supporting a diverse plant community, the area provides habitat for native fauna.



Fig 1: Proposed QEII covenant areas 16368, 16461 and 16462 at 89 Okoki Road. QEII proposed covenants (red lines); Property/Title boundaries (thin Purple/deep blue lines).

2.0 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SITE

The proposed covenant area will legally protect 16 of a gully ecosystem which forms the headwaters of the Waitoetoe River.

The site has a LENZ Threat classification of less reduced and better protected (> 30% left and >20% protected). However, it is unusually intact for this remnant type. The forest that existed in this area pre-humans is classified as WF13, Tawa, kohekohe, rewarewa, hinau, podocarp forest. The site at present contains all species found in the original forest type, including rimu, miro, northern rata, tawa, kohekohe, hinau, rewarewa, pukatea. The possible exception is kahikatea which may have been present in the gully floor and wetland area and is not currently present. However, fencing off the wetland area at the bottom of the gully will create a good opportunity for this species to return.

The area is home to several threatened plant species, including king fern (At Risk – Declining), white rātā, climbing rātā, and northern rātā (all Threatened – Nationally Vulnerable). There is a large northern rātā (Threatened – Nationally Vulnerable) present at the site. It is rare to find individuals this large that have not been removed by logging.

The understory is varied and includes species such as pate, kanono, kohekohe, tree ferns, nikau, pidgeonwood, and mahoe. The steeper areas of the gully provide a refuge from goats where the vegetation is very dense.

The forest supports habitat for a range of native birds, including tui, fantail, grey warbler, and kereru. North Island Brown Kiwi are thought likely to be present, as they are present in nearby areas. Bats have not been monitored at the site but it is possible they are present, particularly considering the larger potential roost trees present.

The site meets National Priority 4 of the QEII assessment criteria as it is seeking to protect habitat of Threatened Indigenous species. It also meets the target of adding to a protected landscape – there are multiple other protected areas within a 10km radius of the proposed area (see Figure 2).

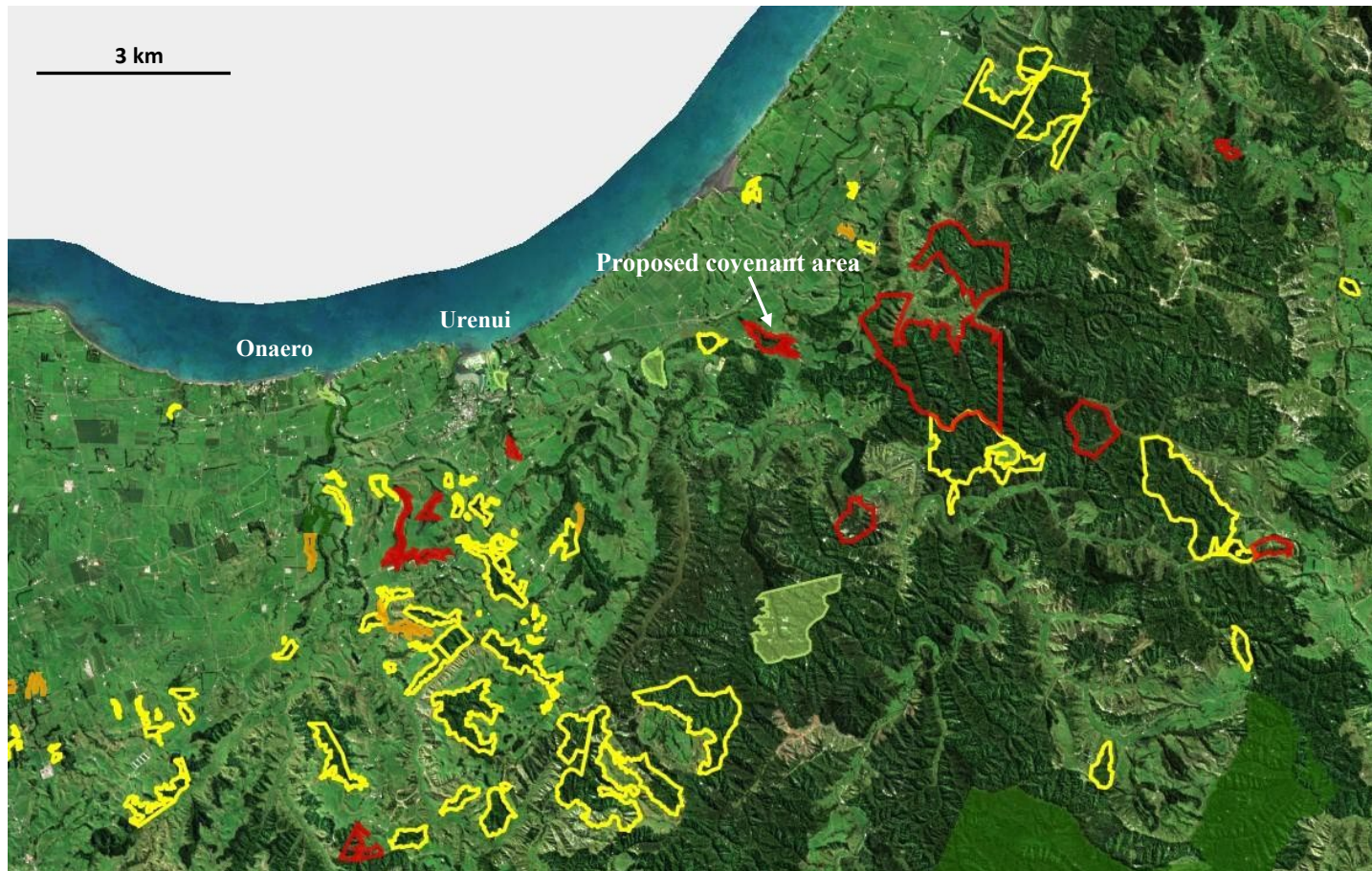


Fig 2: Proposed covenant areas 16368, 16461 and 16462 in the landscape context, showing good connectivity to other protected areas. QEII proposed covenants (red lines); QEII Approved Covenants (orange lines); Registered QEII Covenants (yellow lines); Conservation Covenants (lightgreen shading); Public Conservation Land (bright green shading); Property/Title boundaries (thin purple/deep blue line).

The QEII regional representative has assessed the site as a component of the Trust's consideration towards legal protection via an Open Space Covenant. The remnant

area exhibits the following values: Rarity: Medium

Diversity Pattern: Medium

Distinctness: Medium

Size & Shape characteristics: Medium

Representativeness: High Sustainability

Prospects: High Connectivity: Medium

LENZ Threat Category: >30% left and >20% protected LENZ Protection:

Less reduced and better protected



Figure 3 – site photos. Clockwise from top: view of gully; view of gully looking out to sea; native clematis festoonsa branch; large northern rata trunk, large northern rata canopy; king fern seedlings (note – adults are also present at the site).

Griffin NHPGF Application form 14.10.22

Item for Decision

As the proposed covenant area is comprised of three titles, three separate covenant proposals are being made to QEII National Trust.

3.0 PURPOSE OF THIS FUNDING APPLICATION

This funding application seeks a financial contribution towards the cost of fencing off the proposed area to exclude stock and control goats. Fencing will include 3.4km of fencing around the perimeter of the gully. Fencing will be 8 wire post and baton fence with 7 plan wires and one electric wire. Earthworks will be required in some sections to prepare the ground for fencing. Fencing works are estimated to cost \$98,245.77. To assist in protecting this valuable remnant, the applicant seeks 30% of fence cost from the Natural Heritage Fund: \$32,748.59.

4.0 THE NEED FOR PROTECTION

Protection and associated fencing will aid in the site's long-term sustainability and regeneration. The site will be protected from clearance, and the major threat of livestock is controlled.

5.0 SCOPE OF THE WORK APPLIED FOR

The proposal involves the fencing of a legally binding covenant in perpetuity on the applicant's property title over approximately 16 ha of modified primary forest.

The total cost of fencing is estimated to be

\$98,245.77. The costs have been apportioned as

follows:

Funding Partner	Contribution	Task
Land owner	\$32,748.59	Fencing
QEII contribution	\$32,748.59	Fencing
NPDC Grant	\$32,748.59	Fencing
SUBTOTAL FENCING ONLY	\$98,245.77	
QEII	\$5000	Survey
QEII	\$2000	Weed and pest control
SUBTOTAL OTHER ITEMS	\$7,000	
PROJECT TOTAL	\$105,245.77	

TARANAKI FOOD SECURITY REPORT

PURPOSE/ TE WHĀINGA

1. The purpose of this report is to provide the Community Development Committee with the current state of the food security sector within Taranaki

RECOMMENDATION FOR CONSIDERATION/ NGĀ WHAIKUPU

That, having considered all matters raised in the report, the report be noted.

SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT

2. This report is provided for information purposes only, and has been assessed as being of some importance.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY / WHAKARĀPOPOPTOTANGA MATUA

3. During the Council meeting on 20 December 2022, the Community Development Committee Terms of Reference were adopted, with food security and housing being identified as a priority for the committee. \$150,000 of funding was ring fenced from the Agility Fund for food security.
4. The World Health Organisation defines food security as existing when “all people at all times have access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life”. The OECD defines food resilience as “the ability to prepare and plan for, absorb, recover from, and more successfully adapt and transform in response to adverse events”. This can be in the context of family life or the larger regional food systems.
5. Council Officers have begun engaging with the food security sector in Taranaki to understand the work already underway, the current and future needs, and to assess areas where Council can contribute.
6. Based on initial engagement several opportunities exist, including finding a long term solution to accommodate the New Plymouth Food Bank, supporting the conception of a community-led regional food security collective, and enabling a subsequent regional food resilience strategy.

BACKGROUND / WHAKAPAPA

7. The Local Government Amendment Act 2019 reinstated the four wellbeing’s – social, economic, environmental, and cultural to the work of Councils. The Health Act 1956 states that local government has a duty to ‘improve, promote and protect public health within its district’.
-

8. These legislative remits recognise the work councils do to deliver wellbeing outcomes for their communities. It also acknowledges the broader role councils have in fostering liveable communities, including providing core services.
9. Council Officers will continue to provide updates to the Community Development Committee outlining achievements, challenges, and opportunities where Council can best contribute to the progress of the sector.
10. While Council does have a leadership role in the community, including food security, there are several partners already making progress in this sector, and therefore, a partnership approach is most appropriate in all future opportunities.

Current state of the Taranaki food security sector

11. Food banks are working together successfully in Taranaki with an effective network, due to Covid-19 highlighting the growing economic disparity for New Zealand families. This is represented in Taranaki in the form of three food hubs, established by the Ministry of Social Development (MSD);
 - a) New Plymouth;
 - b) Waitara;
 - c) South Taranaki based in Eltham.
 12. Strong collaboration exists nationally in the New Zealand Food Network (Appendix 1) and the Aotearoa Food Rescue Alliance (Appendix 2) both supporting local efforts in Taranaki. Strong strategy and advocacy also exist in the Zero Hunger Collective (Appendix 3) and Mana Kai Initiative (Appendix 4).
 13. Food security efforts are described on a continuum between reacting to crisis to creating resilience. Taranaki has increasingly effective networks that can react to immediate needs and provide food to families.
 14. Toi Foundation make a significant funding contribution to the Taranaki food security sector annually and are in support of exploring potential future collaboration across the sector.
 15. A report on food security in Taranaki was recently released by Sustainable Taranaki (appendix 5) with a second report drafted by Waitara Pataka Kai due to be publicly released shortly in conjunction with Sustainable Taranaki.
 16. The MSD Te Puta Ora Fund provides for operationalisation of recommendations from the reports referred above (appendix 5). Three Taranaki organisations have applied and are waiting for the results of the decision-making process.
-

17. New Plymouth Food Bank have been unable to secure a future premises for their operation. Council officers continue to work with them on this issue. An independent business case, which may need funding, may be required to explore options for a sustainable solution.

Work completed and underway

18. Relationship building and sector engagement is underway with a number of key community organisations in New Plymouth including Waitara Pataka Kai, New Plymouth Food Bank, On the House, and Sustainable Taranaki.
19. Regular meetings are being held with funding partners, Toi Foundation, MSD and Te Whatu Ora – Public Health Service Taranaki, to further shared goals. This ensures a cohesive and aligned approach to funding effectively with further funding partners being sought.
20. Desktop analysis has identified regional collective action groups that could support our work including Food Secure North Canterbury and the Te Awa Kairangi Kai Collective. Possible visits to these organisations would assist to better understand how these leading models operate effectively.
21. Work is continuing to canvas community groups for the potential of a community-led Taranaki Kai Collective that would work collaboratively towards long term, transformative strategies for a food resilient Taranaki. This work would be guided by a regional food resilience strategy following its development.

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT AND CONSIDERATIONS / HURINGA ĀHUARANGI

22. The implementation of food rescue initiatives will have positive implications for the environment by reducing food waste and associated greenhouse gas emissions.

THREE WATERS REFORM IMPLICATIONS

23. There are no Three Waters Reform impact considerations from this report. The report is for information purposes only.

NEXT STEPS / HĪKOI I MURI MAI

24. Council Officers will continue to build working relationships with the wider Taranaki food security sector outside of New Plymouth and to identify opportunities for Council/s to improve food security and resilience in our community.
-

25. Council Officers will continue to work with food banks, and the wider sector, to explore new ways to create logistic efficiencies and collaborate to best serve the community.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCING IMPLICATIONS / NGĀ HĪRANGA Ā-PŪTEA, Ā-RAUEMI

26. There are no financial or resourcing implications from this report. The report is for information purposes only.

IMPLICATIONS ASSESSMENT/ HĪRANGA AROMATAWAI

27. This report confirms that the matter concerned has no particular implications and has been dealt with in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002.

APPENDICES/ NGĀ ĀPITI HANGA

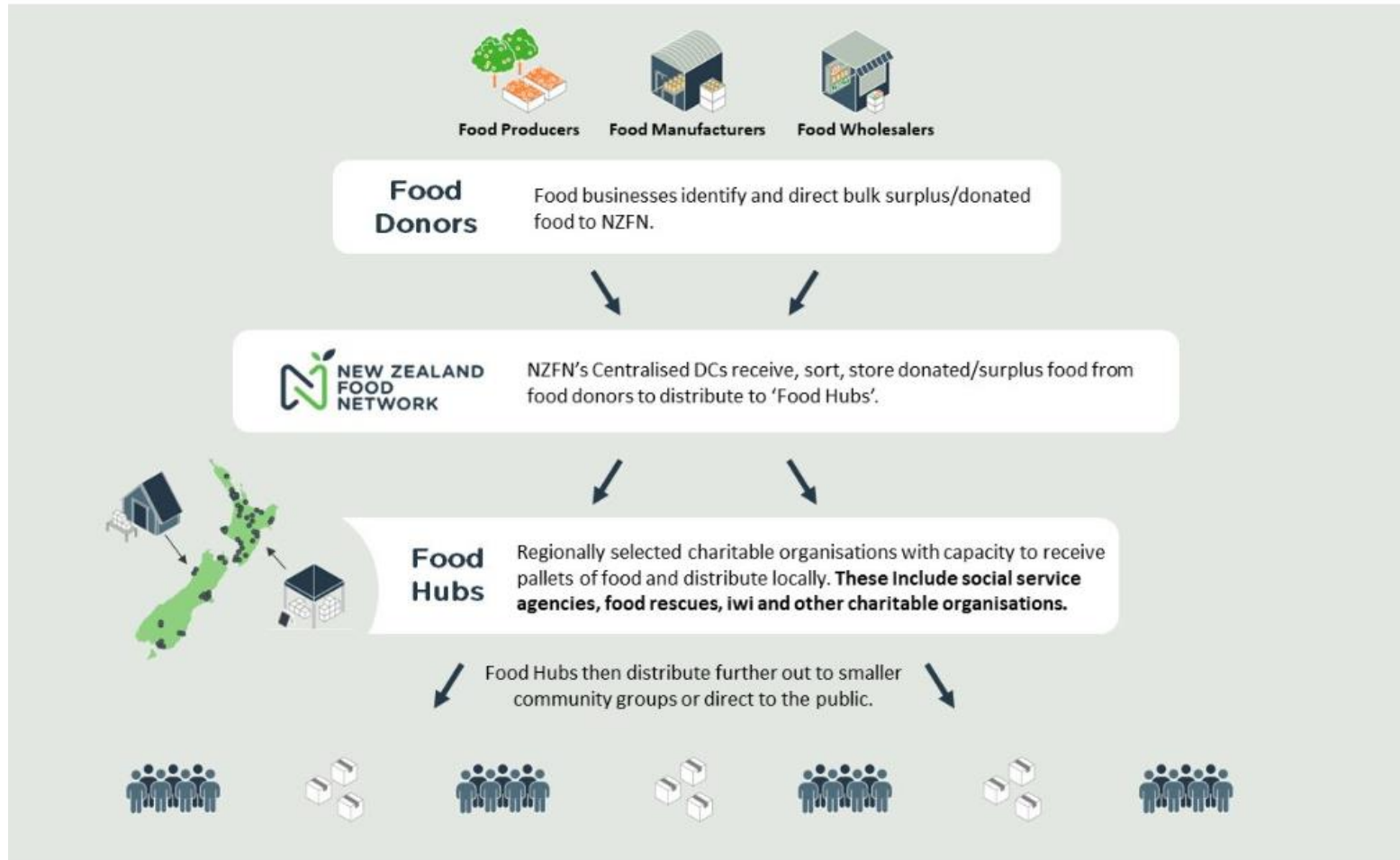
Appendix One	New Zealand Food Network – “How NZFN works” (ECM 8927501)
Appendix Two	Aotearoa Food Rescue Alliance Strategic Action Plan (ECM 8927504)
Appendix Three	Kore Hiakai Theory of Change 2021 (ECM 8927506)
Appendix Four	Mana Kai Framework New Zealand (ECM 8927508)
Appendix Five	A Vision and Recommended Goals Towards a Food Secure Communities Plan for Taranaki (ECM 8900522)

Report Details

Prepared By:	Damien Clark (Community Capacity Building Advisor)
Team:	Community Partnerships
Approved By:	Callum Williamson (Community Partnerships Lead)
Date:	14/02/2023
File Reference:	ECM 8927512

-----*End of Report*-----

HOW NZFN WORKS





Greater impact through collective impact	Informed and evidenced best practice	Food rescue organisations supported to meet supply & demand	Policy and practice influenced by local action
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✂ Encourage sector wide relationships with larger donors ✂ Co-ordinate cross-sector relationships ✂ Engage with research and agencies on topics relevant to food rescue <p>MAHI: ACTIONS/ IMPLEMENTATION OUTPUT Y1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring on at least two AFRA Partners (financial) and two AFRA supporters (non-financial); Revenue Generation Strategy (RGS) • Engage in MSD and National Partner consultations • 1 x research project relevant to food rescue <p>MAHI: ACTIONS/ IMPLEMENTATION OUTPUT Y2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring on at least one more AFRA Partner (financial) and three more Supporters (non-financial); RGS • Engage in MSD and National Partner consultations • 1 x research project relevant to food rescue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✂ Develop policies to encourage sector alignment ✂ Create a repository of open-source intellectual property ✂ Assist with volunteer management and HR services ✂ Align, undertake and publish data collection for AFRA members <p>MAHI: ACTIONS/ IMPLEMENTATION OUTPUT Y1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repository of AFRA policy for all food rescue organisations, training manuals and legal documents • One training on volunteer management • Initiate Research • Scope and create data collection platform, with standardised data collection techniques <p>MAHI: ACTIONS/ IMPLEMENTATION OUTPUT Y2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resource Hub • Direct engagement with AFRA members re volunteer management • Operationalise data collection platform 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✂ Facilitate the setting up or expansion of food rescue in regions without food rescue, especially in lower socio-economic areas ✂ Empower AFRA members through regular training and resources ✂ Provide more effective purchasing power for AFRA members ✂ Grow and retain the AFRA membership <p>MAHI: ACTIONS/ IMPLEMENTATION OUTPUT Y1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map out areas without food rescue, especially lower socio-economic areas • 6 Bi-monthly trainings • Initiate conversations and plan <p>MAHI: ACTIONS/ IMPLEMENTATION OUTPUT Y2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure there is a plan for any gaps in NZ • 6 Bi-monthly trainings • Actionable platform(s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✂ Engage on Government policy and make shared submissions ✂ Support education programs to reduce food insecurity and food waste, especially for donors ✂ Be a spokesperson for the sector in the media ✂ Showcase our AFRA impact <p>MAHI: ACTIONS/ IMPLEMENTATION OUTPUT Y1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit on relevant consultations • Explore existing education programs and tools • Communications/ Advocacy strategy • Impact Report <p>MAHI: ACTIONS/ IMPLEMENTATION OUTPUT Y2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit on relevant consultations • Support education programs and tools with supporters/ partners of AFRA • KPIs in Comms/ Advocacy strategy • Impact Report

Photo credit left to right: Kaibosh Food Rescue, Just Zilch



COLLECTIVE GOAL

Each and every person in Aotearoa has dignified access to enough good food

kore hiakai
Zero Hunger Collective

THE PROBLEM

Right now

15-20%

of our whānau continue to struggle to access affordable and nutritious kai *

This is an issue of gender, race, ethnicity, colonisation, migration, and income.

Food-related poverty is more likely to be experienced by women, Māori, Pasifika, people parenting on their own, and those on low incomes.

Food insecurity is a symptom.

Food insecurity is a manifestation of our nation's most entrenched inequalities and complex social issues. It is experienced by individuals but is driven by systems.

The problem isn't understood.

Most New Zealanders aren't aware of the extent of food inequality in Aotearoa, what is driving it, or the approaches needed for change.

The problem is growing.

Over the last few years, the number of people experiencing poverty-related hunger has grown steadily. The COVID-19 pandemic has escalated existing challenges dramatically.

Immediate needs become the primary focus.

Social services are struggling to meet the escalating demand; giving out more and more food to people who urgently need it. However the complex drivers that perpetuate food insecurity – like low wages, the cost of housing, and lengthy food supply chains – remain unaddressed.

People feel disempowered.

Communities are not supported to draw on local wisdom and enact their own solutions, and individuals feel like they are stuck in a cycle of dependency.

People's wellbeing is profoundly impacted.

Sustained food insecurity is hugely stressful and negatively impacts every facet of our life, including our mental and physical health, relationships, ability to engage in daily tasks, educational achievement and our sense of hope for an alternative future.

Individuals – not systems – are blamed.

People experiencing food insecurity are often seen as personally responsible for the challenges they are facing. The vitriol and condemnation our hungriest citizens face can generate feelings of profound guilt and shame.

Shine a light.

We will use effective, impactful, culturally-appropriate ways to shine a light on the whole, accurate picture of poverty-related hunger in Aotearoa – illuminating pathways towards a food-secure future.

Build collaborative relationships.

We will gather, inform, and support a collective who wish to work across sectors and systems to drive sustainable change.

Work to understand the problem.

We will define, measure, and track food insecurity and food security in Aotearoa, their drivers, impact, and the approaches needed for change.

A FOOD SECURE AOTEAROA



Honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

We will hold onto Te Tiriti o Waitangi as an anchor as we shift the narratives surrounding poverty-related hunger.

Uphold mana.

We will acknowledge and uphold the mana inherent in all things, and champion sovereignty and mana motuhake.

Celebrate community.

We will celebrate the role of community in creating sustainable solutions to food security – solutions with connection at their centre.

WHAT WE KNOW

WHAT WE WILL DO

*"Kai" is food and eating. It is about engagement and activation; community and connection; whenua and eco systems; past, present and future.

If we...

Work with a diverse collective to deeply understand the issue of food insecurity and food security in Aotearoa

So that...

We can compellingly shine a light on the challenges and opportunities

Then...

We can collaborate with others to build effective long-term solutions

Ultimately...

Ensuring every person in Aotearoa has dignified access to enough good food.



Mana Kai

A framework for kōrero on enhancing Aotearoa New Zealand's food system



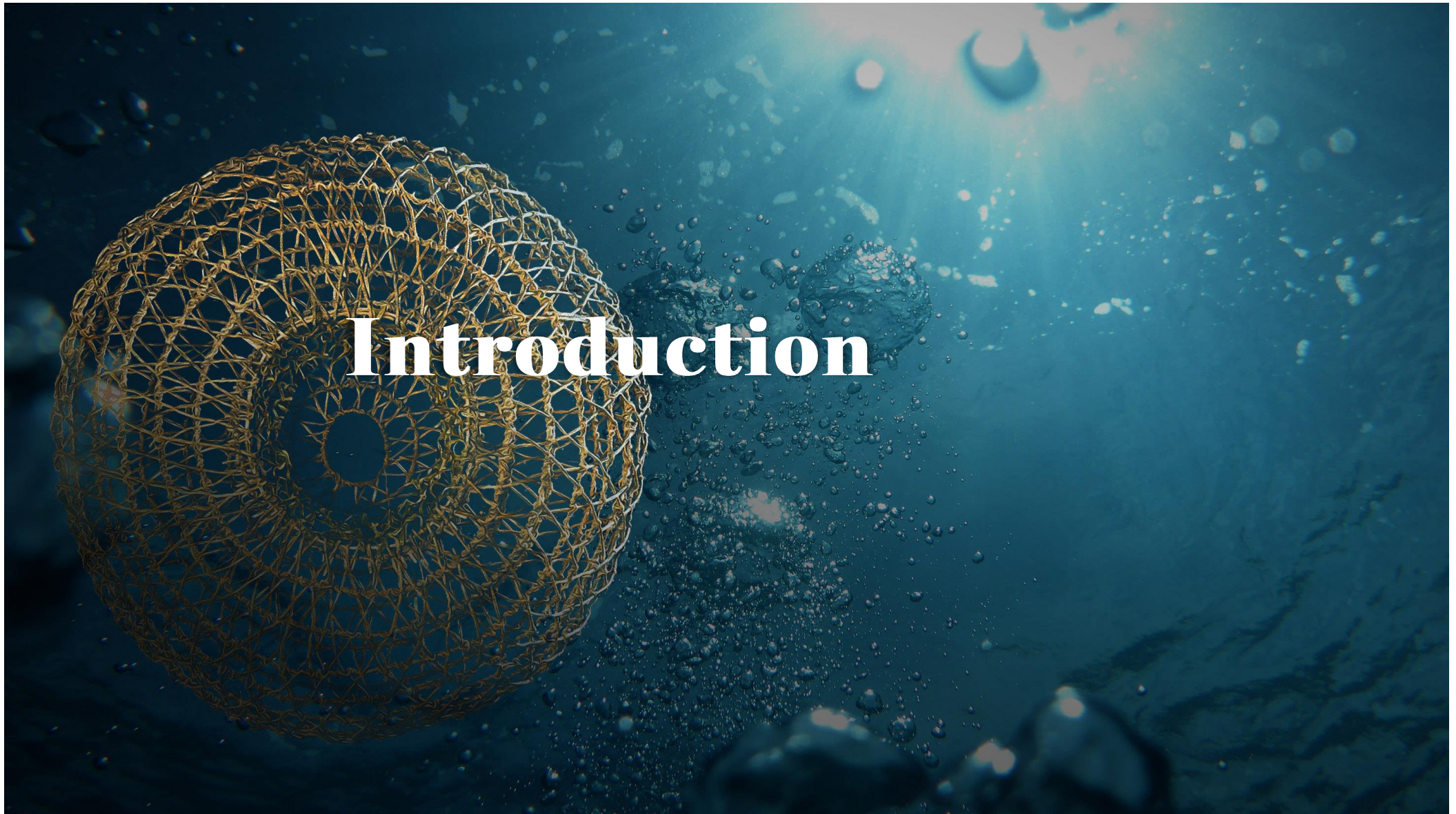
**He mana kai e toitū
ai te ora o te ao**

It is through mana kai that we
gain long term sustenance for
planet and people

Contents

Introduction	4
Context and timing	7
The Mana Kai Framework	10





Introduction

Food is central to life in Aotearoa New Zealand. It underpins the cultural identity of Tangata Whenua and the many diverse communities that have chosen to call New Zealand home. It significantly influences the health outcomes of every New Zealander.

Our natural resources (land, water, soils, oceans, flora and fauna) and our people produce food for domestic consumption and export. The exports we send to world are a vital source of wealth and prosperity, helping to fund the schools, roads and hospitals that underpin our society. As a consequence, the food system lies at the heart of many of the key challenges the Government has identified as priorities for its second term in office.

This document introduces the Mana Kai Framework, an approach to initiating a national discussion on enhancing the outcomes delivered by Aotearoa New Zealand's food system. A successful dialogue will contribute to healthier people, thriving communities and vibrant cultures; the preservation of productive ecosystems; a prosperous and increasingly resilient agri-food sector; and the just transition to a zero carbon future that benefits all New Zealanders and enables us to meet our international obligations.

Understanding the strengths and weaknesses inherent in our food system will provide the opportunity to identify solutions that could contribute to solving some of the biggest challenges facing our country today. We recognise that the scope of such a dialogue has the potential to be transformational to Aotearoa New Zealand however it is too big a conversation for even the government to convene on its own. Success will only be possible if government ministries and agencies, local authorities, iwi, the private sector, civil society, community groups and our research and training institutions pull together in initiating and engaging in a unique national conversation.

Our focus objective is to:

1. Inform and catalyse public discourse about the importance of food systems to achieving a broad range of social, environmental, and economic goals utilising the Mana Kai Framework and then to listen carefully to the contributions made by each participant.

This lays the foundation for our subsequent objectives to:

2. Analyse the contributions made during the dialogues to identify key themes which can be used to co-design strategic responses to key themes that will contribute to transforming how our food system delivers better health, societal, environmental and economic outcomes for all New Zealanders utilising the Mana Kai Framework to frame this analysis.
3. Design and launch keystone initiatives for each of the key strategic themes that arise from the dialogues to assist in transforming Aotearoa New Zealand's food system for the benefit of all New Zealanders. Keystone initiatives are likely to be coordinated collections of commitments by stakeholders working in or around the food system to develop and implement catalytic activities within the next three years.

Our approach reflects the unique character of Aotearoa New Zealand and embeds Te Ao Māori (a Māori worldview) through every step of the process and every meeting. The Leadership Group (outlined on page 18) have committed to the use of this approach and have developed the Mana Kai Framework as a platform to shape every interaction.

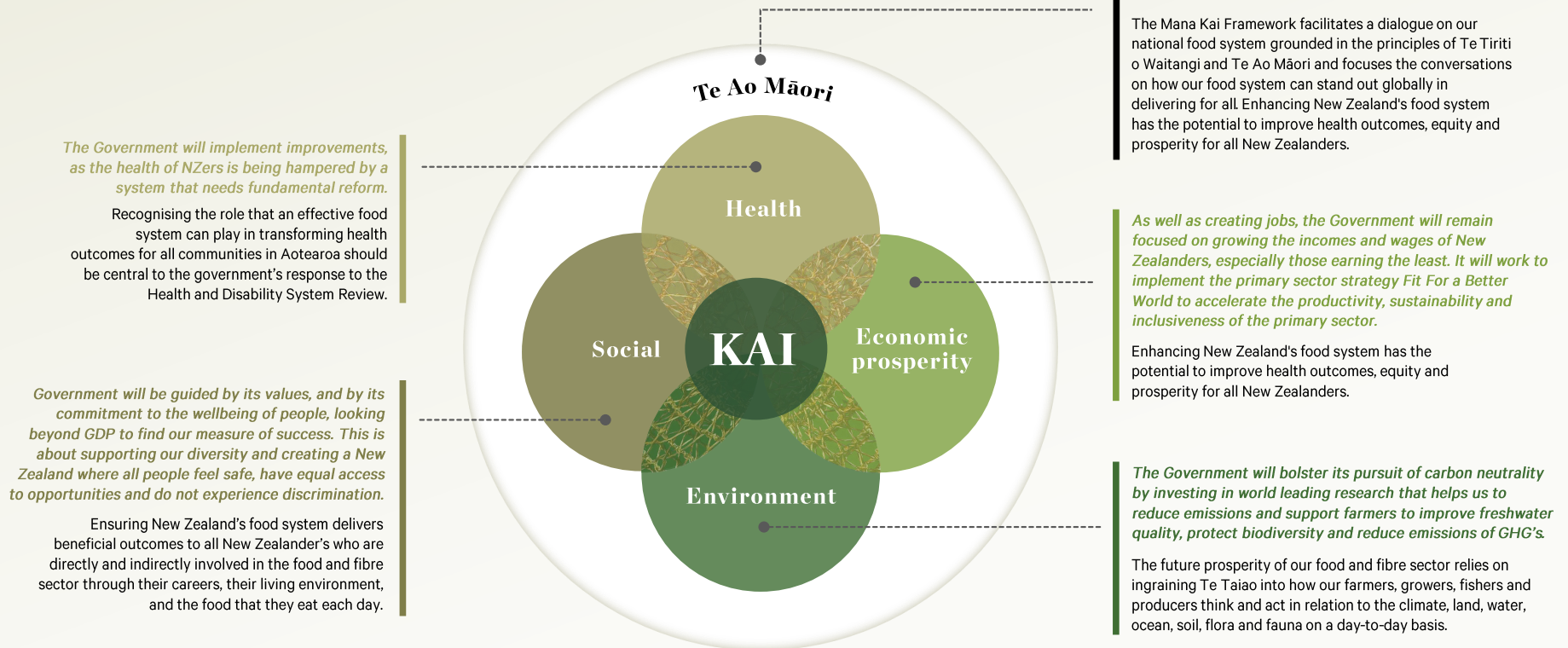
The approach also reflects guidance provided to Member States participating in the UN's upcoming Food Systems Summit, the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation's framework document on sustainable food systems, the European Environment Agency's report on accelerating the transition of core systems (incl. food), and our comprehensive review of food strategies developed around the world since 2003.

The overall purpose of this Mana Kai document and framework is to facilitate the reinsertion of Mana into our food system, and create momentum of energy and a critical mass to empower food stakeholders to engage in constructive dialogue which will shape solutions for the future.

We believe that transformational change to Aotearoa New Zealand's food system has the potential to create better outcomes for some of the government's highest priorities. We believe it can only be achieved by a 'whole of society' effort. We look forward to discussing our proposal with you and working together to create a productive, sustainable, inclusive, healthy and resilient food system grounded in the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and Te Ao Māori.

Fit with government priorities

THE RT HON JACINDA ARDERN, Opening of the 53rd Parliament





Context and timing

The health, environmental, social equity and economic outcomes that Aotearoa New Zealand is achieving have come into sharp focus in the last year as we have come together as a nation to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Increased awareness of the both the challenges and opportunities in front of us have catalysed calls for work to be done on the development of a National Food System Roadmap

New Zealand exports high-quality food in sufficient quantities to feed around 40 million people per year. Despite this high-level of domestic food production, 1 in 10 New Zealanders were not food secure in 2019, believed to have doubled to 2 in 10 during Covid-19, or 1 million people¹.

An unintended consequence of New Zealand's export market focus is that it places our people in a position of competing on the international price of the food that we produce. This same economic model places many farmers into a challenging situation. Producers are trying to increase production to face rising debt levels to pay off investments in infrastructure that is sometimes no longer perceived as compatible with sustainable outcomes.

For the general public, high housing costs further limit available household income for food expenditure. The challenges presented by these characteristics of the food system and economy are compounded due to unequal access to knowledge about healthy eating, poor mental health outcomes, and exposure to advertising of unhealthy foods. As a result, food insecurity in New Zealand manifests as obesity (1 in 3 adults)², other non-communicable diseases, and a high child food insecurity rate (20%)³.

Meanwhile, the pressure placed on ecosystems has undermined their ability to sustain themselves and consequently, the food producing activities we depend on to thrive. It is estimated that we are losing 192 million tonnes of soil per year, over 44 per cent of which is attributed to pasture; our farming and fishing practices has degraded biodiversity, with over 80 per cent of land vertebrates classified as threatened; just 40 per cent of our freshwater lakes and rivers are swimmable all the time; and agriculture accounts for 48 per cent of New Zealand's gross greenhouse gas emissions⁴.

Human health concerns and environmental problems stemming from the food system have come to the fore globally in recent years. This has led to calls being made for a rethink of the food systems to ensure they works effectively for both human and planetary health. When transitioning our food system, we need to ensure we transform it in a way that provides a real shift towards nourishing our societies in a more equal manner.

Food and fibre sector leaders discussed the planetary boundaries, regenerative agriculture and feeding our five million first at the Te Hono Bootcamp at Stanford University in July 2019. Eat New Zealand have been holding a series of national ConversationNZ featuring perspectives on the future of Aoteroa's food system.

The government's Food and Fibre sector vision, Fit for a Better World, calls for food producers to move rapidly to a low carbon emissions society, restore the health of our water, reverse the decline in biodiversity and at the same time, feed our people and create prosperity which benefits all New Zealanders. While this forms a valuable starting point to redesign a better food system, to see it transpire, given the 'divide' that exists between those who write policy and those who best understand issues and solutions on the ground, a broad national dialogue is a must.

Ultimately, we need a 'people's food movement'. This document provides a possible approach to the co-design of a strategic framework for our food system, anchored in Te Ao Māori. One that will support multiple key government priorities, and take us a step closer to the health and wellbeing of our people and our natural environment.

Why now?

COVID-19 disruptions, the proportion of our children living without enough healthy, affordable food; unsustainable rates of adult obesity; polluted waterways; market competition are all wake-up calls that our food system simply is failing to reflect our values and national aspirations.

NZ stakeholders have called for a 'productive, sustainable, inclusive, and resilient food system' and a Roadmap to help get us there.

Context and timing – urgent food system challenges

The choices we’re currently making about how we produce, process, market, consume and dispose of our food is a key factor in contemporary human, economic, environmental and community health challenges. At the same time, we have extensive traditional knowledge, and have developed global expertise and innovation that we can apply to address the challenges ahead.

Key challenges

Human health

In 2019, 1 out of every 10 New Zealanders was not food secure. That is, they did not have access to a sufficient quantity of nutritious food to lead a healthy and active lifestyle. Covid-19 is believed to have doubled this to 2 out of 10, or 1 million New Zealanders¹. Our Food insecurity also results in New Zealand having the third highest rate of obesity in the OECD and increased risks of NCDs, such as diabetes and heart disease, occurring. In turn, these outcomes place pressure on the health system, and hinder equal access to educational, employment and life opportunities⁶.

To address these challenges, our government is increasingly looking to address root causes. Its Healthy Families initiative, for instance takes a systems change approach by identifying the underlying causes of poor food choices and poor health and making changes in schools, workplaces, food outlets, sports clubs, marae, businesses, and other organisations to create healthier environments for all.

Economic health

Our food system, which generates a significant number of jobs and export dollars, is already being impacted by climate and sustainability-related risks. Consumer expectations are shifting, our producers and retailers are experiencing disruption from ‘green innovations’ and digitalisation of production systems, and the physical climate and sustainability related risks are increasing across all food system functions. In response to these challenges, we struggle to access the necessary talented and skilled people to support the growth and innovation demanded of the sector.

In response to these challenges, public and private sector actors are increasingly stepping into the opportunity for New Zealand-grown foods to generate holistic value – to communities, the environment and the climate – and to meet consumer expectations. For example, the Ministry for Primary Industries is currently investigating regenerative agricultural practices that work in a New Zealand context, the end goal being a food system that is resilient, low-carbon, restores health to natural capital, and creates long-term value.

Environmental health

Business as usual farming practices have eroded soil, water, ecosystem and climate health. Our food system generates around 48% of gross emissions has a significant impact on water quality. We lose 192 million tonnes of soil lost every year from erosion and have low biodiversity on our farms. Seabed trawling and dredging has a major impact on our seabed habitats and species⁴.

Increasing awareness of these issues – by consumers, civil society, government and the agri and marine sectors – is driving change to a more sustainable food system. Positive steps take the form of industry leadership, such as the Food and Fibre sector’s ambition to transition farmers to regenerative practices that enhance ecosystem services; the increasing adoption of sustainable diets by consumers; and government regulations, notably the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management and the scheduling of agriculture to join the Emissions Trading Scheme by 2025 at the latest.

Community health

Māori, Pasifika, Women and low-socio economic communities are disproportionately affected by food insecurity. Rural communities face impacts from sustainability and climate-related risks³. Urban communities (esp. lower socio-economic groups) are highly vulnerable to shocks to food supply chains, as demonstrated during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

Pockets of community-led initiatives are working across Aotearoa to close the gap between communities that do and communities that don’t have food security. Local Marae and urban market gardens, for example, have been utilising Māori and urban land respectively to grow produce to meet community-wide needs for affordable and nutritious food. In rural areas, farmers are increasingly banding together in facilitated discussion groups such as those initiated by the Red Meat Profit Partnership. These groups explore specific outcomes such as technology implementation, environmental practices and improved efficiencies, contributing to farm business resilience in the face of climate and sustainability related risks.





The Mana Kai Framework

An approach to initiating a national discussion on enhancing the outcomes delivered by Aotearoa New Zealand's food system

Mana

(Energy, Power, Presence)

Mana originates from the natural world. It is the energy, power, presence, and essence that has a divine origin and is imbued in all things, both animate and inanimate.

It is mana that gives humanity the ability to act in a specific way to help maintain its relationship with the natural world and ourselves. It is through this interplay that we witness the increase or decrease of mana.

Mana is also represented in food as the ability to host and care for people is what can increase and decrease the mana of individuals, whānau, communities and the nation. The fact that New Zealanders are struggling to provide quality food to all New Zealanders is a mana issue that contributes to poverty and a failing system.

Atua

(Gods and Spirits)

Atua is the metaphysical energy of the unseen that is often translated as god or gods and Atua are the foundation of all things Māori.

Their names reflect elemental expression in the natural world and Atua are reflected in all other things including the human body.

The connection of food to Atua is what gives food its mana. It is through this component of mana that humans source our primary prestige and pride from the whenua. In the Māori worldview, it is the connection to the mana of the Atua, of whenua and how food is produced or gathered that adds to the quality which is referred to as 'te makuru' or succulence or abundance (in this context) of kai.

A hand is shown from the top left, reaching down to touch the surface of dark water. The water is calm with subtle ripples, and the hand's reflection is visible in the water below. The lighting is soft, creating a serene and contemplative mood.

Tuakana /Teina

(Senior/Junior relationships)

A Māori worldview acknowledges that humanity are the teina (junior) of creation and as a result it is our responsibility to respect and pay deference to all other things, both animate and inanimate.

This concept of tuakana (senior) and teina is key to the Māori social order. This social order extends past humanity to the natural world and is why Māori refer to other parts of the universe as our tuakana, mātua (parents) or tūpuna – our relations. This links directly to our whakapapa (genealogy) where everything in the universe has a whakapapa and humanity are at the end of the pecking order.

Ngā Nuinga

(Abundance)

The Māori worldview focuses on there being enough for everyone and although allocation of resources may differ (based on location), it is those communities' responsibility to share access and trade to ensure the notion of abundance is maintained.

It is through this “Nga Nuinga” (abundance) mindset that mana is given a chance to increase and, as a result, ensures a responsibility to share and trade.



Tāruke

(Crayfish Pot)

Tāruke is a traditional Māori wickerwork trap used to catch many varieties of seafood (most often kōura / crayfish). Made with natural materials – the pakiaka (aerialroot) of the kiekie and aka pirita (supplejack).

It is a symbol for our framework of our interwoven circular ecosystem, with all elements connected and no bias over others.

It also celebrates the harmonious relationship of using natural resources to help harvest other kai, the gathering of knowledge for our food Roadmap and our roopu – Aotearoa Circle.

The Mana Kai Framework

We are committed to ensuring that te Ao Māori, Mātauranga Māori, the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and Māori stakeholders share in shaping all aspects of this kōrero surrounding Aotearoa New Zealand’s food system and the resulting strategic framework and actions: from defining their overarching purpose, to prioritising and co-creating equitable solutions.

We believe this engagement is essential because:

- Mātauranga Māori includes a wealth of knowledge about our cultural, natural, physical and social environment, as well as traditions of stewardship and Traditional Ecological Knowledge (including skills, practices, and innovations/ technology passed down through generations) to inform potential solutions;
- Māori and iwi are disproportionately effected by food-related issues, and a just transition demands their active involvement in solutions;
- Māori value-based business models are often naturally ‘triple bottom line’ and can provide authentic insights into viable transition pathways and Māori are key players in regional economies, especially the agri-food sector;
- Te Ao Māori provides a ‘unique to Aotearoa’ lens for understanding the shortcomings of our current food system and envisioning holistic solutions;
- We recognise that Government is committed to engaging with Māori ‘to produce better quality outcomes and strengthen the legitimacy of decisions;’
- We respect the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

The Leadership Group has worked to develop the Mana Kai Framework which presents a Māori worldview of the food system and its connection to the land, our natural environment and our people.

Mana Kai is the responsibility of humanity to care for the environment so that the environment and its food can care for us.

Mana Kai has both physical and metaphysical components. These components result in both quality food, the importance of giving back to the environment and having a sustained spiritual connection to the natural world.

The Mana Kai Framework embodies:

- **Mana o te Whenua** – Natural energy of the environment;
- **Mana Kai** – Sustenance from food; and
- **Mana o te Tangata** – Harvesting and fair distribution of food.

Mana o te Whenua

Natural energy of the environment

Mana o te Whenua focuses on the environmental factors that impact on the production of food, both in the wild and through human assistance (ie: agriculture, horticulture etc). Mana Whenua also factors in the need for humanity to change behaviour to ensure we tackle environmental issues, particularly climate.

Whenua is the physical manifestation of Atua. Through our shared genealogy we are related to the environment and must treat it in a way we would expect to be treated in a familial relationship. It is through the communication with and treatment of the Mana o te Whenua that we practice true kaitiakitanga through guardianship and giving back to the natural world.

Mana Kai

Sustenance from food

The connection of Atua like Tangaroa with the ocean and Rongo for cultivated food is an essential part of how we pay deference to the environment, for what it provides and our relationship as food producers with the food we produce.

As an example, a farmer will have a respect for the land that may not be obvious to environmentalists, but it is a respect based on the knowledge of their land, localised climatic factors and the relationship they have with special places on their farm. This all contributes to Mana Kai, and often farmers have taken direct steps to improve mana whenua.

Likewise, respect for animals may be strongly evident as part of the slaughter process for animals. This also contributes to Mana Kai because there is a consciousness associated with the mana of living things and knowing that you are taking a life, a respect and connection between Tuakana-Teina moves past theory where we make the death a quick and humane death.

Mana o te Tangata

Harvesting and fair distribution of food


Mana o te Tangata, in this context, is about how we care for each other and the importance of fair distribution. Mana o te Tangata focuses on the need to care for the whole of humanity and ensure that there are no groups of people disadvantaged or forgotten throughout the food system.

Mana o te Tangata aligns with the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations. In fact, Mana Kai necessitates that societal goals and food goals are the same and not different. This will require a whole of system approach rather than only a food system approach.





Mana Kai development and pathway forward



Owner












Funders

Co-Secretariat:

Leadership group representation:

The Mana Kai document has been developed through an iterative process and with engagement of business representatives and individuals across the food and fibre sector.

Those businesses directly involved through the Leadership group are displayed here, but our Leadership Group and their broad engagement through this process so far has cast an even wider net to empower a range of diverse voices to be heard.

However, there are still many more perspectives to hear. This continued engagement is critical in supporting the purpose of this document, informing and catalysing public discourse about the importance of food systems while also listening carefully to the contributions made by each participant of groups across Aotearoa New Zealand.

The Mana Kai document provides a platform to shape a truly people-led food dialogue embedded within Te Ao Māori.

To develop the strongest foundation, there are some key topics and themes to be discussed through the Mana Kai framework. This includes:

- Capturing the broad definitions of the food system.
- Understanding what food means and represents to all stakeholders of the food system.
- Exploring the expectations from the food system and its role in communities across Aotearoa New Zealand.
- Identifying the food-related issues, risks and opportunities within the food system.
- Clarifying what contributions are required to improve the food system and the outcomes it delivers to all New Zealanders, in addition to understanding the role of the Mana Kai movement in identifying and delivering solutions.

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A Vision and Recommended Goals Towards a Food Secure Communities Plan for Taranaki

Written by Sustainable Taranaki

Using collated feedback from two Food Secure Communities Network hui

July 2020 – July 2022



Structure

1. National and global context
2. Background of this project
3. Timeline of events
4. Collated Insights from stakeholders at New Plymouth and Puniho Pa:
 - a. Taranaki context
 - b. Current efforts in the region
 - c. Strengths and challenges
 - d. A draft vision and key themes
 - e. Further insights from the hui
5. Recommended Foundations and Goals for the Future of Food Secure Communities in Taranaki (based on the collation of results and evidence of what works in Aotearoa)
6. Appendix 1: network members
7. Appendix 2: lists of current Food Security initiatives in Taranaki
8. Appendix 3: local and national strategies, reports and research

1. National and Global Context:

- 1 in 5 children in Aotearoa NZ were living in households with moderate to severe food insecurity before COVID19ⁱ
- There was a much higher demand on food banks and food rescue organisations throughout and following COVID19 than before
- Many whānau do not have access to healthy food (via distance to food sources, fuel and transport barriers), nor is healthy food affordable to many on low and medium incomes. Food insecurity creates malnourishment which impacts on children's ability to learn well and be well, as well as families' ability to function well.
- Taranaki is not isolated from the above issues
- At the same time, the way food is farmed and sourced globally and nationally has stripped the biodiversity of many ecosystems in soils, yet this is fundamental to enable food to grow into the next years.
- Due to the above, solutions to food security and sustainability need to be considered together; using environmental, social and economic approaches right across the food system, from farm to plate, while utilising community voice and community-led approaches and design that supports local people to create their own local systems
- Many solutions to improve food security are happening across Taranaki that can be supported
- The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals: Number 2 of these goals is "Zero Hunger", and no. 15 "life on land" supports the mitigation of biodiversity loss which is essential to our ability to grow food as a region, nation and world.

What is Food Security?

The World Health Organisation defines food security as existing "when all people at all times have access to sufficient, safe, nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life". This exists when there is a reliable supply and access for people to healthy foods that are culturally acceptable, nutritiously adequate, affordable and safe. The definition of food security is also moving towards inclusion of sustainable production methods."

2. Background of this project:

The aim of this project was to develop a Food Secure Communities Plan from July 2020- July 2022 for Taranaki, and to raise awareness of Food Security and Food Resilience

The start of this development brought together members of the community and stakeholders from the East and North of Taranaki. A steering group of about 10 people was then formed and a wider Food Secure Communities email network across Taranaki included over 100 people from around the region. There is also an existing Facebook group of people working on Food Security initiatives to share examples and inspiration.

This report highlights the draft vision and key themes that were collated from the first two hui in the North and East of Taranaki plus it includes key recommendations for goal-setting written by the facilitator at Sustainable Taranaki, that may be utilised to support further strategy development for a Food Secure Taranaki region.

3. Timeline of events:

1. Two hui were held to scope a project vision, context, strengths and barriers for Taranaki region that could be included in a plan:
 - 1) **Project launch: 19th November 2020 in New Plymouth: 30 stakeholders.**
A goal and vision was drafted. There were introductions, presentations, working groups and defining next steps.
 - 2) **18th March 2021 at Puniho Pa: 16 stakeholders in-person, more on Zoom**
The goal of this hui was to scope the context, strengths and barriers of the region.
2. Food Resilience Hui and Wānanga were also held across communities over the next year (2020-2021) to connect on mahi, share knowledge and raise awareness of food resilience.
 - 1) 26th June 2021: Te Hua o te Tau Hau – Kai Resilience in South Taranaki. Event in Hāwera.
 - 3) 31st October: Kai Resilience Hui in Waitara – *this was cancelled*
 - 4) 13th November: Real Food. Real People. Kai Resilience in our Communities. Event in Pātea (shifted online).
3. Online webinars promoting Food Resilience in the region: three webinars in September 2021 with Pounamu Skelton, Carl Freeman and Glen Skipper; local food growers who shared their mahi and knowledge

4. Collated Insights from 2 Hui in Puniho Pa and New Plymouth:

4a. Taranaki context:

Farming and energy region / Taranaki 2050 Roadmap (Venture Taranaki Roadmap)/
Transition / Urban farming / Role in national policy making / 10-year plans

What does the current system look like?

Corporatisation, dependency on manufacture and profits, unequal distribution of food sources. Not all produce is local and sustainable. There are however a number local market gardeners and food producers successfully achieving sustainable practices. Funding and national context.

4b. Current efforts in the region

See appendix A for full list of current efforts

- **Food banks and food rescue:** in the North of Taranaki there is further collaboration recently, as well as there is an edible garden in New Plymouth which supplied fresh produce to the New Plymouth Food Bank. These are the sorts of collaborative efforts that will continue to strengthen the support for whānau in need over time.
- **Community initiatives:** there many community initiatives flourishing around Taranaki; including edible gardens, Pata kai /food pantries that can help to support whānau in need as well as build community connection and resilience over time. Seed savers and crop swaps are also popular!
- **MSD funded community initiatives:** funded initiatives around Taranaki to support improvements in Food Security between 2020-2022
- **Small Urban and suburban kai growers and food makers:** There are many small-market edible gardens around Taranaki (as seen by the recent Farming to Flourish research) who's growing practices are sustainable. Many are coming up with creative ways to sell produce, including weekly Vegetable and Fruit Boxes for families. Other food made from scratch, using sustainable ingredients and methods, includes bread and honey.
- **Larger Farms:** Taranaki is a region with plenty of food growing happening which could support local Food Security. Taranaki Catchment Communities are a group of farmers and growers around Taranaki, who "aim to lead, engage and mobilise Taranaki's rural sector to ensure a more environmental, economic and socially sustainable future" (ref).
- **Education:** Enviro-schools and Sustainable Taranaki organisations run programmes with youth in schools, kura and communities, to help protect and preserve the environment, to learn to grow edible gardens, and to look after the unique taiao of the region. These

include: composting, growing food, community building events, youth development initiatives, Te Ara Taiao – education to protect the natural taiao / environment

- **Supermarkets:** there has been national research and discussion into the monopoly of supermarkets in the last two years. This may help to inform future strategies nationally which can have an impact on the affordability of food for all.
- **Local Research:** Māori soil and kai resilience research; Massey University “Farming to Flourish” on small market edible gardens around Taranaki.
- **Local planning and strategy:** Venture Taranaki Plan: Food and Fibre Network is a branch of the Roadmap 2050 Strategy

4c.

Taranaki strengths	Taranaki Challenges
<p>Connections and relationships, relatedness. Small region.</p> <p>Natural resources, richness in soil and landscape</p> <p>Variety and quality of skills and support available</p> <p>Matauranga Maori</p> <p>Preparedness to change: Energy transition, Taranaki 2050 Roadmap</p> <p>Momentum towards resilience: growing food at home, focus on health, building community. Role of community gardens, growing. Covid momentum.</p> <p>Regional and local plans addressing sustainability topics, different stakeholders wanting to get involved in the scene</p>	<p>Gaps/ Barriers in the system</p> <p>Limited local production despite local conditions</p> <p>Education, lack of, limited</p> <p>Lack of, limited access to healthy, nutritious food</p> <p>Dependence on the current system of supermarkets and imported goods, corporate</p> <p>Bad food costs less, more convenient</p> <p>Healthy food takes time, costs more, needs for knowledge and effort (grow, prepare, store)</p> <p>Cultural and social gaps</p>

4d. The Vision and Key Themes Collated from the Hui:

Vision:

Taranaki whānau have readily available and affordable access to good quality, local, seasonal, nutritious kai, produced and transformed sustainably, respectful to diverse cultures, and that is mauri-enhancing and supports the well-being of individuals, whānau and the community.

Systems exist to achieve this based on key themes – culture, collaboration, education, self-reliance, integration, health, systemic change, and economy/employment.

Korero from the hui about these key themes are summarised below:

1. **Culture:** Interconnectedness around food through sharing, understanding and shaping a holistic food culture. Connecting science with indigenous knowledge, using what already works. Motivating people to want to grow, to feel excited about food, to connect with each other and with the land. Indigenous-based solutions where food is central to culture, identity, place, spirituality, economy and wellbeing.
2. **Education:** Holistic approach to food systems through empowerment. Understanding where food comes from, understanding processes to get food to the table. Education also on how to use food, what is healthy, what is in season, how and when to harvest, sustainable methods (composting, seaweed, seed-saving). Developing skills and capacity to promote food resilience, integrated to school curriculum but accessible to community members. Involving tamariki and their parents.
3. **Collaboration:** Around the food ecosystem, not New Plymouth-centered but with the whole region. Get to know each other. Understand each other's skills and capacities, and assign roles according to this. Integration with iwi and hapu. Network of collaborating actors with a shared vision. Strengthening links, understanding what everyone does and how we can work together. Facilitation by Sustainable Taranaki. Integrated hubs and cooperatives. Using everyone's skills. Empowering. Overarching organisation?
4. **Self-reliance:** Building capacity, moving away from convenience. Less reliance from outside the region, grow our own food and distribute internally. Move away from helplessness. As a region and also as individuals. Thriving connected community.

Using the land that is available in the most efficient way to promote independent communities. Food swaps, connectivity, empathy.

5. **Systemic change:** Importance of changing perceptions. Need authorities to participate in the change and also community buy-in (not just those in the food system but everyone). Respect where everyone is at and support them in their journey. Empowering the community to move away from convenience. Minimum barriers to access healthy and nutritious kai. Governance arrangements, lobby authorities, cohesive collaboration of organisations. Mind shift and use of creativity and the arts to promote the change.
6. **Integrating food in the landscape:** Plant fruit trees in the streets, grow in public spaces, use car parks not just for growing but for dropping food boxes too. Food that is visible, beautiful, that tastes good, smells good and looks good. Education on the streets for everyone. Bring back the connection with what we eat and understand where it comes from.
7. **Health:** Healthy, accessible kai, spray free, organic. Best soils, best foods. Community gardens for mental health, skills, social interaction, food and community building.
8. **Funding / Employment / Economy:** funding through taxes, incentives, collaboration from supermarkets. Leverage progress for future initiatives. Self-funding within Taranaki. Community contribution.

4e. Further Insights from the hui:

- Embrace **Te Ao Maori principles:** Reciprocity, manaakitanga, kaitiakitanga, hua parakore. Understanding. Listening. Letting tangata whenua lead and follow. Honour values, aspire to them.
- Increase knowledge of food systems, growing food, health through education
- Make it transversal to age groups and backgrounds
- Need local leadership, champions, government to take action
- Involve parents and children. Focus on tamariki
- Honour our tupuna and bring it today through involving tamariki
- Pathway to sustainability
- Promote healthy communities and people
- Encourage connections, the community comes together
- Consider the environment and sustainability
- Crisis management
- Adapting out of the convenience – behavioural change

5. Recommended Foundations and Goals for The Future:

Foundations - Te Tiriti o Waitangi:

- **Partner** with tangata whenua: iwi, hapu and whānau on the proposed goals and development of future solutions to improve food security in Taranaki
- **Protect** and improve the life (biodiversity) of the natural resources, soils and land that we have so that food can be grown continually over our generation and the next generations.
- **Participate by** letting tangata whenua lead the way in designing solutions for whānau (supporting by Māori for Māori approaches) and support Te Ao Māori worldview and culture which respects the land and natural resources as living things that humans have a reciprocal relationship with.

Mission Statement:

- This would need to be formed with further consultation which can then help to define the next steps and action plan. Some of the recommended goals below may or may not be used depending on the mission, alignment with other strategies in the region, and a review of evidence of successful initiatives that can further inform the things that should be supported in Taranaki. We have local and national examples at our fingertips! (See appendix for examples of all of these things).

Recommended Goals:

Note: It may be, that each goal becomes its own strategy, with a set of Pou / Pillars on how to achieve that, feeding into one large overall umbrella. Also, many are already working towards these things, so it would be about strengthening and supporting what is happening as well as seeing where the important gaps are. In no particular order:

1. Education:

Educate our people about the importance of soil and land health, our reciprocal relationship with all living systems, how to grow healthy food so that the land is sustained over time, how to source and eating nourishing food from farm to plate, and how to put food waste back into the Earth to help the Earth to complete its natural cycle that will support it's Hauora as well as ours

2. Protect Soil Biodiversity:

Raise awareness with all involved about the importance of soil health for our ability to grow food into the future. Find out which policies at regional levels can support the protection of the biodiversity of our top soils.

3. Support local farmers to continue to grow food sustainably, and to make it accessible and affordable to local people (a few are already doing so!):

With many small and large food farms around Taranaki, and many people who are food insecure, it may be useful to find out in which ways food producers could be better supported to grow food sustainably and to make their produce more affordable and accessible for everyone, thereby strengthening the local food supply chain. The local Massey University research “Farming to Flourish” includes recommendations from small food farmers around Taranaki.

4. Support Whānau Currently Struggling with Food Insecurity:

(This often intersects with poor housing, low income, low access to services such as health and transport, and acute and ongoing stress caused by a myriad of factors):

Support Existing Social Services such as food banks, food rescue and other services and initiatives that support whānau who are struggling and that also provide services that teach people skills in mana-enhancing ways.

5. Neighbourhood and community-led solutions for improved food security and food resilience:

- Align with iwi strategies that support hapu, and neighbourhood and community-led solutions to improve food security, social cohesion and connection in neighbourhoods.
 - Listen to those most affected by food insecurity to understand how to inform solutions that will work for them; and draw from local and national research to facilitate change initiatives **with communities leading the way**. (See list of existing local initiatives and research in appendix).
- 6. Continued collaboration to strengthen relationships, connections and share knowledge across existing initiatives in Taranaki.**
- **Several initiatives** in Taranaki were funded under the “Food Secure Communities” from MSD from 2020-2022. There are also many others undertaking food secure communities or food resilience initiatives
 - **Develop a regional Food Secure Communities Strategy** which could continue on from these findings and suggested goals; or it may be that there is funding put towards mapping out where the important gaps are, with further engagement and consultation of stakeholders and communities, to then build a strategy from there as appropriate.
 - Consider a whole food systems approach to long-term planning for improved food security in our communities. This includes considering the production of, processing, transport, distributing, consumption, and disposal of food. The approach should consider the social, environmental, and economic impact on the lives of local whānau who need to be supported to improve their food security.

7. Support to represent and advocate for Taranaki region nationally:

Represent and advocate Taranaki by participating in regional and national forums that could impact our regions access to affordable and accessible food in the food supply chain, as well as influence policy change and policy formation that will protect and enhance soil health, land health and our ability to grow food.

- For example, the “Independent Aotearoa Food Systems Dialogues 2022” report does not show that there was a representative from Taranaki however many other regions of Aotearoa were there. Taranaki should be a part of these conversations to advocate for our region (Report in appendix).

8. Be Ready for Shocks to the Local Food System (Crisis Management):

- Food resilience is not only about enabling people and communities to feed themselves through things like education, supportive systems, access, income and local connection to food sources, but it is also about planning for future shocks to the local food supply chain in an event that is out of our control, such as a volcanic eruption, flooding, future pandemics, or otherwise, which may cut off the roads and services in any given time-frame. Plans should include how local food will be distributed in an emergency, in the acute, medium and long-term.
- Such plans may largely be within the scope of Civil Defence and may already be there, however as these topics were discussed at the hui in in 2020, it would be recommended to understand what planning is already underway in the region, who is responsible for what, and how everyone could work together in future crises management scenarios. This may be relevant because often the same social services and small community groups are relied upon to help, who are also a part of this Food Secure Communities network.

Appendix 1: Network Members:

1. **A small steering group** was formed and acted as a bouncing board for ideas and guidance throughout the project. The group included various stakeholders from Taranaki region including:

- Bishops Action Foundation – Simon Caley
- New Plymouth Food Bank – Sharon Wills
- South Taranaki Timebank – Patina Edwards
- Sustainable Taranaki Te Ara Taiao programme / community - Tane Manu
- Taranaki District Health Board and Care First – Kiyomi Kitagawa; Yu-Ching Wu
- Enviro-schools – Lauree Jones
- Community Edible Gardeners and Waitara representatives – Pounamu Skelton and Faren Taylor
- Local MSD regional representative and Taranaki Public Service Leaders Forum Director – Christina Scott
- New Plymouth District Council (all four councils COVID19 recovery plans) - Ben Ingram
- Farm next door / Urban Farming – Carl Freeman
- Maara Kai – Glen Skipper
- Sustainable Taranaki (facilitation/ organisation) - Alexandra Vernal/ Steve Francis / Urs Signer/ Heather Allington

2. **A wider email network** was also formed in the first year with over 100 representatives to keep in touch with developments and updates. This network included a very wide range of stakeholders including but not limited to:

Note: Sustainable Taranaki have the full email list which could be used or updated to continue on with this mahi into the future

- Enviro-schools
- Seedsavers
- Cropswaps
- Small market food businesses and larger food businesses
- Venture Taranaki
- MSD (funder of this Food Secure Communities Project)
- Taranaki Time-bank
- Community-based organisations supporting vulnerable groups (Salvation Army, NZ Red Cross, On The House Food Rescue, New Plymouth Food Bank, Waitara Food Bank, The Kai Kitchen Hawera)
- Community experts and advocates in: Maara kai, community gardens, horticulture, regenerative ag, permaculture
- NPDC (1) partnerships and resilience support; 2) COVID19 recovery manager
- Civil Defence

- Taranaki District Health Board and CareFirst GP's
- Sport Taranaki
- Opunake Sustainability Group
- Te Puni Kokiri
- Iwi
- Para Kore
- Federated Farmers
- WITT
- Many more!

3. A Facebook page was also formed for network members to share highlights, updates or learnings from initiatives across the region. This is still an active group for members today and is called "Taranaki Food Secure Communities":
<https://www.facebook.com/search/topq=taranaki%20food%20secure%20communities>

Appendix 2:

List of Initiatives Working Towards Food Secure Communities or Food Resilience in Taranaki

Education Sector:	
Enviro-schools	Supporting schools with fruit trees, seeds and seedlings yearly
Ministry of Education	Free School lunches programme in some schools
WITT	Education about growing food
Newstart gardens/ Land Based Training	Education about growing food
Food Rescue/ Food Banks:	
Salvation Army (Taranaki wide)	Meals
Waitara Food Bank	Food parcels and food resilience initiatives, e.g. education on growing your own produce
New Plymouth Food Bank	Meals, food parcels, donations from a local community edible garden
On The House Food Rescue New Plymouth	Food rescued from various sources and given out twice per week
Kai Kitchen Hawera	Make meals
Community Edible Gardening and Maara Kai	
WISE Charitable Trust	Waitara Community Edible Garden

Glen Park Ave Community Garden	New Plymouth Neighbourhood/ Community
Marfel Community Garden and Kaitiaki Composting Initiative	New Plymouth Neighbourhood/ Community
Bel Block Community Garden	New Plymouth Neighbourhood/ Community
Inglewood Community Garden	Inglewood
Ekai in Eltham Community Garden	
Hawera Community Gardens	St Mary's Church , Hawera
New Start Gardens – SDA Church	New Plymouth, run by volunteers, skills training and donations of produce
Parihaka Papakāinga - Te Māra Hapori Ki Parihaka	Garden and food forrest support local marae.
Ōakura Pā - Okorotua Marae Garden	
Te Moeone Garden	Tarereare / Katere-ki-te-moana Marae
Community Orchards	A number of these exist in New Plymouth, with one in Waitara and one in Okato.
For the full list of Community Gardens, Maara and Orchards, with contact details, see: https://www.sustainabletaranaki.org.nz/community-gardens-orchards	
This list will shortly be outdated, with more community gardens being supported to come to fruition through 2022	
Further initiatives include: Let's Compost, Seedsavers Taranaki and Crop-swap	
Change-Makers nurturing Te Ao Māori Food Resilience:	
Glen Skipper	Maara Kai - Katere Ki Te Moana hapu
Ken Taipa	Marae Based Food Systems
Tara Lee Manu - Koiora LTD	
Taranaki Iwi	Tatai Tāngata ki te whenua programme
Te Whenua Tomuri Trust (Urs Signer, Tiri Porter)	Toitu whenua project
Pounamu Skelton	Hua parakore accreditation system for your whenua and Maara
Local Research / Sustainability:	
Farm next door "Farming to Flourish"	Research report funded by the Bishops Action Foundation Taranaki and conducted by Massey University, giving insights to local market edible gardens and local recommendations
Para Kore	Iwi based waste reduction programme
He Whenua Rongo	Papawhakaritorito Trust
Māori Kai and Soil Resilience	Aatea Solutions Te Waka Kai Ora
Local Businesses – Market Gardeners/ Sustainable Food/ Local Food Procurement	
Aboutiful Life	Local business
Beach Road Milk	Local business
Countdown	Supermaket

Crazy Pumpkin	Local produce business
Daves Patch	Local produce business
Down to Earth Organics	Local store selling organics and refill containers
Goldbush Micro Farms	Horticulture, urban farming
Greenbridge	Horticulture, urban farming
Ground Breaking Mushrooms	Local business
Health Focus	Local business
Hydroponic – Capsicum	Local business
Inca Cafe	Local business supporting local, sustainable initiatives, coffee
Kaitake Farms	Horticulture, urban farming
Nells Health	Horticulture, urban farming
New World	Supermarket
Oakura Organics	Horticulture, urban farming
Pak N Save	Supermarket
Peihana Farms	Horticulture, urban farming
Roebuck Farm	Horticulture, urban farming
Taranaki Farmers Market	Farmers market, organic
Taranaki Federated Farmers	Farming
The Green Shed	Horticulture, urban farming
Fiona Young	Regenerative Agriculture, various
Anzco – meat etc	Big producer
Fonterra/ Sanitarium	Big producer / Kickstart Breakfast Programme in Schools
PKW	Big producer
Silver Fern Farms – meat, etc	Big business
Taranaki Federated Farmers	Farming
Tegal	Poultry

Health / Wellbeing Support/ Community Support Networks:	
Sport Taranaki	Green Prescription: Physical activity programme and healthy eating advice for whānau
Care First GP's	Looking at ways to incorporate wider prescriptions for health using food initiatives
Disability information centre	Various support
NZ Red Cross	Various support
Rural support trust	Various support
Taranaki DHB	Health and give green prescriptions
Tu Tama Wahine	Womens support
Tui Ora	Social support
WISE Charitable Trust	Various initiatives
Opunake Sustainability group	Various initiatives

Timebank	Volunteering of time initiative
Governance / Organisational Groups that could have influence:	
Iwi and hapu	
Councils	
Government organisations	Ministry Of Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Ministry for the Environment, Ministry for Ethnic Communities, Ministry of Youth Development, others?
Non-government organisations	Venture Taranaki, Sustainable Taranaki, Enviro-schools, Toi Foundation, Bishops Action Foundation, Crop Swap Aotearoa, Seed Savers Taranaki, Taranaki Timebank, Wild for Taranaki, Environment Hubs Aotearoa, others?

Appendix 3: Local and National Research, Strategies and Reports to Review that can Help to Inform Future Steps:

Strategy Examples:

- Whanganui Kai Ora Strategy: <https://www.kaiora.org.nz/>
- Manawatu DRAFT Food Secure Communities Strategy
- The Common Unity Project: The Remakery. Neighbourhood hubs design: <https://www.commonunityproject.org.nz/>
- North Canterbury Food Security Strategy: <https://www.foodsecurenc.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/FSNC-2-Year-Plan-April-2021.pdf>

Research:

- PIVOT Bashford Nicolls Trust – Massey University – Premier Research Award: “Farming to Flourish: Regenerative Food Systems, Sustainable Livelihoods and Thriving Communities in Taranaki”, 2022.
- Te Waka Kai Ora: Māori Soil and Kai Resilience Research, 2022.
- 2021: Christina Mckerchar and Jade Winter: He Kai Kei Aku Ringaringa: Food Security on The West Coast of New Zealand
- 2022: Aotearoa Food Systems Dialogues Report: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wK9o8zXhLIF6w0ao6IfusKO19kGIXc24/view?ts=626de201&mc_cid=413551fece&mc_eid=c7961acf6a
- Healthy Families Research through lockdown: <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5cf74c8f2829e20001db724f/t/5fbb16e2158b>

[28734be6dcdd/1606096812276/Healthy+Families+NZ+National+Insights+-+How+COVID-19+changed+our+relationship+with+food.pdf](#)

Reports:

- Dr. A Bloomfield. Household Food Insecurity Among Children. Ministry of Health. Released 2019

National Advice Groups:

- Aotearoa Food Rescue Alliance
 - NZ Food Network
 - Eat NZ
 - Ministry of Social Development Food Secure Communities Page:
[Food Secure Communities - Ministry of Social Development \(msd.govt.nz\)](#)
-

CLOSING KARAKIA

Unuhia, unuhia, Unuhia i te uru tapu-nui Kia wātea, kia māmā te ngākau, te tinana Te Wairua i te ara takatū Koia rā e Rongo whakairihia ake ki runga	Draw on, draw on Draw on the supreme sacredness To clear, to free the heart, the body and the spirit of mankind Rongo suspended high above us (in heaven)
Kia wātea, kia wātea Ae rā kua wātea Hau Paimarire	To be cleared of obstruction It is cleared

This karakia is recited to close a hui or event. It takes us from a place of focus and releases us to be clear of all the issues or tensions that may have arisen during the hui. We are now free to get on with other things.