

Meeting: Strategy and Policy Committee

Meeting Date: 17 September 2024

Presentations and Tabled Document

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recommendations on submissions on
Dangerous Dams, Earthquake-prone
Dams and Flood-prone Dams Policy
2024**

**Presentation - Hearings Subcommittee recommendations -
Dangerous, Earthquake-prone and Flood-prone Dams Policy 2024**

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Freshwater Policy Programme Timeline – What is best for the Bay of Plenty

S&P Committee

17 September 2024





Overview

1. Recapping the *Why*
2. Decisions to date
3. Timeframe options and recommendation
4. Targeted engagement approach and recommendations



Recapping the plan change *Why*

- ✓ Well known regional freshwater issues (lakes, estuaries)
- ✓ To address water quality issues quicker
- ✓ Our core role
- ✓ The expiry of 2026 water consents (approx. 600)
- ✓ Making best use of significant investment to date
- ✓ Better information, more than 70 science and technical reports
- ✓ High Court PC9 commitment
- ✓ Delivering a more efficient, streamlined plan
- ✓ Updates an old plan
- ✓ The importance of maintaining momentum



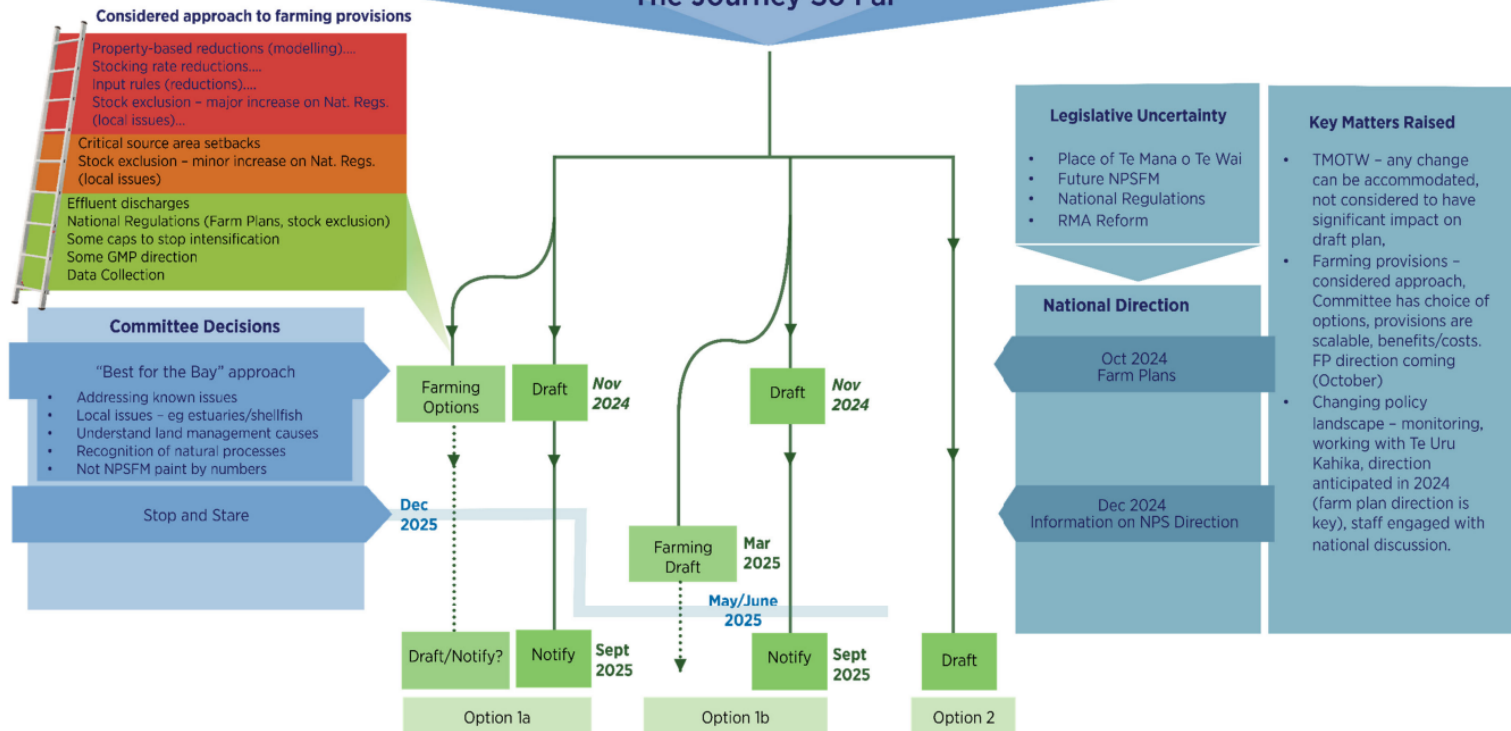
Decisions made on the Journey



Freshwater Re-Set

<p>We have established the WHY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More efficient,... • Known issues (lakes, estuaries) • Need to start on freshwater issues • Efficient, streamlined new plan • RC core role - maintain and improve water 	<p>We have made DECISIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2012 - Approach Agreed 2014 - Catchment groups established 2016 - FMUs 2020 - Reset programme 2023 - Extended notification timeframe 	<p>We have enough KNOWLEDGE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community voices • 70 science/technical reports • Catchment modelling • Land management understanding
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The Journey So Far





Options

Option	Description	Draft release date	Proposed notification date
1	<p>Carve out farming land use provisions and progress them separately</p> <p>Release the draft RNRP changes as planned except for the draft farming land use rule set.</p>	Majority of plan change Nov 2024	Majority of plan change Sept 2025
	<p>(a) EITHER</p> <p>“Progress and Pivot” - Release a discussion document of options for farming land use provisions for feedback alongside the draft Change</p>	Farming land use provisions – TBC after feedback received	Farming land use provisions - TBC, between Sept 2025 - December 2027
	<p>(b) OR</p> <p>Hold back release of draft farming land use provisions until February 2025, after FWFP regulations are gazetted, and place notification date decision on hold until next year.</p>	Farming land use provisions – March 2025	Farming land use provisions – TBC, between Sept 2025 - December 2027
2	<p>Defer release of whole draft plan change</p> <p>Aim to release the whole draft plan change in September 2025, subject to clarifying implications of changing national freshwater policy. Decision about notification date would be made after local government elections in 2025.</p>	September 2025	TBC, prior to December 2027



Assessment

Option	1a	1b	2	Status quo
Address known water quality issues promptly.	? timing TBC	? timing TBC	X	✓
Addresses water quantity and other environmental issues promptly.	✓	✓	X	✓
Notified prior to 2026 water take consent expiry	✓	✓	X	✓
Maintains momentum	✓	✓	X	✓
Limits duplication, wasted investment / repetition of work	?	?	X	✓
Time for tangata whenua and other targeted engagement	✓	✓	✓	✓
Time to develop s.32	✓	✓	✓	✓
Decisions by this Council (prior to elections)	✓ Majority ? Farming standards	✓ Majority ? Farming standards	X	✓
Time for assessment of feedback on draft plan	✓	?	✓	✓
Plan change can be integrated with amended FWFP regulations	✓	✓	✓	✓
Plan change can give effect to 2025 national freshwater direction	?	?	✓	?
Minimised risk that hearing panel will insert plan provisions in response to submissions	X if farming requirements are notified later than majority of plan	X if farming requirements are notified later than majority of plan	?	✓
Meets duty to implement current NPSFM as soon as reasonably practicable.	✓ Majority ? Farming standards	✓ Majority ? Farming Standards	?	✓



Staff Recommendations

2. Option 1(a) - progress and pivot

- (a) Targeted release of the draft RPS and RNRP Freshwater changes for feedback in November/December 2024 - excluding farming land use provisions
- (b) Targeted release of a discussion document about the options for farming land use provisions at the same time
- (c) Endorses staff preparing for the potential need to pivot to align with any new national direction



Engagement approach - General

Previous 2023 process:

- Large engagement effort and investment
- Ongoing targeted consultation

This time:

- Limited general engagement
- Targeted stakeholder contact and invitation to meet
- Schedule 1, RMA parties
- Tangata whenua
- Some fact sheets for key change topics

.... and Farming



Engagement approach - Farming

- Farming groups – particularly in most affected catchments - “woolshed meetings”, farmer-organised,
- Rural and Environmental Sector Organisation Forum:
 - Offer to bring member groups together
 - Also noted importance of farmer groups
- Other opportunities as they arise/are generated
- Advice from Working Group.....

Discussion document, options, ladder concept, “How far should we go?” messaging.....



Engagement approach - Farming

Mapping of farming engagement: ongoing process of updating

FMU	Farmer Engagement Mapping
Kaituna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kaituna Catchment Control Scheme Advisory Group • Former Kaituna Freshwater Futures Group members • Primary Sector Org farmers • BOPRC Farm Environment Plan farmers • Paraiti Catchment Caregroup • Kaharoa Catchment Group (group in early development still) • Te Arawa Primary Sector • DairyNZ discussion groups • Key Landowners • LMO contacts • Plus.....
Rangitāiki	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rangitāiki-Tarawera Rivers Scheme Advisory Group • Rangitāiki Community Pumping Scheme members • Former Rangitāiki Freshwater Futures Group members • Primary Sector Org farmers • BOPRC Farm Environment Plan farmers • Key Landowners • LMO contacts • Plus.....
Waihi Estuary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Former Pongakawa-Waitahanui Freshwater Futures Group members • BOPRC Farm Environment Plan farmers • Waikokopu lighthouse farmers • Waihi District Drainage Society • Primary Sector Org farmers • BOPRC Farm Environment Plan farmers • Key Landowners • LMO contacts • Plus.....

Discussion document: options, ladder concept, “How far should we go?” messaging.....



Staff Recommendations - continued

3. **Agrees that staff regularly update this committee**
4. **Agrees to staff facilitating an informal Councillor working group**
5. **Endorses the approach to engagement**



Working Group

- Informal
- Free and frank
- To develop in-depth, shared understandings
- Engagement advice
- Engine room adjacent.....

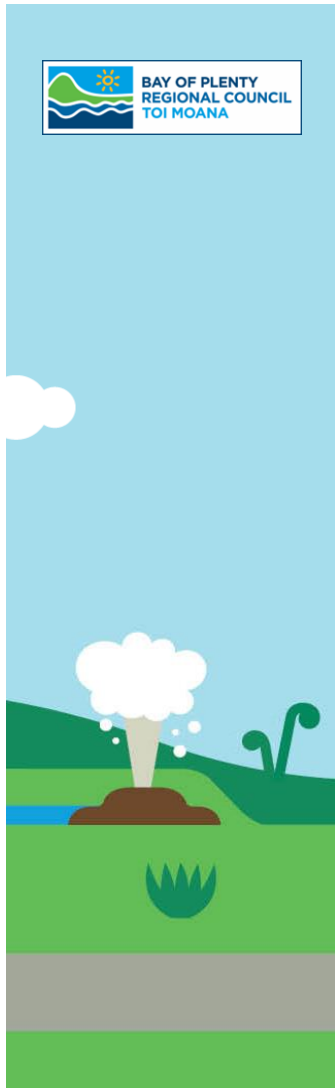


Questions?

Plan Change 11 Geothermal (PC11)

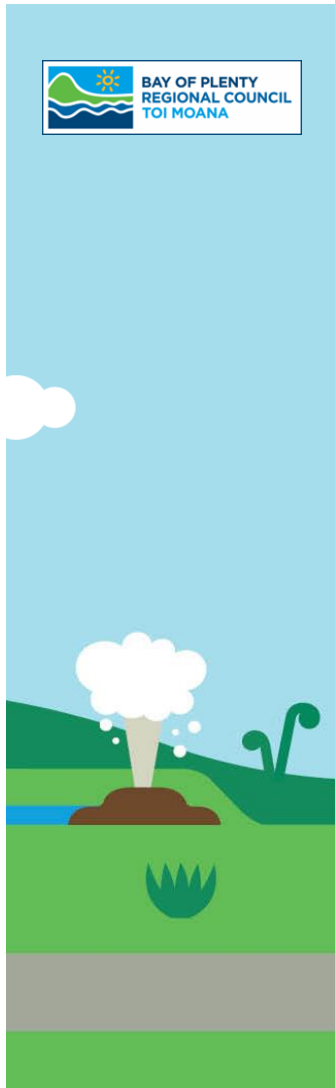
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Release of the PC11 Draft

- **Significant milestone for Council!**
- Critical next step in a key project
- Articulates Council's geothermal management approach
- Enables feedback on this approach and necessary changes to be identified prior to notification of a Proposed Plan through the more formal RMA process



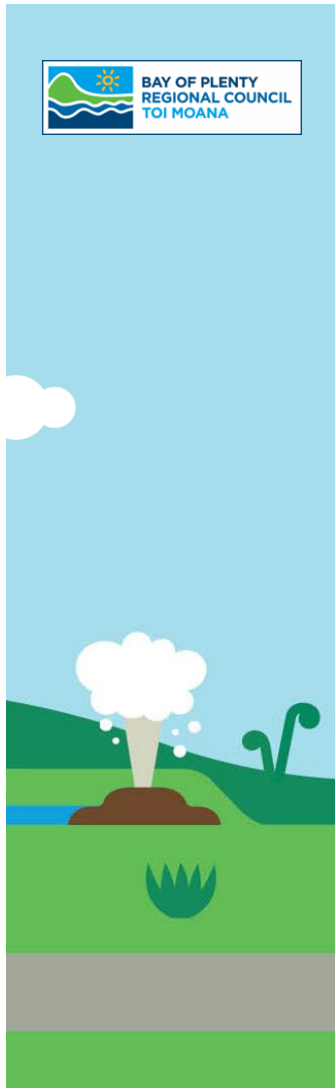
If approved for release

The following communication material will be prepared:

- Summary document
- Print, digital and radio content
- Online participate engagement tool

Schedule engagement activities:

- attendance at existing community events
- meet with interested parties on request



Key timeframes

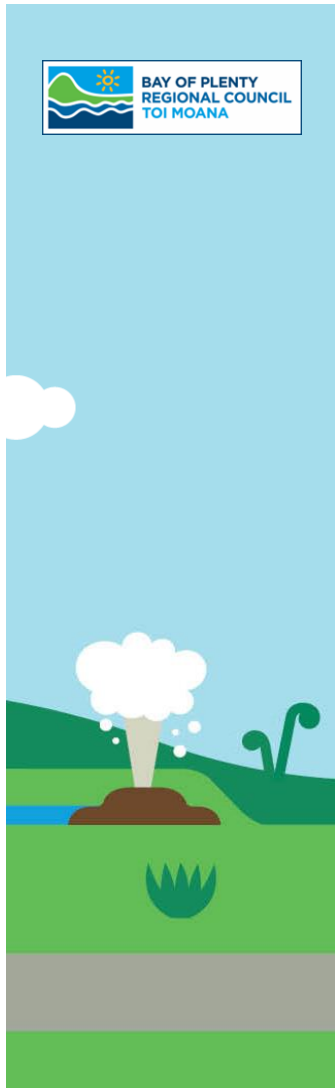
- Mid-October – release PC11 draft for consultation
- Mid-late January 2025 - consultation period closed
 - Noting this is an extension of the 8-week period proposed in the report
- March – summary of feedback & staff recommendations to S&P Committee
- March onward - refine PC11

Draft Tauranga System Management Plan



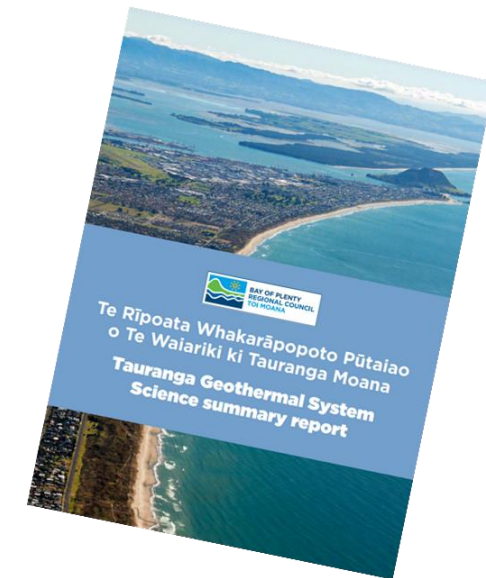
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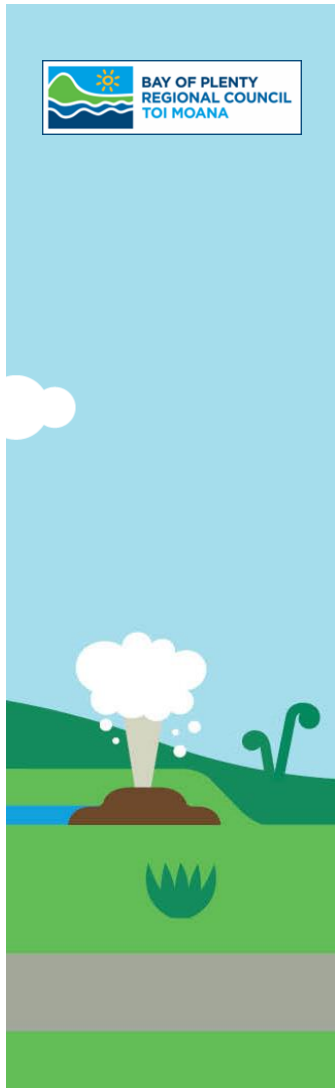




Work on the Draft SMP

- Review Natural Resources Regional Plan geothermal provisions
- Iwi and Hapū Management Plans
- Tauranga Geothermal System Science Summary
- Geo-heat potential of Geothermal System
- The Economic Benefits and Costs of Geothermal Resources
- Modelling and Monitoring
- Initial engagement





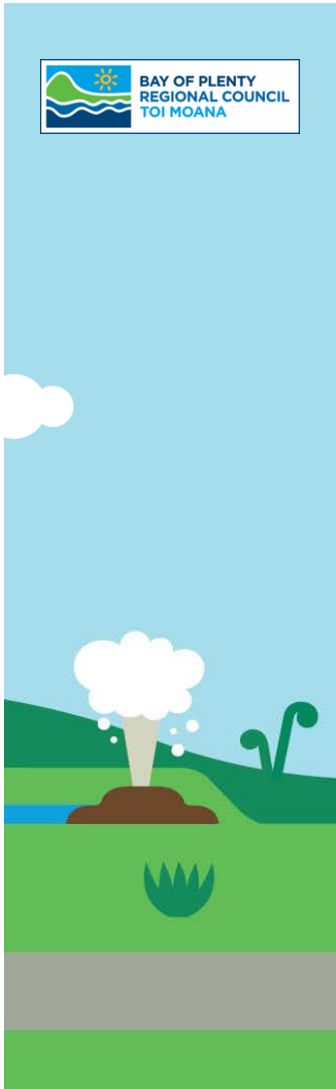
Form and structure of Draft

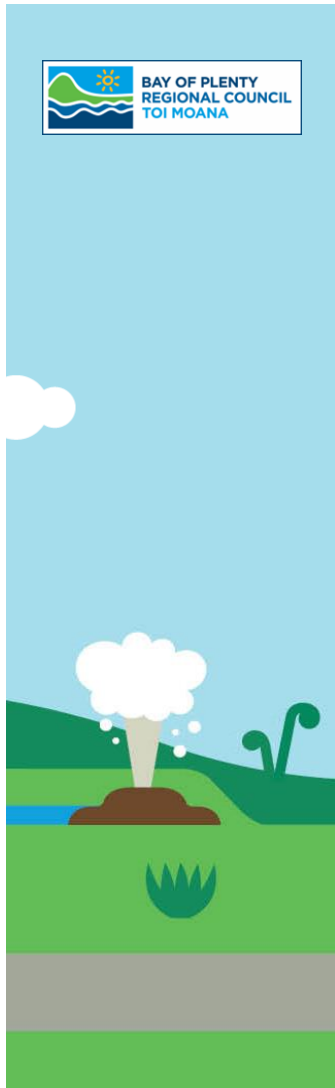
- Similar to Rotorua SMP
- Background information
- Principles and vision
- Management approach for key issues
- To be supported by action plan and guidelines
- Council approval



Broad Approach

- Integrated management
- Managing effects of groundwater takes on geothermal (e.g. local cooling)
- Managing effects geothermal takes on groundwater
- Protection of high value uses and values (e.g. Maketū)
- Managing geothermal discharges
- Utilising range of knowledge
- Informing/enabling sustainable use

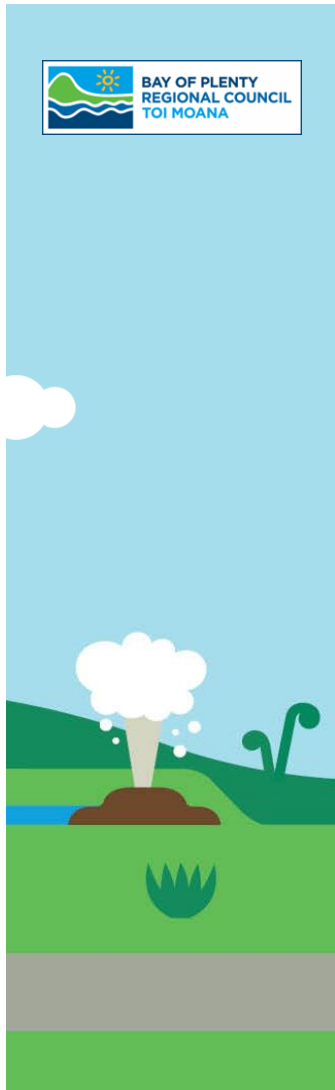




Community feedback

- **Tangata whenua** views and guidance
- **Competing values:** heat versus water?
- **Sustainable use:** What does sustainable use look like?
- **Discharges:** managing effects (e.g. bathed in water)
- **High value areas:** should we identify these? e.g. Maketū?
- **Efficient use of heat:** when is it important? What is reasonable to require of consent holders?
- **Enabling use:** should be consider PĀ status for small takes?
- **Monitoring:** requirements for resource consent holders





Next Steps

Step	Timeframe
Release of draft SMP	October 2024
Engagement on draft SMP and Draft Plan Change	October - January 2024
Staff consideration of feedback	February 2025
Staff report summarising feedback	March 2025
Option for Hearing (TBC)	April 2024
Recommendation to Strategy and Policy Committee and adoption of SMP	May 2025
Media release on approval of the SMP	



Strategy and Policy Committee Meeting
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Te Mahere Mahi mō te Huringa Āhuarangi **Climate Change Action Plan**

2024-26

Kia manawatoa a Te Moana-o-Toitehuatahi
Working towards a climate resilient Bay of Plenty





Background

- LTP consultation: draft Action Plan approved as a Supporting Document
- No public feedback received
- Deliberations: Council approved fifth goal
- LTP audit: Goal 1 clarification

Te whakatau whakatika āhuarangi Our climate change statement

Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Regional Council recognises the significant implications that climate change will have for the Bay of Plenty and the need for mitigation and adaptation actions locally and region-wide.

Following our declaration of a climate emergency in June 2019, we committed to working with our sectors and communities on transitioning to a low emissions future and preparing ourselves for the changing climate. Our Climate Change Action Plan and Work Programme guides our work in this area.

This Climate Change Statement outlines Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Regional Council's view of what needs to occur in our region. The Statement will inform and guide how we can work in partnership with Māori and support conversations around the regional climate change challenges.



Our vision

Bay of Plenty Regional Council strengthens the long-term resilience and sustainability of the BOP region through climate change action and awareness.

Our objectives






1. Risks from climate change related impacts are managed and resilience is increased through consistent adaptation planning based on best scientific information;
2. Community awareness of climate change mitigation and adaptation solutions increases, and organisations and individuals know what they can do to improve the long term resilience and sustainability of the region; and
3. Bay of Plenty Regional Council greenhouse gas emissions reduce across all areas of influence, including its own operations, helping to create the conditions for a just transition to a smart, innovative, low emissions regional economy.

How we work:

- Show leadership in climate change response and take a regional approach where appropriate.
- Consider climate change in our decision making.
- Act proactively to address climate change risks and advocate for climate resilient and sustainable development.
- Raise awareness of climate change and its anticipated impacts, and empower communities to take action.
- Identify opportunities for nature-based solutions and enhancing biodiversity.
- Work innovatively, collaboratively and add value regionally.
- Put science based evidence front and centre.
- Value mātauranga and te ao Māori in our approach.

Our goals

1. Bay of Plenty Regional Council is net zero emissions by 2050
2. Reducing regional greenhouse gas emissions
3. As a region we understand, are preparing for and adapting to a changing climate
4. Our BOP community is aware, engaged and resilient
5. Economic Transition: We support land use change innovation and adaptation along with waste and circular economy initiatives

 <p>Goal 1</p>	<p>Bay of Plenty Regional Council is net zero emissions by 2050</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We identify and implement deliberate mitigation and insetting actions we can take as an organisation. • Net zero emissions means that we will balance our organisational emissions (scope 1 and 2) with those removed from the atmosphere through sequestration activities, e.g. planting on Council-owned land. • Our interim target of a 25% reduction in gross emissions by 2026-27 (relative to 2022-2023) supports us on our pathway to net zero. 	 <p>Goal 4</p>	<p>Our Bay of Plenty community is aware, engaged and resilient</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who are aware of climate change and its implications are more likely to engage in reducing emissions (mitigation) and planning to deal with the impacts of climate change (adaptation). To improve the long term resilience and sustainability of the region we have a role to play in taking the BOP on this journey.
 <p>Goal 2</p>	<p>Reducing regional greenhouse gas emissions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We support a just transition to a smart, innovative, low emissions regional economy. • We work with iwi, businesses and our communities to identify actions they can take to reduce emissions. • We influence emissions across the region through provision of public transport and in spatial planning decisions. 	 <p>Goal 5</p>	<p>Economic Transition: We support land use change innovation and adaptation along with waste and circular economy initiatives</p>
 <p>Goal 3</p>	<p>As a region we understand, are preparing for and adapting to a changing climate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We work to understand the risks climate change presents for our region and our communities. • We support adaptation conversations across the region to help iwi, businesses and communities plan to adapt and protect what they value most. • We look for opportunities for complimentary biodiversity and climate change actions. 	<p><i>Ngā whaingā</i> Our goals</p>	



Goal 5 : two options



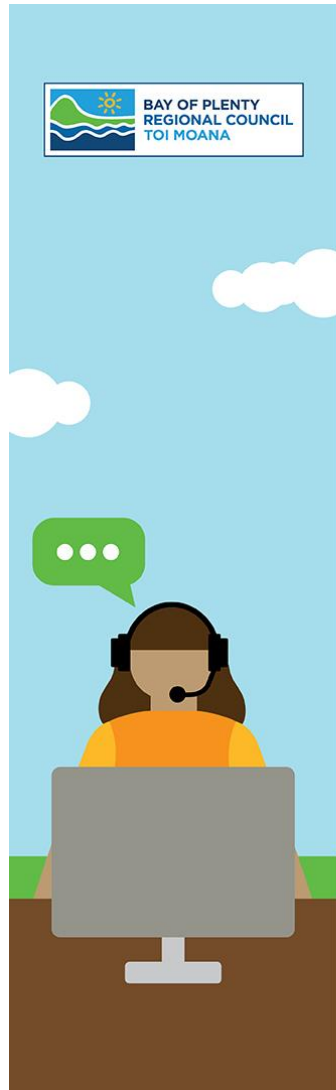
Economic Transition: We support land use change innovation and adaptation along with waste and circular economy initiatives

OR



Economic Transition

- We support land use change innovation and adaptation along with waste and circular economy initiatives



Climate change

At Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Regional Council our role is to understand the challenges our region faces and work with our communities to reduce emissions while prepare for effects that are already unavoidable.

<https://www.boprc.govt.nz/environment/climate-change>



What we are doing

Our climate response is guided by our Climate Change Action Plan and the work that delivers on this plan.



Our future climate

As temperatures rise, our wind, rainfall and seasonal patterns will shift and we will see more extreme events and unpredictability in our weather.



Adapting to a changing climate

We are working to ensure a climate resilient future for our region.



Regional risk assessment

We have assessed the risks to our region from a changing climate.



Community-Led Adaptation Funding initiative

This initiative is designed to support communities who are ready to start planning for a changing climate and tailored to their needs and scale.



Reducing emissions

Reducing or preventing greenhouse gas emissions can lessen the future effects of climate change.



Tools and resources

We have a range of tools and resources available to help people understand the changes ahead.



What you can do

We all have a role to play in building a better future for the next generation.

Our Places - Eastern Bay of Plenty Spatial Plan
Key messages/talking points
Draft - as at 28 August 2024

Overarching/framing

- We are creating a plan to set a vision for the future of the Eastern Bay.
 - It isn't finalised because we want to hear from people in the Eastern Bay first.
- The plan is being developed by councils, iwi partners, and supported by representatives from Central Government.
- It will set out where the Eastern Bay wants to head and provide a roadmap, or spatial plan, for how to get there and help us focus our limited resources on the most important projects.
- The spatial plan is about the economy, a changing climate, the environment, infrastructure, and how we – and future generations – want to live, work and play in the future Eastern Bay. It is about more than housing and business land or economic development.
- We want to hear from you about two things in particular:
 - What are your thoughts about where to plan for new houses and business in the Eastern Bay? We have an idea, but need your help to make sure we are on the right track.
 - What are your ideas about your community and across the Eastern Bay that you want us to think about and plan for?
- This is a chance to say how you want your grandchildren to experience the Eastern Bay.

Detail/specific messages to support 'in place' community engagement by partner councils

- Today, there is a shortage of land to build new homes and many homes currently are not suitable.
- To accommodate growing populations in the Eastern Bay, we need 5,450 more homes from 2023 to 2053; expansion of the Pūtauaki Industrial Zone; development of the aquaculture sector; and continued expansion of existing industries.
- While more land for homes is coming, it is not enough to meet the short or long-term demand.
- Housing supply restricts economic development in the Eastern Bay.
- We need to look after our taonga, including our people – existing and future.
- There are constraints on where development can take place and limits on the intensification of existing towns, from natural hazards, conservation land, highly productive land and land tenure types.
- The Eastern Bay of Plenty is one of the most constrained parts of the country because of natural hazards – and climate change will only make this harder.
- There is a need to look across the Eastern Bay for where we can put people and think about how this can unlock economic opportunities.
- Our Places believes that places that can be safe for people and have great potential to become larger urban communities can be Matatā (east of the established village), Awakeri and Hukutaia.
- These offer good opportunities for large growth areas for homes and businesses, in our opinion.
- There is close to enough business land, but more is needed around Whakatāne township, near Ōpōtiki township and east up the coast.

- We do not know everything now.
- It is important to have a plan and make a start, recognising the need to be flexible as things change and new opportunities emerge, for example, Papakāinga and Māori-led housing could become a large opportunity, that we can work towards, whose success could delay the need for other new development areas.
- How much land is needed for business purposes will change depending on how successful economic development becomes.

Supporting facts and statistics

- The Eastern Bay is renowned for its outstanding natural and cultural taonga, attracting people to our region over the centuries.
- The population of the Eastern Bay in 2023 was estimated at 57,000:
 - 33,500 people live in the townships of Kawerau, Ōpōtiki and Whakatāne
 - Approximately 11,650 live in the villages of Awakeri, Matatā, Murupara, Taneatua, Te Teko and Edgecumbe
 - Approximately 11,850 people live more rurally across the Eastern Bay
- Looking out to 2055, there will likely be 12,000 more people living in the Eastern Bay.
- In 2022, there were, 20,600 ‘employees’ in the Eastern Bay. By 2055, there is likely to be 25,000.
- The land area of the Eastern Bay is approximately 760,000 hectares.
 - Of this, 22 percent is Māori freehold land, 6.5 percent is CNI Iwi forestry collective land, 26 percent Department of Conservation land and 17 percent Te Urewera.

Our Places – Eastern Bay Spatial Plan

Engagement Proposal

Our Places Eastern Bay Spatial Plan

Engagement proposal

Draft

Our Places – Eastern Bay Spatial Plan

Engagement Proposal

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Our Places – Eastern Bay Spatial Plan

An Overview: Planning Our Places

We are creating a plan that will help us set a vision for the future of the Whakatāne, Kawerau and Ōpōtiki Districts within the rohe of the iwi/hapū of Eastern Bay of Plenty.

Our Places – Eastern Bay Spatial Plan will set out where the Eastern Bay of Plenty wants to head and provide a roadmap, or spatial plan, for how to get there.

This document looks at what we know now and what could happen in the future, and how this has shaped Our Places to date.

Our Places isn't finalised because we want to hear from you first. This is your chance to influence how future generations will experience the Eastern Bay.

Why create Our Places – Eastern Bay Spatial Plan?

The Eastern Bay is renowned for its outstanding natural and cultural taonga, attracting people to our region over the centuries. We are all part of a continuum – there were those before us and there will be those after us. We have a responsibility to care for the taonga we have inherited, while meeting the needs of current and future generations. Those needs include ensuring that our people can continue to safely live, work, visit and play in the Eastern Bay, now and in future.

1

Engagement Proposal

About 56,500 people call the Eastern Bay home, with most people (33,500) living in the towns of Kawerau, Whakatāne and Ōpōtiki. Over the next 30 years we need to plan for approximately 12,000 extra people or 5,500 homes (which is like adding two times all the dwellings in Kawerau).

Part of the future demand relates to the expansion of existing industries, the Pūtauaki industrial area and aquaculture development. This means we not only need more homes, but also extra spaces for people to work, stay and play.

While the Eastern Bay is one of the best places in New Zealand to live, we also have our fair share of natural hazards, such as flooding and coastal erosion. With the impacts of a changing climate, the areas we live in and could live in will be increasingly affected.

When planning for our future, we know we cannot just live anywhere and expect to be safe – we need growth to be in safe places.

Our Places is to ensure we provide for these future needs – those of our future generations – safely and in a way that protects the taonga of the Eastern Bay, such as our bush, productive land, rivers and beaches.

How will Our Places be created?

Decision makers (councils, iwi partners, government agencies) use spatial plans to come up with options for the future of spaces and places – for example, how towns might spread out (or up), where to build papakāinga, where to build on the coast (and where not to), and what infrastructure (such as pipes and roads) might be needed to support growing communities.

Our Places – Eastern Bay Spatial Plan

Our Places is collaborative so that the people of the Eastern Bay have a say in the future, and all relevant agencies have a realistic understanding about future priorities, resourcing and funding needs.

Government agencies are directly involved in the process, including Waka Kotahi, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, Kāinga Ora, Ministry of Education, and others. More will be involved along the way.

How will Our Places be used?

Our Places will guide agencies that deliver infrastructure, housing development and other critical services (such as health and education) to meet the growth needs across the Eastern Bay of Plenty and deliver on partner aspirations. It will help us work better together.

Our Places will reflect collective aspirations for the rohe to inform council Long Term Plan processes, District Plan changes, and government infrastructure investment decisions.

This work will represent Eastern Bay priorities into decision making, so we actively shape our future in the direction we want it to go. Our Places will provide a pathway towards 2055.

How will local communities be involved?

We need to consider all the suitable options available to provide for our future growth needs, including:

- Intensification within existing towns
- Expansion of existing towns
- Creation of new settlements
- Future rural residential developments
- Papakāinga and Māori-led housing.

2

Engagement Proposal

While there is some more capacity for housing within existing towns, it will not be enough to meet demand for growth.

We have done some initial investigation, given what we know now, but your feedback will help shape the draft plan.

We want to hear about two things in particular:

1. What are your thoughts about where to plan for 5,500 new houses by 2055?
2. What is most important that you want us to think about and plan for to support your community and other communities across the Eastern Bay?

Looking for more detail?

We have created a **draft Scenarios and Development Options Report** that sets out our current thinking about options for future growth.

It explains how future growth needs can be met in the Eastern Bay, considering projected growth, environment, natural hazards and climate change, economic development and cultural factors.

It presents research about demographics, natural hazards and climate change, infrastructure, existing plans and previous public engagement, and feedback from initial conversations with iwi and industry. We are considering economic and transport connections, how to support places that may not see new developments but are important anchors to wider rural communities, and other wider implications.

Through this process, we have identified potential opportunities for new housing developments or where we can add to existing developed

Our Places – Eastern Bay Spatial Plan

areas. These are outlined in detail in the draft Scenario and Development Options Report. Through the community engagement process, we want to hear from you about what we are proposing and if we have got this right.

Engagement Proposal

Our Places – Eastern Bay Spatial Plan

What is a spatial plan?

The spatial plan is about the economy, a changing climate, the environment, infrastructure, and how we – and future generations – want to live, work and play in the future Eastern Bay. It is about more than housing and business land or economic development.

To develop this plan, information is gathered about people, towns, water, existing and future climate and natural hazard risks, roading, landscapes, land uses, soils, business, and the environment. This provides a snapshot of where we are now.

Combined with Mātauranga Māori and additional information from you – the people of the Eastern Bay – this snapshot then becomes a completed picture of what the Eastern Bay could become in the future.

The completed picture provides a roadmap for how we get there. It can provide long-term certainty about what is important for the Eastern Bay, based on evidence and what the people of the Eastern Bay value.

Engagement Proposal

Goals and enablers

Our Place’s strategic direction is guided by the goals and enablers. Goals are what we would like to work towards, and enablers are critical ingredients needed to achieve the goals.

These are applied in the draft Scenarios and Development Options Report. Through consultation with the public the project hopes to hear about the long-term vision and what is important to the community to ensure the goals point to the right direction.

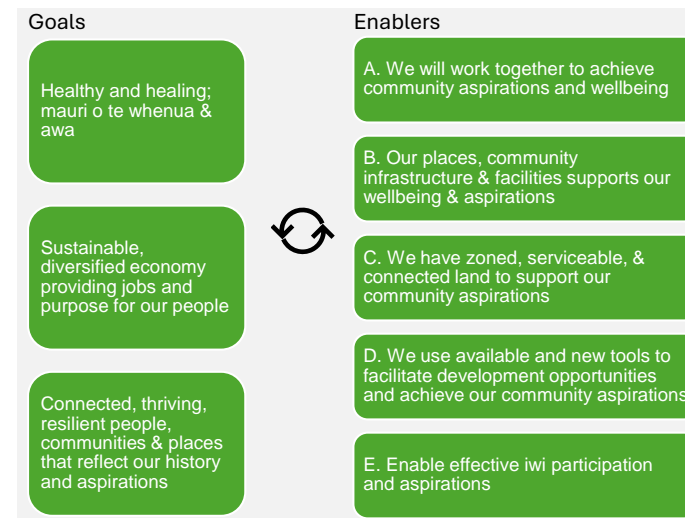


Figure 1: Goals and enablers for the spatial plan have been defined by the project partners.

Our Places – Eastern Bay Spatial Plan

What can a spatial plan do?

A spatial plan helps local councils and partner organisations prioritise what’s important for their area and detail actions to meet community goals. A spatial plan informs but does not replace District Plans or Long Term Plans.

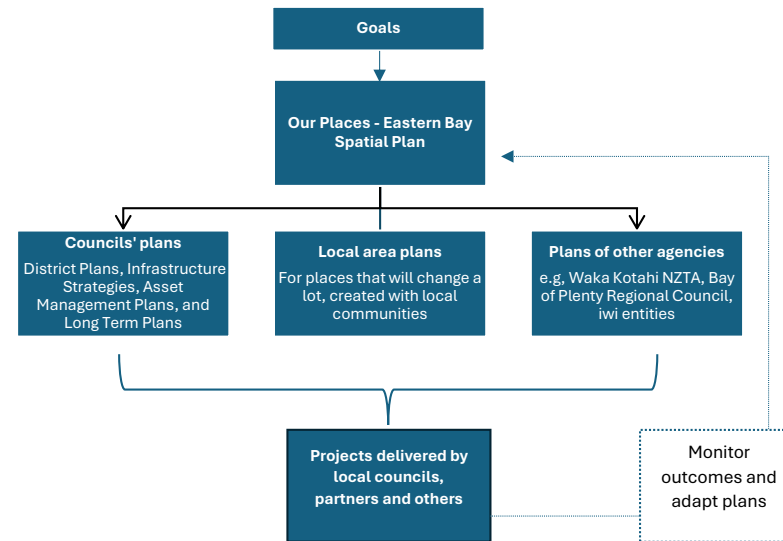
Our Places will outline areas where partners need to collaborate, establishing a forum for improved sub-regional collaboration. Additionally, it will specify tasks each partner needs to tackle independently to achieve the collective goals.

For areas being considered for significant changes, detailed local area planning will be required. This is intended to be done in close partnership with local communities and landowners, to collaboratively identify and guide changes.

Our Places will direct investment plans, strategies and infrastructure planning to ensure funding is prioritised for projects and initiatives that enable new growth while managing risks to existing communities.

To track progress over time and refine the strategy, key performance indicators will be recommended.

Engagement Proposal



Our Places – Eastern Bay Spatial Plan

Who is involved in this work?

A spatial plan is unique because it is being developed in partnership with local, regional and central government, along with iwi partners from across the sub-region.

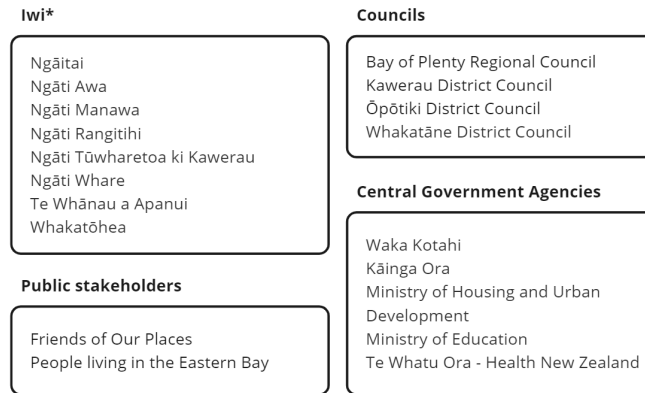
Our Places recognises that the Eastern Bay community needs to plan and implement together as a sub-region, rather than separate authorities and districts.

Iwi authorities are participating in the project at the pace and in ways that fit their capacity and interests. In our decision making we have considered the historical whakapapa of each iwi/ hapū in relation to their respective places of interest.

Decisions are made or informed by the following groups:

- Council and iwi authorities guide the approach and will decide on the final plan.
- Political leaders and executive staff provide strategic and technical leadership for the project.
- Iwi / hapū advise on how to give life to their aspirations.
- Friends of Our Places (a collective of businesses and organisations with an Eastern Bay perspective who are invested in the long term success of the sub-region), community groups and people in the Eastern Bay represent interests of the Eastern Bay.

Engagement Proposal



* Iwi authorities involved in the project at the time of this report; not all have chosen to actively participate in the project, but are being kept informed

Figure 2: Partners to Our Places.

Our Places – Eastern Bay Spatial Plan

Engagement Proposal

Key facts about the Eastern Bay

Some information about the Eastern Bay has influenced decision-making to date, with a selection of key factors summarised here.

Land management

- The Eastern Bay sub-region is 758,900 hectares. Of this, 26.5% is managed by the Department of Conservation. Forestry accounts for another 20%, with the largest areas in southern Whakatāne and Murupara. 22% of the land is Māori freehold land.
- Today, 22% (169,000 ha) of land in the Eastern Bay is Māori freehold land. The dispossession of land through confiscation and associated land use change has led to the loss of Māori-owned land and, in a lot of cases where land has been given to iwi, this has been in a different location to their traditional rohe.

Population growth

- In 2023, the Eastern Bay was home to about 57,000 people. It's projected that by around 12,000 more people will live in the Eastern Bay by 2055.

While growing, the overall population is ageing, with a youthful and increasing Māori population proportion:

- Those aged 65+ years will make up 30% of the population by 2053.
- Around 52% of the Eastern Bay's population is Māori, with a very different age profile compared to the general population:

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The average age of Māori is 26.3 years, with the largest cohort aged 14 years and younger.

Climate change and natural hazards

- The Eastern Bay is susceptible to a wide range of known and mapped natural hazards, most notably flooding from significant river systems, but also coastal processes, landslides/debris flows, tsunamis, earthquakes, volcanic eruption and rising groundwater. Many of these hazards will be exacerbated by the effects climate change.
- The main townships have flood infrastructure in place to reduce the risk of significant flood events. This flood infrastructure (such as stopbanks and floodwalls) relies on an agreed level of service to help protect existing communities and ensure activities can continue to operate. However, these communities are susceptible to residual risks of a failure or breach, including from an 'overdesign event' (a flood event that is greater than the level of service the flood infrastructure has been built for). This has been identified as a critical issue for Our Places.

Economic overview

- In 2023, the GDP of the Eastern Bay totalled approximately \$3 billion out of \$20.5 billion for the Bay of Plenty. The economy has distinct industry clusters:
 - 37% of jobs in Kawerau are related to manufacturing
 - 31% of jobs in Ōpōtiki district are related to agriculture/forestry/fishing

Our Places – Eastern Bay Spatial Plan

- Whakatāne District jobs are mainly a mix of agriculture / forestry / fishing, healthcare, training and education and retail. Whakatāne township is the main sub-regional centre providing a retail and services hub.
- 125km of coastline supports thriving boating and aquaculture industries. The aquaculture sector and future aquaculture development in the Ōpōtiki District is predominately iwi led and has intergenerational benefits.
- Transport infrastructure, state highways and rail are essential to the flow of Eastern Bay’s freight, and people moving between the districts and wider Bay of Plenty region and to and from the Port of Tauranga.

What does this mean for Our Places?

In summary, new land for housing and businesses that is serviced with infrastructure is required.

There is a need to develop more areas where people can live, work, learn, shop, and engage in recreational activities – but we need to do this safely. This means managing the risks from natural hazards and climate change in existing communities, as well as avoiding climate and hazard-prone locations for future greenfield development. Much of the land in the Eastern Bay is unsuitable for urban-scale development, including areas adjacent to and within the existing townships.

A broader range of housing options is essential. The types of housing needed in the Eastern Bay must accommodate a growing population and an ageing demographic, as well as a youthful and growing Māori population. Providing housing to meet demand can

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Engagement Proposal

support workforce growth, supporting economic development opportunities. Our Places will back goals of iwi, hapū, and land trusts.

Zoned and serviced land needs to support economic growth and offer places for people to live. Continued infrastructure investment and land use provisions are necessary to enable aquaculture and other primary sector industries like horticulture to expand, as well as achieve a sustainable supply of new housing.

Reliable market connections are crucial. Highway and rail links to the Port of Tauranga are vital to the economic success of the Eastern Bay. Industrial and primary sectors will continue as the cornerstone of economic activity in the Eastern Bay.

Our Places – Eastern Bay Spatial Plan

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What are the challenges and opportunities that each District faces?*Whakatāne District*

- The Whakatāne District could require approximately 3,500 new homes over the next 30 years, equating to around two-thirds of the current Whakatāne township.
- There is no clearly defined place for these to be built, and due to natural hazard constraints, they would need to be built outside of the township.
- An improved housing supply can enable economic development. Stakeholders have told us that by providing a steady supply of suitable land we hope to increase the wellbeing of the community by unlocking economic opportunities.
- The District faces unique constraints and natural hazards, including susceptibility to flooding, earthquakes, and tsunamis. Existing communities need to be protected, and future developments must be planned so risks can be managed, and infrastructure must be resilient to natural hazards and climate change.
- To manage development pressures, we are testing if we can expand in areas such as Matatā, Awakeri, Tāneatua, Minginui, and Murupara. This would require expanding infrastructure, creating more jobs, and developing new residential areas.

Ōpōtiki District

- If Ōpōtiki grows as projected, with 2,600 more people over the next 30 years, it will need an additional 1,400 houses. However, considering factors, such as the increasing trend in building and resource consents, we anticipate that up to 2,300 more houses may be required within the same period. This demand far exceeds the currently available residential land, necessitating a large-scale solution for providing safe and affordable housing.
- Further residential infill within the township is not encouraged due to flooding risks. However, some infill is already provided for and is managed by the existing flood scheme to protect the existing community.
- The Hukutaia Growth Area is viewed as the logical next location to accommodate future growth and address the existing housing shortage. It is resilient to natural hazards and climate change and offers a large supply of land for housing. Ōpōtiki District Council has committed to developing this area and a plan change will soon commence for the initial stage.
- A significant portion of Ōpōtiki's employment is tied to agriculture and horticulture in rural areas, and the burgeoning aquaculture industry. People prefer to live near their workplaces, making rural residential development an important housing choice.
- With more than 60% of the population being Māori, Papakāinga and Māori-led housing are crucial for meeting the District's housing needs. Māori-owned land provides

Our Places – Eastern Bay Spatial Plan

additional opportunities to meet iwi aspirations and support business and industrial development.

- The best areas to rezone for industrial growth are currently being reviewed by Ōpōtiki District Council.

Kawerau District

- Kawerau District is expected to need approximately 650 additional homes over the next 30 years. There is sufficient infrastructure capacity within the urban residential area to support growth.
- The district is small and geographically constrained, meaning there is very limited opportunity for greenfield residential development. Increasing housing in the district will mean intensification of the existing residential area.
- A lack of suitable housing of the quality and type that people need affects the ability of employers to attract workers to live in the town. Projects like Roy Stoneham Park will be critical in delivering housing.
- The Pūtauaki Industrial Area will expand because of the recent boundary adjustment with the Whakatāne District, meaning Kawerau is confirmed as the industrial centre of the Eastern Bay.
- There are also pockets of residential zoned Māori-owned land that could provide opportunities for Papakāinga and Māori-led housing options.

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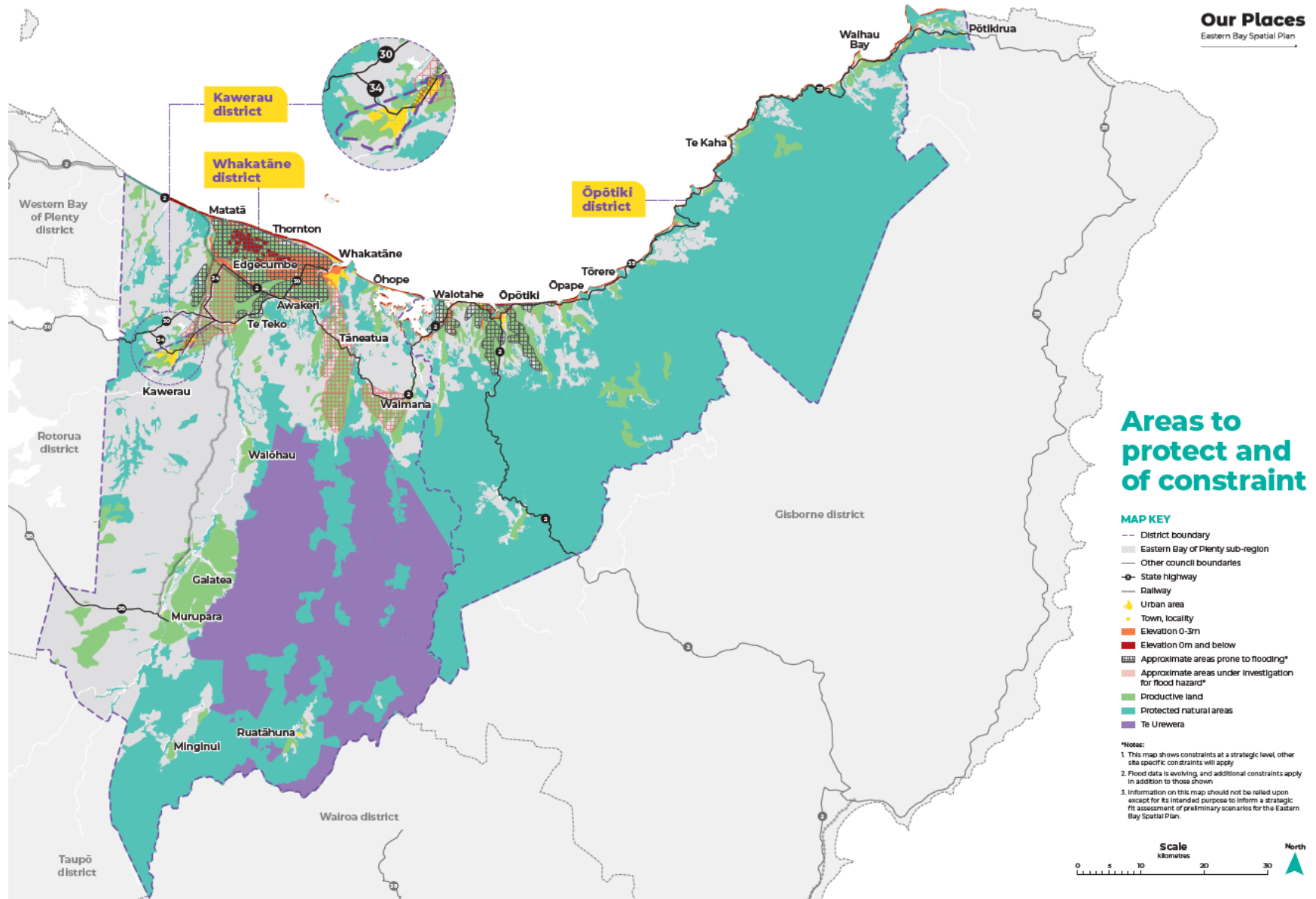
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Areas to protect and of constraint map

The map on the following page shows a high-level summary of the environmental constraints and opportunities within the Eastern Bay that relate to development.

This helps us understand where it could be unsafe to develop or where we could need to consider development carefully. Areas where most people would want to live have constraints that need to be managed or avoided.

This information has been used to help inform our draft recommendations about where we could grow for the future.



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Iwi and hapū aspirations are fundamental

More than 50% of the Eastern Bay’s population area is Māori and there are 11 iwi, 99 hapū and 92 marae in the area.

The Eastern Bay is rich in culturally significant places, resources and taonga that Māori communities affiliate with. Māori-led housing and economic activities are fundamental to the Eastern Bay. Our Places is working with iwi to document aspirations and identify means to support these. This information is provided as context.

Eleven Iwi are present in the Eastern Bay: Ngāitai, Te Whānau ā Apanui, Ngāti Porou and Whakatōhea (within Ōpōtiki District); Ngāti Makino, Ngāti Manawa, Ngāti Rangitahi and Ngāti Whare (within Whakatāne District); Tūhoe (across both Whakatāne and Ōpōtiki), and Ngāti Awa and Ngāti Tūwharetoa ki Kawerau (across both Whakatāne and Kawerau).

Iwi in the Eastern Bay are active local investors, which opens the potential to enter a time of rapid economic growth through development opportunities across a range of sectors, including aquaculture, horticulture, tourism, timber and wood processing, water bottling, dairy processing and renewable energy.

With increasing economic activity, housing and business land to keep up with demand is essential to achieving economic aspirations. Papakāinga, multi-generational housing and marae communities can be part of innovative solutions to meet community and housing needs. Transport connections to bring products and services to market is essential.



Figure 3: Themes from tangata whenua engagement and iwi management plans.

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The next 30 years: How many houses and how much business land does the Eastern Bay need?

The National Policy Statement on Urban Development (NPS-UD) requires that Eastern Bay councils provide land for projected demand for residential and business development, while ensuring communities are resilient to the effects of climate change.

Recent consultation on economic development opportunities points to housing supply and suitability as a main constraint to economic opportunities in the Eastern Bay.

A steady long-term supply of resilient, zoned and serviced residential land is critical to our long-term success because it can improve housing affordability, unlock constraints to economic growth and better meet the needs of an ageing population.

Projections show:

- Its most likely around 12,000 more people will call the Eastern Bay home by 2055
- These people will need around 5,500 new houses (around 3500 in Whakatāne, 1400 in Ōpōtiki¹, and 650 in Kawerau).
- Similarly, employment is expected to increase from about 21,000 in 2022 to 25,000.
- The actual change could be different, and this requires ongoing monitoring.

¹ While projections indicate a possible future requirement for 1,400 new dwellings in Ōpōtiki District, Ōpōtiki District Council is aware of aspiration for closer to 2,300 dwellings in the coming decades.

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New greenfield development areas are necessary to meet the scale of projected demand and provide certainty of supply over time. Where this can happen is constrained by natural hazards, land ownership and existing uses.

Infill, papakāinga and rural residential developments have been looked at and are important sources of housing supply, but the amount of housing and its timing from these sources are unknown.

Papakāinga development and Māori-led housing could be a much larger proportion of the housing mix in the coming decades, and the scale of its' successful delivery could affect timing of demand for conventional housing.

Most commercial land can be accommodated in existing townships (with some new land area needed close to Whakatāne township). The Pūtauaki Industrial Development in Kawerau is the focus for large-scale industrial activities, with additional land needed around Ōpōtiki District and eastwards up the coast.

Table 1: Projected demand for housing and business land 2023-2055.

Activity type	Approximate demand 2023-2055
Residential	5,500 dwelling units
Commercial and business services	26 ha or more
Industrial and manufacturing	60 ha or more

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How can we meet the demand for residential and business land for the next 30 years?

One of the important decisions we need to make is about where new urban development could happen. We can then work on how to make it happen.

Based on the information we have, including projected population growth, environmental constraints and key areas for economic development, three high-level scenarios were created to support discussions on how we could accommodate current and future needs.

Below is a summary of the three scenarios. The draft Scenarios and Development Options Report sets out the rationale and assesses specific locations for their suitability in detail.

Figure 4: Scenario options.

Scenario 1: Resilient greenfield areas (preferred option)

Provide a long-term supply of housing and business land in a series of new greenfield areas: Matatā, Awakeri, Hukutaia. There would be a low level of residential infill and a low level of rural residential development.

Scenario 2: Un-serviced rural residential focus

Enable demand for housing to shift into rural locations, with a relaxed regulatory approach (but avoiding highly productive land, areas prone to natural hazards). There would be a high level of rural residential development. Over time this could encourage a high level of infill and intensification of townships and villages.

Scenario 3. Growth outside the sub-region

Demand shifts out of Whakatāne and Kawerau to Western Bay of Plenty and Rotorua because there are no new greenfield areas and rural residential development is not enabled. There would be a low level of rural residential development. Over time this could encourage a high rate of intensification and infill of townships and villages because there are few other options for housing growth in the districts.

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- Papakāinga and Māori-led housing enabled to meet aspirations, with servicing on a case-by-case basis subject to funding.

Papakāinga and other housing developments on Māori land enable whānau to live and work, and be connected to their whenua, resources and tikanga. It can allow Māori landowners to move back and live on their whenua and has potential to become a much larger overall component of the Eastern Bay's housing supply.

- Infill development within townships is not seen as a large-scale source of housing supply.

This is because some townships are affected by the residual risks posed by river systems, climate change and/or natural hazards, and overall, there is not likely to be enough space to fit in all the houses we would need.²

- Some communities are planned to grow in all scenarios because these aspirations have been clearly expressed by project partners and some are already in various stages of planning.
 - Kawerau: Stoneham Park Residential Development is an approved development for 104 houses.
 - Ōpōtiki District: Hukutaia Growth Area will happen. It has been consulted on before and planning is well underway.

What we expect to be the same in each scenario:

There are some things that would across all scenarios. These are listed below and may change.

² Kawerau is the exception as it is not constrained broadly by natural hazards related to flooding. While there has been some infill over time, and this is expected to continue, it is unlikely to be at a scale to meet demand.

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- Whakatāne District:
 - Plan Change 8: Making Room to Grow (Huna Road - 175-plus dwellings) is approved and will be developed.
 - Minginui: Assumed to grow by around 50-plus dwellings.
 - Murupara: Assumed to grow by around 300-plus dwellings.

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- Tāneatua: Assumed to grow by 250-plus dwellings
- Matatā: A minimum of 100-plus new dwellings enabled, but this could be much more if a larger wastewater treatment service can be provided.

How have we arrived at a preferred option?

To arrive at a draft preferred option, we considered each scenario against the guiding goals. This assessment shows that Scenario 1: Resilient greenfield areas could perform the strongest. Each scenario will have different costs and benefits in the short and long term, and more information on this will be considered when developing the spatial plan and related actions.

Table 2: Pros and cons of the scenario options.

Guiding principles	Scenario 1: Resilient greenfield areas (preferred option)	Scenario 2: Un-serviced rural residential focus	Scenario 3: Growth outside the sub-region
Healthy and healing; mauri o te whenua & awa	Greenfield areas offer the opportunity to design from the ground up. A compact, high-quality design can lead to good environmental performance and improve resilience to climate change and natural hazards.	Environmental impacts from spread out development pattern mean this option would perform worse than Scenario 1.	Less development and less environmental means this option could perform better in the Eastern Bay but would shift impacts into other locations.
Sustainable, diversified economy providing jobs and	Housing needs can be met locally, and this can support economic / employment growth in the Eastern Bay. Greenfield urban	Reverse sensitivity impacts from rural residential uses that are broadly spread through the sub-region can erode rurally	Not providing for housing locally would constrain economic growth over the long term and not lead to improved economic

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purpose for our people	development can avoid and manage conflicts between land uses.	based economic activities that are a critical part of the Eastern Bay’s economy.	opportunities as housing remains a constraining factor.
Connected, thriving, resilient people, communities & places that reflect our history and aspirations	Scenario 1 is the most likely to meet housing needs locally in the Eastern Bay and offer housing choices that better meet demographic needs and offer more affordable options. Councils can most directly influence housing supply outcomes in this scenario. Expanding smaller villages would change their sense of place and character and require people to travel to main centres for services.	New development would spread into the rural areas meaning that community facilities become harder to provide (less efficient). There could be broad scale visual impacts on the rural landscape, and housing types would not meet demographic housing needs or provide more affordable choices.	Housing would become increasingly harder to come by so people would need to move outside of the sub-region because there is no choice. Communities could be less thriving or socially well-connected over time.

What could change under Scenario 1 by 2055?

By 2055 greenfield residential land has developed as extensions of established communities:

- Short and medium term: Matatā (east of the existing urban area) grows by up to 1500 dwellings and Hukutaia develops adjacent to Ōpōtiki township, with capacity of up to 2,000 dwelling units.
- Long term: Awakeri grows by 1600-plus dwellings, beginning once Matatā was nearly built out. Hukutaia continues to develop.
- Minginui, Murupara, and Tāneatua develop at a pace to meet aspirations and market demand.

By 2055 residential infill in Whakatāne and Ōpōtiki townships has been limited by natural hazards. The Kopeopeo area around Whakatāne is the focus area for infill and it is very limited in other locations in either town.

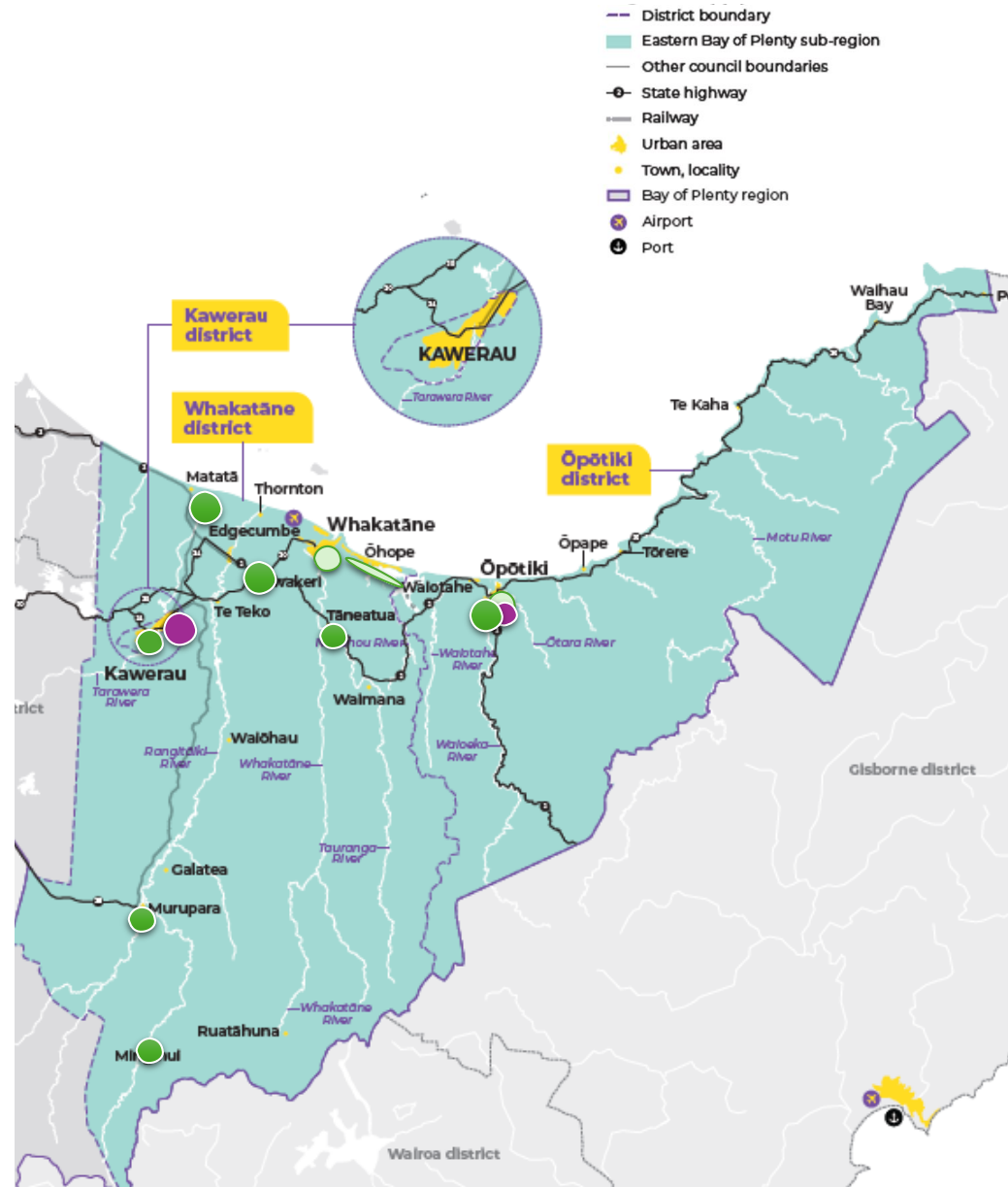
By 2055 residential infill in Kawerau has been driven by market demand. While there has been no new opportunity for additional greenfield land at Kawerau, there has been steady infill growth.

By 2055 new rural residential development has taken place at a low rate, strongly limited by District Plan rules. [not mapped]

By 2055 papakāinga and Māori-led housing has grown to meet iwi aspirations, becoming a larger part of the overall housing mix, serviced (e.g., water and wastewater) on a case-by-case basis subject to funding. [not mapped]

By 2055 new industrial activities have developed at Pūtauaki Industrial Development in Kawerau is the pre-eminent industrial activity area in the sub-region. Additional areas have developed near to Ōpōtiki township and in relation to aquaculture / horticultural activities east of Ōpōtiki township up the coast.



By 2055 new commercial land has been developed through a small expansion of commercial land near Whakatāne township; existing commercial areas of Ōpōtiki township and Kawerau are more vibrant than they were due to commercial redevelopments and infill, but new commercial development areas are not opened in these places. [not mapped]





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What could 2055 look like for residents in Scenario 1?

These personas help us imagine some of the things that could change and what it would be like to live in the Eastern Bay of 2055.

 <p>Maia and Ari are a young couple, who have recently shifted into their own home in Awakeri.</p>	<p>Maia says, “We moved into our new house in Awakeri three years ago. It’s in a new subdivision and is still close enough to drive or take the bus (we are on a main bus route) into Whakatāne, where we both work. The housing was a bit cheaper here than in town and better fit our active lifestyle. It’s central to all sorts of fun places – we take our e-bikes along the new shared paths or drive to one of the many great beaches in the area, like Thornton Beach. We also love to mountain bike in the forest and visit the local hot pools.”</p>
 <p>Anahera and Rawiri are parents with three children, living in Kawerau.</p>	<p>Rawiri says, “As an electrician I am busy during the week, spending most of my weekdays working in Kawerau at the Pūtauaki Industrial Zone, going between clients’ businesses. The rest of my time, I am in Awakeri, working on electrical system installs on new homes. The Pūtauaki Industrial Zone has grown massively in the past 30 years. People come here for work from all over the place – a number live in Matatā or Awakeri. Anahera works part time as an office administrator here in Kawerau and juggles this with caring for our young children. We trade-off who picks up the kids in Kawerau after school – we are lucky that the school is close enough that we can do this during the week.”</p>

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 <p>Evie is a teenager in Matatā, who goes to secondary school in Whakatāne.</p>	<p>Evie says, “I live with my parents in Matatā. The bus service has gotten much better over the years. On the weekends I catch the bus into Whakatāne to hang out with my friends, or head to the beach in summer. I can also catch the bus to Tauranga from Matatā, and am thinking about studying there once I finish school. More people moving into the area has changed things quite a bit since my parents came here 30 years ago. Town is busier and there are more shops, parks, and things to do here now. I like that Matatā has more for young people now”.</p>
 <p>Roger and Mandy moved to Hukutaia when they retired from Auckland.</p>	<p>Mandy says, “We moved down from Auckland a few years ago and haven’t looked back. We ended up buying a new home in Hukutaia because Roger grew up nearby and wanted to be closer to family. There has been quite a bit of development in the area, with many new homes and duplexes being built – even a few townhouses popping up. With the aquaculture industry booming in Ōpōtiki, the town is thriving. We like living in a friendly place where we have been able to make new friends since moving. We also enjoy the active lifestyle and warmer weather down here; the beaches and walks keep us busy. We can access most of the things we need in the Ōpōtiki township and when we need to we travel across to Whakatāne to access anything that isn’t available”.</p>

Our Places – Eastern Bay Spatial Plan

What about infrastructure?

Development and infrastructure go hand in hand. The scenarios have been broadly evaluated considering three water systems, transport, community facilities, and constraints for climate change and natural hazards.

Going forward, we will need to continue to balance investment into new areas with investment into existing areas to ensure communities are resilient in the long term. Before we do further work it is important to ensure the strategy is informed by the people of the Eastern Bay.

New greenfield areas (Scenario 1)

- New greenfield areas, such as Scenario 1, would require investment into three waters services, resilience measures (including flood management planning), transportation network changes and community facilities from Council, developers, ratepayers, and builders.
- There is already infrastructure planning underway in Matatā for a new wastewater treatment plant and to enable Hukutaia. This makes Matatā and Hukutaia both quicker opportunities than a completely new development area around Awakeri, which could take longer to plan out, so it could be secondary to Matatā.
- The scale of development at Matatā will be limited by the feasible design of the planned wastewater treatment plant and the extent of natural hazards. If a large-scale treated effluent disposal field is not secured for the Matatā wastewater treatment plant, then this could limit expansion to only several hundred dwelling units. One

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implication could be that the Awakeri greenfield area would need to be planned to be much larger and need to be done sooner.

Broad-scale rural residential development (Scenario 2)

- In this scenario, it could become more expensive to maintain the transport network as more households rely on the smaller rural roads requiring a higher standard of service, and public transport services would become less feasible to deliver cost effectively.
- While the scenario would mean less costs for local council to provide three waters services, costs for on-site water and wastewater systems are placed on builders and homeowners instead of onto councils – someone still must pay.
- With increased reliance on tanked water for rural residential dwellings, this may increase exposure to climate change risks.

Substantial infill and intensification of Whakatāne or Ōpōtiki townships (Scenario 2 or 3)

- In scenarios 2 and 3, comparatively more infill and intensification of the townships could take place. Kawerau District has three waters network capacity to accommodate projected population growth, but Whakatāne and Ōpōtiki townships would eventually need to upgrade three waters networks depending on the degree of changes.
- Transport network changes would be required to support intensification of these townships, particularly in Whakatāne which could require investment into urban road improvements and for active modes.

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- Because infill in Whakatāne or Ōpōtiki townships possibly raises exposure to natural hazards there could be additional mitigations and costs required to manage risks to existing communities beyond those already required.

We want to hear from you

You can influence the future of the Eastern Bay, for you and for future generations.

We have an idea about how and where development can happen, like Matatā, Awakeri or Hukutaia, but need your help to make sure we are on the right track and that we take the right approaches to development.

1. What are your thoughts about where to plan for 5,500 new houses by 2055?

We do not believe putting a lot more houses in Whakatāne or Ōpōtiki townships is a good idea because of the risk of natural hazards. Kawerau could support quite a bit of infill housing but not enough. This means we need to look at new (greenfield) areas for housing land.

What we want to know:

- a. Have we got it right with Scenario 1 Resilient greenfield areas, and do you agree we are looking at the right places for growth? If not, what would you want us to change or consider?
- b. Have we considered all the important factors? This could be things about the environment, society, economy, culture, or climate change and natural hazards.

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- c. If we deliver Scenario 1 Resilient greenfield areas, what else is important to you for us to take into account? This could be in terms of transport, design, public art, parks, open spaces and community facilities, or how you see these places taking shape.

2. What do you want us to think about and plan for to support your community and other communities across the Eastern Bay?

There are many short-term problems facing us, but this is an opportunity to lift our heads up from the day-to-day and think about what the future of the Eastern Bay could look like.

By better understanding the future expectations of you and your community, we can collectively work towards what is most important to the people of the Eastern Bay.

What we want to know:

- a) What do you value the most about your local community or the wider Eastern Bay?

This could be a place you cherish, like a park or beach, being able to have a short walk to the shops, a great walking pathway nearby, being able to live off the grid or get out into the many natural open spaces we have, or anything else that makes you proud to live where you do.

- b) What do you want to see change? What are the biggest opportunities for improvement that you see?

This could be about the environment, parks and open spaces, or how we travel around and use our streets. We want to hear your ideas about what the future could be.

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The process: How will we create the spatial plan?

Once we have heard the feedback from communities, we will finalise the Scenarios and Development Options Report.

From this and other information, we will create a draft of Our Places – Eastern Bay Spatial Plan. This will reflect the feedback from the people of the Eastern Bay. A report back on what was heard and what the project did with the feedback is expected to be published by the end of 2024/early 2025.

Around mid-2025, we will let people know the draft plan is finished and ready for further feedback. We are aiming to finish Our Places by late 2025.

Once Our Places is created implementation actions will pinpoint infrastructure needs, outline steps for further investigation and financial and infrastructure planning, and for engagement with local communities and landowners in a more detailed way than a sub-regional planning process can achieve.

Hearings subcommittee recommendations on submissions



Draft Policy on Dangerous Dams,
Earthquake-prone Dams and Flood-
prone Dams



17 September 2024



Driver for change

- Dangerous Dams Policy 2006 (adopted by Council in 2007)
- Building (Dam Safety) Regulations May 2022 – requires policy review
- Policy Review initiated by Council in April 2024



Impact of Regulations

- Definition of:
 - Classifiable dams i.e. 4m or more in height and stores 20,000m³
 - Potential Impact Classification - High, Medium and Low
 - Moderate earthquake and flood
- Responsibility to classify and determine PIC shifted from Council to Dam Owner
- Competency and qualification of engineers



Process and Key Dates

- Draft policy adopted: 25 June 2024
- Consultation: 26 June to 29 July 2024
- Deliberations: 14 August 2024
- **Hearings Subcommittee recommendations to adopt the policy - S&P Committee: 17 September 2024**
- Website update, emails to submitters, dam owners, industry associations and TAs: 18-26 September 2024
- Adopted policy becomes operative on 27th September 2024



Hearings subcommittee recommendations

- Adopt the proposed Bay of Plenty Regional Council “Policy on Dangerous Dams, Earthquake-prone Dams and Flood-prone Dams 2024”
- Note that the proposed policy will replace the existing Dangerous Dams Policy 2006, which no longer meets the legislative requirements.
- Note that the Bay of Plenty Regional Council “Policy on Dangerous Dams, Earthquake-prone Dams and Flood-prone Dams 2024 will become operative on 27th September 2024.



Questions & Answers....