

**NGĀ KAUPAPAHERE
POLICIES**



REVENUE AND FINANCING POLICY

The revenue and financing policy describes how we will fund operating expenses and capital expenditure from the funding sources specified in section 103 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Policy considerations

We will select funding sources for each activity after having regard to the following:

- The community outcomes to which the activity primarily contributes, and
- The distribution of benefits between the whole community, separate communities, and individuals, and
- The period over which benefits are expected to occur, and
- The extent to which the actions or inactions of particular individuals or groups contribute to the need to undertake the activity (referred to as exacerbator issues), and
- The costs and benefits, including consequences for transparency and accountability, of funding the activity distinctly from other activities and
- The impact that selected funding mechanisms have on the current and future community wellbeing.

The following is a summary of how we have approached these considerations.

The community outcomes to which the activity primarily contributes

The primary outcomes for each activity are included in the activity tables further on in this policy.

The distribution of benefits between the whole community, separate communities, & individuals

We have taken the following general approaches to relate benefits to funding sources:

- Activities that are available to every person in the District are funded across the whole community (e.g. roading or parks and reserves)
- Services that we make available to specific areas are funded across those areas, on a District wide basis. This applies to services for water, wastewater, stormwater and rubbish and recycling. The Targeted Rates are generally uniform across the District.
- Rural halls are funded from the local hall communities
- Fees and Charges are used as the funding source for individual or group benefits where either:
 - A direct relationship can be efficiently established between the provisions of a service and the charge (e.g. admission to a swimming pool), or
 - The benefits derived are beyond the level generally available to the general community (e.g. the exclusive use of sports facilities), or
 - The individual or group causes us to incur additional costs beyond the level that would be required for the general community.

We have expressed the allocation of benefits in the first part of the consideration process in the following terms:

- High – generally above 75%
- Medium – 40 – 75%
- Low – below 40%

See also the 'other policy considerations' section.

The revenue and financing policy describes how we will fund operating expenses and capital expenditure from the funding sources specified in section 103 of the Local Government Act 2002.

The period over which benefits are expected to occur

During the development of this plan we received feedback from the community on the types and levels of services expected from us. The overall conclusion is that the community expects the current services to continue to be available now and in the future.

This is reflected in this plan, as are the following principles:

- Current and future generations will benefit from each activity.
- We will implement appropriate accounting and funding policies to ensure intergenerational equity (so one generation does not benefit at the expense of another).
- We may encounter extraordinary situations that involve addressing legacy issues (e.g. environmental issues from old landfill sites). In cases like this we may not be able to impose the cost of addressing the issues on the people who caused the problem. We will consider funding options to minimise the impact of these issues on current and future generations. This might involve the use of retained earnings or proceeds from the sale of assets.

The extent to which the actions or inaction of particular individuals or groups contribute to the need to undertake the activity (exacerbator issues)

We encounter situations where the actions or inactions of individuals or groups cause us to utilise additional resources.

These can be generally categorised as follows:

- Non complying behaviour, for example, graffiti, illegal waste disposal, wandering dogs, non compliance with consent conditions.
- High cost activities - e.g. sports field maintenance (as opposed to open space maintenance).

We will consider:

- The impact that these situations have on the overall activity.
- The level of additional cost incurred.
- The potential to realistically recover the additional costs.
- The effect on the activity outcomes.

We may then apply funding mechanisms that recover all or part of the additional costs incurred (e.g. fines)

The costs and benefits, including consequences for transparency and accountability, of funding the activity distinctly from other activities

We have a desire for a simple rating structure that can be easily understood by the community.

We believe that transparency and accountability can be enhanced where the community can make a direct link between the services received and the charges we impose. User charges and Targeted Rates are examples where we believe this connection can be made.

Targeted Rates are preferred where:

- Services are made available to some properties or communities and not others (e.g. water supply is provided to urban properties and only some rural properties).
- Local communities have a strong sense of identity and accountability for an activity (e.g. rural halls, where the local communities fund and operate the halls).
- Activities that are intended to benefit a specific area (e.g. rural halls).

We can create numerous Targeted Rates to separately represent the full range of our activities however this would compromise our desire for a simple rating system. After allowing for the various Targeted Rates and user charges, the remaining Council activities are mainly funded from General Rates.

Our view is that rates are a form of tax and the quantum an individual pays does not necessarily reflect the level of benefit received. The use of additional Targeted Rates may inflate individual expectations about the level of benefit that should be received. This does not promote accountability. We promote transparency by disclosing the amount funded from General Rates for all activities with rates assessments. This has a low administration cost and is considered to achieve the same outcome as the use of numerous targeted rates.

The impact that selected funding mechanisms have on the current and future community wellbeing

We have considered the overall revenue allocation needs on the current and future social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of the community. We have selected funding mechanisms after having regard to the outcomes sought for each activity and the following considerations:

- The primary outcomes sought for each activity and the potential impact the funding sources have on the activity outcome. This allows us to reflect on the current and future wellbeing of the community.
- Sustainability - will the selected funding mechanisms affect the sustainability of the activity? For example setting a high level for user charges may reduce patronage, at the expense of community wellbeing.
- Achievable funding levels - are the targeted levels achievable? We have identified targeted levels for user charges that may not be achievable in the short to medium term. In these cases a target range will be set.

Other policy considerations

Funding 'public good'

The selection of funding sources is influenced by the categorisation of the benefits arising from activities, into public and private good.

Activities that have significant public good are considered to have the following two characteristics:

- Non rivalry - an individual utilising an activity does not affect the opportunity of other individuals to utilise the same activity. Street lighting is an example of an activity that is non rival. The fact that one person may benefit from street lighting, does not affect other people from enjoying the same benefit. As opposed to water, where consumption by an individual reduces the amount of water available for other individuals.
- Non excludable - the extent to which it is possible to exclude people from enjoying an activity. An activity with public good characteristics is one where it is difficult to exclude people from enjoying or utilising. For example, a public footpath would be non excludable. It is not practical to exclude people from making use of a footpath. People can be excluded from utilising a public swimming pool, by imposing entry fees.

Activities that have significant public good characteristics, are typically funded from General Rates.

There are two types of General Rates:

General Rates based on rateable property values; and,
The Uniform Annual General Charge.

The Uniform Annual General Charge is levied on each rateable property as a fixed sum. The General Rate is based on the capital value of rateable properties. The Uniform Annual General Charge is subject to a statutory maximum. Our policy is that the Uniform Annual General Charge can be set at a range between 75-100% of the maximum. This percentage will be reviewed annually. A change in the level of the Uniform Annual General Charge will change the level of the capital value based General Rate.

Funding 'private good'

Activities with strong private good characteristics are typically neither non rival or non excludable. We hold the view that a rating system is primarily a taxation system and not a system inherently based on a principle of user pays. We will utilise Targeted Rates to represent user charges and recover private benefits. Targeted Rates may also be utilised to recognise 'community specific' benefits.

Differential General Rates

We consider that public goods are available to be enjoyed equally by the whole community. General Rates should therefore be levied on the same basis across the District. For this reason, we do not consider that there are any compelling arguments to utilise differential rating for General Rates. The use of Targeted Rates and user charges provides an appropriate way to differentiate for our services.

Valuation system

The capital value rating system has been in place in this District since 1990. We acknowledge that this system is not an accurate representation of 'ability to pay', however, we do not consider that the alternatives (land or annual value) offer any advantages over capital value. Our community is familiar with the current system and there are no compelling reasons to change at this time.



Capital expenditure

Capital expenditure will be funded in a manner that as far is practicable and prudent takes account:

- Of the expected lives of assets, and/or
- The impacts on operating costs of our activities.

The available funding sources for capital expenditure are:

- Borrowing (either internal or external)
- Development and financial contributions as per the Developments/ Financial Contributions Policies (including interest costs as per the policy) private contributions as may be agreed from time to time with individuals/ organisations. This will apply where we have entered into a partnership or arrangement to undertake capital development.
- Lump sum contributions in accordance with the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.
- Targeted Rates in accordance with the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.
- Subsidies (where applicable).
- Specific revenue streams we determine.
- The proceeds of the sale of assets.
- Retained earnings (special funds and depreciation reserves), which may or may not come from general rates.

Considerations

The following considerations will apply in selecting the appropriate funding source:

We wish to allocate the cost of capital expenditure over the period that benefits are generated from the expenditure. Loan or accumulated depreciation reserves will be the normal source of funding for capital expenditure.

The annual loan costs will be met from the underlying funding sources for each significant activity. The considerations that apply for operating expenditure will by default, apply to capital funding, (for example a targeted rate for an activity will meet the annual loan repayments).

The primary factors giving rise to the need for capital expenditure will influence our choice of funding mechanism. For example:

- Development contributions must be used for the specified capital project.
- The needs of a specific community may result in funding being raised from that community.
- Special funds created for specific activities will be used for those activities.

The costs and benefits of different funding sources will be assessed within the context of our LTP. We can then assess the potential impact of the selected funding source against the community outcomes. We may resolve to utilise a funding source that is not included in this policy.

Group Activity	Borrowing	Financial contributions	Development contributions	General and special reserves	Lump sum contributions	Grants and subsidies	Targeted Rates*
Community facilities	✓	✓		✓		✓	
Consents and licensing							
Roading	✓		✓	✓		✓	
Rubbish and recycling	✓			✓			✓
Stormwater	✓		✓	✓			✓
Wastewater	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Water	✓		✓	✓			✓
Strategy and engagement				✓			

* Targeted Rates are charged to industries considered to have a high impact on Council's wastewater and water systems, in order to recover a share of the cost of capital upgrades to our systems.

Operating costs

Operating costs are the annual operating costs as contained within our LTP and/or Annual Plan. The following tables summarise our considerations for each activity.

Community facilities and property funding considerations

Funding considerations	Carparks and street furniture	Cemeteries	Housing and property management		
			Housing	Rural halls	Corporate/general
Primary outcomes	We encourage the use and development of our facilities.	We promote and protect our arts, culture, historic, and natural resources.	Quality infrastructure is provided to support community wellbeing.	Quality infrastructure is provided to support community wellbeing.	We encourage the use and development of our facilities.
Distribution of benefits	Community at large - high.	Total community benefit - medium (access and availability) Individuals - medium (burials and plot utilisation).	Individuals - high (private occupancy).	Community within rural hall areas - high. Individuals and area groups private hire - high.	Community at large 90% - (access and availability) Private individuals 10% - individual or group utilisation.
Periods over which benefits occur	Current and future.	Current and future.	Current and future.	Current and future.	Current and future.
Exacerbator issues	None.	None.	None.	None.	Minor issues relating to extraordinary demands from specific users.
Transparency and accountability	Not affected by selected funding sources.	Fees and Charges for burials. Use of General Rate does not affect accountability.	Direct user charges reinforce accountability and transparency in the management of the activity. User charges to be set to recover costs. Economies of scale achieved to ensure costs are competitive and therefore charges below market levels are achieved.	Separate funding sources link to community management of assets. Selected funding sources assist with the achievement of the desired outcomes. The local communities within the major rating areas are the major users of the halls. The percentage recovery from Fees and Charges is a realistic amount. The local hall rates account for the difference.	Not affected by selected funding source.
Overall impact on social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of the District	100% public funding to ensure achievement of desired outcomes is sustainable.	Selected funding sources assist with the achievement of the desired outcomes.			Selected funding sources assist with the achievements of the desired outcomes.
Funding sources	General Rates 100%.	General Rates 30-60% Fees and Charges 40-70%.	User charges 100%.	Targeted hall rates on varying bases for each of the rating areas 80%. Fees and Charges on varying bases for each of the rating areas.	General Rates 80-90% Fees and Charges 10-20%.



Funding considerations	Libraries	Parks and tracks	Pools and spas	Public toilets	Recreation facilities and heritage
Primary outcomes	We promote and protect our arts, culture, historic, and natural resources.	We encourage the use and development of our facilities.	We encourage the use and development of our facilities.	We encourage the use and development of our facilities.	We encourage the use and development of our facilities.
Distribution of benefits	Community at large - medium (access and availability) Private individuals - high (personal use of library resources).	Community at large - high (access and availability).	Community at large - medium Private individuals - high.	Community at large - high.	Community at large - medium Private individuals - high.
Periods over which benefits occur	Current and future.	Current and future.	Current and future.	Current and future.	Current and future.
Exacerbator issues	None.	Some users result in the need for higher costs (e.g. sports fields) than would otherwise be necessary.	Some users result in lost opportunities for revenue and impose higher administration costs.	None.	Some users result in lost opportunities for revenue and impose higher administration cost.
Transparency and accountability	Fees and Charges reinforce accountability to individual customers for library resources. The charges also promote the need for Council to demonstrate 'value' to Library customers.	Fees and Charges reinforce accountability to individuals and groups.	Not affected by selected funding source.	Not affected by selected funding source.	Not affected by selected funding source.
Overall impact on social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of the District	Setting the level of individual recovery too high will result in the decline in the utilisation of the libraries. Council has assessed a realistic and achievable target for user fees. A higher level would be preferred and this is reflected in the range below.	Setting the level of individual or group recovery too high will be counter- productive to the outcomes Council is seeking to achieve. Council has assessed a realistic and achievable target for user fees. Council will recover additional costs where possible.	Setting the level of individual or group recovery too high will be counter- productive to the outcomes Council is seeking to achieve. Council has assessed a realistic and achievable target for user fees. A higher level would be preferred and in individual facilities, this may be achievable without compromising utilisation.	100% public funding to ensure achievement of desired outcomes is sustainable.	Setting the level of individual or group recovery too high will be counter- productive to the outcomes Council is seeking to achieve. Council has assessed a realistic and achievable target for user fees. A higher level would be preferred and in individual facilities, this may be achievable without compromising utilisation.
Funding sources	General Rate 90-99% Fees and Charges 1-10%.	General Rates 90-100% Fees and Charges 0-10%.	General Rates 50-70% Fees and Charges 30-50%.	General Rates 100%.	General Rates 85-90% Fees and Charges 10-15%.

Consents and licencing funding considerations

Funding considerations	Animal control	Building consents and monitoring	Licencing and enforcement			Resource consents and monitoring
			Health	Alcohol	Noise control	
Primary outcomes	Our community is safe, healthy and connected.	Our community is safe, healthy and connected.	Our community is safe, healthy and connected.	Our community is safe, healthy and connected.	Our community is safe, healthy and connected.	Development occurs in a sustainable and respectful manner considering kawa/protocol and tikanga/customs.
Distribution of benefits	Community at large – medium (public safety) Individuals - medium.	Community at large - medium (managed/appropriate development) Individuals - medium.	Community at large - high Private individuals - medium.	Community at large - high.	Community at large - high.	Community at large – medium (managed/appropriate development) Individuals - medium (resource consents).
Periods over which benefits occur	Current and future.	Current and future.	Current and future.	Current and future.	Current and future.	Current and future.
Exacerbator issues	<p>The need for this activity arises from the expectation that animal ownership will not negatively impact on public safety.</p> <p>Irresponsible owners create higher demands on this activity.</p>	Non-compliance with conditions by some individuals result in the need for extraordinary monitoring and enforcement.	Non-compliance with conditions by some individuals result in the need for extraordinary monitoring and enforcement.	Non-compliance with conditions by some individuals result in the need for extraordinary monitoring and enforcement.	Non-compliance with conditions by some individuals result in the need for extraordinary monitoring and enforcement.	The District Plan captures the community’s collective view on the types of development it desires as of right. People who propose development outside these parameters impose additional costs on Council. Non-compliance with some individuals result in the need for extraordinary monitoring and enforcement.
Transparency and accountability	Fees and Charges promote owner accountability and transparency on Council’s part.	Building fees promote transparency and accountability on Council to individual customers.	Not affected by selected funding sources.	Not affected by selected funding sources.	Not affected by selected funding sources.	Planning fees promote transparency and accountability on Council to individual customers.
Overall impact on social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of the District	Council is satisfied that imposing the majority of the costs of the activity on animal owners promotes public safety. It is in the interests of the owners to reduce their ownership costs by being responsible. People who are irresponsible will pay a higher level again. The General Rates funding is set at a level that Council believes that the community is willing to pay to have a safe environment.	Council can demonstrate a strong linkage between the level of fees charged and the services received. Council is satisfied that the level of funding is consistent with the desired outcome to achieve managed and appropriate development for the community.	Fees and Charges for the activity are set largely by statute. The General Rates funding must fund the balance.	Selected funding source assists with the achievement of desired outcomes.	Selected funding source assists with the achievement of desired outcomes.	Council can demonstrate a strong linkage between the level of fees charged and the services received. Council is satisfied that the level of funding is consistent with the desired outcome to achieve managed and appropriate development for the community.
Funding sources	General Rates 20% Fees and Charges (including fines) 80%.	General Rates 40-60% Fees and Charges 40-60%.	Licence processing – 100% user pays Enquires / complaints / enforcement – 100% funded by rates.	Licence processing – fees set by legislation Enquiries / complaints / enforcement – 100 % funded by rates.	100% General Rates.	Planning Resource Consent Processing and monitoring – 100% user pays Enquiries/complaints / enforcement – 100 % funded by rates.

Roading and Rubbish & Recycling funding considerations

Funding considerations	Roading	Rubbish and recycling	
		Waste management facilities (Transfer Stations/Resource Recovery Centres)	Kerbside collection services
	Infrastructure and services are fit for purpose and affordable, now and in the future.	Infrastructure and services are fit for purpose and affordable, now and in the future.	
Primary outcomes	Quality infrastructure is provided to support community wellbeing. We have positive partnerships with external providers of infrastructure to our communities.	Quality infrastructure is provided to support community wellbeing. We engage with our regional and national partners to ensure positive environmental outcomes for our community.	
Distribution of benefits	Community at large – medium Private individuals - high.	Community at large - medium (access, availability, healthy environment) Individuals - high.	Individuals - high.
Periods over which benefits occur	Current and future.	Current and future.	Current and future.
Exacerbator issues	Heavy traffic and some commercial activities can negatively impact on network maintenance.	Individuals generate waste and through their actions or inaction can significantly impact the waste volume. Some activities generate hazardous wastes or large volumes of waste.	Individuals generate waste and through their actions or inaction can significantly impact the waste volume.
Transparency and accountability	Council has limited ability to directly recover the private benefits other than through rates. Government subsidy contributes a significant portion of the total funding.	User charges for the use of waste management facilities is transparent and promotes accountability on waste generators.	Targeted rate for properties to which Council is prepared to provide collection, promotes transparency and accountability linking a service provided to a specific Council rate.
Overall impact on social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of the District	Selected funding sources assist with the achievement of the desired outcomes.	Selected funding sources assist with the achievement of the desired outcomes Council's ability to use General Rate funding acknowledges the wider community benefits generated from the activity.	Selected funding sources assist with the achievement of the desired outcomes.
Funding sources	Subsidy - as determined by Government agency. Council has resolved to allocate interest earned from external investments to fund the Roothing activity to reduce the rates requirement. Council will determine the budgeted interest allocation on an annual basis. General Rates - balance of funding.	21/22 to 22/23 General Rate 35%-55% Fees & Charges 45%-65% - transfer station fees 23/24 to 30/31* General Rate 55%-75% Fees and Charges 25%-45% - transfer station fees	21/22 to 22/23 Kerbside collection - targeted rate 50%-70% on a uniform basis for serviced properties Fees & Charges 30%-50% - rubbish bags sales 23/24 to 30/31* Targeted rate 90%-100% on a uniform basis for serviced properties Fees and Charges 0%-10%

*Funding sources are expected to change from 2023/24 due to the implementation of a new solid waste contract

Three waters funding considerations

Funding considerations	Stormwater	Wastewater	Water
Primary outcomes	<p>Infrastructure and services are fit for purpose and affordable, now and in the future.</p> <p>Quality infrastructure is provided to support community wellbeing.</p>	<p>Infrastructure and services are fit for purpose and affordable, now and in the future.</p> <p>Quality infrastructure is provided to support community wellbeing.</p>	<p>Infrastructure and services are fit for purpose and affordable, now and in the future.</p> <p>Quality infrastructure is provided to support community wellbeing.</p>
Distribution of benefits	<p>Community at large - low (approximately 14% of the networks service public areas - roads, parks etc.).</p> <p>Township and property owners - high.</p>	<p>Community at large - medium.</p> <p>Individuals - high.</p>	<p>Community at large - low-medium.</p> <p>Private individuals - high.</p>
Periods over which benefits occur	<p>Current and future.</p>	<p>Current and future.</p>	<p>Current and future.</p>
Exacerbator issues	<p>Some issues where particular activities result in pollutants entering stormwater reticulation.</p>	<p>Properties connected to the sewer generate the waste. Rating legislation prevents residential properties being charged for more than one pan. Properties with more than one pan and with a higher intake of water are assumed to have a higher impact on the network. Some industries and businesses create high loading on the network.</p>	<p>Activities that generate extraordinary levels of water utilisation.</p> <p>Properties that are serviced by the reticulation, but not connected.</p>
Transparency and accountability	<p>Targeted rate for properties within urban areas serviced by stormwater promote transparency and accountability, linking a service provided to a specific Council rate.</p>	<p>Targeted Rates for properties within urban areas serviced by waste water reticulation promote transparency and accountability, linking a service provided to a specific Council rate. Charging on a pan basis and modifying this by way of remission, further promotes accountability. Trade waste agreements address high impact activities.</p>	<p>Targeted rate for properties within urban areas serviced by public water reticulation and water meter charging promote transparency and accountability, linking a service provided to a specific Council rate.</p>
Overall impact on social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of the District	<p>Selected funding sources assist with the achievement of the desired outcomes.</p>	<p>Selected funding sources assist with the achievement of the desired outcomes.</p> <p>Council's ability to use General Rate funding acknowledges the wider community benefits the activity generates.</p>	<p>Selected funding sources assist with the achievement of the desired outcomes. Council's ability to use General Rate funding acknowledges the wider community benefits the activity generates.</p>
Funding sources	<p>General Rates 10-16%</p> <p>Targeted rate on a uniform basis for serviced urban areas 84-90%.</p>	<p>Fees and Charges through trade waste agreements The balance of funding after Fees and Charges will come from either:</p> <p>General Rates 0-6%, or</p> <p>Targeted rate on a per pan basis (using a scale of charges) for serviced urban areas 94-100% Factors - properties connected Properties able to connect but not connected Council will determine the actual percentages within the allowable range on an annual basis.</p>	<p>Targeted Rates from metered water (including residential and from industry).</p> <p>The balance of funding after metered water will come from either:</p> <p>General Rates 0-6%, or</p> <p>Targeted Rates on a uniform basis for serviced urban areas 94-100%</p> <p>Factors - properties connected properties able to be connected but not connected Council will determine the actual percentages within the allowable range on an annual basis.</p>

Strategy and engagement funding considerations

Funding considerations	Civil defence	Communications and events	Community leadership	Strategies and plans
Primary outcomes	Our community is safe, healthy and connected.	We encourage community engagement and provide sound and visionary decision making.	We provide leadership and advocacy to enable our communities to grow. We value and encourage strong relationships with iwi and other cultures, recognising wāhi tapu and taonga/significant and treasured sites and whakapapa/ancestral heritage. Tangata Whenua with Manawhenua status (those with authority over the land under Māori lore) have meaningful involvement in decision making.	We are a business friendly council. Our future planning enables sustainable growth in our District.
Distribution of benefits	Community at large – high.	Total community benefit- high.	Total community benefit- high.	Total community benefit- high.
Periods over which benefits occur	Current and future.	Current and future.	Current and future.	Current and future.
Exacerbator issues	Actions of some individuals can give rise to emergency response (e.g. rural fires). Council will attempt to recover these costs from the individual land owner.	None.	None.	None.
Transparency and accountability	Not affected by selected funding sources.	Not affected by selected funding sources. Other accountability processes in place.	Not affected by selected funding sources. Other accountability processes in place.	Not affected by selected funding sources.
Overall impact on social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of the District	Selected funding sources assist with the achievement of the desired outcomes.	100% public funding to ensure achievement of desired outcomes is sustainable.	Selected funding sources assist with the achievement of the desired outcomes.	100% public funding to ensure achievement of desired outcomes is sustainable.
Funding sources	General Rates 100% Exacerbator charges where possible.	General Rates 100%.	General Rates 100%.	General Rates 100%.

SUMMARY OF THE SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT POLICY

The Significance and Engagement Policy was first adopted in 2014, and reviewed in 2017 and 2020. The Policy helps us determine what the important issues are to the community and how we will involve the community in making those decisions.

The purpose of the Significance and Engagement Policy is to:

- enable Council and the community to identify the degree of significance of particular issues;
- provide clarity about how and when the community can expect to be engaged in the decision making process; and
- inform Council from the beginning of the decision making process about the level and type of engagement required.

In general, the more significant an issue, the greater the need for community engagement - however each issue will be dealt with on a case by case basis when determining the level and type of engagement required.

Schedule one of the Significance and Engagement Policy lists our strategic assets. Our Premier Parks (such as Firth Tower Reserve and Te Aroha Domain), Sport and Recreation Parks (such as Morrinsville Recreation Ground) and our cemeteries have been included in the policy as strategic assets. Also included are our elderly persons housing, offices, pools and spas and event centres, key infrastructure assets as a whole and the shares we own in the Hamilton Airport.

You can find a copy of the Significance and Engagement Policy on our website mpdc.govt.nz, and at our offices and libraries.

