



Āwhinatia mai kia tika
ā mātou whakaarotau

Help us get our priorities right

**Community priorities are about you,
and everyone who calls Kāpiti home.**

In 2024/25, through Vision Kāpiti, around 15 percent of residents shared their aspirations for the future of our district. This helped shape our people, place and partnership outcomes – the areas that support Kāpiti to thrive and grow well together.

Now, as we start to prepare our Long-term Plan 2027–37, we want to check back in. Have we got our priorities right? Do they reflect what matters most?

What's a Long-term Plan (LTP)

Every three years, Council has to prepare an LTP. This plan sets out what we are going to spend and deliver, including the things we're legislatively required to do, over the next ten years with a sharp focus on years 1-3. Importantly, the LTP also sets out the likely impact on your rates.

It's the tool that enables the delivery of our people, place and partnership community outcomes.

Before we consult on the details of the plan in early 2027, we want to hear from you about the proposed priorities that will guide our initial planning and decision making.



Learn about our other proposed priorities and have your say:
haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz





It's not business as usual

We know times are tough – costs and inflationary pressures are real and we're all feeling it strongly in our back pocket right now. Your elected councillors have agreed that rate rises are too high.

That's why we're taking a practical approach to this Long-term Plan (LTP). We're not proposing to do everything at once – that wouldn't be realistic or affordable. Instead, we want to take steady steps forward, year by year, focusing on the things that will make the biggest difference and deliver the best results for Kāpiti.

We also need to make sure the plan is financially responsible. That means not simply pushing problems, costs or infrastructure needs down the road, where they can become harder and more expensive to fix.

We can't afford to do everything, and we know every budget decision affects people differently. That's why our priorities need to be informed by you.

As we develop our LTP, we're also keeping an eye on the Government's proposed Simplifying Local Government reforms. Because there is still uncertainty about what may change, we're continuing to plan under current legislation.

Our commitment to this Long-term Plan

We're aiming for a practical plan and budget that:

- focuses on the services and projects that matter most
- delivers the things Council is required to deliver
- makes the best use of current rates and fees
- keeps costs as low as possible
- looks for smarter ways to do more with what we already have to maximise efficiencies
- supports affordable progress for current and future Kāpiti residents.

Have your say!

Online

- Scan the QR code or visit our website and complete our survey online.
- Email us at haveyoursay@kapiticoast.govt.nz

In person

- Attend one of our events. Scan the QR code or visit the website to find a list of upcoming events.

On paper

Complete our survey and:

- drop it into one of our libraries or service centres; or
- post it to Kāpiti Coast District Council, Private Bag 60601, Paraparaumu 5254.



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haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz

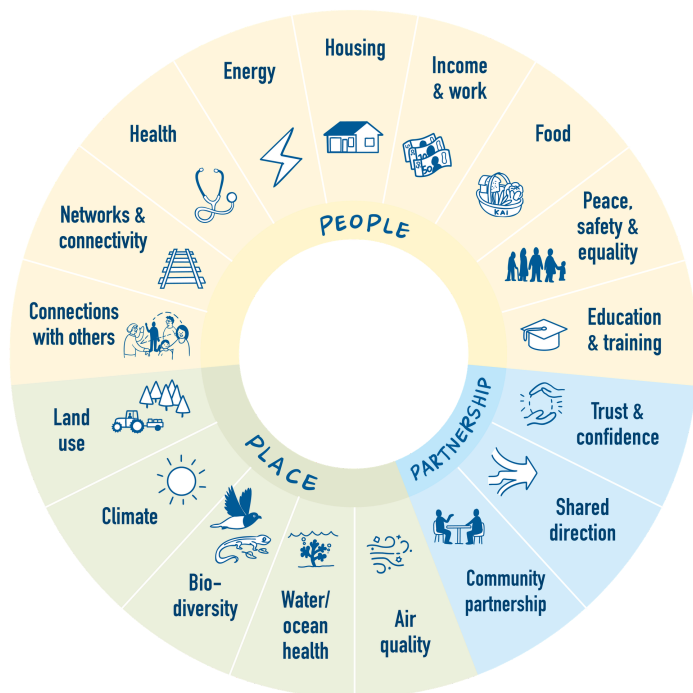


Mō ā mātou hua ā-hapori

About our community outcomes



Our community outcomes help us respond to our challenges and keep us focussed on what matters most and our legislative responsibility to look after the cultural, economic, environmental and social wellbeing of all the people in our district.



People

Our role:

The Local Government Act and other legislation also give councils an important role in supporting access to everyday services – including housing, health, food, energy, education, training and ways to connect with others.

Proposed priorities for the next 3 years:

Health

Good health starts with the basics – safe water, warm homes, access to local services, places to be active, and communities where people feel connected and supported.

Housing

Finding a home that's affordable, accessible, and right for people's needs is already a challenge for many in Kāpiti. But it's not just about building more homes - it's about the types of homes and making sure they're in the right places, supported by the right infrastructure, and shaped around local needs.

Connected communities

Feeling connected is part of what makes a place feel like home. As Kāpiti changes, we need to make sure people have places, spaces, and opportunities to meet, take part, and feel they belong.

Safety, peace and equality

Feeling safe in our community, and prepared for an emergency, is part of what makes Kāpiti a great place to live. As our district grows and changes, we want our centres, beaches, parks, roads, and shared spaces to stay welcoming, well cared for, and easy to enjoy.



Learn about our proposed priorities
and have your say:
haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz





Place

Our role:

The Local Government Act and other legislation gives councils an important role in caring for the environment we all share – including our land, waterways, ocean, biodiversity and air quality – and planning for the impacts of climate change.

Proposed priorities for the next 3 years:

Land use

How we use land affects everyday life in Kāpiti – where people live, how they move around, where businesses can grow, and how easy it is to access parks, services, and community facilities.

Waters

Water is one of the most important services we provide. Every day, our communities rely on safe drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater systems to support public health, local growth, and the environment.

Partnership

Our role:

Under the Local Government Act and other legislation we're required to ensure we enable community voice, understanding the aspirations and needs of current and future generations so that residents help shape the future of their community together.

Proposed priorities for the next 3 years:

Shaping our direction together

Council decisions affect everyday life in Kāpiti – the services people use, the places we invest in, how rates are spent, and how we plan for the future. We can't do everything at once. It's important for people to understand the choices in front of us, what they cost, and how decisions are made.

Working with others

Many of the things that matter to Kāpiti need more than Council working alone. Some local issues sit with government agencies, community organisations, mana whenua, businesses, or other partners — and sometimes the best results come when we work together.



Learn about our proposed priorities
and have your say:
haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz



Ā mātou mātāpono whakamahere hukihuki

Our proposed planning principles

We want to know what you think about our five proposed planning principles that will help guide the development of our Long-term Plan.

These five principles support a practical plan and budget that focuses on what matters most and keeps costs down where possible.

They also ensure we make the best use of the rates, fees, funding, and assets Council already has, while finding ways to do more with what we already have.

1. Community voice

Council will use community feedback and local insight to help prioritise Long-term Plan investment decisions, set levels of service, and decide how costs could be shared.

2. Growth pays for growth

As Kāpiti grows, new development should pay for or contribute to the infrastructure and services it needs. Existing ratepayers should not be unfairly asked to cover the cost of growth.

3. User pays where it makes sense

Individuals or groups who use a service should help pay for it, instead of the cost falling on all ratepayers. Where a service mainly benefits certain people or groups, we will recover the cost where appropriate and look at fees and charges before using rates to fund it.

4. Live within our financial limits

Council will manage money carefully, keep debt at sustainable levels, and pay for day-to-day services from day-to-day income wherever possible.

Looking after essential infrastructure, renewals, maintenance, safety, and legal requirements comes before new or optional upgrades.

5. Prioritise the must-dos

Council will focus first on essential services, legal requirements, safety, resilience, and core infrastructure. We will look for opportunities to work with others to increase the quantity and quality of our community outcomes, and the value from our services.

What do you think?

Do you agree with these?



Learn more about our proposed planning principles and priorities and have your say:

haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz



Learn more and have your say:
haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz





People



Hauora Health



Why it's a proposed priority

Good health starts with the basics – safe water, warm homes, access to local services, places to be active, and communities where residents feel connected and supported.

Kāpiti's growing and changing. By 2050, we may have 25,000–30,000 more residents living here.

Our district also has an older population than the wider region, with more residents aged 65+ and lower median incomes. This means access to affordable, local health services is already important — and it'll become even more important as we grow.

Our role

Council doesn't provide primary, hospital, or specialist health services. However, we have an important role in planning, advocating, and making sure the basics that support good health are in place.

Under legislation we are required to deliver services that support public health standards and responsibilities.



Learn about our other proposed priorities and have your say:
haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz





Actions to shift the dial

- Formally partner with health service funders to help prioritise, inform, and plan for health services now and into the future.
- Report on local health need, including unmet demand, for existing communities and future population changes.
- Advocate for health issues and needs across different communities, including Māori, older people, and groups affected by changes through central government reforms.
- Continue to prioritise water quality through the new Water Services Strategy.
- Continue to prioritise wastewater infrastructure so the network has the resilience and capacity needed now and into the future.
- Introduce a districtwide Health Strategy to set local priorities.
- Support alliances with health stakeholders to help deliver on local health policies and priorities.
- Maintain supporting infrastructure, parks, open spaces, and services that help prevent poor health outcomes.

How we'll know

These are our proposed measures of success:

- Improved access to priority local health services for all residents through better planning.
- Reduced unmet demand for local health services for key demographic groups.
- Local water quality regulations are met throughout the transition to the new Water Business Unit.
- Wastewater assets are managed in a way that supports local growth, health, and other community outcomes.
- Positive shifts are seen through the Health Strategy measures of success.
- Residents continue to enjoy access to open spaces and amenities.

Learn more about the work the Council is undertaking in supporting the health and wellbeing of Kāpiti residents:

► kapiticoast.govt.nz/SupportingHealth



Learn about our other proposed priorities and have your say:
haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz





Kāinga Housing



Why it's a proposed priority

Finding a home that's affordable, accessible, and right for residents' needs is already a challenge for many in Kāpiti.

Our population is growing and it is anticipated that we'll need around 10,000 new homes by 2050, which gives us a real opportunity to create more housing choice.

But it's not just about building more homes - it's about the type of homes and making sure they're in the right places, supported by the right infrastructure, and shaped around local needs.

The pressure is already clear. As of 31 March 2026, Kāpiti had the highest average Emergency Housing Special Needs Grant amount in the Wellington Region: \$4,300 per person.

We also have a growing older population, with increasing need for homes that are affordable, accessible, and where they feel at home.

Our role

Under legislation, Council's role in housing is to plan for growth, set planning requirements for local development, help enable well-designed housing, support housing partnerships, and make sure the right infrastructure is in place - while advocating for housing that meets local needs.



Learn about our other proposed priorities and have your say:
haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz





Actions to shift the dial

- Keep implementing the Housing Strategy and refresh it if needed
- Support Community Housing Providers and partners to progress social and community housing projects
- Explore more affordable and effective ways to deliver older persons housing
- Look at options for the Housing Trust to help deliver more affordable housing, including opportunities for external funding and inclusionary zoning
- Work with developers and investors to support good growth and reflect Vision Kāpiti aspirations
- Investigate how Kāpiti's high growth planning status is supporting local housing needs
- Advocate for better social housing outcomes and support mana whenua housing aspirations, including papakāinga
- Balance land use, consent decisions, and infrastructure investment so new housing supports growth while protecting local character.

How we'll know

These are our proposed measures of success:

- Housing pipeline is maintained, addressing housing need
- Housing developments are well planned and enabled by infrastructure, and data confirming need.

Learn more about our role in housing and how we're working with our partners and communities to implement our housing strategy.

► kapiticoast.govt.nz/housing



Learn about our other proposed priorities and have your say:
haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz





Ngā hapori tūhonohono

Connected communities

Why it's a proposed priority

Feeling connected is part of what makes a place feel like home. As Kāpiti changes, we need to make sure residents have places, spaces, and opportunities to meet, take part, and feel they belong.

This means planning for shared places that bring residents together – parks, reserves, pools, playgrounds, libraries, halls, marae, and community facilities – as well as transport connections that help residents move easily between them.

Growing well is about more than pipes and roads. It means protecting the character, creativity, culture, heritage, and environment that make Kāpiti special. It also means planning for changing community needs, including a growing older population and new residents making Kāpiti their home.

Our role

Under legislation, Council has a role in making sure open spaces, recreation areas, and community facilities are part of growing well. Council also has a role in supporting community connection and belonging.

Actions to shift the dial

- Continue to balance renewing what we already have with planning for what's needed as our population grows
- Work with mana whenua, community groups, and others to look after open and recreation spaces
- Bring together the aspirations of the diverse range of creative, cultural, community, and business perspectives to agree shared priorities as we grow
- Council advisory groups are accessible and provide opportunities for mana whenua and new residents to be involved.

How we'll know:

These are our proposed measures of success:

- Residents continue to have access to open spaces, amenities, and community facilities
- Residents can get involved in looking after our open spaces and amenities
- Residents feel connected to the places, groups, and activities around them
- Residents feel able to take part in cultural and creative opportunities.

Learn more about some of the work Council does to make sure residents have places, spaces, and opportunities to meet, take part, and feel they belong.

► kapiticoast.govt.nz/Community

► kapiticoast.govt.nz/explore-kapiti



Learn about our other proposed priorities and have your say:
haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz





Marutau, rangimaire, me te tōkeke

Safety, peace and equality

Why it's a proposed priority

Feeling safe in our community, and prepared for an emergency, is part of what makes Kāpiti a great place to live. As our district grows and changes, we want our centres, beaches, parks, roads, and shared spaces to stay welcoming, well cared for, and easy to enjoy.

This priority is about working together – with Police, mana whenua, local groups, businesses, and communities – to prevent issues early, design safer public places, to strengthen emergency resilience, and support the safe, respectful use of shared spaces.

More frequent weather events also mean we need to be better prepared, with Council helping communities plan ahead, respond well, and recover after emergencies.

Community dynamics are shifting and growth brings new challenges – including antisocial behaviour and more demand on public spaces and services. Some local communities are already feeling the impact of limited Police presence.

Our role

Council has a role in partnering with other agencies to support community safety and has prescribed regulatory and compliance responsibilities. Under legislation Council also has a growing role in local emergency management, response, and recovery.



Learn about our other proposed priorities and have your say:
haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz





Actions to shift the dial

- Continue working with Police and local partners on safety priorities for the district as our population grows
- Embed safer design principles in town centre planning and new growth areas
- Explore new safety policies, including targeted use of CCTV
- Keep land use planning, district planning, and other Council activity up to date as national reforms progress
- Increase our level of emergency preparedness and support for local communities in response to the increased frequency of events
- Introduce refreshed recovery plan, including procedures that support pre-event and post-event planning with mana whenua, regional partners, and communities
- Increase education activity about the safe and respectful use of public spaces, so we can reduce the need for compliance action and keep services affordable as we grow.

How we'll know

These are our proposed measures of success:

- Residents continue to feel safe living in Kāpiti as we grow
- Communities feel supported by Council's leadership during emergency events
- Council's compliance activity appropriately addresses safety issues, enabling pride in public spaces.

Learn more about how Council supports our community to stay safe:

► kapiticoast.govt.nz/community/community-safety



Learn about our other proposed priorities and have your say:
haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz



Te whakamahinga whenua

Land use



Why it's a proposed priority

How we use land affects everyday life in Kāpiti – where people live, how they move around, where businesses can grow, and how easy it is to access parks, services, and community facilities.

More homes are already planned, and national planning changes are influencing how and where development happens. The challenge is making sure local voices and local needs still help shape good decisions.

Land across the district is under pressure for many different uses, from housing and business to food production, reserves, infrastructure, and community spaces. We need to make careful choices so we protect the whenua and Kāpiti can grow in a way that works for people now, and for future generations.

Our role

Under legislation Council has a role in setting planning requirements for local development and growth. This includes facilitating and developing growth plans, setting the district plan and zoning rules, spatial planning, assessing consents, recognising sites of significance for iwi and implementing plans for infrastructure to support local development.

Actions to shift the dial

- Progress plan changes related to natural hazards and approved exemptions, while keeping an eye on potential RMA reform requirements so rework and duplicated effort is avoided
- Continue to work with regional partners on the next stage of regional spatial planning
- Introduce levers outside of plan change requirements to support good urban design and maintain the unique character of Kāpiti as we grow
- Assess the success of intensification in our district
- Review Council's landholdings to determine whether any existing land should be released, or whether new holdings are needed to enable future capacity and outcomes.

How we'll know

These are our proposed measures of success:

- Residents agree that Kāpiti is heading in the right direction to achieve community aspirations
- Council can affordably deliver capacity for growth now and in the long term.

Learn more about our district plan which outlines the controls for land use and subdivision in our district, and specifies our desired environmental outcomes.

► kapiticoast.govt.nz/district-plan



Learn about our other proposed priorities and have your say:
haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz



Ngā wai e toru Waters



Why it's a proposed priority

Kāpiti has a strong track record of delivering safe, reliable water services, built through good management and ongoing investment.

Water is one of the most important services we provide. Every day, our communities rely on safe drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater systems to support public health, local growth, and the environment.

It is anticipated that we'll have around 10,000 new homes by 2050, so our water networks need to keep supporting the people who live here now, while also planning for future communities.

New national water reforms also mean Council must change how water services are managed behind the scenes. The services our communities receive are not changing, but new requirements mean water service planning, oversight, and finances need to be ring-fenced from wider Council operations.

Getting our waters right matters for public health, for housing and development, and for the health of our rivers, streams, waterways, and coastal environment.

Our role

Under legislation Council has a role in delivering water services. It also has environmental protection responsibilities related to land use and waterways.

Actions to shift the dial

- Implement our new (internal) water services business unit
- Review and update water-related policies and bylaws to meet new standards
- Review our infrastructure plan and capital programme to ensure the capacity and quality of drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater services are maintained into the medium term
- Clarify messaging about our water services, including how water-related rates and development contributions are used and invested
- Prioritise and work with partners on actions needed to address waterway issues identified through Kāpiti Whaitua and other environmental monitoring.

How we'll know

These are our proposed measures of success:

- Local water quality regulations are met
- Local water service provision meets local needs, and enables future growth
- Kāpiti's water environment supports growth and is protected now and into the future.

Learn more about our three waters services and the work we do to protect our waterways.

► kapiticoast.govt.nz/waters



Learn about our other proposed priorities and have your say:
haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz





Te tārai tahi i tō tātou kokenga Shaping our direction together

Why it's a proposed priority

Council decisions affect everyday life in Kāpiti – the services people use, the places we invest in, how rates are spent, and how we plan for the future.

We can't do everything at once. Some things need to happen now, some will need to wait, and some will be shaped by national reforms that Council must respond to. That makes it even more important for people to understand the choices in front of us, what they cost, and how decisions are made.

Kāpiti is made up of communities with different needs and priorities. People want to see action in their own areas, but they also want the Council to make fair, affordable decisions for the whole district.

In a tighter economy, value for money matters. People need clear, factual information about what Council does, what it must do, how rates and other funding are used, and what difference that investment makes.

Our role

Under legislation Council has a role in seeking community input on where we're heading, what we do, and the impacts of local changes. This includes reporting on what we do, how rates and funding are used, and what value this provides.



Learn about our other proposed priorities and have your say:
haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz





Actions to shift the dial

- Strengthen engagement with residents and mana whenua on major proposals, including the Long-term Plan
- Continue working with residents on Vision Kāpiti Phase 2, including a district blueprint to affordably deliver on community aspirations
- Support more regular Elected Member engagement in the community, so a broader range of residents can inform decisions
- Report back more clearly on the range of views Council receives, how those views are balanced, and why decisions are made
- Introduce a small set of principles to help balance affordability and value when investment decisions are being made
- Simplify reporting so it's easier to understand what Council has achieved
- New reporting that focuses on impacts for different communities, not just services delivered
- Focus engagement, and information shared, with residents on a more balanced view between total cost / affordability, and per resident value.

How we'll know:

These are our proposed measures of success:

- Residents feel consulted on significant issues and options
- Residents agree their views inform decisions about services, rates, funding, and the district's direction
- Residents agree that they are informed about proposed, significant change
- Residents are aware of what Council does and the value it provides.

Learn more about when and how we engage with our community in our Significance and Engagement Policy:

► [Kapiticoast.govt.nz/council-policies](https://kapiticoast.govt.nz/council-policies)



Learn about our other proposed priorities and have your say:
haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz





Te mahitahi me ētahi atu Working with others

Why it's a proposed priority

Many of the things that matter to Kāpiti need more than Council working alone. Some local issues sit with government agencies, community organisations, mana whenua, businesses, or other partners - and sometimes the best results come when we work together.

Council is often expected to solve local issues, even when responsibility or funding sits elsewhere. At the same time, communities can't afford to fund everything through rates, so we need to be clearer about what Council does, what others do, and where partnerships can help deliver better outcomes.

Some services and assets may also need new ways of being delivered or funded. In some cases, community organisations, trusts, or external bodies may be better placed to access funding, share delivery, or support long-term value for residents.

Our role

Under legislation, Council is required to engage with the community on the services it provides and the priorities for delivery. Through the Long-term Plan every three years, and the Annual Plan each year, Council reviews service levels and asks for feedback on what matters most.

Council also sets a financial strategy to make the best use of available funding and support affordable delivery. This includes reviewing funding options through the Long-term Plan and managing a multi-year capital programme, so spending can be prioritised and re-prioritised while staying within a manageable debt ceiling.



Learn about our other proposed priorities and have your say:
haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz





Actions to shift the dial

- Be clearer about Council's roles and responsibilities, including where others are better placed or funded to deliver
- Identify where Council can partner with others to improve services, value for money, or community outcomes
- Agree annual priorities with mana whenua partners and progress actions through annual planning
- Explore alternative funding options and new revenue streams
- Support external bodies or shared delivery models where they can access funding Council can't
- Continue to review fees, charges, and cost recovery settings to make sure they're fit for purpose
- Manage budgets in line with the financial strategy, balancing must-dos, affordability, and growth.

How we'll know

These are our proposed measures of success:

- Partnerships and shared service delivery models improve services and value for money for residents
- Iwi partners agree the Partnership Agreement is effective
- Residents agree Council is responsibly managing our finances
- Council operates within agreed budget and financial strategy settings.

Learn more about how Council works with partners and advisory groups to make sure we hear a range of voices.

► kapiticoast.govt.nz/partners



Learn about our other proposed priorities and have your say:
haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz

