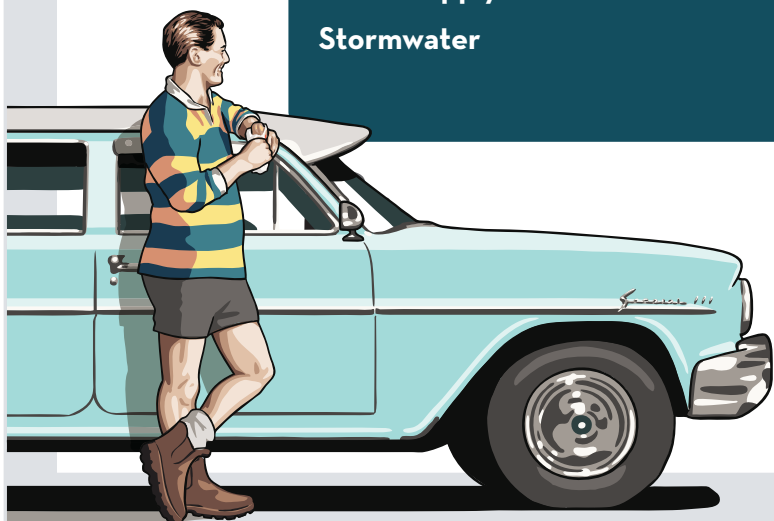


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COMMUNITIES STRATEGY

COMMUNITIES STRATEGY

OVERVIEW

This strategy aims to ensure our communities are sustainable and resilient and that their residents feel included. Residents support and look out for each other, they influence decisions that affect them, they collaborate to achieve the collective good and they foster tolerance and acceptance of others.

Sustainable, connected and resilient communities need strong social and cultural infrastructure to be able to respond to challenges and changes in society.

Our Communities Strategy aims to ensure we have in place what is needed for individuals, families, groups and communities to meet their social needs, maximise their potential for development and enhance their well-being. These include community facilities, services and networks or social infrastructure. Not all social infrastructure in a community is provided by Council, but we make a significant contribution to community well-being in the following ways:

- Providing places to learn, meet and socialise, for example halls and libraries (see Libraries and Service Centres page 148 and Community Facilities page 155)
- Supporting communities through a range of community building activities (see the Community Building section page 138)
- Encouraging communities to be prepared and able to look after themselves in a civil defence emergency (see the Civil Defence and Emergency Management section page 164).

Good social infrastructure, such as libraries, community meeting places and parks, provides the spaces and facilities for people to meet others, enjoy recreation time and activities and learn. Libraries are important community facilities and their role in communities is changing from being solely about books and learning to a place to meet others, access community services and use information technology. The increasing importance of information communication technology is evidenced by the significant increase in the numbers of people (particularly young people and tourists) using our libraries as a result of the introduction of free wifi in 2012, which had more than 70,000 sessions in the 2016-2017 year.

Our Digital Enablement Plan is about increasing access to and capability to use digital technologies. We will continue our drive to support the installation of more Ultra Fast Broadband, rural broadband, and better mobile coverage. We will also continue our support for digital literacy and tech access programmes.

While there is a high level of use and satisfaction with our District's libraries, lack of space is becoming an increasing challenge as we try to balance the need for a wide range of books and resources with the changes in the way libraries are used. We will complete the construction of a new library and service centre in Katikati in 2018. See the Libraries and Service Centres section on page 148 for more information.

We help support a network of community halls (managed by various hall committees) and public cemeteries throughout our District, as well as a portfolio of housing for older people on low incomes. More information on these activities can be found in the Community Facilities section page 155.

The Civil Defence Emergency Management section page 165 describes our role and the approaches we take in ensuring communities and businesses are prepared and able to respond to a civil defence emergency.

The Community Building section on page 139 outlines how we work with communities, including how we support the delivery of community services and assist people to have their say on what they want for their community.

We will continue to provide the Community Matching Fund of \$100,000 per year to support community organisations in undertaking recreation, cultural/social initiatives, with \$40,000 of this fund dedicated to environmental projects, such as community landscaping and community planning. We also have a fund available for marae maintenance of about \$33,000 per year, which was introduced in 2014.

This strategy will be substantively reviewed over the next three years.

HOW WE WILL TRACK PROGRESS TOWARDS OUR GOALS

OUTCOME

Public spaces and community facilities enable recreation, bring people together and create a sense of belonging, all of which is essential for healthy and vibrant communities.

GOAL	WE'LL KNOW WE'RE MEETING OUR GOAL IF	ACTUAL						TARGET	
		2017	2019	2020	2021	2022-24	2025-28		
Communities are healthy and safe. Communities are vibrant and diverse. Communities participate in the development of their futures.	Key Performance Measure Percentage completion of the annual work programme as identified in the Community Strategy and action plan.	86%	≥90%	≥90%	≥90%	≥90%	≥90%		
	Key Resident Measure Level of resident satisfaction with Community Services based on a two yearly survey. This includes community development, library services and cemeteries.	83%	≥80%	No survey	≥80%	≥80%	≥80%		

COUNCIL'S ADDITIONAL ASSET REQUIREMENTS

COMMUNITIES

All information from 2020-2028 includes an annual adjustment for inflation.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	\$'000									
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
To meet additional demand (capacity for future residents - growth)	169	79	916	96	67	76	362	415	457	6,298
To improve the level of service	-	-	-	37	-	-	-	-	48	-
To replace existing assets (renewals)	361	377	394	411	430	448	469	490	512	537
Total capital expenditure	530	456	1,310	544	497	524	831	905	1,017	6,835

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM

Please refer to Chapter 5 'Policies, Summaries & Statements' for the Revenue and Financing Policy for the building community policies.

FUNDING SOURCES FOR COMMUNITIES 2018/19

Other income includes rental income, project contributions and book sale income.

