



**Te Kaunihera
o Te Hiku o te Ika**
Far North District Council

TE RĪPOATA WHAKARAPOOTO Ā TAU

ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY

2024/25

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SUMMARY

NGĀ KARERE O TE KAHIKA

Kia ora e te whānau o Te Hiku o te Ika,

Kua hurihia e mātou ā mātou tikanga whakahaere mā te whakamana i ō mātou komiti ki te tuku whakatau mō ā mātou kaiwhakarato ā-waho, ngā take pūtea me ngā tūraru, me te āhua o tā mātou mahi tahi ki te Māori. Kua whakaurua e mātou ngā tini kaupapa o Te Ao Māori, pēnei i Te Pae o Uta, tā mātou kaupapa hei tuitui i te tirohanga o te ao Māori puta noa i te tari. Nō te pōtītanga o tēnei kaunihera, kua pokakē ā mātou whakahaere mahi.

I te marama o Hepetema 2024, ka whakatau te kaunihera ki te pupuri tonu i tō mātou Wāri Māori o Ngā Tai o Tokerau. E rua rau ngā kainoho i tae atu ki te hui hei whakaatu i tō rātou tautoko. Nā konei i kitea ai e ahau te tautoko nui o te aronga e whāia nei e te kaunihera mō ō mātou hapori me ō rātou hiahia.

I te marama o Noema 2024, ka kōkiri mātou i tētahi kokenga nui. I whakahaerehia te hui tuatahi o *State of the Far North Address*. He kaupapa hou te whakaaturanga ki te Turner Centre i tūhonohono ai i ō tātou rangatira o te rāngai pakihi, o te ao Māori, o te hapori whānui, ka mutu, i ngā kainoho me ngā māngai kāwanatanga. I te wā o te whakaaturanga, ka arotakengia e mātou ngā wero kei mua i te aroaro mō tō tātou rohe - ko te nui o te whenua, ko te iti o te hunga utu rēti, ko te whānuitanga o tō tātou whatunga rori, me ngā taumahatanga pūtea e pīkauhia ana e kaunihera me ngā kai kairēti. Ko te whāinga kia mārāma kehoheho ngā pakeketanga kei mua i a tātou, me ngā mahi e kawea ana e mātou hei whakatika i aua take. Ko tētahi wāhanga matua o te whakaaturanga, ko tō tātou whatunga rori. He take nui tēnei, hei tā hapori ki ahau. Ko te whakatikatika me te tiaki i ō tātou rori, e 2507km te roa, koia tētahi aronga o tā mātou Mahere Pae Tawhiti.

Ko tētahi wāhanga matua o tā mātou rautaki, o 'getting stuff done', ko te renarena i ngā hononga taikaha. Kua tutuki i tēnei kaunihera te mahi tahi me ngā hapori ki ngā kaupapa whakarauora pēnei i ngā pokapū hākinakina o Te Hiku me Kaikohe, ā, inā tata nei, ko Te Puāwaitanga - *Te pokapū hākinakina o Te Peowhairangi*. Toro atu ki tētahi o ēnei pokapū i tētahi wīkene, ki reira kitea ai te aroha me te nui o te whakamahinga o aua wāhi e te hapori. Hei tāku, he tohu nui tēnei e mea nei, ki te whanake tētahi rohe ora, tētahi rohe e hiahia ana e te tangata hei wāhi noho, me ū te kaunihera ki te whakapau pūtea ki ngā momo hanganga me ngā momo kaupapa.

He mea nui ki a mātou ki te whakapau pūtea ki ngā hanganga matua pēnei i ngā rori me ngā puna wai, ā, i tēnei wā tonu, ka whakatairanga tonu i ngā whare me ngā kaupapa hei whakapai i te oranga o ngā kainoho me ngā manuhiri. Mā ngā hanganga hapori ka whakakotahi i te iwi, ā, he mea nui mā tātou katoa. I ngā wā ohotata, pēnei i a Cyclone Grabielle, i kitea rā e mātou te hapori, kua kaha ake te tūhoho mā ngā kaupapa ā-takiwā me ngā tū kaupapa, e pakari ake ana i roto i ngā pānga tūkinō.

Ko ngā kaupapa katoa e tautokohia ana e mātou, me tika te whakahaeretanga o ngā pūtea. Inā tata nei whakaputaina ai e te kāwanatanga tētahi waeine ā-motu hei ine i ngā whakahaere o te kaunihera puta noa i Aotearoa, ka whakawhiwhia a FNDC ki te nama AA. Hei tā te pūrongo hua, kua taurite te tahua a FNDC, ā, he tohu tēnei nō te tika me te atamai o ngā whakahaere pūtea.

Kia titiro ake tātou ki ngā angitutanga o te tau ā-pūtea kua hōri.

Hei hoa matua mātou i tētahi kawenata i hainatia rā i mua o te Kirihimete, hei whakapūmau i te anamata o Te Taunga Rererangi o Kaitiāia, he hononga kawenga matua nō Te Hiku. Ka whakakapi te kawenata i ngā whiriwhiringa, e waru tau te roa, ki waenganui i Te Karauna, i Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Takoto, i ngā hapū o Ngāti Kahu, i Te Pātū, i a Patukoraha, i a Ngāi Tohianga me te kaunihera.

Kua whakaaetia ngā hoahoa o te Whare Pukapuka me te Pokapū Rarauropi o Kaikohe i te Maehe – he whare whainga-roa kua roa e tamō ana – ka tīmata ngā mahi hanga hei te marama o Akuhata.

I whakamanahia e mātou a Te Pātukurea, arā, tā mātou Mahere ā-Rohe mō Kerikeri-Waipapa, e whakatakoto ana i te āhua o tā tō mātou tāone nui whakawhanake tonu i roto i ngā tau 30 e heke mai nei. Nā konei ka tau te māramatanga ki ngā kainoho, ki ngā kaitātari mahere, ki ngā kaiwhakawhanake whenua hoki. Ka whakawhānuihia e mātou ki te toenga o te rohe.

I riro mai i a mātou te mana o te Turner Centre – te pūtake o ngā mahi toi me te ahurea o tō tātou rohe, otirā ki tua. He tino tauranga tēnei wāhi mō ngā pakihi o te rohe nā te tini o te manuhiri ka whakararatahia e ngā konohete, e ngā taiopenga me ngā kaupapa nui.

Kua āwhina mātou i ngā kaipupuri whenua Māori kia mārāma ake ai rātou ki ngā huarahi e puta ai

te hua nui i ō rātou whenua, mā tētahi raupapa hui ka tū ki ngā marae huri noa i te rohe. Ko te whāinga, he whakarite i tētahi wāhi haumarua mō ngā whānau e whai wāhi atu ai rātou ki ngā kōrero whaihua me te tautoko i te āhua o tā rātou tiaki whenua Māori – he taonga tuku iho, he mea tuku iho ki ngā whakatupuranga.

Nā tō mātou manawaū ki te auaha, me te whakaatu i āhua o ngā mahi, e hua ake nei ēnei pikinga nui o te iwi me te kaunihera. Hei tā tā mātou Rangahau Whakaaro ā-Tau o ngā Kainoho, i whakahaerehia rā e ngā kairangahau ā-waho, kua piki ake ngā tohu ingoa – te Whakapono, te Tautoko o te kaunihera, te Whāinga me te Rangatiratanga, ka mutu, te Whakahaere Pūtea, me te Kōunga o Ngā Ratonga – Kua piki ake i ngā pāheketanga i tautuhia rā i tau 2024.

Ka kitea ngā mōhiotanga mā te pānui i tēnei pūrongo, ā, mā ā mātou Mahere ā-Tau me te Mahere Pae Tawhiti i tā mātou paetukutuku.



Moko Tepania
Kahika

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Kia ora e te whānau o Te Hiku o te Ika,

Since this council was elected, we've been doing things differently. We've changed how we do business by empowering our committees to make decisions: about our external providers, about finance and risk, and how we work better with Māori. We've introduced a range of te ao Māori initiatives including Te Pae o Uta, our way of weaving a te ao Māori perspective throughout our organisation. In September 2024, we voted unanimously to retain our Ngā Tai o Tokerau Māori Ward. Two-hundred residents came to the meeting to show their support. That demonstrated to me the strong support we have for the direction we have taken as a council on behalf of our communities and their needs. In November 2024, we took another bold step. We held the first State of the Far North Address. The evening presentation at the Turner Centre was a new way to connect with our leaders in business, te ao Māori, and the community, as well as with residents and government representatives. During the presentation, we outlined the challenges our district faces – our geographic size, our relatively small rating base, our vast roading network, and the financial demands these factors place on the council and ratepayers. The aim was to be transparent about the challenges we face and the work we are undertaking to address those challenges. A key part of the presentation was our roading network. It's also an issue our community raises with me every day. Repairing and maintaining our 2507kms of roads was also a key focus of our Long Term Plan.

A key part of our strategy for 'getting stuff done' was creating strong and lasting partnerships. This council has successfully partnered with communities on revitalisation projects, on Te Hiku and Kaikohe sports hubs and, more recently, Te Puāwaitanga – the Bay of Islands sports hub. Visit any of these facilities during a weekend and you'll see just how loved and appreciated they are by our communities. For me, this underlines that creating a district that is vibrant and a place people want to live in requires the council to invest in a range of infrastructure and activities.

It is important for us to invest in key infrastructure like roads and water, while also promoting facilities and events that improve the lives of residents and visitors. Community infrastructure helps to build community cohesion, which is something we should all want. During emergency events, such as Cyclone

Gabrielle, we saw that communities that have built strong connections through neighbourhood projects and events tend to be more resilient when tested through adversity.

All projects we invest in require careful financial management. Recently released government metrics benchmarking the performance of councils across Aotearoa New Zealand gave FNDC an AA credit rating. The benchmarking report shows FNDC has achieved balanced budgets and demonstrates prudent financial management.

Let's review some of the successes of the past financial year.

We were an important partner in an agreement signed before Christmas securing the future of Kaitiāia Airport, a key Te Hiku transport link. The deal capped off eight years of negotiations between the Crown, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Takoto, the Ngāti Kahu hapū of Te Pātū, Patukoraha, Ngāi Tohianga and the council.

Designs for the new Kaikohe Library and Civic Hub – a longed-for facility that has been stalled for years – were approved in March and construction set to begin in August.

We adopted Te Pātukurea, our Kerikeri-Waipapa Spatial Plan, which sets out where and how our largest and fastest growing town will expand over the next 30 years. This gives residents, planners and developers much needed certainty and is an approach we aim to roll out to the rest of the district.

We took over the ownership of the Turner Centre – the heart of arts and culture for our district and beyond. It's a major drawcard for local businesses due to the visitors it attracts to concerts, festivals and events.

We've been helping owners of whenua Māori gain more certainty on how they can get the best from their land through a series of hui at marae held around the district. The aim was to provide a space for whānau to access practical advice and support around the long-term stewardship of whenua Māori – a taonga tuku iho, a treasure to be passed on through generations.

Our commitment to innovate, and to demonstrate transparency has translated into significantly improved levels of public satisfaction with the

council. Our Annual Resident Opinion Survey undertaken by independent researchers has shown that reputation metrics – Faith and Trust in the council, Vision and Leadership, Financial Management, and Service Quality – after years of decline have bounced back from lows recorded in 2024.

You can find out more by looking through this report and comparing to our Annual Plans and Long Term Plans on our website.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Moko Tepania'.

Moko Tepania
Mayor

NGĀ KARERE O TE KAIWHAKAHAERE MATUA

Kia ora koutou katoa

Nau mau ki taku pūrongo ā-tau tuarua hei Tumu Whakarae.

Ko tāku i whai ai i te tīmatanga o tēnei tūranga, kia whai pūmautanga, kia whakaū i te rautaki, ā, kia rere pai ngā ratonga o te kaunihera. Mōku ake, ko te tino whāinga matua mā ngā kaimahi o te kaunihera, ko te kounga o ngā ratonga me te whaihua o te pūtea mō ngā kainoho me ngā kaiwhiwhi reiti.

Kua whakakapi mātou i tā mātou tauākī whāinga ki ngā uara matua o te Ngaio, o te Manaakitanga me te Ngākau Pono. Ko ā mātou aronga matua (kāore i te raupapahia) ko ēnei e whai ake nei:

- Whakahaere Ratonga
- Te Ao Māori
- Te Wāriu o te Pūtea
- Ngā Tāngata me Te Ahurea
- Te Tuku Whakatau Whai-tautoko
- Te Haumarua me te Hauora

Māku e titiro, kāore te kaunihera e aronuihia ana e ngā kainoho o Te Hiku o Te Ika mō te wā roa me te hiahia kia panonihia. E ai ki te Kohinga Whakaaro ā-tau o Ngā Kainoho, nā ētahi kairangahau motuhake i whakahaere, kua kitea te hekenga haeretanga o te mana, arā ko te whakapono me te tautiaki o te kainihera, ko te aronga whānui me te ārahitanga, waihoki, ko te whakahaere pūtea me te kounga o ngā ratonga. Heoi anō, e hari ana ahau ki te whakamōhio atu kua tohu mai te rangahau o tēnei tau i tētahi pikinga nuinga o te whai whakaaro mai a te marea, e hoki mai ana i te hekenga i kitea rā i te tau 2024.

Ka whakaarohia nuitia e au ēnei raraunga hei tohu i te pai o tā tātou haere, heoi anō, he nui tonu ngā mahi kei mua i a tātou, ā, he maha hoki ngā kaupapa nui kei mua tonu i te aroaro, me ētahi kaupapa kei te pae tata ka kōkirihi.

Kua pāngia tō tātou takiwā me tō tātou kaunihera ki ngā tini kaupapa nui i roto i ngā tau tata nei. Arā ko te aukatinga a te mate urutā COVID-19, te pikinga nuitanga o te utu, me te honohono o ngā āwhā kikino i waenganui i ngā tau 2022 ki te 2023. Waihoki, Nā te panonitanga haeretanga o ngā kaiārahi i aua wā rā i pakeke ake ai aua wero ki Te Kaunihera. Nā tēnei, me te āwhā Gabrielle, i tino raruraru ai te tuku ratonga a te kaunihera, otirā i te hononga rori o te takiwā.

Nā tēnā, i tukuna mai te kōwhiringa kia mahia e mātou tētahi Mahere Pae Tawhiti (LTP) poto ake, e toru tau te roa, i te tau 2024, hei whakakapi i te mahere tekau tau e mahia ana i te nuinga o te wā. Nā tēnei LTP ‘whakahohoro’ i āhei ai mātou ki te arotahi ki te whakatikatika i ngā pānga kino a ngā āwhā ki tō tātou whatunga rori, ki ētahi whare me ngā hanganga anō hoki. Ka hoki anō mātou ki te mahere tekau tau ā te Hūrae 2027, ā, kua huri kē tā mātou arotahi ki te whakatutuki i te mahere hou.

Nā runga aku wheako i te ao o te rāngai tūmataiti, kua arotahi ahau ki te whakapai ake i te ratonga kiritaki, i te hua o ngā mahi, me te whaihua o ngā tukangā. E hari ana ahau ki te kī atu, kua tutuki i a mātou ētahi whakapainga nui i ēnei wāhanga katoa.

Ko ngā kaimahi e mahi ana i ā mātou whare ratonga, whare pukapuka me ngā iSITES te kūrae o ā mātou mahi ki te whakawhanake i ngā ratonga. Ko te hūnukutanga o te Pokapū Ratonga o Kerikeri ki te Whare Pukapuka o Procter tētahi tauira pai o te whaihua me te mau tonu ki te pai o ngā ratonga. Nā taua nekehanga e penapena nei ngā kaireiti i te \$250,000 i roto i ngā tau e rima. I taua wā tonu, kua pai ake te whakarata ki ngā take o ngā kiritaki. Hei tauira, e 60 ōrau te pikinga o tā te tēpu ratonga whakautu i ngā take o ngā kiritaki i te tau 2023-24 ki te 90 ōrau i te tau 2024 - 25. I taua wā tonu, ka heke iho te wā tatari o te hunga waea mai ki tā mātou nama 0800 ki raro iho i te takiwā o te 30 hēkona. I heke mai i te meneti kotahi me te 30 hēkona i mua.

Ko te tino whāinga matua o tō tātou kainoho, ko te whakaora mai i ngā pānga a Āwhā Gabrielle me te whakatikatika i tō tātou whatunga rori e pākārukaru ana – Kātahi te wero nui ko tēnei. E 175 ngā horo whenua, ā, e \$41 miriona te nui o te kino a te āwhā. I te tīmatanga, nā te Northland Transportation Alliance (NTA) i whakahaere ngā mahi whakatikatika rori, he tūhononga tēnei o ngā tīma rori o ngā kaunihera ā-rohe e toru, o Te Tai Tokerau, me te mahi ngātahi anō ki a NZTA. Ahakoa te oati o taua rōpū kia whakapiki ake i te whaihua o ngā mahi, i kitea e mātou te nui tonu tō rātou arotahi ki ngā wāhi tāone, ā, kāhore i tino aro ki tō tātou whatunga rori whānui, ā, ki tuawhenua.

I te wāenganui o te tau 2024, i whakaae ngā mema o taua rōpū kia whakamutua te aronga o huarahi ā-rohe nei, ā, kia hoki anō te mana ki ia kaunihera ki te whakahaere i ā rātou ake kaupapa tiaki rori me ngā kaupapa hanganga rori.

Ka nui te tini o ngā toatanga i puta i tēnei panonitanga. Ko te North Hokianga Roding Working Group tētahi tauira pai o te 'aronga ā-rohe', otirā, mō te mahi tahi a te iwi me ngā hapū. Nā konei ka tīmata ngā mahi whakatikatika āwhā ki Motutī me Panguru i Hokianga.

I whakaaturia e aua kaupapa ngā hua ka whakatutuki, engari nā te pikinga tonutanga o ngā tono ki tō mātou tīma matawhāiti mō ngā āwhā hou, ka tāpirihia ki tētahi kawenga mahi kua taumahahia kētia. I te tau 2025, nāku tonu tētahi whakatau pakeke kia tukuna atu ngā mahi huarahi ki ngā ratonga motuhake, e mātanga ana, e mau ana ki ngā rauemi kāhore i a mātou. E whakapono ana au, mā tēnei e whakapiki ake ngā mahi me ngā ara auaha, ā, ka whaipānga ki ngā hiahia o Te Hiku o Te Ika.

Kāhore aua panonitanga i whakararu i ngā mahi tiaki huarahi o ia rā. E mahia tonutia ana aua mahi e ngā kaiwhakarato o nāiane, e Ventia me Fulton Hogan. Ka tukuna e rāua tahi te pūrongo ā-wiki, ā-marama hoki mō ngā mahi whakapai huarahi, ngā mahi kōmaru, te whakapai kōawaawa, te horoi kōawa, te hanga ara hiko, te whakatikatika piriti me ērā atu momo mahi. Ka kitea aua pūrongo ki tā mātou paetukutuku. Mei kore ake tā NZTA Waka Kotahi tautoko tonu me ngā pūtea, e 71 ōrau o te utu hei tiaki i tō tātou hononga waka.

Nā ngā panonitanga ā-ture e nui ake ai te aro ki ā tātou ratonga wai. Ka piki ake aua ratonga, mā te whakahoutanga o ngā hanganga ki ngā wāhi e tupu ana, pēnei i a Kaikohe me Kawakawa. He toanga nui i te tau 2025, i te urunga o te wai whenua ki te puna wai o Kaitiāia. Mā tēnei kaupapa, kua roa e tamō ana, ka whakapikihia te manawaroa o ngā puna wai mō tō tātou tāone nui tuarua.

I te mutunga o te tau ā-pūtea, i kaha te mahi ngātahi ki ngā kaunihera o Te Tai Tokerau hei aromātai i te pai o tā ngā ratonga wai me ngā para wai whakahaere kotahi. He mea whakautu tēnei mahi nā te ture *Local Water Done Well* a te Kāwanantanga.



Guy Holroyd
Kaiwhakahaere Matua

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kia ora koutou katoa,

Welcome to my second Annual Report as Chief Executive.

My aim when I started in this role was to bring stability, reasoned strategy and consistency to council operations. For me, the absolute and unconditional priority for staff in council should be quality of service and value for money for all residents and ratepayers.

We have encapsulated our mission statement with core values of Professionalism, Manaakitanga and Integrity. Our key focus areas being (in no particular order):

- Service Delivery
- Te Ao Māori
- Value for Money
- People and Culture
- Better-informed Decision Making
- Health Safety and Wellbeing

My sense is that the council has not been held in high regard by Far North residents for quite some time and that change is needed. Our Annual Resident Opinion Survey undertaken by independent researchers has shown a multi-year decline in reputational metrics – Faith and Trust in the council, Vision and Leadership, Financial Management, and Service Quality. I am pleased to inform you that this year's survey indicates a significant turnaround in public perception, bouncing back from lows recorded in 2024.

I take this data positively as an indication that we are on the right track, however we still have much to do and many significant projects either under way or on the near horizon.

Our district – and our council – have been buffeted by many significant events in the past several years. We had the COVID-19 lockdowns, significant inflation, and a string of serious weather events between 2022 and 2023. For the council, those already challenging circumstances were exacerbated by a period of change in leadership. This, together with Cyclone Gabrielle, seriously disrupted our service delivery, especially on our roading network.

As a result, we were offered the option to elect to do a shorter, three-year Long Term Plan (LTP) in 2024, rather than the usual 10-year plan. This

'catch up' LTP allowed us to focus on repairing storm damage to our roading network and other facilities and infrastructure. We will be reverting to a 10-year LTP from July 2027 and our focus has already turned to delivering this.

Benefiting from my background in the competitive private sector, I have focused on making improvements to customer service, productivity and efficiency and I'm happy to report we've achieved some major gains.

Staff serving in our service centres, libraries and i-sites represent the front-line of our focus on service improvement. Moving the Kerikeri Service Centre into the Procter Library was one example of improving efficiency without reducing services. That move will save our ratepayers around \$250,000 over five years. At the same time, we've improved our responses to customers. For example, the number of customers whose queries get resolved straightaway at the counter lifted from around 60 per cent in 2023-24 to around 95 per cent in 2024/25. At the same time, wait times for customers calling our 0800 number fell to under 30 seconds on average – down from 1 minute 30 previously.

Our residents' number one priority – recovering from Cyclone Gabrielle and repairing our seriously battered road network – has been a challenge of a different order. We had 175 slips and \$41 million worth of storm damage. Initially, our road repairs were managed by the Northland Transportation Alliance (NTA), a collaboration of roading teams from the three Northland district councils in partnership with NZTA. While this grouping promised greater efficiencies, we found it was overly focused on urban areas and not on our vast and mostly rural road network.

In mid-2024, members of that alliance agreed it was time to end this regional approach and for each council to reassert full control over its own roading maintenance and construction projects.

We notched up some notable wins following this change. The North Hokianga Roding Working Group was one example of 'local focus' done well, particularly through the involvement of iwi and hapū. This saw complicated slip repairs get underway at Motutū and Panguru in the Hokianga.

Those projects demonstrated what could be achieved but demands on our in-house team

kept growing as new weather events added to an already heavy workload. In 2025, I made the hard decision to outsource roading functions to specialised providers with expertise and resources we just didn't have access to in-house. I believe this will achieve enhanced efficiencies and innovative solutions that better meet the needs of the Far North.

Those changes have not impacted day-to-day roading maintenance. That work continues to be undertaken by existing contractors Ventia and Fulton Hogan. Both are reporting weekly and monthly on the road rehabilitation, grading, culvert and drain clearing, footpath construction, bridge and other repairs. Those reports can be found on our website. None of this would be possible without the ongoing support of NZTA Waka Kotahi which continues to contribute a 71 per cent share to the cost of maintaining our transport network.

Legislative changes have required greater focus on our water services. We're improving these through infrastructure upgrades for growth areas like Kaikohe and Kawakawa. We also had a substantial win early in 2025 when bore water was finally added to our Kaitiāia supply. This long-awaited project will significantly boost the resilience of water supplies to our second largest town.

By the close of the financial year, we were working closely with other Northland councils to assess how we might better deliver our water and wastewater services together. This ongoing work is in response to the Government's Local Water Done Well legislation.

Our mayor has spoken about the importance of partnerships, and I wholeheartedly agree. I've been meeting with iwi and hapū and am proud of the agreements signed during the financial year with Te Rarawa and Ngāti Rēhia. These are critical for the future of our district, and I aim to keep this momentum going over the coming year.



Guy Holroyd
Chief Executive Officer

NGĀ MANU MĀTĀRAE

CIVIC LEADERSHIP



**Kahika - Mayor
Moko Tepania**



**Councillor
Ann Court**
Bay of Islands-
Whangaroa Ward



**Councillor
Felicity Foy**
Te Hiku Ward



**Councillor
Hilda Halkyard-
Harawira**
Ngā Tai o Tokerau
Ward



**Councillor
Babe Kapa**
Ngā Tai o Tokerau
Ward



**Councillor
Penetaui
Kleskovic**
Ngā Tai o Tokerau
Ward



**Councillor
Steve McNally**
Bay of Islands-
Whangaroa Ward



**Councillor
Mate Radich**
Te Hiku Ward



**Councillor
Tāmāti Rākena**
Ngā Tai o Tokerau
Ward



**Kōwhai
-Deputy Mayor
Kelly Stratford**
Councillor
Bay of Islands-
Whangaroa Ward



**Councillor
John Vujcich**
Kaikohe-Hokianga
Ward

NGĀ RĀNGAI HAPORI COMMUNITY BOARDS

Bay of Islands -Whangaroa



Lane Ayr
(Deputy Chair)
Kerikeri



Tyler Bamber
Waipapa



Jane Hindle
Russell-Ōpua



Bruce Mills
Whangaroa



Roddy Pihema
Kawakawa-
Moerewa



Amy Slack
Kerikeri



Belinda Ward
(Chair)
Paihia



Mike Edmonds
Kaikohe



**Trinity
Edwards**
Kaikohe



Tanya Filia
(Deputy Chair)
South Hokianga



**Harmonie
Gundry**
North Hokianga



Jessie McVeagh
South Hokianga



Chicky Rudkin
(Chair)
Kaikohe



Darren Axe
North Cape



**Sheryl
Bainbridge**
Doubtless Bay



Rachel Baucke
Kaitāia



Adele Gardner
(Chair)
Kaitāia



John Stewart
(Deputy Chair)
Kaitāia



Bill Subritzky
Whatuwhiwhi

Te Hiku

Ā MĀTOU PITŌPITO MAHI

OUR PERFORMANCE IN BRIEF

The 2024/25 year was a year of consolidation, and the first year of our Three Year Long Term Plan (LTP 2024-27). The economy of the Far North continued to labour under the heavy weight of difficult economic conditions in New Zealand. Lack of GDP growth across the country, while dealing with the after-effects of record inflation, was also evidenced in our region, with pressure on our rate payers' wallets, and on the council's programme of works.

The council is conscious in this environment of engaging in careful prudent management. In line with the council's strategy, the council has invested in water supplies development and wastewater development where possible. The council has been active in promoting environmental adaption and working within our communities. The environment is a key consideration for our district, and the council is still dealing with the long-term after-effects of prior severe weather events, particularly in our roading programme.

We were pleased to adopt the 4.5% rates increase for the 2024/25 year. Overall, we are working to the Three Year Long Term Plan (LTP 2024-27) rates increase of 22.5%. In detail this translates to an increase of 4.5% for 2024/25 year, 11.3% for 2025/26 year, and moving to a 6.7% increase for the 2026/27 year.

The council completed some key achievements during the year on behalf of our rate payers. Some notable examples were:

- The council adopted three important strategies for our district, a Regional Economic Development Strategy, a Regional Accessibility Strategy, and Toi Mana - Arts Culture and Heritage Strategy. All three strategies are examples of how community engagement and community-based steering groups can shape achievable strategies that meet the needs of our district.
- The council has been active in drafting and consulting for a development contributions policy. A development contributions policy will ensure rate payers don't absorb the entire infrastructure cost for new developments, allowing for rates costs to be fair for all parties.
- The long awaited Kaikohe Library and Civic Hub project progressed through to tendering for physical works. Construction has commenced in the 2025 year.

- A new Asset Management system project progressed during the year, with the Project Delivery Team, Asset specialists and the GIS working together with the vendor to get the data into the system for Stage 1 by December 2025. Stages 2 and 3 planned for 2026 to finalise data preparation and ingestion. This will give a significant benefit to help the council manage and track our ratepayers' asset infrastructure.
- Our relationship with Te Mauri ō Te Wai continues to strengthen. Last year saw the purchase of land to support our ongoing goal of removing wastewater from the Hokianga Harbour and discharging it to land.
- The long standing abatement notice at the Russell Wastewater Treatment Plant was removed after achieving compliance for a period of 12 months. The Ahipara Wastewater Treatment had a Super Critical Ultra Violet (SCUV) unit installed. The unit was significantly cheaper than initial options and has seen compliance achieved to date.
- The Donald Rd wastewater upgrade provided capacity for an additional 147 dwellings including the ability to request developer agreements to ensure growth is paying for growth for future connections within this catchment.
- Infrastructure Asset Fund Kaikohe for the year included upgrades to the Taraire Hills water treatment plant, wastewater, and water reticulation to support Kaikohe's growth. Three contracts were tendered, with awards made on 5 June 2025.
- The Kaikohe and Ōpononi/Ōmāpere wastewater ponds have been desludged.
- The council undertook a first of its kind public engagement event, 'State of the Far North', where the Mayor directly addressed key stakeholders to showcase work our council is undertaking to recover from recent challenges, and plans to improve our district for all our communities.
- We achieved further engagement with Iwi stakeholders, including the launching of Te Pae o Waho in September 2024 with over 100 staff enrolled over the year, the launching of Te Pae Waiata, and the adoption of the Te Ao Marama Reorua district-wide Strategy.

- Kerikeri Service Centre was relocated from leased premises at John Butler Centre back to the ratepayer-owned Procter Library building in April 2025, to reduce costs while maintaining service levels.

We are looking forward to completing more key projects for our rate payers in 2025/26.

Financial overview

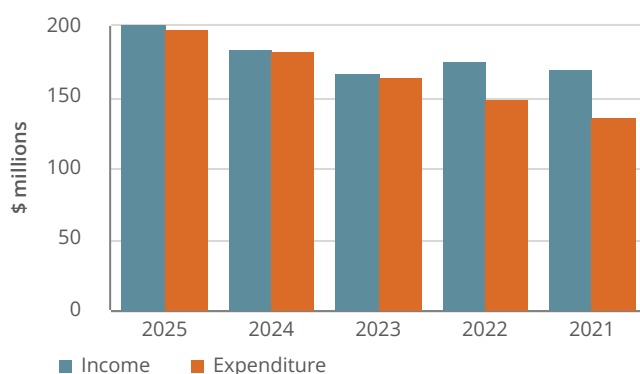
Our operational result for the 2024/25 financial year shows a net surplus of \$14.8 million compared to a budgeted net surplus of \$17.1 million.

Financial trends

	Budget	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Income	206	214	186	168	176	171
Expenditure	189	199	183	165	149	136
Surplus	17	15	3	3	27	35

Operational performance

Year ending 30 June - Actual



- The council ended the year with a cash position of \$12.8 million (2024 \$9.3 million).
- Debt at year end was \$170.2 million, \$54 million lower than budget, due to large scale IAF Water and Wastewater capital projects timing differences, and delayed roading operational delivery.

LONG TERM PLAN 2024/25	ACTUAL 2024/25
REVENUE <i>includes rates, subsidies, fees and charges</i>	
\$206.3 MILLION	\$213.6 MILLION
DEBT	
\$224.2 MILLION	\$170.2 MILLION
OPERATING EXPENDITURE	
\$189.2 MILLION	\$198.8 MILLION
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	
\$146.9 MILLION	\$77.7 MILLION

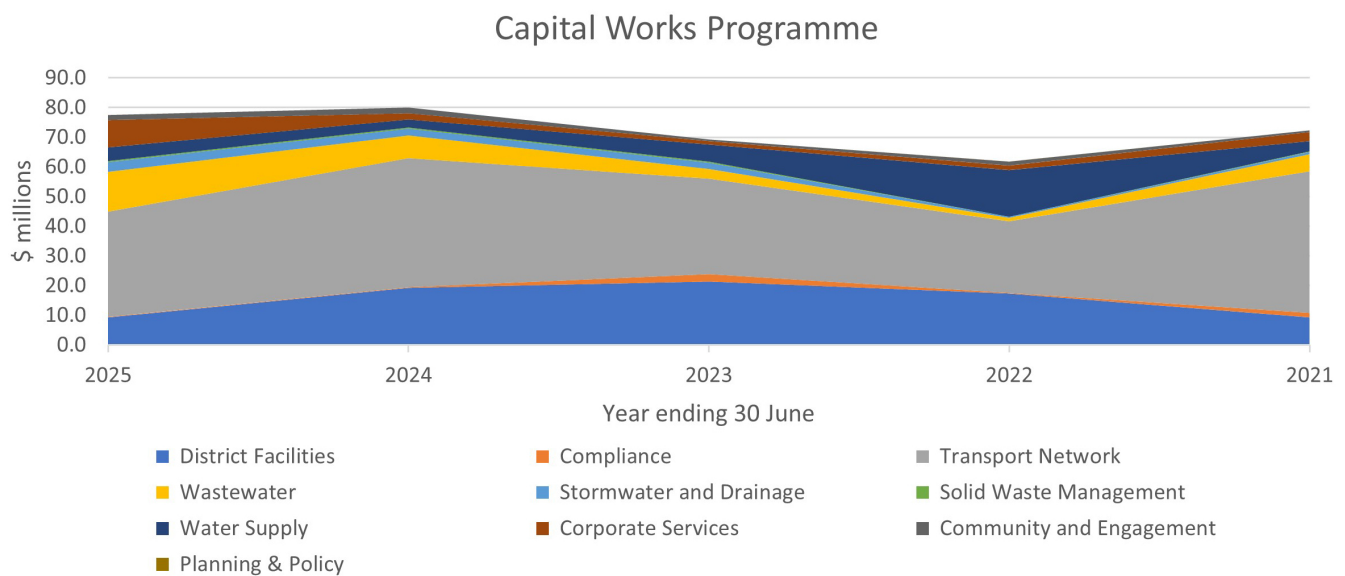
Capital Expenditure

Capital expenditure of \$77.7 million for the year was lower than expected reflecting a delay in starting large scale IAF Kaikohe and IAF Kawakawa Water Supply and Wastewater projects. Another key area of under delivery was roading for the Transport Network.

We also experienced delays in consents being issued, flow-on impacts to timing and scheduling of multi-year projects, project concept refinement and clarification; and delays with community engagement.

	Budget 2025	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
District Facilities	11.6	9.3	19.3	21.3	17.4	9.3
Compliance	0.2	0.1	0.1	2.5	0.1	1.6
Transport Network	48.4	35.6	43.6	32.2	24.1	47.7
Wastewater	32.1	13.4	7.5	3.2	1.2	5.6
Stormwater and Drainage	11.4	3.2	2.4	2.1	0.3	0.9
Solid Waste Management	1.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.1
Water Supply	25.5	4.8	2.7	5.7	15.7	3.5
Corporate Services	9.4	9.2	2.0	1.3	1.6	3.0
Community and Engagement	7.3	1.8	2.1	0.5	1.3	0.6
Planning & Policy	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
	146.9	77.7	80.1	69.3	61.8	72.3

Capital works programme



Non-financial overview

The council records a variety of key performance indicators (KPIs) to report our non-financial outcomes for Levels of Service. Individual KPIs for levels of service are reported by activity group within the Statement of Service Performance.

	Achieved	Not achieved	Not assessed / Not Applicable	Total
District Facilities	2	2	0	4
Compliance	2	4	0	6
Transport Network	7	1	0	8
Wastewater	4	1	0	5
Stormwater and Drainage	3	0	2	5
Solid Waste Management	0	2	0	2
Water Supply	4	5	1	10
Community and Engagement	2	0	4	6
Total	24	15	7	46

Outlook

After a difficult 2 years for our region's economy, the council is looking forward to a stabilisation of GDP in the country, and the lower interest rate climate this coming year. This will help to facilitate some economic recovery for the Far North. As mentioned in our performance in brief, your council is very conscious in this economic environment of engaging in careful prudent management on behalf of our rate payers.

Key areas of focus for the council for this coming 2026/27 year include:

- Upscaling our roading programme and delivering a solid summer roading maintenance season for our rate payers. Under the hybrid model we have approved, we will have the mix of internal management and contractor expertise and accountability to drive roading forward for the district.
- Local Waters Done Well combined CCO model. With the decision on 3 October 2025 by the Department of Internal Affairs to DIA to accept the combined districts of the Far North, Whangarei, & Kaipara, water delivery plan, we will be working hard to transition council water functions across to the new CCO. The new combined CCO will have the economies of scale, the funding ability, and the operational expertise, to develop and deliver improved Water Supply and improved Wastewater for the Far North District.
- We have another coming year of ambitious engagement opportunities with our Iwi & our community groups across our region. Our communities' voices help the council to prioritise and ensure our resources & our environment are key considerations in everything we do, both now and for future generations.
- Overall we will be working towards the Annual Plan 2026/27, year 3 of the Three Year Long Term Plan. While delivering our programme of works, cost savings and efficiency is of paramount importance for the council. We are looking forward to ensuring council makes good on these commitments, while delivering value for money for the Far North community.

MAHINGA WHAKARATO

STATEMENT OF SERVICE PROVISION

Te tīmatatanga Introduction

The Statement of Service Provision shows how the council is accountable to our communities. It reports on our performance against the service levels and targets in our planning documents, shows what services actually cost compared to budget, and explains what we've achieved and where we need to improve.

Our activities

The council's work is organised into eleven activity groups:

1. Community and Engagement - supporting community wellbeing through libraries, community facilities, and engagement initiatives
2. Compliance - managing resource consents, building consents, environmental monitoring, and regulatory enforcement
3. Corporate Services - providing internal support services including finance, HR, IT, and legal
4. District Facilities - operating and maintaining public amenities including halls, public toilets, cemeteries, and civic buildings
5. Planning and Policy - strategic planning, district plan management, policy development, and growth management
6. Solid Waste Management - providing waste collection, recycling, and disposal services
7. Stormwater and Drainage - managing stormwater infrastructure to protect property and the environment
8. Strategic Relationships - building and maintaining partnerships with iwi/hapū and key stakeholders
9. Transport Network - maintaining and developing roads, footpaths, bridges, and transport infrastructure
10. Wastewater - managing wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal systems
11. Water Supply - providing safe, reliable drinking water.

Disclosure note: Change in activities under restructuring

During 2022/23, the council restructured its activities framework, which altered some of the groups and activities from the LTP 2021-31 to the LTP 2024-27. This change was to allow for better alignment of our operational and reporting structure with current strategic priorities and improves transparency for ratepayers.

Nature of the Changes

The restructuring involved:

Consolidation and disaggregation: Some activities previously reported separately have been combined into broader groups, while others have been split out to provide better visibility over distinct services.

Reallocation of functions: A number of services and functions have been moved between activity groups to better reflect how we actually deliver services and manage resources this is also reflected in the removal of performance measures for some services.

Funding changes: Corresponding adjustments have been made to how activities are funded, including changes to user charges, targeted rates, and general rate allocations.

Impact on Financial Reporting

Prior year figures have not been restated across the activity set. This approach has been adopted to maintain transparency and ensure comparability for the reader.

Reconciliation

Changes to activity structure between LTP 2021-31 and LTP 2024-27:

- Customer Services transferred to Community and Engagement Group
- Environmental Management renamed to Compliance
- Governance and Strategic Administration transferred to Strategic Relationships and Corporate Services
- Roading and Footpaths renamed to Transport Network
- Strategic Planning and Policy renamed to Planning and Policy.

The total revenue, expenditure, and net result for the council as a whole are unchanged by the restructuring. Only the allocation across activity groups has changed.

Rationale

The restructuring provided:

- Clearer alignment between strategic priorities and service delivery
- Improved efficiency and reduced duplication
- Better transparency about what the council does and how it's funded
- Consistency with contemporary local government practice

All future reporting will continue to use the LTP 2024-27 activity structure.

Resident Opinion Survey

The next Resident Opinion Survey is scheduled for 2026. Following the 2022/23 survey and post-covid19 business adjustments, the council transitioned to a biannual survey cycle starting in 2024. This change allows for more meaningful trend analysis while reducing survey fatigue.

The council has measured resident satisfaction with its' services, facilities, and resources through an ongoing opinion survey conducted by Tauranga-based research company Key Research since 2017.

The survey provides robust satisfaction measures, identifies performance drivers and improvement opportunities, evaluates council reputation, and tracks progress against the current LTP.

AROTAKE PŪTEA

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

A full copy of the Annual Report can be viewed at the Far North District Council offices, our main service centres or on our website: www.fndc.govt.nz.

Deloitte Limited has audited the council's full Annual Report and has issued an unmodified report. As part of the audit, the auditors looked at whether the financial statements fairly reflect the council's financial performance and position and comply with generally accepted accounting practice. Additionally they looked at the council's non-financial performance and how fairly it has monitored and reported on its activities. The summary cannot be expected to provide as complete an understanding of the financial and non-financial performance of the council as the full Annual Report. The full Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2025 was adopted by the council on 31 October 2025.

These summary financial statements for the Far North District Council and Group are summarised from the full financial statements. The consolidated financial statements reflect the operations of Far North District Council and its subsidiary Far North Holdings Limited (FNHL), its wholly owned subsidiaries, Bay of Islands Marina Ltd and Far North Housing Ltd, its 50% equity shareholding of its joint venture Far North Skincare Limited and additionally its associates Kaikohe Berryfruit, council controlled organisation Pou Herenga Tai Twin Coast Cycle Trail Charitable Trust (Pou Herenga), and council organisation Te Ahu Charitable Trust (TACT). Far North District Council's equity share of 25% of its associate Northland Inc. has been equity accounted into the parent entity financial statements. The summary financial statements do not include all the disclosures provided in the full financial statements and cannot be expected to provide as complete understanding as provided in the full financial statements.

The summary financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand. The information included in this summary has been prepared in accordance with PBE FRS 43: Summary Financial Statements. The full financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Tier 1 Public Benefit Entity accounting standards.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, and the accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year.

Statement of comprehensive revenue and expense

For the year ended 30 June 2025

	Note	Council			Group	
		Actual 2025 \$000s	Budget 2025 \$000s	Actual 2024 \$000s	Actual 2025 \$000s	Actual 2024 \$000s
Total revenue		213,574	206,291	185,475	244,878	212,996
Expenses						
Personnel costs	4	39,021	38,810	34,109	45,024	39,591
Depreciation and amortisation expense	14	51,241	53,611	47,694	53,096	49,329
Finance costs	6	6,704	6,780	5,735	9,730	8,920
Other expenses	5	101,838	90,012	95,089	111,431	134,788
Total expenses		198,804	189,213	182,626	219,281	232,627
Surplus / (deficit) before tax		14,770	17,077	2,849	25,597	(19,631)
Financial assets at fair value through equity	24	2	-	3	2	3
Cash flow hedges	24	-	-	-	-	-
Items that will not be reclassified to surplus						
Transfer on disposal		-	-	-	-	-
Gain / (loss) on asset revaluations	16/24	48,190	75,104	110,223	48,910	104,782
Movement to retained earnings		-	-	-	-	1,500
Share of associates other comprehensive income		-	-	-	-	(22)
Tax on revaluation		-	-	-	(275)	(213)
Total other comprehensive revenue and expense		48,192	75,104	110,226	48,637	106,050
Total comprehensive revenue and expense		62,962	92,181	113,075	70,484	84,577

Statement of changes in equity

For the year ended 30 June 2025

	Note	Council			Group	
		Actual 2025 \$000s	Budget 2025 \$000s	Actual 2024 \$000s	Actual 2025 \$000s	Actual 2024 \$000s
Opening balance 1 July		2,602,410	2,554,940	2,489,335	2,697,247	2,612,670
Total comprehensive revenue and expense for the year		62,962	92,181	113,075	70,484	84,577
Dividends Paid					-	
Closing balance 30 June		2,665,372	2,647,121	2,602,410	2,767,731	2,697,247

Statement of financial position

as at 30 June 2025

	Note	Council			Group	
		Actual 2025 \$000s	Budget 2025 \$000s	Actual 2024 \$000s	Actual 2025 \$000s	Actual 2024 \$000s
Public equity		2,665,372	2,647,122	2,602,410	2,767,728	2,697,247
Assets						
Current assets		56,350	45,235	54,024	72,542	70,757
Non-current assets		2,818,028	2,863,550	2,718,970	3,015,498	2,893,094
Liabilities						
Current liabilities		97,241	82,817	99,078	154,776	158,010
Non-current liabilities		111,764	178,847	71,504	165,536	108,593
Net assets		2,665,373	2,647,121	2,602,410	2,767,728	2,697,247

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 30 June 2025

	Note	Council			Group	
		Actual 2025 \$000s	Budget 2025 \$000s	Actual 2024 \$000s	Actual 2025 \$000s	Actual 2024 \$000s
Net cash inflows from operating activities		43,944	76,240	45,097	38,225	38,735
Net cash inflows / (outflows) from financing activities		37,110	81,715	25,500	52,699	25,121
Net cash inflows / (outflows) from investing activities		(77,583)	(146,873)	(80,080)	(85,055)	(72,989)
Opening balances 1 July						
Cash and cash equivalents		9,316	(1,819)	18,798	10,629	19,762
Less balances 30 June						
Cash and cash equivalents	8	12,786	9,264	9,316	16,498	10,629
Cash movements for the year		3,471	11,082	(9,482)	5,869	(9,133)

Variances to the Long Term Plan

Council
2025
\$000s

Statement of comprehensive revenue and expense	
Long Term Plan surplus	17,077
Annual Report surplus / (deficit)	14,770
Net operating variance surplus / (deficit)	(2,307)
Variance represented by:	
Variance area	
Rates	(732)
Other	8,014
Total revenue variance / surplus / (deficit)	7,282
Variance represented by:	
Variance area	
Personnel costs	(211)
Depreciation and amortisation expense	2,370
Finance costs	76
Other expenses	(11,826)
Total expenditure variance surplus / (deficit)	(9,591)
Net operating variance surplus / (deficit)	(2,308)

Significant variances to the Long Term Plan budget - statement of financial position

The major variances to the Long Term Plan budget arise mainly because the budgeted figures were based upon the audited closing balances for June 2023, adjusted for activity that was expected to occur during the 2023-24 financial year. The closing balances for June 2024 were not known at the time the 2024/25 budgets were approved. The planned capital programme was not fully delivered in the financial year to 30 June 2025 due to supply chain disruptions, high demand for construction services and delays from the increasing frequency and severity of weather events. The key areas of under delivery were for roading and footpaths, water supply and wastewater capital projects. We also experienced delays in consents being issued, flow-on impacts to timing and scheduling of multi-year projects, project concept refinement and clarification; and delays with community engagement.

- Other reserves were \$21.7 million less than anticipated which is the result of a shortfall between the expected and actual increase in asset valuations. These reserves largely comprise asset revaluation reserves which saw an actual increase in value by \$40.7 million.
- Restricted reserves were \$10.3 million less than anticipated largely due to an unbudgeted growing deficit year on year in both the wastewater and water separate funds which was unpredictable at budget setting time. Referring to Note 24, however, it can be seen that there was an actual decrease of \$3.2 million in Restricted reserves between years partly within wastewater and water separate funds. In addition, there was an unbudgeted \$2.3m compensation payment for Onewhero Reserve Esplanade strip from the Special Funds Reserve.
- There was an increase in Receivables \$7.6 million due to an increase in rates and water debtors, Waka Kotahi (NZTA) subsidy, prepayments and accrued debtors. Referring to Note 9, we can also see the similar movements year on year, with an increase of \$4.4 million, again largely driven by rates and prepayments.
- Borrowings were less than expected by \$54 million, and Property, plant and equipment was less than expected by \$47.9 million. These were both due to capital projects not being completed as planned resulting in loan funding not required.

WATER SERVICES REFORM PROGRAMME

In line with the Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025 and the associated Repeals and Amendments Act, New Zealand councils were required to submit a Water Services Delivery Plan (WSDP) to Central Government by 3 September 2025.

The WSDP needs to include detailed information about water services operations, assets, revenue, expenditure, pricing, future capital expenditure, and how councils plan to finance and deliver a preferred model for water services delivery. WSDP's also need to demonstrate how water services will be financially sustainable by June 2028.

Following community consultation, Northland's district councils established a cross council working group to work through what collaboration across councils could look like. After assessing the benefits and risks of the various options proposed by each district and the results of consultation, it concluded that a multi council-owned Council Controlled Organisation (CCO) to deliver drinking water and wastewater services offered the strongest path forward for Northland – helping to ensure the region can meet the increased compliance requirements under Local Water Done Well and address growth across the region. The working group agreed to a model that would recognise the different starting points of each council in terms of water assets, debt levels and infrastructure investment needs, ensuring charges are fair for the residents and ratepayers of each district.

On 24 July 2025, Whangarei District Council voted in favour of establishing a Northland-wide CCO to deliver drinking and wastewater services. Kaipara District Council and Far North District Council adopted similar recommendations the following week.

A joint WSDP has been adopted by Far North, Kaipara and Whangarei District Councils and has been approved by the Department of Internal Affairs. All three councils will work together to establish the joint CCO, with incorporation due to happen in July 2026, and full operation by July 2027.

Once the details of the model have been finalised, the financial impact of this decision on the future Council will be worked through and considered as part of the development of Council's 2027-37 Long Term Plan.

FINANCIAL PRUDENCE BENCHMARKS

This section discloses the council’s financial performance in relation to various benchmarks to enable an assessment of whether the council is prudently managing its revenues, expenses, assets, liabilities and general financial dealings.

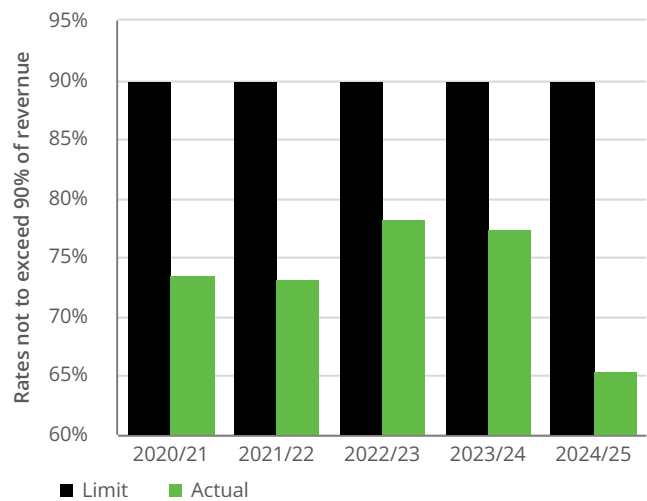
The council is required to include this statement in accordance with the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014.

Rates affordability benchmarks

The council meets the rates affordability benchmark if:

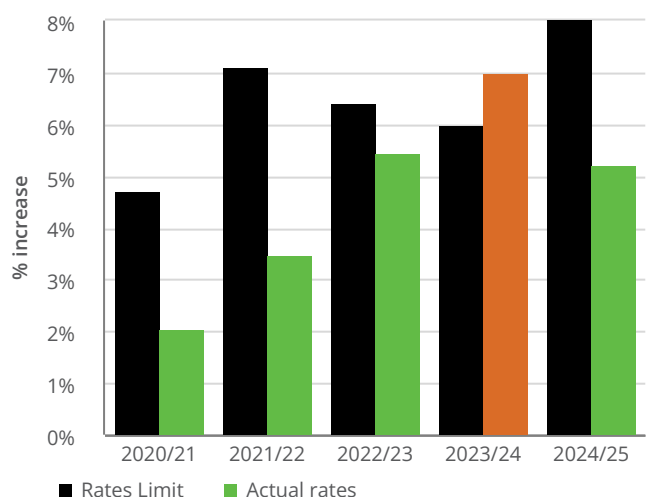
- its actual rates income equals or is less than each quantified limit on rates; and
- its actual rates increases equal or are less than each quantified limit on rates increases.

Rates (income) affordability



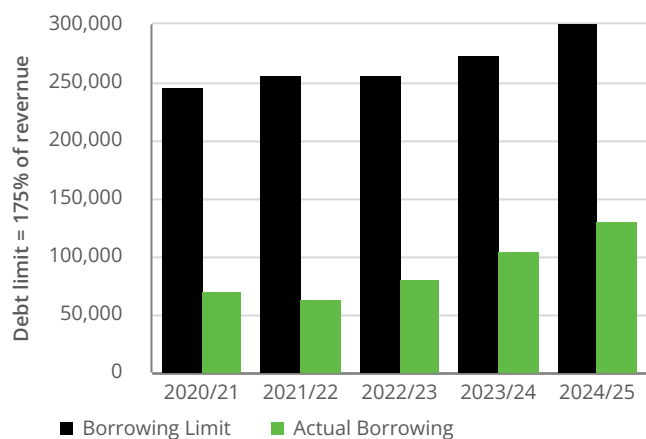
This graph compares the Council’s actual rates income with a quantified limit on rates contained in the financial strategy included in the Council’s LTP 2024-27. The quantified limit is that rates revenue (excluding subsidies and capital income) will not exceed 90% of total revenue. The graph shows the budgeted rates proportion of revenue measured against the actual proportion achieved. Council has achieved this benchmark.

Rates (increase) affordability



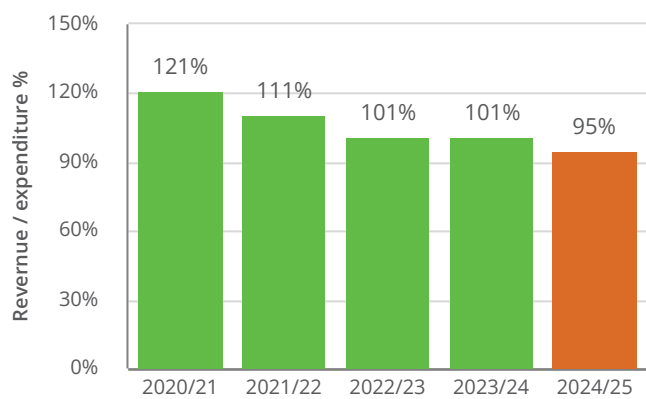
This graph compares the Council’s actual rate increases with a quantified limit on rates increases (included in the financial strategy within the Council’s LTP 2024-27). The quantified limit is that the rates increase should not exceed LGCI plus an addition. This addition reflects higher upfront investment in repairing our transport network post the severe weather events, after year 2 the addition progressively reduces to more historical norms. The graph shows the actual rate increase percentages measured against the predicted rate percentage increases. Council has achieved this benchmark.

Debt affordability benchmark



The Council meets the debt affordability benchmark if its actual borrowing is within the quantified limit on borrowing. This graph compares the Council's actual borrowing with a quantified limit on borrowing stated in the financial strategy included in the Council's LTP 2024-27. The quantified limit is that debt be no higher than 280% of total revenue (excluding subsidies and capital income). The graph shows the actual borrowing measured against the maximum borrowing determined by the quantified limit. Council has achieved this benchmark.

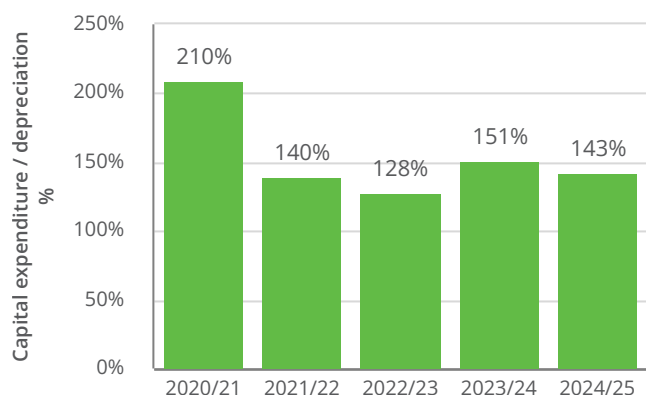
Balanced budget benchmark



This graph displays the Council's revenue (excluding development contributions, financial contributions, vested assets, gains on derivative financial instruments and revaluations of property, plant and equipment) as a proportion of operating expenses (excluding losses on derivative financial instruments and revaluations of property, plant and equipment).

The Council meets this benchmark if its revenue equals or is greater than its operating expenses. Council has not achieved this benchmark due to capital projects not being completed as planned.

Essential services benchmark

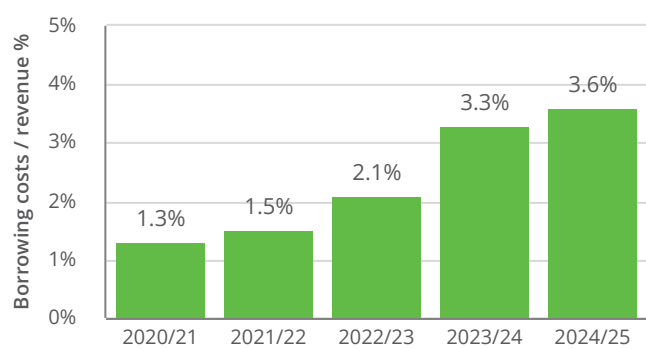


This graph displays the council's capital expenditure on network services as a proportion of depreciation on network services. Network services are defined as:

- Water supply
- Sewerage and treatment and disposal of sewage
- Stormwater drainage
- The provision of roads and footpaths

Council meets this benchmark if its capital expenditure on network services equals or is greater than depreciation on network services. Council has achieved this benchmark.

Debt servicing benchmark



The following graph displays the Council's borrowing costs as a proportion of revenue (excluding development contributions, financial contributions, vested assets, gains on derivative financial instruments and revaluations of property, plant and equipment).

Because Statistics New Zealand projects the Council's population will grow more slowly than the national population growth rate, it meets the debt servicing benchmark if its borrowing costs equal or are less than 10% of its revenue. Council has achieved this benchmark.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE READERS OF FAR NORTH DISTRICT COUNCIL AND GROUP'S SUMMARY OF THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2025

The summary of the annual report was derived from the annual report of the Far North District Council (the District Council) for the year ended 30 June 2025.

The summary of the annual report comprises the following information on pages 16 to 22:

- the summary statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025;
- the summaries of the statement of comprehensive revenue and expense, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2025;
- the notes to the summary financial statements that include accounting policies and other explanatory information
- the summary description used for the summary statement of service provision

Opinion

In our opinion:

- the summary of the annual report represents, fairly and consistently, the information regarding the major matters dealt with in the annual report; and
- the summary statements comply with PBE FRS-43: Summary Financial Statements.

Emphasis of Matter – future of water delivery

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to page 22, which outlines that in response to the Governments' Local Water Done Well reforms, the council has decided to establish a multi-owned water organisation with Whangarei District Council and Kaipara District Council to deliver water, waste water and stormwater as relevant services from July 2027.

The financial impact of this decision is unknown because details of the exact arrangements are still being considered.

Summary of the annual report

The summary of the annual report does not contain all the disclosures required by generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand. Reading the summary of the annual report and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the full annual report and the auditor's report thereon.

The summary of the annual report does not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our auditor's report on the full annual report.

The full annual report and our audit report thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the information we audited in the full annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025 in our auditor's report dated 31 October 2025.

District Council's responsibility for the summary of the annual report

The District Council is responsible for preparing the summary of the annual report which includes preparing summary statements, in accordance with PBE FRS-43: Summary Financial Statements.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary of the annual report represents, fairly and consistently, the information regarding the major matters dealt with in the full annual report and whether the summary statements comply with PBE FRS 43: Summary Financial Statements.

Our opinion on the summary of the annual report is based on our procedures, which were carried out in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Professional and Ethical Standards and the International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

Other than in our capacity as auditor, we have no relationship with, or interests in, the District Council.



Bennie Greyling,
Deloitte

On behalf of the Auditor-General
Auckland, New Zealand

12 November 2025

WHAKAPĀ MAI | CONTACT US



www.fnc.govt.nz

Phone (09) 401 5200
Freephone 0800 920 029

5 Memorial Avenue
Private Bag 752
Kaikohe 0440