

Mahere mana urungi, kirirarautanga hihiri

Governance and active citizenship plan

We want to actively engage with the community to enable well-informed, transparent, and joined-up decisions. We want to work in partnership with Rangitāne o Manawatū.

As elected members and decision-makers we want to have access to information and impartial advice. This means allocating appropriate attention and resources to significant decisions. We will support systems that enable transparent decisions and accountability.

We want our communities to understand how Council decisions affect their lives. Conversations with our communities will help us make better choices. We will continue to make more meaningful opportunities for people to have their say. We want a broad range of engagement options, so we hear a greater variety of voices.

2024-2034
Long-Term Plan

Ka aha mātou?

What will we do?

Base our decisions on sound information and advice

What will this mean?

Decision-makers will have evidence-based, impartial, and timely advice based on our strategic goals and objectives.

Specific actions

- Make well-informed decisions on city issues
- Gather and use data to inform decision-making and council activities
- Review governance systems and structures
- Manage our assets in accordance with best practice asset management principles
- Provide professional development opportunities for Councillors and Appointed members and staff
- Gather and publish data on all aspects of community wellbeing

Provide leadership and advocacy for Palmerston North

What will this mean?

Elected members and staff represent the interests of Palmerston North in government, community and commercial processes and opportunities.

Specific actions

- Advocate to the Government and other decision-makers on issues and opportunities

New or one-off actions

- Establish a civic fund for Palmerston North through the Te Awa Community Foundation (year 1)

Provide clear and accessible information and opportunities for community input into Council decisions

What will this mean?

Communities have the information they need to take part in Council processes. All governance processes and systems (including meetings, workshops, reference groups, hearings, engagement and consultation processes) encourage participation.

New or one-off actions

- Review governance systems to support community accessibility and inclusivity for decision-making processes
- Report annually on the effectiveness of civics education initiatives (from year 1)

Oversee Council operations and communicate outcomes and decisions to our communities

What will this mean?

The performance of Council and Council Controlled Organisations' is reviewed and reported on our website, along with all other Council decisions.

Specific actions

- Review and monitor the performance of Council operations and Council Controlled Organisations
- Provide information to communities about Council activities and decisions
- Understand the communities' view of Council's performance

New or one-off actions

- Determine the most appropriate model of operation for cultural Council Controlled Organisations

Specific actions

- Administer Council and Committee meetings, workshops and hearings
- Host annual face to face hui between elected representatives strategic partner organisations
- Run local body elections and any polls, including a Representation Review
- Facilitate and support:
 - Youth Council
 - Seniors Reference Group
 - Pasifika Reference Group
 - Disability Reference Group
- Support implementation of national education curricula relating to civics and council goals and activities.
- Provide information to communities in accordance with legislation and best practice
- Engage and consult through a range of methods
- Incorporate co-design methods into planning and delivery of selected major projects

