



Draft Climate Action Plan at a glance

Our climate is changing. Concerns are mounting over the speed and extent of change across all of our communities. Anticipated changes to our climate include sea level rise, higher rainfall intensity, prolonged dry spells and more frequent occurrences of extreme weather events. The time to act is now.

Acknowledging we are in a Climate Emergency, the Draft Climate Action Plan is a Whangārei-wide response to the current and future changes to our environment, communities, economy and key infrastructure caused by climate change. The Draft Climate Action Plan is covering both climate change mitigation and adaptation.

The Draft Climate Action Plan is relevant to our rural, coastal and urban communities. It leverages off existing Council work programmes and relationships across the District to help identify the next steps to reduce our Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions and the necessary steps to adapt to the environmental changes we expect to see as a result of climate change.

Outcomes

The Climate Action Plan has set out a series of outcomes that will be pivotal to the future work programme:



Honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi

Our commitment to our partnership with hapū and iwi under Te Tiriti o Waitangi is embedded in everything we do.



Reducing emissions

Reduce the greenhouse gas emissions of the Council and Whangārei District in line with the Government's national emission reduction targets or better.

Council supports hapū, iwi, the community and industry towards a Carbon Zero 2050.



Drawing down carbon

Whangārei is rapidly sequestering carbon.

The cooling capacity of Whangareia is growing.



Adapting to climate change

Council future-proofs its resources, assets and services from the risks of Climate change.

Council works with hapū, iwi, industry and communities to prepare for and adapt to the impacts of climate change.



Community ownership

The residents of Whangārei are informed, engaged and take ownership of this kaupapa.

Our approach applies a range of ‘triggers’ to help determine where and when Council will need to act. Trigger points that have been included in our approach include:

1. New Central Government funding
2. New data availability
3. Community direction and initiatives.
4. Recommendations from Central Government-including advice from the Climate Change Commission

Actions

There are a series of action focus areas identified in the Climate Action Plan where Council are able to positively influence the outcomes for our environment.

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| 1. Decision making | 7. Land use |
| 2. Monitoring, Reporting & Evaluation | 8. Buildings & Infrastructure |
| 3. Te Tiriti o Waitangi Partnership | 9. Plants and Trees |
| 4. Waste Management and Materials | 10. Innovative and Resilient Economy |
| 5. Transport | 11. Education and Training |
| 6. Smart City | 12. Programme Delivery |
| | 13. Vulnerable Populations |

The actions have been separated into 3 delivery ranges, acknowledging the timing of future delivery can change depending on other circumstances or triggers. The 3 delivery ranges are:

1. Priority Actions: These are the actions where Council’s initial resourcing will be focused.
2. Medium Term Actions
3. Long Term Actions

To read more on the actions identified, the full action suite is available here:

<https://www.wdc.govt.nz/Council/Council-documents/Strategic-Programmes/Climate-Change-Sustainability>

Once the Climate Action Plan is adopted, the Plan will be reviewed and updated annually and will be formally updated every 3 years to inform the Long Term Plan. The Climate Action Plan will help to promote and influence future climate action across all workstreams across the organisation.

The Climate Action Plan commits Whangārei District Council to working with the following groups:

1. Central Government
2. Local authorities
3. Hapū and Iwi
4. Business, Industry and Education sectors
5. Our communities