

# CLIFTON COMMUNITY BOARD PLAN 2023-2026



*Photo: Keith Finnerty*

The Clifton Community Board Plan outlines the goals and priorities for the Clifton Community over the 2023-2025 triennium. The Plan provides the New Plymouth District Council and the community with an insight about the matters that are important to the Clifton Community Board area, and where investment and action is needed.



Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ngāmotu

**New Plymouth  
District Council**

### **Acknowledgements**

Clifton Community Board thank the members of the community who participated in development of this plan by providing their feedback to the Community Board.

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### From the Chair

The Clifton Community Board are pleased to present the 2023-2026 Community Board Plan (the Plan).

Clifton is proud of its rich heritage, unique coastal and rural lifestyle, and the productive land that sustains the local community, along with offering natural recreational activities for all who visit.

To have a sustainable community we need fit for purpose infrastructure and services that enable people, businesses, and the environment to thrive.

Clifton is the gateway to Taranaki and is enjoyed by many visitors to the region. They come to experience the wide-open spaces and the natural beauty of the environment. By partnering with iwi, local hapū, and other communities the Board desire to capitalise on the opportunity to share the history and heritage of the Clifton area.

In the review of the Board Plan we consulted with the community which identified five key focus areas that are important to the Clifton region. These are:

- ◆ Roothing infrastructure and public transport
- ◆ Water infrastructure and waste management
- ◆ Community and Environment
- ◆ Recreation and tourism
- ◆ Regional growth

This review has given the Community Board a clear vision and the ability to prioritise based on our community's aspirations and issues. This Board Plan provides the opportunity for the Board to advocate on behalf of our community in the development of New Plymouth District Council's Long-Term Plan while also holding the Board to account to the wider Clifton community.

**Murray Seamark**  
**Chair**  
**Clifton Community Board**

Meet the Clifton Community Board Members 2022-2025

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## Clifton Community Board Plan 2023-2026



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Tony Bedford

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### About Community Boards

Community boards play an important role in local governance, serving as the primary link between the local community and the Council.

New Plymouth District Council's Community Boards are not committees of Council. They are unincorporated bodies providing a voice for communities outside of the New Plymouth City area. The Community Boards are representatives, advocates and connectors of those communities, promoting stronger community wellbeing for our diverse communities. When compared to the role of councillors, Community Board members spend a greater proportion of their time on representation matters and proportionally less on governance.

The Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) provides the statutory framework within which boards must operate, including rules and processes which govern how they work. The role of a community board is set out in section 52 of the LGA:

- ◆ To represent, and act as an advocate for, the interests of its community.
- ◆ To consider and report on all matters referred to it by the territorial authority, or any matter of interest or concern to the community board.
- ◆ To maintain an overview of services provided by the territorial authority within the community.
- ◆ To prepare an annual submission to the territorial authority for expenditure within the community.
- ◆ To undertake any other responsibility that the Council delegates to the Board.

The LGA also sets out things a community cannot do including acquiring, holding or disposing of property and appointing, removing or suspending staff.

### Representation and advocacy

As part of their role representing and advocating for their communities, Community Boards are driven by the need to promote social, cultural, economic and environmental wellbeing across their community. Community Boards represent and advocate for their communities in many ways including providing recommendations to Council on policies, plans and bylaws, processes and procedures and the allocation and distribution of resources.

There are some constraints on advocacy. For example, community boards must act within budgetary constraints set by the Council and may need to rely on the Council staff for support (helping to prepare documents, submissions or analysing data).



### Decision-making and delegations

New Plymouth District Council has delegated the following authority to Community Boards:

- a) Determine parking prohibitions and restrictions within the relevant Community Board area.
- b) Determine Temporary Road Closure applications under Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 1974 where the area of the closure is within a Community Board area.
- c) Determine applications for non-commercial Licences to occupy and encroachment licences within the relevant Community Board area and not within the delegation of a Council Officer. In the case of a reserve, the application must be consistent with the relevant reserve management plan and the delegation is subject to the Reserves Act 1977. (Noting that any decisions made by Council as delegatee of the Minister for any decisions under the Reserves Act 1977 must be made by full elected Council and may not be delegated).
- d) Fund minor projects (with the exclusion of roading projects) from the Community Boards Discretionary Fund and in line with the Community Boards Discretionary Funding Framework.

### Appointed members to the Community Board

At least every six years, the Council undertakes a representation review which establishes the districts Community Boards, including the area they cover and how many elected and appointed members there will be.

For the Clifton Community Board, the appointee to the Community Board is Cr Te Waka McLeod from Te Purutunga Mauri o Pūmanawa Ward for the period October 2022 - 30 April 2024, and Cr Tony Bedford from the North Ward for the period 1 May 2024 – October 2025.

Only ward councillors can be appointed. The Mayor and councillors who stood "at large" are ineligible for appointment to a Community Board.



### Community Board Plans

Community Board Plans are designed to address the needs of local communities providing a framework for future development and improvement.

Our Community Board Plan is a guiding document for future development and improvement in our community on our community's views and preferences. Collectively we have identified the most pressing issues facing our community and the projects and actions which will address them. Our Community Board plan can help Council and other decision makers ensure that resources are allocated in a way that reflects the needs of our community.

### Developing our plan and key focus areas

Our plan has been developed in collaboration with local residents. We have done this by reviewing the 2020-2023 plan, running a survey and meeting directly with local residents, community organisations and businesses.

As a result of the information we have gathered, and the demographic data for our area, we have identified the most pressing issues facing our community. This has allowed us to determine the five key focus areas for our community:

#### Focus Area 1      **Roading Infrastructure and Public Transport**

Our communities are well connected to each other and New Plymouth via efficient and safe rural roads and public transport.

#### Focus Area 2      **Water and Waste Management**

We will strive to advocate for healthy environment through good water and waste management infrastructure to ensure the sustainability Clifton.

#### Focus Area 3      **Citizens and Environment**

We will work together with our community, in partnership with iwi and hapū to protect the environment and enhance the community for future generation.

#### Focus Area 4      **Recreation and Tourism**

Make the uniqueness of Clifton the "Gateway" to Taranaki, encourage and support the growth of tourism, business and rural activities so people will want to live, work and play here.

### Focus Area 5      Regional Growth

The Clifton area offers a unique coastal and rural environment to live and work so we need to ensure the District Plan allows for growth to create a sustainable and prosperous local and rural economy.

From the focus areas we have determined the initiatives, projects and deliverables we would like Council to deliver on our behalf, and those areas where the Community Board can advocate on your behalf to external agencies – such as the Taranaki Regional Council and Waka Kotahi.

### **Working with Mana Whenua**

The Clifton Community Board will endeavour to develop a mutual dialogue with Māori of the Clifton Board rohe to increase our understanding of the history of the area, be informed about the views of Māori and to enable better decision making.

### **Turning our Plan into Action**

Turning plans into reality takes many people working together – the community, the community board and the wider Council family.

To deliver against the outcomes in this Community Board plan, we:

- ◆ Have prioritised our requests for projects (and budget)
- ◆ Will advocate to Council for these projects to be included in the Long-Term Plan and/or Annual Plans
- ◆ Will make community views and preferences known to Council to assist them in their decision-making.
- ◆ Work with Council staff, community groups and partners to support delivery of projects.

### **Indicative Budget and Funding Sources**

There are a number of ways that Community Board initiatives can be funded:

- ◆ Council is the decision-maker on investment in new facilities and major upgrades of facilities. This includes any major projects that have been submitted by Community Boards. Major projects require planning and design. These are primarily funded through general rate funding.

- ◆ In 2021 Council established a Community Boards Discretionary Fund and delegated authority to the Community Boards to allocate funding for minor local projects for 2021-2024. The Community Boards are advocating for the continuation of this fund for the 2024-2034 Long-Term Plan.
- ◆ Some projects may require external funding assistance. Council officers will assist the Community Boards with applications to external funders.

### **New Plymouth District Council's Strategic Framework**

New Plymouth District Council's Strategic Framework sets the Council's vision, mission and goals. The goals are Council's community outcomes.

The Strategic Framework is widely used across the organisation, and a critical tool for setting the Long-Term Plan 2024-2034. Community Board projects and initiatives must therefore align with Council's Strategic Framework.

**Vision:** Sustainable Lifestyle Capital

**Mission:** Ensuring Taranaki is a place of opportunity where people want to live, learn, work, play and invest now and into the future with a focus on kaitiakitanga.

Goals (Community Outcomes)

Trusted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening Te Tiriti partnerships with hapū and iwi to improve well-being.</li> <li>• Building trust and credibility with community, business, fellow councils and government.</li> <li>• Demonstrating leadership and striving for operational excellence.</li> </ul>
Thriving Communities and Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connected and engaged communities.</li> <li>• Safe and active communities.</li> <li>• An equitable and inclusive approach to delivering for all our people and communities.</li> <li>• Communities that embrace Te Ao Māori.</li> </ul>
Environmental Excellence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restoring our ecosystems.</li> <li>• Mitigating further environmental impacts.</li> <li>• Tackling the challenges of climate change.</li> <li>• Delivering resilient infrastructure efficiently.</li> </ul>
Prosperity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing and supporting initiatives to achieve a diversified high-performing economy.</li> <li>• An equitable economy where people have access to quality employment and opportunities to build wealth.</li> <li>• Contributing to NZ Inc’s environmental sustainability and economic performance.</li> </ul>

### Clifton Community Board Vision

*To acknowledge the mana and tikanga of all people that call this place home.  
Aspiring to reach the best wellbeing outcomes for our people and making  
our vibrant community safe and welcoming.*

*Clifton as the Northern gateway to Taranaki offers a place to work, live and play.*

### Our Key Focus Areas

#### Focus Area 1      **Roading infrastructure and Public Transport**

Our communities are well connected to each other and New Plymouth via efficient, safe and well-maintained rural roads, and public transport, with the capacity to meet the demand of users.



*I strongly support the Pilot Road intersection safety improvements and the steps across to Three Sisters beach.*

#### Opportunities

- ◆ Utilisation of funding from NPDC and Waka Kotahi for roading, while continuing to advocate for much needed transport projects with the Clifton rohe.
- ◆ Expansion of public transport options to include access for Clifton residents.

#### Challenges

- ◆ Clifton's rural road network is susceptible to erosion, sediment run-off and land movement.
- ◆ Many residents live in rural or remote areas with limited transport options.
- ◆ Some roading infrastructure is not designed to cope with campervans and vehicles utilising the roading networks.
- ◆ Council and Waka Kotahi funding priorities.



*Figure 1 - Okoki Road Culvert*

## **Focus Area 2      Water and Waste Management**

We will advocate for healthy environment through good water and waste management infrastructure so that future generations can enjoy Clifton.

### **Opportunities**

- ◆ Improve waste options at the transfer station, including access outside normal business hours, to allow 24/7 access.
- ◆ Increased bin capacity for all recyclable materials.
- ◆ Seek partnership opportunities for green waste refuse and commercial waste.

### **Challenges**

- ◆ Council funding priorities

### Focus Area 3      Citizens and Environment

Our coast, waterways and natural environment are our taonga/ treasures. They are and must remain healthy, clean and protected. We will work together with our community, in partnership with iwi and hapū to protect the environment and enhance the community for future generations.

*Probably the most important projects are to protect our land and water areas*

#### Opportunities

- ◆ Tongapōrutu Reserve Management Plan review provides opportunity to mirror the Onaero Management Plan.
- ◆ To closely align with local iwi and hapū.
- ◆ To support community engagement and assist the Council in developing a robust Onaero Reserve Management Plan (in partnership with Ngāti Mutunga).
- ◆ Managing the effects of climate change.

#### Challenges

- ◆ The climate emergency is creating extreme storms with heavy wind and rain.
- ◆ Clifton's rural character, with an extensive coastline, farming and remote communities makes our area vulnerable to the effects of climate change, such as rising sea levels and flooding.
- ◆ Pest plants and animals damage our ecosystem and must be reduced to enable restoration work.
- ◆ Many of our residents have poor digital connectivity making it a challenge for them to participate and connect with others.
- ◆ Our unique landscape and extensive coastline make us more vulnerable to hazards and emergencies.
- ◆ The environmental impacts of forestry harvesting including management of slash and transport network impacts.





Figure 2 - Blue Penguin Protection

#### Focus Area 4 Recreation and Tourism

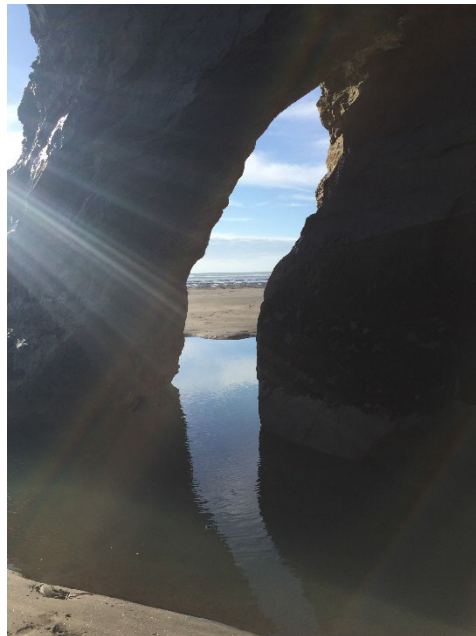
Make the uniqueness of Clifton the “Gateway” to Taranaki, encourage and support the growth of tourism, business and rural activities so people will want to live, work and play here.

*Can we please have an attractive welcome to Urenui signage coming into the village and to the north. It's the first village in Taranaki and we could be more welcoming.*

#### Opportunities

- ◆ Capitalise on the spectacular coastline and natural resources to make the region an enhanced desirable destination for visitors.
- ◆ Enhancing Three Sisters beach access.

- ◆ Opportunity to work in partnership with organisations such as Ngāti Tama to develop a network of walking and cycling trails, e.g. Pilot Road with its iconic photographic views.
- ◆ Welcoming visitors to the region (SH3) with attractive 'welcome signage'.
- ◆ Showcase iwi and hapū histories by creating cultural storyboards.
- ◆ Enhance natural resources for the benefit and participation of local residents, for example the potential to repurpose the Tongapōrutu Bowling green for alternative recreational use.
- ◆ Development of a freedom camping blackwater dump in Urenui.



*Figure 3 - Three Sisters 1*

### Challenges

- ◆ Effects of climate change, including rising sea levels, on our coastal infrastructure.
- ◆ Financial limitations of Council, particularly for areas outside the main urban centre of New Plymouth in respect of upgrading, maintaining and enhancing assets and services.
- ◆ Limited recreational facilities in the area (apart from natural resources).
- ◆ Limitation of infrastructure for freedom camping, such as the availability of a blackwater dump station.



*Figure 3 - Urenui Campground*

### **Focus Area 5      Regional Growth**

The Clifton area offers a unique coastal and rural environment to live and work so we need to ensure the District Plan allows for growth to create a sustainable and prosperous local and rural economy.

#### **Opportunities**

- ◆ Enhancing the potential for social connectivity within the community through the growth of village market days and development of local entrepreneurial activity, such as adventure tourism.
- ◆ Leveraging off the number of tourists visiting the area

#### **Challenges**

- ◆ Low residential population within a large geographical area
- ◆ Poor roading conditions affecting businesses located in remote areas. Lack of reliable transport infrastructure impacts on the desirability of Clifton to business owners who rely on freight serving to transit goods.

**Our Priorities**

The priorities that the Clifton Community Board would like to see furthered as part of the Long-Term Plan commitments are detailed below.

ASPIRATION/ISSUE	KEY INITIATIVE	KEY FOCUS AREA	COMMUNITY OUTCOMES
YEARS 1 – 3			
Rapanui Reserve Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Installation of a sealed 6-foot-wide entrance / exit to Rapanui Reserve.</li> <li>• The Reserve is a popular stop for tourists and is a beach swimming spot. The current entrance and exits are hazardous.</li> </ul>	Roothing and Public Transport	Environmental Excellence
Road maintenance on rural roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake regular planned monitoring and maintenance of Okau Road, Ahititi and Uruti Roads to address ongoing issue of maintenance.</li> <li>• Council to provide the Community Board with regular updates of maintenance and monitoring work undertaken.</li> </ul>	Roothing and Public Transport	Environmental Excellence

ASPIRATION/ISSUE	KEY INITIATIVE	KEY FOCUS AREA	COMMUNITY OUTCOMES
YEARS 1 – 3			
Uruti tunnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prohibition of truck access to the Uruti tunnel, to protect this historical resource.</li> <li>This iconic landmark is under threat of serious damage because of logging and stock trucks usage.</li> </ul>	Roothing and Public Transport	Environmental Excellence
Pilot Road Exit Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade the Entry/Exit from Pilot Road off SH3, north of Tongapōrutu, has limited sightline and is unsafe to exit.</li> <li>Safety improvements need to occur to allow better exiting from Pilot Road on to SH3.</li> </ul>	Roothing and Public Transport	Environmental Excellence
New Forestry targeted rate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Replicate the initiative undertaken in 2022 by Stratford District Council in adopting a forestry targeted rate.</li> <li>Taranaki forestry owners will contribute towards maintenance of roads and environment, to offset the amount spent by Council.</li> </ul>	Roothing Citizens and Environment	Environmental Excellence

ASPIRATION/ISSUE	KEY INITIATIVE	KEY FOCUS AREA	COMMUNITY OUTCOMES
YEARS 1 – 3			
Improved road safety signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The introduction of improved signage to promote safety and to support enterprise (such as adventure tourism) on rural (and gravel) roads for all road users, including cyclists and horse riders.</li> <li>The Board will engage with recreational road users to determine the best location for signage.</li> </ul>	Recreation and Tourism	Thriving Communities and Culture
Rubbish and recycling collection points for residents without access to kerbside collection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Self-service access to all refuse stations located within the Clifton area, on a user charge basis, to all Clifton residents without access to kerbside rubbish collection.</li> <li>Rural residents to be offered a self-service option.</li> <li>The Board note that a trial of waste stations offering recycling, glass, food scraps and landfill options was undertaken in 2019/20 at three sites with funding from the Packaging Forum based on a national initiative (Public Places Recycling Bin Stations).</li> </ul>	Water and Waste Management	Environmental Excellence

ASPIRATION/ISSUE	KEY INITIATIVE	KEY FOCUS AREA	COMMUNITY OUTCOMES
YEARS 1 – 3			
Improved public access to Tongapōrutu refuse station	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve public access to the transfer station, including providing access outside normal business hours. Increased capacity for all recyclable materials.</li> <li>• Investigate potential to introduce coin operated or cashless Jack Trash bins.</li> <li>• Council to seek partnership opportunities for green waste refuse and commercial waste.</li> </ul>	Water and Waste Management	Environmental Excellence
Investigate the future land use at the Bowling Club, Tongapōrutu.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Test the soil for contamination, before any land use decisions can be made.</li> <li>• Investigate opportunities for the bowling club land in Tongapōrutu.</li> <li>• Engage with Tongapōrutu residents and ratepayers regarding preferred recreational use.</li> </ul>	Citizens and Environment	Thriving Communities and Culture



ASPIRATION/ISSUE	KEY INITIATIVE	KEY FOCUS AREA	COMMUNITY OUTCOMES
YEARS 1 – 3			
Urenui Swing Bridge erosion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proceed with the Council approved (March 2023) Urenui Swing Bridge Renewal and Erosion Protection project if it is determined in 2023/24.</li> <li>• The Board note that there is a significant pā site adjacent to the footpath and there is no alternative access to the bridge from the Urenui township.</li> <li>• Pedestrian bridge access is critical to the area and the Board support this project.</li> </ul>	Citizens and Environment	Thriving Communities and Culture
Emergency access to region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of access for Emergency vehicles at both Onaero and Urenui beaches.</li> <li>• Access is currently difficult because of tidal changes creating safety concerns for campers and members of the public.</li> </ul>	Recreation and Tourism	Thriving Communities and Culture

ASPIRATION/ISSUE	KEY INITIATIVE	KEY FOCUS AREA	COMMUNITY OUTCOMES
YEARS 1 – 3			
<p>Dust coat seals in place for residents on unsealed rural roads.</p>	<p>The Board are concerned about health risks to residents with dust from unsealed roads settling in water tanks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Board note that Council has no funding allocation from Waka Kotahi for dust coat seals on the rural network (funding ceased in 2017/18).</li> <li>• The Board note that both the operative and proposed District Plans require Rights of Ways in Rural Zones to be created as part of a subdivision to be formed and sealed where they are within 40m of an existing dwelling.</li> <li>• The Board request the support of Council officers in finding a solution to this matter.</li> </ul>	<p>Roading and Public Transport</p>	<p>Environmental Excellence</p>

ASPIRATION/ISSUE	KEY INITIATIVE	KEY FOCUS AREA	COMMUNITY OUTCOMES
YEARS 1 – 3			
Urenui Cemetery Extension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand the Urenui Cemetery to extend burial capacity with the removal of the totara trees and the taming of the slope through the installation of retaining walls.</li> <li>Council approved LTP funding for FY26 to extend the burial capacity at Urenui Cemetery based on the development proposal in the 2009 Cemetery Capacity report (ECM 333496).</li> <li>The demand in P3M contains the comment that 'the initial funding was inadequate'. A detailed business case is required to progress the extension in FY26.</li> <li>2023 data indicates availability of 19 Burial Plots for use at Urenui Cemetery. Cremation plots have a projected capacity until 2031.</li> </ul>	Rooding and Public Transport  Citizens and Environment	Thriving Communities and Culture

ASPIRATION/ISSUE	KEY INITIATIVE	KEY FOCUS AREA	COMMUNITY OUTCOMES
YEARS 1 – 3			
Bus Shelter at Urenui	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Erect a bus shelter at Urenui to protect passengers from all weather situations, including sun, rain and wind.</li> <li>• Bus shelters encourage people to take the bus instead of driving, in line with Council’s sustainability goal of reducing personal vehicular usage.</li> <li>• The Board request the support of Council officers in working with Taranaki Regional Council on this matter.</li> </ul>	Citizens and Environment	Thriving Communities and Culture

ASPIRATION/ISSUE	KEY INITIATIVE	KEY FOCUS AREA	COMMUNITY OUTCOMES
YEARS 1 – 3			
Tongapōrutu Reserve Management Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commence review of the Tongapōrutu Reserve Management plan in tandem with the Onaero Reserve Management Plan.</li> <li>• The Onaero Reserve Management Plan (in partnership with Ngāti Mutunga) will promote Kaitiakitanga (the guardianship and protection of the whenua) of the Onaero Awa, and thus protect a wide range of ecosystems and landscape features.</li> <li>• The Tongapōrutu Reserve Management Plan urgently requires a similar review to protect and enhance the ecology of that area.</li> <li>• 76 per cent of respondents to the Clifton Community Board survey expressed either high or medium concern for environment and climate mitigation issues.</li> </ul>	Citizens and Environment	<p>Thriving Communities and Culture</p> <p>Environmental Excellence</p>

ASPIRATION/ISSUE	KEY INITIATIVE	KEY FOCUS AREA	COMMUNITY OUTCOMES
YEARS 4-10			
Traffic controls Speed controls implemented on SH3 Tongapōrutu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation of a reduced speed zone to 70km on SH3 through Tongapōrutu.</li> <li>The Board request the support of Council officers in working with Waka Kotahi on this matter.</li> </ul>	Roading and Public Transport	Environmental Excellence
Pump Track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate and implement a pump track in the Urenui village to cater for local youth.</li> <li>The preferred site is the park across the road from the fire station.</li> </ul>	Citizens and Environment	Thriving Communities and Culture
Tongapōrutu Play Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a play space with picnic tables in the Tongapōrutu Reserve in consultation with residents. Initial preferred location near the boat ramp.</li> <li>This Project has been approved (LTP) with a planned start date of 1 July 2024 and an expected completion date is 30 June 2027.</li> </ul>	Citizens and Environment	Thriving Communities and Culture

ASPIRATION/ISSUE	KEY INITIATIVE	KEY FOCUS AREA	COMMUNITY OUTCOMES
YEARS 4-10			
Urenui and Onaero Adaptive Management Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop an Adaptive Management Plan for Urenui and Onaero.</li> <li>• The coastline is eroding in a number of places, and this is likely to accelerate with climate change induced sea-level rise and increased frequency of storms. This places public and private infrastructure at risk.</li> <li>• As part of the Climate Action Framework (separate POE) a District-wide Adaptation Plan will be developed, scheduled for later in 2021 (but has not yet commenced).</li> <li>• Existing coastal erosion issues that will require in-depth responses to respond to important infrastructure issues.</li> <li>• The majority of the budget (LTP) is allocated to FY25.</li> </ul>	Citizens and Environment	Environmental Excellence



ASPIRATION/ISSUE	KEY INITIATIVE	KEY FOCUS AREA	COMMUNITY OUTCOMES
YEARS 4-10			
Freedom camping infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A dump station to be placed in the Urenui area for use by freedom campers.</li> <li>• The Clifton area is the first point of entry for travelers from the north and there is need for an accessible dump station for freedom campers entering and leaving the Clifton area.</li> <li>• The Community Board recommend that a dump station is located in Urenui as part of the wastewater upgrade.</li> </ul>	Recreation and Tourism	Environmental Excellence
Connect walking / cycling/ bridle trails around Clifton to provide an integration of beaches, mountain and inland scenery.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Link existing walkways and tracks together and provide signage indicating times, accessibility and the destination to take advantage of coastal views and photo opportunities.</li> <li>• Potential to work in partnership with Ngāti Tama to develop a walking trail on Pilot Road.</li> </ul>	Recreation and Tourism	Thriving Communities and Culture

ASPIRATION/ISSUE	KEY INITIATIVE	KEY FOCUS AREA	COMMUNITY OUTCOMES
YEARS 4-10			
Urenui Domain Terraces work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replace the current ponga facing and steps with new longer lasting timber and new timber steps at Urenui Sports Park.</li> <li>• The current "ponga" facing and steps have significantly decayed.</li> <li>• This area is used for Urenui community events.</li> <li>• Replacing the facing walls and steps will ensure safe access to the sports field for the public and reduce terrace erosion.</li> </ul>	Recreation and Tourism	Thriving Communities and Culture  Environmental Excellence

ASPIRATION/ISSUE	KEY INITIATIVE	KEY FOCUS AREA	COMMUNITY OUTCOMES
YEARS 4-10			
Improved recycling facilities and education on composting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Board will make a submission to the Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (submissions close 15 Sept 2023)</li> <li>• The 2017 Waste Assessment and Waste Management and Minimisation Plan identified the upgrading of the four transfer stations, and further engage the community in waste minimisation. The Board support this initiative be extended to rural areas.</li> <li>• There is opportunity to create a network of resource recovery facilities which all link back to The Junction with rural sites capturing reusable items that could be sold at the shop.</li> <li>• Improvements would allow the Clifton community to progress towards the Zero Waste 2050 vision.</li> </ul>	Water and Waste Management	<p>Thriving Communities and Culture</p> <p>Environmental Excellence</p>

ASPIRATION/ISSUE	KEY INITIATIVE	KEY FOCUS AREA	COMMUNITY OUTCOMES
YEARS 4-10			
Urenui septic tank and sewerage leaching issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Board supports the planned Urenui/Onaero wastewater project which will improve water quality in the Awa around Urenui and Onaero, however, the Board notes that residents will need to be incentivised to discard their septic tanks in favour of connecting to the new scheme (as there will be a connection cost).</li> </ul>	Communities; Environment/ Water and Waste Management	Thriving Communities and Culture  Environmental Excellence

**Advocacy**

ASPIRATION/ISSUE	KEY INITIATIVE	KEY FOCUS AREA	COMMUNITY OUTCOMES
The Community Board will continue to advocate on behalf of the Clifton Community on the following issues as and when required.			
Protection of our rivers, wetlands and beaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to ensure authorities are aware of problem areas, such as erosion, and implement appropriate strategies to protect and maintain our coastlands and rivers so that ecological values feed through any design to ensure protection of natural environments and tangata whenua principles.</li> </ul>	Citizens and Environment	Thriving Communities and Culture  Environmental Excellence

ASPIRATION/ISSUE	KEY INITIATIVE	KEY FOCUS AREA	COMMUNITY OUTCOMES
<p>The Community Board will continue to advocate on behalf of the Clifton Community on the following issues as and when required.</p>			
<p>Control of noxious weeds on roadsides.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing issue with maintenance of roadsides.</li> </ul>	<p>Roading and Public Transport</p>	<p>Environmental Excellence</p>
<p>Freedom Camping Bylaw</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clifton Community Board to be involved in any future review of the Freedom Camping Bylaw.</li> </ul>	<p>Recreation and Tourism</p>	<p>Thriving Communities and Culture</p>
<p>Acknowledge and celebrate the history and heritage of our place and our people.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support community projects and opportunities that promote our history and heritage, including enhanced signage and cultural storyboards.</li> </ul>	<p>Citizens and Environment  Recreation and Tourism</p>	<p>Trusted  Thriving Communities and Culture</p>
<p>Work in partnership with mana whenua to advocate their interests.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop mutual dialogue with mana whenua of the Clifton area.</li> </ul>	<p>Citizens and Environment</p>	<p>Trusted  Thriving Communities and Culture</p>
<p>Communicate and improve awareness of issues and aspirations in the Clifton area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify ways of providing accessible and regular updates to the community regarding Community Board activities.</li> </ul>	<p>Citizens and Environment</p>	<p>Thriving Communities and Culture</p>

ASPIRATION/ISSUE	KEY INITIATIVE	KEY FOCUS AREA	COMMUNITY OUTCOMES
<p>The Community Board will continue to advocate on behalf of the Clifton Community on the following issues as and when required.</p>			
<p>Advocate and support programmes for the aged and youth in the Clifton area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support community projects and opportunities that promote the social well-being of our aged and youth in the Clifton area.</li> </ul>	<p>Citizens and Environment</p>	<p>Thriving Communities and Culture</p>
<p>Coastal erosion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the introduction of a climate adaptation plan to be employed to manage coastal protection and maintenance.</li> <li>The coastline of the New Plymouth District is eroding in a number of places. This is likely to accelerate with climate change induced sea level rise and increased frequency of storms. This places public and private infrastructure at risk.</li> <li>As part of the Climate Action Framework (separate POE) a District-wide Adaptation Plan will be developed, scheduled for later in 2021.</li> <li>There are existing coastal erosion issues that will require in-depth responses to respond to important infrastructure issues.</li> </ul>	<p>Coastal erosion</p>	<p>Trusted  Environmental Excellence</p>

ASPIRATION/ISSUE	KEY INITIATIVE	KEY FOCUS AREA	COMMUNITY OUTCOMES
<p>The Community Board will continue to advocate on behalf of the Clifton Community on the following issues as and when required.</p>			
<p>Improved public transport link</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council officers to consult with Taranaki Regional Council to find a way to improve transport links/ services from Tongapōrutu through to New Plymouth.</li> </ul>	<p>Roading and Public Transport</p>	<p>Thriving Communities and Culture  Environmental Excellence</p>
<p>Improved maintenance of rural roads</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to submit Service Requests, and encourage our community to submit, for maintenance issues as they arise. There is a high risk during heavy weather that metal roads are closed due to slips and potholes which can damage vehicles.</li> </ul>	<p>Roading and Public Transport</p>	<p>Trusted  Environmental Excellence</p>
<p>Attract services to Clifton area including, but not limited to, Broadband, wifi, internet and cellular coverage.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accessibility to internet and cell phone coverage is very limited in the Clifton area, particularly in the north of Urenui. The board will advocate and, where necessary, further consult on these issues.</li> </ul>	<p>Residential, Commercial and Industrial Growth</p>	<p>Thriving Communities and Culture</p>

ASPIRATION/ISSUE	KEY INITIATIVE	KEY FOCUS AREA	COMMUNITY OUTCOMES
<p>The Community Board will continue to advocate on behalf of the Clifton Community on the following issues as and when required.</p>			
<p>Support provision of more recreational facilities for visitors in appropriate areas along SH3 route from south of Mōkau to Onaero.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Picnic tables in well-defined picnic area at Tongapōrutu Reserve</li> <li>• Clear signage on SH3 identifying attractions and focal points in Clifton.</li> <li>• Clear and well-maintained coastal hazard signage for visitors.</li> </ul>	<p>Residential, Commercial and Industrial Growth.</p> <p>Recreation and Tourism.</p>	<p>Thriving Communities and Culture</p>
<p>Promotion of Clifton as an attractive, vibrant and welcoming seaside holiday spot and family friendly destination.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage and support more specialty retail and hospitality in Urenui and surrounding areas, including the potential to attract adventure tourism operators.</li> <li>• Support and encourage a cultural/art trail from Tongapōrutu through to Urenui.</li> </ul>	<p>Recreation and Tourism</p>	<p>Thriving Communities and Culture</p> <p>Prosperity</p>
<p>Well maintained and safe road and transport infrastructure.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 71 per cent of respondents to the Clifton Community Board survey expressed high concern for roading issues. Roading issues are ongoing for Clifton residents.</li> </ul>	<p>Roading and Public Transport</p>	<p>Thriving Communities and Culture</p> <p>Environmental Excellence</p>



## Background Information

### Community Board Area

The Clifton Community Board helps make our community a better place to live by advocating on key issues on behalf of the community. The Community Board geographic area is from south of Mōkau encompassing Mohakaitino River, Tongapōrutu, Ahititi, Mt Messenger, Uruti, Pukearuhe, Okoki, Urenui and Onaero through to east of Waitara, including west side of Princess Street. The ward extends inland along the Waitara River encompassing Tikorangi.

The Iwi within this rohe are Ngāti Mutunga (Urenui Marae), Ngāti Tama (Pukearuhe Marae) and Ngāti Maru (Te Upoko o te Whenua Marae).



**FIGURE 1 : MAP OF CLIFTON COMMUNITY BOARD AREA**

The Clifton Community Board Plan sits alongside the Inglewood, Waitara, Puketapu-Bell Block and Kaitake Community Board Plans setting out the vision, issues and aspirations of each community. This is the first review to be undertaken since the Community Board plans were originally approved and adopted in July 2017.

The Plan is a plan for the whole community (see Appendix 2 for Census Quick stats) – young and old, Māori and Pākehā, men and women, businesses and employees, families and more. The vision for our community can only come to life because it is innovative, forward looking, focused and cohesive.

The hope of the community board is that the issues and aspirations of the community, as set out in this document, will be translated into action and investment by the New Plymouth District Council. This is a 30-year plan (reviewable every three years). The Community Board recognises that the community cannot expect to get everything that is wanted in the short term. However, it is important that the Council consider the views of the community and invest in the areas that have been identified as important.

### **Consultation with the Community**

In early 2023, the Community Board engages with the community via a survey that provided proposed statements from the existing community board plan key focus areas and asked the respondents to indicate the extent to which they agreed with the statements. In addition to the questions, the survey provided opportunities for respondents to provide additional commentary about the issues or other matters that were not identified.

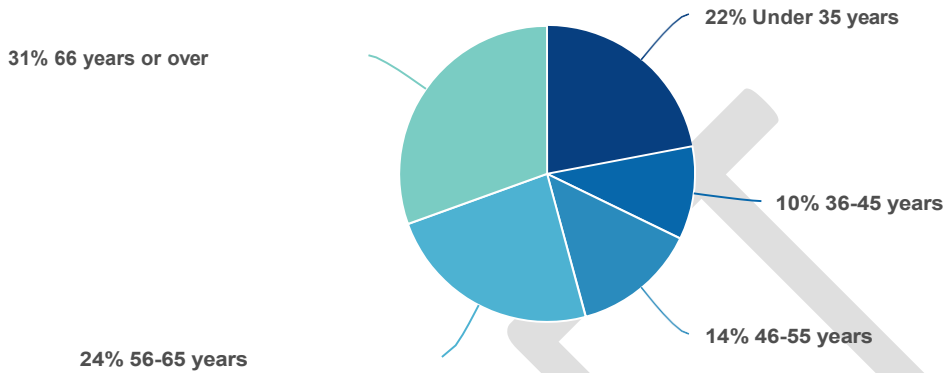
The survey was promoted by Community Board and the New Plymouth District Council via their website, Facebook and the Midweek.

The feedback gathered from the people who offered their ideas and contributions via the survey and community conversations is reflected in this plan.

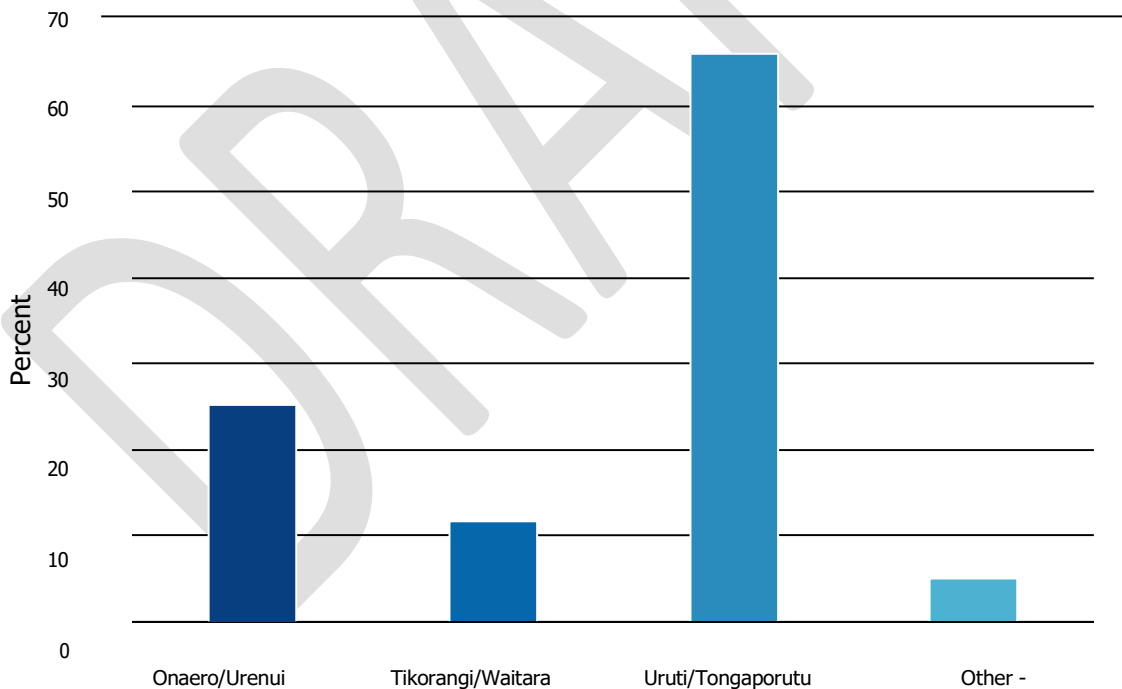
### Community Survey Outcomes

Respondents covered a broad demographic profile from across the Clifton Community Board area.

Which age group do you belong to?



Can you tell us your area of connection in the Clifton Ward?



These are our current focus areas. Are these still important to you?

	Low	Medium	High	Responses
Well maintained and safe road and transport infrastructure Count Row %	2 3.4%	15 25.4%	42 71.2%	59
Improved water infrastructure (Drinking/Waste/Storm) Count Row %	9 16.1%	17 30.4%	30 53.6%	56
Improved solid waste and recycling services Count Row %	6 10.5%	25 43.9%	26 45.6%	57
Community connected and wellbeing Count Row %	12 20.7%	26 44.8%	20 34.5%	58
Recreational and tourism growth Count Row %	23 39.0%	22 37.3%	14 23.7%	59
Economic regional growth Count Row %	14 24.1%	28 48.3%	16 27.6%	58
Environment and Climate mitigation Count Row %	14 23.7%	21 35.6%	24 40.7%	59
<b>Totals</b> Total Responses				59

## Clifton Community Board Plan 2023-2026

These are the activities included in the current 2020-2023 Community Board Plan. What are your priorities for the next three years?

	Do Now	Prepare and Plan	Scope for the future	Not Important	Responses
Rural roads weed control					
Count	17	20	12	9	58
Row %	29.3%	34.5%	20.7%	15.5%	
Dust coat rural roads at residential addresses					
Count	7	18	16	9	50
Row %	14.0%	36.0%	32.0%	18.0%	
Rapanui Reserve access and parking improvements					
Count	13	16	11	16	56
Row %	23.2%	28.6%	19.6%	28.6%	
Freedom Camper black water dump station					
Count	10	15	13	17	55
Row %	18.2%	27.3%	23.6%	30.9%	
Three Sisters beach access steps over rock wall					
Count	25	8	7	17	57
Row %	43.9%	14.0%	12.3%	29.8%	
Tongaporutu Reserve new play space					
Count	12	9	9	26	56
Row %	21.4%	16.1%	16.1%	46.4%	
Improved recycling services					
Count	25	17	10	4	56
Row %	44.6%	30.4%	17.9%	7.1%	
Urenui/Onaero wastewater infrastructure project					
Count	14	19	8	4	45
Row %	31.1%	42.2%	17.8%	8.9%	
SH3 speed control through Tongaporutu					
Count	28	10	8	10	56
Row %	50.0%	17.9%	14.3%	17.9%	

### How to submit a Service Request or Report an Issue

To report any issues relating to Council facilities and assets, Service Requests can be submitted by the following means stating the issue, location and, if possible, a photo.



#### PHONE US

06 759 6060 (available 24/7)



#### EMAIL US

enquiries@npdc.govt.nz



#### VISIT OUR WEBSITE

[www.npdc.govt.nz](http://www.npdc.govt.nz)  
Report and Issue



#### WRITE TO US

New Plymouth District Council  
Private Bag 2025,  
New Plymouth 4342

### Reporting State Highway Issues

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency (available 24/7)

Call on 0800 4 HIGHWAYS (0800 44 44 49)

Send a request [www.nzta.govt.nz/contact-us/feedback-or-comments/](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/contact-us/feedback-or-comments/)

### Appendix 1 Connecting to Relevant Plans and Strategies

#### Long-Term Plan (LTP)

Council's current Long-Term Plan (LTP 2021-2031) is a 10-year investment programme. Council's investment in new water infrastructure, for instance, will continue to allow the community to prosper and grow through the provision of clean, drinkable water to households and businesses. Council's parks investments will provide for improvements to our environment, opportunities for people for recreation and fun, and continue to provide tourism opportunities to grow and prosper.

In implementing the vision and outcomes over the next 10 and 30 years, the Council needs to consider the future direction of the New Plymouth District. These are based on the trends seen in the community. Some of the forecasts act as the baseline compared to our aspirations for building a sustainable lifestyle capital, while others represent business-as-usual approaches or show the risks and challenge faced by our community.

The Council's LTP is currently under review in preparation for adoption on 30 June 2024 for the period 2024-2034. The community boards have an opportunity to have input into the Long-term Planning at the beginning of the process. The community board has presented its priorities for the next three years and ten years to the Long-term Planning team and will have another opportunity through its submission to the Long-Term Plan community consultation which will be held in March/April 2024

#### Infrastructure Strategy



The Infrastructure Strategy identifies the significant infrastructure issues the New Plymouth District is likely to face over the next 30 years.

It takes a long-term view of the infrastructure and services the New Plymouth district will need over time, and how the Council might provide them.

The Infrastructure Strategy details the implications of the options Council has for managing infrastructure issues, including likely costs.

The Infrastructure Strategy details the implications of the options Council has for managing infrastructure issues, including likely costs.

In developing the Infrastructure Strategy, the Council considered:

- ◆ The infrastructure required to implement the strategic vision;
- ◆ How much the district will grow and where and when that growth will occur;
- ◆ The current state of the district's assets and the issues likely to arise over the next 30 years;
- ◆ The possible solutions to these issues and estimate of how much they are likely to cost; and
- ◆ The impact of any decisions on levels of service, rates and debt.

### District Plan

Council released its District Plan on 13 May 2023.

The New Plymouth District Plan (the District Plan) assists Council to meet its obligations under the Resource Management Act 1991 (the Act). The Act provides the regulatory framework which manages the use, development and protection of land and other natural and physical resources in New Zealand.

The purpose, function and contents of the District Plan are directed towards achieving the purpose of the Act which is 'to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources'.

The District Plan contains objectives, policies, rules and standards about how the people of the New Plymouth District can use, develop and subdivide their land. The key function of the district council is the integrated management of the use, development, or protection of land and associated natural and physical resources of the district. The District Plan therefore seeks to manage and protect the natural and physical resources that are important to the community, and to ensure that environmental qualities and values are safeguarded for future generations to enjoy.

The rules of the District Plan set out the activities that you are allowed to do as of right (permitted activities) and the types of activities that require a resource consent.

The District Plan is available electronically on Council's website.



**Appendix 2: Census 2018 (separate document – ECM 9008094)**

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