

Section 3 Activities

Māngai Representation



Māngai Representation

This activity has two areas of focus. It includes running the process to provide the District with a democratically elected Mayor, Councillors and Community Board members and the governance of the District by these elected members. This involves the organising and preparation of Council meetings, and organising civic events such as citizenship ceremonies. The activity also includes Māori representation arrangements and collaborative processes with other councils.

What we provide

- One Mayor
- Eleven Councillors
- Five Community Boards
 - Waihi Beach
 - Katikati
 - Ōmokoroa
 - Te Puke
 - Maketu
- Two Māori Representation Forums

Why we provide this activity

Our community outcome

- Leaders are effective, informed and inclusive.
- We have authentic Te Tiriti based relationships with Tangata Whenua.

Representation

As our communities become increasingly diverse, the need for effective representation and participation in decision making becomes more important. The activity reflects a desire by residents for greater participation in local government and in matters that affect their lives and communities.

We have three wards (Kaimai Ward, Katikati-Waihi Beach Ward and Maketu-Te Puke Ward), a Mayor, and 11 councillors. We also have five community boards representing Ōmokoroa, Katikati, Waihi Beach, Te Puke and Maketu.

There are three Community Forums made up of elected members appointed by Council, which represent our wards' interests for both urban and rural areas. Community Forums make recommendations to Council or committees on community development plans and community issues; consider matters referred by Council; encourage community participation and communicate with community organisations within their ward.

We have two Partnership Forums, Te Kāhui Mana Whenua o Tauranga Moana and Te Ihu o te Waka o Te Arawa. Council will work with each Forum to develop and implement strategic plans that outline how Council will work with iwi and hapū to address issues of significance, and progress mutually agreed work programme actions.

We will continue to strengthen relationships with iwi and hapū and develop emerging leadership structures, so that opportunities for collaboration and partnership continue for the benefit of the whole community. We will continue to work with iwi and hapū to provide for their representation aspirations.

In August 2023, Council voted to establish Māori wards for the 2025 and 2028 triennial local government elections. This decision will be progressed as part of our Representation Review in 2024.

Our region is unique in that it has already developed a number of initiatives to encourage a collaborative response to improve the wellbeing of its residents. For example, the SmartGrowth initiative is a shared response to managing growth in the Western Bay of Plenty sub-region (see Planning for the Future chapter).

We want to ensure that our District has the most effective local government structure in place.

We need to ensure that the community has a say about the preferred structure of local government and preparing for any change that may occur.

Our representation activity includes:

- The leadership and direction provided to the organisation and wider community by the Mayor, councillors, community boards and ward forums.
- Māori representation arrangements ensuring Tangata Whenua perspectives on issues and making recommendations to Council and its committees.
- The support provided to Council and its committees by the democracy services activity.

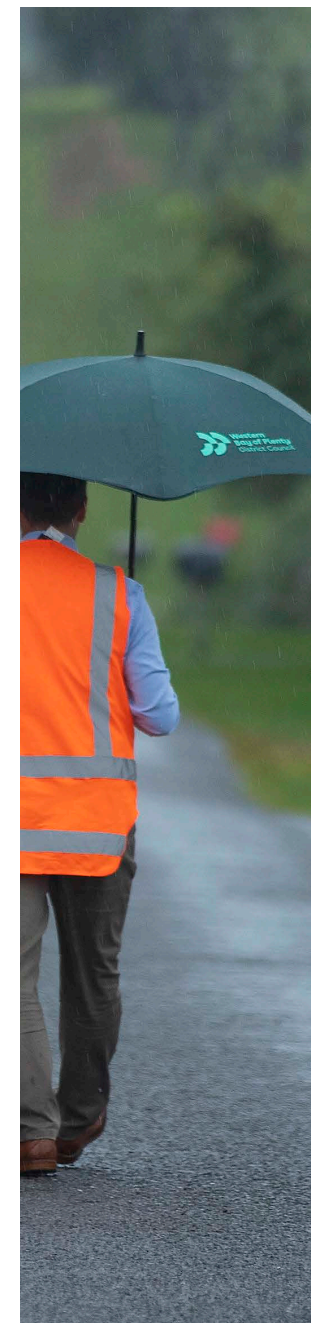


How we will achieve our community outcomes

Goal	Our approach
We have effective representation arrangements for our communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider options relating to the future structure of this Council. Enable citizens to elect their representatives every three years.
We engage with our communities, listen well, lead effectively and make well informed decisions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold Council meetings in communities more often, where appropriate. Increase Councillor presence in communities by increasing the number of Councillor facilitated meetings. Increase Councillor participation in community organisations, boards and co-governance structures. Provide opportunities for elected members to strengthen their leadership and governance skills.
We actively seek and consider the full range of residents views on our plans, policies and projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offer communities a wide range of opportunities to participate in our processes and decisions. Effectively communicate ways our communities can connect with us and participate in matters that affect them. Regularly engage with residents about upcoming decisions and communicate the outcomes of these decisions. Listen to and consider the range of views communicated to make better decisions. Better understand and improve the ways in which decisions are informed by the range of views communicated to us. Engage with the community to develop, consult on and implement an Annual Plan and Long Term Plan in line with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002.
We have strong relationships with Tangata Whenua and work together in a range of ways so that Tangata Whenua perspectives inform our decisions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide for the on-going involvement of Tangata Whenua in our decision-making. Strengthen relationships with iwi and hapū by identifying and supporting agreed projects that will better meet the needs of Tangata Whenua. Provide opportunities for elected members to increase their knowledge of the Treaty of Waitangi, tikanga Māori and te reo Māori.
Our strategic relationships at all levels are maintained and strengthened.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Represent and advocate for our District at local, regional and central government committees, sub-regional strategies, networks and forums.

Where the money comes from

Please refer to 'Policies, Summaries and Statements' for the Revenue and Financing Policy for the Representation Activity.







What are we planning to do

Project ID	Name	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034
236801	Representation Review - Triennially	-	-	22,140	-	-	23,540	24,000	-	-	-
250401	Triennial Elections	140,815	125,614	-	159,262	133,726	-	168,978	141,721	-	178,553
284801	Elected Members induction	-	75,880	-	-	80,780	-	-	85,610	-	-
296101	Recruitment of CEO	-	83,576	-	-	-	-	92,520	-	-	-
315901	Waihi Beach Community Board Grants	5,140	5,572	5,690	5,813	5,932	6,050	6,168	6,286	6,404	6,518
316001	Katikati Community Board Grants	8,000	8,672	8,856	9,048	9,232	9,416	9,600	9,784	9,968	10,144
316101	Ōmokoroa Community Board Grants	12,645	14,249	15,382	16,563	17,852	19,179	20,514	21,886	23,294	24,529
316201	Te Puke Community Board Grants	13,475	16,143	17,408	18,674	19,960	21,284	22,644	23,842	24,419	24,850
316301	Maketu Community Board Grants	5,000	5,420	5,535	5,655	5,770	5,885	6,000	6,115	6,230	6,340

How we will track progress

What we do	How we track progress		Result	Target				
			2023	2025	2026	2027	2028-30	2031-34
<p>We have effective representation arrangements and will consider residents views on our plans, policies and projects.</p> <p>We have strong relationships with Tangata Whenua and work together in a range of ways so that Tangata Whenua perspectives inform our decisions.</p> <p>Our strategic relationships at all levels are maintained and strengthened.</p> <p>Representation will be provided by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One Mayor 11 councillors Five Community Boards Three Community Forums Two Māori representation forums 	<p>Percentage of meetings attended by Elected Members (Mayor and councillors) and Community Board members.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elected Members at Council and committee meetings. 	97%	>80%	>80%	>80%	>80%	>80%
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Board Members at Community Board meetings. 	93%	>80%	>80%	>80%	>80%	>80%
	<p>Number of meetings and workshops held per annum with Te Kāhui Mana Whenua o Tauranga Moana and Te Ihu o te Waka o Te Arawa</p>		New measure	>5	>5	>5	>5	>5

Significant effects of providing this activity

Wellbeing	Positive	Negative	How are we addressing these effects
 <p>Social</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved ability for the public to participate and influence Council decision making. Improved participation in decision making reduces a range of social issues for disadvantaged groups. Working with local, sub-regional, regional and national networks and agencies is vital in keeping informed and advocating for the needs of our District. Improved participation increases the community's satisfaction with decisions made by Council. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of knowledge and/or interest in Council activities and processes present barriers to residents participating in and influencing our decision-making. The views expressed by the public are not always in agreement with each other which can lead to some residents believing their views have not been taken into account. Working with other agencies can be time consuming and the outcomes are not always tangible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Efforts are made to ensure Council information is readily available and everyone has the opportunity to participate. Projects will be undertaken to improve public participation and influence over our decision making. Council meetings will be held in the community to encourage local community attendance. Selective involvement in a range of local, sub-regional, regional and national networks.
 <p>Cultural</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision for Tangata Whenua representation, for example through the two Partnership Forums. Increased opportunities for co-governance and co-management of assets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our formal processes for decision making and consultation may unintentionally discourage minority and disadvantaged groups within the community from taking part. The perception of many Tangata Whenua that there is insufficient Māori representation in Council. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A variety of engagement methods are considered when formulating consultation plans for major projects. We developed Te Ara Mua: The Pathway, which is a strategy that sets out actions undertaken by Council in partnership with the Partnership Forum. We work with Tangata Whenua on projects and ensure we meet Treaty of Waitangi (Tiriti o Waitangi) obligations. We provide training for councillors in the Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti o Waitangi), tikanga Māori and te reo Māori. We use Council's Tangata Whenua engagement guidelines.
 <p>Environmental</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective representation ensures our decision-making protects and improves the environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leadership and governance training for all Councillors.
 <p>Economic</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A strong local economy is a key part of a robust, attractive, sustainable community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased costs of providing more opportunities for the public to participate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continually monitoring costs and endeavouring to balance the amount and type of engagement we undertake with the costs of engagement processes.