



Open Spaces and Facilities

Purpose

We provide community development, libraries, a hall and pensioner housing to contribute to our social wellbeing and pride, providing natural spaces open to all and enabling our community to come together and encourage active play. We support community involvement in placemaking, outdoor activities, creating partnerships to provide recreation facilities and civic spaces that are fit-for-purpose. Financial contributions from developers mean we have a healthy fund that enables us to invest in increased park and open space development. A community development approach strengthens local democracy and the capacity of communities to participate actively in determining the processes and outcomes of social and economic change.

Legislation associated with this service

- Local Government Act 2002
- Local Government Amendment Act 2012
- Resource Management Act 1991
- Reserves Act 1977
- Health and Safety at Work Act 2015
- Employment Relations Act 2000
- Local Government Official Information and Meeting Act 1987
- Local Authorities Members' Interests Act 1968
- Local Electoral Act 2001; and
- Citizenship Act 1977

Risks and Issues

Reserves and open spaces

- There is a perception of a lack of facilities in some areas
- We rely on community-owned and/or managed sports parks. The only Council-owned and managed facility is Memorial Park in Dargaville
- As we develop new facilities and new land is vested through development this has the effect of increasing operational expenditure. If this is not allowed for then maintenance of facilities may suffer causing additional costs to bring these facilities back to a useable state
- Community volunteers play a big role in the care and development of our parks and reserves. The new Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 may add additional cost to services completed by volunteers and may affect the amount of work they can do

Community development

- There are always more applications than funds available and this results in a lot of rejections, often to welfare and social services areas which do not fit the fund criteria. The risk is community dissatisfaction over the lack of funding, often leading to lobbying Council outside the grants system for funding
- Financial support to respond to the aspirations identified by communities is limited, so work needs to be prioritised against the community priorities and desired outcomes
- Balancing the level of engagement of the community in council projects to ensure inclusion and momentum

Libraries

- There are uneven service levels across the district with only one Council-provided library (in Dargaville) and four community run libraries. With the increasing growth in other areas this could be perceived negatively by residents

Pensioner housing

- Inventory is ageing; and rents are not sufficient to cover renewals as building elements (such as roofs) require replacement
- Many councils no longer see this as core Council operations

Northern Wairoa War Memorial Hall

- The Municipal Building, used as part of the adjacent and joined Northern Wairoa War Memorial Hall, needs earthquake strengthening
- The Annex to the Northern Wairoa War Memorial Hall has watertightness defects which will reduce its life and it cannot be economically repaired

How we fund this Group:

- General rates
- Targeted rates
- Fees and charges
- Grants, subsidies and other funding sources
- Financial contributions
- Borrowing; and asset sales.

Open Spaces

What we do

Actively maintain and improve a network of parks and recreational areas throughout Kaipara district. We operate four cemeteries and support community-run cemeteries. We provide over 30 public toilets within civic areas and reserves across Kaipara district, and oversee community-run campgrounds and the Kai Iwi Lakes campgrounds. We maintain and manage Council-owned coastal assets and facilities, including wharves.

Contribution to Community Outcomes

- Climate smart: Consider the effects of Climate change when future planning.
- Vibrant communities: Provide adequate open spaces and support the development of attractive open spaces.
- Healthy environment: Provide clean recreational spaces by keeping the parks and facilities well maintained.

What we will deliver

Description	When
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review current terms of Operations and Maintenance Contract, tender and award new contract • Pahi Toilet replacement • Mangawhai coastal walkway • New Master Plan for Mangawhai Community Park • Te Kopuru Pump Track surrounds • McClean Park, Kaiwaka 	2021/2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ancient Kauri Trail • Deliver a new playground 	2022/2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dargaville toilets • Coastal structures: renewals • Park upgrades district-wide • Playground renewals • Lincoln Downs Mountain Bike Park (Browns Road) and MAZ skate bowl 	2023/2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renew Operations and Maintenance Contract • Playground renewals • Toilet renewals • Community infrastructure upgrades/renewals • Hard surface renewals • Carpark sealing 	2024/2031

Performance Measures

	LTP Year 1 Target 2021/2022	LTP Year 2 Target 2022/2023	LTP Year 3 Target 2023/2024	LTP Year 4-10 Target 2024/2031
Percentage of residents who are very satisfied or satisfied with their local parks and sports fields. <i>Measured by:</i> Residents Survey	85%	86%	87%	87%
Percentage of residents who are very satisfied or satisfied with the district's public toilets. <i>Measured by:</i> Residents Survey	≥70%	≥70%	≥70%	≥70%
Compliance with parks maintenance contract specifications monthly audits.	90%	90%	90%	90%
Parks maintenance contract: number of health and safety audits per month.	Contractor: 4 Council: 1	Contractor: 4 Council: 1	Contractor: 4 Council: 1	Contractor: 4 Council: 1
Compliance with Resource consent conditions. Wastewater/ water take consents.	No abatement notices received	No abatement notices received	No abatement notices received	No abatement notices received

Changes in Levels of Service

Berm mowing to be removed in new contract.

Significant Negative effects

Activity	Effect	Mitigation
Working in culturally sensitive sites	Potential damage to sites	Archaeological assessments, planning and research
Chemical spraying	Impacts on soil conditions Accidental spraying of native plants due to weather conditions	Reduce spraying by more mechanical edge control Spray in appropriate weather conditions i.e. low wind.
Construction	Impacts on environment	Using appropriate materials, processes and planning of works Resource Consent requirements

Community Development

What we do

We bring Council and community together through positive relationships. We aim to remove barriers that prevent people from participating in the community issues that affect their lives by facilitating workshops and engagement events. This approach aims to strengthen local democracy and the capacity of communities to participate actively in determining the processes and outcomes of social and economic change.

We administer the Community Assistance Policy, including community grants; Community Licence to Occupy (LTO), we deliver the Mangawhai Endowment Lands Account (MELA) and Reserves Contribution, administer the Rural Travel Fund, Kai Ora Fund and Creative Communities Scheme, distribution of Community Development Fund and deliver the Citizens and Environmental Awards.

We distribute the Community Development Fund to develop and support community projects, build capacity and capability, promote and support community events across Kaipara. We advise and advocate for increased opportunities for community participation in Council projects. We support community initiatives that may have cultural elements or a focus in their programme e.g. heritage trails, Settlers Day, interpretation panels.

Contribution to Community Outcomes

- Celebrating diversity: Promoting community development and ideas throughout the district.
- Vibrant communities: Ensure engagement, consultation and community input is heard.
- Prosperous economy: Work with the community to develop ideas and initiatives.

What we will deliver

Description	When
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administer the contestable funding programme • Coordinate the Citizens and Environmental Awards • Coordinate the Community Agreement processes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Contracts for Service ◦ Community Licences to Occupy ◦ Community Leases ◦ Development Agreements <p>Support community and Council-led projects by advising on, and participation in, the implementation and review of community plans such as:</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mangawhai Community Plan • Kaiwaka Improvement Plan • Ancient Kauri Trail • Dargaville Township Improvement Plan • Paparoa Connections • Te Kopuru Community Activation Plan 	2021/2031

Performance Measures

Nil

Changes in Levels of Service

No change in the levels of service.

Significant Negative effects

There are no significant negative effects for this activity.

Libraries

What we do

We have one public library, situated in Dargaville, that provides traditional library lending services, DVDs, computers, printing, WiFi, events, holiday programmes and literacy initiatives. We also assist four volunteer community libraries in Paparoa, Maungaturoto, Kaiwaka and Mangawhai. These community libraries are managed under the Community Assistance Policy.

All Kaipara district library members have free online access to ebooks, eaudio, emagazines, online Britannica, Niche Academy online learning and their library account. The libraries share a catalogue and computer system with training and support provided by Dargaville Library and our Digital Services Team. All libraries provide WiFi to their communities with Dargaville also loaning computers and laptops.

Planning is underway in the LTP for a cross-council project to develop improved spaces in Mangawhai and Dargaville.

Contribution to Community Outcomes

- Vibrant communities: Provide the community with access to books, internet, and WiFi
- Prosperous economy: Promoting life long learning through the Library facilities

What we will deliver

Description	When
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A modern library environment in Dargaville and Mangawhai is included as part of Council's Civic Building Strategy • Continuously work to improve library services to residents and visitors • Support community libraries to improve and develop their services and work to align standards between libraries • Investigate co-operative initiatives with other Northland libraries 	2024/2026
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross Council project to develop library spaces in Dargaville and Mangawahi <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop a Trust to fund a modern library environment in Dargaville. ○ Identify and secure a site for a new Council library in Mangawhai • Continuously work to improve library services to residents and visitors • Support community libraries to improve and develop their services and work to align standards between libraries • Investigate co-operative initiatives with other Northland libraries 	2025/2026 2024/2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress towards a modern library environment in Dargaville • Progress towards a modern library environment in Mangawhai • Continuously work to improve library services to residents and visitors • Support community libraries to improve and develop their services and work to align standards between libraries • Investigate co-operative initiatives with other Northland libraries 	2025/2026
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New integrated Community Hub in Dargaville • Progress towards a modern library environment in Mangawhai • Radio-frequency identification (RFID) project installed in libraries • Continuously work to improve library services to residents and visitors 	2025/2031 2024

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support community libraries to improve and develop their services and work to align standards between libraries Investigate co-operative initiatives with other Northland libraries 	
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Performance Measures

	LTP Year 1 Target 2021/2022	LTP Year 2 Target 2022/2023	LTP Year 3 Target 2023/2024	LTP Years 4- 10 Target 2024/2031
Percentage of library users who are very satisfied or satisfied with the district's library services.	85%	85%	85%	85%

Changes in Levels of Service

There will be no changes to the level of service.

Significant Negative effects

Activity	Effect	Mitigation
Customer Service	We rely on the goodwill of volunteers to run our community libraries in the Kaipara	Larger library in Dargaville Branch library in Mangawhai with paid staff
Library Buildings	Currently not fit-for-purpose	Larger library in Dargaville Branch library in Mangawhai with paid staff
Health and Safety	Dargaville library's layout	Investigate new library in Dargaville in LTP 2025/2026

Pensioner Housing

What we do

We own three pensioner housing villages in Dargaville, Ruawai and Mangawhai. Pensioner housing is targeted for people over the age of 55 who meet certain criteria, including the capability of living independently. The Dargaville Community Development Board manages the Dargaville and Ruawai pensioner housing and a contractor manages the Mangawhai pensioner housing.

Contribution to Community Outcomes

- Vibrant communities: Providing and maintaining local accommodation options for our elderly community members who are in need.

What we will deliver

Description	When
36 units in Dargaville and Ruawai will be available to older community members of limited means.	2021/2031

Performance Measures

	LTP Year 1 Target 2021/2022	LTP Year 2 Target 2022/2023	LTP Year 3 Target 2023/2024	LTP Years 4-10 Target 2024/2031
Zero net cost to ratepayers for our pensioner housing services. <i>Measured by:</i> Council annual budget	Zero cost	Zero cost	Zero cost	Zero cost
Pensioner housing annual occupancy rate. <i>Measured by:</i> Quarterly reporting from management agencies.	90%	90%	90%	90%

Changes in Levels of Service

There will be only minor changes to the level of service for the Dargaville and Ruawai units. The changes will involve upgrading the Dargaville and Ruawai units to meet the Healthy Homes regulations.

Council anticipates that the provision of housing for elderly in Mangawhai will be transferred to a Community Housing provider. That provider will then be responsible for upgrading the standard of housing provided.

Significant Negative effects

There are no significant negative effects.

Northern Wairoa War Memorial Hall

What we do

We own and manage one hall, the Northern Wairoa War Memorial Hall (also called the Dargaville Town Hall).

Contribution to Community Outcomes

- Vibrant communities: Facilities are provided for the community across the district.

What we will deliver

Description	When
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to mitigate mould caused by water ingress to allow for continued use of some parts of the complex 	Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the formation of a trust who will fundraise and construct new Community Hub and Library on the Council reserve adjacent to the Northern Wairoa War Memorial Hall 	2021/2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demolition of the 1990's Northern Wairoa War Memorial Hall annex extension 	2024/025

Changes in Levels of Service

There will need to be changes to the level of service if portions of the building can no longer be used safely due to weathertightness defects. In approximately 2024/2025 the Annex will be demolished to enable the construction of a Community Hub/Library. The hall will not be available for a period while the demolition occurs, and the hall is reclad.

Significant Negative effects

Possible health issues if mould or water problems affect those using the building.

How are we considering Climate change?

Council is still in the process of understanding how changes to Kaipara's climate will impact the diverse set of activities within Open Spaces and Facilities. Over the next three years, we aim to identify specific climate-related risks and recognise ways we can manage risk and adapt our services.

In some areas, we are already incorporating climate change responses. Climate Smart Community Outcome helps guide our Open Spaces activities and we have identified a need to consider and account for climate change in future planning. Community Development activities support and celebrate community groups in their pursuit of sustainable, environmental health initiatives. Improving cycling and footpath networks via our community plans throughout the district will encourage alternative, low emissions modes of movement.

Prospective Funding Impact Statements – Open Spaces and Facilities

For the year ended:	Annual Plan	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	2030-2031
30 June	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Prospective Funding Impact Statement											
Activity selection: Community Activities, All, All											
Operating funding											
Sources of operating funding											
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rate penalties	4,512	4,811	5,536	5,495	7,062	6,965	7,916	7,936	8,274	8,548	8,746
Targeted rates	331	350	360	370	381	392	403	415	427	439	452
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	43	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52
Fees and charges	1,081	1,226	1,189	1,223	1,081	1,113	1,207	1,239	1,275	1,312	1,369
Internal charges and overheads recovered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interest and dividends from investments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees and other receipts	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total operating funding	5,967	6,439	7,137	7,141	8,576	8,522	9,577	9,643	10,028	10,351	10,620
Application of operating funding											
Payments to staff and suppliers	4,878	4,690	5,157	4,998	5,645	5,355	5,765	5,869	6,084	6,205	6,398
Finance costs	50	40	53	48	111	126	184	177	188	189	182
Internal charges and overheads recovered	890	1,213	1,349	1,400	1,598	1,543	1,720	1,726	1,755	1,814	1,833
Other operating funding applications	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total applications of operating funding	5,817	5,943	6,558	6,445	7,354	7,024	7,668	7,772	8,027	8,207	8,413
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding	149	496	579	695	1,221	1,498	1,909	1,870	2,001	2,144	2,206

For the year ended:	Annual Plan	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	2030-2031
30 June	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Prospective Funding Impact Statement											
Activity selection: Community Activities, All, All											
Capital funding											
Sources of capital funding											
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	0	950	387	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Development and financial contributions	500	1,389	1,885	1,940	1,976	2,037	2,085	2,132	2,188	1,986	2,044
Increase (decrease) in debt	43	236	50	2,571	337	2,417	-294	89	380	-436	-470
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lump sum contributions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other dedicated capital funding	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total sources of capital funding	543	2,575	2,322	4,511	2,312	4,454	1,791	2,221	2,567	1,550	1,574
Applications of capital funding											
Capital expenditure -to meet additional demand	1,121	440	1,578	3,412	1,858	1,445	1,583	895	410	546	176
Capital expenditure -to improve the level of service	506	1,970	174	2,471	942	2,764	458	745	766	288	296
Capital expenditure -to replace existing assets	345	528	276	284	1,382	614	401	293	787	310	318
Increase (decrease) in reserves	-1,279	133	872	-960	-648	1,129	1,258	2,158	2,606	2,550	2,990
Increase (decrease) of investments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total applications of capital funding	693	3,071	2,901	5,206	3,534	5,952	3,700	4,091	4,568	3,693	3,781
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding	-149	-496	-579	-695	-1,221	-1,498	-1,909	-1,870	-2,001	-2,144	-2,206
Funding Balance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0