

Submission on Wellington Regional Leadership Committee

Draft Future Development Strategy

## Your details3

**Contact details**

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Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation or business\*? (if yes, this confirms you have the authority to submit on the organisations behalf) **Yes ** **No?**



x

**Organisation Name**

Te Awarua o Porirua Harbour & Catchments Community Trust, Chairperson

\* Please include your full name, postal address, and email address. If your feedback is on

behalf of a group or organisation, you must include your organisation’s name and your role in the organisation.

## Hearings

Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission during the hearings process during business hours beginning 11 December 2023?  **Yes ** **No**

If yes please indicate the most convenient location for you to be heard in order of preference4

 **Monday 11th December – Wellington CBD** –

Greater Wellington Regional Council, 100 Cuba Street

 **Tuesday 12th December – Masterton** –

Greater Wellington Regional Council, 34 Chapel Street

 **Wednesday 13th December – Paraparaumu** – Kapiti Coast District Council, 175 Rimu Road

Online (we will send you a link)



If yes please ensure we have your email address and phone number.

3 Please note: We require your contact details. Your feedback, name and address are provided to decision makers. Your feedback, with your name only, will be available on our website. However, if requested, we may make feedback, including contact details, publicly available. If you feel there are reasons why your contact details and/or feedback

should be kept confidential, please email: [**future.developmentstrategy@wrlc.org.nz**.](mailto:future.developmentstrategy@wrlc.org.nz) A copy of the full privacy statement can be found online.

4 We will endeavour to accommodate your first preference. Dates and times will be confirmed once submissions close. Additional dates may be added depending on availability and need.

**These questions are optional but will help us understand which groups of the community are engaging with us.**

What gender are you?

 Male  Female  Prefer not to say

What age group do you belong to?

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 15–17 | 18–24 | 25–34 | 35–44 |
| 45–54 | 55–64 | 65–74 | 75+ |

Which ethnic group(s) do you feel you belong to? (Please select as many as apply)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Pākehā/NZ European | Other European | Māori |
| Cook Island Māori | Samoan | Tongan |
| Indian | Chinese | Southeast Asian |
| Other (please specify): |  |  |

**Where in our region do you live?**

 Kāpiti Coast

 Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai / Lower Hutt Porirua



x

 Te Awa Kairangi ki Uta / Upper Hutt  Masterton

 Carterton

 South Wairarapa

 Pōneke / Wellington City  Horowhenua

 I don’t live in any of these areas.

**Would you like to subscribe to the WRLC newsletter?**

**Yes ** **No**



x

## Your Feedback

We want your views on how this “big picture” approach could be improved. We have six

questions below and an opportunity to provide more detail. We strongly encourage you to read the proposed approach and accompanying information before answering the following questions below.

### QUESTION 1: VISION AND STRATEGIC DIRECTION OF THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

**What are we proposing?**

The overarching direction that guides the Future Development Strategy is made up of the vision, strategic direction, the 5 priorities for how to prioritise areas for development and statement of iwi and hapū values and aspirations for the development in our region.

**Why are we proposing this?**

We aspire to be responsible ancestors by ensuring the Wairarapa-Wellington-Horowhenua

Future Development Strategy will provide for growth that is sustainable by meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. We want our future to made up of well-functioning urban environments and a flourishing,

zero-carbon region that is founded on Te Tiriti o Waitangi and realised through the tino rangatiratanga of tangata whenua.



Tell us why…

The key words for our organisation in this vision are "responsible ancestors" and

"growth that is sustainable" "founded on Te Tiriti o Waitangi". These words speak

to the values we all aspire to, with development putting Te Taio and Te Mana o te Wai

at the centre of future development rather than being secondary to economic

expediency. We feel, however, that this draft strategy is very much envisaging growth

of the built environment which unfortunately will come at considerable cost to the natural environment. The Onepoto and Pāuatahanui arms of Te Awarua Porirua Harbour are

living testimony to the damaging impacts of human development. Growth of the extent envisaged will inevitably result in further damage to Te Taio.

Unsure

Don’t support

x Support

**Do you support our vision and strategic direction that guides the draft Future Development Strategy?**

**Question 1:**

### QUESTION 2: OUR PLAN FOR WHERE WE DEVELOP HOUSING OVER THE NEXT 30 YEARS AS OUR REGION GROWS.

**What are we proposing?**

We’re providing for affordable housing that meets our diverse needs, and for compact, well-

designed towns and cities. We’re proposing to concentrate most of our housing development in existing urban areas and rural towns with good current and future transport links that

function well now or will be improved through future transport developments (known as “strategic transport networks”).

**Why are we proposing this?**

These proposals will help address our current and future housing needs as our population

grows over time as well as for people in our region to live low carbon lifestyles and get around easily. Concentrating housing development in urbans centres ensures we protect our natural areas and food production land from encroachment.

**Question 2:**



Do you support our proposal to prioritise **housing development** in our existing towns and cities and around our strategic transport network ie around current and future transport hubs and routes?

x Support Don’t support Unsure

Tell us why…

With the proviso that we believe the emphasis must be very much on current transport

routes and hubs rather than future transport routes. The Wellington region is blessed

with a great spine of road and rail routes in particular. Brownfields housing

housing development around enhanced existing hubs and routes is the way to go rather than continuing to expand into precious greenfields areas. This is especially the case in our own city of Porirua where remaining greenfields space

is hilly and hazardous in terms of building as per the key constraints page 66 of the main

report.

### QUESTION 3: OUR PLAN FOR WHERE WE DEVELOP BUSINESS LAND OVER THE NEXT 30 YEARS AS OUR REGION GROWS.

**What are we proposing?**

We’re proposing to concentrate most of our business development in existing urban areas

and rural towns with transport links that function well now or will be improved through future transport developments (known as ‘strategic transport networks’).

**Why are we proposing this?**

This proposal helps support productive, and sustainable local employment. A growing region

means that there will be more people seeking employment here. While the Future Development Strategy cannot require growth in business and employment activity (i.e. more jobs or more

businesses), it can support this by making sure that the regulatory settings and infrastructure that is required for businesses to flourish is in place at the right time.

Thge



**Question 3:**

Do you support our proposal to prioritise **business development** in our existing towns and cities and around our strategic public transport network ie around current and future transport hubs and routes, to provide for sustainable, local employment?

Support Don’t support x Unsure

Tell us why…

We generally support prioritising business development in existing towns and cities but

believe that depending on the type of business development that proximity to transport

should not necessarily be the primary determining factor. For instance, we have

strong reservations about industrial development on the Judgeford Flats area which

is a very sensitive catchment in terms of health of the Pāuatahanui Inlet. We

would like to see business development confined to commercial or light industrial

in this area, to avoid further potential damage to the Inlet through contaminant run-off,

whether by accident or inability to design sufficient anti-pollution measures.

### QUESTION 4: OUR PLAN FOR KEY INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT IN OUR REGION..

**What are we proposing?**

Our proposed approach is to maximise use of current and planned infrastructure in the most efficient ways possible to get the best from our infrastructure investments. This includes

providing the infrastructure we need such as stormwater, wastewater, drinking water, road, rail, cycleways, electricity and social infrastructure such as schools and hospitals in the most well-

functioning and cost-efficient ways possible. It also includes fully unlocking the development potential of our current and future strategic public transport corridors.

**Why are we proposing this?**

We want to ensure that our infrastructure meets the needs of our diverse and growing population, supports housing, business and well-functioning urban environments, and is as cost-efficient

as possible. We are proposing that infrastructure planning and development planning are undertaken together, to improve efficiencies and leverage co-investment opportunities with the public and private sector. We are looking for ways to speed up infrastructure required to enable us to meet our strategic direction, faster whilst being fiscally responsible.

**Question 4:**



**Do you support our proposed approach to invest in infrastructure that is located in existing towns and cities and around current and future transport hubs and routes?**

x Support Don’t support Unsure

Tell us why…

We have provided our view on transport infrastructure in question 2 above. We

particularly want to emphasise the need for three waters infrastructure to be planned

alongside if not ahead of development planning. No residential or business

developments should be approved without sign off by the relevant territorial local

authority that sufficient system-wide infrastructure capacity is ready and available to cater

for the new connections as they come on stream.

### QUESTION 5: OUR PLAN FOR WHERE TO LIMIT OR AVOID DEVELOPMENT IN OUR REGION.

**What are we proposing?**

We’re protecting what we love. Our region is subject to various constraints on development and contains areas with precious values we are proposing to protect by limiting or avoiding

development in these areas. This includes extensive measures to protect our environment and water supply areas along the central mountainous spine between Wairarapa and the rest of the region, and the various natural hazard risks which the region is subject to and sites of cultural

importance to Māori in our region.

**Why are we proposing this?**

Our proposed plan ensures communities are safer from significant natural hazards and are

becoming more climate resilient, and regional growth also avoids creating new risks. It ensures urban development is designed to minimise impacts on the natural environment, our food

producing areas and our rich cultural heritage.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Question 4:** | **Do you support our proposed approach to protect the areas we love by avoiding or limiting urban development in areas that prone to natural hazards, land that is highly productive or land that contains high cultural or environmental/biodiversity values?** | | |
| x Support | Don’t support | Unsure |
| Tell us why…  This must be an absolute. Taonga such as our streams and harbours have suffered  degradation since the arrival of European settlers in the 1840s. Future development  must be designed to avoid any further negative impacts on the natural environment and  contribute to its protection and sustainability. This is especially required as we move further into the effects of climate change. Existing areas subject to flooding and inundation through rising sea levels will require costly adaptation whereas new development in climate effect prone areas must be avoided. | | | |

### QUESTION 6: REFLECTING IWI AND HAPŪ VALUES AND ASPIRATIONS

**What are we proposing?**

Te Tirohanga Whakamua is a statement of iwi and hapū values and aspirations for urban development in our Region. It was created by WRLC iwi members and has informed the development of our draft strategy. Some values and aspirations expressed within it that go beyond the scope of the draft strategy and will likely be captured by other work programmes. Well-functioning urban environments need to enable Māori to express their cultural traditions and norms. We’d like to hear from both mana whenua and from other Māori in our region on how we can best support their diverse values and aspirations for urban development.

**Why are we proposing this?**

Supporting values and aspirations set out in Te Tirohanga Whakamua is vital to realising the Future Development Strategy’s vision of a region founded on Te Tiriti o Waitangi and realised through the tino rangatiratanga of tangata whenua. A significant number of Māori living in our region do not have whakapapa links here. It’s important that we also hear the views of these individuals and groups on our proposals for the future of our region through the Future Development Strategy.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Question 6:** | **How do you think we can best support the values and aspirations of Māori in our region through the implementation of the Future Development Strategy?** |
| Tell us why…  We fully support Te Tirohanga Whakamua, particularly Pou 4 Kaitiakitanga: Growth in  our region supports thriving life and abudant life". Also Kokiri 2: Towards a circular approach and development informed by nature based solutions wherever possible and  Kokiri 3: When planning for growth the environment comes first and growth should only  occur where it creates positive environmental outcomes and in tune with nature and the  bio-diversity of the region. Where values and aspirations go beyond the scope of  the draft strategy the suggestion above that "they will likely be captured by other work  programmes" is too tentative. The word "likely" should be changed to "will". | |

### QUESTION 7: WHAT ELSE IS IMPORTANT TO YOU?

Do you have any other feedback on the draft Future Development Strategy?

Tell us more…

We are sceptical of the need to plan for 200K more people in the next 30 years and think that providing double the housing capacity required is completely over the top.

We prefer the NZ Stats forecast of 79K or suggest a figure of 100K would be sufficiently

as a target to plan for, with new dwelling numbers commensurately lower e.g. 60,000.

We note that on page 40 of the document the table for the first ten years of development suggests that the NGA of Porirua

greenfields development will yield 2500 homes, second only in size to Tara Ika in Levin

and 50 homes more than the Lets Get Moving corridor in Wellington city.

We caution against such intensive greenfields development of hilly and erosion prone

land where heavy sediment flows have already compromised the health of the

Pāuatahanui Inlet.

Need more room? You can add more pages.

For any questions, please email [**future.developmentstrategy@wrlc.org.nz**](mailto:future.developmentstrategy@wrlc.org.nz)

**wrlc.org.nz**