



# CONSULTATION SUMMARY

## Proposed Resilience, Energy and Climate Action Plan 2026-2032



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**HAVE  
YOUR  
SAY**



# Summary for consultation

***The Proposed Resilience, Energy and Climate Action Plan 2026-2032  
is now open for public consultation.***

This is an opportunity to provide feedback on the Draft Plan, which is available at [www.npdc.govt.nz/HaveYourSay](http://www.npdc.govt.nz/HaveYourSay). We encourage you to take the time to get involved and make a submission.

There are several ways you can have your say. You can complete the submission form on the next page or make a submission online.

To get your submission to us, either:

Do it online: [www.npdc.govt.nz/HaveYourSay](http://www.npdc.govt.nz/HaveYourSay)

Email it to: [submissions@npdc.govt.nz](mailto:submissions@npdc.govt.nz)

Post it to: NPDC Action Plan, Reply Paid DX, DX Box NR59001, New Plymouth

Deliver it to: NPDC Civic Centre, Liardet Street, New Plymouth; or a library and service centre in Bell Block, Inglewood or Waitara.

**Be sure to get your submission to the Council by  
on Tuesday 15 September 2026.**

## Purpose and overall direction

The proposed Resilience, Energy and Climate Action Plan 2026–2032 sets out a practical and staged approach for how we will respond to climate change over the next six years. It brings together work on climate risk, adaptation, energy management, emissions reduction, community support, nature-based solutions, and monitoring into one integrated plan.

The Plan recognises that climate change is already affecting us through more severe weather events, higher energy costs, rising insurance pressures, changing natural hazard risks, and growing community concern. The Plan aims to respond in a grounded, cost-conscious way by prioritising actions that build resilience, reduce long-term costs, and deliver practical benefits.

The Plan focuses on what we can control and influence. We have direct responsibility for our operations, assets, infrastructure, services, emissions and energy use. We also have a significant role in local adaptation planning, land-use planning, infrastructure resilience, community preparedness and supporting climate-related community action. However, many emissions and resilience issues sit outside of our direct control and responsibility, so depend on others to act instead.

The Plan therefore positions us as one part of a wider system. It makes clear that we will act where we have responsibilities while also supporting, enabling, advocating and partnering where appropriate. It calls for stronger central government action to support the District as part of this.

The Plan identifies four climate change outcomes.

| OUTCOMES                         |                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                   |                                                   |                                                                                   |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Climate risk management</b>   | NPDC improves knowledge and resources to manage climate and natural hazards and risks to communities, the environment and cultural heritage.                                             |                                                   |                                                   |                                                                                   |
| <b>Resilience and adaptation</b> | NPDC improves the resilience of the community and environment so the District is better equipped to thrive in a changing climate.                                                        |                                                   |                                                   |                                                                                   |
| <b>Energy and emissions</b>      | NPDC reduces its emissions in line with the following targets through prioritised actions that reduce whole-of-life energy and infrastructure costs and support local energy innovation. |                                                   |                                                   |                                                                                   |
|                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>By 2029/30</b>                                 | <b>By 2039/40</b>                                 | <b>By 2049/50</b>                                                                 |
|                                  | Scope 1 and 2                                                                                                                                                                            | At least 42% reduction from 2021/22 baseline.     | At least 70% reduction from 2021/22 baseline.     | At least 95% reduction from 2021/22 baseline. All remaining emissions offset.     |
|                                  | Scope 3                                                                                                                                                                                  | At least 67% of suppliers engaged (by emissions). | At least 79% of suppliers engaged (by emissions). | At least 90% of suppliers engaged (by emissions). All remaining emissions offset. |
| <b>Community support</b>         | NPDC fosters and empowers the community to drive resilience, energy and climate action.                                                                                                  |                                                   |                                                   |                                                                                   |

The Plan is subject to prioritisation in future Long-Term Plans to achieve. We acknowledge that there is the potential for projects and initiatives to be changed as part of this prioritisation process.

# Climate risk, resilience and adaptation

The Plan recognises that our communities will face increasing physical risks from climate change. Expected changes include sea level rise, coastal erosion, coastal flooding, heavier rainfall events, more hot days, heatwaves, drought exposure, landslides, wildfire risk, warmer oceans and changing rainfall patterns.

The Plan identifies climate risks across our assets, including parks and open spaces, transport, resource recovery, property, and three waters. The risks to many of our assets increase significantly by 2100. Examples include risks to walkways, soft park assets, coastal roads, bridges, closed landfills, buildings, campgrounds, flood control schemes, wastewater infrastructure and water supply assets.

Our first adaptation priority is to improve its data, risk assessment and decision-making. Actions include stocktaking climate and natural hazard data, developing a risk data management strategy, integrating climate risks into risk registers, creating a framework for asset and infrastructure resilience decisions, undertaking detailed assessments of critical assets, and developing supporting policies.

A second major adaptation priority is local adaptation planning. The Plan notes that central government has introduced legislation to Parliament to make climate adaptation planning a compulsory function for district and city councils. Priority communities will be identified through the new regional spatial plans and then implemented over coming years. We'll seek to do this work in collaboration with communities.

Our main adaptation planning actions over coming years are:

- Continuing the local adaptation plan for Urenui and Onaero – find out more at [www.npdc.govt.nz/council/strategies-plans-and-policies/plans/urenui-and-onaero-local-adaptation-plan/](http://www.npdc.govt.nz/council/strategies-plans-and-policies/plans/urenui-and-onaero-local-adaptation-plan/)
- Initiating a local adaptation plan for Waitara (this is also identified as an action in Tiritiri o Mātangi – Waitara Spatial Plan).
- Identifying further communities requiring local adaptation plans through the Regional Spatial Plan process.
- Undertaking local adaptation plans with strong community engagement and mana whenua partnerships.



## Energy and emissions

The energy and emissions section focuses on our operational energy use and emissions. We spend more than \$4 million annually on energy and rely mainly on electricity and natural gas, alongside transport fuels and smaller fuel sources. Energy is a strategic issue because costs are rising, supply is changing, emissions pricing is increasing over time, and natural gas availability is declining.

We used around 12.4 GWh of electricity in 2024/25, with electricity critical for three waters, community facilities and public infrastructure. Electricity prices have risen significantly in recent years, particularly for commercial users.

We also used around 36,700 GJ of natural gas in 2024/25, with gas use concentrated in a small number of sites. The New Plymouth Wastewater Treatment Plant is the largest gas user, followed by Todd Energy Aquatic Centre, Puke Ariki and Govett-Brewster Art Gallery/Len Lye Centre. Gas prices have increased sharply, domestic supply is declining, and Council faces future price and supply risks. The Plan therefore places strong emphasis on moving away from gas, improving energy efficiency, and increasing renewable electricity generation.

Our greenhouse gas emissions in 2024/25 were around 62,100 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e (carbon dioxide equivalents). Key emissions sources include Colson Road landfill emissions, supply chain emissions, investment emissions, facility emissions, waste emissions, transport emissions, grazing emissions and wastewater emissions. Electricity emissions are expected to fall to zero for the next few years while we use renewable electricity supply, including from the New Plymouth Airport solar farm.

Overall, the closure of the Colson Road landfill in 2019 (which has ongoing emissions that are still large but decreasing over coming years) enables the Plan to focus on reducing costs, managing supply risks, avoiding future ETS cost exposure and delivering wider community benefits. Main action areas are:

- Energy conservation and efficiency.
- Renewable energy generation.
- Gas transition.
- Transport fuel.
- Supply chain emissions.
- Energy innovation.

Supply chain emissions are addressed through supplier engagement, monitoring ETS impacts on emissions-intensive products, sustainable procurement practices, and whole-of-life cost assessments.

## Community energy and resilience support

The Plan recognises that most community emissions are outside of our direct control. Instead, it focuses on targeted support where we can add practical value. This includes improving household energy affordability, enabling electrification, supporting community-led climate action, and strengthening community resilience.

The Plan notes that households are facing rising energy costs and that around one in five Taranaki households have put up with being cold to reduce costs. Nearly 30 per cent of households in the District are connected to natural gas, exposing them to future cost and supply risks. Technologies such as heat pumps, hot water heat pumps, rooftop solar and batteries can reduce costs, but upfront costs and access to finance remain barriers.

Our role is to reduce barriers, provide trusted independent advice, support affordable finance, and work with community partners. Key actions include:

- Supporting the [Ratepayer Assistance Scheme](#) to fruition, enabling long-term low-interest loans for household electrification and resilience improvements, and then leveraging the scheme to increase uptake and support independent advice.
- Identifying one or more strategic community energy partner(s).
- Turning the EnviroHub into a sustainable home demonstration site.
- Piloting solar for renters through Housing for the Elderly.
- Supporting households in energy hardship.

The Plan also supports community-led climate action through continued community funding and industry support through the Community Climate Action Fund. This Fund has already supported work on water efficiency, climate education, home electrification, solar and wetland restoration planning.

Community resilience actions focus on practical preparedness. We will investigate enhancing the Sustainable Homes Advice to include resilience advice, support national conversations on insurance premium reductions for resilient households, coordinate support for solar and batteries at Community Welfare Hubs, develop measures to encourage rainwater harvesting, and support neighbourhood-level microgrid opportunities where practical.

# Cross-cutting issues

The Plan identifies several cross-cutting areas that support the whole climate response.

A major goal is to make climate change part of our ordinary decision-making. Climate risk, resilience, energy use, emissions, future scenarios, roles and responsibilities should be considered in strategies and plans as they are developed. The Plan highlights existing examples where climate change has already been embedded and provides a structured approach to continue this.

The Plan emphasises that infrastructure decisions made today will shape future emissions and resilience. Climate change needs to be incorporated into the Infrastructure Strategy, asset management plans, procurement, renewal planning, risk assessment and whole-of-life cost analysis. Good data is critical, including hazard exposure, asset condition, performance and maintenance history. The Plan promotes extending asset life where appropriate, avoiding unnecessary new construction, and using procurement settings to improve energy efficiency, resilience and low-carbon outcomes in major projects.

The Plan highlights the value of using nature to support resilience, emissions reduction, biodiversity, landscape values and mana whenua connections. Dune restoration is identified as an example of a natural solution that reduces coastal risk while improving habitat. Key actions include developing a nature-based solutions framework, continuing and expanding Planting our Place, and progressing the Waiwhakaiho Wildlink as a long-term ecological corridor and restoration initiative.

## Monitoring, accountability and review

The Plan includes a monitoring and accountability framework to track delivery and maintain transparency. It proposes Long-Term Plan performance indicators and annual reporting.

The Plan is intended to run through to **2032**, with review beginning in **2031**.



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3. What do you think about our approach to supporting households with energy and resilience?

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4. Where do you think we should put most of our emphasis? (Please select one of the following)

- ☐ Reducing energy and emissions should be the main focus.
  - ☐ Adaptation and resilience should be the main focus.
  - ☐ Supporting community energy and resilience should be the main focus.
  - ☐ They should all be strongly focused on.
  - ☐ None of them should be strongly focused on.
  - ☐ Other (please specify) .....
- .....
- .....

5. Do you have any other comments?

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All submissions (including your name, address and contact details) are provided to Council officers and elected members for the purpose of analysing feedback. Your personal information will also be used for the administration of the engagement and decision-making process. Submissions (with individuals names only) will be available online. If requested, submitter details may be released under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987. If there are good reasons why your details and/or submission should be kept confidential please contact our Privacy Officer on 06-759 5688 or through [enquiries@npdc.govt.nz](mailto:enquiries@npdc.govt.nz)







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[NewPlymouthDistrictCouncil](#)



Antenno



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