



LOWER HUTT

**COMMUNITY
CLIMATE CHANGE
RESPONSE**

WAINUIOMATA HUI

UNITING FOR CLIMATE ACTION

25 MAY 2021

WAINUIOMATA LIBRARY

HUTT CITY
TE AWA KAIRANGI

CREATIVE|HQ

About this document

// Wainuiomata Climate Hui – Design Log

This document outlines the insights, action and energy of the Wainuiomata Community Climate Change Response Hui. It is not intended to be a comprehensive report but a visual capture of the work done during the workshop. We reserve the right to make corrections.

We are extremely grateful for all those who came to our evening hui and gave us so much of their time. It was a wonderfully energetic evening with some really good discussions.

Lower Hutt Community Climate Change Response

Aug
Update

The climate crisis requires government and all individuals, businesses and communities across the country to take prompt action to do our part to limit global warming. This is a big task and will take huge effort from the whole of our community to make it happen. The community engagement hui have provided extensive insight through May and June 2021. Thank you for your continued support and leadership in the face of climate change. Keep the momentum going!

Video link:

www.climate-action.co.nz/video



Share the video



Spread the word



Get involved

Community insights and priority areas *(to date)*

Lower Hutt Community Insights

During April – June 21 over 300 community representatives across 18 climate hui engaged in the process. In July we will be ramping up engagement with mana whenua and the Lower Hutt Chamber of Commerce is co-hosting the business engagement.

This document captures the community's input and voice 'in their words' and identifies the priority areas of interest for this group. The information in this document informs part of the community insights synthesis which can be found at: www.climate-action.co.nz/insights



Te ao Māori Principles



Community Education



Connected Community



Behaviour & Mindsets



Leadership



Keep it Up!



Transport Emissions



Electric Vehicles



Public Transport



Alternative Transport



Active Transport



Transport Infrastructure



Natural Environment



Renewable Energy



Energy Efficiency



Water Efficiency



Waste Management



Green Economy



Urban Design



Climate Resilience

What the **Wainuiomata** community got up to!



We opened with a warm welcome and big thank you to those who had made it out for the evening, including our hard working Lead Group members.

We opened the hui with a karakia and the Lower Hutt Climate Change Response video. Then we outlined the process of our growing community action to help Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai Lower Hutt to zero net carbon emissions by 2050.

- We talked about Lower Hutt's carbon footprint which is heavily skewed to transport and stationary energy and the impacts of climate change already manifesting in flooding and sea-level rise.
- We asked 'where do you stand' and got to understand which of Transport, Waste, Energy or Other were areas of greatest focus for the group. We followed through with questions on what actions the community were already undertaking to address climate change, what their ambitions were and where change needed to happen.
- We concluded by asking what the unanswered questions were and how the community wanted to stay in touch.



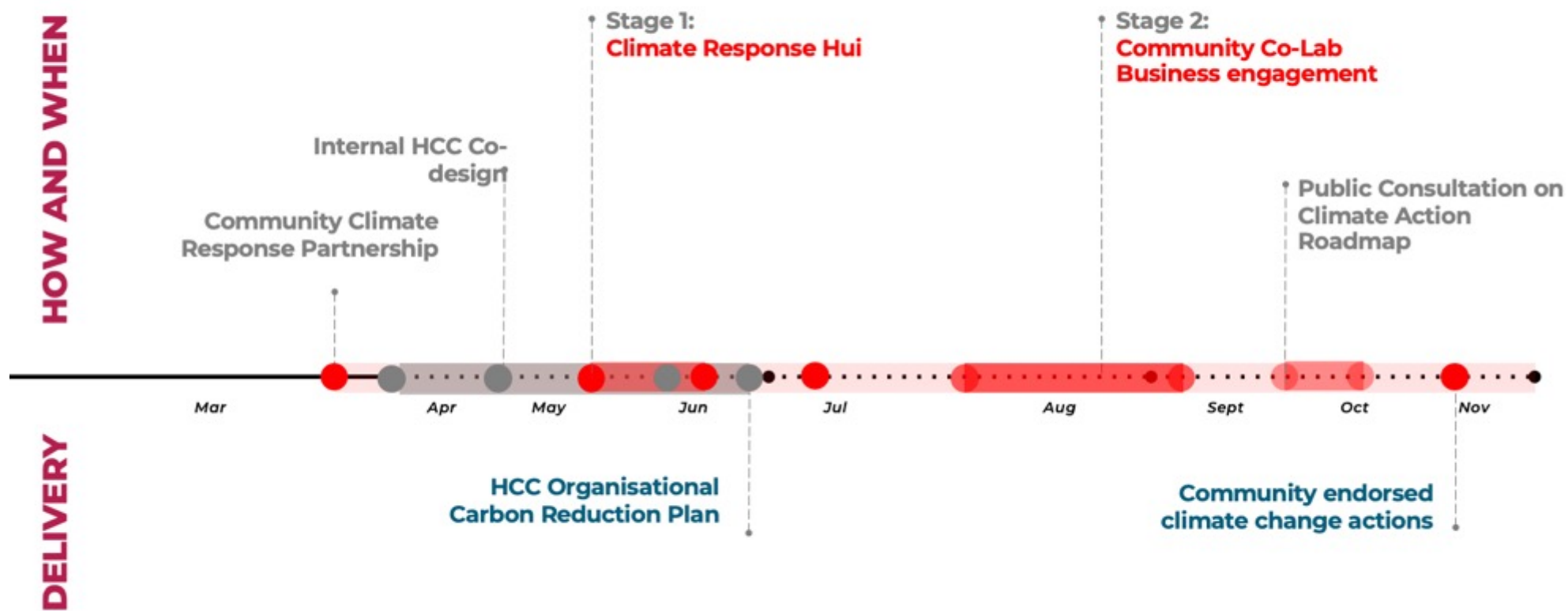
Starting with context

We shared with the community a little about our programme and the challenge we face in Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai Lower Hutt around climate change



Starting with context

Community engagement 2021





Starting with context



-
- The impact of climate change **will be far reaching** – affecting public health, biodiversity, property, infrastructure, communities and the economy.
 - Aotearoa has committed to **net zero carbon emissions by 2050**. Achieving this target requires all individuals, businesses, communities and government taking prompt action to do our part to limit global warming.
 - “Science is clear: if we fail to meet these goals, the disruption to economies, societies and people caused by COVID-19 will pale in comparison to what the climate crisis holds in store.” UN Secretary-General António

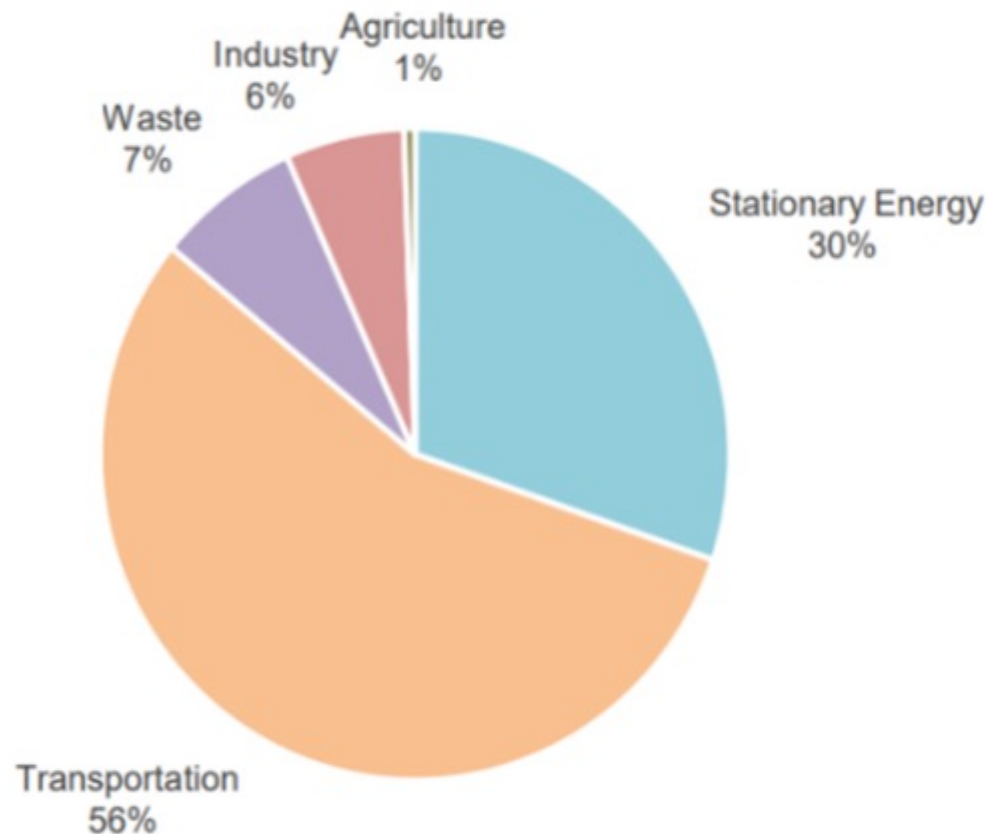
Guterres.



Starting with context

Lower Hutt's GHG Emissions

To achieve **net zero emissions by 2050**, Lower Hutt needs to reduce net emissions by an average of **16,589 tCO₂e per year** – which is around **3.4%** of current emissions.





Lower Hutt's changing climate



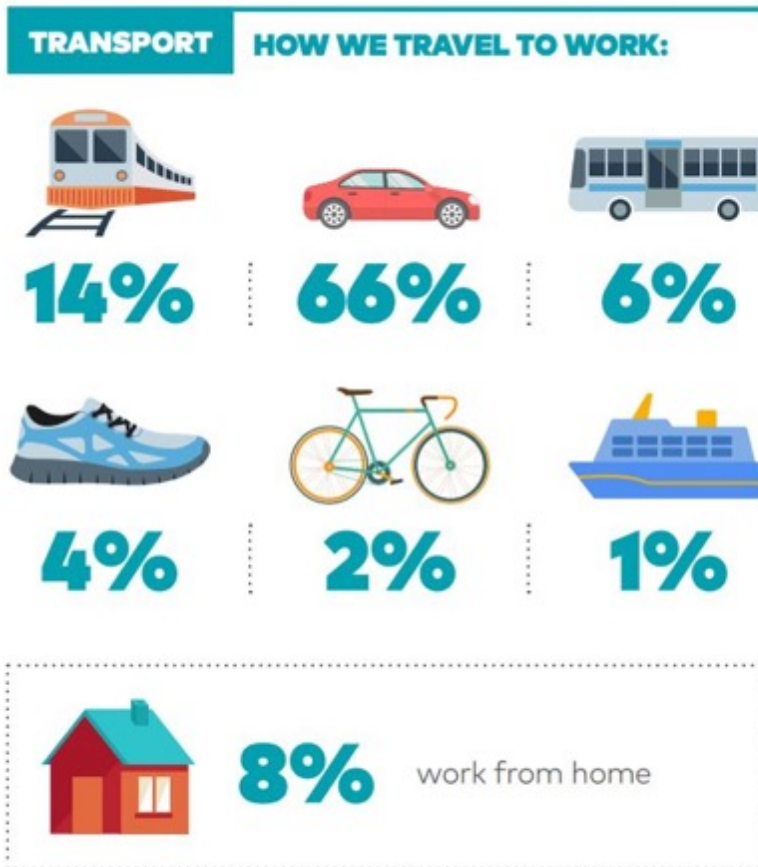
Flooding

- Lower Hutt city is located on the most densely populated flood plain in New Zealand.
- More intense storms (large waves and tides), heavier rainfall and flooding from sea-level rise.
- Flood protection – e.g. RiverLink (safeguard up to 3,000 homes, five schools and 600 businesses).



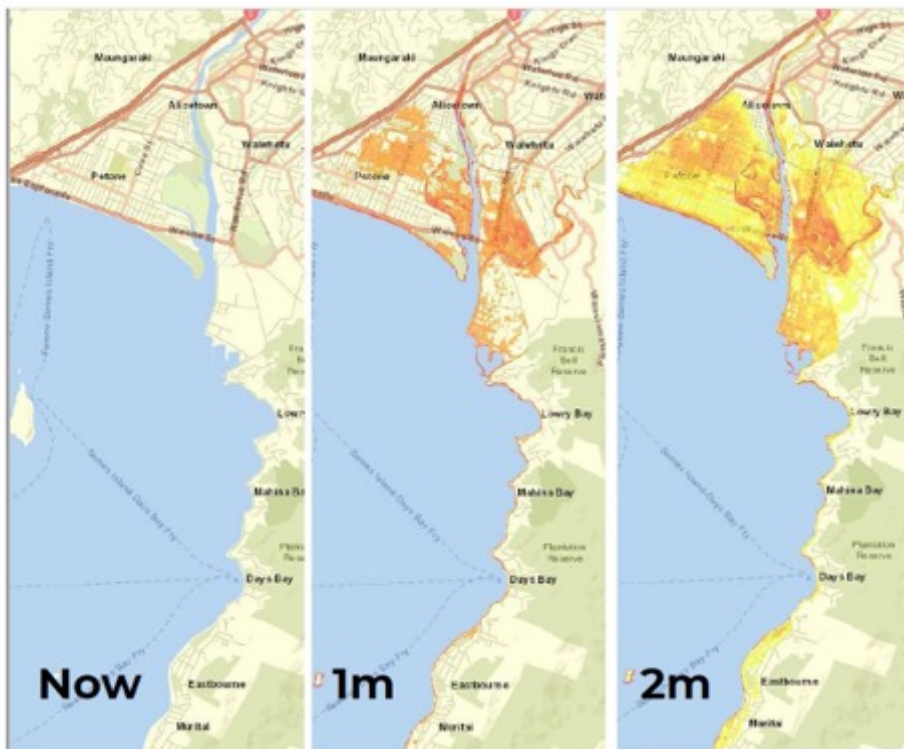
Starting with context

Transport





Starting with context



Sea-level rise

- NIWA predicts between 40cm-1m sea-level rise by 2100.
- Two-thirds of New Zealanders live within 5 km of the coast.
- Nearly 178,000 people are potentially exposed to a one metre sea-level rise.
- Including Lower Hutt's low-lying coastal communities.

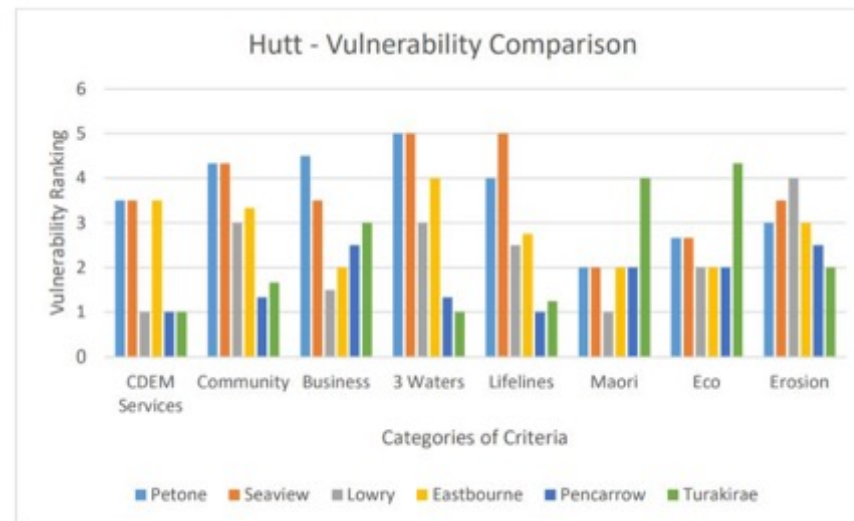


Starting with context

Lower Hutt's Coastal Vulnerability

1. **Seaview** is the most vulnerable coastal area.
2. Followed closely by **Petone**.
3. **Eastbourne** is the third most vulnerable coastal area.

(Mitchell Daysh report)





As a way of introducing everyone, we asked people to reflect on which of four choices they were most concerned about 'now' – TODAY. **Waste. Energy. Transport. Other.**



Where we stand: what are you most concerned about NOW?

Waste

"I would put myself in transport but now we are undertaking a rubbish and recycling change and changing attitudes. So much potential in this area."

"Personally I have too much food waste. Impacts the environment through methane emissions. Landfill etc."

"I'm interested in how we minimise the impact of food waste."

Transport

"Transport and stationary energy are the biggest contributors to climate emissions"

"Why are we building out when we need to build local and save transport?"

"At 66 percent of emissions this is clearly where we need to start. There needs to be layers of effort going into this. How and what we are driving and so on"

Energy

"All these areas need energy. Renewable energy. This has an impact on all other things."

"I'm really passionate about getting people out of non renewables. Making sure council facilities and houses don't have gas in them."

Other

"Other is a catch- all for the environment."

"I manage forest and bird plant nursery at waterworks. For those reasons I'm in other."



Where we stand: where could our actions make the biggest impact?

Personal Behaviour Change

"I have a lot of power where I put money and vote where I put my time. I have an orchard, chickens, animals, compost bins and an electric car lifestyle. I don't vote the way I used to."

Business and Infrastructure

"This is not something you could do yourself. It is something council's and central government can do too."

Community Activities

"Things like scholarships for kids to grow through climate change science. It needs to be real, not in a white coat. Can we get scholarships for kids to look at landfills?"

"We need to grow scientists with climate change rather than retrofitting it. We don't have many Māori scientists."

"As national coordinator of SS4C I can make a lot of impact through community activities."

"See how you walk the walk and talk the talk. We need to get everyone to do this. We need a catalyst."

"I find myself being forced by local government to not represent rural because my property has become residential. I hope that I can influence central and local government through community actions."

Central and Local Government

"We made a submission to the long term plan about carbon footprint. We voiced our concern. We are using that local government voice to make the voice of our community known."

"This is where I currently have the most influence and abilities."

"When we get govt onboard we can regionalise policies across the country and makes better change."

"The real challenge is articulating the importance of this, like policy statements around parking. Trying to articulate that is a challenge."



“We all want to get there. How we get there is the kotahitanga of the process.”

Key Focus Areas

WAINUIOMATA COMMUNITY



01 What community actions are already underway?



02 What would you like to do as a community or individual? What needs to change?



03 Where will we have the biggest impact? What are the overarching hui themes?



04 What else? How does the community want to stay in touch?



Action spectrum

We asked participants “What are you currently doing to contribute to net zero-carbon emissions for Hutt City by 2050?” What do you want to do and what needs to change for you to be able to do that?

Individual reflections enabled participants to capture their views and then share through table discussion.

Participants explored three focus questions:

- What are you doing now?
- What would you like to do?
- What needs to change?



What are we doing now?

PERSONAL ACTION

Recycling

- Increased recycling
- Reusing, reducing
- Use own coffee cup
- Reduce use of plastic containers
- Collecting bottle tabs
- Only buying 2nd hand clothes
- Recycle and reuse clothing
- Recycling as much household items as possible
- Sorting rubbish for max recycling and minimum waste
- Running /shopping at recycle markets and thrift stores

Transport

- Car pooling
- Driving my EV instead of petrol car
- Shared pathway including walking

Energy

- Had the house retrofitted with insulation
- Removed gas from the home
- Power usage reduction

Waste

- Composting
- Food waste (composting) recycling, rubbish
- Turning waste wood into biochar
- Save water
- Owning land e.g. rural land to support our family, owning chickens, having a verge garden, compost/home orchard/chickens (being more sustainable at home)

PERSONAL ACTION

Local Government

- Feeding into the long term plan
- Lobbying local government (holding them to account)

Natural Environment

- Animal pest control
- Planting native trees
- Have 13'000 pines absorbing 500 tonnes of c02 per year
- Restoring a wetland area
- Propagating and planting trees and other natives
- Killing predators
- Running native plant community nursery
- Growing vegetable gardens
- Community pataka gardens
- Land use/winter grazing

COMMUNITY ACTION



What would you like to do?



Transport

Have a smaller more fuel efficient car
More cycling maybe buy an e-bike
Electric car

Waste

Create a full reuse shop

Energy

Wind power
Solar power
Use renewable energy only
Persuade HCC to do the same
Get out of gas in my house
Water tank
Exotic tree eradication

Natural Environment

Plant watercress to eat and encourage eels

Community Resilience

Encourage and work with other people to keep Hutt City green
Persuade all of NZ to do so
papakāinga living
Share resources
Provide food for my community
Giveaway extra veggies/fruit from garden
Be more proactive

Education

More research



What needs to change?



COMMUNITY ACTION

Natural environment

- Build eco-park for kakapo in Wainui
- Protect Wainuiomata river
- Protect Wainuiomata Natural Heritage
- Keep working through forest and bird to encourage nationwide attitudes to SNAs and forestry (needs to change)
- Turn scrub into pine forest
- Use fertiliser to increase bush growth

Education

- Science communication
- Education programme around policy and impact e.g. less motorway, more public transport

Partnership with mana whenua

- Crown - tangata whenua partnership

COMMUNITY ACTION

Green Economy

- Subsidised options
- Budget investment
- Investment made by businesses needs to be targeted

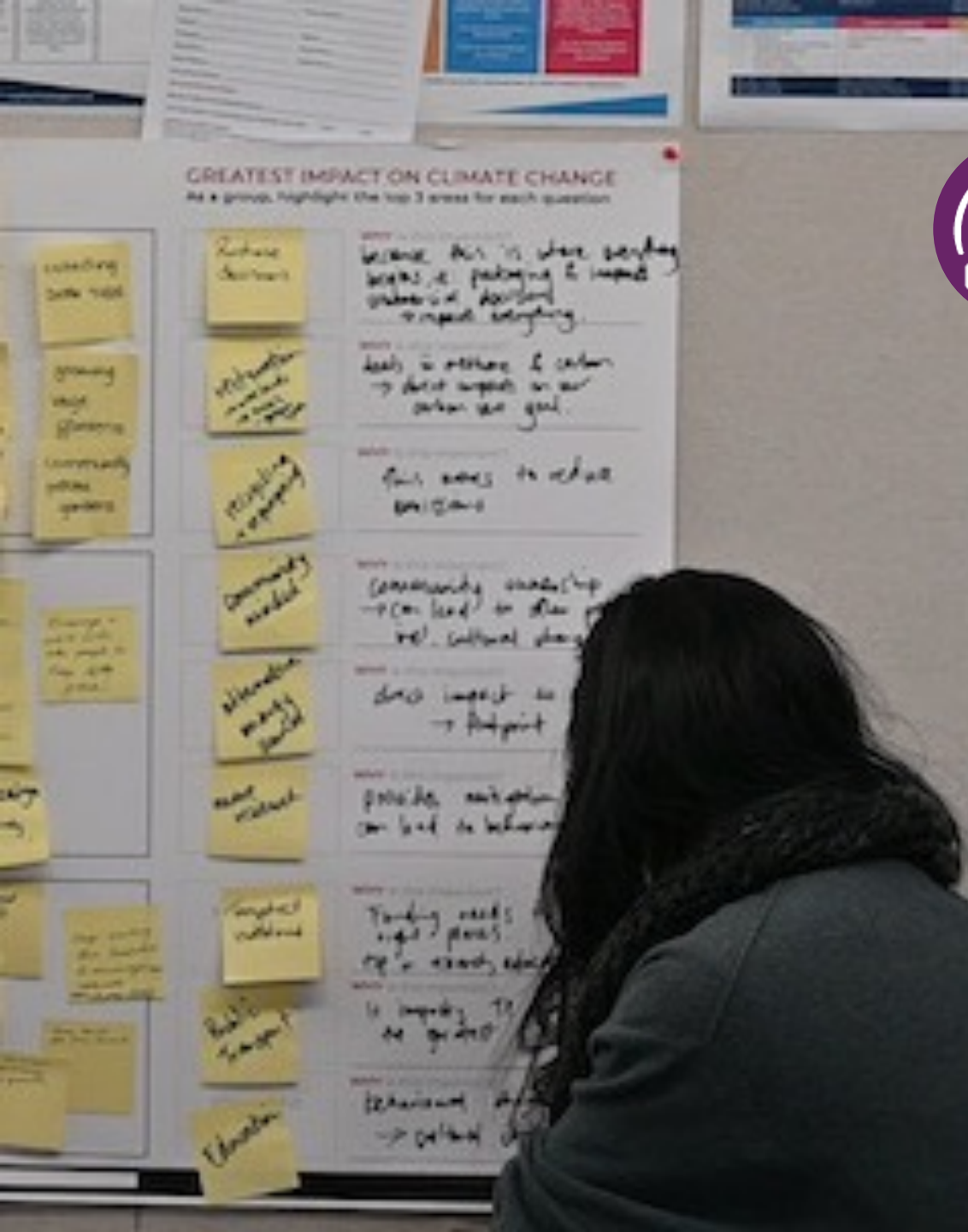
Transport

- More EV chargers
- Minimise car use
- My overuse of my car
- Not flying
- Public transport being more reliable

PERSONAL ACTION

Waste

- Less food waste at home
- Shop better for less packaging



Where will we have the greatest impact?

We asked participants to choose their top 3 activities that would have the most impact on climate change for each of the three areas:

- What are you doing now?
- What would you like to do?
- What needs to change?



What are we
doing now?

Impact Areas

TOP 3 BY TEAM

TEAM 1



Influencing Behaviour Change Mindsets

Be the change we want to see



Community Education

Bringing others along the climate
change journey



Community Leadership

Lobbying government incentivises
change at a government level

TEAM 2



Green Economy

This is where everything begins -
packaging impacts everything



Natural Environment

Restoring greenspaces absorbs
methane and carbon- this has direct
impacts on our carbon zero goal



Reduce Waste

Recycling and composting reduces
emissions



What are we
doing now?

Impact Areas

TOP 3 BY TEAM

TEAM 1



Community Education

We need to educate each other to
create change



Alternative Transport

This will have the most significant and
immediate effect on emissions



Natural Environment

Restore and protects land, such as
the Wainui landfill- we need to stop
polluting land, air and water

TEAM 2



Community Leadership

Community ownership can lead to
other positive culture change



Renewable Energy

Direct impact to emissions reduces
carbon footprint



Community Education

Climate research improves mitigation
options which can lead to behavioural
change



What are we
doing now?

Impact Areas

TOP 3 BY TEAM

TEAM 1



Government Leadership

They have power and resources



Connected Community

Initiatives such as Wainuiomata
Natural Heritage- people power



Connected Community

Financing local initiatives Increases
community capacity and capability by
Investing into these projects

TEAM 2



Government Leadership

Targeted funding needs to go to the
right places, especially in research,
education and infrastructure



Community Education

This impacts behavioural change as
well as culture change



Alternative Transport

A modal shift in transport has the
largest impact on Te Awa Kairangi



Summary of hui themes - Wainuiomata

Environmental protection

Plant more native trees and

Rehabilitate- restore and protect land e.g. Wainuiomata landfill- Biodiversity (Co2) we need to stop polluting land, air and water

Energy

Alternative energy sources- direct impact to emissions

Public Transport

Private transport reduction- most significant and immediate effect

Public transport- it impacts Te Awa Kairangi the greatest

Research

More research which provides mitigation options which can lead to behavioural change

Education and Community engagement

Education- to affect change

Community-minded- community ownership can lead to other positives like cultural change

Find support for community initiatives like Wainuiomata Natural Heritage- people power

Education- behavioural change- cultural change

Local and central government

Leadership in climate change- they have power and resources

Money- Investing into these projects

Targeted investment- funding needs to go to the right places, especially in research, education and infrastructure



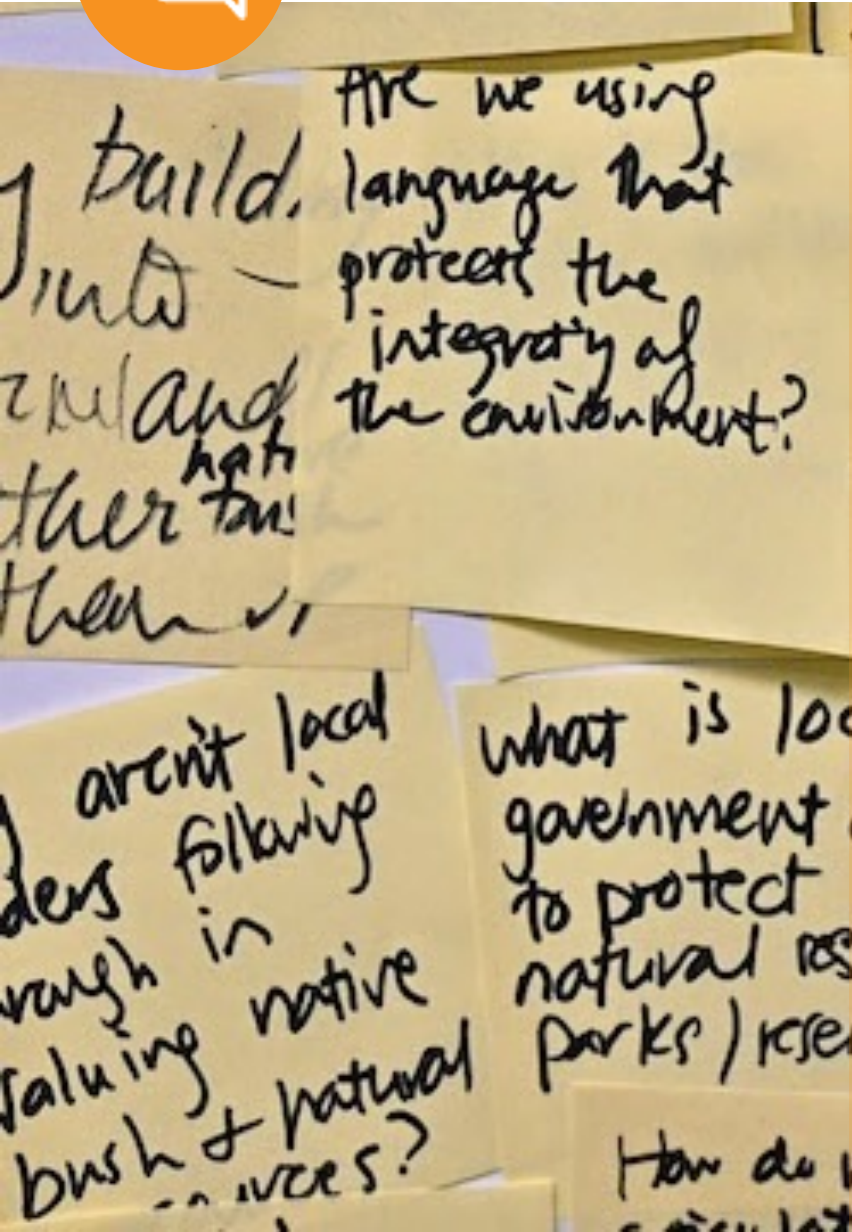
What else? How does the community want to stay in touch?

At the end of the hui, we discussed what our unanswered questions were and how we might engage better with the Wainuiomata community moving forward.

- What are your unanswered questions?
- How can we engage better and stay connected with the Wainuiomata Community?



What else: what are your unanswered questions?

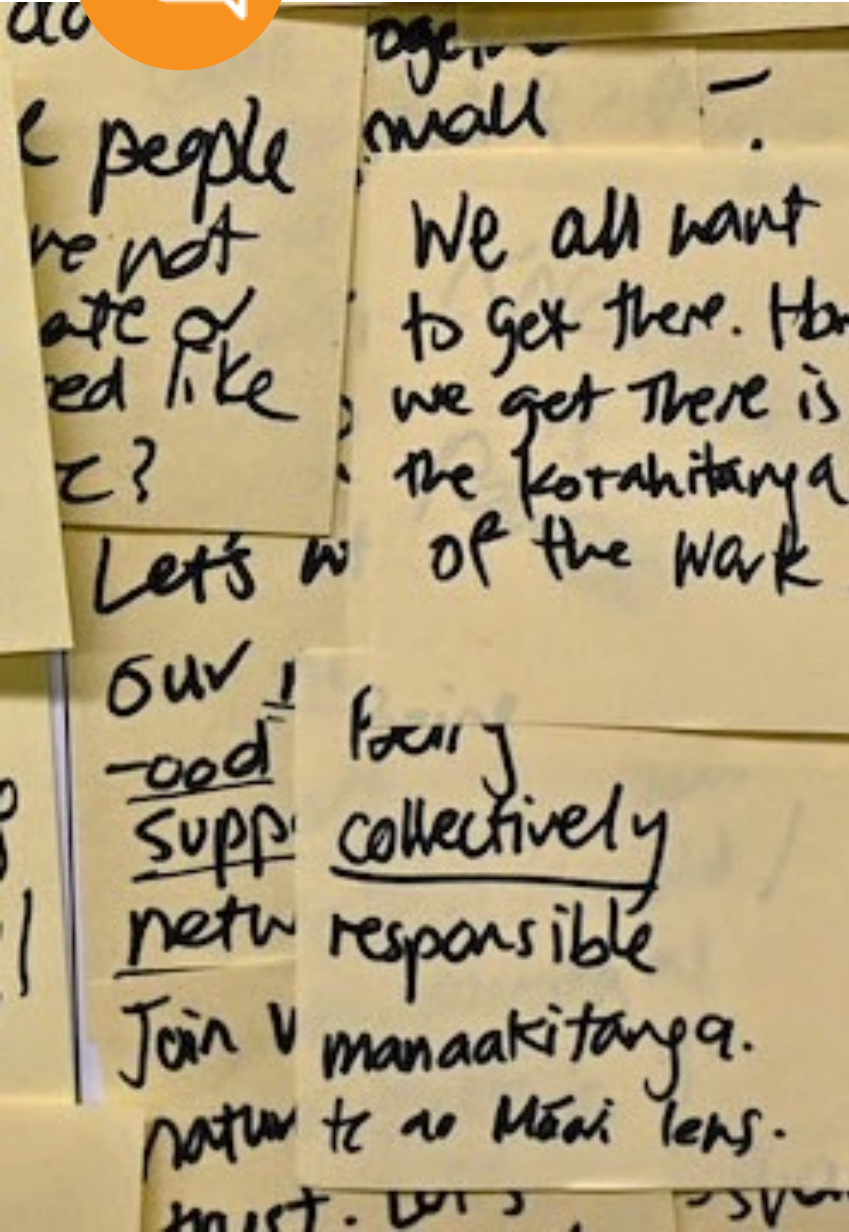


What are your unanswered questions?

- What are land and pest control doing to be more effective? HOC/HCC? Why aren't deer and pigs included in pest control/pest free 2050?
- Are we using language that protects the integrity of the environment?
- How do we make this exciting and inspiring?
- Why building out into farmland and native bush rather than up?
- Why is the council building out - rating policy?
- Why aren't local leaders following through in valuing native bush and natural resources?
- What is local government doing to protect natural resources, parks and reserves?
- How do we circulate climate change to the masses?



What else: what are your unanswered questions?



How can we engage better and stay connected with the Wainuiomata Community?

- Approach people at a household level and responsibility
- Understanding the WHY
- Connect daily actions toward sustainability
- Community events, BBQs, 'skip' day, turn problems into engagements. Come together to do small things e.g. tree planting initiatives
- Join Wainuiomata Natural Heritage Trust. Lots of initiatives e.g. restoring wetlands
- We all want to get there. How we get there is the 'kotahitanga' of the process.
- Being collectively responsible. Manaakitanga- remaining a te ao Māori perspective
- Use our Neighbourhood Support networks
- Bring a friend to eco/sustainability events
- Incentivise with rewards and competitions
- Workshops, talks, speakers, info sharing
- Education working together e.g. eco corridors
- Support local businesses, buy local
- Keep connected through email and community-led initiatives



DO SOMETHING YOUR FUTURE SELF
WILL THANK YOU FOR

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