



LOWER HUTT

**COMMUNITY
CLIMATE CHANGE
RESPONSE**

MĀORI RŌPŪ HUI

UNITING FOR CLIMATE ACTION

26 JULY 2021

HIKOIKOI RESERVE- TENTHS TRUST

HUTT CITY
TE AWA KAIRANGI

CREATIVE|HQ

About this document

// Māori Rōpū Hui– *Design Log*

This document outlines the insights, action and energy of the Mana Whenua 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. Though these engagements were intended to engage with mana whenua, tangata whenua and tangata tiriti were also in attendance. We have made conscious effort to differentiate between these contributions and recognise the differences between these titles in relation to Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai. We are extremely grateful for Te Karanga, Tanea and the rest of the staff at Tenths Trust who made us feel welcome. We are also grateful for the honesty of the contributions of those who took the time to share their kōrero with us.

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'.

It 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



"My dream is to start action now and not later for a better environment to leave behind for our beautiful mokopuna's as their koro/grandparents"
- Jack Efaraimo



"Papatūanuku is really hurting. Our tamariki are our way forward"



"I want to leave this place a much better and healthier country to share and live in"
- Jack and Karena





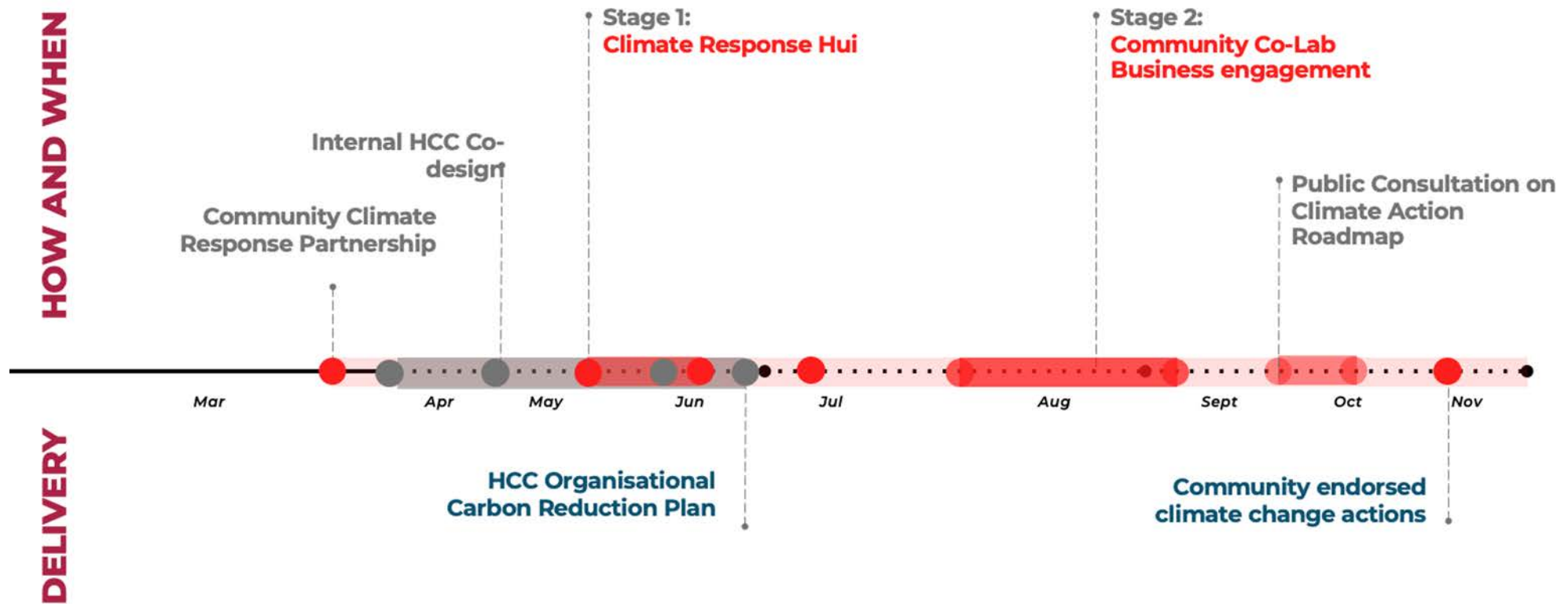
Starting with context

We shared 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

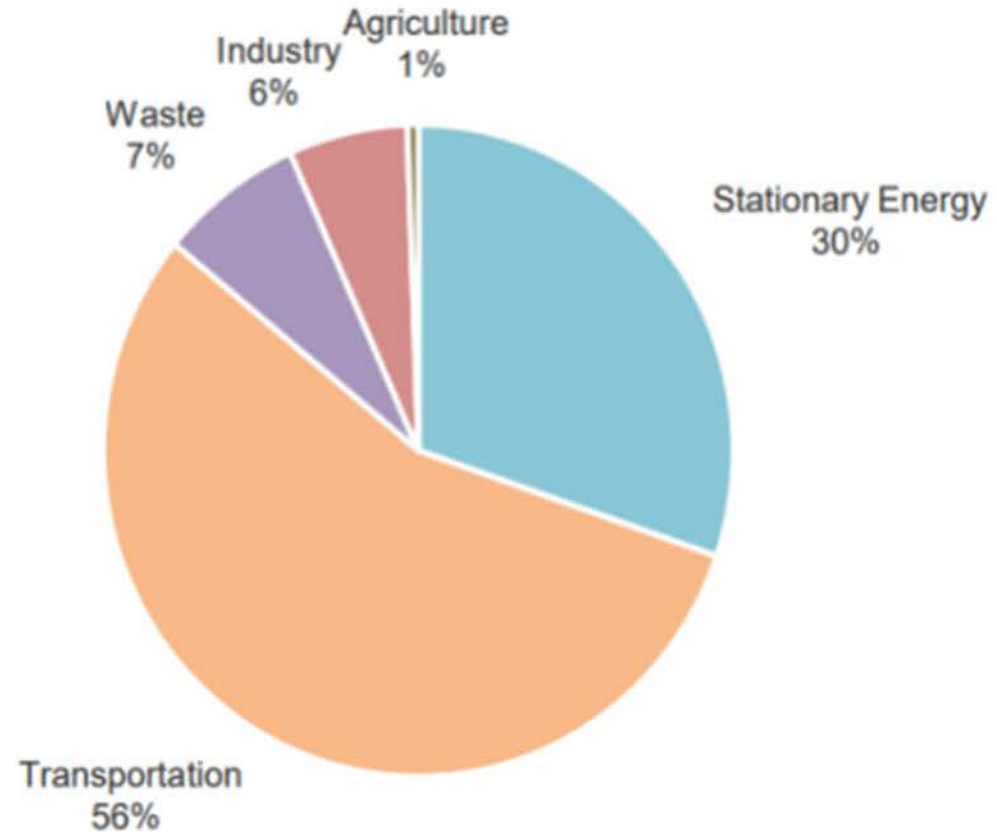
Guterres.



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.





Starting with context

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

TRANSPORT

HOW WE TRAVEL TO WORK:



14%



66%



6%



4%



2%



1%

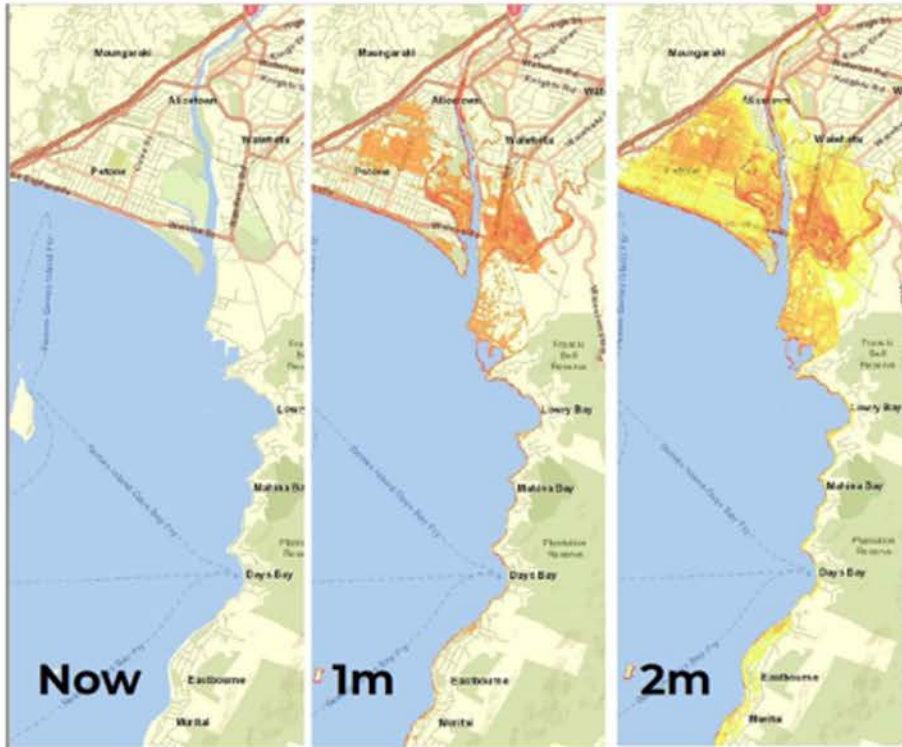


8%

work from home



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.



Kaumātua hui

We began with a karakia and shared our mihi and pepeha with one another.

This was followed by a showing of our Lower Hutt Climate Change Response video. We then outlined the process of our growing community action to help us reach the zero net carbon emissions by 2050.

- Kaumātua shared their understandings of climate change, drawing on memories of their personal experiences watching the natural environment change from the 1950s to present day
- Kaumātua then reflected on what is currently happening to respond to climate change, drawing from what has happened and not happened in the past
- Kaumātua then identified key problem areas, including losing whenua and historic sites, community connection and rongoā
- They then shared their top priorities across the kōrero and their aspirations for the future.
- Yasmine and Meghan from the League of Live Illustrators presented Kaumātua with illustrative expressions of what was shared across the hui. We concluded the hui with Tanea leading karakia and kai.

Key Focus Areas

KAUMATUA RŌPŪ



How is climate change affecting te ao Māori and your culture?



What challenges are you currently facing?



What actions are you currently taking What actions would you like to see?



What are your aspirations for the future? What are the overarching hui themes?



How do you feel climate change is affecting te ao Māori and our culture?

Building and Infrastructure

- Sea level rise is putting whenua and historic sites at risk.
- Rising sea levels are also a risk to marae, which are built near beaches or rivers across Aotearoa.
- They also noted that housing intensification is increasing pressure on community access to infrastructure and transport.

Community Connection

- Not connected in communities
- 'Convenient' living

Natural Environment

- Decline in natural resources. Pollution and beach degradation has decreased the abundance of kaimoana significantly over time.
- As Jack remembers: "Kaimoana used to be in knee-deep water."
- Decrease in green space accessibility- native trees are now on the western hills rather than on the plains
- Increased difficulty to access native trees, limiting access to healing plant species and food.
- Decline in water quality



What are the challenges you are currently facing?

Education

- Lead by example- 'walk the talk'
- Want to see efforts reciprocated by workers
- Education around the packaging of products
- Recycling education- it differs across councils
- Bad habits are a significant challenge

Waste

- Using all resources (losing 25% of food before it gets to the table)
- A lack of innovation around methane re-use

Natural Resources

- Lack of planting of trees that are usable or food sources- increasing bird life

Transport

- Access to public transport, cycleways, local- walk more
- Alternative transport means
- Lack of drivers
- Not as accessible
- Public transport access and reliability

Government Leadership

- Council regulations around what can and can't be recycled
- We can make changes but we need council follow-through
- Change starts at home too- we can recycle. But not all packaging our food comes in can be recycled
- Change needs to come from the top
- Frustration at a lack of action



What actions are you currently taking?

Education

- Climate change is being taught across primary schools

Natural Environment

- Participating in planting initiatives from time to time that we see happening in our communities
- Initiatives that are managing and eradicating pests.

Recycling

- Making an effort to separate plastics correctly.

Transport

- Carpooling whenever possible can to save on fuel, e.g. to go swimming together.
- Organising and coordinating activities as a community as a way to reduce emissions

Community Resilience

- Being well-connected to to communities
- Upholding wairuatanga is an important part of responding to climate change.
- We want to return to Māori teachings (Papatūanuku)



What opportunities are there in the future?

Now

- Clean up local creeks in the area- storm build up, weeds
- Convenient 'slow down' and plan
- To let them know what it was like in the past

"My dream is to start action now and not later for a better environment to leave behind for our beautiful mokopunas as their koro/grandparents"

-Jack Efaraimo

12 Months

- Check pollution levels along the Hutt Stream, clean up our rivers, beaches and lakes
- Producers improve and minimise packaging
- Public transport
- Carless days
- More native trees so we can get food off them
- People's attitudes change
- More kaimoana
- Leadership preventing waste going into the sea
- 1 price for public transport, free public transport

5 Years

- Awareness of planting natural plants and trees to attract birds
- To get out and about away from electronic dependency

10 Years

- Biodiversity
- 1080 drops- ban?
- Method to get rid of waste
- Incineration that doesn't pollute the atmosphere?
- To be predator free- rats, possums, stoats all introduced to Aotearoa

By 2050

"I want to leave this place a much better and healthier country to share and live in"

What are your key priorities?

Impact Areas

K A U M Ā T U A H U I



Food source Sustainability

There used to be an abundance of kaimoana that we relied on. We want to sustain these sources



Access to Public Transport

Public transport is expensive and unreliable at times



Council Leadership

Change needs to come from the top. We need leadership to change our behaviour and attitudes



Education

We need to follow up on education and share our learnings. This way we can communicate clear messages around how to do things correctly.

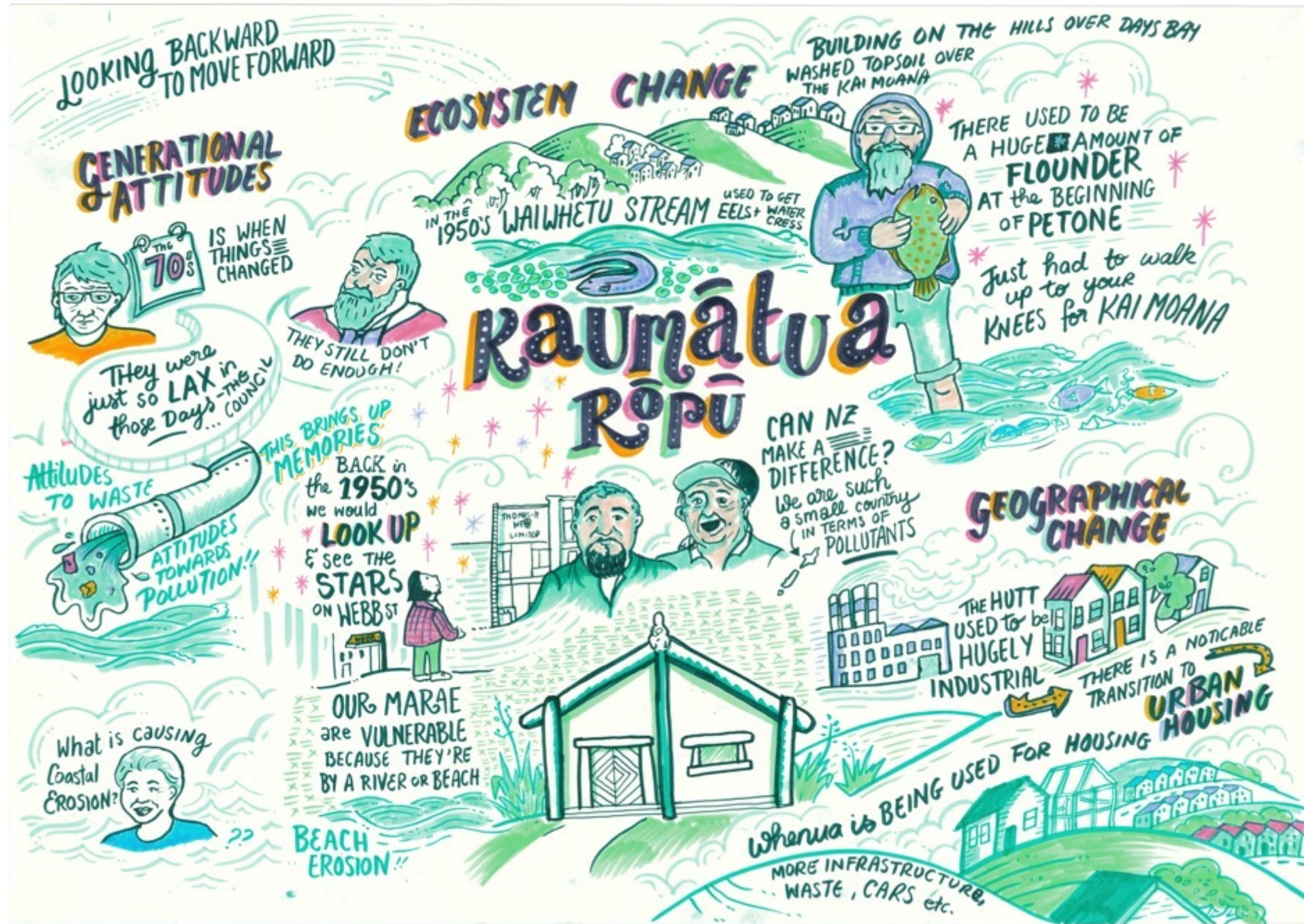


Upholding Authentic Partnership

We need to continue this kōrero with follow up meetings and access to information to share with each other

Capturing the voices

Yasmine and Meghan from the League of Live Illustrators presented Kaumatua with illustrative expressions of what was shared across the hui.



THIS VALLEY
USED TO BE A
KAHIKATEA FOREST
RICH WITH
BIRD
LIFE



WE CALL ON the
COUNCIL to
RESTORE
the **TREES**
AND MAKE them
ACCESSIBLE



CLEAN UP OUR
CREEKS and
BEACHES

PEOPLE TALK
A LOT OF TALK.
BUT WHEN IT
COMES DOWN TO
IT.....



WE NEED
RULES AND WE
NEED **LEADERSHIP**

IMPACTS
ON TE AŌ MAORI and
OUR CULTURE



ATTITUDES
HAVE CHANGED.

WE NEED TO
COME BACK TO
OUR MĀORI
VALUES.

PRESERVE OUR
RONGOĀ MAORI

TE
TAIAO

WHAT YOU WANT
FOR OUR NATURAL
ENVIRONMENT



PLANT THINGS we
can **USE** and **EAT**,
NOT JUST "PRETTY THINGS"

WE'VE GOT SOME
BAD HABITS



IT'S ALL
ABOUT
CONVENIENCE and
THE "BOTTOM LINE"

WASTE
INFRASTRUCTURE
WE'VE SEEN the DAMAGE
IT CAN DO



SUPERMARKETS
SHOULDN'T THROW AWAY
(VISUALLY) IMPERFECT FOOD.



key
PROBLEMS

WE'RE DOING
THEIR JOB.



IT'S GOT TO
COME FROM THE
TOP.



Working
TOGETHER

WHAT CLIMATE CHANGE MEANS
FOR MĀORI



SOMETIMES the
ANSWERS LIE IN
THE SIMPLEST THINGS.
LET'S LOOK TO A TIME
WHEN WE DID IT BETTER.

WE'RE
RECYCLING and
COMPOSTING...
...BUT ITS
COMPLEX, AND
ALONG COME
THE COUNCIL
COME ALONG
and DUMP it
all TOGETHER.



...LITTLE EYES
ARE
WATCHING



WHAT we're
DOING
IN RESPONSE TO
CLIMATE CHANGE

We need a
MINDSET SHIFT



AND WE NEED
FOLLOW-UP TO CHECK ON PROGRESS

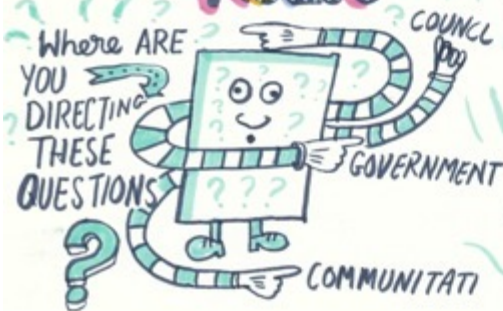
**AWARENESS
& KNOWLEDGE**
of CLIMATE CHANGE

WE GET
FRUSTRATED
with the LACK
OF ACTION!!

GETTING THE
RIGHT
INFO ON
RECYCLING



**RESPONSIBILITIES
& ROLES**



MAKE PEOPLE
WAKE UP!!



OUR
PRIORITIES
as **KAITIAKI**

HOW CAN
we **INFLUENCE**



SET UP → FOLLOW UP
MEETINGS
CONVERSATIONS WITH + OTHERS
RIPPLE EFFECT
Kōrero WITH OUR NETWORKS

WE ARE NOT JUST
LAZY
PUBLIC
TRANSPORT
IS
EXPENSIVE



ACCOUNTABILITY
MAKING SURE
PEOPLE DO WHAT
THEY SAY + WHEN
THEY SAY

KEEP THIS
MAHI GOING



USE METHANE



MODERN
ALTERNATIVE
TO
**CARLESS
DAYS**



IDEAS



2 WAY COMMS
what does
PARTNERSHIP
look like?

OUR GRANDCHILDREN
ARE WATCHING - OUR MOOD
ARE STILL WAITING



TO TRANSITION
TO RENEWABLES
LIKE THAILAND
USE COW
POO!



Te reo rōpū

This hui was attended by both mana whenua as well as tangata whenua across a wide range of backgrounds. Some of were already involved in climate activism and community sustainability initiatives.

This community was deeply passionate about learning te reo and had reservations about attending this hui.

Key Focus Areas

TE REO RŌPŪ



What are the key challenges?



What are the key questions you have?



What are the overarching hui themes?



Data Sovereignty

The rōpū had specific concerns about how data would be used and handled. This came out of the concern of data sovereignty and how this would be upheld throughout the programme.

Authentic Partnership

There was also a noticeable tension in the room underpinning a lack of trust in the programme upholding obligations as Treaty partners.

Though the programme has been in partnership with Te Atiawa and Tenth's trust for months leading up to these hui, the group felt that Māori had been left until last to be engaged with, indicating a lack of commitment to authentic partnership in their eyes.

Te reo rōpū Key Challenges

Distinctions between Māori Voices

There was concern that there was a lack of distinction between mana whenua and tangata whenua that could affect the interpretation of hui discussions.



Understanding key questions

Rather than exploring the questions we brought to the hui, we opened the discussion to hear questions and contributions this rōpū had about us and our programme.

Key Questions

Education

- 'Climate change is an inaccessible combination of words'
- What pūrakau can guide us?
- How do we broaden horizons of our education system- indigenous narratives in mainstream school?
- How do we mobilise every school?
- How do we in education implement our policies re climate change?
- How can we reconnect to our atua, tupuna in education- in curriculum review?

Land

- How do we reclaim our food systems in Te Awa Kairangi?
- Te ao Māori has been ignored. How can this change? E.g. Māori farmers have been kaitiaki of the land- their methods and whakapapa have been ignored
- How might Māori adapt to the effect of changing weather?
- What could town, city, country communities and councils do to stop street flooding?
- How would Marae wharehenui look built to stand during flooding extreme effects of climate?
- What can we do to mitigate the effect of flooding rise?
- How might the future we decide where to build towns, where, communities?

Contextualising climate change

- From which/whose worldview are we approaching climate change?
- What does 'climate change' mean to Māori?
- We already have our own ways of doing things. Te ao Māori concepts and principles. How to revitalise these?
- Climate change issues are only part of the problems. Kaitiakitanga is a shared role. How do we promote or raise this awareness?
- Systematically, what and how will we change? In order to minimise temperature rise, environmental degradation
- How can Pākehā reconnect to their own indigenous connection to the land?

Authentic and meaningful partnership

- What principles guide your choices?
- Why is Māori engagement last? This is not partnership
- How can indigenous voices be authentically represented within a 'crown- created' system- council



Weavers and Waka Ama rōpū

We spent the hui with several members of the weaver group and one waka ama member who joined us later in the evening. The weavers were a combination of Māori and Pākehā, many of whom had been part of the group for several years.

We began with a karakia and shared our mihi and pepeha with one another over dinner.

This was followed by a showing of our Lower Hutt Climate Change Response video. We then outlined the process of our growing community action to help us reach the zero net carbon emissions by 2050. Over the hui we covered the following topics:

- The rōpū shared their understandings of climate whilst weaving, sharing key challenges they saw in their communities
- The rōpū then shared actions they were currently taking in response to climate change, as well as actions they would like to take
- They concluded the hui with their top priorities across the kōrero and their aspirations for the future

Though the rōpū was interested in climate change and passionate about the environment, they felt that it was an overwhelming topic to address.

Key Focus Areas

WEAVERS AND WAKA AMA RŌPŪ



What challenges are you currently facing?



What actions are you currently taking in response to climate change?



What actions would you like to see?



What are your key priorities?
What are the overarching hui themes?

Greenspace Accessibility

They observed a lack of natural resource access as a result of housing intensity and a lack of strategic planting.

This was mainly in regard to usable plants such as harakeke.

Water

Waterway pollution was another concern, both in terms of water quality and the surrounding natural environment.

Weavers and Waka Ama Rōpū



Key Challenges

Mātauranga Māori

The loss of mātauranga Māori was also a key concern when the rōpū considered the intergenerational impacts it would have.



What actions are you currently taking?

Education

Teaching others how to weave and encouraging them to join the weavers group

Weaving Kete Kai

It brings together community connection, as well as the relationship between the weaver and the ecosystem where the resources come from.

Natural Environment

Currently conscious of our household energy use. Some members are involved in community stream clean-up initiatives.

Public and Alternative Transport

Using active transport such as cycling and taking public transport where possible.



What actions would you like to see?

Natural Environment

More native tree planting of species that we can use such as harakeke

Waste

Installing composting toilets

Localising sewer treatment systems and repurposing greywater

Water

Establishing a water tank at every house

Rainwater catchment system for household water use

Transport

More safe cycleways and infrastructure

Workplaces to accommodate for the modal shift providing their employees with bike parking stations and showers

Connected Communities

More education around where resources come from

More people to learn how to weave and see it as a sustainable practice

What are your key priorities?

Impact Areas

W E A V E R S & W A K A A M A R Ō P Ū



Water

This includes quality, supply, conservation and health



Infrastructure and Resilience

We need to adapt sustainably, with local knowledge underpinning new infrastructure



Reducing Waste

We need to divert food waste from landfill and innovate how we manage biosolids



Summary of themes across hui engagements

Kaumātua

Natural Environment

- Restoring the environment to bring back kaimoana abundance
- Access to **greenspace**, specifically native forest where rongoā (plant medicine) grows
- Returning to mātauranga Māori

Leadership

- Government **leadership** in incentivising immediate action and good practice especially in areas such as recycling

Transport

- Public **transport accessibility** and reliability was a key focus specifically around cost and bus schedules

Community Resilience

- Emphasis on inspiring **community action** through giving them space to lead their own kōrero with each other.

Te reo rōpū

Authentic Treaty Partnership

Data sovereignty and authentic relationship building
Pākehā reflexivity
Government leadership in climate change action
Enhancing space for Māori voices at the table

Holding space for Māori perspectives on Climate Change

Clarifying the worldview within which we were initiating climate change discussions
Understanding the narrative of climate change from a te ao Māori perspective safely
Contextualising climate change within larger systems that affect the lived experience of Māori in Aotearoa, including racism, colonisation, capitalism, and land sovereignty

Weavers & waka ama rōpū

Water

Water quality, supply, conservation and health, followed by sustainable infrastructure and resilience

Waste

Mitigating and minimising food waste
Exploring sustainable solutions for biosolids

Upholding Māori Perspectives

Emphasis on upholding mātauranga Māori alongside science when approaching climate change
Access to, relationships with, and care for, native ecosystems from a te ao Māori perspective

Connected Communities

Changing consumerist attitudes in favour of community resilience and connectedness
Teaching people how to weave and make kete kai is a sustainable practice in itself



DO SOMETHING YOUR FUTURE SELF
WILL THANK YOU FOR

Join the mahi today

www.climate-action.co.nz/web



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THANK YOU

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