



# Hauraki District Council

Recovery Plan 2020  
SUMMARY

our home, our future  
tō tātou rohe kāinga, tō tatou ao tūroa



## Executive Summary

Communities globally, nationally and locally are feeling the significant effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. Locally, the effects of a drought have exacerbated this for the rural communities of the Hauraki District.

This plan seeks to capture the actions undertaken and planned through the three stages of Respond, Recover, and Revitalise. It also provides context about the national and local settings for informing appropriate decision making for future actions.

## Overall Recovery Goal and Purpose of this Plan

The overall goal for the Hauraki District is to minimise the consequences from the Drought and Covid-19 pandemic for the community. This includes the revitalisation of the community by addressing the social, economic, rural and built environmental effects of the drought and pandemic.

The purpose of this Plan is to outline what actions were undertaken in the Respond phase and outline what still needs to be undertaken in the Recover and Revitalise phases to facilitate good planning and coordination of actions. This is a working document so will be updated as required.

Recovery objectives include:

- a. *minimising the escalation of the consequences of the emergency; and*
- b. *regeneration and enhancement of—*
  - (i) *the social, psychological, economic, cultural, and physical wellbeing of individuals and communities; and*
  - (ii) *the economic, built, and natural environments that support that wellbeing; and*
- c. *taking practicable opportunities to adapt to meet the future needs of the community; and*
- d. *reducing future exposure to hazards and their associated risks; and*
- e. *supporting the resumption of essential community functions.*

## Overview of the Events

This recovery plan covers the events of the Covid-19 pandemic and North Island Drought.

### Covid-19 (Corona Virus)

<b>Event</b>	Covid-19 (coronavirus) Pandemic
<b>Date of event</b>	31 December 2019 (ongoing)
<b>Area effected</b>	International/New Zealand/Hauraki
<b>Recovery Manager for event</b>	Peter Thom, Group Manager – Planning & Environmental Services
<b>Date of Recovery Action Plan</b>	July 2020
<b>Review Date</b>	To be advised

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus. Most people infected with the COVID-19 virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment. Older people, and those with underlying medical problems like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, and cancer are more likely to develop serious illness.

As at 3 Sept 2020, there have been 1,759 cases of Covid-19 in New Zealand. There are currently 115 active cases, with 1,622 cases recovered and 22 deaths.

### North Island Drought

<b>Event</b>	North Island Drought
<b>Date of event</b>	2019/2020
<b>Area effected</b>	New Zealand North Island
<b>Recovery Manager for event</b>	Peter Thom, Group Manager – Planning & Environmental Services
<b>Date of Recovery Action Plan</b>	June 2020
<b>Review Date</b>	To be advised

On 12 March 2020, following a dry 2019 and a record breaking summer of low rainfall, the Government classified the 2019/2020 drought as a large scale event across the entire North Island and parts of the South Island.

In the Eastern Waikato area and South Auckland rural area, it is estimated that there are 200 severely affected dairy farms and 150 moderately affected dairy farms affected by the drought.

## Responses to the events

### National Level response

#### Covid-19 Pandemic

The New Zealand Government announced Alert Levels in response to the Covid-19 pandemic on 21 March 2020.

Level 1 - Prepare	The disease is contained in New Zealand
Level 2 - Reduce	The disease is contained, but the risk of community transmission remains
Level 3 - Restrict	High risk the disease is not contained
Level 4 - Lockdown	Likely that the disease is not contained.

A State of National Emergency was declared due to COVID-19. It was in force between 12:21pm on 25 March 2020 and 12:21pm on Wednesday 13 May 2020. The Government applied varying alert levels over this period.

The Government provided a support package including: a wage subsidy scheme, health spending, leave and self- isolation support, income support, redeployment spending, and business support.

#### North Island Drought

On 12 March 2020, the Government classified the drought as a large-scale adverse event for:

- all of the North Island
- the top of the South Island (Marlborough, Tasman, Kaikōura) down to North Canterbury (Selwyn District, Christchurch City (including Banks Peninsula), Waimakariri District, Hurunui District, and Kaikōura District)
- the Chatham Islands.

Government funding of \$2 million was released to help primary industries recover from the drought, including drought co-ordinators, rural assistance payments, and psychosocial support.

### Hauraki District Council response

The following table sets out a high level overview of the work programme being undertaken by Hauraki District Council in recovery planning for the events of the Covid-19 pandemic and North Island Drought.

The work programme is divided into three phases:

- Respond – what’s happened?
- Recover – what’s happening?
- Revitalise – what’s planned for the future?

The activities to be undertaken in each phase are grouped by District need, including: Council financial support, Council services, community wellbeing, economic/district recovery, district promotion, and regional and central government collaboration.

For further details on the individual actions that have been undertaken in the Respond phase, and those to be undertaken in the Recover and Revitalise phases, please refer to the full HDC Recovery Plan 2020.

The activities for the Revitalise phase will include both business as usual and new activities. These will be delivered via this years’ Annual Plan (2020/21) and planning in the Long Term Plan 2021-2031.

# Hauraki Recovery Plan 2020

Partnering with Hauraki and Waikato stakeholders on a future programme of work to assist our district recovery | Working alongside mana whenua towards a strong recovery for our district, whānau and hapori

	WHAT'S HAPPENED TO DATE Mar-May 2020 (During Alert Level 3 &4)	WHAT'S HAPPENING May 2020-Dec 2021 (Changing Alert levels, 12-18 month district recovery)	HAURAKI FIT FOR THE FUTURE Jun 2020 – Jun 2023 (Innovation and partnership activities enhancing Hauraki District's future)			
RECOVERY PHASES	RESPOND		RECOVER		REVITALISE	
PHASE OVERVIEW	<p><b>RESPONSE (Survive):</b> Public health and crisis reaction to Global Pandemic triggered a series of lockdowns of the district and country in order to save lives. Drought caused significant strain on the farming and agricultural sector in the North Island and Top of the South Island</p> <p><b>OUTCOME:</b> A district (staff) and Council (facilities and responsibilities) that has successfully navigated through alert levels 3 and 4 of NZ's Covid-19 response</p>		<p><b>DISTRICT RECOVERY (Revive):</b> Tasks and action to accelerate the resumption of BAU, minimising the impact of the Response phase and stimulate the District's recovery, while learning to live with ongoing changes in alert levels.</p> <p><b>OUTCOME:</b> A District and Council that can continue to successfully operate at changing alert levels. Once at level 1 a District and Council that has been re-invigorated (or minimized impact) to pre-lockdown levels of activity for the district and especially the target sectors(hospitality, accommodation, retail and culture)</p>		<p><b>REVITALISE (Thrive):</b> Establishing the vision and initiating the execution of the District development in post Drought and Covid-context to inform the LTP</p> <p><b>OUTCOME:</b> A District that is re-invigorated, resilient, connected and leverages innovation and reflected in the LTP</p>	
DISTRICT NEED	Council Financial Support	Council Services	Community Wellbeing	Economic/District Recovery	District Promotion	Reg & Cntrl Govt Collaboration
	With lockdown in place, some businesses and households were facing significant financial hardship	Council Services played an important part of the recovery phase and Council costs also impacted many businesses	Looking after the district's most vulnerable during the drought and pandemic	It is important that business are supported through the lockdown and drought recovery so they can be at the forefront of economic recovery	This area focuses on the future wellbeing and resilience of the communities of Hauraki, drawing on the love of Hauraki for our distinctive environmental, spatial, creative and economic character	Economic stimulus projects are strongly aligned with central government's efforts to ensure benefits are maximised
PANDEMIC RESPONSE ACTIVITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phone Survey of Local Businesses undertaken to establish support required/issues being faced due to lockdown.</li> <li>Council procurement policy amended to prioritise local procurement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some services such as libraries, halls, playgrounds etc. had to close.</li> <li>The maintaining of essential services such as water, wastewater and solid waste were prioritised.</li> <li>Council used its communication channels to promote MOH and DHB messaging and updating on Council services.</li> <li>Council meetings were held via zoom and made available online.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting the function of emergency food packages distributed</li> <li>Information distributed regarding mental health support via HDC communications channels</li> <li>Iwi liaison officer supported our rural Māori communities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information provided regarding Te Waka resources and business mentoring to local businesses.</li> <li>Business Bites webinar to support businesses getting online.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LoveHauraki Campaign to promote supporting local businesses.</li> </ul>	
DISTRICT RECOVERY PLAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Invoices will be paid early if requested, rather than waiting until the 20th to help cash flow with those businesses.</li> <li>Free rent for clubs and organisations for 12 months.</li> <li>Various rates relief options have been provided for those struggling to make payments.</li> <li>Annual Plan rates increase was cut from 5.4 % to 3.9 % and Water rates increases were dropped from 6% to 3 %</li> <li>Freeze on increase of fees and charges</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council services accustomed to transitioning to working under different alert levels.</li> <li>Council used its communication channels to promote MOH and DHB messaging and updating on Council services.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elephant in the Paddock –Mental Health services available for farming community.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bringing forward/fast tracking capital projects to create jobs and keep the economy moving</li> <li>Grant allocation from MPI for farmers requiring support with cost of transporting additional feed.</li> <li>Hauraki Tourism Action Group to support tourism product development in the Hauraki District.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council approved funds for a local contractor for three months to create social media content for the LoveHauraki Facebook page.</li> <li>Advertising local businesses in the Thames-Coromandel District Council Our Coromandel magazine.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Mayors from HDC, TCDC and MPDC unite to lobby government for fund to support local farmers affected by drought</li> <li>Government Infrastructure Fund applications</li> <li>Te Waka business sentiment survey and business mentors</li> <li>Mayors Taskforce for Jobs</li> <li>Smart Waikato running their Second School Employer programme in Paeroa and Waihi schools.</li> </ul>
REVITALISE DISTRICT	Initiatives subject to Long Term Plan (LTP) discussions					

## Overview of Council services

The following table shows how Council services will operate at Alert levels 1 & 2. Further details on council operations under alert levels 3 & 4 can be found in the full HDC Recovery Plan 2020.

	Closed/stopped	Limited/reduced	Business as usual
Services	Level 2	Level 1	
Service Centres			All offices reopen at level 2 with health and safety measures in place.
Libraries			Libraries reopened from 18 May with reduced hours, limited numbers and health and safety protocols
Public toilets			
Halls/Event Centre			Halls and event centres reopen at level 2 with limitations on numbers and health and safety requirements.
Playgrounds			
Parks/reserves			
Hauraki Rail Trail			Recommended in groups no larger than 10 during level 2
Public wifi			
LIMs			Standard and urgent LIM's processed under level 2, no hard copies provided.
Liquor licences/ Duty Manager Certificates			Processed remotely with extended timeframes
Food audits			Processed remotely with amended and to assist food businesses to re-open, easier processes have been created to allow them to change the way they do their business.
Noise complaints			
Dog Control			
Rates Payments			
Mowing			Mowing continues in level 2 where it can be done so safely
Rubbish bins			
Rubbish and Recycling			
Cemetery Services			Cemetery services remained available with some limitations still under level 2
Water meter connections and reading			
Planned and routine maintenance			This includes transportation, drinking water, wastewater and stormwater, as well as land drainage.
Building Inspections/ Pre lodgement meetings			Building inspections continue and face to face meeting with Builder Control Officers resume with health and safety measures in place during Level 2
Resource Consents			Resource consents continue to be processed remotely with site visits with health and safety measures in place.
Council meetings			Resume in Chamber chambers during level 2 with the option of attending the meeting via zoom for those who are more vulnerable

## Document management and control

<b>Title</b>	Hauraki District Council Recovery Plan 2020 - SUMMARY
<b>Sponsor</b>	Strategic Planning
<b>Approved by:</b>	[to be advised]
<b>Adoption date:</b>	[date]
<b>Review by:</b>	[date]
<b>File ref:</b>	2820205

Property of Hauraki District Council



For more information:

- **W** [www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz](http://www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz)
- **E** [info@hauraki-dc.govt.nz](mailto:info@hauraki-dc.govt.nz)
- **P** 07 862 8609 or 0800 734 834 (from within District)

Visit us at one of our offices:

- Paeroa: 1 William Street
- Ngatea: 84 Orchard West Road
- Waihi: 40 Rosemont Road