

Council Activity Briefings

Date: Wednesday 10 December 2025
Time: 1:00pm
Venue: Hine Paaka Council Chamber, Te Whare Whakaterere
2 Baring Square East, Ashburton



Attendees

Mayor Liz McMillan

Councillors Phill Hooper (Chair)
Carolyn Cameron
Russell Ellis
Phill Everest
Deb Gilkison
Jeanette Maxwell
Julie Moffett
Tony Todd
Richard Wilson

Executive Team

| | |
|--|---------------|
| <i>Chief Executive</i> | Hamish Riach |
| <i>GM Infrastructure</i> | Neil McCann |
| <i>GM Compliance & Development</i> | Ian Hyde |
| <i>GM Business Support</i> | Helen Barnes |
| <i>GM People & Facilities</i> | Sarah Mosley |
| <i>GM Community & Open Spaces</i> | Toni Durham |
| <i>GM Legal & Democracy</i> | Tania Paddock |

Activity Reports

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1. *Business Support Group*

1.1 Information Systems

1.1.1 Projects

The following provides detail on a selection of team activity, typically the larger or more complex work items that are currently being worked on.

| Brief Project Description | Start Date | Estimated Completion Date | On track | Within budget | Comments |
|--|--------------|---------------------------|----------|---------------|--|
| Application and Process Development | | | | | |
| Application enhancement and development | BAU Activity | | N/A | N/A | <p>Ongoing general development and business improvement within Council's ERP, GIS and other core applications.</p> <p>Recently completed works include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GIS – Rates Boundary Dashboard. The purpose of this project is to streamline the process of reviewing and consulting current rate boundaries layer in relation to district plan zoning among other datasets. • GIS – Plan Change 7 map updates • GIS – District water treatment pump station (Methven and Mt Somers) maintenance survey <p>Current developments include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mahi Tahi (Council Intranet) development in creating new home, site pages and HR Information Hub for ADC employees. • Property reporting – Review of existing report suite and resulting actions of updating existing, creating new and retiring unused reports. • Cemetery Data – analysis and verification of held cemetery data • Elderly Persons Housing – process improvements. • GIS – Fairton Emergency Response mapping |


| Brief Project Description | Start Date | Estimated Completion Date | On track | Within budget | Comments |
|---|----------------|---------------------------|----------|---------------|---|
| | | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GIS – District water treatment pump station (Hinds and Mayfield) maintenance survey • GIS - Dog Exercise and Alcohol Ban public maps |
| Approved Consent Mapping | August 2026 | March 2026 | Yes | Yes | This work will provide a spatial (map) view of approved consent location and associated information to support function activities and public access to consent information. |
| Consultation Submission Management | November 2025 | September 2025 | Yes | Yes | <p>This project is to deliver a digital solution to support the public consultation process specifically in managing received consultation submission and support activities in response, assessment and presentation of submissions.</p> <p>The solution has been delivered and used for the consultations for Dangerous and Insanitary Buildings, and Gambling.</p> |
| Health & Safety | June 2025 | July 2026 (tbc) | Yes | Yes | A review of and updates to our corporate solution functionality and configuration is underway. The work sets out to take advantage on new solution developments as well as consider the current configuration and its design to meet ADC requirements. A multi-phase approach, current focus is on a revamp of locations for event recording and reporting. |
| Grants & Funding Management | April 2025 | February 2026 | Yes | Yes | <p>This project is to deliver a digital solution to support the receipt of grant application and management process on assessment and decision.</p> <p>Activities are proceeding to schedule.</p> |
| Event Management | September 2024 | October 2025 | Yes | Yes | <p>To support the application of requested community events from application to approval.</p> <p>This project has been completed and supporting received event applications management.</p> |

| Brief Project Description | Start Date | Estimated Completion Date | On track | Within budget | Comments |
|--|--------------|---------------------------|----------|---------------|---|
| Community Facility Booking System | May 2025 | October 2025 | No | Yes | Online management solution for booking of community facilities overseen by Property, Open Spaces, Library and Democracy & Engagement. The solution has been slightly delayed from its original delivery with some final set up for online payment pending. Once confirmed a go-live date will be set. |
| Financial Modules and Management Services | October 2024 | September 2028 | Yes | Yes | Transformation of remaining financial and management function and process within the TechnologyOne solution to the current product offering. Multi-stage, multi- year project. With works in Budget, Travel & Expense (Purchase cards), End of Year Rollovers and Creditor Set Up completed. Due to other business priority and impact on required specialist resource availability, future work has been rescheduled to reflect this. |
| IT Infrastructure, Server and Desktop | | | | | |
| Cyber Security | BAU Activity | | N/A | N/A | Ongoing programme in the development of reducing Council's cyber security risk profile and includes access, monitoring, hardware and patch management and identification, investigation and application of security related applications and enhancements. Following recent audits and internal reviews a programme of security related priorities have been identified, confirmed and planning for these to commence. |
| Core Switch and Security Infrastructure Renewal (Scoping) | July 2025 | December 2025 | Yes | Yes | Forms part of our planned renewal programme. This work covers the design and identification of required hardware, ahead of physical renewal works. |
| Exchange (email) | August 2025 | October 2025 | Yes | Yes | Transformation of this service to full cloud operation and retirement of provider services that are due for retirement. This work is now complete. |
| Information Management | | | | | |

| Brief Project Description | Start Date | Estimated Completion Date | On track | Within budget | Comments |
|--|----------------|---------------------------|----------|---------------|--|
| Physical and Digital Record Management - continuing work to identify, record, appraise and manage remaining Council physical records. | BAU Activity | | N/A | N/A | <p>Continuing and ongoing activity with business teams to assess digital and physical records held by Council as part of the management of the life of that record, including that of protected or permanent retention under statutory Acts including the Public Records Act and Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act. Work includes the decision to retain or dispose a record based on Council's adopted retention and disposal schedule.</p> <p>Work continues with Museum staff in recording detail on Council archives (pre-1990) held at the Museum. Assessment to date has included Ashburton Borough, County and Road Board records. These records form part of the Archives collection that is available on the Whakatere Heritage Website https://whakatereheritage.catalogaccess.com/archives?search=&page=1&size=10&withImages=false</p> <p>On the digital side, works are ongoing to assess and manage unstructured and structured data held on business file shares and within our document management systems. This works includes retention and disposal activity. Recent activity includes the management of employee records, and activity images.</p> |
| EDRMS Renewal | July 2025 | June 2028 | Yes | Yes | Our EDRMS system is scheduled for replacement in the financial year 27/28, with budget allocated. In a product area that has advanced over the past decade our first action is to complete investigation on what market offerings exist which can support our record management responsibilities, confirm our requirements and prepare to go to market in 26/27 |
| Information Asset Register | September 2025 | June 2026 | Yes | Yes | Phase 2 in the development of an Asset Register for information which council holds. This work will build on the current listing of identified Council Systems adding further |

| Brief Project Description | Start Date | Estimated Completion Date | On track | Within budget | Comments |
|---------------------------|------------|---------------------------|----------|---------------|--|
| | | | | | information to support its legislative and required management of records that it creates or receives. |

1.2 Property

| Current | Brief Project Description / progress |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Ashburton Business Estate | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In total, approximately 43-hectares of the Business Estate remains unsold, with 39-hectares sold. |
| Elderly persons housing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BP Construction has generously donated a table and seating for Friendship Lane. The set has been installed in the green space beneath the large trees, and grass will be sown shortly. • 98 units are occupied with 2 being renovated and 2 requiring patio repairs. After a few false starts, the last rebuilt Friendship Lane unit was occupied on 23rd September. • There are 22 applications on the waiting list, with 9 people requesting single units and 13 requesting double units (comprised of 4 couples and 9 individuals). • 19 people on the waiting list are current residents in the Ashburton District, with 3 being from out of town. • The occupancy rate is currently at 99% of available units. <div data-bbox="696 671 1149 1235">  </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • |

| Current | Brief Project Description / progress | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|-------|--------------------|--------|------|--------|-----|--------|-----|--------|-----|--------|-----|--------|-----|--------|-----|--------|------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|-----|
| Airport | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The below table provides an update of aircraft movements for the past 12 months. <div data-bbox="642 284 1989 699"> <table border="1"> <caption>Aircraft Movement at Ashburton Airport</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Month</th> <th>Aircraft Movements</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Nov-24</td><td>1100</td></tr> <tr><td>Dec-24</td><td>750</td></tr> <tr><td>Jan-25</td><td>800</td></tr> <tr><td>Feb-25</td><td>900</td></tr> <tr><td>Mar-25</td><td>750</td></tr> <tr><td>Apr-25</td><td>900</td></tr> <tr><td>May-25</td><td>850</td></tr> <tr><td>Jun-25</td><td>1150</td></tr> <tr><td>Jul-25</td><td>1050</td></tr> <tr><td>Aug-25</td><td>1180</td></tr> <tr><td>Sep-25</td><td>1150</td></tr> <tr><td>Oct-25</td><td>750</td></tr> </tbody> </table> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of annual landing fees issued has increased from 15 to 29 annual landing fee holders. A few events have taken place at the airport over the last couple of weeks. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Recreational Aircraft Association of New Zealand (RAANZ) had a fly in that took place 7-9 November 2025. They advised that the event was successful and they are pencilled to return to Ashburton airport in two years' time. AkroFest took place at the Airport, 20-22 November 2025. There were 13 aircraft registered to compete in the aerobatic competition. The event organiser advised of a successful event. In accordance with the resolution from the Long-Term Plan, officers are currently investigating alternative management and operation models for the Ashburton Airport. | Month | Aircraft Movements | Nov-24 | 1100 | Dec-24 | 750 | Jan-25 | 800 | Feb-25 | 900 | Mar-25 | 750 | Apr-25 | 900 | May-25 | 850 | Jun-25 | 1150 | Jul-25 | 1050 | Aug-25 | 1180 | Sep-25 | 1150 | Oct-25 | 750 |
| Month | Aircraft Movements | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Nov-24 | 1100 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dec-24 | 750 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Jan-25 | 800 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Feb-25 | 900 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mar-25 | 750 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Apr-25 | 900 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| May-25 | 850 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Jun-25 | 1150 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Jul-25 | 1050 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aug-25 | 1180 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sep-25 | 1150 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Oct-25 | 750 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Old Polytech(Cameron St) Demolition | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asbestos removal has been completed and air clearance has been obtained. Demolition commenced 24 November 2025 and may take up to 10 weeks to demolish and to create the basic gravel carpark. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

1.3 Finance

1.3.1 Projects

| Brief Project Description | Start Date | Estimated Completion Date | On track (yes/no) | Within budget (yes/no) | Carry-over (yes/no) | Comments |
|--|------------|---------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Annual Report | July 2025 | 3 December 2025 | No | No | No | Audit New Zealand have completed the audit and adoption of the Annual Report is scheduled for 3 December. |
| Annual Plan 2026/27 | Current | 30 June 2026 | Yes | Yes | No | Preparation of the 2026/27 Annual Plan is underway with Council workshop scheduled in early February. IBIS rate modelling software has been implemented to assist with rate modelling, once annual plan budgets have been confirmed. |
| Financial Modules and Management Services | Current | September 2028 | Yes | | Yes | IS and Finance are progressing through this multi-stage, multi-year project. Due to shifting priorities and availability of specialist resources, future phases have been rescheduled. |
| Vehicles (Fleet) | Current | 30 June 2025 | Yes | Yes | No | Three vehicles have been sold. |

2. Infrastructure

2.1 Solid Waste Management

2.1.1 Solid Waste Management Contract

- Mobilisation activities are progressing for the new contract with WasteCo to start in September 2026. Fortnightly meetings are being held to discuss the following:
 - The contract to supply 12,000 green bins has been awarded to Sulo. The bins will be distributed to households during July and August 2026 in time for the service commencing in September 2026.
 - System & technology integration requirements are being discussed jointly.
 - A supplier for the vehicles has been identified, and branding is currently being discussed.
 - Communication campaigns (FOGO and others) are now being discussed with the ADC Comms Team

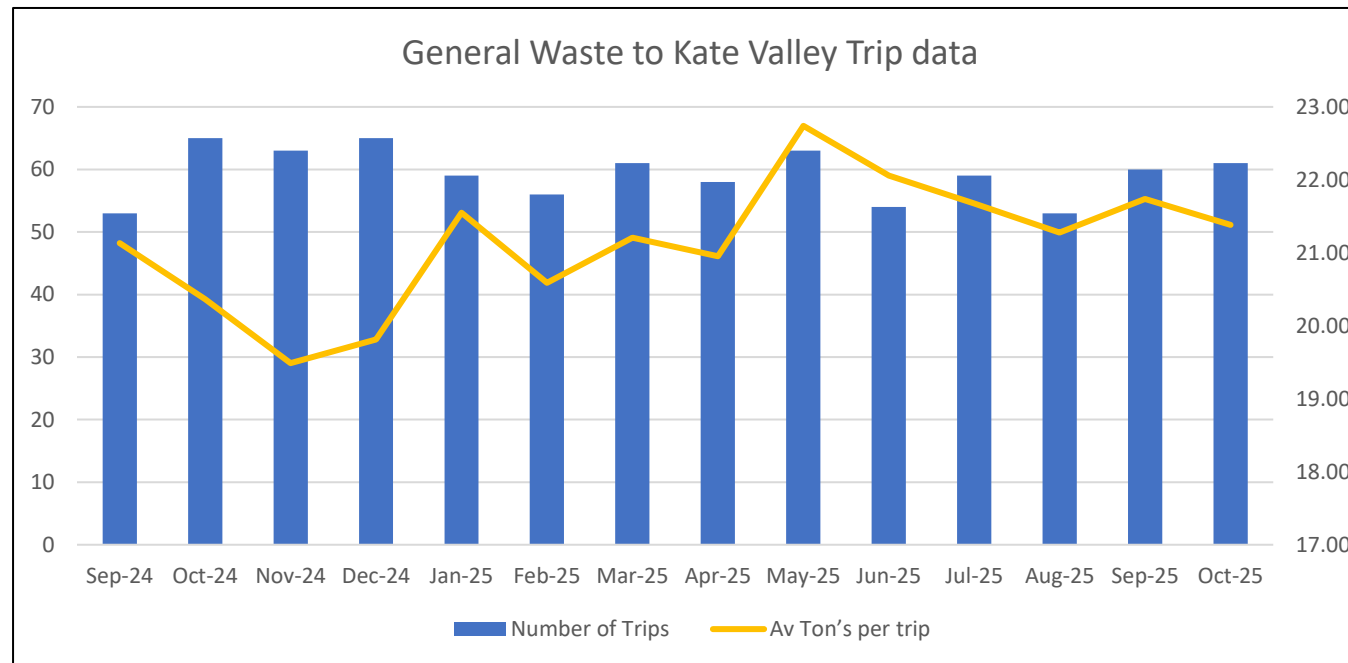
2.1.2 Solid Waste Kerbside Refuse and Recycling Collection

- A total of 166 and 202 CRMs were received in September and October respectively. The number of CRMs received have been trending normally over the past six months of the year. A summary of the CRMs for the last seven months is shown below:

| Request Enquiry | Monthly Total Number | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | May | June | July | August | September | October |
| Illegal dumping | 10 | 5 | 19 | 8 | 9 | 5 |
| Kerbside - Bin Accessory | 3 | 6 | 6 | 4 | 10 | 51 |
| Additional Bins | 39 | 23 | 30 | 23 | 28 | 22 |
| Damaged Bins | 12 | 23 | 33 | 41 | 27 | 39 |
| New Bins | 16 | 17 | 26 | 27 | 16 | 16 |
| Missing Bins | 11 | 7 | 12 | 19 | 17 | 13 |
| Missed Collections | 34 | 27 | 71 | 45 | 26 | 40 |
| Contractor Complaints | 1 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 3 |
| Satellite Drop Off Site Issues | 1 | 4 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| Non-compliant & other miscellaneous | 3 | 2 | 22 | 6 | 32 | 11 |
| Total | 130 | 117 | 229 | 177 | 166 | 202 |

- Of the 40 reported missed collections in October, only 11 were actually missed bins, the remainder were due to bins were not being out in time, bins being hidden behind an obstructions (eg a vehicle) or the bins were overfull and deemed non-compliant. The reported missed bins are collected the following day.
- The number of damaged bins remains high due to new drivers learning to use the truck lifts. The contractor pays for every bin that is damaged by their drivers.

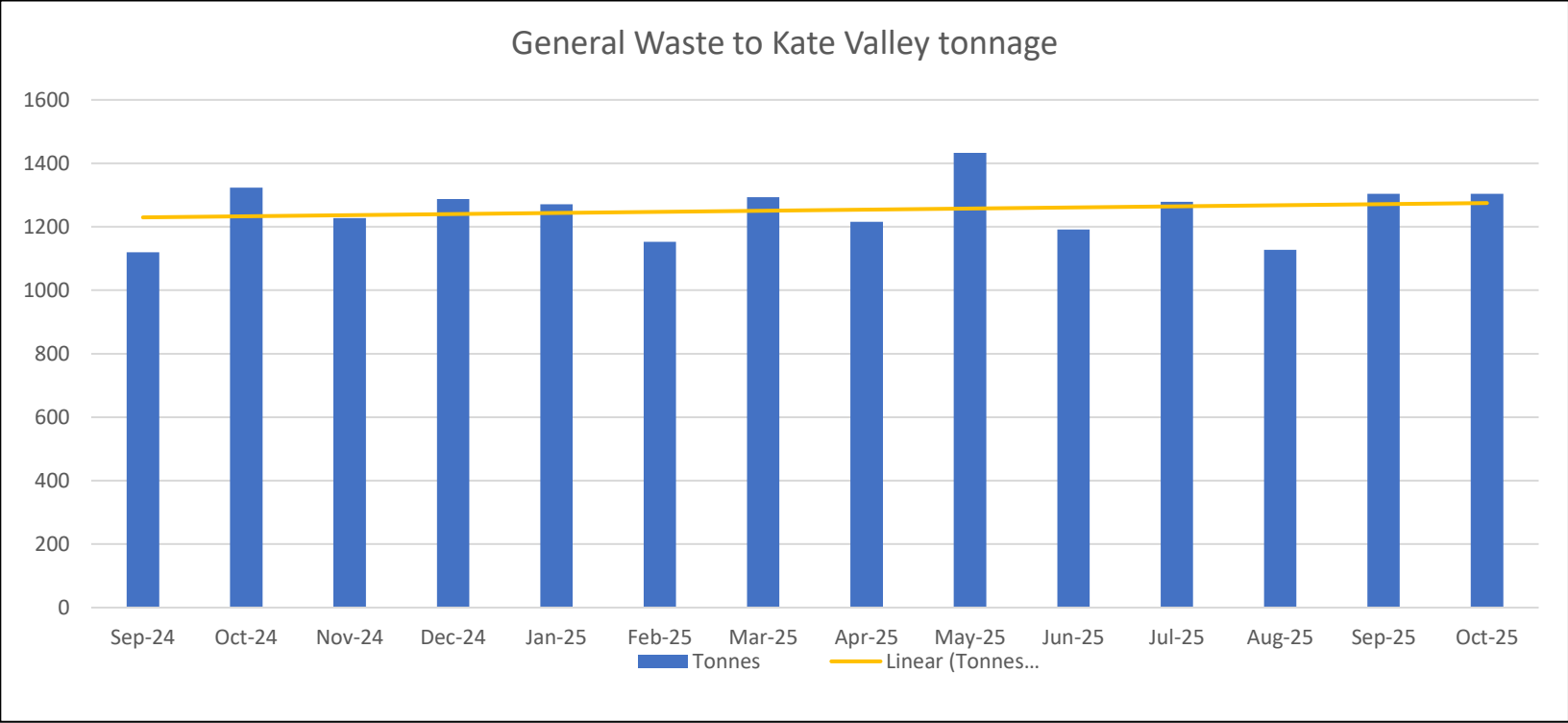
A total of 60 and 61 trips were made to Kate Valley in September and October, respectively. Total trips the past five months is 232 trips.



- The average trip weight in September and October was 22 tonnes. Since the tonnage per trip is dependent on the weight of the materials being dumped in the pit, the operators are separating lighter materials whenever possible and mixing them with heavier materials to spread the load contents and maximise the bin weight for each trip. The average weight per trip over the past 12 months is 21 tonnes.

| Month | Tonnes | Number of Trips | Ave Ton's per trip |
|--------|----------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Oct-24 | 1323.8 | 65 | 20.37 |
| Nov-24 | 1227.78 | 63 | 19.49 |
| Dec-24 | 1287.88 | 65 | 19.81 |
| Jan-25 | 1271.04 | 59 | 21.55 |
| Feb-25 | 1153.079 | 56 | 20.59 |
| Mar-25 | 1293.59 | 61 | 21.21 |
| Apr-25 | 1215.27 | 58 | 20.95 |
| May-25 | 1432.65 | 63 | 22.74 |
| Jun-25 | 1191.18 | 54 | 22.06 |
| Jul-25 | 1278.97 | 59 | 21.68 |
| Aug-25 | 1127.71 | 53 | 21.28 |
| Sep-25 | 1304.21 | 60 | 21.74 |
| Oct-25 | 1304.42 | 61 | 21.38 |

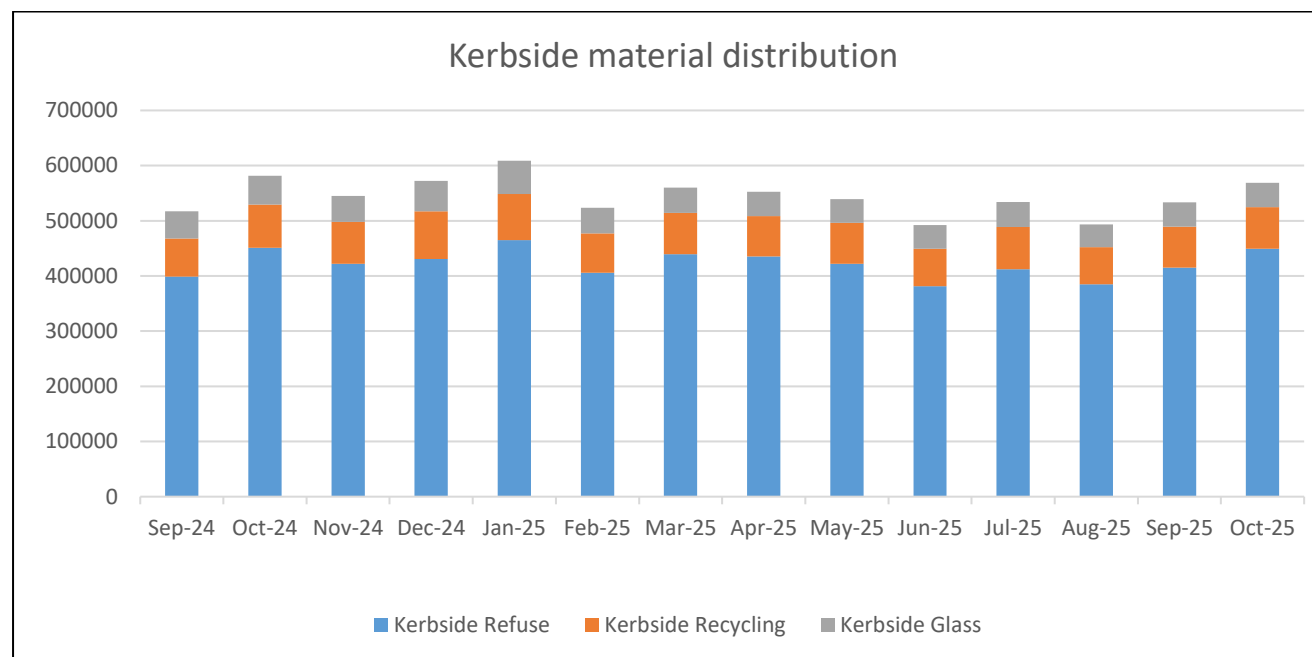
- The weight of residual waste sent to Kate Valley since June 2025 is 5,015 tonnes. The average volume of waste sent to Kate Valley the past 3-years is 14,700 tonnes per year. Based on the trend of waste collected during in the last four months, compared to the same period in the past year, we may be sending near the same volume of waste to Kate Valley this year.

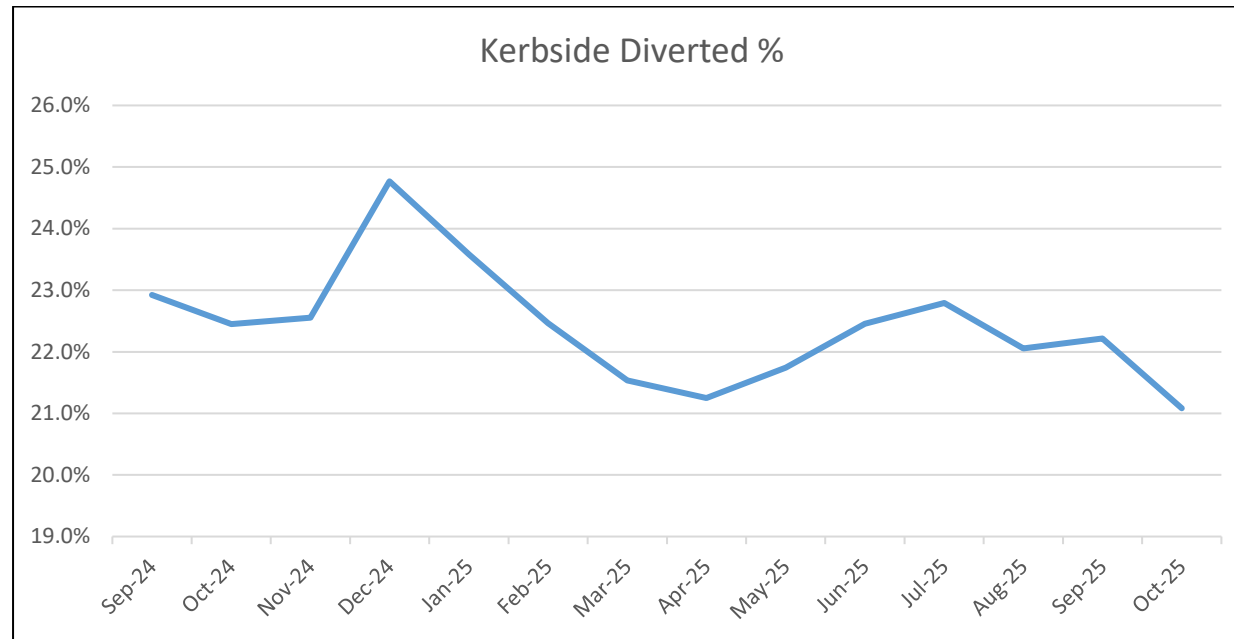


- The volume of recyclable materials received from the drop off stations has fluctuated over the past four months but is significantly lower than the May and June volumes.

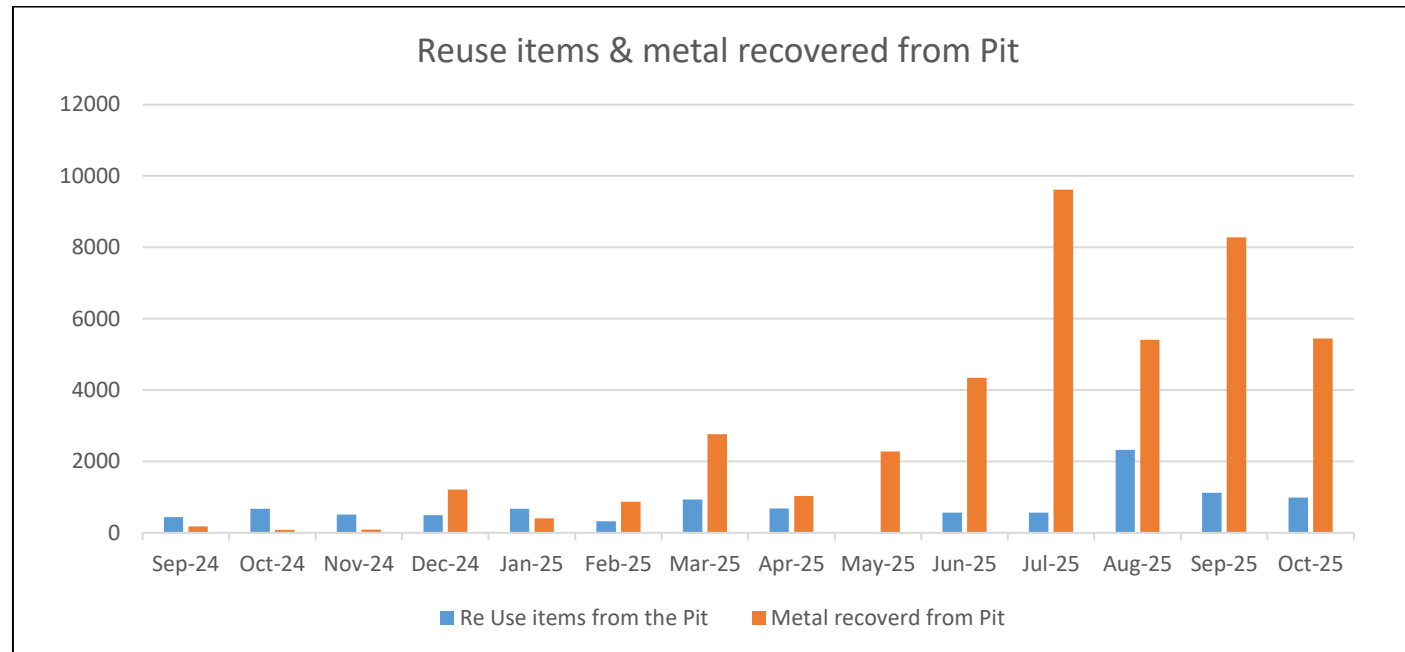
| Site | Last 6-months Recycling Volumes | | | | | | 6-month total tonnes |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|----------------------|
| | May | Jun | July | August | September | October | |
| Methven Recycling Centre | 15.04 | 11.07 | 18.77 | 12.98 | 9.99 | 12.19 | 80.04 |
| Rakaia Huts | 0.25 | 0.0 | 0.25 | 0 | 0.34 | 0.23 | 1.07 |
| Pendarves | 0.68 | 2.98 | 2.15 | 0.73 | 4.43 | 2.76 | 13.73 |
| Hakatere Huts | 1.78 | 0.47 | 0.475 | 2.00 | 0.40 | 1.47 | 6.595 |
| Willowby | 0.60 | 2.77 | 3.37 | 0.78 | 3.75 | 3.16 | 14.43 |
| Rangitata huts | 0.38 | 0.07 | 0.0 | 2.01 | 0.26 | 2.27 | 4.99 |
| Hinds | 0.80 | 4.32 | 0.92 | 2.45 | 2.17 | 2.34 | 13 |
| Mayfield | 1.20 | 1.08 | 4.78 | 0.78 | 2.60 | 0.91 | 11.35 |
| Mt Somers | 3.74 | 3.65 | 0.58 | 0.57 | 4.15 | 0.49 | 13.18 |
| Staveley | 2.32 | 0.38 | 0.99 | 2.18 | 0.46 | 1.32 | 7.65 |
| Fairton | 3.52 | 2.68 | 0.65 | 1.88 | 2.72 | 0.49 | 11.94 |
| Rakaia Resource Recovery Park | 5.95 | 3.68 | 5.77 | 5.22 | 5.08 | 5.60 | 31.3 |
| Monthly Totals | 44.52 | 50.41 | 36.26 | 33.15 | 38.705 | 31.58 | 209.275 |

- The volume of recyclable materials collected from households in October was 75.70 tonnes, slightly higher than August and September at 67.81 and 73.95 tonnes, respectively. Recyclable materials collected over the past six months averaged 72.36 tonnes. This was slightly higher than for the same period last year which averaged only 69.28 tonnes.
- Glass collection slightly decreased in October to 44.27 tonnes from 44.62 tonnes in September. The average volume of glass collected over the last six months is 43.53 tonnes.





- Kerbside refuse has increased over the past three months. The volume for October was 449.08 tonnes, which is slightly higher than August and September at 384.70 and 415.17 tonnes respectively. The June volumes were the lowest collected over the past six month period at 382.74 tonnes.
- Kerbside diversion rate (volume of kerbside recycling against volume of kerbside general waste collected) for October is 21.10%. The kerbside diversion rate is mainly influenced by the decrease in the weight of glass collected from kerbside.



- Items recovered from the pit has decreased to 990 items during October, down from 2,320 in August and 1,120 in September.
- The weight of recovered metal has been high in the past five months peaking at 10.19 tonnes in July. The weights in September and October were 9.44 and 6.40 tonnes, respectively. The increase in weight comes from various construction items and household materials including chairs, tables, BBQs, iron furniture and miscellaneous metals disposed of by residents in the pit.
- The RRP recycling centre received 10,784 visitors in October, which was slightly higher than the 10,724 visitors in September and 9,753 in August. These are the people passing through the recycling drop-off lanes and visiting the re-use shop.
- The re-use shop sales figure for October was \$9,490.00, being slightly lower than September at \$9,391.00. The highest monthly sales recorded over the last six months was in May at \$13,297.51. Below is a table showing the items sold and total sales in the past 12-month period.

| Breakdown of Items Sold at the ARRP | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------|----------|---------------------|------|--------------|-------------------|------------|------------|------------------|--------------|
| Month | Household items | Kitchen items | Linen | Clothing | Outdoors/ Garden | Toys | Sports items | Bike/ scooters | Tag tested | Lawn mower | Total Items Sold | Total Income |
| Nov-24 | 4885 | 2914 | 2725 | 1410 | 718 | 629 | 86 | 66 | 44 | 26 | 13353 | \$14,864.20 |
| Dec-24 | 4271 | 2394 | 1636 | 951 | 646 | 335 | 83 | 72 | 24 | 17 | 10429 | \$11,379.50 |
| Jan-25 | 5143 | 3004 | 2060 | 1173 | 879 | 393 | 226 | 59 | 39 | 31 | 13007 | \$13,750.10 |
| Feb-25 | 3861 | 2459 | 1714 | 801 | 587 | 376 | 164 | 79 | 31 | 16 | 10088 | \$10,520.50 |
| Mar-25 | 3888 | 2501 | 310 | 1064 | 973 | 570 | 141 | 65 | 34 | 30 | 9576 | \$15,330.30 |
| Apr-25 | 3243 | 1994 | 252 | 778 | 612 | 431 | 70 | 53 | 35 | 19 | 7487 | \$13,023.60 |
| May-25 | 3258 | 2007 | 268 | 817 | 792 | 401 | 77 | 53 | 39 | 13 | 7725 | \$13,294.51 |
| Jun-25 | 2460 | 1532 | 269 | 823 | 426 | 293 | 69 | 52 | 72 | 8 | 6004 | \$8,593.77 |
| Jul-25 | 3041 | 1789 | 187 | 1375 | 740 | 546 | 123 | 34 | 14 | 9 | 7858 | \$10,769.60 |
| Aug-25 | 3346 | 1561 | 83 | 723 | 521 | 428 | 164 | 38 | 27 | 4 | 6895 | \$11,254.90 |
| Sep-25 | 2864 | 1599 | 661 | 919 | 479 | 142 | 167 | 56 | 42 | 3 | 6932 | \$9,392.60 |
| Oct-25 | 3120 | 1544 | 182 | 704 | 705 | 352 | 138 | 61 | 73 | 22 | 6901 | \$9,490.20 |

- The most saleable items over the past 6 months continues to be household goods, kitchen items, clothing, outdoor/garden products, toys and linens.

2.1.3 Solid Waste Capital Projects

- The contract for the Ashburton closed landfill slope remediation was awarded to Grant Hood. They have completed 10% of the scope of work as at the end of October 2025.



Before



After

2.1.4 Waste Education

- The kerbside audits are ongoing with the consistency of the auditing generally seeing improvements in bin contents. However, there are still the bad bins and some serious repeat offenders who may never meet the recycling requirements even with education being provided.
- The Norwest winds have seen bins blowing around the streets, and on the odd occasion the wind has been too strong for the team to be out and about safely.
- An Eco Educate social media post on bin clips received 105,951 views making it their most viewed post ever.
- 72 kgs of rescued garden books and magazines leftover from Bookarama were gifted to the Hope Trust Community Garden in Rangiora which is currently undergoing a major revamp. These books and magazines would have otherwise been dumped.
- Water conservation, worm farm and recycling sessions have been held at schools, kindies and early childhood centres across the district.
- The Tinwald Keas have rubbish and recycling badges to work towards so are working closely with Eco Educate to achieve these.
- The team attended the Hakatere Noodle Festival, the Cultural Whanau Day and the Ashburton A&P Show during September and October. The A&P Show saw the team judging the rubbish free lunch box competition, running a bin game as part of the Agri Futures Clash of the Colleges and providing rubbish and recycling education alongside the ADC tent.

2.2 Stockwater Operations

2.2.1 General

- The river intakes continue to be stable at this stage, however the spring intakes in the Lagmhor/Westerfield area are dropping off due to the lack of recent rain. It is anticipated that the river intakes will also begin to drop off over the next few weeks if the weather pattern continues so we could go from having too much water a few weeks ago, to not enough over the early summer period.
- The spring weed growth has really kicked in now, so main race cleaning is underway. We endeavour to leave the race maintenance for as long as we can before cleaning them because if we do them too early, we will have to go back through a second time later in the season at a repeat cost. If we get them at the right time one cleaning is enough.
- HHWET have been intermittently conveying water through our race from the RDR on Anama Cavendish Road to the MAR site at Frasers Road/Timaru Track. The on and off Norwest rains has seen the Rangitata River, and subsequently the RDR water extremely dirty so once the water turbidity value hits a certain level, they stop putting water through our race.
- We continue to receive occasional enquires for smaller, end of line race or other insignificant closures or alterations. These continue to go through the normal race application process.

2.2.2 Applications

- A summary of the current applications is listed below:

Stockwater closures/alterations/culvert installation applications as at 1 December 2025

PHASES

| Application ID | Location | Length* | No of properties | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Comments |
|----------------|-------------------------|---------|------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| SKW/008/22 | Brothers Road | 12,164 | 17 | | | | | | Pending Council Divestment process |
| SKW/012/23 | 490 Old Main South Road | 8,949 | 6 | | | | | | Pending Council Divestment process |
| SKW/020/23 | 1037 Rangitata Highway | 6,739 | 7 | | | | | | Pending Council Divestment process |
| SKW/023/23 | Junction Road | 15,135 | 16 | | | | | | Pending Council Divestment process |
| SKW/007/24 | Hackthorne Road to SH1 | 27,664 | 25 | | | | | | Pending Council Divestment process |
| SKW/002/25 | 339 Stranges Road | 0 | 1 | | | | | | Physical work to be completed |
| SKW/004/25 | Pattons Road | 0 | 1 | | | | | | Physical work to be completed |
| SKW/005/25 | Methven Highway | 0 | 1 | | | | | | Physical work to be completed |
| SKW/007/25 | Barnswood Road | 0 | 1 | | | | | | Physical work to be completed |
| SKW/008/25 | Gartartan Road | 0 | 1 | | | | | | Reviewing info received |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | Phase complete | | Phases: | Application received | Information gathering | Review significance and scope | Reporting and decision making | Sign off work completed and rates/GIS update | |
| | On track | | | | | | | | |
| | Overdue | | | | | | | | |

*Note: a 0 in the length column relates to an alteration, culvert or pump service installation application - no race is being closed.

2.3 Stockwater Exit Transition

Pudding Hill

- A report recommending the partial closure of the Pudding Hill network was presented to the STWG meeting on 4 December.

Methven Auxiliary

- No further progress has been made – waiting for BCI Heads of Agreement to be finalised.

Bushside

- Melius have completed the investigation into the needs for the properties who will require an alternative stockwater supply. The Melius report was presented to the September STWG meeting.
- The ecological assessment was undertaken on 16 October. The resulting ecological report is expected to be received soon.
- The cultural assessment will be carried out after the ecological report has been received. It is anticipated this will be done prior to Christmas.

Stoney Creek

- Melius have completed the investigation into the needs for the properties who will require an alternative stockwater supply. The Melius report was presented to the September STWG meeting.
- The ecological assessment was undertaken on 17 October. The resulting ecological report is expected to be received soon.
- The cultural assessment will be carried out after the ecological report has been received. It is anticipated this will be done prior to Christmas.

Limestone Creek

- Melius have completed the investigation into the needs of the two properties out of the five affected properties who require an alternative stockwater supply. The Melius report was presented to the December STWG meeting.
- Discussions have been held with both property owners and BCI for the supply of stockwater as one property is a BCI shareholder receiving BCI irrigation water and the other property has BCI infrastructure running adjacent to the property. It is therefore expected both properties can work directly with BCI to find an alternative by 30 June 2026.
- Ecological and cultural assessments will be undertaken with the possibility this intake can be closed by 30 June 2026.
- No public survey is planned to be undertaken at this time.

Brothers

- A drop-in session held in Mayfield on Tuesday 2 September was attended by 40 people.
- Melius are working through the investigation into the needs for the properties who will require an alternative stockwater supply.
- Reminder letters and emails have been sent to non-responders.
- The initial return rate is 80% with Melius directly contacting the 30 remaining property owners.
- A public survey was undertaken with 15 responses received. These were mostly wanting to retain the network for biodiversity and water enhancement for the likes of the MAR site, with some reiterating their desire for the races to be closed.
- Ecological and cultural assessments will be carried out in the new year.

Alford Forest

- There are no stockwater ratepayers on this race, however the 14 properties that have the race running through them were sent letters in August inviting them to participate in a public survey to provide their feedback.
- Five surveys were received.
- None of the farming properties below the Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road (ARG) responded to the survey.
- The responders who were from above the ARG are seeking to retain the water for amenity value and as back up stockwater.
- Ecological and cultural assessments will be carried out in the new year.
- No public drop-in session has been programmed to date.

Langdons Creek North & South

- A survey of Langdons Creek North & South users was carried out in September.
- 30 property owners have responded with the remaining 16 being sent letter and then email reminders.
- No wider stakeholder survey has been carried out.
- No public drop-in session has been programmed to date.

Clearwell Springs

- A survey of Clearwell Springs users was carried out in September.
- Five property owners have responded with the remaining five being sent letter and email reminders.
- No wider stakeholder survey has been carried out.
- No public drop-in session has been programmed to date.

Cracroft

- A survey of the Cracroft Intake users commenced in October/November.
- As of 21 November, 75 responses had been received. A reminder letter was sent in late November.
- No wider stakeholder survey has been carried out.
- No public drop-in session has been programmed to date.

Other

- 230 people have signed up to receive the stockwater exit project newsletter updates.
- The Stockwater Transition Working Group met on 4 December.
- The user survey for the Klondyke Intake will go out in December.
- The remaining six intakes are programmed to be surveyed between February and September 2026.

2.4 Roads and Footpaths

2.4.1 2025/26 financial year

| | ADC budget | NZTA approved budget | Spend as at 31/10/2025 | Comments |
|--|--------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| Local Road Operations | | | | |
| Structures Maintenance | \$321,662 | \$321,662 | \$54,761 | |
| Environmental Maintenance | \$662,624 | \$662,624 | \$302,344 | |
| Network Services Maintenance | \$795,641 | \$897,437 | \$423,797 | |
| Network Operations | \$14,370 | \$17,370 | \$18,037 | |
| Level Crossing Warning Devices | \$35,704 | \$35,704 | \$10,916 | |
| Minor Events | \$96,499 | \$96,499 | \$43,560 | |
| Network and Asset Management | \$1,064,484 | \$1,061,484 | \$489,635 | |
| Structures Component Replacement | \$418,160 | \$568,160 | \$42,702 | |
| Traffic Services Renewals | \$184,060 | \$184,060 | \$74,115 | |
| Total Local Road Operations | \$3,593,204 | \$3,845,000 | \$1,459,867 | 38% of NZTA budget |
| Local Road Pothole Prevention | | | | |
| Sealed Pavement Maintenance | \$1,311,779 | \$2,177,351 | \$631,246 | |
| Unsealed Pavement Maintenance | \$719,628 | \$782,196 | \$426,261 | |
| Routine Drainage Maintenance | \$510,000 | \$732,883 | \$90,054 | |
| Unsealed Road Metalling | \$1,200,000 | \$1,185,245 | \$1,185,245 | |
| Sealed Road Resurfacing | \$2,198,223 | \$3,100,000 | \$4,800 | |
| Drainage Renewals | \$550,000 | \$634,946 | \$112,031 | |
| Pavement Rehabilitation | \$2,032,816 | \$2,287,379 | \$10,646 | |
| Total Local Road Pothole Prevention | \$8,522,446 | 10,900,000 | \$2,460,283 | 23% of NZTA budget |
| Walking and Cycling | | | | |
| Cycle Path Maintenance | \$2,160 | \$925 | \$0 | |
| Footpath Maintenance | \$115,863 | \$73,513 | \$99,125 | |
| Footpath Renewals | \$220,643 | \$264,228 | \$1,680 | |
| Total Walking and Cycling | \$338,666 | \$338,666 | \$100,805 | 30% of NZTA budget |
| Road Safety Promotion | | | | |
| Road Safety Promotion | \$78,000 | \$78,000 | \$28,707 | |
| Total Road Safety Promotion | \$78,000 | \$78,000 | \$28,707 | 37% of NZTA budget |

| | | | | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Local Road Improvements | | | | |
| LCLR Roading Improvements | \$0 | \$600,000 | \$0 | |
| Total Local Road Improvements | \$0 | \$600,000 | \$0 | |
| TOTAL SUBSIDISED ROADING | \$12,532,316 | \$15,761,666 | \$4,049,662 | 26% of NZTA budget |
| Unsubsidised Roading | | | | |
| Ashburton Second Urban Bridge | \$4,900,000 | | | |
| Unsealed Road Metalling | \$512,500 | | \$48,858 | |
| Replace Concrete Streetlight Poles | \$220,000 | | | |
| New Streetlights - Power Undergrounding | \$225,000 | | | |
| Sealed Road Resurfacing | \$1,000,000 | | | |
| Drainage Improvements | \$100,000 | | | |
| Curve Warning Signs | \$50,000 | | | |
| Road marking | \$150,000 | | | |
| Footpath Maintenance | \$50,000 | | | |
| Road Safety Promotions | \$20,000 | | | |
| Additional structural refurbishment | \$365,000 | | | |
| Street Cleaning | \$205,000 | | \$73,268 | |
| NZTA State Highway | \$112,750 | | \$63,464 | |
| TOTAL UNSUBSIDISED ROADING | \$7,910,250 | | \$185,590 | |

2.4.2 2025/26 Work completed as at 31/10/2025

- 3,441 km of unsealed grading completed
- 37,837 m³ of maintenance metal placed
- 3,996 potholes repaired
- 4,330 m² of sealed dig out repairs

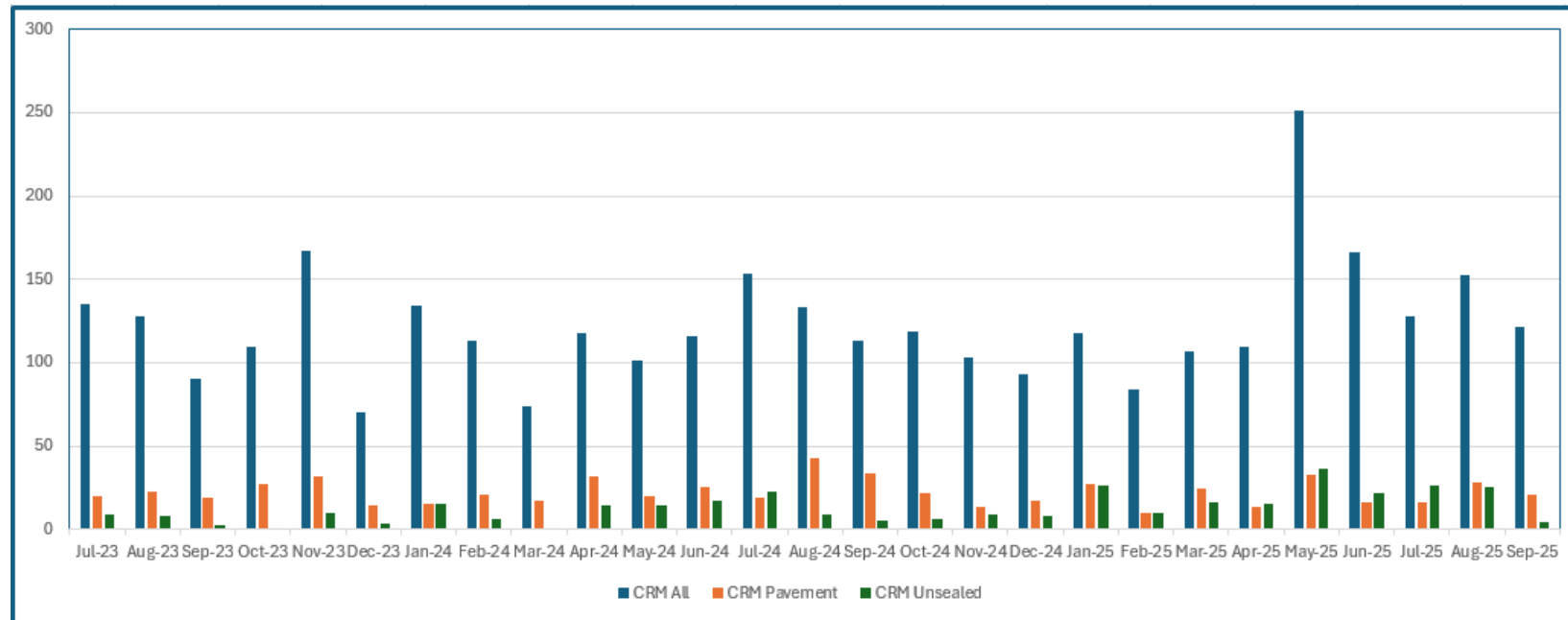
2.4.3 Main areas of work

- Pre reseal repairs and heavy maintenance repairs (digouts) under way.
- Reseals started.

- Working with HEB and Fulton Hogan on the transition to the new Road Maintenance Contract. Going smoothly to date.

2.4.4 Roothing CRM data – July 2023 to October 2025

Roothing CRMs showing the fluctuations through the year (All 3,445 - Pavement 642 - Unsealed 346).



2.4.5 Corridor access data

| | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Corridor Access Requests | 58 | 68 | 94 | 75 | 70 | 45 | 64 | 88 | 76 | 64 | 67 | 97 | 89 | 66 | 89 | 100 |
| Traffic Management Plans | 18 | 31 | 59 | 26 | 30 | 27 | 22 | 37 | 52 | 45 | 48 | 33 | 53 | 51 | 44 | 67 |

2.4.6 Forward Works Programme

Sealed roads work (resealing, rehabilitations and heavy maintenance) for the next three years and the initial unsealed roads maintenance metalling for 2025/26 are shown on the forward works programme on the Council website:

<https://www.ashburtondc.govt.nz/services/transport/road-and-footpath-programmememes>

2.4.7 Sealed road rehabilitation

Sites scheduled for the 2025/26 financial year are:

- Thompsons Track (RP32028-33158m)
- Thompsons Track (RP22250m-24040m)
- Seafeld Road (RP9150-10250m)
- Fairfield Road (RP2275-3132m)
- Ealing Montalto Road (RP18150-18625m)
- Ealing Montalto Road (RP21575-23260m)
- Fords Road (RP9635-10250m)
- Longbeach Road (RP7700-8000m)
- Longbeach Road (RP12050-13320m)

Contract ROAD0446 includes both the Ealing Montalto Rd sections, both Longbeach Rd sections and Fords Rd. This contract has been awarded to Grant Hood Contracting. Fords Rd has been sealed, and construction is in progress on one of the Longbeach Rd sites.

Contract ROAD0424 includes both the Thompsons Track sections, Fairfield Rd, and Seafield Rd. This contract has been awarded to Fulton Hogan.

2.4.8 Local road improvements

The work programmed with the unsubsidised Council funding is:

- Reseals \$1,000,000.
- Streetlights as part of power undergrounding \$290,000.
- Replacement of concrete streetlight poles \$200,000. Replacements by EA Networks are under way.
- Curve warning signs for out of context curves \$70,000.
- New sumps and soak pits for drainage \$100,000.
- Footpath maintenance \$150,000.

2.4.9 Road Closures for Motorsport Events

There have been no issues with damage to the pavement from previous motorsport events. Organisers have been requested to supply information on numbers of participants and attendees. No information received to report for this briefing.

2.4.10 Ashburton Second Urban Bridge

The project is on the NZTA Waka Kotahi website <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/second-ashburton-bridge/>

A test pile has been constructed on Chalmers Ave to inform of the ground strength for the piles across the river.

2.4.11 Wills Street Rail Footbridge

The scope of works, schedule of prices, specification and contract conditions are compiled with the work or expression of interest to be advertised before Christmas. The award for the contract will now be in the new year mainly because of the need to have a Deed of Grant from KiwiRail (to acknowledge the ownership of the bridge on/over rail land) for the bridge and then the permits to carry out the work. The Deed of Grant has been applied for but not yet signed off. As soon as it is the necessary permits to carry out the work will be applied for.

2.5 Contracts – Tenders

| Current Contracts/Tender | Closing Date |
|--|------------------|
| WWAT0463 Methven WWTP inlet screen renewal | 10 December 2025 |

| Awarded Contracts | Awarded to | Value | Estimate | Tenders received | TTM |
|-------------------|------------|-------|----------|------------------|-----|
| N/A | | | | | |

Note: Three Waters tenders & contract awards will be reported to the Three Waters Committee.

2.6 Lake Hood

The preliminary trial of various algae treatments has commenced, in the canal alongside Huntingdon Avenue. The purpose of this trial is to prepare for the more scientific trial which will take place in February/March 2026.



Weekly site visits of 10 locations have commenced, with the following information being recorded:

- Temperature
- Dissolved oxygen
- Conductivity
- Ph
- Cyanofluor reading

The diagram below shows the 10 locations where samples are taken.



3. Compliance & Development

3.1 Building Services

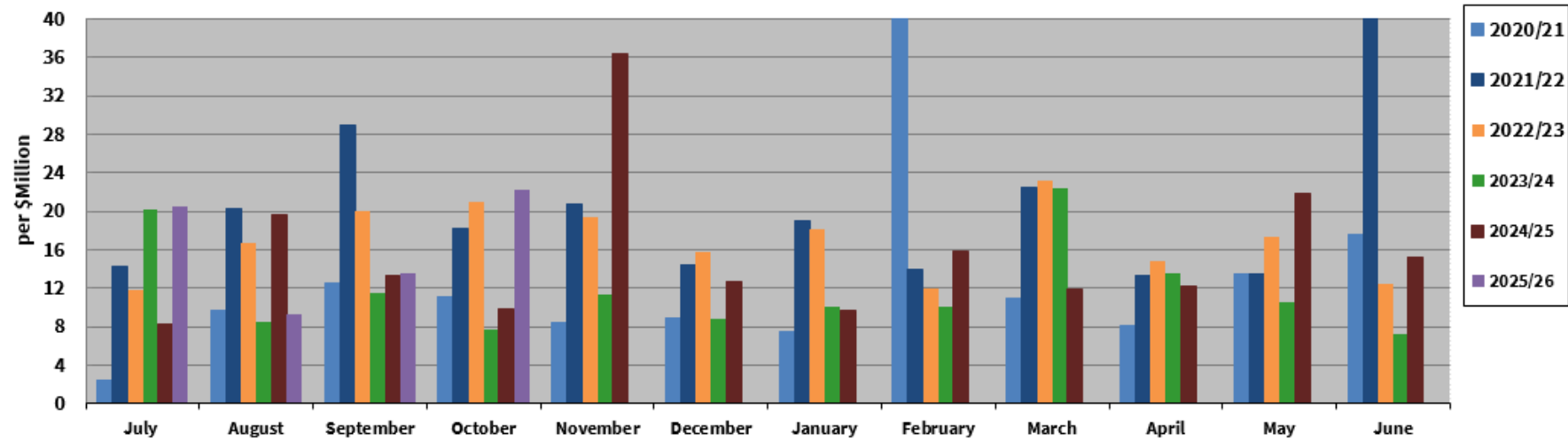
3.1.1 Building consents / amendments

| Month | Building Consents | | | | % Processed within 20 Days | Average Processing Days | Inspections Carried Out (80% within 3 working days) | CCC Issued within 20 Days |
|---|-------------------|--------------|---------|------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| | Received | Received YTD | Issued | Issued YTD | | | | |
| July 2025 | 50 (62) | 50 (62) | 65 (50) | 65 (50) | 98.5% | 15.4 | 387 (94%) | 95.2% |
| August | 55 (50) | 105 (112) | 40 (55) | 105 (105) | 100% | 15.3 | 425 (96%) | 100% |
| September | 58 (41) | 163 (153) | 54 (48) | 159 (153) | 92.6% | 17.3 | 406 (98%) | 99% |
| October | 70 (57) | 233 (210) | 66 (38) | 225 (191) | 86.4% | 16.8 | 387 (98%) | 100% |
| November | (41) | (251) | (51) | (242) | | | | |
| December | (24) | (275) | (32) | (274) | | | | |
| Jan 2026 | (40) | (315) | (45) | (319) | | | | |
| February | (49) | (364) | (36) | (355) | | | | |
| March | (75) | (438) | (41) | (396) | | | | |
| April | (50) | (488) | (53) | (449) | | | | |
| May | (83) | (570) | (89) | (538) | | | | |
| June 2026 | (60) | (630) | (61) | (599) | | | | |
| Note: figures in brackets are for the corresponding month during the previous year. | | | | | | | | |

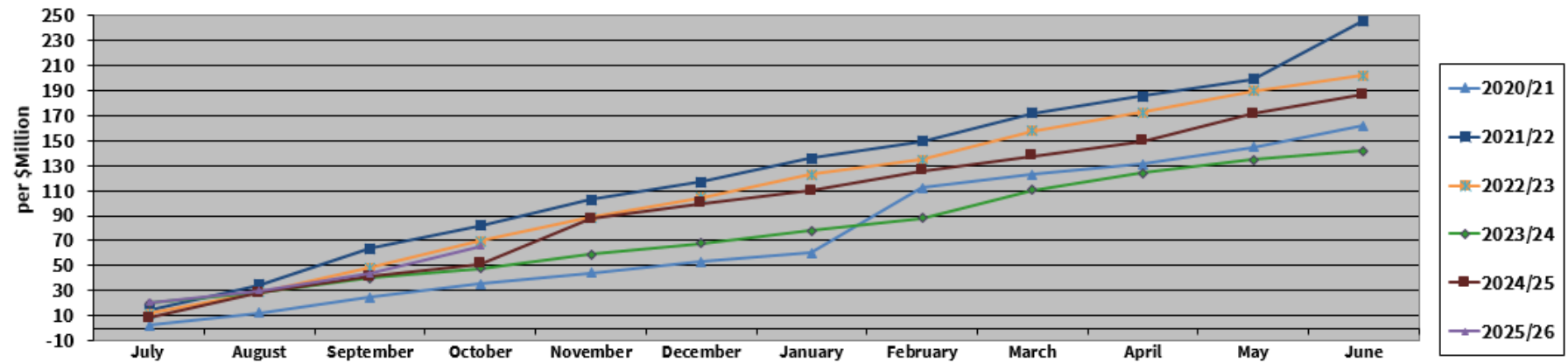
| Month | BC Value of Work | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Received | Received YTD | Issued | Issued YTD |
| July 2025 | \$10,421,600 (\$13,258,955) | \$10,421,600 (\$13,258,955) | \$20,595,200 (\$8,284,275) | \$20,595,200 (\$8,284,275) |
| August | \$14,065,800 (\$35,950,457) | \$24,487,400 (\$49,199,412) | \$9,256,600 (\$19,649,100) | \$29,851,800 (\$27,933,375) |
| September | \$19,534,255 (\$12,819,396) | \$44,021,655 (\$62,018,808) | \$13,623,700 (\$13,237,786) | \$43,475,550 (\$41,171,161) |
| October | \$27,492,400 (\$17,967,800) | \$71,854,255 (\$79,986,608) | \$22,217,455 (\$9,879,454) | \$65,693,005 (\$51,050,615) |
| November | (\$11,425,350) | (\$91,411,958) | (\$36,348,600) | (\$87,399,215) |
| December | (\$12,247,950) | (\$103,659,908) | (\$12,725,573) | (\$100,124,788) |
| January 2026 | (\$12,465,350) | (\$116,125,258) | (\$9,752,450) | (\$109,877,238) |
| February | (\$17,146,000) | (\$133,271,258) | (\$15,809,850) | (\$125,687,088) |
| March | (\$17,197,917) | (\$149,671,175) | (\$11,837,300) | (\$137,524,388) |
| April | (\$11,364,300) | (\$161,435,475) | (\$12,193,217) | (\$149,717,605) |
| May | (\$20,492,831) | (\$181,593,306) | (\$21,851,400) | (\$171,569,005) |
| June 2026 | (\$14,231,250) | (\$195,919,371) | (\$15,218,696) | (\$186,737,701) |
| Note: figures in brackets are for the corresponding month during the previous year. | | | | |

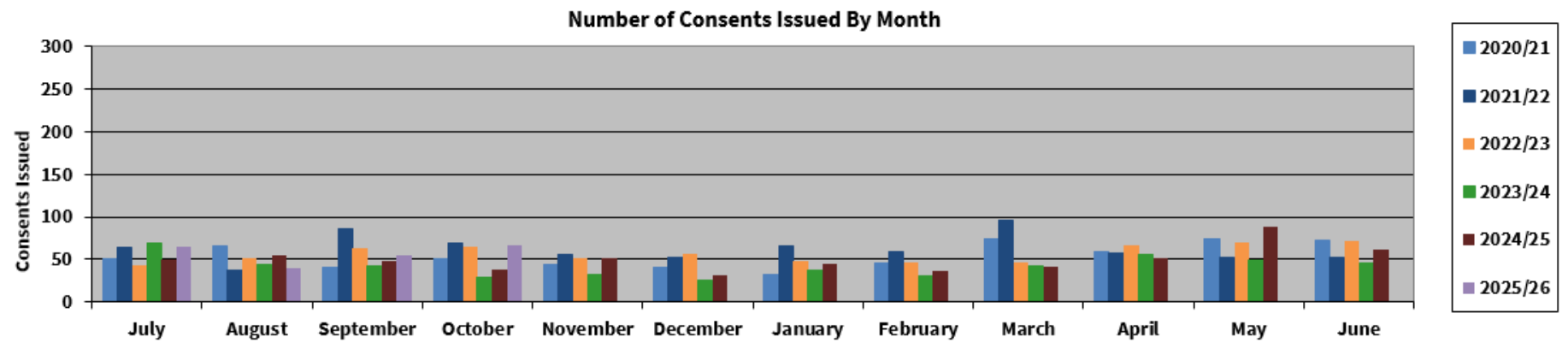
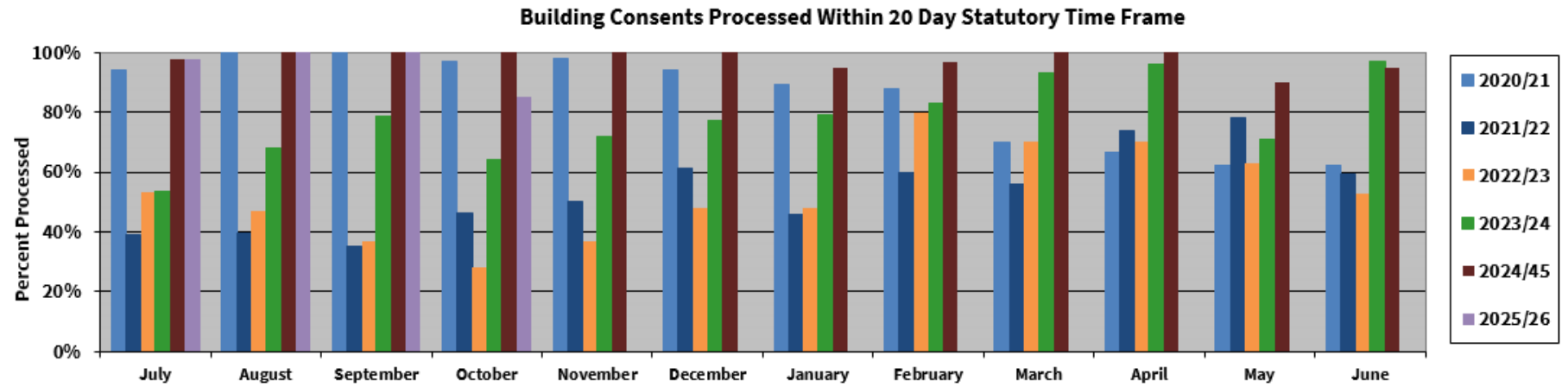
| Month | Building Amendment | | | | % Processed within 20 Days |
|---|--------------------|--------------|---------|------------|-------------------------------|
| | Received | Received YTD | Issued | Issued YTD | |
| July 2025 | 11 (13) | 11 (13) | 10 (8) | 10 (8) | 100% |
| August | 19 (10) | 30 (23) | 12 (9) | 22 (17) | 92% |
| September | 17 (9) | 47 (32) | 16 (4) | 38 (21) | 100% |
| October | 6 (14) | 53 (46) | 8 (15) | 46 (36) | 100% |
| November | 10 (35) | 56 (135) | 8 (28) | 44 (125) | 100% |
| December 25 | 2 (22) | 58 (157) | 5 (28) | 49 (153) | 100% |
| January 26 | 9 (20) | 67 (177) | 10 (14) | 59 (167) | 100% |
| February | 12 (46) | 79 (223) | 11 (33) | 70 (200) | 100% |
| March | 14 (24) | 93 (247) | 7 (26) | 77 (226) | 100% |
| April | 8 (22) | 101 (269) | 12 (18) | 89 (244) | 100% |
| May | 9 (22) | 110 (291) | 8 (18) | 97 (262) | 100% |
| June 2026 | 14 (10) | 124 (301) | 13 (7) | 110 (269) | 100% |
| Note: figures in brackets are for the corresponding month during the previous year. | | | | | |

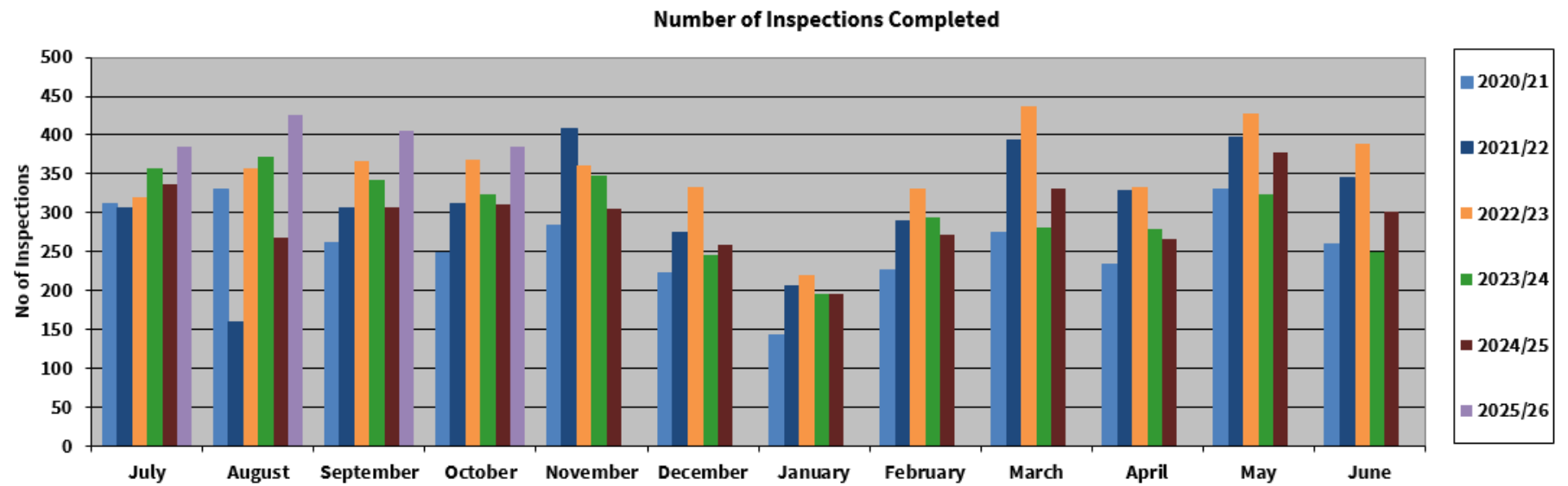
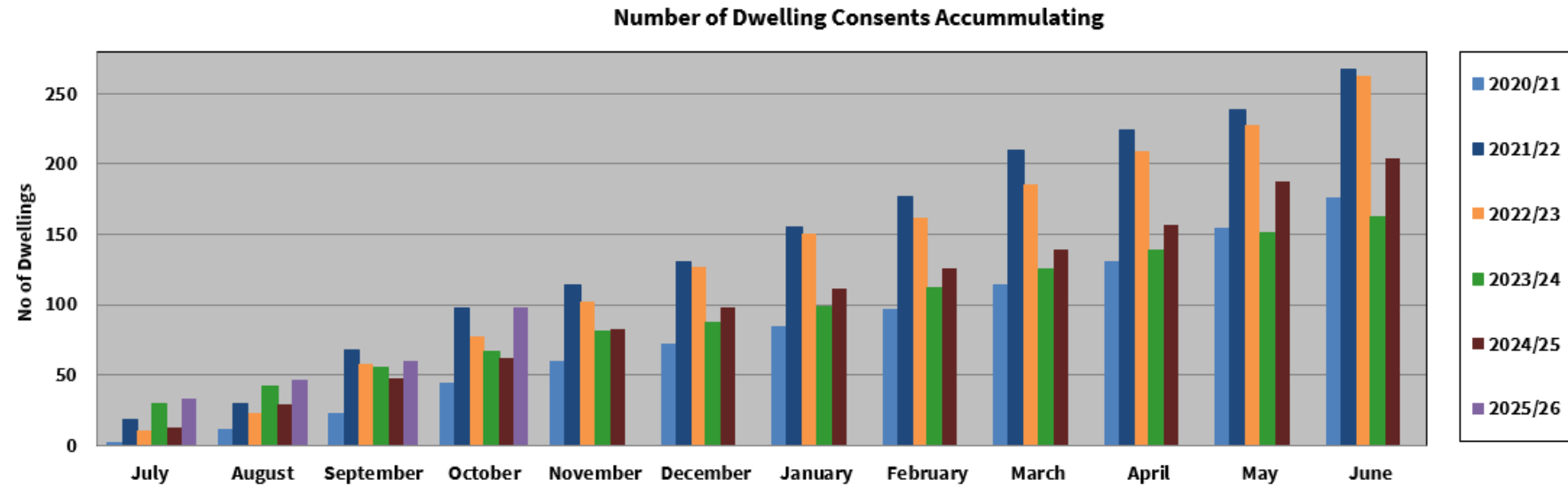
Building Consent Values By Month



Building Consent Values Accumulating







3.1.2 Consent volumes

High volumes of consents trend continue with 225 this year versus 191 last year at the end of the reporting period (October 31). The main difference comparing the numbers is that we have issued 98 new house consents compared to 62 same period last year, so the trend of high housing numbers continues.

3.1.3 Legislative change.

We are preparing for the proposed changes in legislation regarding liability changes, self-certification and granny flats but at this early stage while there will be changes it appears there will be other responsibilities arising. As the changes become clearer the team are actively searching for efficiencies and opportunities. The granny flat legislation will come into effect early next year and we propose to have a simple checklist for people to determine whether or not they comply for the exemption. The [ADC Website](#) provides information for the public on the granny flat legislation and its status and this will be updated over time.

3.2 Civil Defence Emergency Management

3.2.1 September 2025

- On 1st September Canterbury CDEM Group Officers visited Ashburton to conduct a quality assurance review of our CDEM and Council systems in place for emergency management and business continuity. The results of the review will be presented to the Coordinating Executive Group (CEG) and Canterbury CDEM Joint Committee.
- The EMO and staff from all 10 Canterbury territorial authorities came together to consult on changes proposed by the National Emergency Management Agency on section 33 of the CDEM Act 2002, specifically around reimbursement of costs during and after major disaster events. Technical feedback was provided to NEMA mid-month.
- The EMO attended a training meeting conducted online to undertake the final planning for the annual Canterbury 10 (C10) course held in early October. This week long course trains selected CDEM staff on operations within an EOC within the Canterbury region.
- Members of the Communications Team (Public Information Management in the EOC) attended the Canterbury PIM media Hui. The event allowed PIM professionals across the region to work together and learn of new initiatives in the sector.
- The EMO met with representatives of Sport Canterbury to discuss a new project focused on play from a psychosocial perspective and for Sport NZ to supply equipment that can be stored in our Civil Defence Centre's and utilized during an emergency response to help children and adults to focus on and return to normal activities during and after a crisis.
- The CDEM generators (88KvA and 32KvA) were provided to the Hakatere Noodle Market. This allowed for reliable power to the vendors and also means that the generators are run under load to ensure they will function during an emergency event. This is also important as failure rates are higher for generators that are not exercised under load regularly.

- A Warning order for exercise Pandora was sent out to our EOC staff, volunteers and partner agencies. The exercise this year will be conducted on Tuesday 18 November and will be a local level exercise with the scenario of a distant source tsunami threatening the Ashburton coast.
- Monthly volunteer training was conducted mid-month with a good turnout. The focus for the night was to induct new volunteers, test generators, sort welfare kits, set up stretchers, undertake training on Starlink use and on needs assessments. Our volunteers will participate in Exercise Pandora in November and set up a Civil Defence Centre in the district.
- The EMO assisted with a visit by the year 1, 2, and 3 students from Longbeach School who toured the EOC. A presentation to the children, teachers, and parent helpers was given on risks to the district and how we can prepare individually and as a community. This being important in community resilience. The children had recently had lessons at school about this and were engaged and knowledgeable.
- The six weekly Response Planning Group (RPG) Meeting was held on the last day of September, with representatives from Canterbury CDEM Group, Territorial Authorities EM, and Partner Agencies in attendance. This meeting allows the Group to conduct multi agency planning for the large scale risks we face in the region to ensure we are ready to respond at a high level to major disaster events.
- The monthly online meeting of the Emergency Management Officers from across the Region hosted by Canterbury CDEM Group took place. This allows the EM professional staff to share ideas, initiatives and learnings from across the work they are doing.
- The EMO met with two potential volunteers during September. These meetings allow the volunteers to get an understanding from the EMO of what their duties and commitment would be to CDEM. It also allows the EMO to brief them on the procedure, paperwork and training they would need to complete to join our Emergency Support Team (EST)
- The EMO attended the monthly Neighbourhood Support Board meeting and provided a written and verbal update on Civil Defence activities as they related to Neighbourhood Support. The EMO also attended the Aoraki Environmental Consulting (AEC) Hui and provided an update to this forum on current and future projects and items that CDEM is monitoring.
- **Wind Events:** A Red Wind Warning was issued by MetService at 10 am on the morning of Saturday 20 September, with the Canterbury CDEM Group Duty Officer then facilitating an online multiagency briefing with all EM staff and Partner Agencies (including lifelines) from across the region. The EMO and duty CDEM staff then coordinated our local approach to the warning, in particular around internal and public information.
In the event the damage within our district was limited to 3 power outages which were remedied quickly by EA Networks staff. A second Multi Agency Briefing was conducted on Sunday morning resulting in the EM staff from across the region standing down. As is standard practice a debrief occurred and lessons learnt will be carried forward.

3.2.2 October 2025

- October commenced with a meeting between all Controllers, Response and Recovery Managers, along with representatives from Public Information Management function who form the Civil Defence Emergency Management(CDEM) command team, to discuss Civil Defence within ADC. This was a valuable meeting and helped ensure efficiency and clarity going forward.

- There were three meetings of the Volunteer Training Advisory Group (VTAG) during the month. These meetings conducted by representatives from five of the nine territorial authorities plus Canterbury Group Office (CDEM Group), allow us to work to align training for our volunteers within the Emergency Support Teams (EST). These volunteers are normally responsible for the activation of Civil Defence Centres (CDC) during emergencies so alignment is important.
- The Emergency Management Officer (EMO) attended a meeting of the Safer Ashburton Steering Group, to maintain relationships with this group and gain an understanding of the work member groups are undertaking and how this aligns with what ADC CDEM is doing.
- The EMO was alerted to a heightened risk within the North Branch of the Ashburton River as a result of the Red Weather warning of 20 September that saw river flows across the district increase and in particular in the vicinity of Walkhams Road, While this poses no threat to people or buildings, it involves the potential for the river to overtop the stopbank at lower than normal flood levels due to a vulnerability. ECan has briefed staff on this risk and their intended course of action in response.
- The EMO visited the Hakatere Marae to discuss CDEM matters with the Komiti, including the onsite generator testing, installation of Starlink and a Voice Over Internet phone, and replace a faulty radio. This continues to strengthen our relationship with one of our important partners in Civil Defence.
- The EMO met with members of the NZ Red Cross in the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) to discuss how the two organisations can work together in events and the role of Red Cross in Exercise Pandora in November.
- The EMO attended a number of meetings hosted by Canterbury CDEM Group. These forums allow EMO's to discuss training and operations within the 4R's framework of emergency management (Reduction, Readiness, Response and Recovery).
- Four Staff from ADC and members of the CDEM teams attended the Canterbury 10 (C10) training over the period 13 to 17 October. Ashburton District Council is required to provide a set number of staff trained to a C10 level to provide a surge capacity into Canterbury EOC's during events. This number is currently set at four as agreed at CDEM Joint Committee. ADC CDEM currently has 10 trained staff. This training is also very valuable for upskilling our CDEM staff.
- Training was conducted with our EOC staff and Emergency Support Team (EST) volunteers. The training for the EOC staff involved standing the EOC up, issuing of a scenario, conduct of consequence analysis, and attendance at an Incident Management Team meeting which included providing a briefing on each of the Coordinated Incident Management System (CIMS) functions.
For our EST volunteers it was a final chance to train and prepare for Exercise Pandora. This group will practice a deployment, activation of a Civil Defence Centre, and conduct of needs assessments. This will be done in conjunction with our partners from Red Cross Timaru, who will exercise with us.
- The EMO also made contact with Hakatere Huts, Mt Somers, Methven and Upper Rakaia Gorge Community Response Teams regarding reviewing their Community Response Plans. To date the Upper Rakaia Gorge and Hakatere Huts plans have been reviewed and delivered to the communities. The Methven and Mt Somers teams are scheduled for meetings with the EMO to complete the review work with them. Following the Red Wind Warning, there have also been two further townships wanting to work with the EMO to either review or create plans for their communities.

- The EMO provided a presentation to an engaged group from the University of the Third Age (U3A) on the risks faced within the district and how the community can be ready for these events.
- The EMO attended a teams meeting to provide feedback from Canterbury CDEM Groups Quality Assurance Framework audit conducted in early September. The full results of this will be reported to the Coordinating Executive Group (CEG), but we are considered to be at a good level of readiness to respond, with some work needed in certain elements of our systems. This work will inform the EMO's work program for the next 12 months.
- The EMO visited a number of our community halls with the owner of ConnectM2M, a local communications business, to ascertain what it would take to install starlink devices and Voice Over Internet telephones at each of these halls for use during emergencies. These will provide internet and telecommunications connectivity to affected people and communities. This work is being funded, very generously, by ConnectM2M as a community good activity, including meeting the costs of the monthly subscriptions.
- **Wind Events:** Over the month of October there were numerous warnings and watches issued for wind, rain and snow for the district, region and in some cases the whole South Island.
The most serious of these was the Red Wind Warning issued on Monday 20 October for wind gusts across the South Island in the vicinity of 150 km/h for the high country and 130 km/h for the plains. Based on the information available at the time of issuing the warning a multi-agency briefing was arranged by Canterbury CDEM Group, to ensure that the Region was prepared and to ascertain what support our partner agencies would require from CDEM.
The result of this meeting was that a State of Emergency was declared by the Minister of Civil Defence for the Canterbury region. This was because it was foreseen that the event would require a multi-agency coordinated approach and there was a possibility that we would need to utilize the additional legislative powers that a declaration provides to CDEM Controllers.
Our EOC was stood up in a monitoring mode in anticipation of having to run a full response and fortunately Ashburton District did not experience anywhere near the level of destruction from the winds that affected Waimakariri and Hurunui districts. The step to set up our operations centre allowed for our trained CDEM staff to begin operating at very short notice if they were required.
- **Rakaia River Flood:** On the Thursday evening after the wind warning had expired the EMO was contacted by a member of the public from Rakaia regarding a perceived risk they were facing at their property from the rising river levels in the Rakaia River. This was then discussed with ECan River Flood Control contacts.
Subsequently the EMO was informed of concerns from Regional Council river engineers around the Rakaia River and the possibility of flood water crossing SHW1 in the late evening. This resulted in traffic management actions being implemented by NZTA.
At approximately 7.00 pm the EMO was once again contacted and informed that ECan modelling was showing a possibility of breakouts from the river on both the north and south banks of the river down towards the Rakaia Huts, with a risk of flooding shortly after midnight. A voluntary evacuation by hut holders was proposed.

The EMO, through established contacts in the Rakaia Huts area, was able to co-ordinate and accurately risk assess the situation. Through this and discussion with local residents, flood engineers and other stakeholders, the response plan was enacted allowing residents and other stakeholders to be kept informed, including through house to house check ins.

A member of the CRT conducted a reconnaissance at 12.30 am to ascertain the risk on the ground. The EMO also worked with FENZ, Rakaia Land SAR and Rakaia Police and the owner of the Rakaia Campground to make arrangements to receive any evacuees from the huts if required.

Subsequent Weather Warning: The EMO attended a further meeting on Labour weekend Sunday, with the Duty Controller and PIM Manager for the Blue Watch, to prepare for a further weather event threatening to bring snow, rain, and very cold winds to the region. Thankfully the district was not affected by this weather event, other than some snow flurries to sea level on Labour day and the following day. Again, appropriate precautions were in place in anticipation.

3.3 Alcohol Licensing

| Month | On/OFF/Club new applications | On/Off/Club renewal application | Special Licence applications | Managers Certificates (new and renewal) | Temporary Authority |
|---------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| July 2025 | 0 | 1 | 15 | 11 | 2 |
| August | 3 | 1 | 6 | 23 | 0 |
| September | 1 | 1 | 11 | 20 | 1 |
| October | 1 | 5 | 9 | 17 | 4 |
| November | | | | | |
| December 2025 | | | | | |
| January 2026 | | | | | |
| February | | | | | |
| March | | | | | |
| April | | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|
| May | | | | | |
| June 2026 | | | | | |

3.3.1 Withdrawn or Opposed applications: 1 ON licence application and Manager's certificate have been opposed, DLC hearings proposed for December.

3.4 Animal Control

The following is a breakdown of animal control activities for the reporting period:

| Month | Dogs currently registered | Known un-registered dogs | % of dogs registered | Dogs Impounded | Dogs Euthanized | Dogs rehomed | Infringement |
|-----------|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| July 2025 | 5310 | 1409 | 79.00% | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| August | 6165 | 409 | 93.7% | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| September | 6243 | 338 | 94.8% | 8 | 0 | 0 | 50 |
| October | 6314 | 237 | 96.3% | 7 | 0 | 2 | 70 |
| November | | | | | | | |
| Dec 2025 | | | | | | | |
| Jan 2026 | | | | | | | |
| February | | | | | | | |
| March | | | | | | | |
| April | | | | | | | |
| May | | | | | | | |
| June 2026 | | | | | | | |

The following is a breakdown of total **number of complaints received** (CRMs)

| Month | Attack | Fouling | Barking | Wandering /Lost | Welfare | Rushing | Other | Reports of wandering stock |
|-----------|--------|---------|---------|--------------------|---------|---------|-------|----------------------------------|
| July 2025 | 3 | 1 | 18 | 27 | 0 | 5 | 8 | 2 |
| August | 6 | 0 | 16 | 32 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 0 |
| September | 4 | 1 | 27 | 40 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| October | 4 | 1 | 6 | 33 | 0 | 1 | 15 | 7 |
| November | | | | | | | | |
| Dec 2025 | | | | | | | | |
| Jan 2026 | | | | | | | | |
| February | | | | | | | | |
| March | | | | | | | | |
| April | | | | | | | | |
| May | | | | | | | | |
| June 2026 | | | | | | | | |

3.4.1 Dog registration

There has been a significant increase in the number of dogs registered to date compared with the same period in previous years. This improvement is largely the result of proactive measures, including targeted media campaigns at the commencement of the registration year, supported by follow-up notifications and direct phone contact from staff to owners who had delayed completing their registrations.

3.5 Food Safety

The following is a breakdown of food licensing activities for the reporting period:

| Month | Food Premises Audited | Mobile shops inspected |
|---------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| July 2025 | 14 | 0 |
| August | 17 | 0 |
| September | 2 | 0 |
| October | 15 | 0 |
| November | | |
| December 2025 | | |
| Jan 2026 | | |
| February | | |
| March | | |
| April | | |
| May | | |
| June 2026 | | |

3.6 Planning

| Resource Consents | September 2024 | September 2025 |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| No. of resource consent applications decided ₁ | 15 | 20 |
| No. of resource consents decided within statutory timeframe | 15 | 20 |
| Resource consent KPI Compliance (accumulating) | 98% | 100% |
| Notified/ Limited notified applications decided | 1 | 3 |
| Other: | | |
| No. of 223 Certificates processed | 5 | 7 |
| No. of 224 Certificates processed | 2 | 4 |
| No. of building consents reviewed against District Plan ₂ | 14 | 25 |

| Land information memoranda | September 2024 | September 2025 |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| LIMs Produced | 87 | 110 |
| LIMs Produced within 10 working days | 87 | 110 |
| LIMS (accumulating) | 234 | 295 |

| Resource Consents | October 2024 | October 2025 |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| No. of resource consent applications decided ₁ | 20 | 23 |
| No. of resource consents decided within statutory timeframe | 20 | 23 |
| Resource consent KPI Compliance (accumulating) | 99.5% | 100% |
| Notified/ Limited notified applications decided | 1 | 2 |
| Other: | | |
| No. of 223 Certificates processed | 10 | 7 |
| No. of 224 Certificates processed | 10 | 9 |
| No. of building consents reviewed against District Plan ₂ | 18 | 29 |

| Land information memoranda | October 2024 | October 2025 |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| LIMs Produced | 97 | 132 |
| LIMs Produced within 10 working days | 97 | 132 |
| LIMS (accumulating) | 331 | 427 |

3.6.1 Consent Volumes

The number of consents being process is still tracking above the previous year including an increase in the number of notified applications being decided.

3.6.2 LIM Volumes

October saw the Second highest month of LIM reports processed in any month on record with the highest being in November 2020.

3.7 Economic Development

3.7.1 Events

Events Programme 2025/26

Council events in the reporting period:

- **Hakatere Noodle Festival:** Successfully held on 13 September with 18 food vendors in attendance and several selling out. The diversity of offerings was well received and the food was thoroughly enjoyed by attendees.

Upcoming Council Events:

- **Citizenship Ceremony:** The next ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday 17 December. There are currently 78 people from 16 different countries invited to the ceremony.
- **Light up the Night:** Scheduled for Saturday 29 November in Baring Square East. The event will feature live performances, face painting, food vendors and the official lighting of the Christmas tree.
- **Business of the Year Awards:** Applications closed on 14 November; 116 applications were received over the 14 different categories. Judging of written applications and in person interviews will commence from 17 November to 8 December. Information on the event can be found [here](#).

Community events and activities within the reporting period:

- The Jackson Holmes Rakaia Salmon Run, 11 October
- Ride the Rakaia, 25 October

Applications received for Upcoming Community events and activities:

Staff are working on 18 events:

- Mission Mt Somers, 1 November
- Rakaia Fireworks Night, 8 November
- South Island Akro Fest, 20 November

- He Waka Tapu Whanau Day, 22 November
- Lap the Map, 23 November
- Mt Somers Christmas Market, 23 November
- Active As – Colour Splash, 28 November
- 22nd Annual Ashburton Rowing Club Championship Regatta, 29 November
- Mid Canterbury Dog Training Club Championship Obedience and Rally Competition, 29 November
- Somerton Road ¼ Mile Sprint, 29 November
- NBS Ashburton Santa Parade and Christmas Market, 6 December
- Community Carols Service Methven, 14 December
- Run and Walk Ashburton 5km Run/Walk Series, 20 January 2026
- Summer Challenge, 6 February 2026
- Ashburton College Athletic Prelims, 12 February 2026
- Annual Rakaia River Fishing Competition, 26 February – 1 March 2026
- Multi-Cultural Bite: Autumn Food Festival, 7 March 2026
- New Brighton Power Boat Club Inc Regatta, 21 March 2026

Events General

- The new [online platform for community event applications](#) was successfully launched during this period. Event organisers have been using the system, and permits have been effectively issued through the new process.
- Appointment of a new Events Advisor was completed during the period with a current staff member seconded to the role until the end of February.

3.7.2 Mayors Taskforce for Jobs

Referrals

- There were 25 candidate referrals from MSD in the period (from the beginning of the financial year [to 31 October](#)). Of these 13 have not engaged fully with the programme, 3 are in Full Time employment. There have been a further 10 people who are self-referred in this period with 8 placed into employment.

| Category | Criteria | MSD Main Benefit Clients (Target 30) | Non-MSD Clients - NEET or at risk (Target 5) |
|--|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent Full-Time Employment | 30+ hours per week | 9 | 14 (10 NEET, three 18+ not on benefit, and one 24+ not on benefit) |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent Part-Time Employment (Jobseeker Support) | >=15 hours per week | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent Part-Time Employment (Sole Parent Support) | >=20 hours per week | | |
| TOTAL | | 9/30 | 10/5 |

Reporting on outcomes may be updated as processing times between agencies (MSD and MTFJ) continue to improve.

As we adjust to the 2025/26 MTFJ contract, which requires that most outcomes are from MSD referred clients, all partners have been adapting to the updated criteria and reporting requirements. Processing times between MSD and MTFJ are stabilising, and as this continues to improve, outcome reporting may be updated to reflect the most accurate and complete picture. The early learning period has been constructive, and the process is becoming smoother each month.

Placements

- There were another 2 clients with interviews underway at the end of the period.

Driver Licensing

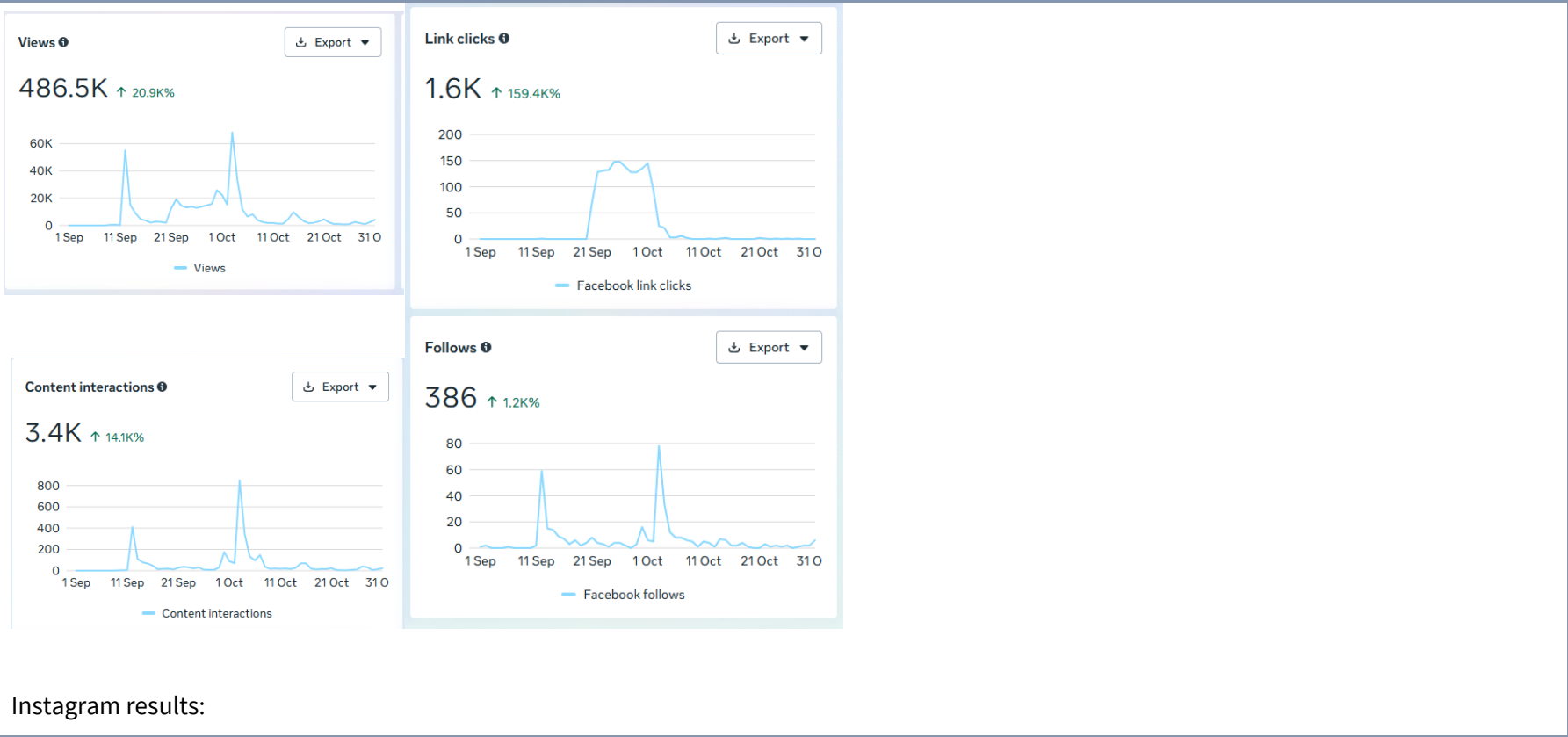
- Since 1 July 2025 there have been 3 learner licenses, 4 restricted, 3 full, 1 Class 2 (Heavy vehicle) Learners, and 5 Class 2 Full.
- There have also been some F endorsements and WTR (Wheels, Tracks & Rollers) as well as driving lessons and Defensive Driving classes.

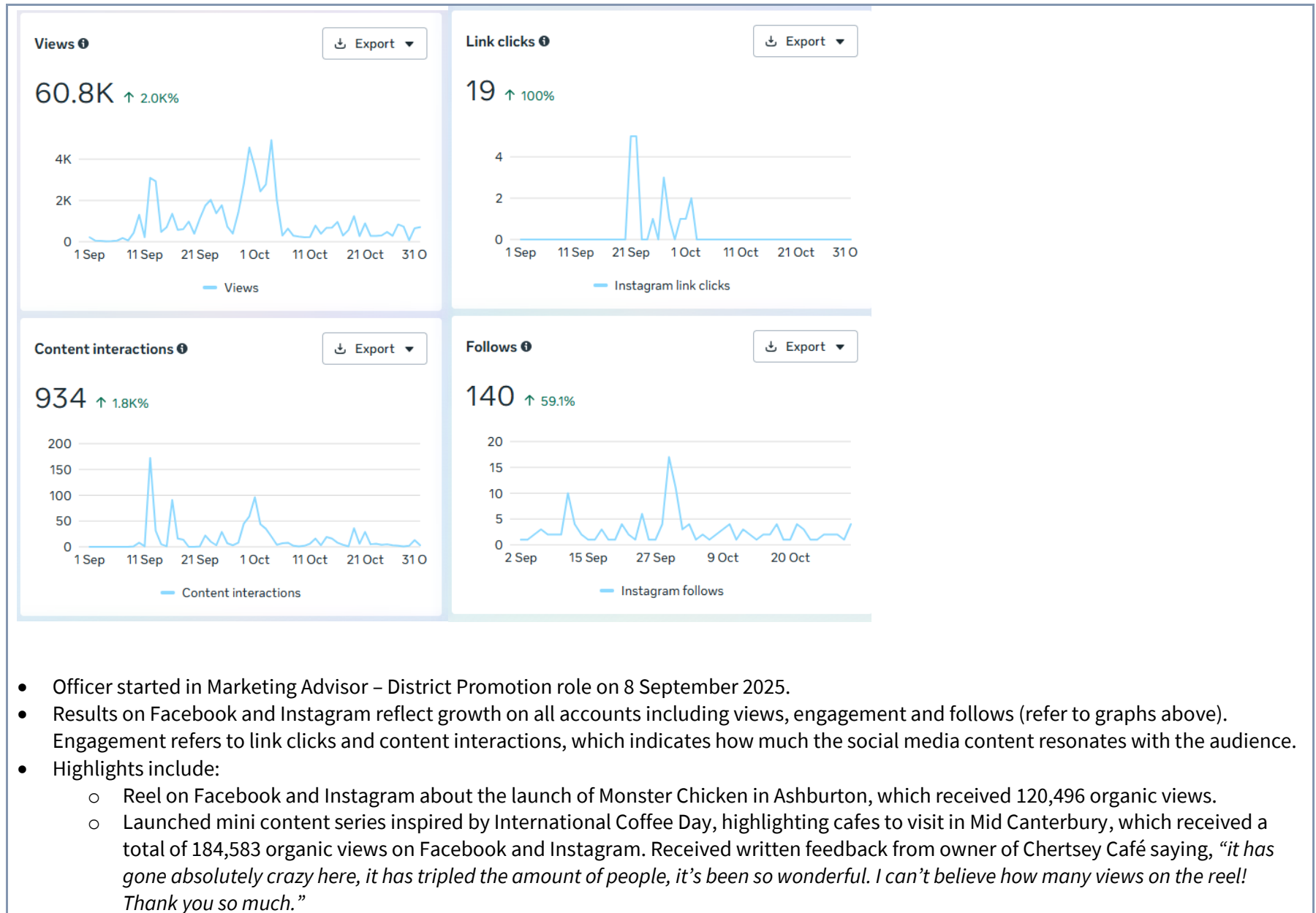
CareersFest

- Another successful event that was attended by an estimated 300 members of the public, including the Principal Advisor – Secondary Transitions from the Ministry of Education
- There were 28 employers there with a vast range of displays.
- The debrief after receiving feedback from employers and attendees was thorough and has set some clear parameters for next year's event.

3.7.3 District Promotion**District Promotion – September and October**

Facebook results:





- Content from the 5-day itinerary for Brit Cunningham and her family rolled out and led to positive engagement on channels. Her content shared highlighting Mid Canterbury received approximately 68,000 views. The family trip was centred in Methven and featured Mt Hutt, Brinkley Resort and many other activities and hospitality sites. Feedback received by Brinkley Resort, “Brit produced some excellent marketing material. Happy to support these.”
- Engaged with 27 operators and delivered the Operators Update email newsletter which received an open rate of 60% out of 118 deliveries.

Website Statistics – September and October



There has been an increase in website visitation during the September – October period, which is a result of increased activity across channels following the new Marketing Advisor joining the team. The majority of the growth was skewed towards September, which is a result of increased activity during this month including content series focused on coffee locations and school holiday focused paid advertising. October was quieter due to Officer being on leave for two weeks.

The most popular page of the site during this period was the directory of activities which highlights activities in the district and is useful for visitors who are unsure of what else they can do while in the area.

3.7.5 Economic Development General

| | Reporting |
|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Officer has been collaborating with Keep Learning Mid Canterbury to scope out a series of learning sessions that will be free to attend and open to the public as part of the Council’s Learning Network programme. The sessions will all be focussed on areas that Council are subject matter experts on and will be held at Te Whare Whakatare. All presenters will be provided and/or coordinated by Ashburton District Council. Four sessions have been planned – one per quarter. <p>Topics include: Food Handling and Safety, Dog Ownership 101, Social Media and Digital Training for Businesses, and Entering or Re-Entering the Workforce.</p> <p>The Paws and Learn workshop was held in October and saw 29 people attend at Te Whare Whakatare. A panel of specialists were on hand to answer questions about regulations, training, and animal health. Twenty of the twenty four people who provided feedback rated the workshop an 8/10 or higher, including ten 10/10.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2026 ANZ Business of the Year entries have been very positive. 4 core judges have been secured and officers are working to secure interchangeable, specialist judges for the 14 categories.• Met with St John, YMCA, MSD, EA Networks.• Glow in the Park 2024 won an award for Best Local Government Event at the NZ Events Association Awards evening.• Officers worked on 4 separate submissions in collaboration with local operators to MBIE seeking funding from the Regional Events Boost Fund. Outcomes are expected early November.• New staff members joined the Economic Development team in the Events Advisor and District Promotions – Marketing Advisor roles. |

3.7.4 Pedestrian Counters

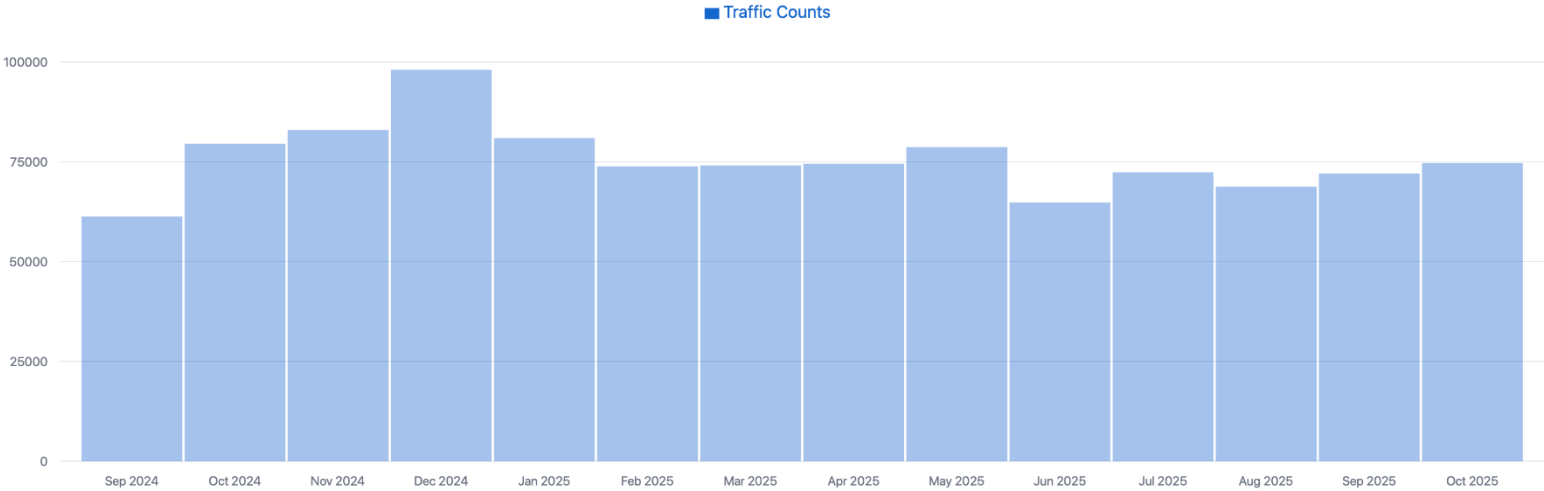
Reporting



Displaying 14 months from Sun, 1 Sep 2024 to Fri, 31 Oct 2025 in month buckets for all sites and all cameras and all counters

Chart Table Map Camera Details Counter Details

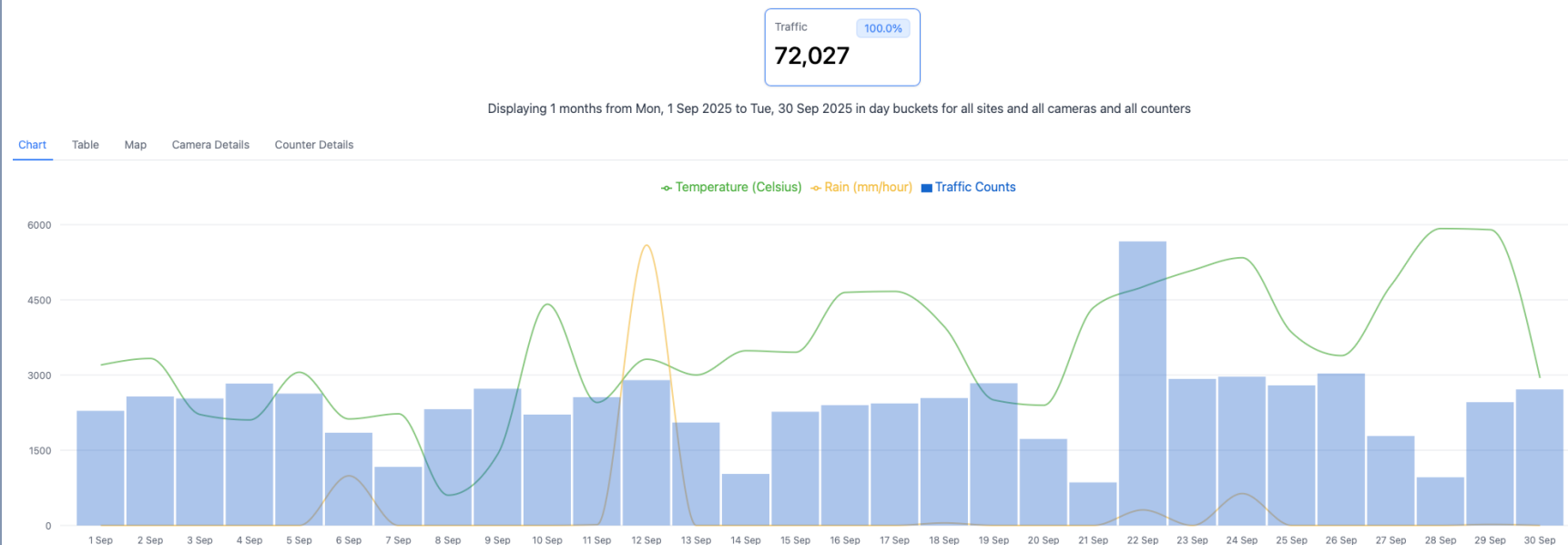
Expand view



The pedestrian counters were first installed in early September 2024. We now have over 12 months of data which will provide useful for comparisons, trends and insights into the CBD patronage and foot traffic. A full 12 months will establish a solid baseline, enabling meaningful year-on-year comparisons. This will give a more complete picture of the CBD's overall health and provide elected members and staff with greater confidence when planning future projects to support CBD activity.

The number of pedestrian movements over the past 14 months is just over 1 million people with an obvious increase in people over summer months.

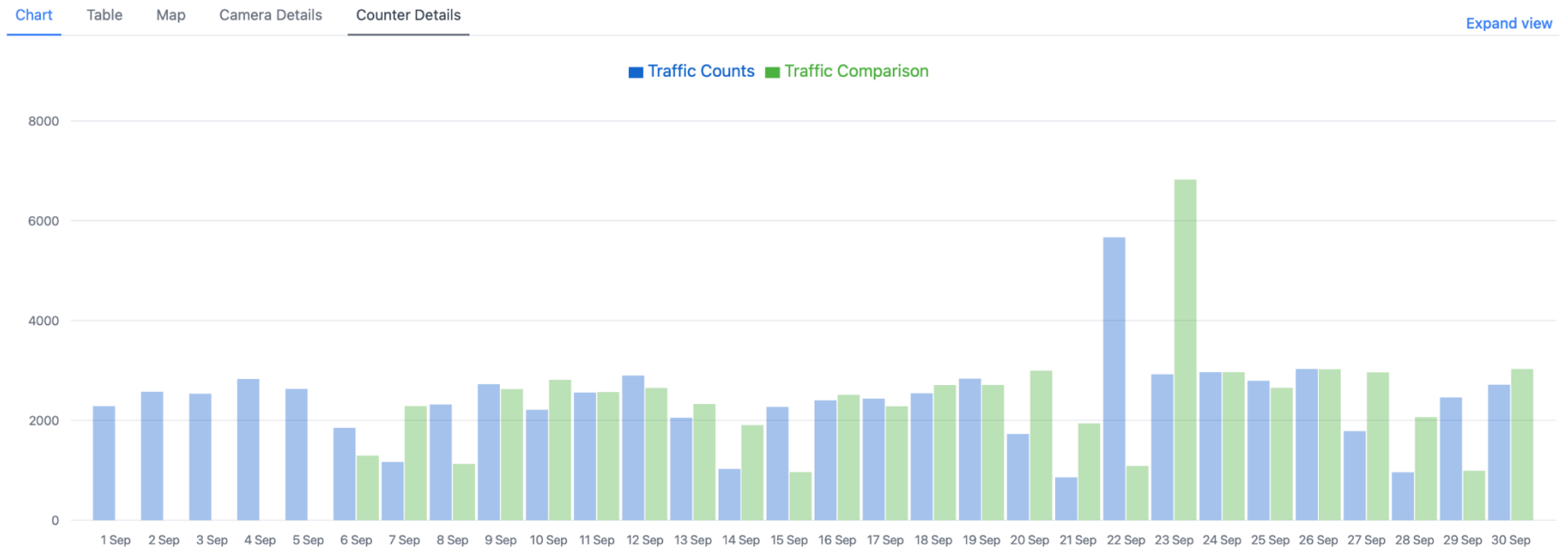
Graphs for September



- This graph shows traffic count of pedestrians through September by day of the week



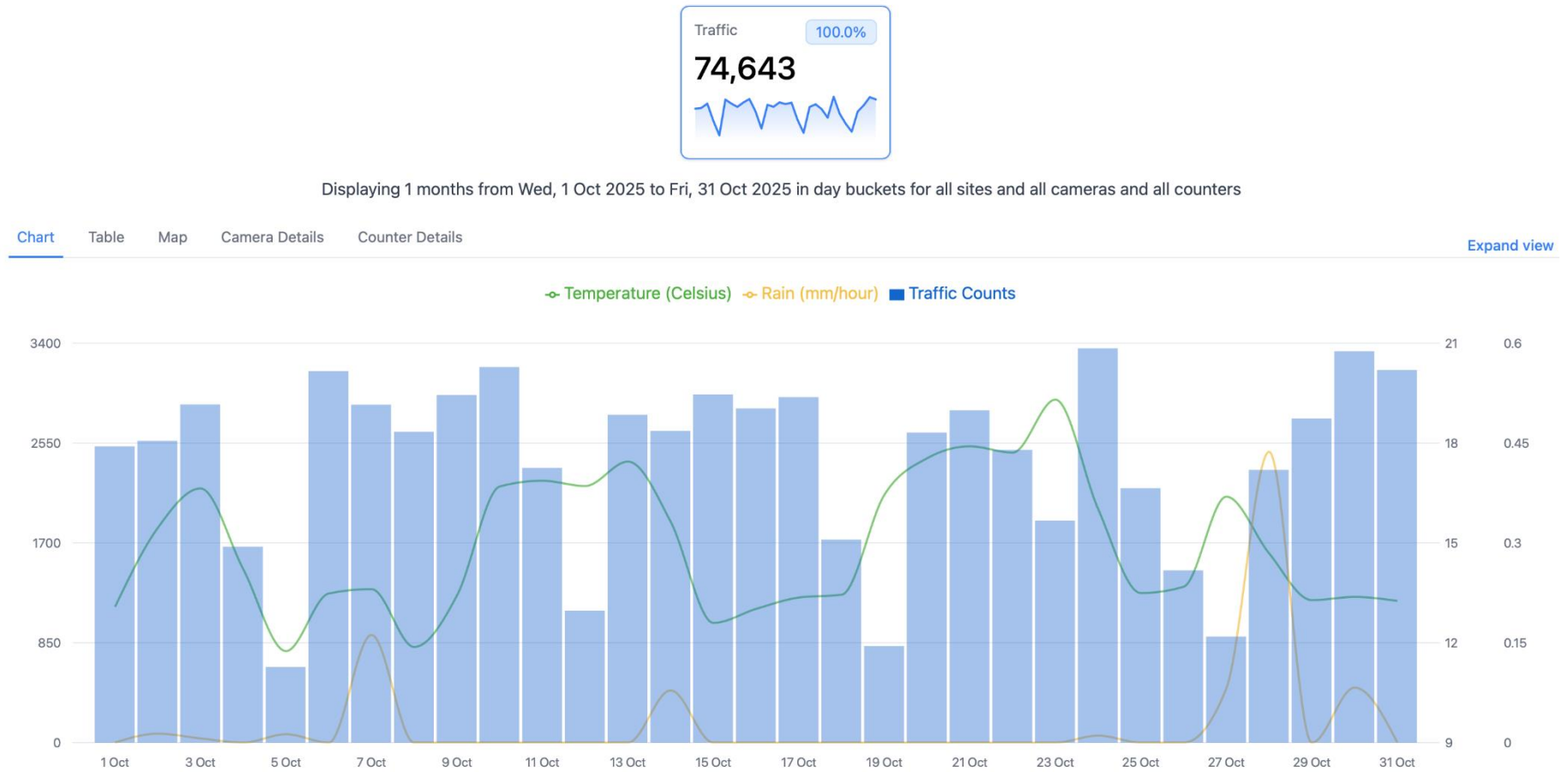
Displaying 1 months from Mon, 1 Sep 2025 to Tue, 30 Sep 2025 in day buckets for all sites and all cameras and all counters
Comparing Sun, 1 Sep 2024 to Mon, 30 Sep 2024



The graph above shows the year-on-year comparison of pedestrians in September

- Green bars above indicate data from 2024, blue bars are for 2025.
- The pedestrian counters were installed and began counting on 6 September 2024, which could largely explain the lift in patronage (14%)
- Events of note: 13 September - Hakatere Noodle Festival, 22 September – Market Day.

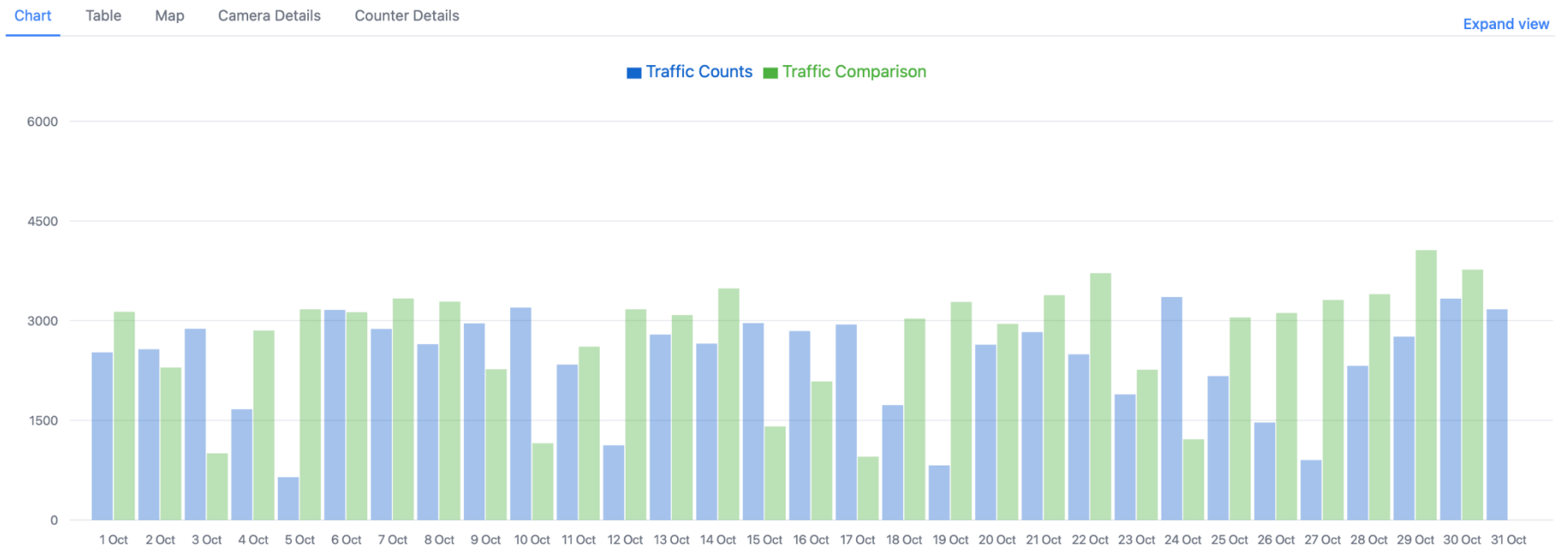
Graphs for October



- This graph shows traffic count of pedestrians through October by day of the week



Displaying 1 months from Wed, 1 Oct 2025 to Fri, 31 Oct 2025 in day buckets for all sites and all cameras and all counters
 Comparing Fri, 1 Nov 2024 to Sat, 30 Nov 2024



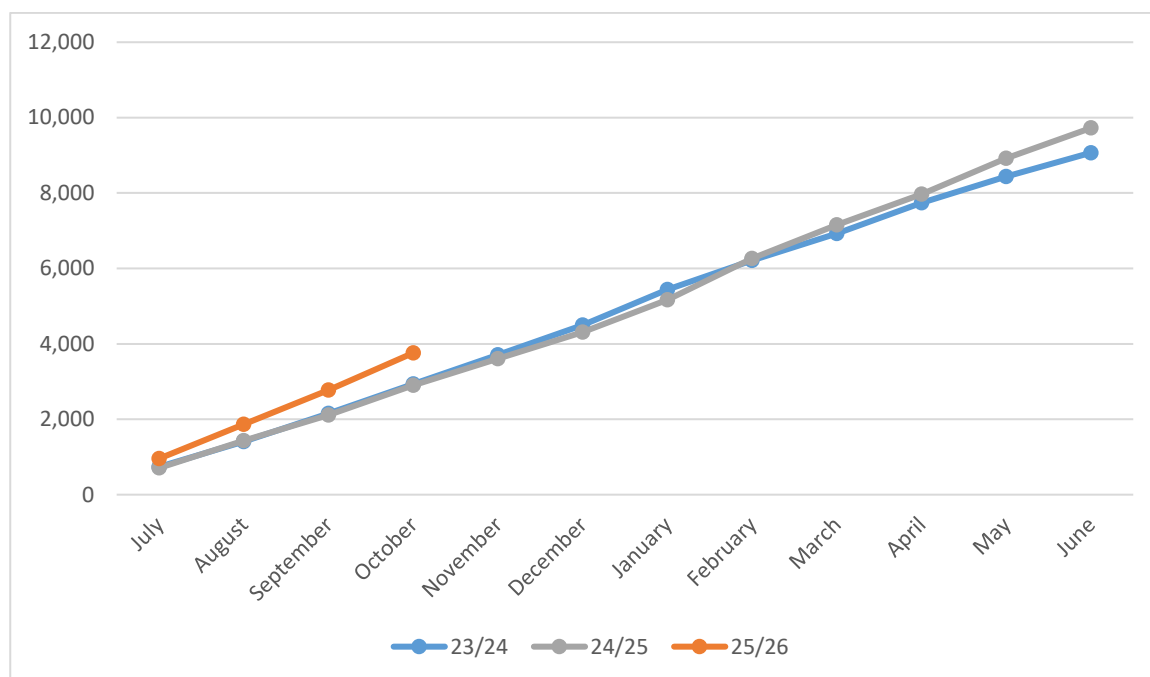
- Green bars above indicate data from 2024, blue bars are for 2025.
- Data shows a decrease in foot traffic year-on-year in October by 10%.

4. People & Facilities

4.1 Council Services

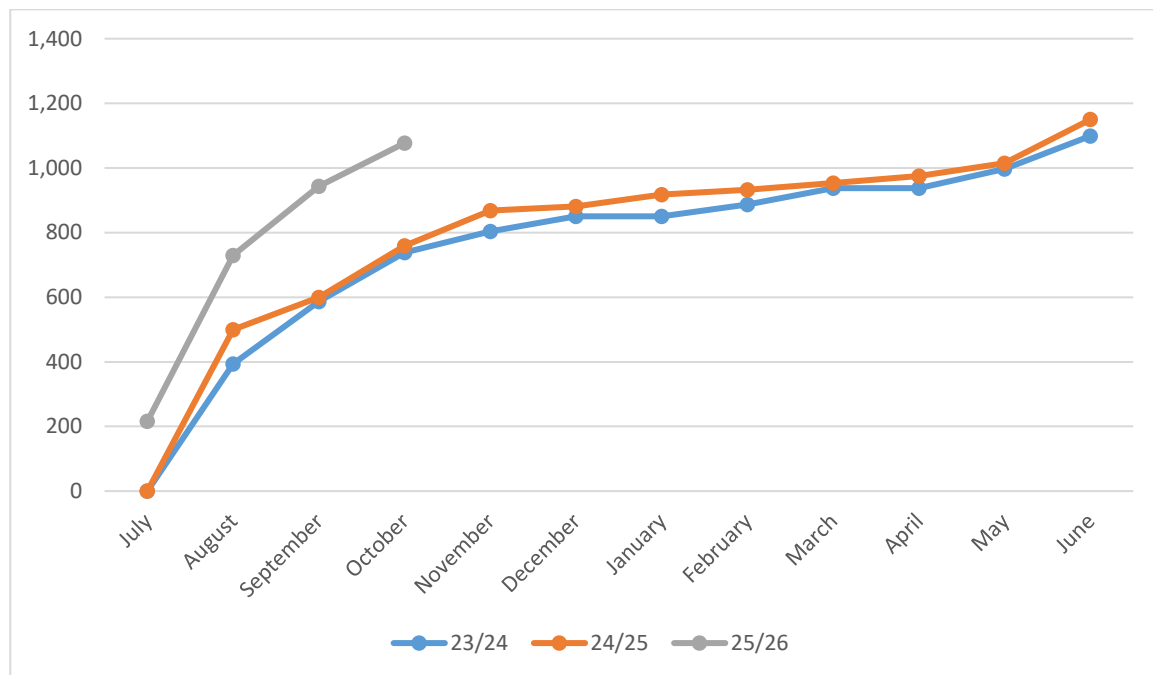
4.1.1 Key Performance Measures

a) Customer Requests Raised



| 25/26 | Jul | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | April | May | June |
|--------------------|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|-----|------|
| Kerbside | 340 | 332 | 285 | 343 | | | | | | | | |
| Roading | 161 | 173 | 154 | 167 | | | | | | | | |
| Water | 120 | 147 | 165 | 182 | | | | | | | | |
| Animal | 65 | 65 | 83 | 68 | | | | | | | | |
| Info Req | 127 | 67 | 92 | 61 | | | | | | | | |
| Noise | 34 | 33 | 26 | 27 | | | | | | | | |
| Property | 14 | 25 | 20 | 29 | | | | | | | | |
| Other | 95 | 63 | 84 | 112 | | | | | | | | |
| Total CRM's | 956 | 905 | 909 | 989 | | | | | | | | |

b) Rates Rebates



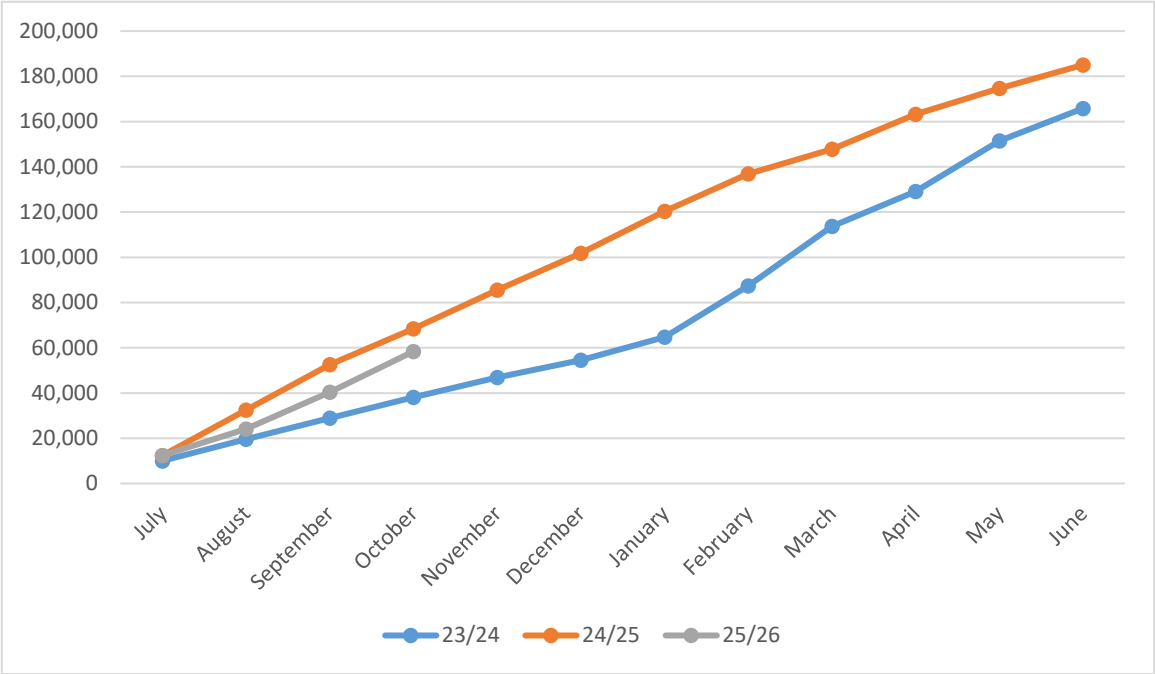
4.1.2 Operational Activities

| | Description |
|---------------|--|
| Other: | <p>September saw up complete 430 Rates Rebates at Te Whare Whakitere and also trips to process Rebates in Methven at Mt Hutt Memorial Hall for a morning, also to Rosebank and Lochlea Retirement Villages.</p> <p>October we processed 134 Rebates and visited Rakaia and used the library next to the hall and another day at Lochlea to capture many Retirement Village Residents.</p> <p>By the end of November we have nearly over taken last years balance. 11 off.</p> <p>With the change of Superannuants presenting SuperGold cards and this increasing the income range we have been able to give full rebates to couples who in the past have missed out.</p> |

4.2 Library

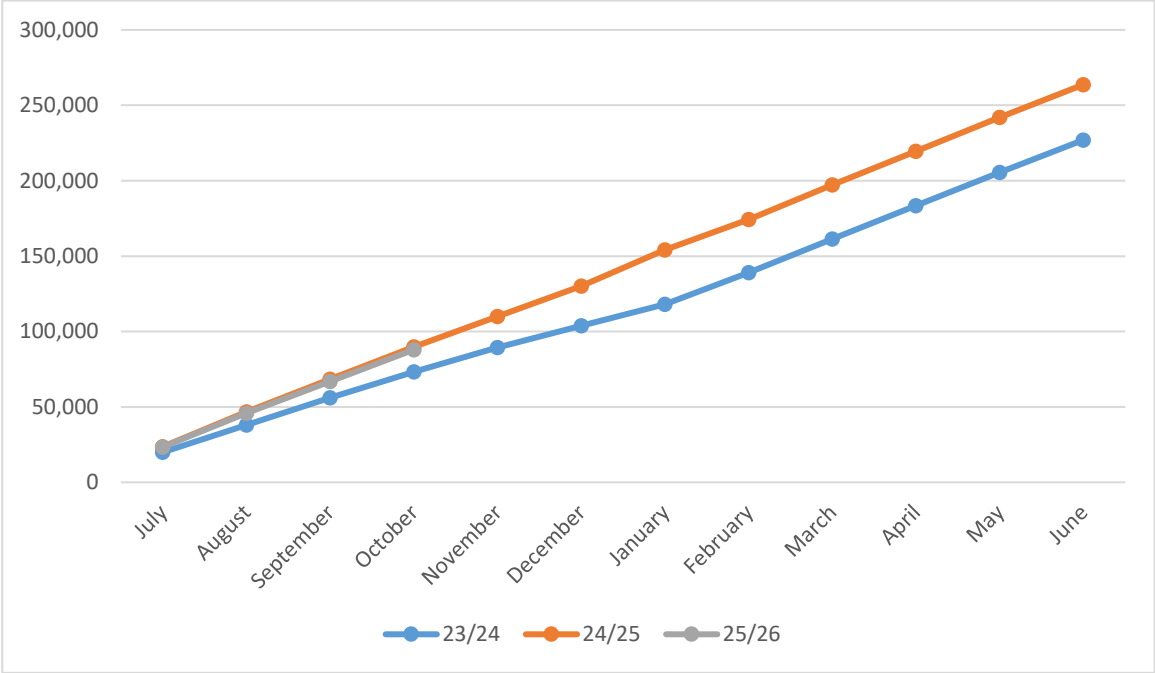
4.2.1 Key Performance Measures

a) Te Whare Whakitere Visitation*

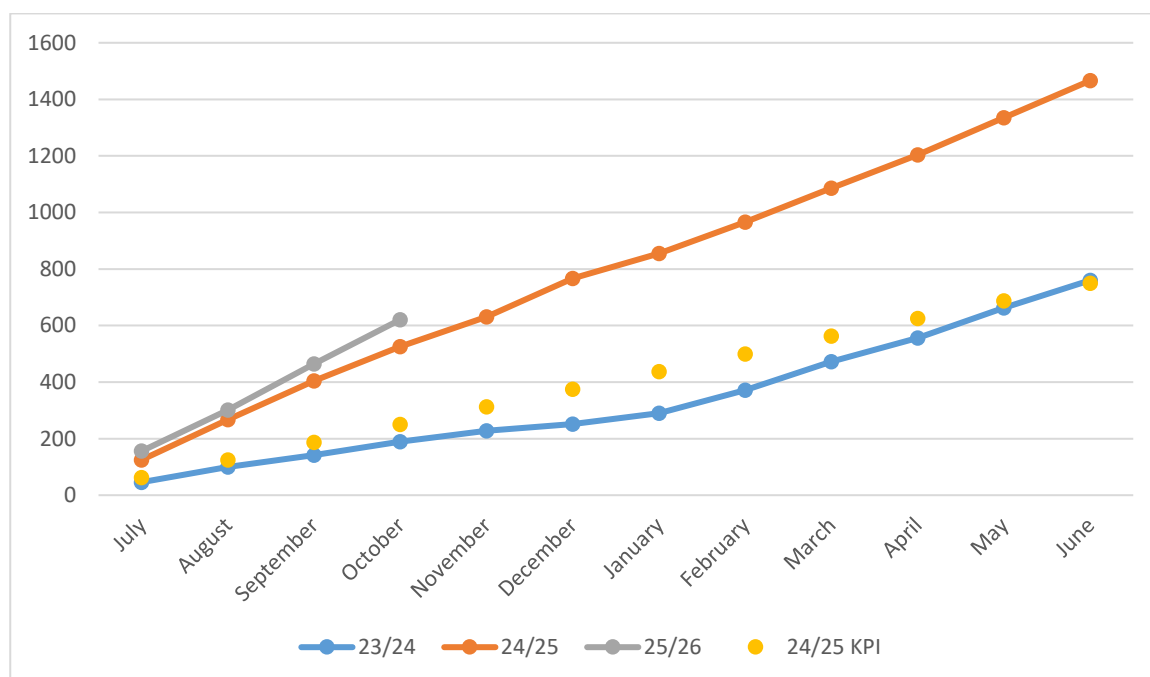


* June to December 2023 data is visitation numbers from the previous Library.

b) Issues



c) Activity & Programme Sessions



d) Other Activity Measures

| 25/26 | Jul | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | April | May | June |
|-----------------------------|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|-----|------|
| Memberships - Child | 2144 | 2137 | 2152 | 2137 | | | | | | | | |
| Memberships - Teen | 1306 | 1320 | 1324 | 1319 | | | | | | | | |
| Memberships - Adults | 7300 | 7327 | 7424 | 7453 | | | | | | | | |
| APNK Sessions | 4589 | 4092 | 4881 | 3981 | | | | | | | | |
| Paid Meeting Rooms | 46 | 18 | 31 | 21 | | | | | | | | |
| Approved free Meeting Rooms | 32 | 34 | 35 | 31 | | | | | | | | |
| Adhoc Meeting Rooms | 263 | 280 | 252 | 296 | | | | | | | | |

4.2.2 Activity/Programme Attendees July & August

| | | <i>Child</i> | <i>Teen</i> | <i>Adult</i> |
|--|--|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Brain Injury Group 2 Sessions | Facilitated by the Brain Injury Association, this monthly group offers peer support and education on concussion and all types of brain injury. | | | 20 |
| Knitting Group 8 sessions | A weekly social group which encourages people to knit alongside others instead of sitting knitting at home alone. | | | 146 |
| Crafting with Dies 2 sessions | A fortnightly session where participants can create cards using elements created with a die cutting machine | | | 10 |
| Adult Craft Club 2 sessions | A monthly session where adults come to be creative with a different activity each month | | | 18 |
| Spinner Drop in 6 sessions | In partnership with Ashburton Creative Fibre. These sessions provide an opportunity to spin in a social environment, new spinners are encouraged to come and learn from members of Ashburton Creative Fibre. | | | 44 |
| Garden Conversation Group 4 sessions | In partnership with Connecting Mid Canterbury. Meetings twice a week to discuss gardening and get tips. | | | 54 |
| Makerspace Equipment Class 37 sessions | Training all ages to use the equipment in the Maker Space with varying lesson lengths and group sizes | 30 | 10 | 60 |
| AV Studio 58 sessions | 3-hour individual or group sessions that cover training in audio engineering and mastering & 30-minute open demo drop-in sessions | 33 | 37 | 48 |
| Digi Coaching 19 Sessions | Drop in sessions to help the community with digital help related to phones and electronics | | | 66 |
| Book Club 2 sessions | Monthly community book club | | | 33 |
| Steady As You Go 8 sessions | Age Concern's peer-led exercise initiative designed to help older people reduce their likelihood of having a fall. The exercises are like those learned from a physiotherapist. | | | 114 |

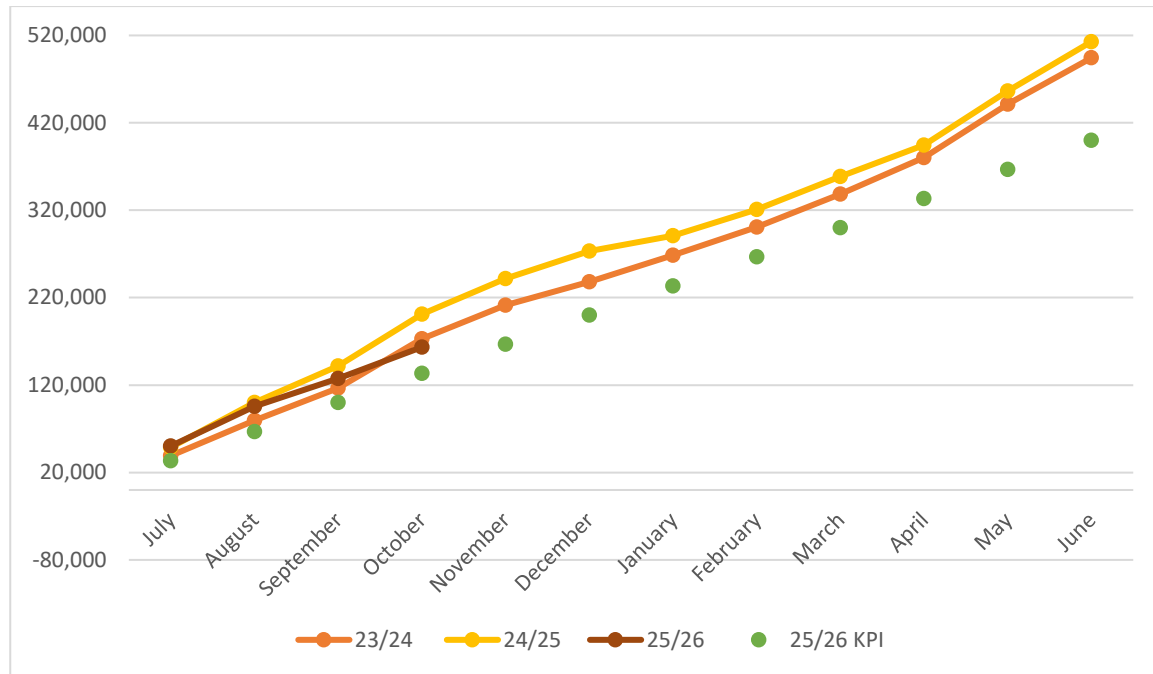
| | | | | |
|--|---|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Elderly Outreach 2 sessions | Literacy based activities for groups of elderly living in rest homes or attending a daycentre. | | | 33 |
| Sign Language Course 14 sessions | A course designed to teach the basics of sign language to members of the community. Participants will be able to communicate in sign language on simple everyday matters | | | 168 |
| English Language Drop In 4 sessions | A weekly drop-in session with a trained and experienced teacher to practice English. | | | 25 |
| CV Help 5 Sessions | This drop-in service is available when required. | | | 6 |
| Next Chapter 1 Session | A monthly programme of literacy-based activities designed for those living with a diagnosed dementia | | | 7 |
| Lifelong Learning Festival | In partnership with Keep Learning Mid Canterbury, this festival was a celebration of learning, showcasing the different places in the community people can learn. | | | 641 |
| Book Launch | Local author Mary Blain book launch for Explore with Me Mid Canterbury in the Event Space | 17 | | 26 |
| Books on Wheels 4 deliveries | A fortnightly service to library users who are housebound or who find it difficult to get to the library. Books are curated by library staff and delivered by volunteers from Altrusa. | | | 140 |
| Recycle a Device 8 sessions | Training young people to refurbish devices, diverting them from landfill and donating them to families in need <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distributed 2 laptops • 8 people added to the waitlist. • 74 people on the wait list • This included a salvage day session in the school holidays | | 45 | |
| Dungeons & Dragons 5 Sessions | The age of participants is between 13- 18 years. This is a teen led group. This is run once a week during term time. School Holidays was over Sept/Oct so there are two less sessions. | | 19 | |
| Teen Sub box 2 issues | Each teen subscription box consists of three books, a craft, and snack and are based on a theme. Available to teens aged 12 -18 years and are issued monthly. | | 27 | |
| Remote control car racing 5 sessions | Teen school holiday programme: Teens 12-18 years booked to have a fun time doing timed races and the winner got the bragging rights for the day. | | 25 | |

| | | | | |
|--|---|-------------|------------|-------------|
| Pom pom creation 1 Session | Teen school holiday programme: Teens 12-18 made a pom pom creature keyring to take home | | 6 | |
| Makerspace Mondays 5 Sessions | Teens 12-18 years can come and use the equipment in the makerspace. Each week there is a different project to do. Sessions are held during term time. | | 15 | |
| Create Explore Discover 6 Sessions | STEM learning through play | 55 | | 49 |
| Micro Bytes & Mega Bytes 5 Sessions | Coding Clubs | 58 | | |
| Minecrafters 2 sessions | Mine Craft Club | 19 | | |
| Build – Lego Club for kids 3 sessions | Build – Lego Club | 19 | | 11 |
| School class visits 16 sessions | Schools that visited the library included Ashburton Christian School, Saint Joseph's, Hampstead, Wakanui, Longbeach and Lagmhor ABS School. This also includes a visit from Mt Hutt College year 7 classes. | 471 | | 39 |
| Wriggle and Read 8 sessions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Movement to music for ages 0-3 | 182 | | 178 |
| Term 3 School Holiday programme 6 activities | Activities included: Radish seed heads Delphiniums in the domain Zen Gardens Friendship Bracelets Expanding gasses Mug cakes | 227 | | 111 |
| Girl Guide visit 1 session | Guides came in and made zines in the Makerspace. | 14 | | 1 |
| Term 3 Holiday Outreach | Taking elements of the holiday programme out to Methven and Mayfield. | 71 | | 53 |
| Movies 2 Sessions | Movies on in the event space | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| 275 Sessions/ Activities | Totals | 1687 | 156 | 1572 |

4.3 EA Networks Centre

4.3.1 Key Performance Indicators & Activity Updates

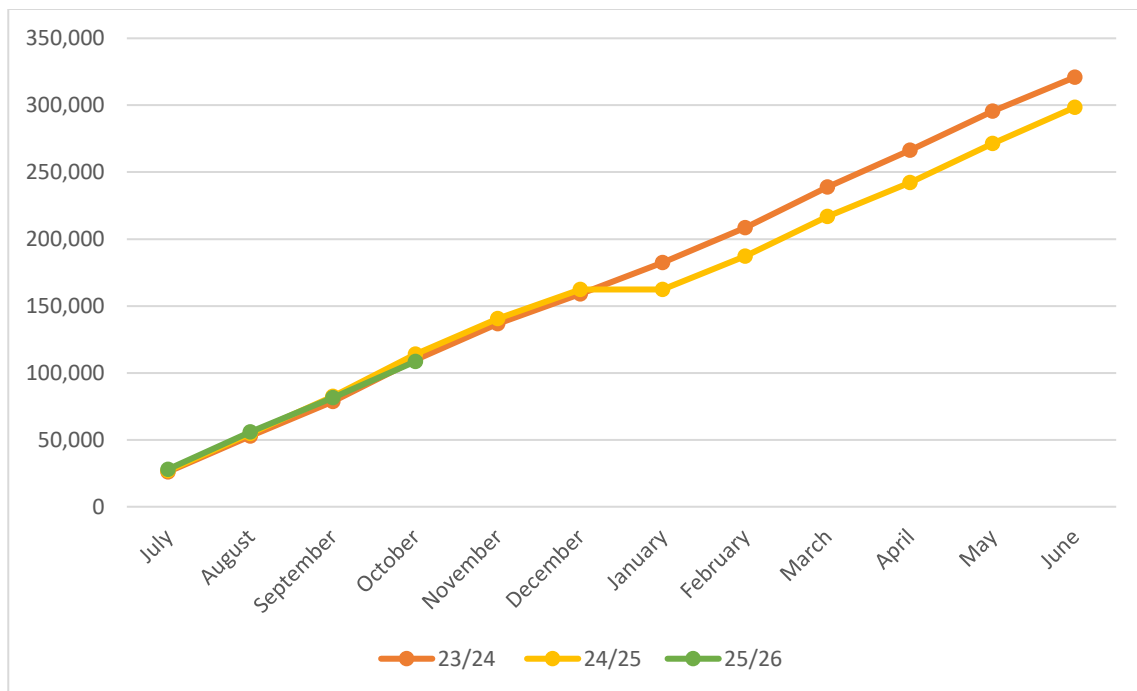
a) Facility-Wide Visitation



Comments:

- Whilst visitation is down on previous years it should be noted that this is largely due to having no major tournaments for the first time in a number of years.
- Conversations continue around smaller events for 2026 and working with our sporting partners to enable activity.
- The mini golf course opened on 21st November – whilst technically not part of this report is proving popular with the community.

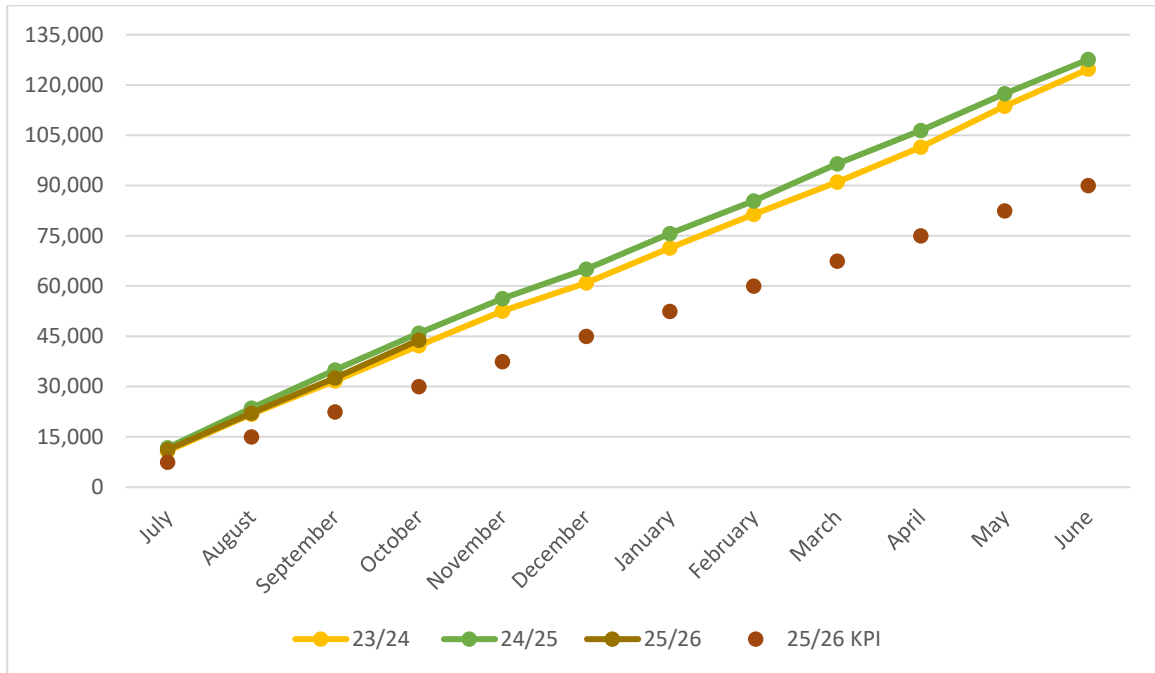
b) Pool Visitation



Comments:

- In October the remediation of the splash deck in the pool area was completed. The pool has since re-opened and the new product has performed well so far.
- The lifeguard team undertook a new lifeguard qualification – International Lifeguard Training Programme, (ILTP) and is the first public pool in NZ to fully adopt this programme as its standard.
- The implementation of the ILTP programme has seen improved knowledge and skills across the lifeguard team, with the internationally transferrable programme significantly lifting the game for our aquatics supervision environment.

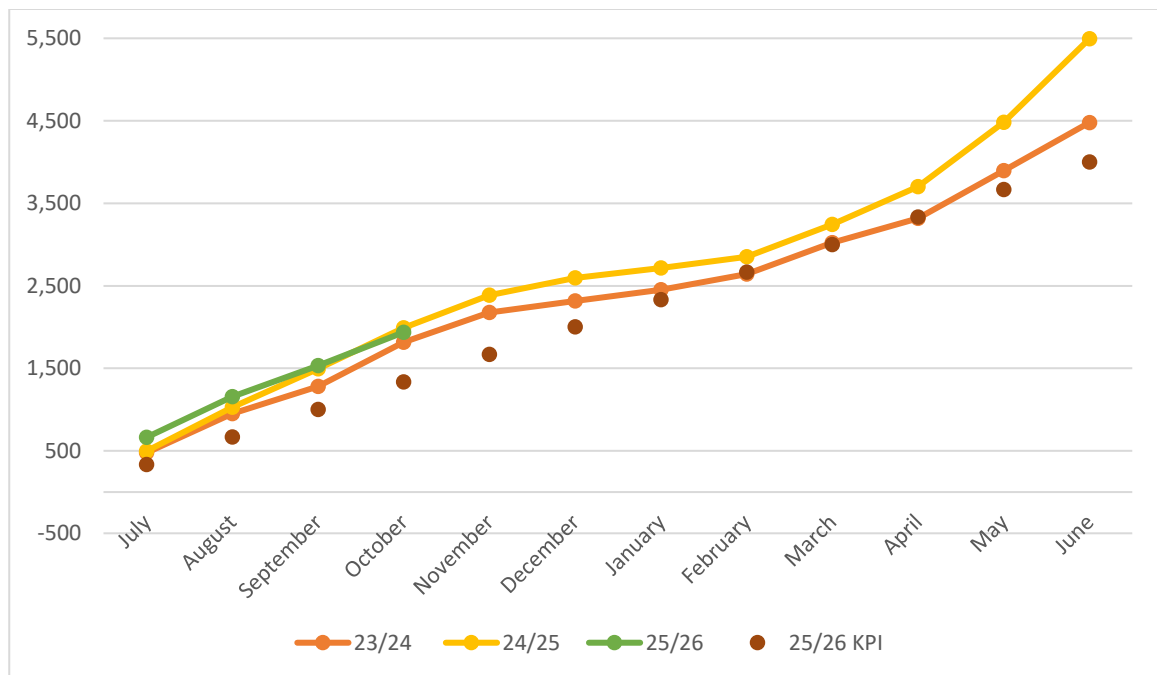
c) Gym & Fitness Visitation



Comments

- October was a productive and positive month at the Centre. The Move Well Expo was held at the start of the month and was a great success, with attendees commenting that the venue was extremely well suited to the event and expressing interest in returning here for future expos.
- The Couch to Wellness programme continued to run strongly, with excellent engagement and a number of participants from the migrant/refugee community now attending, adding to the diversity and reach of the programme.
- Officers are trialling additional yoga classes in response to customer feedback month. Classes have been consistently fully booked and are proving to be one of our most popular offerings heading into summer.

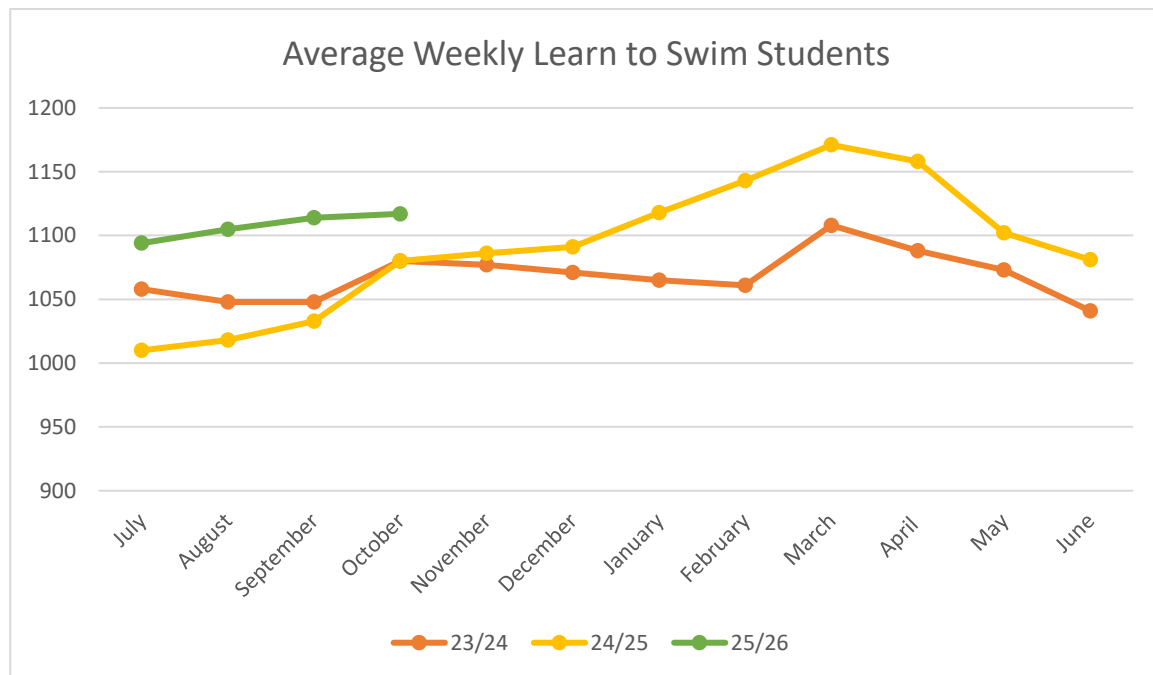
d) Stadium Booked Hours



Comments:

- Officers are currently working through 2026 stadium bookings, with an aim of efficiently maximising space during the winter sport season.
- Officers continue to work towards the planned closure of the stadium in December for routine floor maintenance.
- This is the first year in a number of years where we haven't hosted the Basketball New Zealand U13 tournament, which has now become a rotation between upper, mid and lower South Island. This tournament would typically see a large increase in stadium usage and facility visitation in October.

e) Swim School



Comments:

- Our LTS numbers for Term 4 have increased and are trending to stay steady.
- The Lion Foundation funding (which subsidises our School Swim Programme) enabled 717 students from eight schools to benefit from swimming lessons during September and October.

4.3.2 Activities/Programmes (September/October)

| Attendees | | Child | Teen | Adult |
|--|---|--------------|-----------|------------|
| Couch to Wellness 7 Sessions | Runs During term in 10-week blocks Designed to get people active again | | | 140 |
| Daffodil Wahine 9 Sessions | Every Wednesday at 12.15, this special population class is designed for women to build healthy bones after cancer treatment | | | 89 |
| Prostfit 8 sessions | Every Monday at 11 am, this special population class is designed for Men as part of their rehabilitation from prostate cancer | | | 120 |
| O2go 9 Sessions | Every Wednesday at 10.30am, this special population class is designed to support people with significant breathing Issues like COPD & asthma. | | | 205 |
| Parkinsons Play 9 Sessions | Every Thursday at 1.30 pm, this special population class is designed for people diagnosed with Parkinsons to slow progression and build control of the condition. | | | 54 |
| Fitmums 4 Sessions | Runs during term on Thursdays at 10.45 am - this special population class is designed for new mothers to improve their general strength and fitness in a safe environment, with your baby. – Not held this term | | | 60 |
| Hospice – Offsite programme 22 Sessions | Every Tuesday Wednesday and Friday at 10am – this special population class is designed to maintain movement and mobility. | | | 220 |
| Squad 153 sessions | The current number of squad members at the end of October. | | 67 | |
| Active Adventures 4 sessions | Fortnightly 2-hour toddler play session in the stadium. | 115 | | |
| Learn to Swim 1,704 group sessions & 323 individual sessions | Total number of private swimming lessons over 7 weeks between end Term 3 2025 to middle of Term 4 2025 | 7,746 | | |
| School Swim Lessons 205 group sessions | This programme is co-founded by schools and the Lion Foundation. Lesson delivery at EANC. Numbers reflect 7 weeks between end Term 3 2025 to middle of Term 4 2025 | 717 | | |
| Learn to Swim Holiday Block Courses | -For the first week of the school holidays 30/6-4/7. The school holiday lessons are a week block of lessons. | 41 | | |

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|-----------|------------|
| | | | | |
| Learn to Swim Holiday Pop Up Classes 4 activities | The second week of the school holidays we trialled pop-up classes to offer another interactive route for the community and water -Splash into Fun! Family Morning: 6mth-7yrs space for games, skills and bubbles -Splash into Fun! Get Active: 5-12yrs, obstacle courses and scavenger hunt were the most popular activities. -Family Water Safety Session: open to all, a journey through different stations to help stay water safe in the district. -Low Sensory Swim Session: open to all, an environment that is calm to help provide a space enjoyable to those who need lower sensory. | 30 60 20 1 | | |
| September/October School Holiday Programme 10 sessions | 521 attendees over the 10 days during the holiday period out of a possible 560 spaces, resulting in an occupancy of 93% | 521 | | |
| Women's Swim Night 2 sessions | Held on the second Wednesday of each month 7-8.30pm. | 15 | | 49 |
| 2,198 sessions | Totals | 9,151 | 66 | 984 |

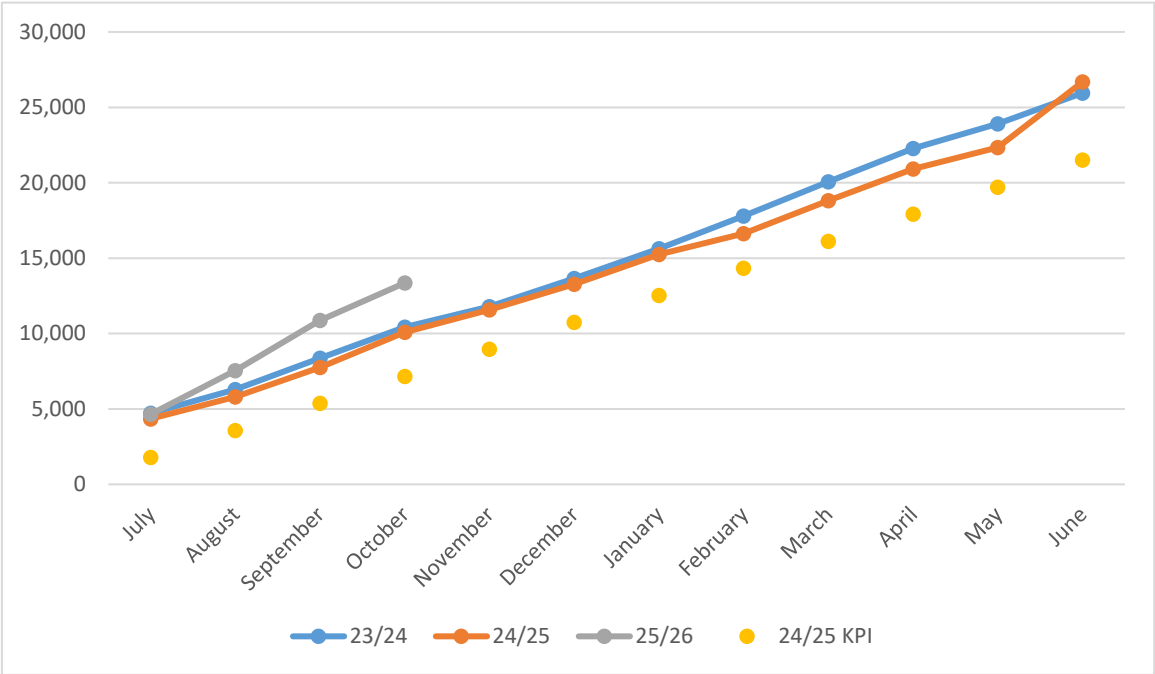
4.3.3 Mini Golf Update

- Whilst not specifically in the timeline of this report – the Mini Golf course is now open and proving popular. Officers are working through final tidy up tasks on this project.
- CREO – principal contractor have posted this imagery of the project on their website - <https://creospace.co.nz/mini-golf-ashburton/>

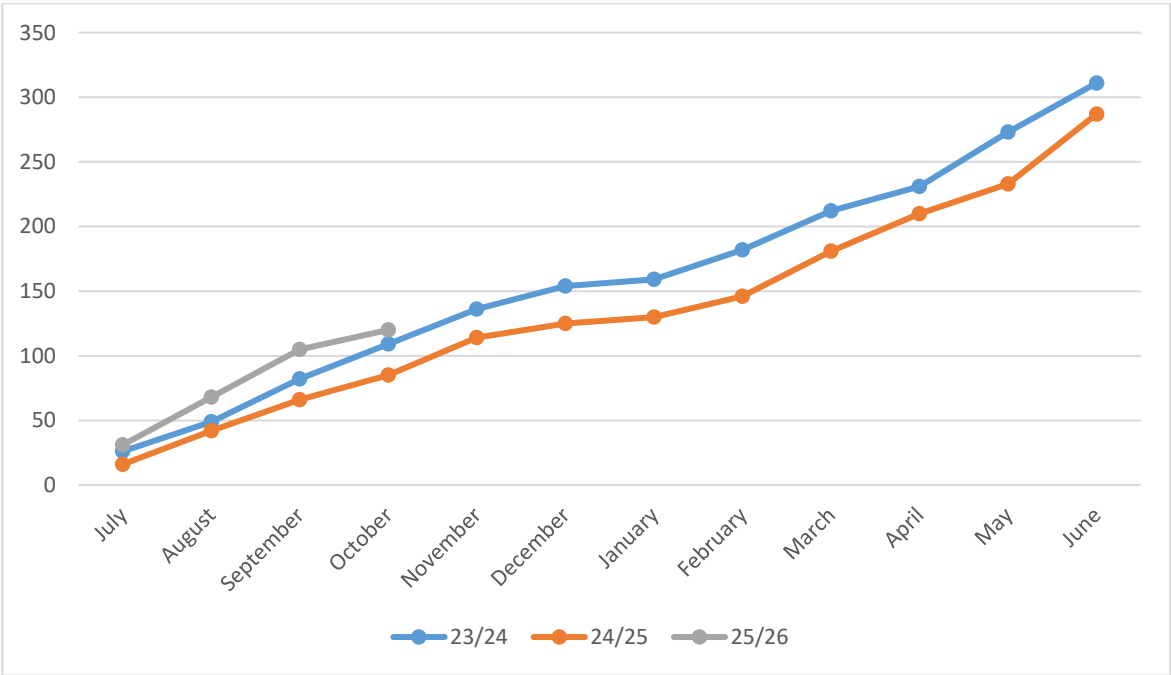
4.4 Ashburton Art Gallery and Museum

4.4.1 Key Performance Measures

a) Visitation



b) Activity & Programme Sessions



c) Other Activity Measures

| 24/25 | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Exhibitions - Local | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | | | | | | | | |
| Exhibitions - National | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | | |
| Exhibitions - Touring | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| Programmes - School Classes | 8 | 22 | 20 | 2 | | | | | | | | |
| Programmes - Community | 23 | 15 | 17 | 13 | | | | | | | | |

4.4.2 Operational Activities September and October

| | Description | Date |
|--|---|---------------|
| Research Enquiries | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In September 2025, 24 research enquiries were responded to, 20 of which were from the public. In October 2025, 22 research enquiries were responded to, 18 of which were from the public. | Sept-Oct 2025 |
| Collection Development and Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquisition of new items, cataloguing and rehousing projects, environmental monitoring and pest management continues. Ashburton District Council's historical archives are being re-catalogued in order to make the collection more accessible to council staff and to the public, in line with Public Records Act obligations. Ashburton Museum & Historical Society collections and Ashburton District Council historical archives continue to be made available to researchers on Whakatere Heritage Collections Online. | Sept-Oct 2025 |
| ADC Art Collection | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rehousing of the ceramics collection has been mapped out and new shelving to store these safely has been priced. Installation due end of January 2026. | Sept-Oct 2025 |
| Articles/Blog Posts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In September 2025, 3 articles were written about Elizabeth Lambie and Mary Ann Rutherford, Thomas Baker of Rakaia, History of electricity and McKee's dairy, Hampstead. In October 2025, 5 articles were written on smoking and men's smoking outfits from the Victorian era, early history of the Salvation Army in Ashburton, domestic science classes in the Edwardian period, David Thomas, early Ashburton public figure and the 1913 Mayfield Murder. | Sept-Oct 2025 |

| | Description | Date |
|-------------------------|---|---------------|
| Reviews/Features | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Island Breeze programme featured in the <i>Courier</i> AAGM mentioned in an article in <i>Locals magazine</i> <i>Courier</i> article about gifted name, Rokowhiria <i>Guardian</i> article about gifted name, Rokowhiria <i>Courier</i> article about Michael Armstrong receiving life membership of AAG Inc <i>Guardian</i> feature on Michael Armstrong receiving life membership of AAG Inc | Sept-Oct 2025 |

4.4.3 Exhibitions opened in September and October

| Description | Date |
|---|----------------------------|
| <p>SS Ventnor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A poignant exhibition centred on the the SS Ventnor, which sank off Hokianga Harbour in 1902 carrying the remains of nearly 500 Chinese goldminers being returned to their villages. When those remains washed ashore, local iwi and hapū buried them, and passed the story down through the generations. | 02 August – 16 November |
| <p>Operation Grapple: We were there</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In <i>Operation Grapple: We Were There</i>, Photographer Denise Baynham presents portraits of 19 New Zealand nuclear test veterans. Photographed in their own homes so you can see where and who they are now, the accompanying stories about Operation Grapple are told in the veterans' own words. In 1957/58 the British Government conducted a series of nuclear weapons tests at Christmas Island and Malden Island in the mid-Pacific Ocean. This series of detonations was given the codename "Operation Grapple". Operation Grapple consisted of 9 nuclear detonations between May 1957 and September 1958. The biggest of the detonations, Grapple Y, was equal to 200 Hiroshima bombs. | 19 September – 23 November |
| <p>Consider the Flowers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This exhibition is a celebration of the art of Margaret Trolove (1925-2025), a long-standing member of Whakatere Ashburton's artistic community. Margaret was a valued member of the Ashburton Society of Arts (ASA), and it was through the Society that she embraced painting as a life-long passion. She was the winner of a top prize in 1990, as the joint recipient of the Ashburton Licensing Trust Art Award at the ASA's 26th Annual Exhibition. | 5 October – 30 November |
| <p>Botanical Art Worldwide 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Botanical Art Worldwide 2025</i> is the second iteration of a project in which artists around the world join together to curate simultaneous exhibitions of botanical art. The exhibitions created aim to raise awareness of the rejuvenation of this art form and bring attention to plants and their importance to humanity. | 19 October – 7 December |

| | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Clay Fever <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Clay Fever</i> is the exhibition of the Hakatere Ceramics and Pottery Club. • Started in 2015, the Hakatere Ceramics and Pottery Club of Ashburton is a local group of ceramic enthusiasts who aim to create a welcoming, educational and encouraging environment for those who want to learn more about the art of clay. | 30 October – 30 November |
|---|--------------------------------|

4.4.4 Activities & Programmes – September and October

| Attendees | | Child | Teen | Adult |
|--|---|-------|------|-------|
| Talks, workshops and exhibition openings 10 events | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special events in September included the opening of <i>Operation Grapple: We were there</i>, four public talks and a volunteer function. • Events in October included the opening of three new exhibitions and a creative workshop on block printing for Mental Health Awareness Week delivered with Keep Learning Mid Canterbury. | 10 | 6 | 312 |
| Able Art Collective 2 sessions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able Art Collective is a monthly programme that provides a supportive space for individuals with disabilities to explore, learn, create, connect and express themselves through art. • These sessions are delivered in collaboration with The Chris Ruth Centre Ashburton. | | | 19 |
| Island Breeze 2 sessions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Island Breeze is a monthly programme for Pasifika and Māori wāhine in Whakatere Ashburton to come together for traditional arts, crafts, singing, socialising and kai. • These sessions are delivered in partnership with Tangata Atumotu Trust and Plunket. | 5 | | 29 |
| Kōwhai Mums 1 session | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kōwhai Mums is a monthly group for parents/carers with tamariki aged 0-5 years. • These sessions are delivered in collaboration with Hakatere Multicultural Council and have an emphasis on engaging newcomers to Whakatere Ashburton. • There is no October session due to the school holidays | 2 | | 3 |
| In Colour 2 sessions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Colour is a monthly group that supports mental health, mindfulness, and social connection through creativity. Classes are relaxed and art activities are guided by the interests of the group. | | | 18 |
| Art Addicts 7 sessions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art Addicts is a weekly after school art space for tamariki and whānau. | 198 | 1 | 112 |

| | | | | |
|--|--|--------------|------------|------------|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classes encourage exploration and experimentation with different artists, themes, materials and techniques. | | | |
| Artzheimers 0 sessions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Artzheimers is a monthly session delivered in collaboration with Dementia Canterbury, designed to provide a meaningful community-based art experience for people living with dementia. Sessions do not run during the school holidays. The October session was cancelled due to the severe weather event. | | | 0 |
| Cultural Awareness Talk 1 session | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural Awareness talks are monthly sessions delivered in partnership with Hakatere Multicultural Council that explore the history and customs of people from different cultures living in Whakatere Ashburton. In the October session we explored Nepalese culture. | 1 | 2 | 11 |
| Community visits/outreach 3 sessions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In September 2025, one outreach session was delivered to members of the Elizabeth Street Daycare. Outreach was also delivered at Te Kete Tuhinga for the Lifelong Learning Festival. In October 2025, one outreach session was delivered for the Cultural Whanau Day. | 180 | 120 | 268 |
| School visits/outreach 22 sessions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In September 2025, twenty classes from St Joseph's School, Mt Hutt College, Ashburton Intermediate, Mayfield School, Ashburton College, Longbeach School and the Home Education network visited Rokowhiria and engaged in an education programme or participated in an outreach session at their school. In October 2025, two classes from Southern Health School and the Home Education network visited. | 352 | 122 | 83 |
| Sept/October school holiday activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Various free and charged programmes were run during the October school holidays. Outreach was delivered in Mayfield and Methven in collaboration with other Council and community organisations. | 560 | 9 | 46 |
| 48 sessions | Totals | 1,308 | 260 | 901 |

5. Community & Open Spaces Group

5.1 Communications

5.1.1 Overview

- Main workstreams **progressed** in the last reporting period include promotion of local body elections, Light up the Night, the Summer What's On Guide, consultations for the Draft Gambling Policy; and Draft Dangerous, Affected and Insanitary Buildings Policy, the MTFJ Career Fest, Business of the Year Awards 2026* (Aug-Jan), supporting NZTA with communications on the second Ashburton Bridge, Lake Hood water quality, Stockwater Exit Transition Plan communications and multiple design and signage projects with our facilities.
- We are currently **planning for**: The roll out of the Food Organic and Green Organic Waste collection campaign, the upcoming work programme for 2026 and leading into the next LTP.
- *Please note: for Business of the Year awards, the event company is responsible for the marketing, however our team is represented on the project group, so we support and participate as necessary.

5.1.2 Ongoing workstreams

| Brief Description | Objectives/comments |
|--|--|
| News updates | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Number of news updates remained high with a spike in news for October. 27 in September and 36 in October.• Produced regular updates on the Council news site.• Produced weekly editions of Council Brief for distribution on our website and by the local newspapers. |
| Media relations & enquiry | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A steady number of media enquiries, 22 September and 26 in October |
| Website, digital engagement and e-mail | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Running a quick poll on our website to gather information for our websites platform RFP next year.• Looking for an e-newsletter provider which will allow us to automate our news RSS feed to email subscribers, as a way of relying less on Facebook as a news distribution method. |
| Graphic and multimedia design projects | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Our graphic designer worked on the following number of projects: 20 in September, 31 in October, with each project requiring variable numbers of assets to be created. |

| Brief Description | Objectives/comments |
|--|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We continue to develop a modular signage system to produce more consistent and cost-effective signage production across the organisation. |
| Digital signage and social media | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We continue to manage content across 19 digital signage channels, produce Council livestreaming, video and administrate several social media pages owned by Council. |
| Public Information Management (PIM) – Emergency management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several severe weather events occurred in the September/October period whereby the comms team issued warnings and stood up their PIM response. • Two red weather warnings resulted in comms labour effort of 12 hours for the first event and 35 hours for the second event. (47 hours total effort) |
| Internal (staff) communications and engagement | <p>Following a staff survey, improvements have been rolled out for our internal communications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We created a cross-team collaboration system for content creation eNewsletter & digital signage, and improved production efficiency, reducing time spent on production by 75% • Enhanced the staff intranet by simplifying navigation and decluttering layout • Introduced a new communication portal for EA Networks Centre staff to stay better connected |

5.1.3 Campaigns, consultations and communications planning

- The following table summarises significant communications projects, campaigns and consultations in the last reporting period.

| Brief Project Description | Comms start date | Est. End date | On track | Objectives/comments |
|---|------------------|---------------|----------|--|
| What's On Guide | 2024 | Ongoing | Y | <p>[ONGOING]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Summer What's On Guide was launched and promoted with a 2 week lead time before 1 December. This issue is the largest – the others cover two-week holiday breaks throughout the year whereas this guide covers all of December and January. This guide marks one full calendar year of production. We note the demand for this guide increases with each publication. |
| Stockwater Exit Transition Plan | 2024 | 2027 | Y | <p>[ONGOING]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The community and stakeholders are regularly informed of the Stockwater Exit Transition Plan and its progress. Those interested generally understand the Stockwater Exit Transition Plan and its methodology. Feedback about intakes and races is received from landowners and stakeholders at appropriate stages. It's easy to find information on the Stockwater Exit Transition Plan. Newsletter subscribers continue to steadily increase |
| Draft Gambling Policy; and Draft Dangerous, Affected and Insanitary Buildings Policy | Aug | Nov | Y | <p>[COMPLETED]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The community and stakeholders are informed of the policies and their purpose. |

| Brief Project Description | Comms start date | Est. End date | On track | Objectives/comments |
|---|------------------|---------------|----------|---|
| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The community and stakeholders understand why the Council has undertaken this process and why updated policies are required. The Council develops an understanding of community and stakeholders' views towards the current policies. Feedback is received from a range of residents and stakeholders. It's easy for people to find information on the policies and make a submission. |
| Light up the Night – Event marketing | Sep | Nov | Y | <p>[COMPLETED]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting the event held on Saturday 29 November to celebrate the lighting of the Christmas tree in Baring Square East. Awareness marketing campaign including all branding and event signage, including media partnerships. https://lightupthenight.co.nz/ |
| Hakaterere Noodle festival – Event marketing | Apr | May | Y | <p>[COMPLETED]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting the event held on Saturday 13 September to celebrate Welcoming Week. Awareness marketing campaign including all branding and event signage, including media partnerships. 'Welcoming Ashburton' newcomer profiles. |
| Local Body Elections | Feb | Oct | Y | <p>[COMPLETED]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The election communications plan streamlined LGNZ templates and introduced new initiatives like livestreaming the Candidates Briefing, producing candidate videos, and |

| Brief Project Description | Comms start date | Est. End date | On track | Objectives/comments |
|---------------------------|------------------|---------------|----------|--|
| | | | | <p>hosting Meet the Candidates evenings. Phase One focused on voter enrolment and awareness of key dates. Phase Two promoted nominations and informed candidates about roles and processes. Phase Three encouraged voting, highlighted deadlines and return locations, and provided accessible information on candidates and the election process, while monitoring Council channels throughout.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.voteashburton.nz/ |

5.2 Strategy & Policy

5.2.1 Current projects

| Brief Project Description | Start Date | Estimated Completion Date | Stage | On Track | Comments |
|--|------------|---------------------------|-------------|----------|--|
| Planning and Reporting | | | | | |
| Annual Residents Survey 2025/26 | Aug 2025 | July 2026 | In progress | Yes | The first wave of surveying for the 2025/26 survey has concluded. |
| Annual Report 2024/25 | May 2025 | October 2025 | Overdue | No | The final audit for the Annual Report concluded on Friday 28 November, with the report due to be adopted by Council on 3 December, after the legislative deadline. |
| Annual Plan 2026/27 | Oct 2025 | June 2026 | In progress | Yes | Work to date has included preparation of draft budgets, fees and charges and work programme. ET workshops have commenced, with an initial workshop with Council to be held on 3 December. Further workshops will follow in the new year. |

| Bylaw or Policy Development/Review | | | | | |
|---|--------------|---------------|------------------|-----|---|
| Five Bylaws project | June 2025 | Sept/Oct 2026 | In progress | Yes | A workshop is planned for 10 December to cover the bylaw review programme before October 2026. These include Open Spaces/Brothel Location and Keeping of Animals, Bees and Poultry/Dog Control to be consulted on in two tranches. The Water Supply bylaw due for review is anticipated to be delayed as enabled under the Local Government (Water Services) Act. |
| Gambling Venue Policy | May 2025 | December 2025 | Council adoption | Yes | Consultation on the Draft Statement of Proposal, including the draft policy concluded on 27 October with 23 submissions received. The Council hearing and deliberations were held on 25 November with 5 submitters speaking. The final policy is scheduled for adoption on 17 December. |
| Dangerous and Insanitary Buildings Policy | August 2025 | December 2025 | Council adoption | Yes | Consultation on the Draft Statement of Proposal, including the draft policy concluded on 27 October with 23 submissions received. The Council hearing and deliberations were held on 25 November with 5 submitters speaking. The final policy is scheduled for adoption on 17 December. |
| Development Contributions/Levies Policy Work Programme | January 2025 | June 2027 | In progress | Yes | Work continues on the programme to develop and review the development contributions policy. Government have released a consultation on the new development levies system including a partial exposure draft on the Bill. Officers are working through this and considering next steps. |
| Elected Members Allowances and Reimbursements Policy | Oct 2025 | Dec 2025 | In progress | Yes | A workshop was held with Council in November with the policy planned for adoption in December 2025. |
| Community Grants Policy | Oct 2025 | Dec 2025 | In Progress | Yes | A light review of this policy is underway with the policy planned for adoption in December 2025. |
| Communications Policy | Nov 2025 | March 2026 | Project Planning | Yes | Work has commenced on the scoping work for this policy. |

| | | | | | |
|---|----------------|-----------|------------------|---------|---|
| Sportsfields and Domains Policy | May 2025 | Dec 2026 | In progress | Delayed | Work on this is taking longer than expected, alongside other priorities. This includes assessing what still remains relevant in the policy following the development of the Reserve Management Plans. The revised policy will come in 2026. |
| Rates Remission Policy | April-May 2025 | Mid 2026 | Delayed | Delayed | Following consultation with Finance, work planned to coincide with the LTP 2027-37 development, so that remissions and their rating impact, can be considered alongside other rating changes. Work is likely to commence in early 2026. |
| Strategy or Plan Development/ Reviews | | | | | |
| Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy | July 2025 | TBC | Early engagement | Yes | Early engagement has concluded with a successful stakeholder workshop held at Rokowhiria in November. Feedback is being collated for a workshop with Council in December 2025. |
| Forestry Strategy | August 2024 | TBC | Council Workshop | Ongoing | A workshop was held with Council in November, which outlined the current activity, future issues and options for the future. |
| Open Spaces Strategy 2016 - 2026 | June 2025 | June 2026 | Drafting | Yes | The revised strategy is being drafted to present to Council early in 2026. |
| Other Projects/Work | | | | | |
| Elderly Housing | January 2025 | TBC | Council Workshop | Ongoing | A workshop was held with Council in November, which outlined outcomes of information gathered, future issues and options for the future. Next steps are being worked through with a report to come to Council in due course. |
| Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan – Action 7 | July 2024 | July 2027 | In progress | Yes | Ashburton is the lead agency for Action 7. This relates to integrating climate change considerations into Council processes. Work has been scoped and the next stage of work is underway. |
| Section 17A Reviews | Ongoing | | | Ongoing | Work not currently progressing on Section 17A reviews. The report back on the LG Systems Improvements Bill has confirmed that Section 17A requirements will be removed. |
| Aoraki Environmental Consultancy (AEC) | Ongoing | | | Yes | Officers continue to meet regularly with AEC. |

5.2.2 Completed projects

| Brief Project Description | Start Date | Completion Date | Comments |
|--|------------|-----------------|--|
| Local Water Done Well (LWDW)/Water Services Delivery Plan | July 2024 | September 2025 | The Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) approved the ADC Water Services Delivery Plan (WSDP) on 20 October with no changes. The plan and DIA assessment can be found here . Work has now commenced on implementation. |

5.2.3 Upcoming projects

| Brief Project Description | Start Date | Estimated Completion Date | On track | Comments |
|------------------------------|------------|---------------------------|--------------|---|
| LTP 2027-37 | Oct 2025 | Jun 2027 | TBC | Work is commencing to plan for delivery of the LTP 2027-37 and associated requirements. |
| Policy reviews | Ongoing | Ongoing | Some overdue | Several policy reviews are due over the next 12 months, including Property Holdings, Corporate Risk and Asset Disposal. |
| Strategy/Plan Reviews | Ongoing | Ongoing | Yes | Various strategies are due for review/development over the next 12 months, including Walking and Cycling. |

5.2.4 External Submissions/Reports of interest

Submissions made:

| Organisation | Submission Summary | Type | Due Date | Status |
|--|---|-----------|--------------|--------|
| Local Government Commission (LGC) | Standardised Code of Conduct In February 2025 the Minister of Local Government referred to LGC the task of developing of a standardised code of conduct for local authorities. The | Council | 26 September | Lodged |
| Commerce Commission | Economic Regulation of Water Services – Information Disclosure | Technical | 20 October | Lodged |

| Organisation | Submission Summary | Type | Due Date | Status |
|--------------|---|------|----------|--------|
| | Draft determination by the Commission covering the information it will require of water providers. It recommends readers begin with the summary of decisions. | | | |

Consultations underway or considering

| Organisation | Submission Summary | Type | Due Date | Status |
|---------------------------------------|---|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| Department of Internal Affairs | <u>Simplifying Local Government</u> Proposal to replace regional councils with combine boards of Mayors and to require those boards to produce a reorganisation plan for the region. | Council | 20 February | Submit |
| Taumata Arowai | <u>Proposed changes to the Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules for supplies serving 501 or more people</u> Consultation on two proposed areas of change to the rules, covering change to annual reporting timeframes and changes to the rules for supplies serving 501 or more people | Technical | 19 December | Submit |
| Department of Internal Affairs | <u>Development Levies Consultation and Local Government (Infrastructure Funding) Amendment Bill</u> Material engages on the replacement of development contributions with a system of levies. It includes a consultation document, a partial exposure draft of the Bill, and asks for views on the Commerce Commission as the regulator. | Council | 20 February | Assessing |
| Standards NZ | <u>Standard DZ9202: Standing Orders</u> Exposure draft of the standards that local authorities will be required to follow (under the System Improvements Bill as it currently stands). | Council | 12 December | Assessing |
| StatsNZ | <u>Proposed Data Collection Approach and Content of the Census</u> Consultation focuses on how StatsNZ introduces the admin data first census model, and the data collected. | Technical | 19 December | Assessing |
| TBC | <u>Public Works Amendment Act</u> | TBC | TBC | TBC |

| Organisation | Submission Summary | Type | Due Date | Status |
|--------------|--|------|----------|--------|
| | This bill amends the Public Works Act 1981 to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and clarity of land acquisition, objections, and compensation functions in the Act. | | | |

Consultations not submitting on

| Organisation | Name of initiative | Due Date |
|--|--|-----------|
| Transport and Infrastructure Select Committee | <u>Land Transport (Revenue) Amendment Bill</u> This is the Bill that clears the way for the transition from fuel excise to RUC for light vehicles and makes the legislation around tolling more flexible. | 8 January |
| TBC | <u>Infrastructure Funding and Financing Amendment Bill</u> Bill makes amendments to the IFF scheme. Bill will reduce sector role in the approval. | TBC |

Future Submission opportunities (once full details are known).

The information has been provided by Taituara and other sources.

| Organisation | Name of initiative | Expected Timing ¹ |
|--------------|--|------------------------------|
| TBC | <u>RMA Replacement Bill</u> A new act to “manage environmental effects that arise from the use of natural resources”. | Expected 8 December |
| TBC | <u>Urban Development and Infrastructure Bill</u> Bill to enable urban development and infrastructure. This act will also be aligned with the Government’s Going for Housing Growth plan and its 30-year National Infrastructure Plan. | Expected 8 December |
| TBC | Building Act Amendment Bill | Early 2026? |

¹ Timing based on latest available information received via various sources and subject to change.

| Organisation | Name of initiative | Expected Timing ¹ |
|--------------|--|------------------------------|
| | More comprehensive changes to Building consenting making it easier for private BCAs, address barriers to voluntary consolidation, national consenting body, ensuring national consistency, strengthening roles and responsibilities, new consent pathway for commercial buildings, new assurance pathways more self-certification – further streamlining, risk and liability. | |
| TBC | Emergency Management Bill The Government will implement a programme of changes in five broad areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give effect to the whole-of-society approach to emergency management. • Support and enable local government to deliver a consistent minimum standard of emergency management across New Zealand. • Professionalise and build the capability and capacity of the emergency management workforce. • Enable the different parts of the system to work better together. • Drive a strategic focus on implementation and investment to ensure delivery. | Late 2025? |
| TBC | Public works Act Amendment Bill #2 Bill to implement results of the wider PWA review. | TBC |
| TBC | Waste Management Bill Possible bill to implement the conclusions of the consultation on waste management. | TBC |
| TBC | Climate Adaptation Bill Bill sets the legal framework for powers and responsibilities with respect to climate adaptation. If there is a climate adaptation fund it will be in this Bill. | Early 2026 |
| TBC | Earthquake-prone Building System Reform Amendment Bill Gives effect to recent changes to the regime for assessing and managing seismic effects. | Pre- xmas 2025 |

Reports/releases of interest

The following are reports/releases recently released of interest.

| Organisation | Name of initiative | Status |
|--------------|--------------------|--------|
|--------------|--------------------|--------|

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|-----------|
| Minister of Local Government | <u>Rates Capping announcement</u> Government announcement on introduction of a rates capping regime based on a range of 2-4%. | Available |
| Minister of Climate Change | <u>National Adaptation Framework</u> Released in October, the Framework sets out the Government's approach to prepare for the rising risks from natural hazards and includes 16 new and existing actions across four pillars: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risks and response information sharing • Roles and responsibilities • Investment in risk reduction • Cost-sharing pre-and post-event. | Available |

5.3 Memorial Halls & Reserve Boards

5.3.1 Activities – items of importance

Memorial Hall and Reserve Board Meetings

Mayfield Reserve Board and Memorial Hall Committee

- The Mayfield Reserve Board has approved a request from the Mayfield Pool Committee to expand its footprint within the Mayfield Domain, providing extra space to store gifted items.

Tinwald Reserve Board

- The Board approved a request from the Tinwald Rugby Club to extend their changing rooms by adding an additional facility building within the Tinwald Rugby grounds.
- New signage for the entranceway to The Plains Heritage Park is expected to be installed by the end of September.

Mt Hutt Memorial Hall

- The Board have confirmed the location of the donated sculptures within the Hall.

Rakaia Reserve Board

- The Reserve Board met with Open Spaces staff in July and has taken responsibility for the old public toilets near the Rakaia Bowling Club, which were set to be decommissioned. This decision ensures the facilities remain available for Domain user groups and the public.

Triennial Reserve and Hall Board meetings began in early November, and we're pleased to share that the following reserves and facilities have retained their Boards, ensuring strong local representation and continuity:

- Tinwald Memorial Hall
- Ruapuna Reserve Board
- Lagmhor/Westerfield Memorial Hall
- Mt Somers Reserve
- Pendarves Reserve
- Hinds Reserve
- Tinwald Reserve

- Mayfield Reserve and Memorial Hall
- Rakaia Reserve
- Methven Reserve
- Alford Forest Reserve

This continuity helps maintain local input and support for our community spaces, ensuring they remain well cared for and responsive to community needs.

Elected Board Members will be submitted to Council for approval at the Council meeting on 17 December 2025.

Grants and Funding

Council has allocated \$15,000 in community pool funding to support seven community-owned pools across the district.

- Carew Pool \$2,300
- Dorie Pool \$1,200
- Fairton Pool \$2,300
- Hampstead Pool \$2,300
- Lauriston Pool \$2,300
- Wakanui School Pool \$2,300
- Willowby Community Pool \$2,300

Funding for the five Council-owned pools is still being processed and will be confirmed soon.

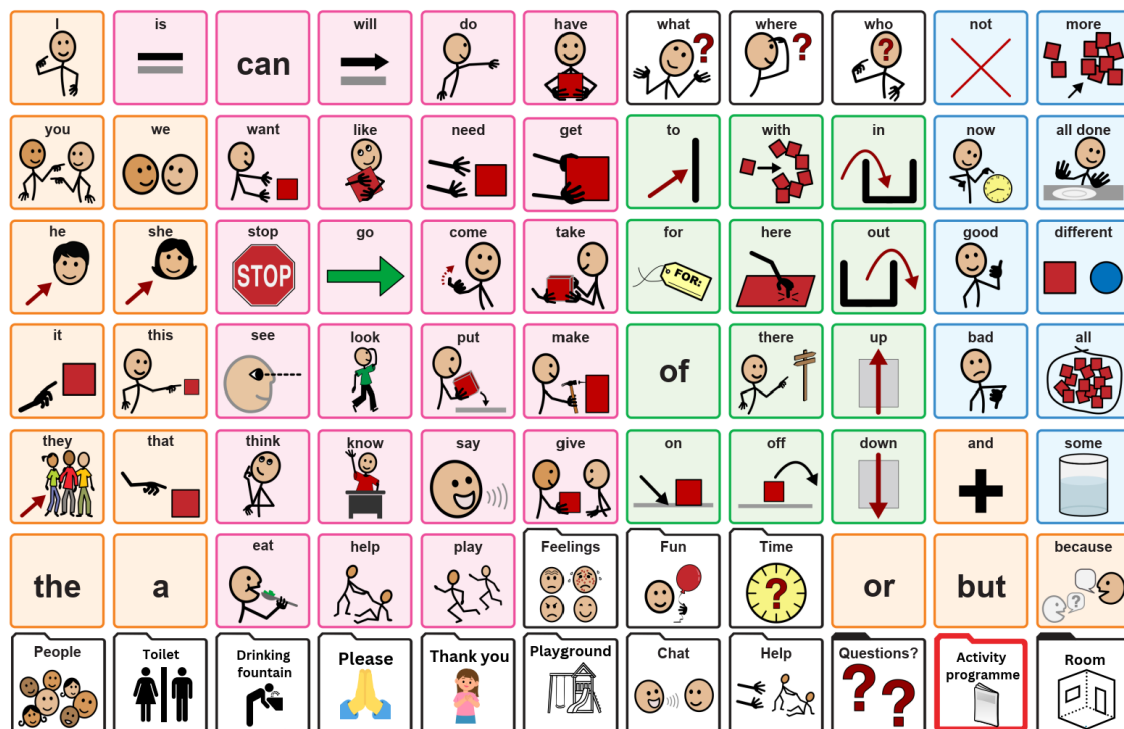
5.4 Welcoming Communities

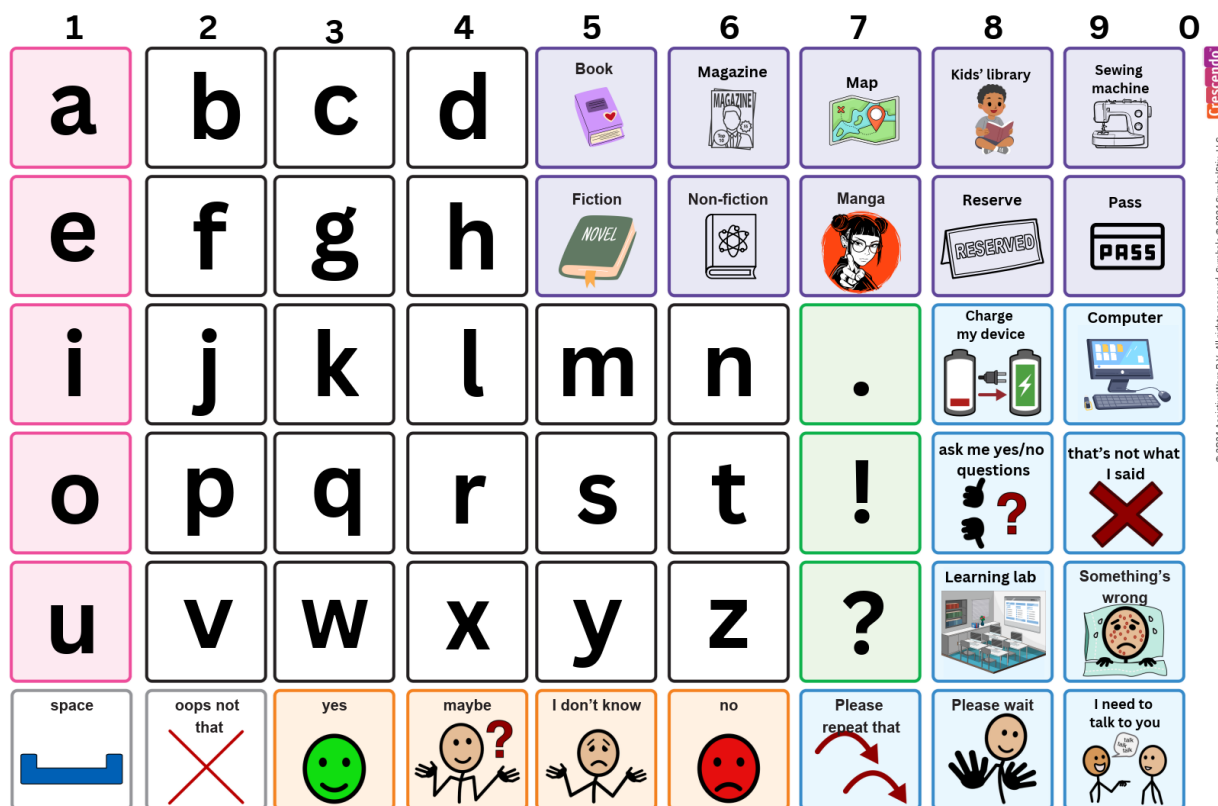
- The Cultural Whānau Fun Day was successfully held on 18 October at the Hampstead Club (see photos attached). This year's event incorporated all feedback received from previous stallholders and attendees, resulting in another strong outcome.
- The event continues to grow annually, especially in cultural diversity. Performers from the Philippines, Samoa, and Tokelau participated, with individuals from various other ethnicities joining their groups, demonstrating genuine intercultural collaboration.

- Approximately 450 people attended, a result we are particularly pleased with, given that three other community events took place on the same day. A feedback form was distributed to identify further areas for improvement. One key opportunity identified was the need to increase volunteer support, particularly during event set-up and pack-down. This will be reviewed in partnership with the Ashburton District Council's Event Coordinator.
- This event was funded by the Ministry for Ethnic Communities and supported by local Ashburton businesses.
- Following the initial meeting to introduce the concept of forming a trust, the Afghani community has now nominated representatives to establish their own governance structure. Welcoming Communities is coordinating training and mentorship support to assist this group in learning how to manage meetings and operate effectively as an organisation.
- The Meaningful Refugee Participation Fund (MBIE) will cover 12 months of training, mentoring, and interpreting to ensure ongoing progress. This initiative aims to build governance capacity, leadership, and accountability.
- Additionally, the same funding will support a youth training programme, where young former refugees will be trained to visit and assist the families in completing the MBIE Former Refugee Survey. This initiative provides youth with valuable work experience while strengthening engagement and representation within their community.
- Welcoming Communities is currently supporting EA Networks Centre in refining and improving the Women's Only Swim Sessions. This includes connecting with other agencies and local governments to identify opportunities for improvement.
- To guide future programming, Welcoming Communities is currently seeking input from migrants, newcomers, and former refugees through the Welcoming Communities – Ashburton District Facebook page. Followers are invited to share what topics or activities they would like to learn about in the upcoming year.
- We are set to collaborate with the Economic Development team in our planning for 2026, with a strong emphasis on this area.
- The November Cultural Awareness Talk showcased Nepal, continuing the series' success in promoting intercultural understanding and engagement among residents.

- Welcoming Communities facilitated a meeting between Advance Ashburton’s CEO, Carolyn Clough, and a group of former refugee youth to discuss local scholarship opportunities. The session covered application processes, eligibility criteria, and available support.
- Participants expressed a strong interest in gaining local work experience and volunteering. As a result, we arranged follow-up meetings with the Library’s Community Liaison, leading to volunteer placements. Currently, one youth is volunteering at the Ashburton Library and another at Rokowhiria. These experiences contribute to skill development, employability, and community engagement.
- A community member approached Welcoming Communities to propose the introduction of “core word boards” for use by neurodiverse individuals and migrants with limited English proficiency. These boards are widely used in schools and community settings to support basic communication.
- Welcoming Communities is collaborating with the Ashburton Library to develop and adapt these tools for public spaces, improving accessibility and inclusion. (Sample attached.)



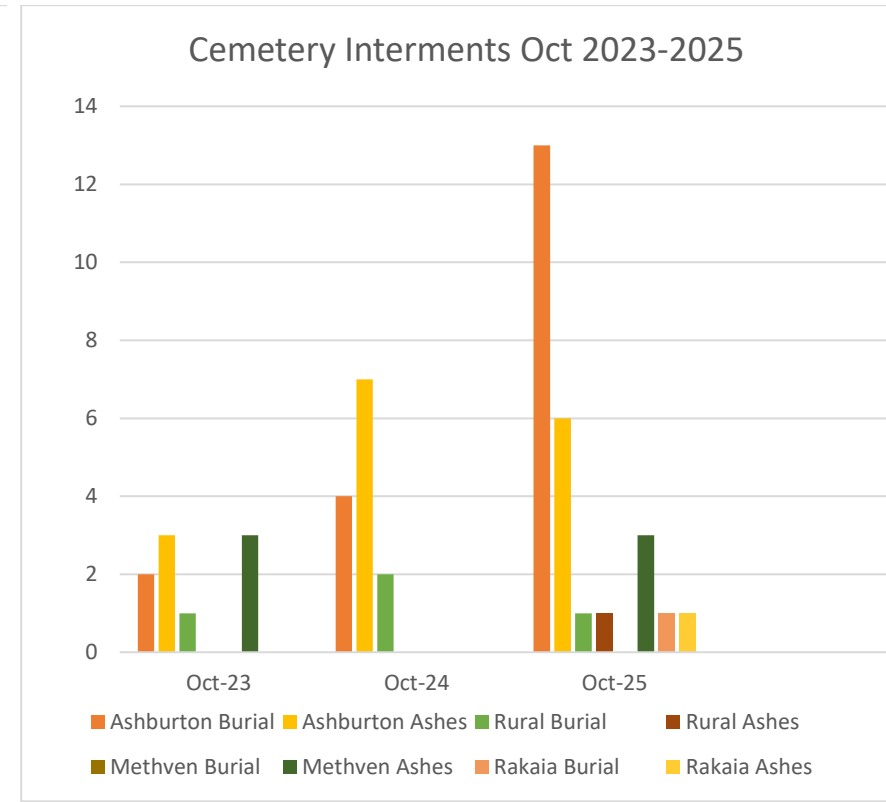
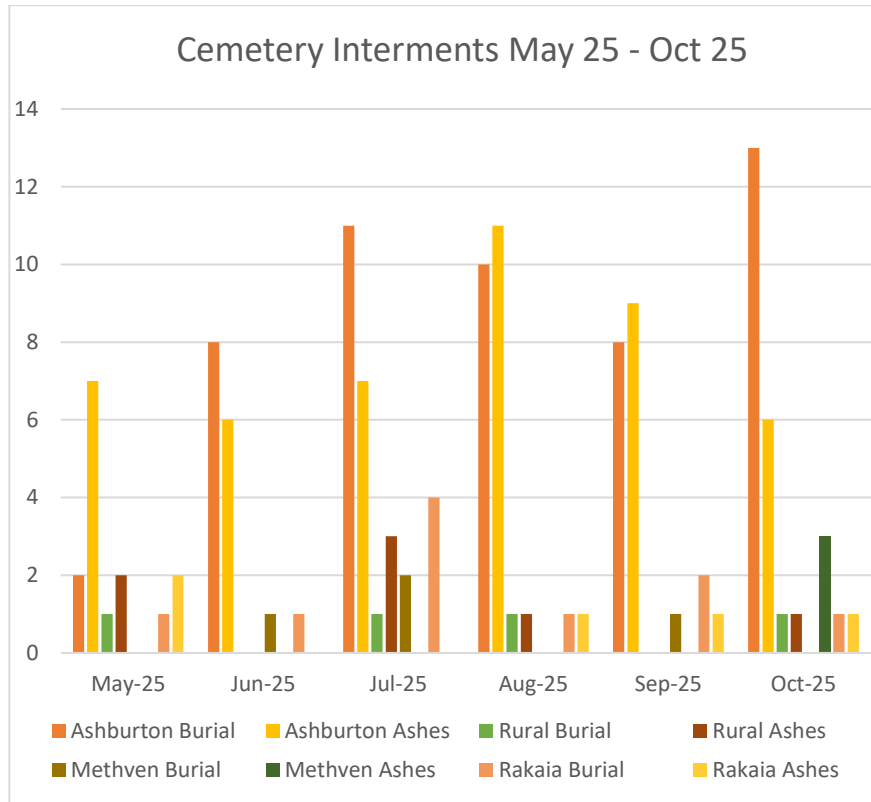




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5.5 Open Spaces

5.5.1 Cemeteries



5.5.2 Activities – items of importance

Cemeteries

- Cemetery staff are now into Spring maintenance mode with their main focus being vegetation control. Spring has also seen an upswing in community visitations to District cemeteries.
- Interment activity has been busy in October.
- Staff continue to have regular contact and dialogue with undertakers on various cemetery matters.
- Regular cyclical maintenance continues to occur at closed district cemeteries.
- A section of the RSA area of the Ashburton Cemetery has had turf renovations undertaken. Seed has struck and the area is still covered and being irrigated regularly to get the new turf established.
- The Ashburton Cemetery Historic Kiosk has had repairs undertaken. The work was replacement of failed exterior timber and as this is a scheduled Heritage Building, it requires a higher level of workmanship including approvals from Heritage New Zealand of the work.
- Broadleaf spraying for turf weeds is now complete for all cemeteries.
- Rakaia Cemetery will soon have a new burial berm installed. It will create space for 48 new burial plots.
- Ashburton Cemetery has a numbering project underway in the New Lawn area off Bremners Road. This will aid wayfinding for the community helping people find plots and is part of a wider plan to improve Cemeteries District Wide.

Open Space Management

- Customer service requests are being closely monitored for timely resolution – as they may impact upon the non-financial performance measures.
- Staff are now working on the 2025-26 capital renewal programme. Some projects are in the detailed design phase, others in the tendering phase.
- Open Spaces Planning staff are dealing with subdivision and land use applications with the aim of ensuring assets are designed, constructed and maintained to Council standards prior to handover. Also ensuring existing parks and reserves aren't adversely affected by neighbouring developments.

- Planning staff continue work on standardising and detailing Open Spaces technical requirements for subdivisions and developments and are currently underway with detailed design for the Domain playground upgrade. Also working with the developers of Strowan Fields on the developer's new park/playground which is part of Stage 6 of the development.
- Staff have achieved signoff on its new iteration of traffic management plans and assessments and onsite audits are ongoing.
- Work has commenced on updating the Open Spaces Asset Management Plan (AMP). Consultants Xyst have been engaged following a tender process and will work with staff over the coming months with scheduled completion of the plans in June 2026. The new Open Spaces AMP will be an omnibus plan incorporating Public Conveniences, Cemeteries and Parks and Reserves. Development will incur a significant amount of time for Open Spaces management staff.
- Open Spaces Management staff continue to work on the Open Spaces Asset inventory dataset.
- The refurbishment project of the Rakaia Salmon Sculpture has commenced. Open Spaces Planner is taking the lead on this project with help from the Supervisor Horticulture Health and Safety. This project has a large amount of complexity and logistical challenge and staff have collated a comprehensive plan for achieving the desired outcomes.
- Open Spaces will be fully staffed by Christmas with a new Horticulturist commencing work mid-December.
- Staff have commenced work with the Policy and Strategy team to update the Open Spaces Strategy and Bylaw.
- Staff are working with some aquatic users of Lake Hood around negative community site use and managing conflict's.
- Two operational staff have received training and are now qualified playground inspectors, adding to our capacity. The playground maintenance team are also undergoing training on correctly fitting under swing scuff matting
- Staff have sourced cost estimates for the possible addition of fairy lighting in lower East Street. Part of the pending Annual Plan discussion.

Ashburton Domain

- Recent public visits to the Domain are increasing as the days lengthen. On fine weekends there is a noticeable upswing especially around the playground area.
- The Domain has just had its first audit undertaken by three assessors from the New Zealand Gardens Trust (NZGT), on Sunday 23 November. The Trust is a subsidiary group operating under the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture (RNZIH). There are many gardens in New Zealand assessed under this programme of a star rating system. It drives information to those who partake in Garden Tourism. The opportunity for Ashburton District is to get a garden rating and get onto the published register of notable gardens in New Zealand is a positive step forward promoting what is our business-as-usual service delivery. For further information on the NZGT [Click Here](#)

- The Domain annual beds have all been changed out for summer season plantings. Some colour is already evident.
- A recent water leak in the Domain unearthed a water line that staff were unaware of. It was an old cast-iron two-inch line, 90% full of corrosion and had been capped. This highlights the lacking asset information for all Open Spaces underground assets.
- Roadmarking of the Domain Driveway after resealing has started. We expect contractors will be back to complete soon.
- The Domain only suffered minor damage from the October windstorms. This was a relief especially when we see how colleagues in other centres such as Invercargill fared.
- The Domain paddling pool is now open. There are restrictions here because of the need to reroute toilet users through this site while the Three Waters Team are upgrading the UV water treatment required in the adjoining treatment plant.
- The nursery is currently setting up for the 2026 production cycle.
- The reconfigured wildflower/butterfly garden area is looking good with new seasons growth. Some Monarch Butterflies already about.
- The steering group driving the Ashburton Bike Skills Park confirms favourable progress is being made, especially on the funding front.
- Staff are working on a solution for the crumbling brick nib wall at the Domain Lay-by. Recently a number of the bespoke bricks have been dislodged. Those specific bricks are no longer available.
- Further pricing is underway for the next tranche of repointing of the West Street (SH1) brick wall.
- Renewal lighting from the central carpark to West Street is to commence soon now that the section from there to Grigg Street is complete.
- Pricing is underway for the installation of fixed irrigation into the Domain Annual beds. This methodology will have water conservation benefits which vastly outweigh the current and historic methodologies.

General Parks and Reserves and Gardens

- Playground weekly and monthly safety checks and maintenance continue throughout the district.
- All reserves and neighbourhood parks continued to be mown and some turf is starting to dry off. Edge and tree weed control continues.
- New street trees and replacements trees are being manually watered.
- New seating installed at the following: Westpark Close, Whiteoak Grove, Miller Ave, Jorden Ave/Nursery Drive, Braebrook linkage to Geoff Geering, and Charlesworth Drive. They are being fitted on concrete pads to prevent under-seat scuffing and to enable easy future maintenance around them with machinery.
- Solar lighting bollards installed at Braebrook, Braebrook linkage & Digby Park. This continuation of lighting that started last year, along neighbourhood paths is now complete.

- Broadleaf spraying of turf weed species has been undertaken on a number of parks and reserves.
- Old fencing at Clark Street Park and Hillier Place Park will be replaced in coming months with new wooden bollards. This renewal will make access more inviting to these Parks.
- The Rakaia Salmon Site playground is about to have the final play area updated with compliant safety surfacing – at the correct depth.
- The first scheduled resealing of concrete paths in Baring Square East will occur this, Summer. Work is currently in the pricing phase.
- The Methven CBD lighting project - installation of inground lighting under three trees outside the IHub is complete. There are some remedial works to occur with the underground cabling and an issue with condensation and the volume/direction of light. The luminaries are showing signs of internal moisture, and the strength of the light is not up to expectation. All issues are in the hands of the installer, and the Christchurch based designer/supplier/importer. Staff are now working with all stakeholders to endeavour to get the situation rectified for the community.
- Annual beds in Methven and Rakaia are looking great with new displays settling in well and flowering already.
- Mowing actively continues district wide with growth slightly abating as the weather warms up and ground dries out.
- Various tree issues around the town are in the process of being rectified. Some measures are requiring Arborists others replanting – which will be held over until next Autumn.
- A replacement Trachycarpus Fortunei (Chinese windmill palm) tree was sourced locally to replace one damaged by contractors in the Baring Square East renovations. Its aftercare is being overseen by staff and an Arborist contracted by the original contractor.
- Methven suffered damage from wind in October with some trees lost on South Belt, plan to replant next winter.
- Staff are pricing two soak pits for Baring Square West to alleviate issues in the Northern quadrant.

Public Conveniences

- All facilities are generally working well.
- East Street had an issue with leaks and water pressure challenges. Contractors investigated, dug up the supply lines and undertook repairs.
- Bowyers & Taylors Stream, both toilet blocks had dry vault fans bird proofed and maintenance check of fans undertaken.
- Facility gutters in the process of cleaning.
- Ashburton Domain Main Entrance block had new sprouting installed.
- Playground Toilet in Ashburton Domain were found to have damaged drains causing blockages, contractors will be installing new pipes.
- Work is nearing completion on assessing the capacity and capability of the Hinds Domain septic system and disposal field. Staff have completed a business case for funding which is working through the Annual Plan process.

- Lake Heron and Rakaia South River-mouth replacement public conveniences have been tendered. Detailed design of specific features complete and offsite construction imminent. Both are expected to be ready for onsite changeover in Late Summer/Autumn.

5.5.3 Biodiversity

Recent/Ongoing Activity

- Biodiversity Advisor continues to provide input into the land use change consenting process and applications with “more than minor” adverse environmental effects.
- Cat Management Policy investigation: As recommended by the Biodiversity Advisory Group to the Council, an investigation into the possibility of the council having a cat management bylaw/policy is underway. Council staff have developed a survey and sent to other Council around New Zealand to understand the effectiveness of the policy/bylaw. We expect to conclude the investigation by early 2026.
- The Conservation Minister has indicated his intention to include feral cats, but not stray cats, in the Predator Free 2050 strategy. Managing stray cats, controlling cat breeding and accidental killing of pet cats remains an ongoing challenge.
- Support for the management of the Harris Scientific Reserve continues, with efforts focused on understanding the current management’s vision for the site.
- Council staff are working with Environment Canterbury to control yellow flag iris in the Ashburton Domain Pond. This activity requires Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) approval, which Environment Canterbury already holds for the entire Canterbury region. The current project will be undertaken under ECan’s approval once the risk assessment is completed by the Council Ecologist.
- The revitalised Regional Biodiversity Strategy was adopted in August 2025. Council staff are currently reviewing the strategy to ensure alignment with the ADC Biodiversity Strategy. Elected members will be updated on the outcome by the end of the second quarter of 2026.

Completed and Planned Projects

Completed Projects

- Planting day at the Harris Scientific Reserve completed on Sunday 14 September, which saw over 40 community members in attendance.
- ABE site planting- Infill planting of existing planted areas completed in September 2025. Planting on this site will continue until all open areas are filled up.
- Lake Clearwater settlement shelterbelt- 26 beech trees planted, and irrigation installed to managed drought over summer.
- Lake Clearwater settlement green area planting- 120 plants supplied to LCHHA for planting at this site. Planting completed in October 2025.
- Weed sprays at the Lake Camp/Clearwater, Ashton Beach and Wakanui Beach Restoration site completed.
- Pest animal control completed at the Lake Camp/Clearwater in October 2025. Following 2026 season, pest animal control at this site will be undertaken in September, outside camping season and within active leporid (rabbit and hares) breeding period.

Planned plantings and pest control projects for 2026

- Hinds' septic soakage field planting- Project brief already sent to contractors for costing. Will not progress until certainty on the overall Hinds Domain septic system project.
- Stage 2 Taylors Stream Reserve planting- Bridge side slope and infill planting – still in planning phase.
- Stage 2 Bowyers Stream planting. Wet areas beside the plantation that are difficult to mow and infill if needed – still in planning phase.
- EA Network Center drainage channel and slopes- progressive planting until 2028.
- Ashburton Dog park adjoining the riverbank- community event. Weed Spray completed and planting with suitable natives.

Planned community Volunteering events for 2026

- World Biodiversity Day Planting 2026- Wakanui Beach Reserve Restoration – Sunday May 22, 2026.
- Planting at the EA Network Centre drainage channel scheduled for early April 2026 and to be undertaken by a community group, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.
- Lake Camp/Clearwater Wilding Pine Removal – April/May 2026- exact date to be confirmed.
- Annual Harris Scientific Reserve Planting – 2nd weekend in September (annually- collaborative event with Ashburton Community Conservation Trust).
- Community volunteer pest control workshops (Methven, Foothills, High Country, and Rakaia) to be held in Staveley and Rakaia