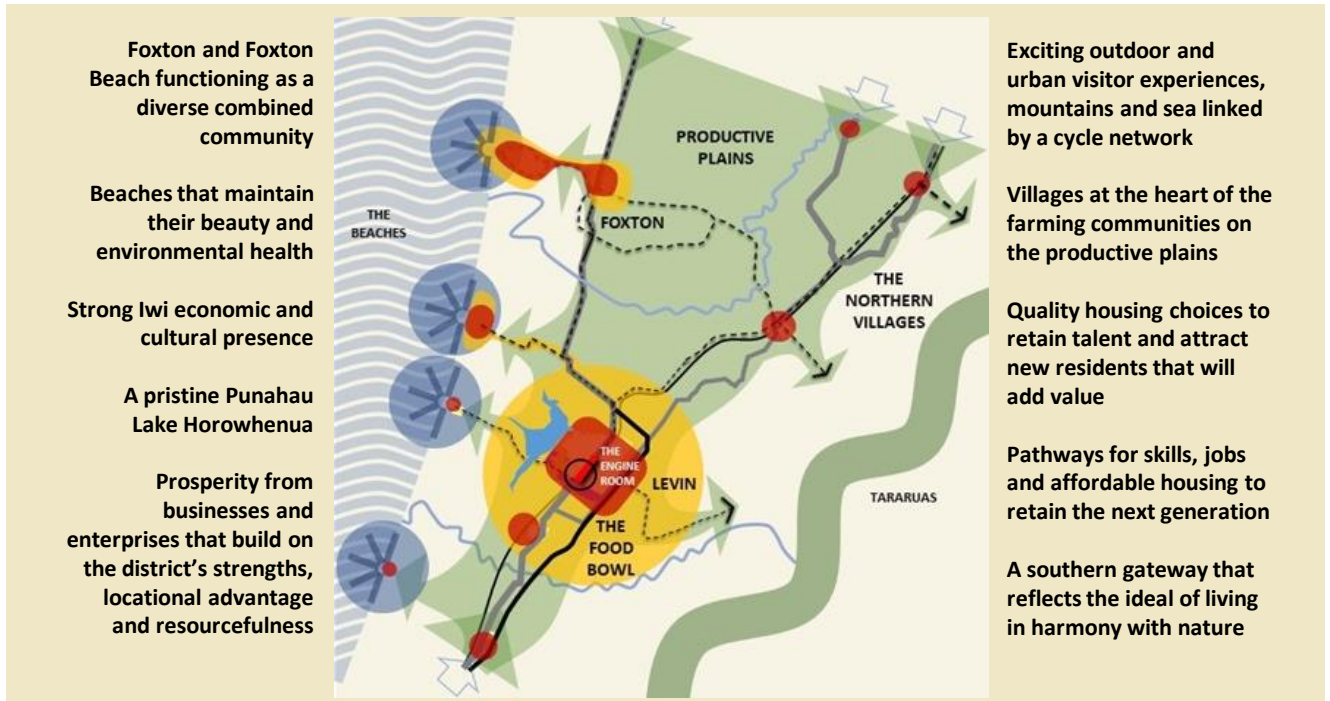


A BLUEPRINT FOR HOROWHENUA

Horowhenua has resilient neighbourhoods and communities with pathways to skills, jobs, and affordable housing. Horowhenua is a favoured destination for visitors and new residents who wish to add to the district's prosperity and wellbeing.



AFFORDABILITY

- A Streamlined Affordable Housing initiative
- More Community Housing Providers, Kāinga Ora houses and retirement villages
- Release serviced land supply ahead of market demands

THREE WATERS

- Prepare for the Water Reform, review infrastructure vulnerabilities and investigate innovative funding options

MOVEMENT

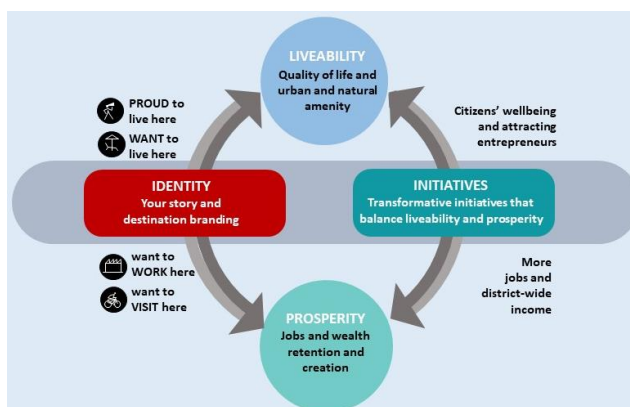
- Ensure Ō2NL integrates with the community and continue advocating for the Levin passenger train station

EDUCATION AND SKILLS

- Support education for professional services, including counselling and family support services
- Develop a workforce plan for skills development

BLUEPRINT ACTIONS

Actions support both liveability and prosperity. The most transformational are prioritised.



IWI

- Strengthen Iwi relationship with Council and assist in capacity building
- Support Iwi housing and economic development aspirations

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

- Support initiatives to restore Punahau / Lake Horowhenua

EMPLOYMENT

- Support the Economic Development Strategy
- Strengthen the visitor economy with improved cycling and tourism offer
- Develop a district-wide horticulture strategy for sustainable food production

FOOD CULTURE

- Promote a food culture with a destination hub and strategies for greater enjoyment and improved community health outcomes

IDENTITY

- Advance the Destination Management Strategy
- Define identity and highlight opportunities in a Prospectus

COMMUNITIES

- Enable the community plans
- Implement the Transforming Taitoko / Levin Town Centre plan priorities

SUMMARY OF THE BLUEPRINT ACTIONS

Blueprint Action 1: Enable more affordable housing choices

1. Implement the Streamlined Affordable Housing initiative as a pilot project for approximately 18 months.
2. Engage proactively with Kāinga Ora to secure more social housing.
3. Provide guidance on strategic or optimal locations for larger footprint retirement villages or centres.

Blueprint Action 2: Attract more Community Housing Providers

1. Take a lead in attracting community housing providers to the district and undertake a community housing provider initiative, by bringing parties together and facilitating the initiation of projects. This could relate to land owned by the Council, other institutions, or private developers.
2. Consider relief from development contributions and other fees to support community housing projects.

Blueprint Action 3: Unlock land supply for development

1. Progress District Plan Changes, combined with ongoing land supply monitoring and analysis on housing costs and infrastructure needs.

Blueprint Action 4: Provide robust three-waters infrastructure

1. Monitor infrastructure provision to ensure newly zoned land can be serviced promptly.
2. Verify funding demands and their timing to understand the situation with greater accuracy. If appropriate, explore ideas around funding and innovation for further investigation. However, this may be influenced by the Water Reform which may result in a different funding model.
3. Review the district's Infrastructure vulnerabilities in the event that the delivery and management of these would sit with a different entity instead of Council.

Blueprint Action 5: Support and enable Iwi aspirations

1. Engage with Iwi on a range of provisional ideas for Iwi involvement with the Council developed during the Blueprint production process and which draw on the principles agreed in the Wellington Regional Growth Framework.
2. Support and strengthen Iwi relationship and engagement processes and invest in capacity building for this.
3. Advocate for and support plans and initiatives to restore Punahau / Lake Horowhenua.
4. Support the development of Māori housing.
5. Support Iwi economic development aspirations.

Blueprint Action 6: Communicate a clearly defined identity for the district

1. Once complete, implement the actions recommended in the Destination Management Strategy.
2. Create a website presenting the district's potential with planned 'strategic moves' and ongoing significant investments.
3. Create an interactive map showing the spatial distribution of key planned and ongoing developments in the district.
4. Produce a prospectus highlighting the district's positive, regionally significant attributes and presenting its opportunities for the public, private and not-for-profit sectors.

Blueprint Action 7: Secure jobs in key sectors and attract more visitors

1. EDS and logistics: Support and implement the employment sectors proposals in the EDS as well as logistics.
2. Visitor Industry: Work with stakeholders within the community to identify and stimulate the implementation of ideas to attract more visitors, e.g. improved cycling infrastructure, wider tourism offering, more and higher-quality visitor accommodation and food-related attractions, supported by an expanded communications strategy.
3. Horticulture: Develop, with stakeholders within the community, a regional strategy for sustainable food production to ensure equitable food security and efficient supply chains and retail infrastructure. Include an emphasis on employment opportunities, workforce development, and tourism.

Blueprint Action 8: Nurture and promote a food culture

1. Investigate the development of a multi-use market building and commence longer-term engagement with horticulture and food processors around a destination hub for associated food culture activities.
2. Advocate for Regional Council and Central Government funding for projects that support the food culture proposition and promote the horticulture sector and sustainable growing practices.
3. Commence longer-term planning for being a pilot for improved health and nutrition outcomes, possibly with Mid-central DHB.

Blueprint Action 9: Support education and skills development

1. Work with stakeholders within the community to identify and stimulate the implementation of ideas for offering more education and skills training opportunities and possibly expansion of existing ones.
2. Implement a workforce plan to support the key sectors and also support greater job creation in emerging, higher growth sectors.
3. Strengthen education in the professional services category, including counselling and family support services.

Blueprint Action 10: Keep the district moving

1. Undertake planning and design work regarding Ō2NL, based on the strategic objectives for the district related to connectivity, logistics related employment and presentation to travellers from the south. Focus on the locations of interchanges and crossings, as well as how changes to the movement network influence the way the district is accessed and perceived. Accompany this with a strategy for 'gateways' into the district and its towns.
2. Advocate with NZTA for a movement network that best integrates Horowhenua, and specifically Levin, Shannon and Foxton, with Ō2NL.
3. Implement the Active Transport Strategy to form a connected network of shared paths and cycleways. Place specific focus on the Shared Pathway network and the Town Spine in Levin; the Mountains to the Sea corridors; any missing links; connectivity to key community facilities; and routes attractive for tourism.
4. Consider opportunities for cycling improvements associated with the development of infrastructure to help with stormwater management and attenuation.
5. Continue advocating and planning for the upgrade of the Levin passenger train station and improved rail station access with KiwiRail and regional transport committees.
6. Work with the Wellington Regional Growth Partners on the Levin Structure Plan to guide longer term development and improvement of the station catchment.
7. Consider housing pilot projects to ensure affordable housing outcomes are included with the transformation of the station precinct.

Blueprint Action 11: Support our communities and centres

1. Continue implementing the Transforming Taitoko / Levin Town Centre Strategy and activating the Levin Town Centre, as prioritised through the LTP.
2. Develop a Master Plan to conceptually visualise the implementation of the Transforming Taitoko / Levin Town Centre Strategy.
3. Continue supporting the implementation of the Foxton Futures implementation report.

Blueprint Action 12: Work in partnership with our community to achieve locally owned vision and goals

1. Facilitate and enable community led development
2. Celebrate our people and Horowhenua's community led initiatives
3. Provide capacity and capability building support.
4. Foster an environment that promotes a vibrant community.
5. Improve Council engagement with communities.