Community Wellbeing Dashboard | May 2026

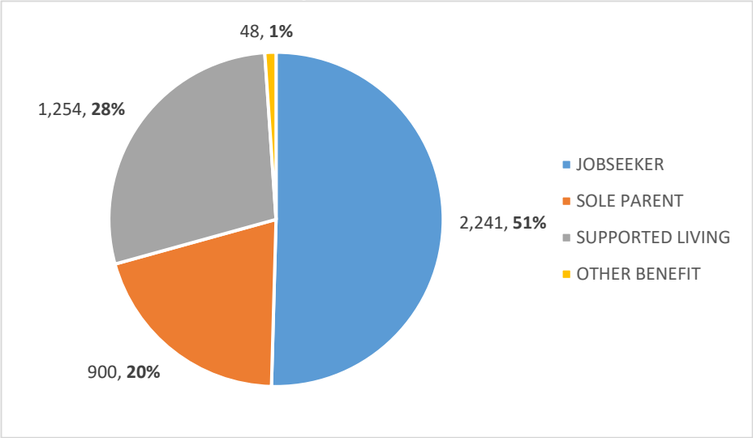
Horowhenua DISTRICT COUNCIL

POINTS OF INTEREST:

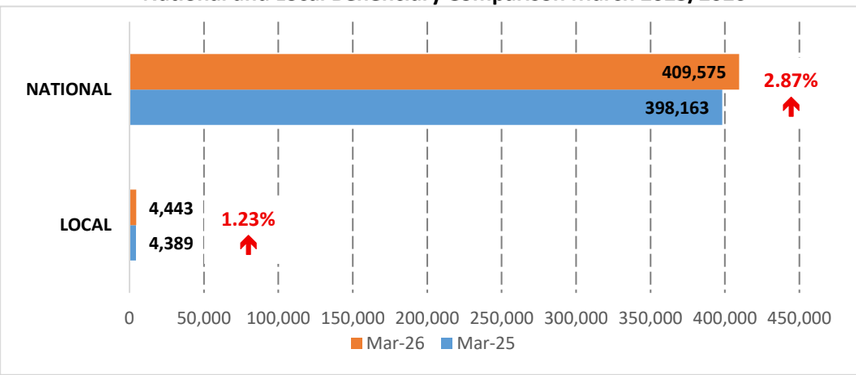
1. **Local beneficiary numbers increased by 1.23%.**
2. **During 2024/2025, 26% of patients receiving care from Arohanui Hospice were residents of Horowhenua.**
3. **237 Horowhenua MSD clients exited from a benefit in the last quarter.**
4. **1,824 Horowhenua Residents registered for Total Mobility Scheme.**
5. **Number of people on Horowhenua Housing Register increased by nine.**
6. **The majority of Horowhenua car cashes occur at the speed limit of 50km.**

INCOME, SOCIAL WELFARE AND BENEFICIARY SUPPORT

Local Beneficiary Numbers as at 31 March 2026



National and Local Beneficiary Comparison March 2025/2026



Source: MSD

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Arohanui Hospice Impact – 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025

Where Patients Live	
Manawatu (inc Palmerston North	57%
Tararua	10%
Horowhenua	26%
Rangitikei	7%

Place of Death	
Private Residence	36.14%
Residential Aged Care	33.38%
Hospice	21.39%
Hospital	21.39%

Patients' Ethnicities	
NZ European	71.32%
Māori	14.39%
Pasifika	1.85%
Asian	2.03%
Other	10.41%

Cancer	Non-Cancer
61%	39%

Partially funded by Mid-Central and Whanganui District Health Boards, however 48% of funding comes from the community. In the current financial year $4.7 million is required to be raised to address core operating shortfall.

Please note Arohanui Hospice is not the only provider of hospice care services in Horowhenua.

Source: Arohanui Hospice Impact Report

EMPLOYMENT / YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

MSD Horowhenua Employment Update March 2026

237 Horowhenua clients exited from a benefit this quarter	**73** Horowhenua clients were helped to secure employment this quarter by MSD staff
21.5% ↑ Benefit exits into employment rose this quarter compared to last year	**5.6%** ↓ Less Youth Clients than the same quarter last year
27 Flexi-wage subsidies were granted this quarter*	**2** Mana in Mahi subsidies were granted this quarter*

Top five industries we have placed clients into this quarter

- Manufacturing
- Agriculture-Forestry and Fishing
- Retail
- Health Care and Social Assistance
- Construction

Source: MSD

Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs Programme

103 Year to Date MSD Referrals	**21** No# of MSD Employment Outcomes (as at 14 May 2026)
Driver's Licence Support Driving Lessons – 14 Defensive Driving Course – 2 Driver's Licence upgrade (to restricted or full) - 11	**Mahi Caravan** No# of Mahi Caravan sessions – 14 Forklift Licence – 12 Wheels, Tracks & Rollers – 1 Traffic Management Worker – 8 Customer Service & Hospitality - 10

Source: Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs

GROWTH AND POPULATION

Horizons Regional Council Total Mobility Scheme

The Total Mobility Scheme is funded by the New Zealand Transport Agency/Waka Kotahi and Horizons Regional Council to provide transport options to people with disabilities or mobility issues. The scheme is available in Horowhenua, Palmerston North, Feilding and Whanganui. Passengers' numbers for Horowhenua have increased over the last four years by about 40%, this is a result of our rising population in general and older population.

	2025-2026 1 July to 31 Dec	2024-2025	2023-2024
Number of Horowhenua Residents enrolled in Total Mobility Taxi Scheme	1824	1752	1750
Funded subsidy	75% To decrease to 65% 1 July 2026	75%	75%
Maximum Subsidy Amount	$15	$15	$15
Number of Trips	38,352	33,585	28,226
Expenditure	333,929	286,197	237,377

Source: Horizons Regional Council

HOUSING

Horowhenua Housing Register as at 31 March 2026

December 2025	March 2026	Change
153	162	↑ 9

Horowhenua Emergency Housing Special Needs Grant as at 31 March 2026

	December 2025	March 2026	Change
Number of Grants	24	12	↓ 12
Number of Applicants	6	6	→ 0
Total Amount Granted	$26,810	$15,104	↓ 11,706

Locally: There were 162 applicants on the Housing Register as at 31 March 2026, an increase of 9 or 5.9% percent from this time last year, 31 March 2025.

Nationally: There were 19,704 applicants on the Housing Register as at 31 March 2026, an increase of 2.1% percent from this time last year, 31 March 2025.

Source: MSD

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Number of Crashes in Horowhenua

	2025	2024	2023	2022
Number of Crashes	272	298	276	295
Crash Description				
Fatal	3	-	4	8
Minor	81	87	64	82
Non-injury	171	185	186	179
Serious	17	26	22	26
Crash by Speed Limit				
30km	-	1	1	1
50km	136	140	153	154
60km	4	1	7	-
70km	2	9	3	8
80km	63	79	49	55
100km	65	64	66	73
Blank	2	4	-	4

30 crashes so far in 2026.

Source: Waka Kotahi Open Data Portal