

**VOTE
2025**

LOCAL ELECTIONS



BULLER

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Te Kaunihera O Kawatiri

Pre-election Report

2025

Governance at a glance

The Buller District Council is made up of the Mayor and ten councillors, including the Deputy Mayor. The Mayor is elected by the entire district, while councillors are elected from three wards: Westport, Inangahua, and Seddon.

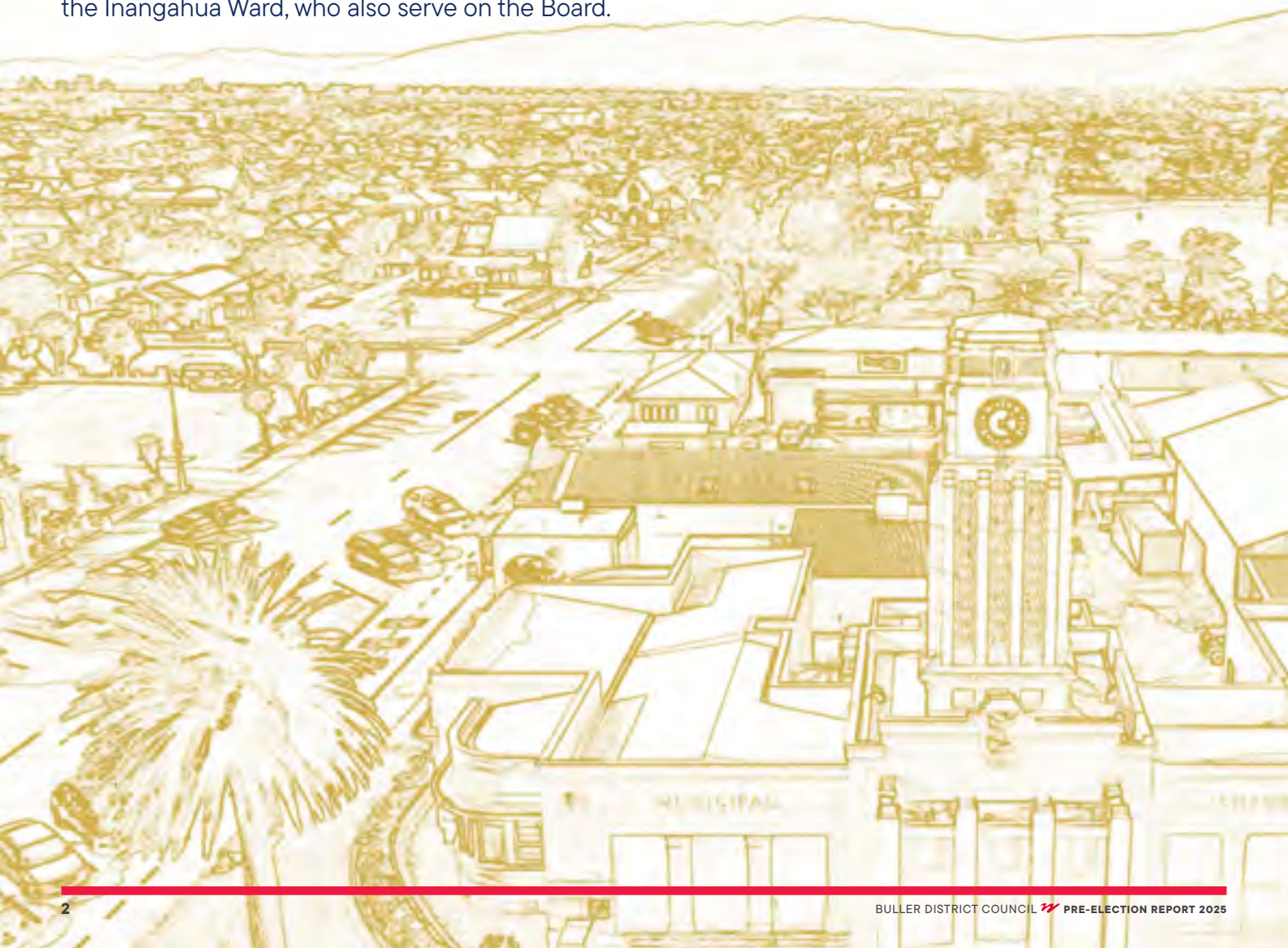
Although elected from specific areas, all councillors are responsible for making decisions in the best interests of the entire Buller District. They participate in Council committees and play a key role in setting policy, approving plans, and overseeing the delivery of services and infrastructure.

Alongside the elected Council, the Inangahua Community Board provides local representation for the Inangahua area. It consists of four elected community members, plus the two councillors from the Inangahua Ward, who also serve on the Board.

The Board advocates for community interests and supports local decision-making. Both the Council and the Community Board are elected every three years.

The Council also operates a Risk and Audit Committee, which, as part of its duties, monitors the Council's financial performance and the performance of its Council Controlled Organisation (Buller Holdings Ltd). It also oversees the 11 Reserve and Hall Subcommittees as well as the Creative Communities Scheme Subcommittee. These groups support local engagement and provide oversight in key areas such as accountability, community development, and facility management.

Council is responsible for setting the district's overall strategic direction and approving the annual budget, ensuring that resources are used effectively and responsibly to serve the community.



Partnership with Mana Whenua

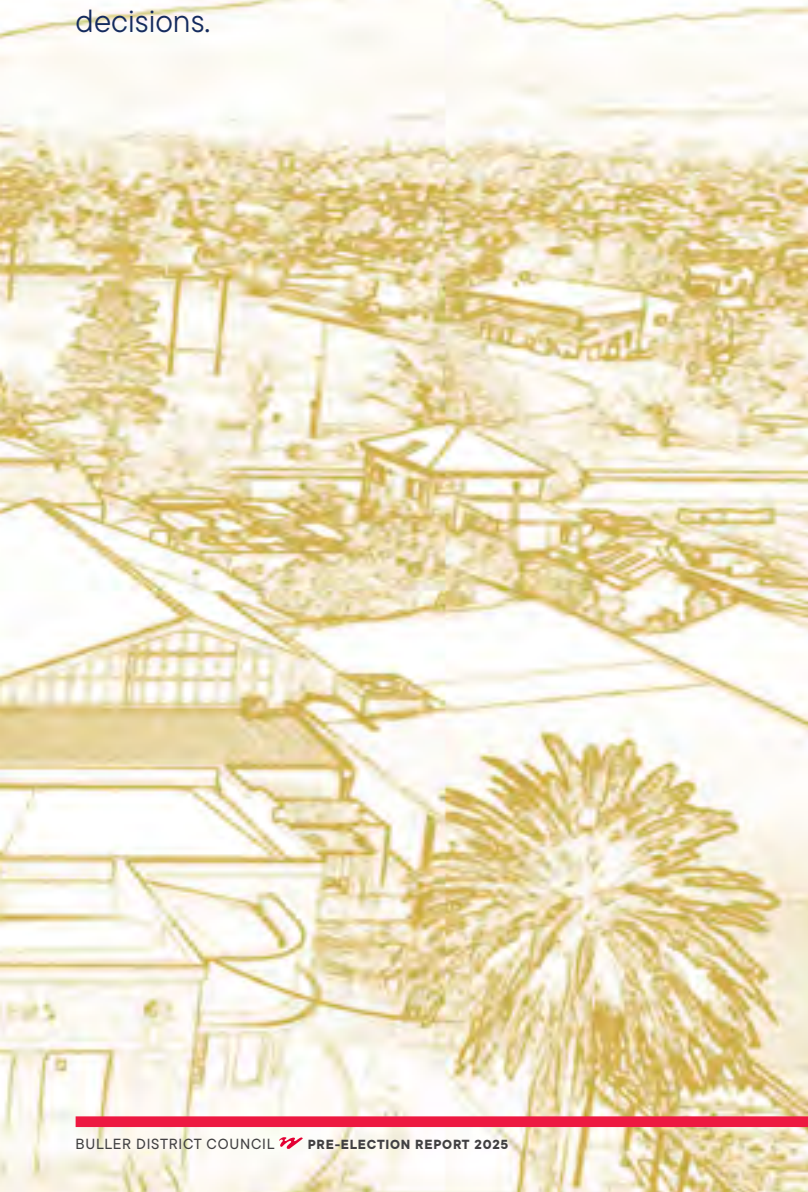
Council works in partnership with local iwi to ensure tangata whenua have a meaningful voice in local decision-making.

One iwi representative has full voting rights on the Risk and Audit Committee and participates in Council meetings in a non-voting capacity. This arrangement reflects our commitment to genuine partnership and ensures iwi perspectives contribute to Council’s work across cultural, social, environmental, economic, wellbeing, and legal matters.

Our partnership with iwi continues to evolve, guided by a shared commitment to upholding Te Tiriti o Waitangi and improving outcomes for tangata whenua and the wider community. Iwi representation at the Council table ensures cultural values and perspectives are reflected in our decisions.

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About this report

This Pre-Election Report provides an independent, high-level summary of Buller District Council's work, challenges, and financial outlook leading into the 2025 local elections.

It is designed to give the public, including prospective candidates and voters, a clear and factual overview of the Council's direction—what's been achieved, what's underway, and what's on the horizon.

While this report is required under Section 99A of the Local Government Act 2002, its purpose goes beyond legislative compliance. It's about opening up the conversation, supporting informed public discussion and encouraging thoughtful participation in local democracy.

Whether you're thinking of standing for Council, deciding who to vote for, or simply interested in how your district is managed, we hope this report helps you feel more informed and more involved.

Section 99A of the Local Government Act 2002 requires that a pre-election report must not contain any statement by, or photograph of, any elected member, or any narrative produced by the mayor or chairperson. This document complies fully with the Act in this respect.

What you'll find in this report

- **Strategic direction and key challenges**
- **Updates on major projects and progress**
- **Financial outlook and funding strategy**
- **Election information and how to get involved**

Message from the Chief Executive Officer

Nau mai, haere mai, welcome!

We live in an awesome part of New Zealand. Our 8,574 square kilometres boasts two national parks, one forest park, and two heritage areas, all offering the opportunity to experience peace and tranquillity or excitement and adventure. Our district is unbeatable in its diversity, and a great playground to work, live and explore.

Working for Buller community as Chief Executive of Buller District Council, is a great privilege. Prior to the election I get the chance to present the 'state of the Council' to our community. This document, required by the Local Government Act before every local body election, serves to provide information that promotes public discussion about the issues facing our local authority.

Whether you are considering running for a seat on the Council or preparing to exercise your right to vote, this report outlines some of the district's most important strategic issues ahead of the 2025 local body elections.

Local elections offer a great opportunity to make a meaningful difference in the community you live in and love. If you're reading this report, you may be thinking about standing for Council or simply want to be well-informed before voting in the 2025 local body election.

I encourage potential candidates and residents alike to read this report, gaining insight into the significant challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for the Buller District.

Looking forward

Planning for the social, cultural, environmental, and economic future of Buller District is a significant responsibility, further complicated by legislative uncertainty. Meeting new compliance standards for water supplies, managing our critical infrastructure backlog, and balancing the increasing costs of operation with affordability are key challenges we must address.

This is why being an elected member is such a crucial role.

While change is inevitable, and challenges will always exist, our job at Buller District Council remains the same—to support Council’s goals and ensure Buller continues to thrive into the future.

It is an exciting time to be part of local government and to call Buller home. I look forward to seeing who steps up to help shape our district’s future. If you’re not standing for election, be sure to enrol and be ready to vote!



Simon Pickford
Chief Executive Officer

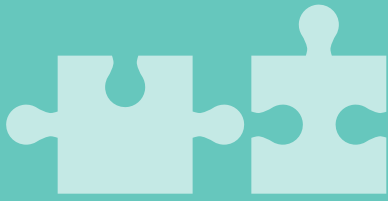


The role of Council

Buller District will be governed by the Mayor and 10 councillors, including the Deputy Mayor. Councillors are elected to represent the district and ensure that all communities have a voice in Council decision-making.

Over the past three years, Council has worked diligently, through challenging times in Aotearoa, to implement plans that will allow the Buller District Council to thrive into the future.

The core purpose of local government is to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities, both now and into the future.



Challenges and opportunities

Buller District is a fantastic place to live, work, and play. However, we face significant challenges, particularly in terms of affordability and the investment required to maintain and upgrade infrastructure in line with both regulatory requirements and community expectations.

Following the disastrous floods of July 2021 and February 2022, efforts have been made to build resilience, and we are currently engaged in a once-in-a-generation master planning process for the future. This is not a plan to relocate the town but rather to create resilience should it be required.

In June 2022, the West Coast Regional Council, Buller District Council, and Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae submitted a co-investment proposal, at the request of the Minister of Local Government to improve Westport's flood resilience. Budget 2023 allocated \$22.9 million for a range of flood resilience projects.

The Regional Council and District Council face a substantial work programme over the next two years. Several flood mitigation projects are currently underway, and some have already been completed to reduce the flood risks in Westport while establishing a foundation for future preparedness.

Over the next three years, local government is set to undergo significant transformation – water reform under Local Water Done Well, building regulations, planning legislation, and many other areas that shape our everyday lives. The Council will need to take a broad, strategic view to capitalise on the exciting opportunities ahead.

Economic outlook

Historically, Buller's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has been heavily reliant on mining industries. However, since the pandemic, our district has experienced a boost in both domestic and international tourism, has continued to welcome new residents, including those from overseas and has even grown slightly as city-dwellers relocate to our beautiful area.



Buller District 2.3%
National average 1.4%
GDP growth in 2024

Buller District's GDP grew by 2.3% in 2024, compared to 1.4% growth across the rest of New Zealand.



Buller District 67.0%
National average 10.2%
Tourism sector growth in 2024

Economic output from Buller District's tourism sector increased by 67.0% in 2024, significantly surpassing New Zealand's national growth rate of 10.2%. This indicates a promising shift towards economic diversification, a trend we aim to maintain.



2025 Overview of Buller District Council

A snapshot of who lives here, what we have, and what Council looks after:



10,446

Buller District
Population
*2023 Stats NZ



8,574 km²

Land Area (3rd largest
territorial authority in
New Zealand)



\$41.3m

Annual Budget in total
operating expenditure
(2025/26)



8,150

Number of Rateable
Properties



\$479m

Council Asset
Replacement Value

Major Assets Managed:



**Property, Parks &
Reserves**



**Waste &
recycling**



**Roading &
Transport**



Drinking water



Stormwater



Wastewater



Key projects in focus

Westport drinking water: Trunk main extension (Queen St-Alma Road)

This is a Level of Service improvement project that will see the new trunk main extended from Queen Street, under the Buller Bridge and out to Alma Road/Carters Beach. The new main will provide more capacity and offer increased resilience in catastrophic events. The new main has significantly reduced water loss in our network.



Estimated Capital Cost:
\$3.2m 2028/2029

Westport drinking water: Re-establish the North Branch/ tunnel lining

This renewal project will see the existing intake (from the South Branch of Giles Creek) augmented with water from the North Branch. The North Branch was connected via a tunnel that collapsed decades ago. The North Branch water is less turbid than the South Branch and will provide a more consistent intake of treatable water. This work requires an on-site tunnelling machine, which will also be used after the North Branch work is complete to line tunnel #1 from the intake.



Estimated Capital Cost:
\$6.2m 2026/27 and 2027/28



Image credit:
ISTHMUS



North Branch Tunnel Lining

Untreated drinking water supplies: Waimangaroa, Mokihinui, Little Wanganui

This is a level of service improvement for these untreated supplies. Initial discussions with Taumata Arowai (NZ Drinking Water Regulator) have suggested that our smaller, untreated water supplies will simply be unaffordable to upgrade to the proposed minimum standards. BDC has adopted an approach to upgrade these supplies to provide raw water suitable for end-user self-treatment (a small filter and UV treatment unit) that property owners will install and operate to provide potable water. These upgrades include turbidity sensors and solar-powered intake valves that will allow BDC to stop taking water that is not clean enough to self-treat. Settlement and storage tanks will provide water when the intake is turned off.



Waimangaroa

Estimated Capital Cost:
\$666,000 2027/2028



Mokihinui

Estimated Capital Cost:
\$188,000 2027/2028



Little Wanganui

Estimated Capital Cost:
\$216,000 2027/2028



Waimangaroa



Mokihinui



Little Wanganui

Westport's wastewater: Riley Place Pump Station and network replacement

The Riley Place pump station is under capacity, and the pipes that feed it are badly located and in poor condition. Replacing the pump station and network pipes will also greatly contribute to solving the combined wastewater and stormwater issues.



Estimated Capital Cost:
\$1.85m 2026/2028

Rubbish management: Upgrade to the Westport and Reefton Transfer Stations

Solid Waste collected at Westport and Reefton is freighted to the York Valley landfill in Nelson. York Valley has insisted that BDC compact the waste better, so BDC will need to purchase two suitable compactors.



Estimated Capital Cost:
**Westport \$0.9m 2025/2026 and
Reefton \$615,000 2026/2027**



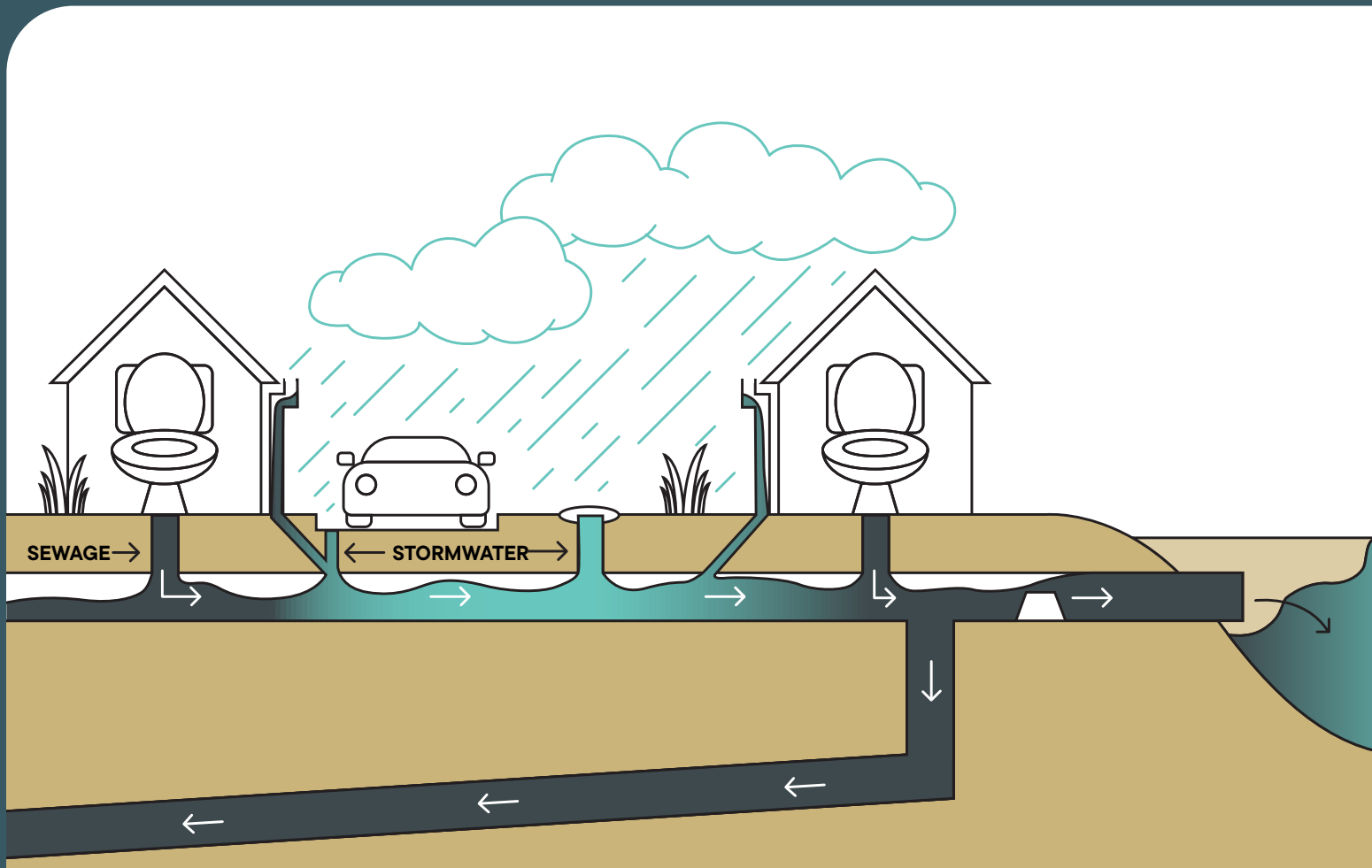
Wastewater and Stormwater Separation

The Westport and Reefton Wastewater systems are being overwhelmed in medium intensity rainfall events that result in overflows to rivers.

Westport's Resource Consent for these discharges is being renewed but will require significant investment to reduce the amount of stormwater entering the wastewater network. The plan to rectify and fund this work was one of the key consultation topics in the Long-Term Plan 2025-2034. For Reefton, their discharge resource consent expires in late August 2028.

Similar separation works will need to occur to meet the expected renewal conditions. However, unlike Westport, Reefton does not have an existing stormwater network. In our Long-Term Plan, we have allocated \$200,000 in funding to investigate and price options that will inform the methodology to adopt and, consequently, budget for future consultation with the Reefton community.

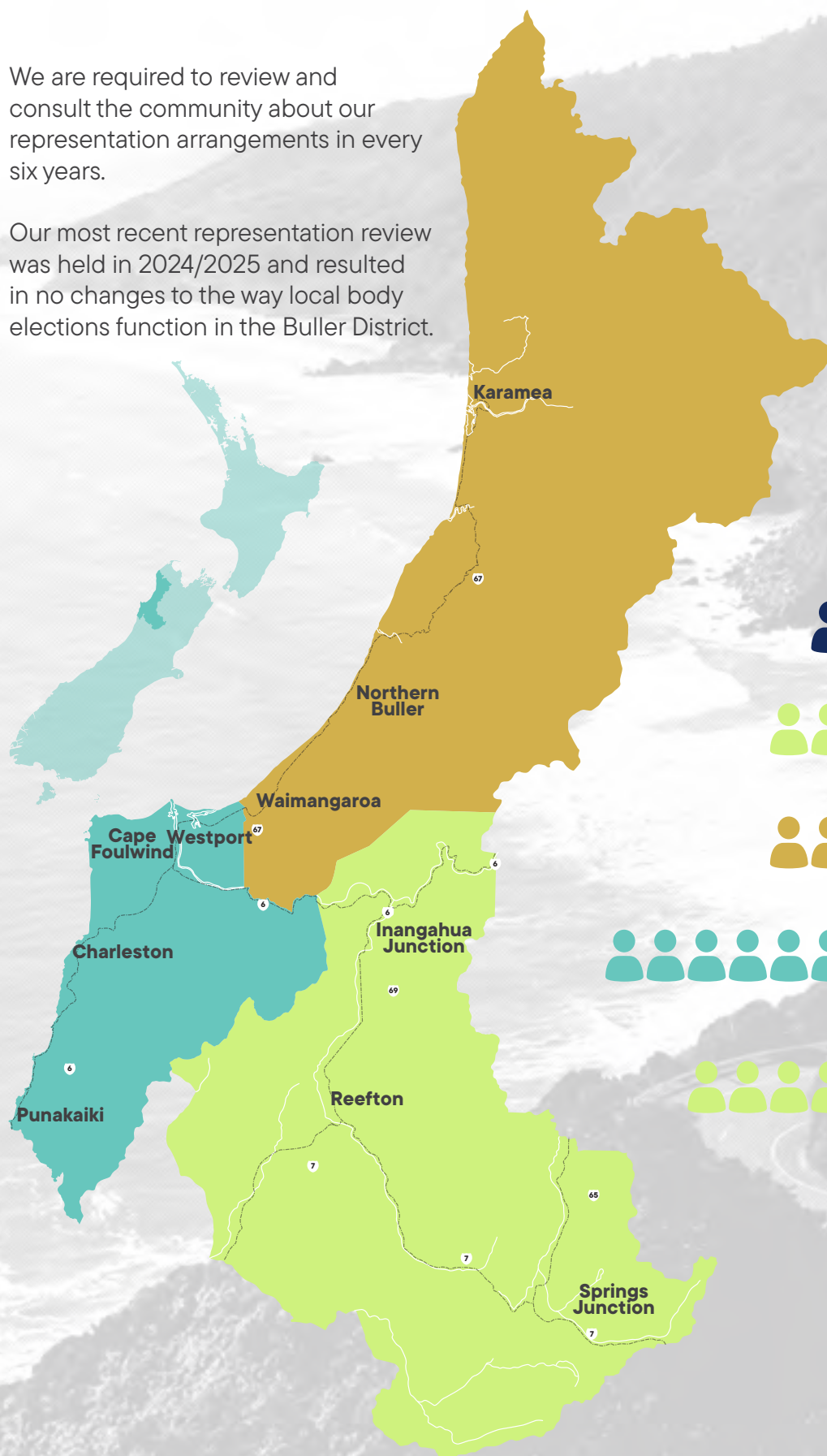
Once these vital separation works are complete, both communities will benefit from reduced overflows into our precious waterways and significant efficiencies



Ward profile

We are required to review and consult the community about our representation arrangements in every six years.

Our most recent representation review was held in 2024/2025 and resulted in no changes to the way local body elections function in the Buller District.



Roles to elect:

Elections are currently held for:



One Mayor



Two Councillors to represent the Inangahua Ward



Two Councillors to represent the Seddon Ward



Six Councillors to represent the Westport Ward



Four community members to represent the Inangahua Community Board

Westport Ward

The Westport Ward is home to the district's largest population and serves as Buller's primary hub for commerce, infrastructure, and services. It includes the township of Westport as well as surrounding coastal communities like Punakaiki, Cape Foulwind, and Carters Beach—each characterised by their unique traits and strengths. Six councillors are elected to represent the ward and work closely with residents to reflect local priorities at the Council table.

Key features

- Administrative and service centre for the district
- Home to the Westport Airport, Westport Harbour and Kawatiri Dredge
- Significant investment through the Resilient Westport flood protection programme
- Access to education, health, and emergency services
- Coastal attractions, including the Paparoa Track, Punakaiki Pancake Rocks, Cape Foulwind and Tauranga Bay seal colony

Projects and priorities

- Ongoing flood recovery and infrastructure resilience upgrades
- Westport Harbour redevelopment, dredging enhancements, and logistics improvements
- Stormwater/wastewater separation
- Hall upgrades, helping maintain community hubs and access to key facilities



6 Councillors are elected to represent
Westport ward



Gross domestic product

\$514m | **52.7%**

% of Buller District, 2024



Filled jobs

2,844 | **63.3%**

% of Buller District, 2024



Estimated resident population

6,740 | **63.6%**

% of Buller District, 2024



Indigenous land cover, hectares

94,982 | **85.1%**

% of total area, 2018

Inangahua Ward

Inangahua Ward covers a vast rural area including Reefton, Inangahua Junction, Blacks Point, Crushington, Maruia, Springs Junction, and other small localities. This ward is centrally located in Buller’s heartland and is steeped in gold rush heritage, forestry, farming, and community spirit. Two councillors are elected to represent the ward, working closely with residents to reflect local priorities at the Council table.

Key features

- Reefton, known as “Quartzopolis”, was New Zealand’s first town with public electricity and remains a hub for heritage, tourism, forestry, coal mining, and farming.
- Inangahua, located at the junction of the Inangahua and Buller rivers, features an earthquake museum and serves as an important local service point.
- Blacks Point, a historic mining settlement with a museum housed in a restored 19th-century church.
- Crushington, birthplace of Olympic gold-medallist Jack Lovelock.
- Maruia, known for dairy farming and proximity to the Lewis Pass – both connect communities through active rural economies.
- Springs Junction, a key inland junction and transport corridor, serving as a gateway between the West Coast and Canterbury regions.

Projects and priorities

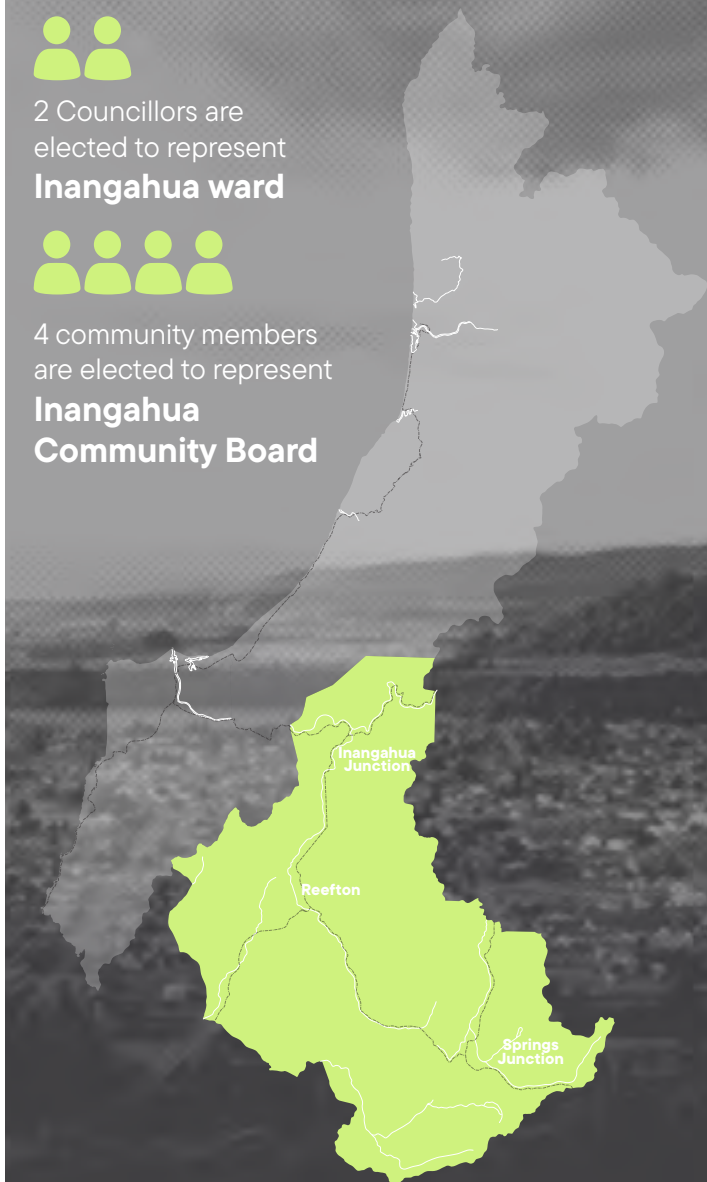
- Water safety and resilience, including upgrades to drinking and rural water schemes to meet compliance and safety standards.
- Hall upgrades, helping maintain community hubs and access to key facilities



2 Councillors are elected to represent Inangahua ward



4 community members are elected to represent Inangahua Community Board



Gross domestic product
\$246m | **25.3%**
% of Buller District, 2024



Filled jobs
997 | **22.2%**
% of Buller District, 2024



Estimated resident population
1970 | **18.6%**
% of Buller District, 2024



Indigenous land cover, hectares
282,943 | **88.5%**
% of total area, 2018

Seddon Ward

Seddon Ward stretches along the northern and central West Coast and includes the communities of Karamea, Little Wanganui, Seddonville, Ngakawau, Granity, Hector, and Waimangaroa. With its sweeping coastline, remote settlements, and rugged inland plateaus, the ward is rich in character, landscape, and history. Two councillors are elected to represent the ward, working closely with residents to reflect local priorities at the Council table.

Key features

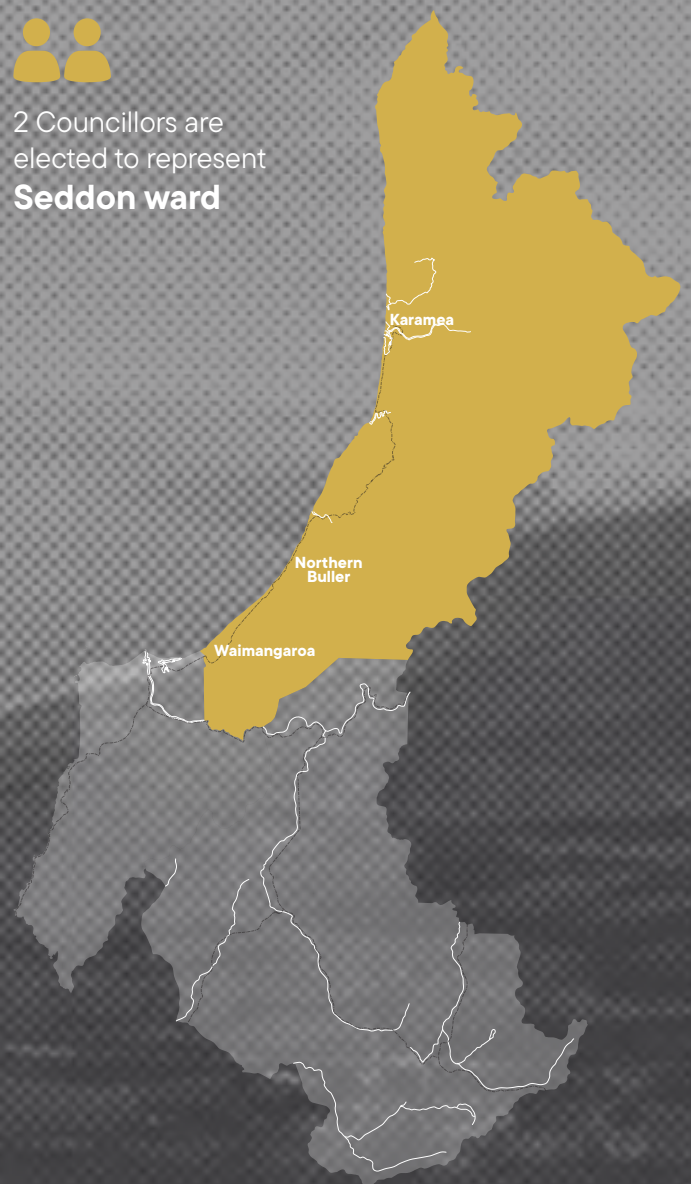
- Karamea, a remote and self-reliant coastal community and gateway to the Heaphy Track and Kahurangi National Park
- Little Wanganui: known for whitebaiting, surf, and a strong rural identity
- Seddonville: a small settlement with historical links to early mining and forestry
- Ngakawau, Granity & Hector: coastal villages with proud coal-mining heritage and close community networks
- Denniston Plateau: a striking inland landscape with significant ecological value and coal history
- Stockton Plateau: home to Stockton Mine, one of New Zealand's largest coal mining operations
- Waimangaroa: a residential community close to the Buller Gorge and Denniston access roads

Projects and priorities

- Coastal and environmental planning, including erosion control and climate adaptation for low-lying areas
- Hall upgrades, helping maintain community hubs and access to key facilities



2 Councillors are elected to represent
Seddon ward



Gross domestic product

\$215m | **22.0%**

% of Buller District, 2024



Filled jobs

619 | **13.8%**

% of Buller District, 2024



Estimated resident population

1,900 | **17.9%**

% of Buller District, 2024



Indigenous land cover, hectares

347,194 | **95.8%**

% of total area, 2018



Shaping Buller:

Our challenges and opportunities

The Buller District is a unique part of Aotearoa, New Zealand. We are the third-largest territorial authority in terms of land area, but one of the smallest in terms of population. Our communities are spread out across rugged landscapes and remote settlements, which creates both challenges and opportunities in how we deliver services, manage infrastructure, and support local wellbeing in an affordable manner.

Despite the scale of these challenges, our district has strong foundations: a resilient population, a strong local identity, and a rich natural and cultural heritage. We also have opportunities to reshape how we respond to climate change, support housing growth, and revitalise our communities.

Some of the most pressing issues we face over the next decade include:



Climate change and natural hazards

Buller is increasingly exposed to extreme weather, rising sea levels, and seismic risk. Council is taking a long-term approach to adaptation, through projects such as Resilient Westport and strengthening the stormwater infrastructure.



Infrastructure pressure and recovery

Our infrastructure network is vast and ageing, with a significant backlog of renewal work. The cost of rebuilding from past storm events, while upgrading for resilience and compliance, puts ongoing pressure on budgets and delivery timelines.



Affordability and financial sustainability

Many of our residents are on fixed incomes or face cost-of-living pressures. With limited population growth, we must strike a careful balance between service levels, infrastructure investment, and keeping rates affordable.



Water reform and service delivery uncertainty

With the repeal of Three Waters reform and the introduction of Local Water Done Well, the future of water service delivery remains uncertain. Council has considered several options, preferring regional collaboration (pending agreement by other parties), to ensure affordability, compliance, and service quality over the long-term.



Demographic and workforce shifts

An ageing population and a declining working-age base affect our labour force, housing needs, and social services. These shifts require coordinated planning to ensure housing, community services, and infrastructure continue to meet the needs of an ageing and changing population. Council also faces growing competition for skilled workers, as higher-paying urban centres draw from the same limited labour pool, particularly in areas like infrastructure, planning, and engineering.

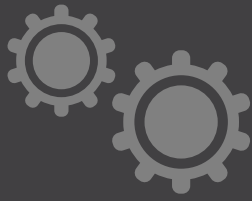


Geographic isolation and low-density communities

Delivering services across such a wide area, with many small, remote communities, means higher costs per ratepayer, limited economies of scale, and added challenges for emergency response, maintenance, and digital connectivity.

The district's economy is also closely tied to primary industries such as mining and dairy farming, making it more susceptible to cyclical fluctuations in global commodity markets.

Buller is a district of contrasts, geographically vast and sparsely populated yet tightly connected by resilient communities with a strong sense of place. While we face genuine pressures, we also possess unique advantages: a lifestyle many envy, a rich natural environment, and a proud tradition of working together to achieve our goals.



What we're working on:

Key projects in progress

The Council is currently delivering several key projects that aim to make Buller safer, more connected, and future ready.

In June 2025, Council adopted its 2025–2034 Long-Term Plan, which sets the course for major investment over the coming decade. Many of the key projects identified in that plan are now entering their first stages of delivery—focusing on resilience, infrastructure renewal, and sustainable growth across the district.



Flood recovery and Resilient Westport

Severe weather events in 2021 and 2022 caused widespread damage to roads, stormwater systems, and community infrastructure. Council continues to lead significant recovery work to restore services, improve resilience, and reduce future flood risk.

This includes ongoing investment through the Resilient Westport programme, an integrated approach to urban flood protection, housing resilience, and infrastructure upgrades. This work is co-funded through central government support, with further planning underway to secure long-term funding.



Westport Harbour development and Kawatiri dredge

The Westport Harbour is a strategic asset for Buller, supporting commercial shipping, freight, and local industry. A series of enhancement projects is now underway to unlock the harbour's full potential and improve its resilience.

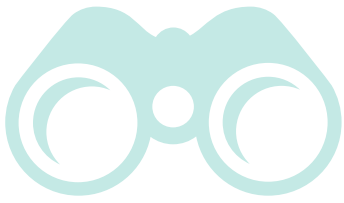
Development at the harbour includes several key investments:

- Expansion of floating pontoons and marina berths
- Wharf upgrades to support smaller commercial vessels
- A roll-on/roll-off ramp for emergency response and freight delivery
- A new ancillary pump to enhance the dredge's capability

These upgrades are funded through the Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF) and represent a \$4.872 million investment in regional connectivity, resilience, and economic development, without direct cost to Buller ratepayers.

Major Capital Projects

	ENHANCED ANNUAL PLAN (\$000)	LONG TERM PLAN 2025-2034 (\$000)		
	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028
Roading and Transportation				
Local roads programme (75% Waka Kotahi funded)	4,292	4,607	3,851	4,597
Special purpose roads programme (100% Waka Kotahi funded)	3,065	1,634	1,635	5,239
IAF Funded roading projects	-	2,043	510	-
Solid Waste				
Contracted refuse local reprocessor plant implementation	197	967	709	11
Sewerage				
Westport sewer renewals and upgrades	1,034	1,927	1,271	1,005
Westport wastewater and sewerage pump station infrastructure upgrade and resource consent renewal	1,000	184	243	74
Reefton sewer renewals and upgrades	1,175	997	967	851
IAF Funded Wastewater projects	-	1,657	414	-
Water Supplies				
Westport water renewals, upgrades, condition assessment and backflow prevention	1,891	1,769	1,755	1,627
Westport Tunnel bracing	-	500	2,056	3,688
Reefton water renewals, upgrades, condition assessment and backflow prevention	406	370	341	351
IAF Funded Water Supply projects	-	426	106	-
Stormwater				
Stormwater upgrades and replacements, condition assessment, flood mitigation and waster/stormwater separation	637	800	829	858



Looking ahead: What's on the horizon?

The 2025–2034 Long-Term Plan sets out Council's long-term priorities and investment programme for the next nine years. It reflects the aspirations of our communities, the challenges facing our district, and the need to build a more resilient, connected, and sustainable future.

The coming decade will see investment in core infrastructure and resilience-focused initiatives across the district. These priorities have been guided by community input and shaped by the realities of affordability, compliance, and long-term wellbeing.

Strategic priorities:



Infrastructure Resilience

Strengthening the district's water supply, transport networks, and flood protection systems.



Economic Growth and Industry Support

Supporting local industries through infrastructure investment, including Westport Harbour upgrades.



Vibrant Towns and Liveable Places

Enhancing community facilities, public spaces, and local amenities to support pride of place, accessibility, and wellbeing.



Financial strategy:

How we fund the future

Our financial strategy focuses on maintaining essential services and infrastructure while ensuring affordability and long-term sustainability. We are committed to being financially responsible, transparent, and responsive to the unique challenges faced by our district.

Key principles of the financial strategy include:



Affordability

Striking a careful balance between investment needs and the ability of our communities to pay. Buller has a high proportion of residents on low or fixed incomes, which requires a cautious approach to rates increases.



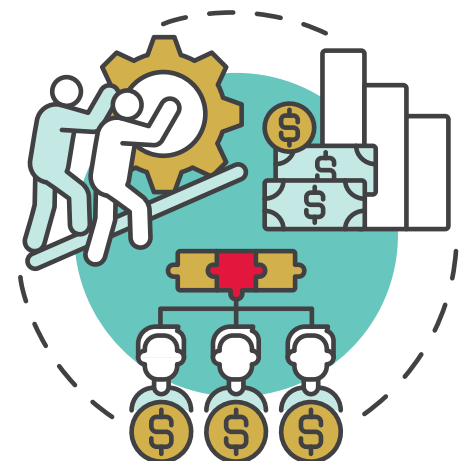
Targeted investment

Prioritising essential infrastructure and strategic projects that support long-term wellbeing and resilience.



Debt management

Maintaining a net debt ceiling of \$57.4 million to preserve financial flexibility.



External funding

Actively pursuing co-investment and partnership opportunities to reduce reliance on ratepayers and ensure value for money.

We also continue to adjust our approach to reflect inflationary pressures, legislative change, and rising infrastructure renewal costs.

Rates and Debts Compliance

		ANNUAL REPORT		BUDGET
		2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
Rates levels and limits				
Rates revenue	Actual	35%	35%	35%
	Limit	65%	65%	65%
Rates increases	Actual	10%	6%	14%
	Limit	2%	2%	2%

Borrowing levels and limits				
Net Debt (\$000)	Actual	20,000	24,136	37,000
	Limit	25,000	25,000	25,000
Debt servicing costs/total operating revenue	Actual	2%	5%	5%
	Limit	10%	10%	10%

Return on Investments

		ANNUAL REPORT		FORECAST*
Investment	Target Return	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
WestReef Services Ltd	To achieve a pre-tax operating profit of at least 10% (2025-2034 LTP) on gross revenues, before any subvention payments.	4%	-7%	10%
Buller Recreation Ltd	Achieve budget and expenditure targets.	Met	Met	On track
Buller Holdings Ltd	Financial performance of the Group will be measured against the forecasts and KPI's in the approved Statements of Intent.	Met	Met	On track

* Our Annual Reports for the 2023 and 2024 years are currently unaudited.



Our financial picture:

Summary of key figures

Despite the challenges of climate events, reform uncertainty, and rising costs, Council remains committed to financial stewardship and long-term planning. Our financial decisions are guided by the need to maintain essential services, invest in critical infrastructure, and ensure affordability for our communities.

These figures reflect both day-to-day operating costs and our investment in the district's future, particularly through flood recovery, infrastructure renewal, and resilience-building projects.

Like many councils, Buller is contending with rising costs driven by inflation, supply chain disruptions, and increasingly complex compliance requirements. Natural disasters have also imposed additional financial pressures, with some recovery work funded externally and other costs still to be resolved.

Our district's small rating base means we must carefully balance community expectations with financial constraints. This means prioritising spending, seeking external funding whenever possible, and making difficult choices when necessary.

Council continues to monitor its debt and revenue settings closely, ensuring that our financial strategy supports both current services and future growth without placing undue pressure on ratepayers.



Key Financial Highlights (2025/26 forecast):



Operating Expenditure
\$41.3m



Revenue
\$49.9m



Capital Expenditure
\$35m



Net Debt
\$47.31m



Rates Revenue
\$23.2m

Funding Impact Statement

	ANNUAL REPORT (\$000)		EAP (\$000)	LONG TERM PLAN 2025-2034 (\$000)		
	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028
Sources of operating funding						
General rates, uniform annual general charge, rates penalties	10,342	11,215	12,794	13,560	14,126	14,790
Targeted rates	7,436	7,530	9,000	9,635	11,167	12,028
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	12,474	10,833	27,910	3,990	4,699	5,372
Fees and charges	1,510	1,510	1,879	2,293	2,362	2,421
Interest and dividends from investments	1,867	1,512	2,157	1,441	1,338	1,342
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringements fees and other receipts	4,691	6,717	4,841	6,038	5,962	5,556
Total operating funding	38,320	39,317	58,581	36,957	39,654	41,509
Applications of operating funding						
Payments to staff and suppliers	35,772	32,934	22,979	29,840	29,139	31,402
Finance costs	1,578	1,890	815	1,825	2,027	2,283
Other operating funding applications	887	835	370	428	429	430
Total applications of operating funding	38,237	35,659	24,164	32,093	31,595	34,115
Surplus/(deficit) of operating funding	83	3,658	34,417	4,864	8,059	7,394
Sources of capital funding						
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	10,777	13,415	4,825	12,322	9,805	8,687
Development and financial contributions	169	331	55	325	333	341
Increase/(decrease) in debt	1,030	3,970	2,301	6,655	(6,445)	(1,926)
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	504	562	264	220	223	226
Lump sum contributions	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other dedicated capital funding			0	0	0	0
Total sources of capital funding	12,480	18,278	7,445	19,522	3,916	7,328
Applications of capital funding						
- to meet additional demand	7	8	0	8,579	1,989	0
- to improve the level of service	6,387	6,445	5,401	3,487	1,058	2,446
- to replace existing assets	9,031	15,925	10,076	22,893	19,417	22,147
Increase/(decrease) in reserves	(801)	3,115	(881)	143	445	(148)
Increase/(decrease) in investments	(2,061)	(3,557)	123	(92)	(1,805)	(472)
Total applications of capital funding	12,563	21,936	14,719	35,010	21,104	23,973
Surplus/(deficit) of capital funding	(83)	(3,658)	(7,274)	(15,488)	(17,188)	(16,645)
Funding balance	0	0	27,143	(10,624)	(9,129)	(9,251)

* Our Annual Reports for the 2023 and 2024 years are currently unaudited.

Summary Statement of Financial Position

	ANNUAL REPORT (\$000)		EAP (\$000)	LONG TERM PLAN 2025-2034 (\$000)			
	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029
Current assets							
Financial assets (cash and term deposits)	14,833	11,354	1,996	101	334	377	47
Other current assets	8,211	11,302	15,177	9,541	10,088	10,956	8,763
Total current assets	23,044	22,656	17,173	9,642	10,422	11,333	8,810
Non current assets							
Financial assets (shares, loans, bond deposits)	2,220	1,812	2,185	1,812	4,980	6,747	5,102
Other non current assets	516,941	562,036	512,177	591,900	614,887	646,629	679,411
Total non current assets	519,161	563,848	514,362	593,712	619,867	653,376	684,513
Total assets	542,205	586,504	531,535	603,354	630,289	664,709	693,323
Current liabilities							
Public debt (overdrafts and borrowings)	6,030	28,214	441	866	1,089	1,366	1,424
Other current liabilities	8,282	8,951	8,226	7,030	7,055	8,014	8,222
Total current liabilities	14,312	37,165	8,667	7,896	8,144	9,380	9,646
Non current liabilities							
Public debt (borrowings)	28,214	10,000	44,937	46,451	47,704	52,983	52,311
Other non current liabilities	1,608	1,619	2,088	1,556	1,504	1,452	1,401
Total non current liabilities	29,822	11,619	47,025	48,007	49,208	54,435	53,712
Equity	498,071	537,720	475,843	547,451	572,937	600,894	629,965
Total liabilities and equity	542,205	586,504	531,535	603,354	630,289	664,709	693,323

* Our Annual Reports for the 2023 and 2024 years are currently unaudited.



Further reading

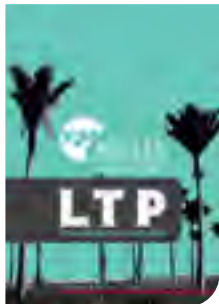
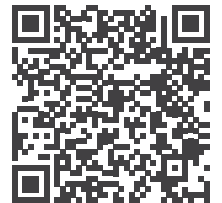
The information in this report has been drawn from Council's key reports and strategic publications. These documents provide more detailed information on our projects, performance, and planning priorities.



Annual Reports

The Annual Report is prepared every year to report on how we performed against our targeted budget and work programme for the year. It includes details of any significant variances in operational and capital expenditure. The Annual Report provides information about Council's financial performance and position, service performance levels and progress on major projects.

Scan this QR code to view these documents on your device



Long-Term Plan

The Long-Term Plan is a comprehensive statement of the Council's intentions for the next 9 years. It sets out our direction and work programme. The Long-Term Plan lets you know what we will be doing, the services we will provide and the projects we will undertake. It also details the associated financial strategy and outlines how progress will be monitored.

Scan this QR code to view this document on your device



Annual Plans

The Annual Plan outlines Council's operational and financial plans for the upcoming financial year. It must also identify variations from any budgets allocated in the Long-Term Plan. The document highlights the activities Council is involved in, the major issues and projects, and where there are some variations from the Long-Term Plan.

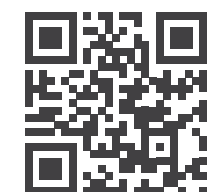
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Te Tai o Poutini Plan (District Plan)

Te Tai o Poutini Plan (TTPP) is the combined District Plan for the Buller, Grey and Westland District Councils. It will replace the current individual district plans. TTPP sets out the objectives, policies, rules and methods to manage land use activities and subdivision across the districts. TTPP also includes online maps to show zoning, and where various rules apply.

Scan this QR code to view this document on your device



Back yourself. Run for Council.

Do you want to represent your community?

Nominations for candidates in the 2025 local elections open on Friday 4 July and close on Friday 1 August. Nomination forms are available at Council service centres.

Roles to elect

Elections are currently held for:

- One Mayor
- Two Councillors to represent the Inangahua Ward
- Two Councillors to represent the Seddon Ward
- Six Councillors to represent the Westport Ward
- Four community members to represent the Inangahua Community Board

Are you eligible to stand?

To be eligible to stand for election, a candidate must be:

- a New Zealand citizen *and*
- on the electoral roll (18 years or older) *and*
- nominated by two people whose names appear on the electoral roll of the area that a candidate is standing for. You don't need to live in the area that you are standing for.

Nominators

Nominators for candidates for Buller District Council or for Inangahua Community Board can be residents or ratepayers who are on the Electoral Roll in that ward.

Key dates for 2025 local elections:

Friday 4 July	Nominations open. Electoral roll opens for inspection.
Friday 1 August	Nominations close at 12 noon. Electoral roll closes.
By 6 August	Public notice of candidate names and special voting places.
9 - 22 September	Delivery of voting documents (will occur between these dates).
9 September - 11 October	Voting and special voting period. Early processing period.
Saturday 11 October	Election Day (voting closes at 12 noon) Progress / preliminary results will be announced as soon as practicable.
11 - 16 October	Official count and processing of special votes.
16 - 19 October	Declaration of final result and public notice of results.

Visit: bullerdc.govt.nz/your-council/council-elections/ or scan this QR code for more information on Buller's 2025 local elections.



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