



He mahere hapori whānui o

# WHAINGAROA

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## RAGLAN NATURALLY

our community plan

February 2020

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5 April 2019

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Dear Gabrielle,

**Raglan Naturally Community Plan and Waikato District Council Blueprints**

Waikato District Council (Council) has embarked on a journey to create Liveable, Thriving and Connected Communities. This new vision has brought about a greater focus on community planning at a local level, and as a result Local Area Blueprints have been created by Council for many of our communities. These are currently in a draft stage, with feedback closing 8 April and final versions expected to be approved by Council in June.

Over the past couple years, Raglan has also reviewed its existing Community Plan, known as "Raglan Naturally". Council sees this work as complementing and augmenting the Local Area Blueprint, not duplicating or competing with it. Council acknowledges that a community driven approach to provide input to Council planning processes on matters that are important to Raglan is consistent with our desire for more inclusive engagement. True community led planning can result in better engagement from the wider community and greater ownership of the development and delivery of initiatives. We are therefore, fully supportive of the community based approach that Raglan Naturally are undertaking to review their Community Plan.

Council resourcing does not allow for us to complete a process as rigorous as the one being undertaken by Raglan Naturally to review their Community Plan, and not every community is able to undertake such a process itself. Raglan is fortunate and to be commended for its level of commitment and community involvement in the Raglan Naturally process..

Whilst recognising that Council will not always be the best organisation to lead some of the initiatives included in both the Local Area Blueprint or Raglan Naturally, there is an expectation that some of the initiatives from both plans will feed into the Council's Long Term Plan 2021-31. In instances where initiatives included in Raglan Naturally are better led by other organisations or agencies, Council will provide support where possible to help achieve the desired outcomes for Raglan.

Regards,

Clive Morgan  
General Manager Community Growth



Image by Tracie Heasman

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# Executive Summary

The Raglan Naturally Community Plan is a document created by the community, for the community.

It is a celebration of Raglan’s unique character and culture - filled with ideas for action, goals and aspirations that will help to guide the community as it grows and evolves.

The original Raglan Naturally document was created in 2001, revisited in 2008, and in 2016, the Raglan Community Board held a Raglan Naturally Celebration to share what had been accomplished since the inception of the original plan and to announce a plan revitalisation.

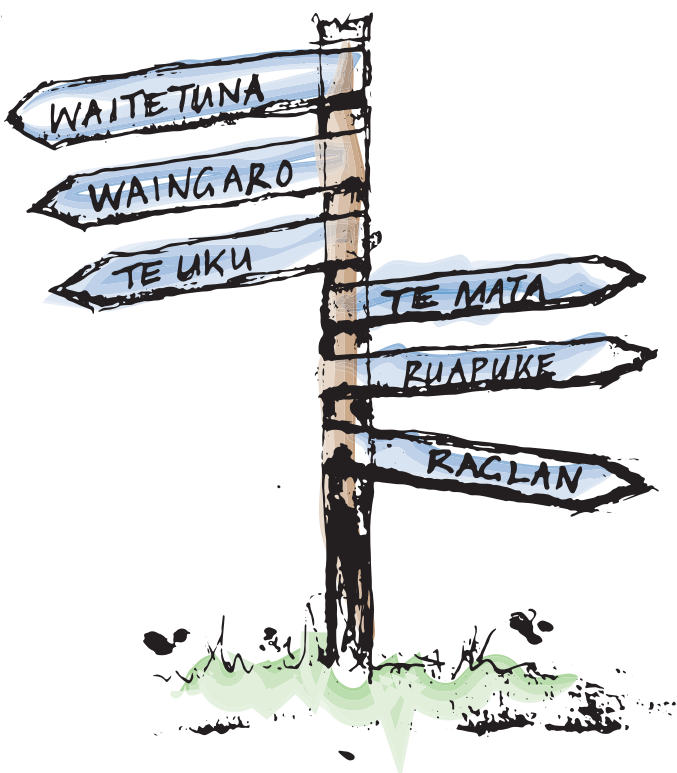
Since 2016, new ideas, new goals and new aspirations have been diligently collected and collated from the community to create the pages of the following document – the first official draft of the 2019 Raglan Naturally Community Plan.

Inspired by the framework of the original 2001 Plan, approximately 60 local residents came together to create Focus Groups representing eleven specific areas of the community: Active Recreation, Arts, Business and Employment, Community Wellbeing, Destination and Visitor Management, Education, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning, Natural Environment, Transport and Youth.

The Focus Groups utilised a core set of principles and values based on Te Tiriti o Waitangi, which laid the foundation on which the work would be done. Through facilitated workshops and many community consultations, the following Snapshots have been created.

We see the Raglan Naturally Community Plan as a living document, one that needs to evolve alongside the community, continue to offer a sense of direction for future development and influence the way we live, work and play in this place we call home.

This is your opportunity to review the work that has been done, share it with your whānau, friends and neighbours, to determine how you might contribute to the future work of Raglan Naturally and the growth of our community.



**Key:**  
**RN** - Raglan Naturally  
**WDC** - Waikato District Council  
**RCB** - Raglan Community Board

# How Raglan Naturally evolved

Many have contributed to the evolution of Raglan Naturally and the community-led planning process that has taken place over the last two and a half years. Much learning has happened along the way. Conversations have been opened. Relationships have been forming.

## It started with the intention to:

- update our community plan, Raglan Naturally 2001
- guide the development of Raglan in a way that is consistent with local people's aspirations
- involve the local community in ongoing planning and action

## Through an inclusive, community-led approach, it has also evolved to include:

- Sharing stories
- Building relationships
- Understanding what we value
- Aligning aspirations and
- Setting a foundation for the way we work together.
- These things are an important part of a process that moves us towards deeper understanding and therefore helps us guide the development of Raglan, together.

## This is ongoing work and we want to continue it:

- We see many of you value and support this!
- The Raglan Naturally approach to community planning is acknowledged as a unique initiative within our district. Along with iwi/hapū planning, it provides a whole picture perspective from the "ground-up" that can inform Council's Blueprint planning process and guide strategy, development and decision making to achieve our community goals.
- We are working toward solid foundations built on shared community values and aspirations, and a flourishing relationship between the community and iwi and hapū – based on Te Tiriti o Waitangi. From this foundation all parties (community, iwi and hapū, local organisations and businesses, councils and central government) can come together and work towards cohesive and community-driven development of Raglan and our rural communities.
- The plan will continue to evolve and be a signpost for all who are connected to and supported by this place.
- There is still work to be done to agree on the role of Raglan Naturally going forward, and who is going to manage it. Lots of support and sound resourcing will be needed to ensure this work is sustainable and done really well.

# What we are learning

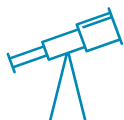
## Learn *akona*



This work we are doing is pretty special. It is opening conversations, asking us to pause and reflect. It is giving space for us to connect on what is important to us, individually and collectively. It is reminding us of our strengths and what we do well.

We are learning that this is more than creating a list of projects that we ask council to do. This is more than looking at parking and potholes. This is about grounding ourselves in our connection with the environment and in our relationships with each other, in the stories and history of this place and choosing how we will move on from here, together.

## Reflect *whakaarotia*



Together we have asked and answered the questions of ‘what are our concerns’, ‘what’s changing’ and ‘where are we heading’. We are wondering how we can hold onto what’s important, the things we value as this place grows. We are wondering how we can face the big challenges ahead. We are wondering how we can be actively involved, understand and have a say in the planning and development for this place.

## Contribute *kōrerotia*



Through the contributions of so many local people in the Raglan Naturally process, our community vision is emerging. Further contributions will be needed as we create and enact our strategies to progress this vision. Whaingaroa has a strong history of individuals and community working actively, determinedly and innovatively. This place holds a supportive energy and there is much beauty to nourish us in our natural environment and in the care that we show for each other.

## Take action *kōkiritia*



We can take action, we have done it in the past and we are doing it now! Let’s keep the momentum up and get the support we need to continue our learning and thorough, forward-thinking, strategic planning. Let’s create a space for everyone to be involved – from our youth to our older people, to share their strengths and passions and to be acknowledged as a valued members of our community.

## Create *auahangia*



In a world where more than ever we need connection and to care for each other and the environment, – let’s value what we are doing here as a community. Let’s continue this work together as we build strong foundations and community resilience.



# What we did

## Principles guiding our process

The Raglan Naturally project set out to build on the 2001 plan, revitalising it and strengthening the foundations for the way we plan for the future and work together here in Raglan. These principles guided the process:

- Deeper relationships and partnership with iwi and hapū
- Inclusion of the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- Strong environmental focus

- Community-led development – distributed leadership across different focus areas
- Inclusivity and collaboration
- Strength-based process
- Future-focused plan
- Relationship building – between community and councils
- Sustainability for Raglan Naturally – keeping it alive, relevant and active.

# 01.

## Project beginnings

Initial stages of the project were guided by an Interim Steering Group. A relationship was formed with WDC, funding was sourced to begin the process, and a project coordinator was appointed and endorsed by the Raglan Community Board. The project was taken to the community at a gathering at Poihākena Marae.

Mutual learning and sharing was fostered through various means including a Treaty of Waitangi workshop, sharing of local stories and a rangatahi/ Youth meeting at the

Kokiri Centre. Focus Groups formed and a Raglan Naturally Committee was established. The project profile was raised through interaction with the community at:

Creative Markets, Maui Dolphin Day, and the Music and Dance Festival, and communication maintained through a newsletter and Facebook page.

As the Project Plan was finalised, the Raglan Community Board agreed to hold overall project responsibility, and to formalise a permanent Raglan Naturally sub-committee.

# 02.

## A focus on information gathering

As the project progressed, eleven focus areas were identified: Natural Environment, Business, Destination and Visitor Management (Tourism), Infrastructure, Transport, Local Government & Planning, Arts, Education, Community Wellbeing, Active Recreation and Youth. WRAP (Whaingaroa Raglan Housing Affordability Project) are looking at Housing and we will work with them to integrate their findings into our community plan.

Focus Groups formed from community members who volunteered to draw together information on their topic, contributing their time, passion, expertise and diversity. Most groups had a coordinator, and focus groups met,

attended workshops and connected with the wider community. In addition to workshops and meetings, many conversations have happened casually throughout the project and these have all contributed and helped shape this process.

Information was sought from the community to paint a picture of our current situation in each area – identifying strengths and assets, potential challenges and opportunities for the future, and our shared aspirations. These Snapshot Reports provided a starting point for the community-wide engagement phase. To see these full reports visit the Raglan Naturally website.

# 03.

## Taking it back to the community

Community-wide engagement occurred in the latter part of 2018, through a Raglan Naturally stall at local markets and events, community meetings at rural halls and face-to-face in the street or at the beach!

The work of the Focus Groups was then displayed at a community event held at the Raglan Town Hall in October 2018.

Over 200 community members visited, participated and contributed ideas to focus areas.

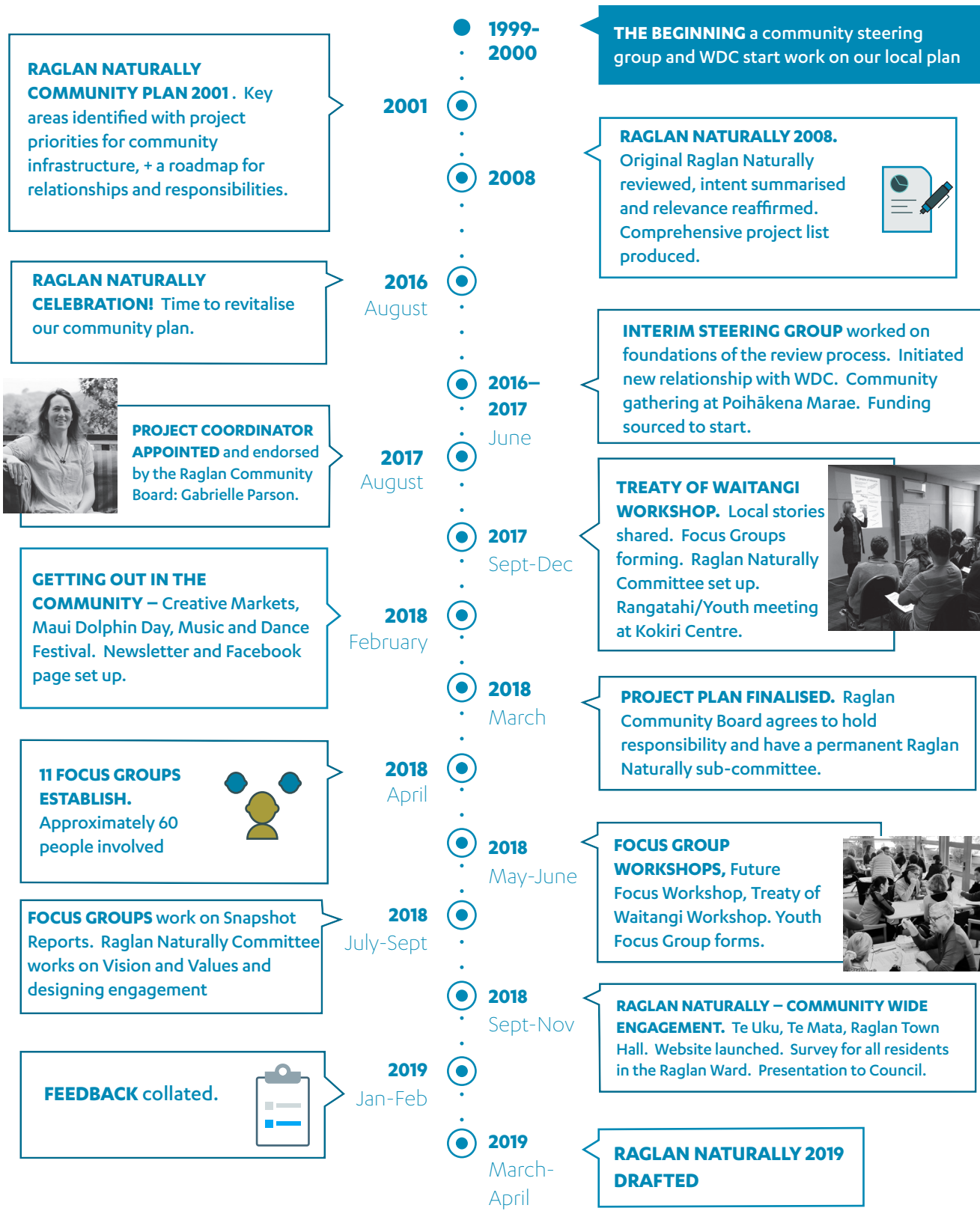
This was followed by a Community-Wide Survey. In November 2018 the Raglan Naturally community survey was completed by 370 of our 5700 population in the Raglan Ward. See appendix for a copy of the survey

and information of who took part (age, ethnicities and communities). All responses were reviewed and summarised, by highlighting the common points made (see following pages). Some 1400 ideas came forward from the survey and the Town Hall event! We have sorted these into focus areas (see the Focus Group section, pages 20-32).

Please note: creating an accurate picture on each area is an ongoing task. Some subjects, voices, communities and groups may not be represented here. We are still gathering quantitative data and statistics to build on this work. At any stage we welcome input or interest to join a group. We envisage that Focus Groups will continue as a key element of the Raglan Naturally process.

# 04.

# Raglan Naturally timeline



background

support for an update

what we have done so far

# Who has been involved

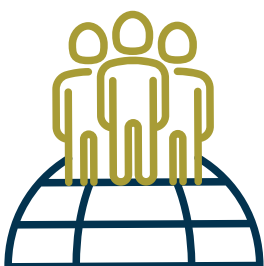
**Hundreds of people have been part of this process, including:**

- » Project Coordinator and Working Group
- » Raglan Naturally Advisory Committee
- » 11 Focus groups, most with a coordinator
- » Communications team
- » Technical expertise
- » Raglan Community Board
- » Waikato District Council and local Councillor
- » Other supporters: Department of Internal Affairs, Inspiring Communities, Community Waikato, First Principle
- » The Community!

*This work has principally been done by community members volunteering their time, supported by a coordinator doing both paid and voluntary work.*



## An evolving and ongoing process



*“Raglan Naturally is a way for our community to plan for the future, in ways that strengthen relationships and build partnerships, so that we can take action to ensure all of life in Whaingaroa thrives.”*

– Purpose statement for Raglan Naturally.

This community plan document is only one result from the Raglan Naturally process. What is emerging underneath or ‘behind the scenes’ is a slower process of relationship building, growing partnerships with iwi and hapū and for many, a deepening sense of connection with this place, Whaingaroa.

Engaging people and taking the time to build strong foundations for the way we are as a community is a sound investment in future action.

# A Snapshot of our community

Raglan ward boundary- Raglan Community Board area-



## Our communities:

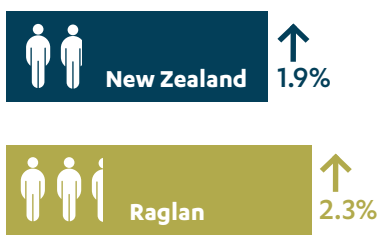
- Raglan
- Ruapuke
- Te Mata
- Makomako
- Te Uku
- Waitetuna
- Waingaro



## Our Marae:

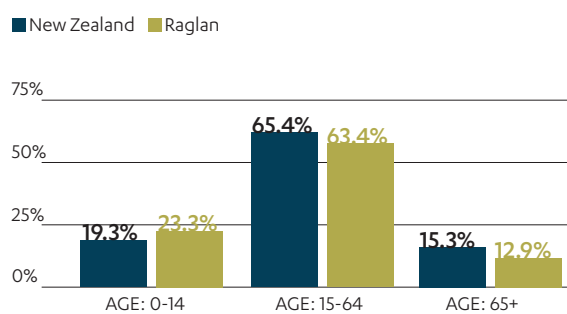
- Aramiro
- Mai Uenuku ki te Whenua
- Motakotako
- Poihākena
- Te Papatapu
- Waingaro
- Te Kopua

## Annual population growth (growth over 5 year period to June 2018)



2018 Economic Profile

## Age composition of the population (growth over 5 year period to June 2018)



**3230**  
Raglan population

**5870**  
Raglan Ward population

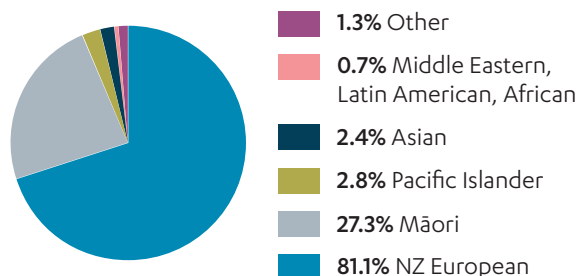
**75,300**  
Waikato District population

2018 Economic Profile

## Languages spoken

After English, the next most common language spoken in Raglan is te reo Māori, which was spoken by 11.9% of people.

## Our nationalities (Demographic Data from 2013 Census)



# Iwi and hapū Engagement

**Raglan Naturally are in consultation with iwi and hapū representatives from Tainui, Ngāti Māhanga/Hourua and Ngāti Whakamarurangi with the view to engage with Ngāti Tamainupo, to further develop an iwi and hapū chapter.**

The content of this chapter will be determined by hapū and iwi.

Raglan Naturally considers te Tiriti o Waitangi and our relationship with hapū as an integral part of our community plan. **Raglan Naturally will:**



## RECOGNISE

our past and what has happened (right and wrong)



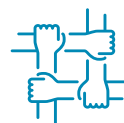
## HONOUR

the past and keep it in mind/ keep telling the stories and continue to learn



## ENABLE PARTICIPATION

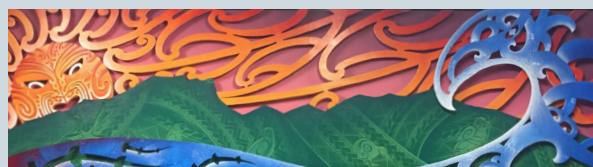
actively support hapū with their aspirations and enable hapū to participate in discussions and in decision-making



## WORK IN PARTNERSHIP

work alongside hapū for better outcomes for hapū and our community

## Background for this chapter



Artwork by Simon Te Wheoro

When we embarked on this journey to revitalise Raglan Naturally we recognised that the voice of iwi and hapū were missing. Since then we have been actively working on our understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and our relationship with iwi/hapū in a way that is inclusive and based on equity.

We know we have so much more to learn to better understand iwi/hapū issues and how we can support iwi/hapū and their aspirations, this is an ongoing process. Laying the foundations as a community on a treaty-based partnership with iwi/hapū, moves us toward greater wellbeing for all, more coherent development and reciprocal support.

# What we heard

## Survey Summary

This is what you as a community told us through the survey and town hall event. We are showing you the common points made.

### Strengths in our community

- Community environmental awareness, care and action
- We are welcoming
- Caring, connected community, helping each other and volunteering.
- Friendly
- Diversity
- The people – communicating and sharing ideas.
- Proactive community working together to create change.
- Initiatives and groups that connect us.
- Xtreme Zero Waste, Plastic Free Raglan, Whaingaroa Harbour Care, Whaingaroa Environment Centre and other environmental initiatives.
- Natural environment
- Māori/hapū/Iwi strong cultural identity

“ We pull together to support each other. We care about the environment - local and national - world wide; we love ‘our place’. Music, art and surfing cultures, Te Ao Māori. ”



### Changes we have noticed here

- Increased visitor numbers
- Year round tourism
- Crowded surf
- Raglan is a lot busier
- More rubbish
- More money in town
- Increased population
- More places to eat
- More enviro initiatives
- Less parking
- Increased traffic – incl commuters
- Increased development especially residential
- Harder to find secure, affordable housing
- Growing sense of change and tension between old and new
- Frequent business changes
- More activities on water
- More petty crime

### We feel concerned about

“ Just the worry of losing the ‘community’ that is now and attitudes changing ”

- Gentrification
- Housing – affordability, lack of rentals, long term tenure (people having to leave)
- Living costs
- Air BNB – regulation needed
- Growth and development – increased population and the impacts of that, growth too fast, increased development
- WDC need to work closely with us on strategic planning
- Lack of parking
- Roads – traffic, safety, one lane bridge
- Infrastructure – can it cope, sewage system, footpaths
- Concern for the natural environment and the impact of more people
- Safety - incl theft and gangs

### Key Challenges

- Responding to growth and change
- Housing affordability and availability
- Infrastructure – increasing population and impact – parking and sewage
- Increasing numbers of tourists – particularly in Summer
- Losing Raglan Identity

# What we heard

## Survey Summary

This is what you as a community told us through the survey and town hall event. We are showing you the common points made.

### What we love about this place – Raglan and rural communities

“ I love how Raglan is one big whānau/ family meaning we all support each other. ”

» **THE COMMUNITY** – community spirit, strong, enviro ethos, diversity, safe and people - friendly,

» **NATURAL ENVIRONMENT** - beautiful, natural scenery, Karioi, bush, ruggedness, bush/walks, fresh air, native birds. Sea, surf, ocean, harbour, beach, water, beautiful coastline,

» **STRONG MAORI CULTURAL IDENTITY**

» **GENERAL FEELING** - relaxed, quiet, peaceful, unique, laidback;

» **SMALL TOWN** - size

» **COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS** - Xtreme and others

### Values we could hold as we work together as a community

“ Caring, inclusiveness, guardianship, initiative, care of the land and the people ”

**MANAAKITANGA, CARE & SUPPORT**

**KAITIAKITANGA SUSTAINABILITY CARE, RESPECT & PROTECTION OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT**

**KOTAHITANGA, UNITY, COLLABORATION, COOPERATION, TEAMWORK, WORKING TOGETHER**

**INCLUSIVITY**

**HONESTY, TRUST & INTEGRITY**

**RESPECT**

### What would it look like if this place is thriving?

- Happy, smiling, friendly people
- Diverse community, caring, connected
- Working together to care for the natural environment
- CBD pedestrianized area, clean and tidy
- Employment for locals and youth, living wage.
- Affordable housing and places to rent.
- Te Ao Māori is thriving (te Reo Māori spoken + other ideas)
- Festivals and events to celebrate cultures

- Public consultation and local decision making
- More cycle and walkways, biking, less cars, safer roads and footpaths
- Recycling and plastic bag free
- Thriving natural environment: tree plantings, healthy biodiversity, quality water in harbour and rivers. Less rubbish on beaches and around town
- Many feel Whaingaroa is already thriving

### Key Opportunities

- To be led by our values and create solid foundations as we grow as a community.
- Leading and setting an example as a community, nationally and internationally.
- Employment for locals and a balanced approach to tourism.
- Protecting our natural environment.
- Equity, safety and looking after those in need.

“ Being the sustainable capital of New Zealand, a beacon of hope and creativity. ”

# Community Aspirations

This section brings together all of the aspirations that have been expressed by community members throughout this process. Building on the summary of results from the community-wide survey (presented elsewhere in this document), this section includes ideas gleaned from focus groups, the committee and working group, community engagements (e.g. town hall/ rural hall meetings) and conversations.

These expressions speak to what people currently appreciate about Raglan as well as what “thriving community” might look like into the future, holding our values as well as our vision. The picture is emerging - as more voices are brought into this process these aspirations and values can grow and evolve.



## OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Natural scenery, fresh air and rugged landscape; Karioi maunga; our abundant biodiversity from shoreline, beaches, harbours to rivers, wetlands and bush; and our rich rural landscape



## OUR COMMUNITY

Is made up of our coastal township and rural communities. We are diverse and we value Iwi and hapū; Te ao Māori is thriving and Te reo Māori spoken; a safe and people-friendly place; a strong community spirit grounded firmly in a sound environmental ethos, with active and effective community organisations



## THE CHARACTER

Friendly, beautiful, laidback, welcoming, peaceful, vibrant and creative



## OUR STRENGTHS

Our care for each other, our capacity and willingness to work together proactively to create change: communicating and sharing ideas, and volunteering to take action for the environment and community. Through these interactions, initiatives and groups, people form connections with our natural environment and with each other.

# Values

Part of our Raglan Naturally process has been understanding our community values. We asked about values through our community-wide survey, and we also worked together through the committee and focus groups to be clear on our values.

### This is what emerged:



#### COMMUNITY SURVEY QUESTION: WHAT VALUES WE COULD HOLD AS COMMUNITY AS WE WORK TOGETHER?

- Manaakitanga, care, support
- Kaitiakitanga, sustainability, care, respect and protection of the natural environment
- Kotahitanga, unity, collaboration, cooperation, teamwork, working together
- Respect
- Inclusivity
- Honesty, trust, integrity

#### VALUES DEVELOPED THROUGH RAGLAN NATURALLY COMMITTEE AND FOCUS GROUPS:

- Respect
- Equity
- Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- Kaitiakitanga
- Partnership
- Participation, inclusivity, diversity



# Key opportunities

Building on our values and the unique character of our community, five key opportunities have emerged.

## **PROTECTING OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT**

Education and awareness can help us to keep our natural environment rubbish-free, weed-free, pest-free, and plastic bag-free.

We can plant trees, protect and restore habitats for native birds and animals, and take a bold stand on environmental issues.

## **EMPLOYMENT FOR LOCALS AND HAVING A BALANCED APPROACH TO TOURISM.**

We can create job opportunities for locals. Our unique attractions to visitors can provide benefits to everyone.

Visitors can be educated about our place and they can contribute to our economy and to projects.

## **LEADING AND SETTING AN EXAMPLE AS A COMMUNITY - NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY**

We can lead as an environmentally-conscious community and as New Zealand's cleanest, greenest town, practising eco-tourism, zero waste and sustainability in all areas (business, living, tourism etc).

We can find housing solutions and build resilience as we experience growth.

## **EQUITY, SAFETY AND LOOKING AFTER THOSE IN NEED**

We can support one another and the organisations that are working in this area.

Everyone can reach out to the lonely, look after each other. We can be connected through a thriving community that understands equity and that we all have a part in creating this.

## **TO BE LED BY OUR VALUES AND CREATE SOLID FOUNDATIONS AS WE PLAN AND GROW AS A COMMUNITY.**

We can deepen our identity and core values and be guided by them in our work together.

Forward-thinking and thorough planning ensures that growth happens in a considered way. This can help us maintain and enhance the unique things we value about this place and keep the community spirit alive.

# Aspirations by theme

Several themes were apparent in the aspirations expressed through the Raglan Naturally process:

## Community wellbeing and care for each other



### Our aspirations are...

**YOUTH** – young people have a strong voice in their future. They are supported with a dedicated youth space/ hub and mentors. Their basic needs are met, including housing, education/ training/ apprenticeships, local employment, and health. They feel a connection with the community and are appreciated for who they are and what they have to offer. Youth have opportunities for participation in the arts and in inexpensive physical activities, fun and adventure.

**WELLBEING** – we are a safe and caring community, looking after those in need, from our children to our older people, the lonely, those with disabilities, on low income, or mental health issues – there is equity. A wellbeing hub fosters connections and support for those in need. Health is holistic, accessible and affordable.

**HOUSING** – we have homes, including tiny homes, affordable and social housing, and home-based visitor accommodation is managed to support the local housing needs.

**LEARNING** - we are a 'learning community' and much of this happens through mentoring and inter-generational learning. Children are immersed in their community through their education and there is support between our education centres and from the wider community. All our education centres are bi-lingual and bi-cultural. We have education and training for all ages in environment and sustainability, life skills and holistic wellbeing.

**CREATIVITY** – we promote and support growth in all creative industries. There is more music and public art. Through the arts we are able to communicate who we are as people and how 'place' influences our unique voice. Arts brings wellbeing, voice, uniqueness, social and cultural development.

## Our natural environment and community resilience



We take ownership of and work together to protect and enhance our natural environment and wildlife, controlling pests and restoring bush and working to reduce pollution and improve biodiversity and water quality in our rivers, harbour and ocean.

We are managing our waste ecologically - an innovative, land-based wastewater system is part of a 'circular economy', we have an awesome zero-waste recycling system, use renewable resources and ensure our beaches and spaces are clean.

We have learned about climate change and are taking action to mitigate our impact and adapt to the effects on our community, such as sea-level rise.

Community gardens and food forests are the norm here. They bring people together and are building community resilience. We are exploring alternatives to work toward being more self-sufficient in energy.



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## Key Challenges

These themes have been recurring consistently throughout the Raglan Naturally revitalisation process – emerging as key challenges for our communities and in some cases as opportunities moving forward.

These have been identified by the Raglan Naturally committee, in workshops, through community conversations, in Focus Groups and through community-wide consultation (including the survey).

- **A relationship between hapū/ iwi and the wider community that is based on the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and is equitable and inclusive**
- **Responding to growth and change**
- **Impact of high visitor numbers**
- **Housing and affordability - being able to buy a home, rental availability and secure long-term tenure.**
- **More people coming to live here or wanting to live here and new housing developments**
- **Pressure on infrastructure; sewerage, one-lane car bridge, rubbish and parking.**
- **Impact on our environment.**
- **Loss of the 'Raglan Identity'.**
- **Working actively and collaboratively with our young people.**
- **Taking care of our older people.**
- **Strategising in the face of climate change**

This calls for well thought out, future-focused, strategic planning, with support from Waikato District Council and Waikato Regional Council

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## What we have been doing

- **Two Treaty of Waitangi workshops and further community learning around the treaty in our local context.**
- **Future Focus Workshop.** Some of these challenges were discussed and Focus Groups were encouraged to be aware of them as they created their Snapshot Reports.
- **Focus Groups have explored these challenges in relation to their focus area and some challenges are directly related to Focus Areas. See Focus Group summary pages for aspirations and ideas for next steps and for more detail, and Focus Group Snapshot Reports (on our website).**
- **Working with our young people, to hear their voice and empower them to participate in decision making.**
- **Working towards well thought out, future-focused, strategic planning - our community plan is the first step! Building relationships within the community and with Waikato District Council. Working toward understanding the 'Raglan Identity' and what we value.**

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## What we need to do next:

- **Facilitate and support community learning (ie. Te Tiriti o Waitangi, Climate Change)**
- **Support community organisations and focus groups working in these areas (ie. WRAP with housing)**
- **Seek support from the Raglan Community Board and councils to first, ensure we understand these challenges and second, ensure that these are taken into account in all strategic planning.**
- **Support RN to bring our community planning to the Action Planning and Implementation phase, so we can continue to work actively towards the opportunities that these challenges are presenting.**
- **Have a clear understanding of council process, including the Blueprints, District Plan, projects and works allocated in the Long Term Plan and Annual Plan specific to the Raglan Ward, and how these align with Raglan Naturally decision making and planning.**

# Focus Areas

Focus Groups formed around eleven areas:

<b>Education</b> Mātauranga	<b>Local Government &amp; Planning</b> Kāwanatanga ā-Hāpori me te Whakatakoto Tikanga	<b>Community Wellbeing</b> Te Oranga o te Hāpori
<b>Natural Environment</b> Taiao	<b>Business &amp; Employment</b> Ngā Umanga me te Whiwhinga Mahi	<b>Arts</b> Mahi Toi
<b>Transport</b> Ngā Waka	<b>Active Recreation</b> Ngā Mahi Whakahohe a Rēhia	<b>Infrastructure</b> Ngā Pūnaha Wai
<b>Youth</b> Rangatahi	<b>Destination and Visitor Management (Tourism)</b> Te Ahumahi Tāpoi	

On the following pages we have summarised the Focus Groups' work and added the input from the wider community. (For further detail see the Focus Group reports, on our website.)

We acknowledge the amount of volunteer time and energy that has gone into researching and developing each of our focus group areas. We know that at this point in time, we have not captured everything that happens in our communities and we look forward to continuing this journey.

We also acknowledge and support all of the existing community groups, organisations and people who have contributed and continue to work in our community. We received over 1400 ideas.

Many common themes or ideas are coming through strongly. Some are innovative and forward thinking and some are possibly controversial. Project ideas will need to be looked at more closely and prioritised in the implementation/action planning phase, with ongoing community consultation. The following pages set out:

## **What we Have**

**Aspirations** – the overarching or main aspirations in this area

**Pathways** – possible ways to achieve these aspirations

**Most common ideas** from the wider community that came through the survey and town hall event

# Active Recreation

## Ngā Mahi Whakahohe a Rēhia

Raglan has an environment that is very conducive to active recreation. There is a myriad of recreational activities in Raglan. This is reflected on a daily and weekly basis when people from out of town come here for recreational activities. During the Summer the town is swelling to its capacity with people pursuing relaxation and active recreation. Raglan has world class surf breaks, offers harbour recreation, has beautiful bush walks and bike tracks.

Whaingaroa for many decades has become a destination for surfers who realise the uniqueness of the coastline and the surrounding area. Surfers are diverse group young, old, female, male, rich, poor, able and disabled all choosing surfing as a way to engage with their environment and recreation activities. Surfers make a large contribution to the Whaingaroa community either in business activities or through cultural, social and environmental organisations.

## What we have

### » RAGLAN RUGBY SPORTS CLUB & RAGLAN RECREATION RESERVE

Raglan Rugby Sports Club. Situated at the Raglan Recreation Reserve, rugby fields, changing shed facilities and clubrooms. Raglan Rugby Sports Club values are Manaakitanga, Tiakina, Whanaungatanga. Sports and fitness groups run from these facilities and the reserve: Senior Rugby and Touch Rugby, Raglan Junior Rugby, Raglan Netball Club, Tamariki Touch, Lightweight Fitness, Hamilton Tennis Academy. All of the above groups are filled with local children and adults who are passionate about sport and physical recreation in our community.

### » MOUNTAIN BIKING, CYCLING WALKING AND RUNNING

Raglan Mountainbiking Club, Cyclery Raglan, Raglan Events and Multisport Trust. Karioi Classic cycling event. Te Ara Kakariki mtb trails. Papahua pump track. Karioi Trail Run, Waitetuna Windfarm Run, Pipiwharauoa trail to windfarm. Roadside cycling.

We have the beaches, Wainui Reserve, Kaitoke Walkway, Karioi tracks, Karamu Walkway, Pipiwharauoa Way and a few other, mainly unsignposted tracks.

### » BASKETBALL

RAS outdoor court and sports hall, mini court with one hoop at Papahua, Most basketball activities are being run on a social basis or through RAS. Few social clubs with mainly Raglan locals play in Hamilton.

### » SOCCER

All ages play at Papahua. Raglan Football Club Inc. enters teams in Waibop Competition from 5th to 14th grade. RAS enters teams in Waikato Secondary School comp. Independent adult male team in Waikato Sunday League and Thursday evening kick around for all-comers. Soccer expanded from 95 players in 2011 to over 250 in 2019 with 46% of U18 players now female.

### » SKATING

Fun skatepark, pump track, skaters of all ages, skatepark builder in town, skate shop, empty land, supportive community.

### » OTHER LAND ACTIVITIES

Gardening, horseriding (Pony Club), hunting, rugby, golf, running, hiking/tramping, netball, rock climbing, badminton (Badminton Club), blowkarts – land yachts, bowling and indoor bowls (Bowling Club), croquet, dance, kapa haka, exercise classes/gym, martial arts, netball.

### » SURFING

Whaingaroa has a natural and unique surfing environment and it offers plenty of opportunity in varied conditions.

The Whaanga Coast surf breaks are recognised in the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 as being nationally significant along with being world renowned.

Because of the quality of surf and the uniqueness of the environment, there is a community of surfers who are proactive in protecting and managing their space.

Raglan Surf Life Saving and Junior Surf programmes.

Raglan Area School has a Surf Academy as part of the school curriculum.

Point Boardriders. Manu Bay competition event calendar is set in place by the Coastal committee, Point Boardriders and the Waikato

### » OTHER WATER ACTIVITIES

Kayaking, rowing (Rowing Club), waka ama (Waka Ama Club), boating, fishing (Raglan Fishing Club), SUPing, swimming (Swimming Club), kitesurfing, diving/scubadiving, jet skiing, wakeboarding, water skiing, sailing (Sailing Club), surf life saving (Surf Life Saving Club)

### » OTHER AIR ACTIVITIES

Paragliding, hang gliding and an active airfield which is used regularly for small aircraft.

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## Most common themes from the community

- » **MORE WALKWAYS & CYCLEWAYS**
- » **SWIMMING POOL**

- » **RECREATION CENTRE/SPORTS FACILITY**
- » **SKATEPARK UPGRADE**

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## Aspirations

- » We enjoy the natural environment through recreation in a sustainable way. Those involved in recreational activities help protect and enhance the natural environment and have an ongoing commitment to improving water quality in streams, harbour and ocean. Sports are supported if they have minimal impact on the environment and other activities.
- » Recreation is accessible to all
- » Recreation is safe

- » We have suitable, safe facilities for sports teams, groups and individuals
- » Sport in our community has positive outcomes that resonate not just on the sports field but also within the wider community. Sports gives children, youth and adults, opportunity for leadership, resilience, capability and strong community connection.
- » Active recreation supports better health and has a positive economic impact.

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## Possible pathways toward achieving these aspirations

“  
*A pontoon out by the walk bridge We used to have one there years ago*  
”

“  
*New Skate park so locals can continue to skate when tourists invade*  
”

“  
*More dog friendly walkways*  
”

- » Acknowledge and support existing sporting groups and clubs in Raglan, the volunteers who are involved and the value they bring to this community.
- » Really clean water, no more wastewater to ocean discharge. For pathways to support this see Infrastructure
- » Manu Bay to be free from additional building development
- » Manu Bay, in terms of commercial activities, is the place for surf competitions only.
- » Surf school activities are kept to Ngarunui beach.
- » Recognise the Whaanga Coast (originally known as the Karioi Native Reserve) as a significant space for Tainui Iwi and local hapu.
- » Contribute to the Waikato Regional Coastal plan review
- » Transport services to beach and back for everyone.
- » Create a separate foil board zone to allow for separation from established surfing zones.
- » Contribute to the Waikato Regional Council Navigation Safety Bylaw.
- » Support the new surf code of conduct and ensure that signage is placed in surfing areas for education purposes.
- » Form and sustain a tennis club that caters for all levels and ages
- » Find alternative fields in the Whaingaroa area to give more options as football and other sports keep growing. Consider the airfield.
- » Basketball – look at expanding mini court at

- Papahua. A full indoor court would enable local teams to play competitions and host tournaments
- » Extra field space and club rooms/gear storage urgently needed for soccer
- » Indoor Recreation Centre/Community Sports Facility - winter activities
- » Indoor swimming pool
- » Walking and cycling are supported; they provide transport solutions, have a low impact on the environment and encourage exercise to improve health. They also attract tourists in a manner which minimises their adverse impacts on the area.
- » New and upgraded walking and cycling tracks. (see Transport)
- » Get the council's Trails Strategy 2016 implemented and contribute when it's next up for review (2021).
- » Wainui Reserve Management Plan needs to provide for the widest range of recreation activities suited to the reserve. This plan is currently being reviewed and could be very crucial to improving the recreational value of the reserve. Eg. better access to mountain bike trails through Wainui Reserve
- » Skate park upgrade and other skate projects.
- » Provide for skateboarding through the CBD and over the footbridge as part of pedestrianisation.
- » Physical inactivity costs the country around \$1.3 billion a year, or 0.7% of GDP. In terms of Raglan ward's 5,790 people, that's about \$1.9m a year. By supporting and promoting active recreation we work towards reducing that cost.

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# Arts

## Mahi Toi

The arts community is diverse and unique with many musicians, dancers, painters, fashion designers, pottery, Whakairo, event organisers, galleries, film makers, Kapa Haka, Sculptors, photographers, theatre, drama, writers, moko artists and tattooists. The Arts in Whaingaroa is thriving and adds value to the community through the creative input of the above mentioned. There is significant community engagement and participation in the arts and arts are highly valued in this community.

**Arts purpose – brings wellbeing, voice, uniqueness, social and cultural development. Through the arts we are able to communicate who we are as people and how ‘place’ influences our unique voice.**

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## What we have

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### » VENUES/PERFORMANCE SPACE/ STUDIOS

Raglan Town Hall, Raglan Old School Arts Centre, Orca, Matapihi Gallery, Ahoy Studio, Kokiri Centre, Raglan Club, Rockit Gallery and Venue, Yot Club, Wainui Bush Park, Ruapuke Motor Campground, Papahua/Kopua, Wainui Reserve, Scout Hall, Te Mata Hall, Te Uku Hall, Raglan Library, Community House,

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### » CLASSES/WORKSHOPS/ MENTORSHIP

Regular weekly sessions in: ballet, creative dance, nia dance, african dance, drama, choir, pottery, circus arts, music tutoring, painting, craft. School holiday programmes for: pottery, creative crafts, art making. Annual workshop events in photography, film making, hip hop culture.

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### » ARTS GROUPS/ORGANISATIONS

Whaingaroa Youth Movement (est 2003), Raglan Theatre Academy (est 2008), Kaumatua Singing Group, Raglan Community Choir, Raglan Community Arts Council (est 1982), Raglan Musicians Club, Circus Aotearoa, Kapa Haka

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### » EVENTS

Raglan Art to Wear, Soundsplash, Word Café Raglan, Whaingaroa Youth Movement, Raglan Theatre Academy, Raglan Arts Weekend, Te Ao Marama, Raglan Film Festival, Mountain Dreaming clay workshops, Youth Week, Masquerade Ball, Film Workshop Event



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## Most common themes from the community

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» **MUSIC**

» **PUBLIC ART, INCLUDING SPACES**

» **THEATRE**

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» **SUPPORT THE ARTS**

» **DANCE**

» **MĀORI AND CULTURAL ARTS**

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## Aspirations

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» **Promote, support and encourage growth in all local creative industries including heritage and cultural art, Māori Performing Arts, music, visual art, craft art, dance, and theatre, street performance, film, photography, and literature**

» **Future planning for spaces**

» **Increase visibility of arts**

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» **Encourage and support children and young people in the learning and participation of the arts**

» **All art forms are a contributor to local economy and tourism**

» **Marketing and promotion of the arts**

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## Possible pathways toward achieving these aspirations

“ *Keep the art and music as strong focuses* ”

“ *Encourage art sector with support and facilities* ”

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» Acknowledge and support existing facilities, groups and artists in Raglan, the volunteers who are involved and the value they bring to this community.

» Support and design a designated indoor/outdoor space in the village for buskers, live musicians, street performance, theatre and dance performance.

» Community to support, encourage and promote Māori artists, musicians, theatre, kapa haka, dance and performing arts.

» Identify, create and design spaces in the village for public art, sculptures, cultural art, murals, installations and creative innovative art projects.

» Encourage, promote and support children and young people with all creative industries.

» Supporting and creating a strong foundation for learning music, arts, kapa haka, theatre and dance with students.

» Continue to support and promote Kōkiri Centre, Raglan Old School Arts

Centre and Town Hall events, Raglan Community Radio, Rag FM and Tractor FM.

» Support and develop more community events and festivals.

» Local artists to work with the Whaingaroa Destination Management Organisation to create a unique brand to promote Raglan community.

» Recognising and supporting local self-employed artists and musicians who contribute to local economy.

» Create and design a platform for promoting and publishing events and works by local artists, live music, dance and theatre productions, kapa haka and cultural performance.

» Community Music Board to encourage and support local music industry and funding opportunities

» Supporting and developing Artist in Residency programmes.

» A large multi-space building (250+ capacity) for more performing arts classes and events including dance, theatre and music facilities.

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## Business & Employment

### Ngā Umanga me te Whiwhinga Mahi

Whaingaroa Raglan has an array of local businesses that help to create a thriving community. From retail shops and cafes in the CBD, trade services, health and wellbeing, home-based business ventures, tourism operators and more. Local businesses tend to align themselves with positive values that focus on sustainability and maintaining a healthy environment. Successful businesses operating in the Raglan community provide employment opportunities and positive economic growth.

In 2013 there were almost 800 workers with a workplace address in Raglan, implying a relatively high proportion of jobs per capita (of residents) of 29%. As of 2016 there were almost 1,200 jobs (employment counts) and 431 businesses within the Raglan Community boundary.

Citizens of the Whaingaroa community are happy to support local business and regularly patronize the services provided. On any given day visitors and local Raglanites will experience the unified atmosphere that exists in the shops and on the streets.

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## What we have

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- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| » <b>A really strong business community (that we don't necessarily see) around 400 businesses</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                         | » <b>Engaged community – people volunteer/pitch in around community in lots of ways</b> |
| » <b>All the different sectors that we have in Raglan</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | » <b>Lots of technology experts based at home</b>                                       |
| » <b>Supportive place for start-ups</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | » <b>Family feel, strong small to medium market</b>                                     |
| » <b>Social and environmental values / social corporate responsibility</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | » <b>Raglan House – Workshops and CV writing support</b>                                |
| » <b>Great lifestyle – Business support work/life balance</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | » <b>Sense that people want to support local business</b>                               |
| » <b>Chamber of commerce being very active in the community and recognized for contribution to a sustainable business attitude and being community leaders in a wide range of community areas as in Raglan Plastic Free, also advocating for business with both local regional and central government</b> | » <b>Growing community</b>                                                              |
-

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## Most common themes from the community

- » **MAINTAIN THE RAGLAN VIBE OF BUSINESS (NO BIG CHAINS)**
- » **WEEKLY FARMERS/PRODUCE MARKET WITH AFFORDABLE GOODS**
- » **EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING TOOLS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCALS AND YOUTH**
- » **SUPPORT FOR SMALL, NEW AND REMOTE WORKING BUSINESSES**

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## Aspirations

- » **Raglan is an environment that is conducive to strong and vibrant businesses, which employ locals, including younger people.**
- » **Raglan has a platform that encourages the development of small and medium sized enterprises with long term business planning.**
- » **Raglan is a living wage town.**
- » **Local people within the community support and use local trades people.**
- » **Raglan has a diverse mix of businesses in the CBD. It is an energetic hub of activity.**
- » **Raglan has a successful campaign which motivates the consumer to 'shop local, buy local'.**

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## Possible pathways toward achieving these aspirations

“ *If businesses are to thrive the landlords need to keep rent sustainable* ”

“ *Establish a weekly Sunday morning market for local and homegrown produce, native plants, handmade and secondhand items* ”

“ *Raglan is a living wage town (like plastic free campaign)* ”

- » Support for locals interested in starting a business, including: training, mentoring and identifying business opportunities
- » Support for up-and-coming social enterprises and community co-ops
- » Social framework and support network that provides a platform for businesses to grow
- » “Shop Local” scheme and uptake from local community
- » Manage business growth to ensure ‘big business/chains’ do not take over the community
- » Establish a weekly farmers market that provides affordable produce and other goods
- » Liaise with local businesses to develop internships for local students
- » Regular updates from the business community about open employment, apprenticeships or internships and volunteer opportunities
- » Promote seasonal employment opportunities for locals, including youth
- » Develop employment training pathways for locals, including youth
- » Create a ‘Careers Fair/Showcase Day’ between the Raglan Business Chamber and local schools
- » Support technology initiatives through infrastructure improvements which will allow for the development of a future tech hub
- » Expand collaboration between developers, locals, the wider community and council to encourage planned, sustainable growth in small and medium sized enterprises
- » Ensure community values and expectations are shared with new business owners and interested investors
- » Establish and share a Raglan branding, in line with Raglan Naturally – so that businesses who choose to brand themselves using the name ‘Raglan’ in their business can be consistent with the character of Raglan when operating within the community and when promoting their product or service outside of the community. Keeping in line with the Raglan Naturally values, promoting a sustainable business model. Remembering that by using the ‘Raglan’ name, they are representing the Raglan community and what the community stands for and believes in.

# Community Wellbeing

## Te Oranga o te Hāpori

For us in Whaingaroa, wellbeing is about the health of our whole person – mind, body and spirit – in connection with our whole community and our environment, and with the Treaty of Waitangi as an overarching guide.

Raglan is a vibrant, caring community that engages in issues important to us. We are resilient and open to growth and change, with a strong community spirit that keeps us connected and cohesive. There is strong local leadership in all age groups and we live in an environment rich in natural resources that support wellbeing.

*“There is a community pride in Raglan that keeps us active and collaborative”*

*Mike , Raglan Community House*

## What we have

### » RANGE OF CONVENTIONAL HEALTHCARE SERVICES

- General Practitioners and practice nurses at clinic in town.
- Raglan Medical
- Counsellors
- Mental Health Support Service (what does this look like)
- Physiotherapist
- District nurses
- Midwives
- Dentist and hygienist

### » EMERGENCY SERVICES

- Ambulance
- PRIME (Primary response in medical emergencies) during West Coast Health opening hours. St John's NZ are currently reviewing PRIME.
- Fire
- Coast guard
- Surf lifesaving
- Police including community patrol

### » OLDER ADULT SUPPORT SERVICES

- Rest home and palliative care (nurses and West Coast Health General Practitioners)
- Stewart street housing
- Community House meet ups and support
- Light exercise
- Senior technology group

### » RANGE OF COMPLIMENTARY HEALTH SERVICES

- Counselling and psychotherapy
- Massage therapists
- Medical Herbalists and Naturopaths
- Energy healers
- Coaching and Mentoring
- Osteopaths
- Podiatrist
- Rongoa traditional Maori medicine
- Meetings and workshops

### » SUPPORT FOR YOUNG FAMILIES INCLUDING

- Plunket
- Bryant Retreat for fragile mums
- Kindergartens and Early Childhood Education centre
- Play Centre and Play groups
- Mainly Music
- Raglan Noticeboard Facebook Page
- Raglan Radio
- Maori Wardens
- Neighbourhood Support

### » RAGLAN COMMUNITY HOUSE

- Counselling Budgeting advice
- Drop in Centre
- Opportunity Shop
- Homeless people welcomed

### » EXERCISE AND RECREATION GROUPS

- Raglan Ramblers and other walking groups
- Raglan Gym
- Yoga
- Keep fit classes
- Dance classes such as Nia, Zumba and African Dance
- Excellent skate park and variety of playgrounds

### » RANGE OF COMMUNITY GROUPS

- Faith-based organisations
- Lions
- Crop Swap
- Horticultural Society
- Writers group
- Knitting Circle
- Book clubs
- Permaculture group
- Whaingaroa Environment Centre
- Raglan Timebank
- Old School Art Centre
- Information Centre
- Foodbank
- Library – including a Council Officer who deals with local issues
- Community Bus

## Most common themes from the community

- » ACCESS TO A RANGE OF HEALTH SERVICES
- » MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES ARE A PRIORITY
- » MORE SUPPORT FOR OLDER PEOPLE & THOSE WITH DISABILITIES
- » MORE SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE ON LOW INCOMES
- » MORE ACTION ON CRIME
- » HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT
- » CREATING CULTURE OF CARING AND KINDNESS

## Aspirations

- » Raglan has a community wellbeing hub fostering connectedness and access to wellbeing services
- » Local healthcare services are holistic, accessible and affordable.
- » Hapū and iwi have culturally relevant health and wellbeing services
- » There is a strong focus on mental health support
- » People have access to affordable and good quality food, water and housing as well as meaningful employment.
- » Raglan has a strong identity as a safe and caring, age-friendly community
- » Raglan celebrates and respects cultural diversity.
- » Recognise that a healthy natural environment is essential for community health and wellbeing
- » Arts and creativity and are valued as important aspects of wellbeing

## Possible pathways toward achieving these aspirations

“ To thrive is to create a culture of inclusiveness and caring for everyone in our community - let's focus on that ”

“ I like the idea of a community hub - experiment with different ways to connect ”

“ Connect services that can help the most vulnerable, using the skills of locals and providing a funding pool to pay for these ”

- » We have a community hub that provides a space for groups and individuals to meet, find out about and access health and wellbeing services, and enjoy a range of creative activities such as a Blokes Shed.
- » A community connector actively brokers connections for people who are isolated or lonely.
- » Conventional and complementary health services are integrated and culturally relevant . Health and wellbeing services are available at Poihākena Marae or other suitable venues.
- » Medical emergency services are available at night and in weekends
- » We start courageous conversations about mental health, drug and alcohol, family harm and suicide issues in Raglan .
- » A health literacy programme is initiated to ensure that health information available is user-friendly, useful and accurate.
- » Create more awareness and support for community initiatives that provide services and goods for the community, e.g. Crop Swap, Tool Library, Community Gardens, etc.
- » Youth are educated and empowered to take responsibility for their health and wellbeing
- » We have a directory of local health and wellbeing services, including support groups and organisations.
- » An audit of wellbeing support groups in Raglan is carried out and gaps are identified.
- » Families are supported through the provision of excellent childcare services and parenting programmes
- » We bring back the shopping bus, and provide more transport support for the older people to get to appointments.
- » We look at ways our community can support the police including community patrols
- » We research the presence and use of toxic chemicals in Raglan. We investigate ways to limit their use and mitigate their effects.
- » Everyone has the opportunity to participate in environmental care and restoration, to grow food and/or access local produce.
- » We promote community resilience initiatives such as Raglan Timebank and Crop Swap
- » We have regular community celebrations and activities that foster respect, caring, kindness and connection such as pot luck dinners, street barbecues and low cost family friendly events.
- » Public health nurses

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# Destination & Visitor Management

## Te Ahumahi Tāpoi

The Destination and Visitor Management group recognizes the importance to respect local culture and protect the environment. We aim to give priority to local interests and work to achieve a positive and enjoyable experience for visitors. The group will strive to meet the interests of locals and encourage them to be involved in the decision making process.

### Why do people want to visit us?

... just look around! With picture perfect sunsets (and sunrises) almost year-round and laid-back vibes, Whaingaroa Raglan is hard to beat.

Raglan offers pristine surf, mountain trails, epic views and a unique opportunity to connect and care for the environment.

Visitors don't want Raglan to change. There is a connection to Raglan that many feel their own home has lost.

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## What we have

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» LACK OF COMMERCIALISATION

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» ENVIRONMENTALLY AWARE  
TOURISM BUSINESS OPERATORS

---

» AN UNDERDEVELOPED, MORE  
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

---

» STRONG CONNECTIVITY AND  
POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS

---

» AN OPEN-MINDED COMMUNITY

---

» DIVERSE PEOPLE

---

» RAGLAN I-SITE

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» HAMILTON & WAIKATO TOURISM

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» WHAINGAROA RAGLAN  
DESTINATION MANAGEMENT  
ORGANISATION

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## Most common themes from the community

- » **PROTECT LOCAL INTERESTS FIRST**
- » **ENCOURAGE OFF-SEASON EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**
- » **CREATE A COHESIVE, SUSTAINABLE MARKETING MESSAGE THAT IS ALIGNED WITH RAGLAN NATURALLY**

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## Aspirations

- » **Within ten years, Raglan will be widely recognised as the eco-friendly heart of New Zealand, and be a leading example of responsible and sustainable tourism.**
- » **Encourage shoulder season events and activities that help support businesses and employment through the winter months**
- » **Creating and supporting 'sustainable' visitor experiences**
- » **Maintain the character of the town, keep the Raglan vibe alive**
- » **Ensure local interests are kept at the forefront of future visitor growth**
- » **Create a cohesive marketing message, focused on sustainable tourism, a 'how-to visit Raglan' guide**
- » **Develop and align marketing of Raglan with the values of the community.**
- » **Develop a 'Raglan Customer Charter' that underpins exceptional customer service to all customers regardless of the business**

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## Possible pathways toward achieving these aspirations

“ Create a cohesive, community-minded marketing message that all tourism operators and promoters can use ”

“ Educate our friends and travellers who visit about: reducing; re-using and upcycling. ”

“ It would be great to share more stories of the people and past of this place. Public weather resistant signage would be wonderful to educate visitors and instill pride in folk who call Whaingaroa home ”

- » Encourage positive visitor behaviours (i.e. disposing of waste in the correct bins, encouraging the BYO, bring your own, culture)
- » Provide more thorough information for visitors in regards to freedom camping, paid accommodation, public facilities, cafe and shop hours, etc.
- » Ensure the marketing of Raglan aligns with Raglan Naturally and create a cohesive marketing message across all promotional outlets
- » Maintain the character of the town, keep the Raglan vibe alive
- » Work with local community groups to develop educational and sustainable visitor experiences
- » Ensure a range of authentic experiences that help to showcase our people, our landscape, our stories, our history, our place
- » Create a more connected experience where visitors and locals alike can easily walk or ride between community destinations (work alongside WDC to further develop bike pathways and walkways around the community)
- » Communicate sustainable tourism business practices to new and interested tourism business operators
- » Develop hospitality and customer service training programmes for locals, including youth
- » Work with the business group to establish and share a Raglan branding, in line with Raglan Naturally – so that businesses who choose to brand themselves using the name 'Raglan' in their business can be consistent with the character of Raglan when operating within the community and when promoting their product or service outside of the community. Keeping in line with the Raglan Naturally values, promoting a sustainable business model. Remembering that by using the 'Raglan' name, they are representing the Raglan community and what the community stands for and believes in.
- » Develop and showcase a sense of localism, e.g. ensure visitors know when local produce is being used in cafes or sold in shops
- » Develop a tourism training programme for locals to gain skills in the hospitality and service industry
- » Work with Raglan Business Chamber to develop a Destination Management Organisation.

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# Education

## Mātauranga

Education in the Whaingaroa-Raglan district reflects the stunning coastal-rural location and with a local community focus on caring for the environment. The many options for early childhood care and education include Kohanga Reo, Raglan Kindergarten, Matapihi Kindergarten, Lets Grow Early Learning Center, Magnolia Tree Childcare, Raglan Playcentre, Playgroup and Homebased care.

Raglan Area School is a composite school and provides for more than 600 students aged 5 – 19 years. The schools' mission statement reflects it's continued commitment to te reo Maori and it's unique position in the community 'Celebrating education in a bi-cultural environment' it has a Maori Immersion Unit, Te Roopu Aroha ki te Reo, a Surfing Academy and the Enviro Schools Earthcare program. There are 3 rural primary schools in the district at Te Uku, Te Mata and Waitetuna. Some students choose to travel by local bus to Hamilton secondary schools.

Adult education opportunities include te reo classes at Poihakena Marae, Whaingaroa Environment Center workshops, Xtreme Waste environmental education and Permaculture workshops at Solscape. The Old School is also well utilised by children and adults for art and hobby classes.

*Education as a core value of Raglan Naturally – a Learning Community.  
Are the children well?*

*It's takes a village to raise a child.*

*Not individual thinking, but community support*

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## What we have

Choice and variety of education providers. Strong community of dedicated and passionate teachers. Our natural environment. Community support. Diverse knowledge in our community. Parents are already concerned about environment and the future so open to making positive changes.

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### » EARLY CHILDHOOD

- We are well served by early childhood centres in Raglan including Playgroups, Kohanga Reo, Raglan Kindergarten, Playcentre, Magnolia Childcare, Matapihi, Let's Grow, Mainly Music
- Home based care

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### » PRIMARY & SECONDARY

- Raglan Area School and Te Ropu Aroha Ki Te Reo, Te Uku School, Te Mata School, Waitetuna School, Homeschooling families
- Raglan Surf Academy
- Public health nurses and sexuality education

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### » EXTRA-CURRICULAR

- Environment (Karioi Project), Sports lessons (eg. tennis, soccer, netball, basketball, rugby, sailing), Arts lessons (eg. drama, dance, clay, music, film)
- Extra tuition
- Youth groups
- Poutama Tane – Rites of Passage

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### » ADULT & EDUCATION GENERALLY

- Te Reo Atarangi
- Te Mauri Tau – Poutiria te Aroha, parenting courses, Enviro Schools
- Xtreme Zero Waste – X Man
- Raglan Community House – computing
- Permaculture training
- Community gardens, Whaingaroa Environment Centre



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## Most common themes from the community

- » **RAGLAN AREA SCHOOL, SUPPORT AND IDEAS**
- » **TRAINING IN SUSTAINABILITY, ENVIRO, PERMACULTURE, PRACTICAL LIFE SKILLS**

- » **TE REO AND TE AO MĀORI**
- » **INTERGENERATIONAL LEARNING**
- » **APPRENTICESHIPS**

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## Aspirations

- » Education is a core value of Raglan Naturally – we are a learning community
- » Provide early childhood education for all children in the community
- » Provide support for families to look after younger children at home.
- » Children are safe in our community and are aware of safety, learning to assess risk.
- » Children are immersed in their community: people, environment, history
- » Encourage bilingualism/biculturalism for our young people
- » To be bilingual in our education centres and community.
- » Use Te Whāriki (ECE) and the NZ Curriculum to inform learning and teaching in our community
- » Provide environmental education
- » Provide choice and a variety of education providers for our families to choose from
- » Supporting community to access diverse options – transport, fees subsidies
- » Schools are future-focused and look at the big picture. They provide the skills our young people need to survive in an unknown future.
- » Develop the holistic wellbeing of our young people
- » Meet the needs of the whole whānau. Support whole system – whānau, families, children and their needs.
- » Create a supportive education network in Whaingaroa

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## Possible pathways toward achieving these aspirations

“ Why is education structured by generations? What about intergenerational learning? ”

“ Teach students/people how to transform vehicles -cars, bikes, scooters etc into electric vehicles at low cost. ”

- » Education for parents around child development and looking after young children at home
- » Support education around bullying and education for children and parents on safety.
- » Children are immersed in their community through: place-based education and making links with local expertise and our shared history; building connection and support with the community; growing awareness of things already happening in the community
- » Provide opportunities for our children to be bicultural and bilingual: support our community based programme for fluent Te reo Māori speakers to be part of learning in our learning centres; explore resources to support this
- » Schools and early childhood centres work together for sustainability of schools/kura and benefit of all
- » Accessible transport to and from schools
- » Sexuality education
- » Look at the support systems we have in place around mental health
- » More affordable permaculture courses
- » Support community gardens
- » Support Whaingaroa Environment Centre to run educational programmes
- » Coordinate a monthly education network meet up
- » Evening classes

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# Infrastructure

## Ngā Pūnaha Wai

Raglan has had a telegraph line since 1884, electricity since 1935, piped water since 1964 and a sewage system since 1977. As our community has grown so too has our need for good infrastructure. In this focus area, infrastructure covers:

- Freshwater/town supply
- Wastewater/sewerage
- Stormwater
- Refuse
- Electricity
- Phone/broadband
- Energy

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## What we have

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### » FRESHWATER/TOWN SUPPLY

We have a clean water supply, sourced from a spring on the side of Karioi, which is available throughout the year. It meets the current demand within the 3,100m<sup>3</sup>/day resource consent.

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### » WASTEWATER/SEWERAGE.

Raglan has 19 pump stations that pump to the treatment ponds and we are currently reviewing our resource consent for the discharge of treated wastewater to the harbour outfall. Our community is actively involved in the consent process and is working closely with council on options for improvements, particularly exploring a land-based treatment system that diverts the discharge from the harbour.

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### » STORMWATER.

We have the Urban Stormwater Tangata Whenua and Key Stakeholders Liaison Group which allows local input into stormwater decisions.

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### » REFUSE

Raglan is very fortunate through the hard work and dedication of a core team of community champions to have Xtreme Zero Waste manage the waste handling. Xtreme Zero have done an outstanding job increasing recycling rates,

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### » ELECTRICITY

Raglan has good opportunity to increase renewable electricity generation due to wind resource and sunlight hours and local experienced renewable electricity installers.

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### » PHONE/BROADBAND

Introduction of highspeed internet has assisted in the ability for local businesses to connect with the global business community.

## Most common themes from the community

- » **SUPPORT FOR PLASTIC FREE RAGLAN, RECYCLING, REDUCING LITTER**
- » **HANDLE WASTEWATER MORE ECOLOGICALLY**

- » **BEAUTIFICATION, MAINTENANCE**
- » **ALTERNATIVE ENERGY**
- » **PUBLIC TOILETS, FOUNTAINS, DOG BAGS, NAPPY CHANGE**

## Aspirations

- » The impact on the natural environment and ecology must be the prime consideration in all infrastructure decisions.
- » Infrastructure must continue to be upgraded to reduce the impact on the natural environment and ecology.
- » Stormwater runoff must be filtered through wetlands, roadway runoff must be filtered through swales.
- » Treated wastewater must be discharged through a wetland prior to discharge.
- » The impact of sea level rise must be planned for now as flood events are happening already.
- » Refuse must be preferably eliminated, or minimised by development of a circular economy.
- » We aspire to a standard of excellence for all of Raglan's public assets and spaces. We are proud of our town and its facilities; we work closely with WDC and take an active part in the care of it, through maintenance and beautification.

## Possible pathways toward achieving these aspirations

“Reduce waste, stores to stop selling disposable wipes and single use plastics (straws, cups etc)”

“How about we become self sufficient in energy generation”

“Can we please have a land-based sewage system that makes use of the waste in some way. No more discharging into the beautiful harbour.”

- » Land-based sewerage system and consider alternatives such as composting toilets
- » Include the new recommended sea level changes in all infrastructure and planning decisions to reduce the cost to future residents to respond to climate change.
- » The new wastewater disposal to harbour consent in 2020 needs to be of shorter duration and have hard deliverables to stop this activity before the next consent renewal.
- » Wastewater from the treatment plant post UV stage should be processed through a man made wetland to a water quality suitable for shellfish gathering and swimming prior to disposal.
- » Reinstate the anaerobic ponds that process the incoming wastewater and outfall membrane plant backwash to produce gas that could run a generator to offset treatment plant electricity use.
- » Install floating solar PV systems on the pond to reduce the growth of algae and to offset treatment plant power use.
- » Rainwater collection tanks for houses need to be continued as part of building consent to slow runoff and allow for all rain water to be filtered through a wetland before harbour outfall. These rain tanks can provide emergency water storage should the reticulated system be damaged.
- » Where possible increase the volume of stormwater directed to Aro Aro wetland, include pumping if necessary.
- » Extend water supply out to edges of community especially for fire fighting supply.
- » Install footpaths with swales and tree planting to beautify and slowly filter roadway runoff.
- » Install filtration on the potable water prior to UV treatment to reduce the risk of an earthquake causing potable water treatment outage.
- » Continue to support and expand the community-based Xtreme Zero Waste team reduction in waste generation and develop a circular economy, support expansion of Plastic Free Whaingaroa.
- » As the volume of greenwaste increases explore the installation of a biodigester to produce gas for electricity generation.
- » Lobby government for mandatory product stewardship. Support and continue to develop local minimisation of throw-away packaging.
- » Develop a community power scheme, and encourage residential solar PV as well as electrification of restaurants, transport and businesses. Aim to become self-sufficient in energy generation.
- » Continue to place power and telephone services underground to reduce visual clutter.
- » Increase roadside tree planting and beautification
- » A community-led monitoring group that ensures the WDC planned maintenance in the CBD, on the hard surfaces and street furniture/assets is fit for purpose and that the work carried out is completed to a good standard. Monitoring maintenance outcomes adds to both the practicality and beautification of Raglan's assets.

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## Local Government & Planning

Kāwanatanga ā-Hāpori  
me te Whakatakoto  
Tikanga

We as a community intend to be more knowledgeable about and more involved in the planning for our area and community. Learning about what local government looks like here and what boards and committees exist is the first step. Understanding the roles of these boards and committees and learning about how planning is done – is pretty interesting! This new Raglan Naturally Focus Area is about bringing all this information into one place and looking at how we can be more involved in planning for our community.

A community that understands these things can get more involved and new leaders can be supported.

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## What we have

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### » WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCIL

We have a district council that is clearly indicating they want to work with a more 'bottom up'/community led approach to planning. They support our community planning. Raglan also has an elected Councillor at WDC who represents the Raglan/Whaingaroa Ward in a governance capacity for our community.

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### » RAGLAN COMMUNITY BOARD

A pro-active Community Board that responds to community and consults widely with the community. The Community Board is committed to supporting the implementation of the Community Plan and its regular review.

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### » AN ACTIVE COMMUNITY

that generally is efficient in making their views known to Local Government; a strong community focus as exemplified by the RN community plan, as well as other groups (Placemakers, etc.)

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### » RAGLAN TOWN HALL COMMITTEE

the Committee manages most maintenance and enhancement of the Historic building. The Town Hall is the 2nd most utilised hall in the district. Users include regular recreation groups involving many youth and local events are run annually by different community organisations. The committee is active in the community and receives many positive comments regarding the facility.

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### » RAGLAN NATURALLY COMMITTEE

A diverse committee with local knowledge and experience and commitment to the RN process.

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### » WDC RAGLAN SERVICE CENTRE OR LIBRARY

is seen as the Hub of the Community. We provide a safe space for everyone to share including locals, travellers, visitors, professionals and anyone else who wish to share in our space and this is definitely reflected by our team. The Team are representative of our Community as a whole from Tangata whenua, farming, local business owner, conservationists, surfers, parents, fishers and life long relationships with the community.

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### » WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL

We have a constituent member from Raglan, Fred Lichtwark, who is an elected member alongside Pamela Storey, both represent the Waikato. This means that there are representatives focusing on our catchment and lobbying for projects and funding for the benefit of all in our area.

## Most common themes from the community

- » **AUTONOMY FROM WDC**
- » **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**
- » **WELL CONSIDERED PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

## Aspirations

- » Regular community engagement and participation to ensure every part of our community has a say in governance and planning issues affecting them.
- » Explore what self-governance could look like in Raglan. Explore increased community autonomy and decision making and more control at the community board level.
- » To be a transparent and inclusive community that is knowledgeable about and involved in the planning and local government for our area.
- » Strengthen the community's relationship with whānau, hapū and iwi work towards a true partnership as per te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- » Raglan Naturally Plan – our 'living' community plan is representative of our wider community and is there to help guide the development of this place.
- » Raglan Naturally is an ongoing process, managed by our community and is part of the connection to the Raglan Community Board. Raglan Naturally is well governed, sustainable, supported by all stakeholders and is able to keep the plan alive and source additional funding for community projects.
- » All parties (community, iwi and hapū, local organisations, Councils etc) come together and work towards cohesive and community driven development of Raglan and our rural communities. This would include town centre planning, possible Structure Plan and would take into consideration the key challenges for our communities.
- » More localised consultation/planning/ decision making and implementation
- » We have effective elected individuals as councillor, on the community board and steering committees. These people are diverse and representative of the voices in our communities.
- » We understand and are confident in the rates spending by councils for Raglan and the rural communities.

## Possible pathways toward achieving these aspirations

**KEY:**  
**RN:** Raglan Naturally  
**WDC:** Waikato District Council  
**RCB:** Raglan Community Board

“

*Set up a Charitable trust to take on the community leadership of implementation, convene ongoing training, workshops, discussions to build community leadership and resilience.*

”

- » Redistribution of power and authority from WDC to Raglan Community Board. An example is that the community board could manage a Town Development Fund. This could be made up of funds from Harbour Board Leases, boat ramp and parking charges etc.
- » Extend Raglan Community Board boundary to include the whole of the Raglan Ward, this includes our rural communities of Ruapuke, Te Mata, Te Uku, Waingarō and Waitetuna
- » Waikato District Council sets aside funds to train and introduce its members to their Community Board responsibilities under the Local Government Act
- » Raglan Community Board to review meeting and workshop times to build inclusivity and participation. A forum is established, as part of community board meetings, to discuss relevant strategy issues
- » Continual community learning, engagement and participation through events, summits and agenda setting workshops
- » Administration arm attached to the RCB to improve community engagement from all groups, coordinate community input/interest and communicate data/findings. Monitor development consents. Ensure transparency.
- » Prioritising infrastructure via local consultation
- » RN and RCB to continue working with iwi and hapū to develop a relationship that is based on the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and is equitable and inclusive
- » Consider Raglan rates to benefit local area. Rates review.
- » All committees of WDC and under delegation to RCB are open and transparent and include hapū and iwi representatives.
- » Seek support from the Raglan Community Board and councils to first, ensure we understand our key challenges and second, ensure that these are taken into account in all strategic planning. One of these being 'loss of Raglan identity' and ensuring Raglan keeps its 'small town' feel.
- » Understand the value of a structure plan for Raglan and decide if this is what we need
- » Raglan Naturally continues to work closely with WDC in their Blueprint planning. Raglan Naturally and the Raglan Blueprint come together and feed strongly into the next Waikato District Council Annual and Long Term Plans and District Plan.
- » The community decides on Raglan Naturally's ongoing role, governance structure and sustainability. Action is taken to set this up.
- » Raglan Naturally works with the community to create a Raglan Naturally implementation plan with priorities for action.
- » Regional Council's Coastal Plan review. Be informed and involved.
- » 'West Coast Harbours' Treaty Settlements. Learn about and support iwi and hapū.
- » District Plan Review. Be informed and involved. RN to follow through on its submission to the District Plan.
- » Wainui Reserves Management Plan Review. RN and Raglan Community Board to work with WDC to ensure an inclusive and transparent process. RN and RCB support participation from the community.
- » Learn about the roles of Councillor, Community Board and Community committees. Elect community members who will be effective, are diverse and representative of the voices in our community.

# Natural Environment

## Taiao

The Natural Environment within the Whaingaroa area is diverse and comprises many types of natural habitat encompassing our unique rugged coastline and a range of land types with underlying rocks including limestone, volcanic and mudstones. The land varies from very steep and unstable to gentle fertile river valleys.

The forest covered Mt Karioi is the largest formally protected area in the catchment. Extensive predator control is currently being carried out on the maunga and surrounding land by the Karioi Maunga ke te Moana project.

The Harbour – The Whaingaroa harbour catchment covers 525 km<sup>2</sup> and the harbour covers 35 km<sup>2</sup> and has 220 km of coastline. It runs 12 km inland from the entrance, for the most part is less than 2 km wide. Many small streams draining the steep catchment join to form larger rivers such as the Waingaro, Kerikeri, Waitetuna, Wainui and others. These feed into the many arms of the Whaingaroa harbour. Raiparian fencing and planting by landowners and Whaingaroa Harbour care over the past 20 years has improved the water quality within the harbour.

## What we have

### » PEOPLE

- Hapu/Tangata Whenua
- Large, engaged and diverse volunteer base
- Environmental professionals (skills in community)
- Permaculture Community
- Environmental / organic agriculturalists
- Eco-tourists (visiting because of Raglan's eco-reputation)
- Passionate, supportive and engaged individuals and community

### » RARE, UNIQUE AND NOTABLE SPECIES

- Maui Dolphin
- Oi
- Bats
- Bitterns
- Geckos

### » ORGANISATIONS

- Whaingaroa Environment Centre
- Xtreme Zero Waste
- Whaingaroa Harbour Care
- Karioi Project
- Coastal Reserves Committee
- KASM
- Beachcare
- Board Riders Club
- Sport Fishing Club
- Local Schools
- MetOcean
- eCoast
- Waikato District Council
- Waikato Regional Council
- DOC
- West Coast Zone Committee
- Waikato Biodiversity Forum

### » PLACES

- Whaingaroa Harbour – extensive and varied ecosystems
- Karioi (one of 12 outstanding natural features and landscapes of regional significance)
- Surf Breaks (national significance)
- Coastline
- Wetlands – Aro Aro,
- Waireinga / Bridal Veil Falls
- Reserves
- Raglan is surrounded by wild places, many with good access
- Sand dune ecosystems
- Hopes and Johnsons Bush on the deviation that receive intense pest control as they are halo sites and key in the Tui numbers increasing
- Toreparu Wetland – the second largest coastal wetland in the north island.
- Manuaitu paa site, one of the largest pre-European site's

### » THINGS

- Maui Dolphin Day
- Predator control network around town / coast / mountain
- Many Environmental Education initiatives
- Local environmental initiatives (e.g. PBFR) have positive impact on natural environment
- Township is surrounded by wild places – connects people to natural environment. Attracts people to the area (to visit and to live)
- Raglan has many success stories

### » COMMUNITY

- Long tradition of community-driven environmental initiatives
- Good community support for environmental initiatives
- Many local businesses are environmentally aware

## Most common themes from the community

- » **PROTECT FLORA & FAUNA**
- » **PEST CONTROL**
- » **TREE PLANTING**
- » **CONTROL OF WEEDS**
- » **COMMUNITY GARDENS & FOOD**
- » **FOREST**
- » **REMOVE LITTER FROM BEACHES & OTHER PUBLIC PLACES**
- » **NO SPRAY**
- » **ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION**

## Aspirations

- » **Protection and enhancement of our natural areas and wildlife (land and sea).**
- » **Environmentally conscious development**
- » **No pollution (land and sea)**
- » **Community and individual ownership of environmental problems.**
- » **Climate change action**
- » **All plants, animals, fish and shellfish are managed to protect the resource for future generations to enjoy their use at the same levels as today, and if possible restore stocks to better levels**
- » **Continue to be a national and global leader on environmental issues**

## Possible pathways toward achieving these aspirations

“  
*Plant more native plants and set traps for pests to help our native animals*  
”

“  
*Manage weeds without spraying*  
”

“  
*Fruit trees in all parks and reserves*  
”

- » Continue to support local organisations working in the environmental space e.g. Whaingaroa Harbour Care, Xtreme Zero Waste and Whaingaroa Environment Centre.
- » Accessible green spaces including mixed ability access ways (i.e. pushchair, wheelchair, flat options)
- » All harbour catchment waterways are appropriately fenced and riparian buffer zones planted in native species
- » Community gardens and food forests. Fruit trees in public spaces.
- » Community is aware of what is going on, and empowered to have their voices heard
- » Continue sand dune planting and protection to act as natural buffers for sea-level rise and coastal erosion
- » Continued priority and resources for waste management, moving towards zero waste.
- » Eco-tourism
- » Environmental education for all ages (adults and children)
- » Harbour-wide development consents taking into account changing sea levels
- » Landowners implementing land use practices that protect the soil and water e.g. organic, regenerative, sustainable practices
- » More local food production on a range of scales (backyard to commercial)
- » More restored forest mimicking Wainui Bush Reserve
- » No storm water or wastewater discharge to sea
- » Planting of native trees
- » Reduction of animal pest species
- » Removal of pest plant species (public and private land), manage weeds without use of spraying when/where possible
- » Restoration of wetlands and conversion of marginal land to bush or wetland
- » Sound environmental urban and rural planning
- » Encourage construction and development to consider eco building and sustainable backyards
- » Video for tourists and new residents – ‘this is how we do it in Raglan’ – inspiring habit change for environmental protection
- » Walking track connecting township to beaches and surf breaks – connects people to the environment, encourages people out of cars
- » Waste water treatment plant upgrade – land-based system, circular economy
- » Promote local, healthy, sustainable plant-based food
- » Review the Whaingaroa Harbour Catchment Plan and work with the Regional Council on their Harbour Catchment Management Plans

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# Transport

## Ngā Waka

Transport in Whaingaroa looks very car dominated, with only 96 of 1,185 Raglan travel to work journeys on census day 2013 made by bike, bus, or walking. In Te Uku it was 15 out of 969.

Despite those figures, Council believes people walk and cycle more than elsewhere in the district. Parking has long been perceived as a problem, as has the single lane bridge. There are 4 Hamilton buses a day, a community bus and buses serving Raglan, TeUku, Waitetuna and TeMata schools. They carry about 2% of travellers.

Raglan differs from most of the region in being a destination rather than a place on the way to somewhere else. Therefore it doesn't figure highly in regional plans.

As a tourism hub we endure high levels of frustration due to capacity, especially in the summer peak.

The Infrastructure and Transport chapters of the 2001 Raglan Naturally plan didn't look at climate change, but had proposals to improve transport, including free buses to the beaches and more to Hamilton, ferries, bike paths, a village square, a CBD mall with service lanes, traffic calming on SH23 from Greenslade Rd and upgrading Wainui Rd footpath.

A more mobile and growing population has seen average daily traffic numbers, as measured on the main road near Wright's Rd, increase from 2,850 in 2000 to 4,758 in 2016. The numbers on the Raglan-Hamilton buses have risen even faster, accounting for overcrowding (22 times in 2016) and the need to run an 85-seat double decker on some journeys. Passengers have increased from 24,392 a year in 2003 to 63,571 in 2017.

In that time the main road has been widened in a couple of places to provide for overtaking, an extra midday bus has been added, weekend buses restored and the peak services are now run by 2 buses, plus a smaller bus providing relief between Whatawhata and Hamilton.

Parking has been increased at the wharf, at the corner of Wallis/Bow St and on Bankart St, Wallis St and James St (57 spaces in 2014 as part of a \$448,939 upgrade). It has not reduced calls for more parking. The boat ramp asset assessment suggested a user pay system for non ratepayers.

CBD parking ranked high in the list of Raglan priorities in 2014. However, in the 1999 RN survey, 53% supported car parks funded by users, but only 26% supported funding from rates. For some time the area behind the corrugated iron in Wi Neera St was advertised for parking at \$10 a week, but very few took it up. That suggests users are not willing to pay for additional parking and, if a large majority still believe in user-pays, extra on-road parking is not needed.

Length of stay has also been controversial; the longer the time permitted, the fewer can use spaces at peak times. Some 1 hour limits on Bow St are to be raised to 2 hour.

Raglan Club (for a fee) & Rugby Club have large car parks available, but, as the Google map shows, often have many vacant spaces.



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## Most common themes from the community

- » MORE CYCLING
- » ROUTE TO COAST FOR CYCLING/WALKING
- » TOWN SQUARE/PEDESTRIANISE CBD
- » MORE FOOTPATHS
- » MORE (OR LESS) PARKING
- » SHUTTLE BUS AROUND RAGLAN
- » MORE COUNTRY WALKING
- » REDUCE TRAFFIC SPEEDS
- » MORE BUSES
- » UPGRADE SINGLE LANE BRIDGE (SOME TO KEEP, SOME TO WIDEN)

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## Aspirations

- » To provide for people and goods to get about in ways which help provide worthwhile jobs, minimise impact on the environment and other activities, promote equal access to transport, whatever age, state of health, or wealth, and improve health and safety.
- » To achieve this:
  - » Walking and cycling are supported; they provide transport solutions, have a low impact on the environment and encourage exercise to improve health.
  - » They also attract tourists in a manner which minimises their adverse impacts on the area.
  - » Buses are supported; they provide transport for all, complement walking and cycling and are safer and need less space and fuel than cars.
  - » Get people out of their cars and see major benefits on issues like health and parking

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## Possible pathways toward achieving these aspirations

“ Build a cycleway/walkway from town to Manu Bay. This road is getting used more and more this road and becoming very dangerous ”

“ Getting people out of their cars will have major benefits on issues such as parking and health ”

- » encourage cycling and walking by providing safe, convenient routes. Including town to the beaches, footpaths around town, country walking paths
- » create a town square and/or make the CBD more pedestrian friendly, including Cliff Street
- » shuttle and other buses in Raglan and linking to Hamilton, residential, tourist areas, etc
- » reduce traffic speeds in town and on the most dangerous roads

These will need to be brought together in cohesive planning of sustainable transport, including walking, cycling, pedestrianisation, public transport (buses and possibly ferries), speed limits, charges for parking (probably with passes for locals) and other ways to reduce parking demand in crowded areas

All of these were in the 2001 Raglan Naturally Plan, which indicates that they have been consistently supported by the Raglan community.

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# Youth

## Rangatahi

Whaingaroa has always been a whānau centred community with a focus on relationships, culture and the environment. For youth, the small town vibe increases the sense of connectedness between them as further helps to foster a sense of uniqueness and individuality about the community as a whole. Youth also appreciate that there is a lot of support behind promoting the importance of both culture and the environment with local stories and history underpinning the community identity.

Whaingaroa currently has the potential to provide many opportunities for youth; however, no strategy exists to capitalise on these opportunities to create support systems for the youth population. School leavers often move away from the Whaingaroa township to access education, accommodation or employment if they cannot access in their home town. A rapidly growing community with a big influx of new residents, there is a need to prioritise support for youth in Whaingaroa.

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## What we have

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### » SKILLS

A diverse community with a global-village feel, there are many talented individuals in our community that could contribute to the overall outcome of youth development in Raglan. The youth in the community have a strong awareness of cultural and environmental values.

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### » PEOPLE

Local youth, educators, health service providers, change makers, Iwi/hapu community, parents, funding bodies, local government, local committees and decision making bodies, local business owners, mentors and influential people, local sports groups and clubs, Karioi Project, Business Chamber, Community House, Arts organisations and groups, Te Mauri Tau, Raglan Community radio, WEC, Raglan Chronicle, Schools – Te Uku/Te Mata/ Waitetuna/RAS, Poutama Tane, West Coast Health, Marae

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### » CURRENT PROJECTS

Youth Reps, Surfside Youth, Poutama Tāne, Leadership Programme -Akaroa, Youth Week, Gateway programme, Star Courses, Council Youth Engagement and Action plan, Sports groups, Karioi Project, Te Mauri Tau, Soundsplash, Te Ao Marama, Feed the Kids (Margaret), Maui Dolphin Day, the Arts, School Gala Days, Matariki Celebrations, Recreational and Environment Youth Groups, New Year Parade, Christmas In The Park.

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### » PLACES

Whaingaroa's key asset is the natural environment which creates many opportunities for recreational activity (Papahua, Ngarunui Beach, Manu Bay, Mt Karioi, etc.). We also have a number of venues (YOT Club, Town Hall, Raglan Club, Rock-it, Orca, Scout Room, sport venues – Tennis/Ruby, Gyms, sport groups- yoga, mediation) As well as other places of value like the skate park/camp ground, pump track , BTM track , etc. Kokiri centre

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### » FUNDING

There are a number of funding organisations that are relevant to Raglan and the Waikato region, specifically (Raglan Community Charitable Trust, Lions Club, Raglan Community Board, WDC, WEL Energy, DIA – Lotteries, Trust Waikato, local business Community Cash Funds) as well as project based and youth-specific funding and support opportunities (eg. Creative Communities NZ, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Culture and Heritage, Community Matters Org, Ākina, Vodafone, Tainui, Maori Trusts etc).

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### » SERVICES

National and regional youth services (Real Waikato, Zeal etc), local counsellors, budgeting, Health, Mental Health, Creative development.

## Most common themes from the community

- » **COMMUNITY YOUTH RECREATION AND/OR LEARNING FACILITY**
- » **EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH**
- » **SUPPORT SERVICES FOR YOUTH (HEALTH, EDUCATION, ETC.)**
- » **FACILITY & INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES**
- » **COMMUNITY GYM WITH INDOOR POOL AND COURTS**

## Aspirations

- » **Creating opportunities for education and employment**
- » **More connectivity and infrastructure**
- » **Creating opportunities to engage with the community**
- » **Housing opportunities for youth**
- » **Create a space that is specifically for youth**
- » **Health and wellbeing focus**
- » **More support for sports, recreation and adventure**
- » **Every young person transitioning to work or study**

## Possible pathways toward achieving these aspirations

“ *Indoor sports facility, indoor youth facility, free koha, table tennis, pool tables, air hockey, swim pool* ”

“ *Support the young people to create a youth hub* ”

“ *Every young person transitioning to work or study (eg Otorohanga's policy)* ”

- » Mentoring, training programmes, internships, massive open online course (MOOC), career expos, connect schools with businesses to build on employment skills
- » Identify youth leaders and influencers, mentoring, take the community to the youth, create platforms for them to share their ideas and a forum where youth issues can be discussed.
- » A youth hub/centre for youth, dedicated space for youth to feel safe and unjudged.
- » More opportunities for participation in arts, sports, recreation and adventure and other activities. Make information available about what groups exist for youth to participate in, support for travel outside of Raglan like a youth van, mentoring for those that have special interest areas and show passion. If we can show that there is demand for a dedicated space we can present a case for a dedicated recreation centre.
- » Make areas of Raglan accessible for youth who don't always have access to a car or ride for example transport services to beach and back. More walkways and cycleways and upgrade existing footpaths for safety and usability.
- » Housing solutions e.g. social housing, a memorandum of understanding with local rental property providers that allow for particular properties to be put aside for youth
- » Promote active, healthy and holistic lifestyle. Mental health support. Make sure information is accessible.
- » More extra curricular programmes for youth including holiday programmes.
- » Tuākana tēina relationship building
- » Digital and general business skills programme for youth
- » Connection between schools to share information and support each other e.g. sharing resources.
- » Investment in Raglan Area School to provide more specialist subject options for senior students.
- » Community recreation facility or hub with indoor swimming pool, basketball courts, meeting rooms
- » Don't put restrictions on youth who contribute to keeping this town 'vibrant'. Champion youth doing positive things
- » Environmental innovation hub
- » Skatepark upgrade, skate/bike paths with features. Remove 'no skate' signs
- » Create youth training programmes

# Housing

“ Build tiny homes. I can imagine a wee village of tiny homes. ”

“ Consider the explosion of properties let out on Air BNB versus permanent housing that is creating shortage. Look at options like Paris has adopted. ”

“ Housing for the elderly or even over 50's. Older folk are moving out as they can't afford to live here. ”

Housing is connected to and affects many of the Focus Areas within Raglan Naturally. Housing concerns have been raised in a few of the Focus Group conversations, including, Youth, Community Wellbeing, Business and Employment and Destination and Visitor Management. Our housing issues and concerns have featured very strongly in the community survey responses.

Housing has been an issue for a long time. We acknowledge housing initiatives that have and continue to be undertaken in Whaingaroa eg. Whaingaroa Affordable Housing Trust, was established in 2007 and worked with Habitat for Humanity on a local house project. People are currently addressing the housing issue in different ways and Whaingaroa Raglan Affordable Housing Project (WRAP) is one of those.

WRAP, Whaingaroa Raglan Affordable Housing Project group have been leading a project looking at the housing and affordability issues in Raglan. They have undertaken research, a community survey and town hall event to understand more about the housing situation here. WRAP will continue to work towards community consultation and co-designed housing solutions. A specific Raglan Naturally focus group was not set up for Housing as WRAP is doing this work. Raglan Naturally will work closely with WRAP to integrate their work with our community planning.

We invited WRAP to share their findings through Raglan Naturally. See below for community aspirations and possible pathways that have come up through the WRAP project so far. See Raglan Naturally website for the two recent WRAP reports, 'Householder Survey Report Summary' and 'Raglan Housing Analysis'.

## Most Common ideas/themes from community

- Air BnB controlled
- Affordable housing
- Social housing
- Bed tax
- Tiny homes

## Aspirations:

- Community consultation led design for housing solutions
- Affordable housing development for Raglan
- Supporting and enabling other communities by sharing the Raglan experience, tools and information
- Advocating at regional and national level for recognition of the small community housing access and affordability issues

## Possible Pathways toward achieving these aspirations

- Community-wide consultation hui in 2019 to reach out to those wishing to be part of a solution
- Continued representation on the Waikato Plan Housing Initiative working group
- Continued partnership with the Waikato District Council housing focus – see WDC Blueprint
- Continued partnership with key sponsors WEL Energy Trust Vital Impact (Housing) Grant
- Continued partnership with Raglan Community House, Raglan Chamber of Commerce and Raglan Community Board
- Continue to build relationships with landowners interested in affordable housing initiatives
- Continued connection with community land trust and affordable housing provider groups in Waikato/NZ
- Charitable trust structure for WRAP to enable recognition as charitable social enterprise
- Seek funding opportunities from central government and other investors
- Construct an advisory group of technical housing experts to input on the basis of community housing preferences
- Present the WRAP/Raglan story at housing hui with the view to advocacy for small communities

# Moving forward to next steps

What is the ongoing role for Raglan Naturally in our community?

## Next steps

The Raglan Naturally Team are really excited about the potential for it to grow, evolve and be kept alive. A useful next step would be to design and facilitate a number of workshops, both with those who have been closely involved in the process to date and the wider community. The aim would be to continue the dialogue with community, iwi and hapū and local organisations to:

- Review and evaluate our process and learning, measure the impact, celebrate our work together; and
- Decide on the ongoing role of Raglan Naturally, the governance structure and what support/funding will be needed to ensure this work is sustainable.

## Aspirations for Raglan Naturally

Since the Raglan Naturally plan was first published in 2001, the process has not been continuous. Therefore, we are aspiring towards:

- An ongoing process, not just a plan and handover with some ideas around implementation
- Greater emphasis on the continued development and evolution of the process for community-led and strengths-based development to be effective and sustainable
- Continued learning and capability building within our community to:
  - ◊ better understand community-led approaches and their contribution to positive change
  - ◊ learn about the treaty in our local context
  - ◊ share and spread local stories, experience and learning so that everyone benefits
  - ◊ amplify the impact of locally-led change by connecting people, places and through systems change
- A balanced focus between systemic change and projects on the ground
- Strong partnership with council to support ongoing community-led development work

## Community-led

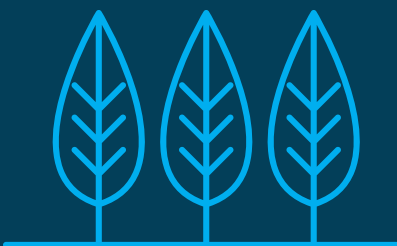
The need for ongoing community-led development, at least to the current level at which Raglan Naturally has been working, has been voiced by our community as critical for future planning and development. We can say that this further supports the theme of 'community working together'.

## Objectives

There is potential to create a really exciting, successful community organisation to advance coherent development in Raglan that can be an example to other communities in our district and further afield.

### These are possible tasks/objectives:

1. To oversee and support the implementation of the aspirations and projects documented in the plan.
2. To work in partnership with iwi and hapu, recognising the intent of Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the founding document of the partnership.
3. To ensure all people in the Raglan area have ongoing opportunities to be engaged, have input and be informed about the aspirations and projects of Raglan Naturally.
4. To work collaboratively and strengthen partnerships with relevant organisations and statutory bodies.
5. To create opportunities for Raglan's communities and organisations to connect and learn from each other.
6. To grow community capability by supporting the development of leadership, organisational capacity and skills, through training and provision of resources.
7. To support, promote and uphold the mana and values of "Raglan Naturally".
8. To seek funding, policies and resources which promote and support Raglan Naturally to deliver its aspirations and projects.
9. To document and share Raglan Naturally values, objectives, processes and achievements, to learn from and /or assist other communities.
10. To periodically review and refresh the plan and to evaluate the achievements of Raglan Naturally.



# Your ideas for the future success of Raglan Naturally

from the survey



- » Ongoing communication (social media, Raglan Chronicle, website, regular update, how to get involved)
- » Raise awareness and keep visible and active to maintain profile
- » Keep consulting
- » Keep up the good work!
- » Be inclusive and diverse to encourage participation from the community
- » Tangata whenua are essential Needs funding and ongoing support from the wider community
- » Build strong relationships with community, Iwi, WDC, RCB, and other groups
- » Strategically plan and put a governance structure in place
- » Keep refreshing the plan
- » Support local initiatives, ie Xtreme, WEC, Karioi project
- » Needs a permanent coordinator Help and support from Council
- » Council needs to work with RN
- » Involve Youth
- » Deliver on projects
- » Celebrate success
- » Make sure that we hold onto our history and remain aware of what we have already
- » Have strong vision and values

## Who will implement the plan?



**There are many ways that the plan will be implemented. These include:**

- » Some ideas, or projects, can be undertaken locally by the community in a form of 'working bees'
- » Some are probably best undertaken by a community organisation with a speciality in that area, possibly with volunteer assistance
- » Some may be undertaken in a joint effort between the council and the community
- » Some possibly larger projects, will be the responsibility of the council to take action. These will be planned for through the Blueprint and the next Long-Term Plan.
- » Some will probably best be implemented by a government agency or department.

# How will we prioritise projects and create an Action Plan?



The Raglan Naturally team will take the time to create an inclusive, community-led prioritisation process. We need to decide on the criteria for prioritising and will look at alignment with iwi and hapū planning, community values and aspirations, 'quick wins', short term projects, stepping stones to long-term goals, timing, impacts, costs, who would take responsibility to implement, current projects and capacity in community organisations, and councils' planning processes. We will need to feed strongly into the next council long-term planning process, 2020-2021.

Looking at the main ideas from the community-wide engagement will be helpful as it shows what is important to the community and where the energy is for change. We also need to take into consideration things that were not mentioned much, but which may be key challenges or opportunities (e.g. climate change, implementing the Treaty of Waitangi, equity, mental health and suicide). We also need to be aware that there are voices we may have only heard a little from, or not at all.

Once we have set our criteria, we can run all the ideas and possible projects from community and Focus Groups through this lens and produce a draft Action Plan, which we can bring back to the community for feedback.

## For more Information



**Contact:** Gabrielle Parson  
**Contact detail:** [raglannaturally@gmail.com](mailto:raglannaturally@gmail.com)  
**Website –** [raglannaturally.co.nz](http://raglannaturally.co.nz)  
Full focus group reports are available here.

## We welcome your feedback



▶ have you any questions?  
have you got any comments or ideas to add?  
Please visit the website or email us to feedback.

## How to be involved



- ▶ • sign up to newsletter,
- share RN with friends, family and networks,
- provide feedback
- connect with a focus group, through our email
- let us know what project or area you would like to lead or be involved in.

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# Appendix i

## Raglan Naturally survey questions

### DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

this will help us understand who is filling out the survey and how representative it is of our community.

**\* Which ethnic group do you belong to? Tick the space or spaces which apply to you.**

New Zealand European, Māori, Samoan, Cook Islands, Māori, Tongan, Niuean, Chinese, Indian, other eg. Dutch, Japanese, Tokelauan

**\*Age: Please let us know what age band you fit into by circling the one that applies to you.**

Less than 18 years, 18–24 years, 25–34 years, 35–44 years, 45–54 years, 55–64 years, 65–74 years, 75–84 years, 85 years or older

**\*Which community or communities are you part of: Please circle those that apply to you**

Raglan, Ruapuke, Te Mata, Te Uku, Waitetuna, Ohautira.  
Other, please say which.

### learn / akona

Let's learn about 'Here'. Let's learn about 'us'.

- (1) What do you love about 'this place'?
- (2) What's one of your favourite experiences 'here'?
- (3) What are 2-3 words you feel describe the character of 'this place'?
- (4) What do you see as the strengths in 'our community'?

### reflect / whakaarotia

Let's reflect on where we are now and where we are heading.

- (5) What change(s) have you noticed 'here'?
- (6) How are you experiencing the change(s) in your day-to-day life?
- (7) Is there anything you feel concerned about with regards to 'this place' and 'our community'?
- (8) What do you think are the main challenges for 'our community'?

### contribute / kōrerotia

Share your ideas, insights and aspirations.

- (9) What it would look like to you if 'this place' is thriving? (environmentally, socially/culturally, economically, politically)
- (10) What could 'we' do to help 'this place' thrive?

### take action + create / kōkiritia + auahangia

Let's take action and create a community plan with solid foundations so we can continue this journey together.

(11) Do you have ideas for projects or initiatives?

- (a)
- (b)
- (c)

(12) Who could take ownership or help make these projects/initiatives happen?

- (a)
- (b)
- (c)

(13) What are the key opportunities for 'our community'?

(14) When thinking about our future and aspirations of how we might work together as a community

and, when thinking about what values we could hold... what are some words that come to mind?

(15) Raglan Naturally aspires for the community to lead the development of this place. We will keep evolving Raglan Naturally and this means keeping it up-to-date, visible and active. We will need to have a robust management plan in place and an outline of how we will get things done. Do you have any ideas about the future success of Raglan Naturally?

(16) Anything else?

Would you like to be involved and kept up-to-date? If so, please leave your contact details on the back page.

### DEFINITION OF TERMS:

'Here' and 'this place' refer to both the people and the land.

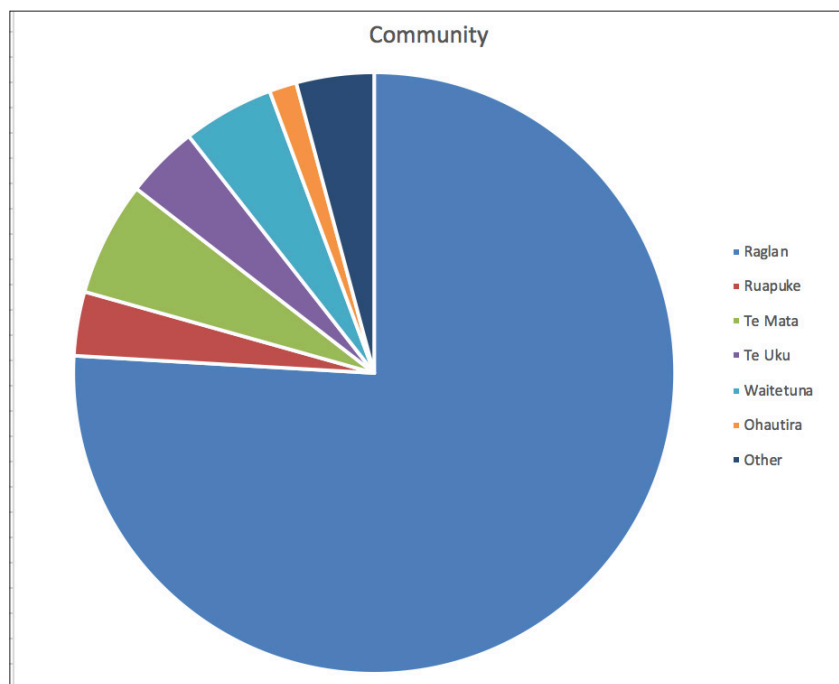
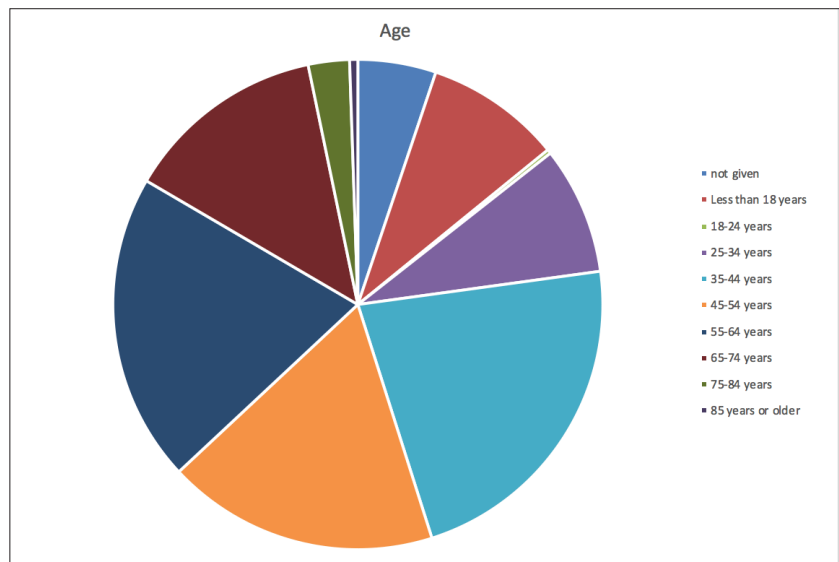
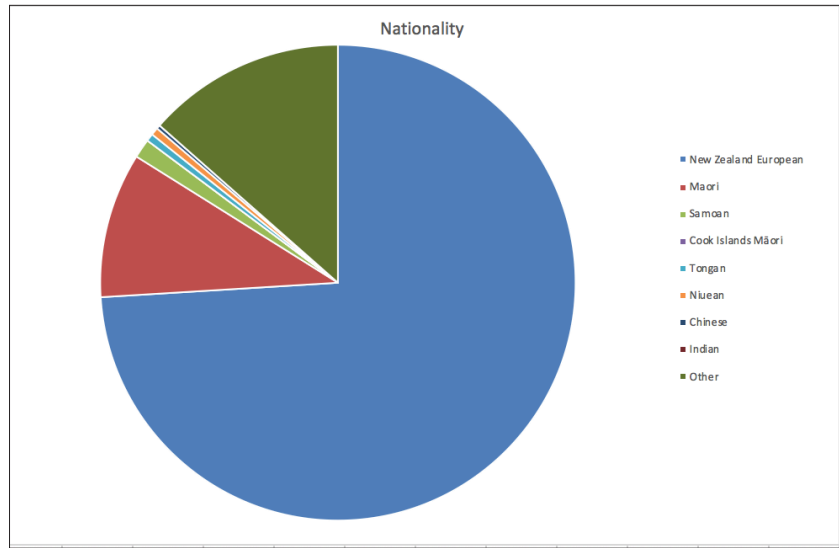
Raglan Naturally includes the whole of the Raglan Ward including: Raglan, Te Mata, Ruapuke, Te Uku, Waitetuna and Ohautira.

'Our community' and 'our communities' refer to the community or communities you are part of within the Raglan Ward.

'Us' and 'we' refer to all who are a part of the above community or communities.



# Appendix ii Raglan Naturally Survey demographic data



## What's special about Raglan?

“

*Well, it's home. It's something that if you live here you know, you just know. When you go away, as soon as you come over the deviation, you see the maunga, you see Karioi and you sort of let out a breath of gratitude that you're home – that you're being drawn back.*

*There's all sorts of things that make this place what it is. The mountain, the seas, the whole environment, the energy of this place. Because I've lived here most of my life, it's also the close connection with everybody as well.*

”