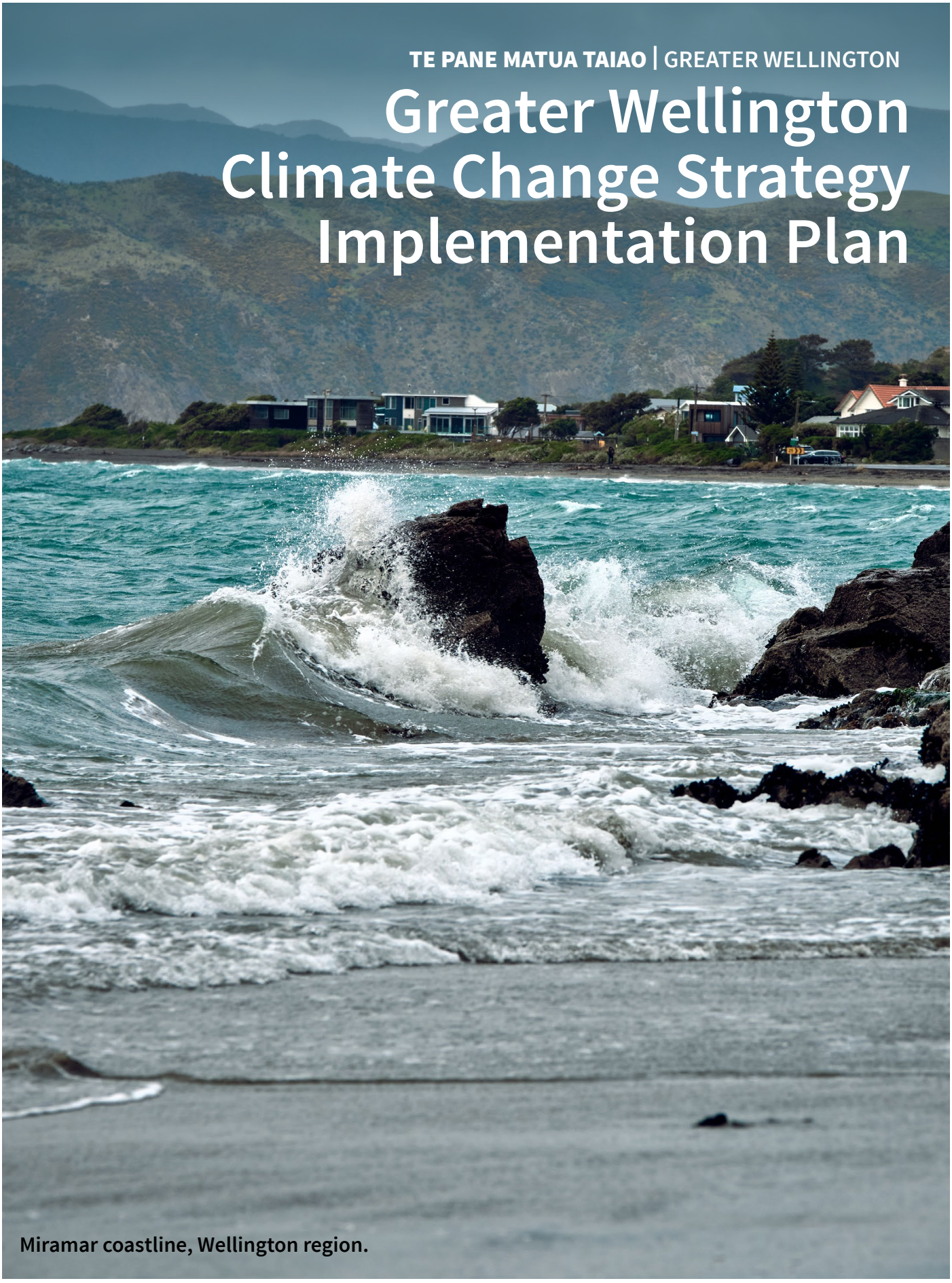
TE PANE MATUA TAIAO | GREATER WELLINGTON

Greater Wellington Climate Change Strategy Implementation Plan



Miramar coastline, Wellington region.

Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

This plan identifies the high priority, high impact climate actions for Greater Wellington. These are the actions requiring sustained strategic focus, leadership, or deliberate intervention for progressing the objectives of its Climate Change Strategy.

1. Reduce organisational emissions: Progress and deliver Greater Wellington's emissions management and reduction plan, including actions across transport, energy, procurement, fleet, land management, investment, and partnerships, to reduce organisational greenhouse gas emissions in line with adopted targets and emissions reduction pathways. In reducing emissions, seek to achieve co-benefits for the environment and community wellbeing as far as possible.	**This includes:** Metlink bus and train electrification, grazing retirement and environmental restoration on Greater Wellington managed land (including Toitū te Whenua), securing emissions-free electricity supplies and other emissions reduction actions large and small by the Council itself, its suppliers, CentrePort and Hnry Stadium.
2. Operate robust emissions management and reporting systems: Operate robust emissions measurement, reporting, and programme management systems to support delivery of Greater Wellington's emissions reduction pathway and co-benefits, including tracking emissions and sequestration, managing emissions programmes and funds, and ensuring transparency and accountability.	**This includes:** regularly and consistently measuring and reporting organisational greenhouse gas emissions and co-benefits (e.g. water quality, biodiversity, erosion control), tracking carbon storage on Greater Wellington managed land, monitoring and managing progress against emissions reduction pathways, maintaining oversight of emissions related programmes and funding mechanisms (e.g. Low Carbon Acceleration Fund), and reporting across the organisation and relevant Council Controlled Organisations.
3. Embed climate considerations into all material decisions and investments made by Greater Wellington: Ensure that climate mitigation and adaptation considerations and actions are systematically embedded into all significant council decisions, investments, business planning and asset planning, including long lived infrastructure, land use, transport, and funding decisions.	**This includes:** explicit consideration of climate risks and emissions impacts in decision making; avoiding or minimising increases in emissions and risks of climate related impacts; supporting choices that reduce long term exposure and cost.
4. Strengthen governance, leadership, and organisational capability for climate action: Maintain strong governance arrangements and executive leadership for climate change, including clear key performance indicators and accountability, senior sponsorship, and organisational capability to deliver both mitigation and adaptation outcomes.	**This includes:** sustained executive and governance ownership of climate priorities; clarity on the organisation's position and approach to adaptation pathway planning; internal capability building and culture change; and alignment across teams and functions.
5. Embed mana whenua priorities and mātauranga Māori into climate planning and action: Partner with mana whenua to ensure that climate mitigation and adaptation planning reflects mana whenua priorities, mātauranga Māori, and long term aspirations, including through catchment scale planning and land management.	**This includes:** supporting mana whenua led climate adaptation planning; enabling mana whenua authority over the use and application of their mātauranga Māori into spatial, catchment, and ecosystem based approaches; and resourcing partnership appropriately.

6. Lead development of a coordinated, evidence-based approach to regional climate adaptation planning: Lead development of a coordinated, region-wide approach to climate adaptation, working collaboratively with councils, mana whenua, communities, central government agencies, and key stakeholders.	**This includes:** shared hazard, exposure, vulnerability, and impact tools, and consistent use across planning and investment decisions; supporting consistent, risk based adaptation planning through participatory engagement; helping unblock politically and socially complex issues such as managed retreat.
7. Prioritise nature-based solutions for climate resilience and emissions reduction co-benefits: Identify, prioritise, and implement nature-based solutions that contribute to regional emissions reductions and/ or increased resilience to climate impacts such as sea level rise, flooding, storms, drought, and ecosystem stress.	**This includes:** restoring and protecting indigenous ecosystems; improving catchment, floodplain, and coastal resilience; and integrating biodiversity, carbon, and hazard outcomes.
8. Use pest management to support climate and ecosystem outcomes: Strengthen pest animal and pest plant control across Greater Wellington managed land to support healthy ecosystems, biodiversity resilience, and carbon sequestration.	**This includes:** recognising and responding to the role of pest animals and plants in exacerbating climate change by degrading ecosystems that store carbon, regulate water, buffer hazards and reduce long term resilience.
9. Drive implementation of Greater Wellington's climate change policy directions: Actively steward and support the implementation of climate change provisions in the Regional Policy Statement and related planning instruments.	**This includes:** addressing barriers to delivery and turning policy into practice, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the region and to make it more resilient to climate change impacts.
10. Advocate for national climate policy that enables local action: Advocate to central government for strong, effective climate mitigation and adaptation settings	**This includes:** legislation, policy, and funding frameworks that enable Greater Wellington and its partners to act at pace and scale.
11. Develop and maintain an organisational climate risk assessment and organisational climate adaptation plan: These will identify, prioritise, and mitigate the risks climate change poses to Greater Wellington's people, functions, services, assets, and operations over the short, medium, and long term.	**This includes:** ensuring that climate related risks are systematically identified and understood; adaptation priorities are clearly identified and integrated into organisational planning and decision making; and responsibilities for managing climate risks are clear and coordinated across the organisation.
12. Ensure catchment plans reflect climate goals and initiatives and are coordinated at place: Environment Group catchment and sub-catchment action plans contain climate priorities as identified by councils, agencies, mana whenua and communities. Internal and external collaboration at place enables services delivering on this plan to become increasingly coordinated and better deliver on multiple outcomes in an integrated way.	

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