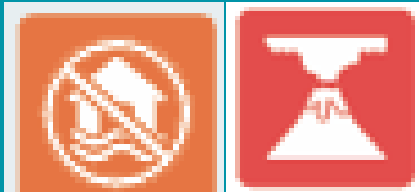


Infrastructure strategy

Flood Protection and Control Works
(LTP 2027-37)



[waikatoregion.govt.nz](https://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz)

Context: Why are we here?

Long Term Plan 2027-37 main document development

- The infrastructure strategy looks 50 years ahead
- It supports the 2027-37 LTP
- It considers how we protect communities from future flood risk

Before finalising the draft strategy we want Councils views on several key assumptions

Outcome:

Today's discussion will be reflected in the final strategy presented for adoption



Question for Council today:

(Aim: 20min per question)

Question 1:

- Have we identified the right **long-term challenges**?

Question 2:

- What does “**financially sustainable**” really mean?

Question 3:

- What does “**future proofed**” really mean?

Question 4:

- What “**trade-off conversations**” are Council prepared to have about the future with communities?

Workshop results – what we are capturing

Area	Strong Support	Additional Risks	Concerns
Q1: right long-term challenges			
Q2: financially sustainable			
Q3: future-proofed			
Q4: trade-offs conversations			

Q1: Have we identified the right challenges?



Source: 2024-34 LTP.

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Q1: Have we identified the right challenges?

Current Assumptions

- Affordability
- River morphology
- Increasing extreme weather
- Legislative change
- Land use change
- Workforce capability

Discussion points for today

- Are these the right issues?
- What is missing?
- What should be given greater prominence?
- What should receive less focus?

Q2: What does financially sustainable mean?

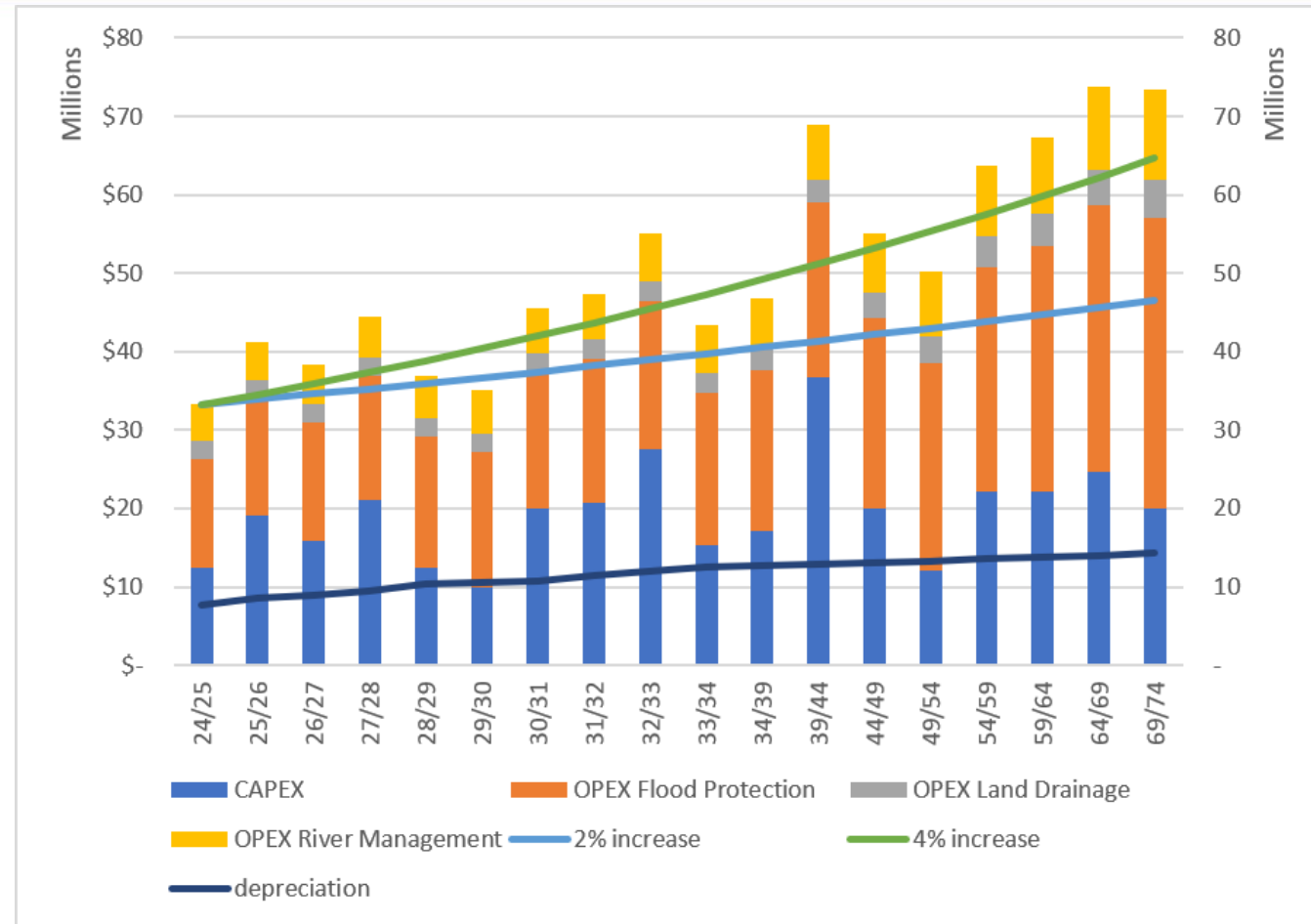
Dilemma:

Future infrastructure costs are expected to increase faster than communities ability to pay

For Discussion:

When funding is constrained, what should drive investment decisions?

- Protecting people?
- Economic benefit?
- Equity?
- Environmental outcomes?
- Maintaining existing service levels?



Source: Section 6: 2024-34 LTP. 2024-74 Infrastructure strategy total expenditure summary (inflation adjusted).

Added info for todays discussion: forecasted depreciation added (dark blue line), and forecasted 2% increase and 4% increase over the 2024/25 total Flood & drainage budget

Q2: What does financially sustainable mean?

Dilemma:

Who receives the benefit of flood resilience, and therefore who should contribute to paying for it?

Example:

Current targeted rating boundaries were drawn in 2002... with land subsidence does this mean the beneficiary area has moved, and thus targeted rate payer areas have grown?

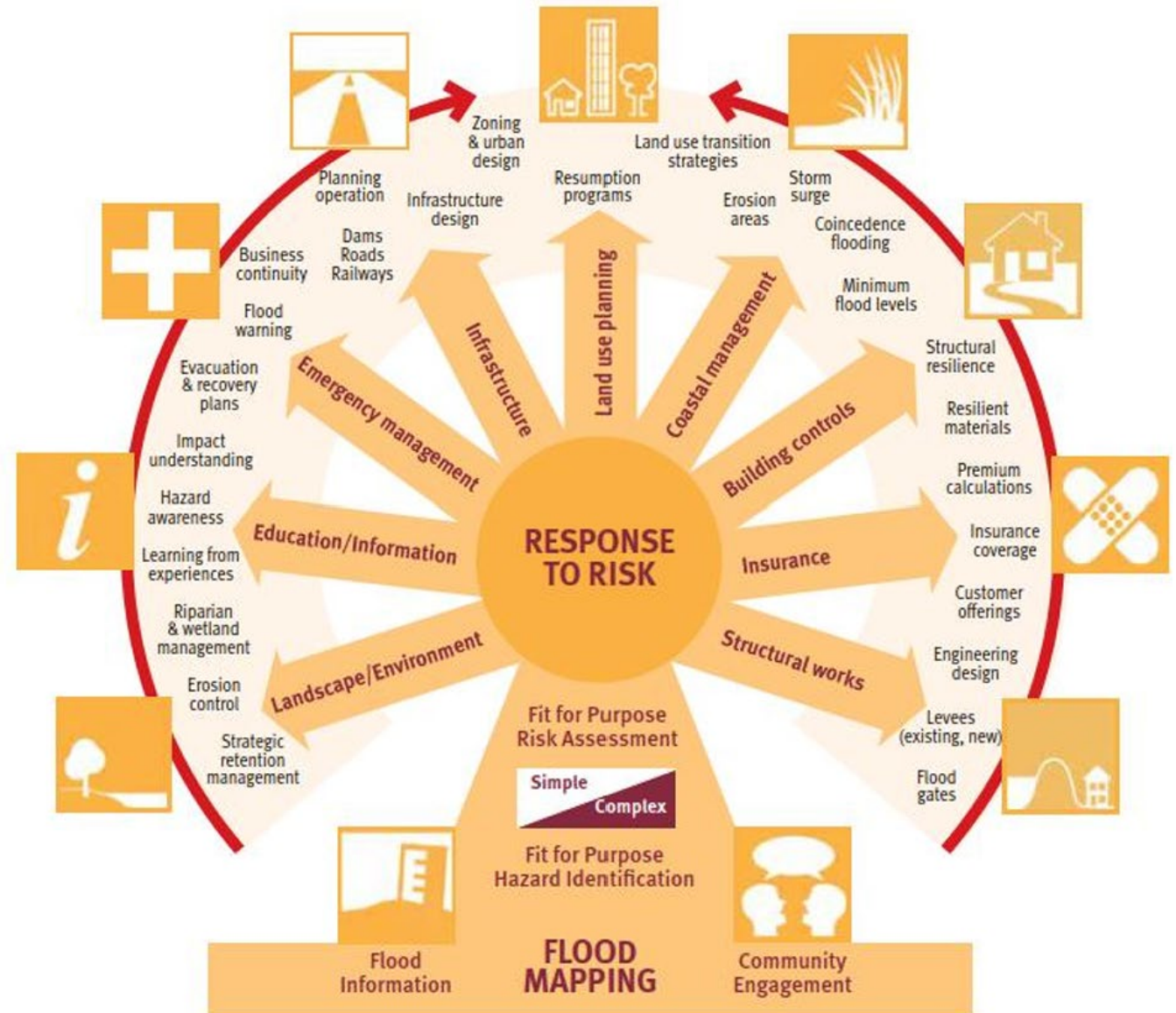
For Discussion:

- Should beneficiaries beyond scheme boundaries contribute?
- What regional benefits justify regional investment?
- What level of local contribution remains appropriate?
- What role should central government plan?

Q3: What does future-proofed mean?

Future-proofed from whose perspective?

- Community
- Infrastructure owner
- Ratepayers
- Environment
- Future generations



Q4: Trade-off questions:

What does resilience mean?

- Faster recovery?
- Reduced flood damage?
- Lower long-term costs?
- More informed communities?
- Better environmental outcomes?
- Flexible adaptation pathways?



Q4: Trade-off questions:

Building for now versus the future

Which statement do you most agree with?

- a) Maintain current levels of protection as long as possible
- b) Improve protection where economically justified
- c) Begin adapting communities before protection levels are compromised
- d) Actively plan for transformational change



FYI: The proposed strategic shift

Current focus (24-34 LTP)	Future focus (27-37 LTP)
Assets	Resilience
Schemes	Catchments
Protection	Adaptation

FYI: Strategic shift – closing the gap

Maintenance improvement

- Asset care plans
- Work effectiveness
- Emergency response

Collaboration and research

- Science projects
- Special interest groups
- Research groups

Understanding risk better

- Multi criteria risk decision making
- Hazards, exposure, vulnerabilities
- Ways to reduce peak flows

Transformation

- Levels of Service, asset configuration, technology
- Funding
- Knowledge

Final thoughts: Council Reflection

Areas we appear to have
consensus

Areas requiring future work

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