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WHO ARE WE? WHAT DO WE DO?



THE DISTRICT

Ward Boundaries



Land Area	6,354 km ²
Lakes Area	616 km ²
Land Value	\$2,797m
Capital Value	\$6,137m
Rateable Properties	19,363
Population (2003)	33,300

The current Taupo District was established on 1 December 1989 when a portion of the Taumararui Council and portion of Rotorua District Council were added to the then Taupo District Council area. This minor adjustment in area followed the amalgamation of the previous Taupo Borough and Taupo County Council's on 1 December 1988.

Taupo, Turangi and Mangakino are the three main urban areas in the district. There are also many lakeside settlements around the shores of Lake Taupo.

The Taupo district is a diverse area of the Central North Island comprising predominantly the vast catchment area for the whole of Lake Taupo and most of the hydroelectric dams on the Tongariro and the Waikato

rivers. The district contains expansive areas of exotic pine forests and farmlands as the predominant land use, and includes native forests, parts of the Tongariro National Park and Kaimanawa Ranges, and the Central Plateau Mountains.

The district's major resources are forestry, agriculture, hydroelectric and geothermal energy, tourism, and scenic and recreational attractions.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Area :	Land	6,354 sq km
	Lake	616 sq km
		[697,000 ha including lake]
Population:		2003 = 33,300
Rateable Assessments:		19,363
Value as at 30 June 2004		
Rateable Land Value		\$2,775,930,235
Total Land Value		\$2,796,719,235
Rateable Capital Value		\$6,063,438,730
Total Capital Value		\$6,137,178,730
Total Rates [levied GST excl. @ 1 July excl. Regional Council rates]		
12 months to 30 June 1994		\$14,768,888
12 months to 30 June 1995		\$15,480,392
12 months to 30 June 1996		\$15,983,000
12 months to 30 June 1997		\$16,260,000
12 months to 30 June 1998		\$16,989,000
12 months to 30 June 1999		\$17,518,000
12 months to 30 June 2000		\$19,709,000
12 months to 30 June 2001		\$20,949,000
12 months to 30 June 2002		\$22,491,000
12 months to 30 June 2003		\$24,397,000
12 months to 30 June 2004		\$25,775,000
Electors:		22,100 [2004]
Building Consents [2003/04]		1,594
		[Value \$136,441,208]
Known Dogs [June 2004]		6,025
District Rooding		
Unsealed		106.3km
Sealed		627.4km
TOTAL		733.7km

ROLE OF THIS ANNUAL REPORT

Purpose of this Annual Report

The purpose of this Annual Report is to compare the Council's actual performance for the year against the forecast in the Annual Plan. The Annual Report is a key public accountability document of Council.

In accordance with the transitional provisions of section 283 of the Local Government Act 2002 this Annual Report is prepared under section 223E and Part VIIA of the Local Government Act 1974.

Financial and non-financial information is required to be included for each significant activity.

Relationship to other key documents

Under the Local Government Act 1974, a local authority was required to prepare and adopt these documents:

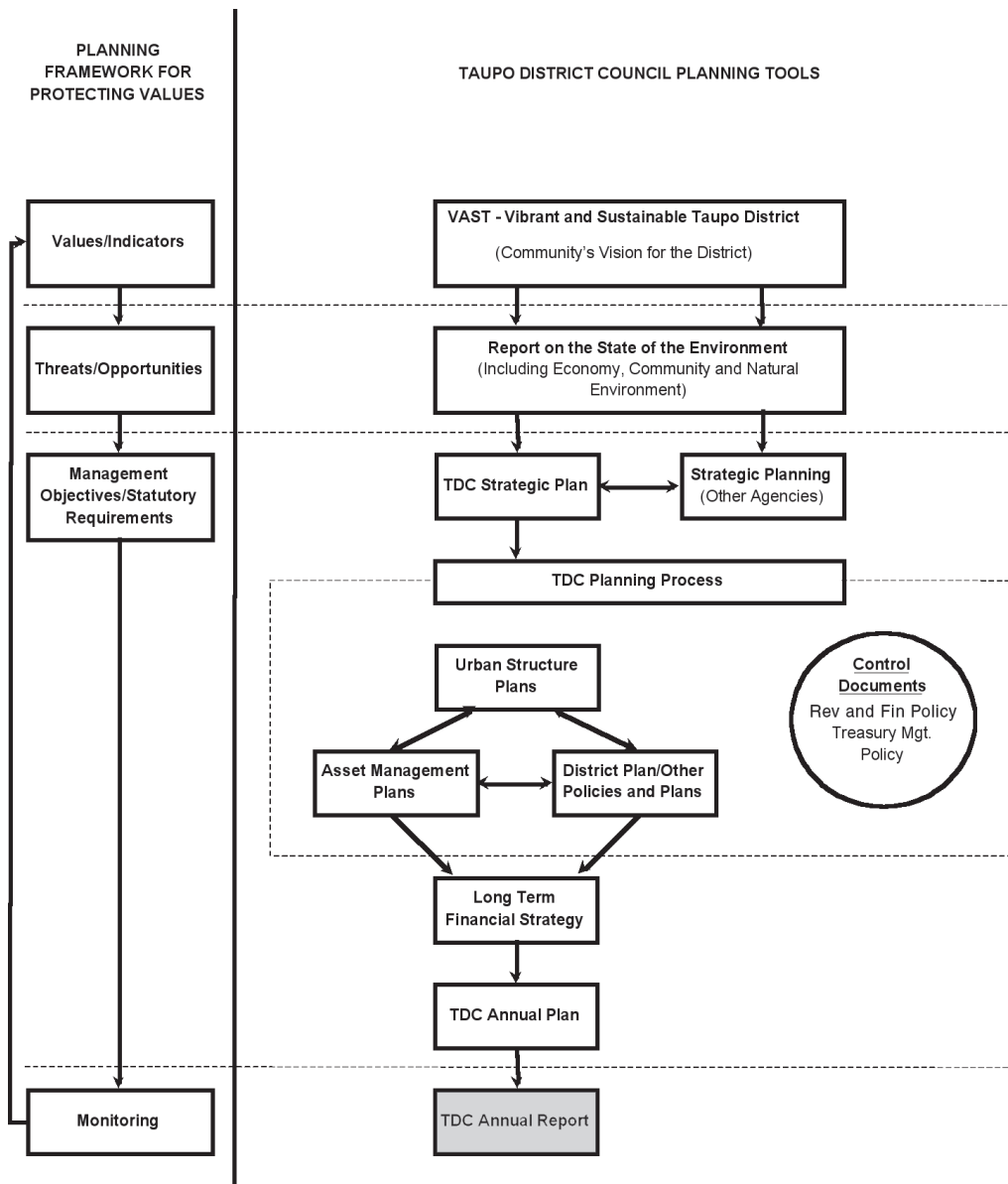
- Long-Term Financial Strategy (section 122K)
- Funding Policy (section 122N) and now known as the Revenue and Financing Policy
- Investment Policy (section 122P)
- Borrowing Management Policy (section 122R)
- Annual Plan (section 223D)

This Annual Report is required to report on these policies and plans.

The Council has also prepared a Strategic Plan, which provides direction to all of Council's other plans and policies to ensure that actions undertaken by Council work collectively towards established goals.

The diagram below shows how Council's current Strategic Plan provides direction to the other key policy and planning tools utilised by Council. It also shows how the action plans such as the Long Term Financial Strategy and Annual Plan implement Council's strategic direction.

Copies of Council's Strategic Plan can be obtained from the Taupo District Council.



The purpose of each of these documents is detailed below.

VAST (Vibrant and Sustainable Taupo) is a community initiative which provides the overall vision for the district. Community outcomes are provided under the headings of community vitality, district economy and natural environment. These outcomes demonstrate to Council and other stakeholders what the community is seeking for the future.

The **State of the Environment Report** will monitor, in detail, how well the community is doing in achieving its desired outcomes established through VAST and those required by the Resource Management Act 1991. It will provide the detailed information Council and other stakeholders need to determine what actions are required to progress toward community outcomes.

Urban Structure Plans provide a clear vision of future basic infrastructure (e.g. water supply, roading etc) requirements and a co-ordinated approach to urban development. They allow the Council to plan and budget for the provision of additional services. By following a structure plan, the urban areas can grow in a way that delivers the best possible services and benefits to residents and ratepayers.

Asset Management Plans describe in detail Council's infrastructural assets (e.g. water supply, roading) and how they will be managed now and into the future. They provide important information to Council's Strategic Plan and Long Term Financial Strategy, in that they determine a large portion of Council's expenditure and revenue requirements.

The **District Plan** is designed to promote the sustainable management of certain natural and physical resources within the district. The District Plan is an implementation tool that is used to protect the values and outcomes that are important to the community. **Other Policies and Plans** that fall into this category of implementation tools are the **Solid Waste Management Strategy, Reserve Management Plans, Marketing Blueprint, etc.**

The **Revenue and Financing Policy** shows how and why Council funds each of its functions. The policy development process includes identifying which groups or individuals benefit from the function based on economic principles. Consideration is then given regarding whether it is fair and equitable that these groups and individuals should be allocated the cost and what is the best funding method or tool for the function.

The **Treasury Management Policy** is Council's liability management and investment policy. It is designed to establish policy limits on the amount and type of borrowing and investment tools available to Council that promote prudent financial management.

The **Long Term Financial Strategy (LTFS)** is published with the Strategic Plan. It provides the long term financial information for each of Council's significant activities including revenue, expenditure, and rating requirements for a minimum of ten years. The LTFS is essentially a financial plan that ensures that Council has the financial resources required to meet the objectives documented in the Strategic Plan. It also documents the reasons for Council involvement with its functions and activities.

The **Annual Plan** is an action plan that sets out how Council will undertake its strategic goals, and details the specific activities, functions and initiatives to be undertaken in the first three years of the LTFS and Strategic Plan. It provides the expenditure budget for the each of the first three years, how this expenditure will be funded and details of how Council will measure its performance.