

Acknowledgements

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It is a reflection of the community's aspirations for growth and an articulation of the Council's vision for the future of the District.

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Vision

“The lakes, mountains and people”- The Taupo District has an outstanding natural environment, world renowned for its iconic lakes, mountains, forests and rivers. It is the heart of the North Island and is valued for its superb living and recreational opportunities.

By 2050, Taupo will have matured into a district with

- A vibrant community spirit
- Thriving economy
- Diverse range of community, social, health and education facilities and opportunities
- An integrated approach to leading, managing and funding growth

All founded on its unique outstanding natural environment, central location, efficient transport connections, and the sustainable development and management of the district’s resources

1 Taupo District 2050 in Summary

1.1 Overview

Taupo District is facing a critical period in its history as it seeks to balance the reality of continued growth with the desire to maintain the existing character of the District and the high quality environment that it sits within.

Poorly managed growth has the potential to impede economic and tourism development unless managed appropriately. A lack of direction for future growth management will also have significant adverse environmental effects.

Philosophically Taupo District 2050 has meant a shift in the way that Taupo District Council addresses growth. The Council is seeking to provide greater leadership about the nature and location of growth, moving from a reactive to a proactive approach to growth management.

Taupo District 2050 provides a policy framework to guide where and how future growth should occur and identifies a series of actions to achieve this desired pattern of urban growth. Although the Strategy looks out to 2050 it has a specific focus on the coming 20 years.

It is critical that the pattern of development proposed for the District is anchored at this time, so development contributions can be taken to fund the necessary infrastructure. This is particularly important for the proposed West Kinloch Arterial which strategically links the new urban

area in the Mapara Valley with the existing urban centres of Kinloch and Taupo Town. In addition it is important that the framework / location of growth in the longer term is well anchored as it is setting the scene for many decades to come.



1.2 Strategic Directions

At the core of Taupo District 2050 are the 12 Strategic Directions. These provide the framework of interrelated policies that guide decision making on growth related issues. Over time they will be achieved by putting into effect identified policies and undertaking the specific actions identified in Taupo District 2050.

