

*Ko te Mahere Hukihuki Whakahaere ā-Rāhui o te
Papa Rēhia o Karanema*

Draft Tainui, Tanner, Tauroa and Hikanui Reserves and Keith Sands Grove Reserve Management Plan

INFORMATION AND SUMMARY DOCUMENT



Introduction

The Draft Tainui, Tanner, Tauroa and Hikanui Reserves and Keith Sands Grove Reserve Management Plan was notified for public comment on Saturday 2 July 2022.

This Summary Document has been written to give an overview of the process that has been followed and key actions included in the Draft Management Plan.

We are seeking submissions on the Draft Management Plan from 2 July until 2 September 2022.

The purpose of this Summary Document is to:

- Explain how the Draft Management Plan has been prepared
- Identify the goals and key actions contained in the Draft Management Plan
- Identify the proposed concept plan, and key actions
- Provide FAQs on the key items of interest
- Explain how to make a submission on the Draft Management Plan

Please note that this Summary Document provides an overview of the Draft Management Plan. This document does not provide a comprehensive rundown of the Draft Management Plan. Please read the Draft Management Plan in full before making a submission.

Where to find the Draft Management Plan

The Draft Management Plan is available to read on the Hastings District Council website:

www.myvoicemychoice.co.nz

Alternatively, hard copies of the document can be read at the following locations:

- Hastings District Council Customer Service Centre, 207 Lyndon Road East, Hastings
- Havelock North, Hastings and Flaxmere Libraries

Summary of the Draft Management Plan

The Draft Management Plan is a high-level policy document rather than a detailed operational plan.

The Draft Management Plan identifies the vision, objectives, policies and development and enhancement priorities for the reserves over the next 10 years. Developed with comprehensive input from reserve users and stakeholder groups, the Draft Management Plan provides Council with a clear framework for the day-to-day management and decision-making for the reserves. The process aims to ensure that management and development of the reserves is based on sound principles and that, through consultation, the aspirations and requests of the community have been clearly identified and considered.



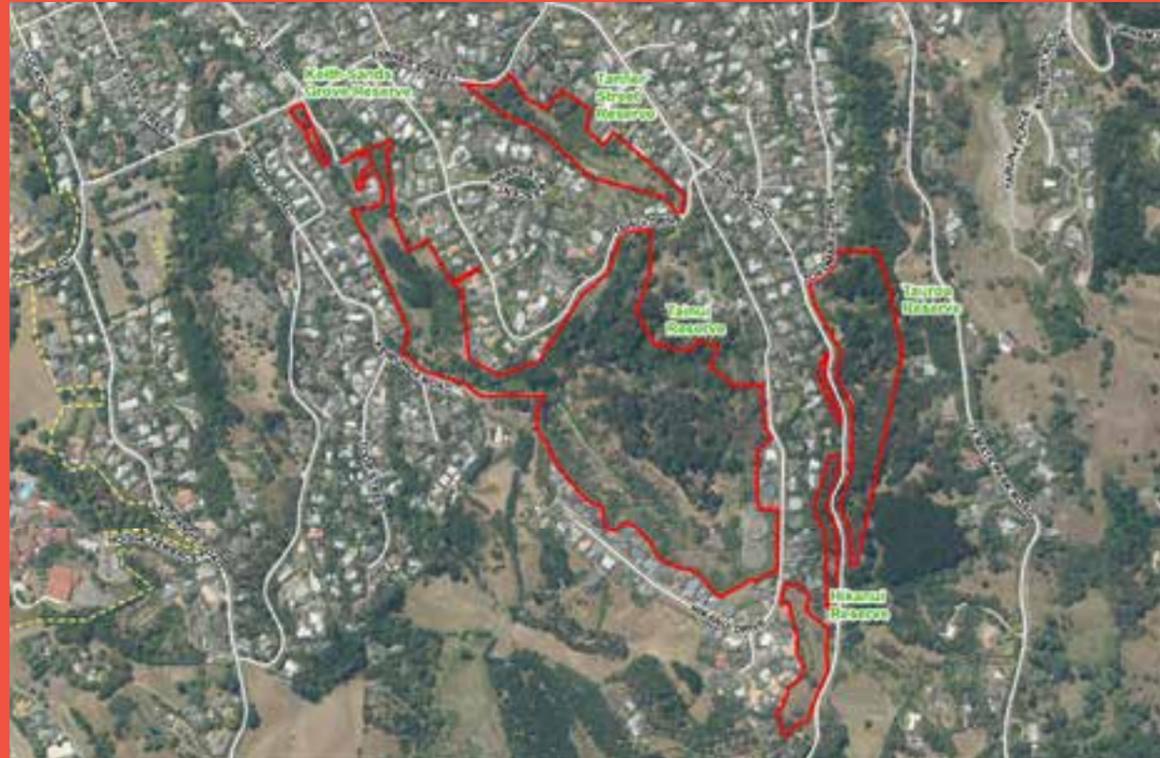
Background

The Tainui, Tanner, Tauroa and Hikanui Reserves are a group of natural area reserves in the Havelock North hills, located between Havelock North Village and Te Mata Park. With Keith Sands Grove reserve and road reserve, a key entrance to Tainui Reserve, the reserves have a combined total of over 23 hectares.

The reserves are a mix of Recreation Reserve and Local Purpose Reserve classifications in terms of the Reserves Act 1977, and are owned by Hastings District Council.

The reserves contain predominantly mature exotic trees, with pockets of indigenous vegetation planted by volunteers in recent years. A corridor of walking and cycling tracks cross the reserves forming a recreation network with Te Mata Park. Tainui Reserve is characterised by steep sided gullies and contains two archaeological sites, Hikanui Pā and terraces, with Mangarau Stream running through the lower reaches of the reserve. Tauroa Reserve, the second largest of the five reserves, contains indigenous planting undertaken in recent years by volunteers, with Te Kahika Stream running through the centre. The smaller reserves, Hikanui and Tanner, complete the network. The reserves are dog exercise (off leash) areas. Keith Sands Grove (reserve and road reserve) is a popular entrance to Tainui Reserve.

HAVELOCK NORTH HILLS RESERVES



What you have told us

Feedback was received and analysed from almost 500 members of the community. This, together with input from a number of specialist reports, including Cultural Aspirations Report, Archaeological Report, Arboricultural Report and Historic Report, was summarised into a Key Themes and Concepts Document that was released to the community on 14 March 2022.

The Key Themes identified were:

- Recognising and protecting the cultural heritage of the reserves
- Retaining the peaceful and natural character of the reserves
- Maintaining the opportunity to walk, cycle, walk dogs and play in nature.
- Ensuring the reserves continue to be a place to connect and where all members of the community are welcome

The summary document also included a number of concepts that Officers were requested to investigate for inclusion in the Draft Management Plan as follows:

- The protection and management of the Hikanui Pā site
- Tree management and revegetation plan which provides for future generations, supports cultural aspirations and harnesses climate change mitigation opportunities
- A mountain bike trail network within the reserves
- A 'jumps' area for bikes
- Vehicle parking, cycling and pedestrian connections to and between the reserves, including accessibility improvements
- Waterway improvements
- Weed and pest control
- Defining dog off and on lead areas
- Improving facilities including provision of toilets and additional seating, and track maintenance
- Signage improvements, including wayfinding within and between reserves, track network information and heritage information

The process we have followed

Council resolved to review the Reserve Management Plan for the reserves on 28 January 2021. The impetus behind this was concern from some members of the community following introduction of mountain biking tracks in the reserves.

The Draft Management Plan has been prepared in accordance with Section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977 which requires that before preparing a Draft Management Plan, Council shall:

- give public notice of its intention to do so; and
- in that notice, invite persons and organisations interested to send written suggestions; and
- in preparing that management plan, give full consideration to any such comments received.

Council published its intention to review the Draft Management Plan in the Hawke's Bay Today on 6 March 2021. In addition, personal letters were sent to residents who live near the reserves, signboards were located in the reserves advising of the process, and a comprehensive social and traditional media campaign was launched.

In addition, on behalf of Council, independent research company FOLKL carried out interviews, held a reserve gathering and co-ordinated a survey, to find out what reserve users and members of the community liked about the reserves and what improvements they would like to see.

That phase was followed by two public workshops, which helped refine the values, constraints and opportunities within the reserves.



THE RMP PROCESS

1 Council notifies the community that the process is underway, calls for community input and gathers user data.
6 MARCH 2021

2 The input and data from step 1 is analysed and used to prepare key themes and concepts.

3 Those key themes and concepts are presented to the community for feedback, to check we are on the right track.
14 MARCH 2022

4 The feedback from steps 1, 2 and 3 is analysed and used to prepare a Draft Reserve Management Plan.

We are here

5 Public submissions on the Draft Reserve Management Plan are called for.
2 JULY 2022

6 A council hearing is scheduled at which submitters to the draft plan can support their submission by speaking at the hearing.

7 Council adopts the final Reserve Management Plan subject to amendments made during the hearing.

Vision and Goals

All of the issues and suggestions identified during the consultation have been considered during the preparation of the Draft Management Plan, which was released by Council for public consultation on 2 July, 2022.

The Draft Plan sets out the proposed vision and key actions, detailed on this page, for the reserves.



Vision for the Reserves

A flourishing connected indigenous urban forest with wetland terracing, freshwater streams, and thriving birdlife and aquatic species; a reinstatement of the pre-1840s ngāhere urutapu.

The urban forest is a special natural world of its own achieved by:

- Continued restoration of the indigenous vegetation and cultural landscape.
- Interpretation of the Māori worldview in unique and innovative ways that leverage the archaeology of Hikanui Pā, and the family of Ranginui and Papatūānuku.
- Creation of spaces for natural play, discovery, and learning.
- Enabling passive and active recreational use and connectivity across all reserves, extending the natural world to its urban setting.



Goals and Key Actions

Te Whakatipuranga o Te Taiao *Healing of the Environment*

GOAL

All reserves are collectively laying the foundations for the long-term reinstatement of the pre-1840s indigenous forest as fully functioning ecosystems with thriving indigenous flora and fauna.

KEY ACTIONS:

- Implement a coordinated planting and pest management plan for all reserves. Develop methods for long term rehabilitation of the reserves to a pre-1840's biotic condition. The plan shall be consistent with the concept plans and Hikanui Pā Concept and Management Plan.
- Implement tree management outcomes set out in the Hikanui Pā Concept and Management Plan to remove pine and macrocarpa trees from archaeological sites in Tainui Reserve.
- Rehabilitate an indigenous natural and cultural landscape setting for the historic Hikanui Pā site in accordance with the Hikanui Pā Concept and Management Plan.
- Create best practice methods across all reserves for indigenous vegetation planting and maintenance. Including trackside planting, riparian, slope and heritage features including placement typologies.
- Provide appropriate cultural guidance and support to Care Groups to align their efforts to be consistent with the pre-1840 vegetation.
- Identify taonga species with naming signs and appropriate cultural markers and narratives.

GOAL

Waiaroha Waterway Enhancement

All reserves are collectively contributing to the health of the waterways and have clear pathways to reinstating terraced wetland valley floors to the landscape.

KEY ACTIONS:

- Develop a specific aquatic species planting plan, inclusive of appropriate complementary riparian plants.
- Develop methods for long term rehabilitation of the reserve to a pre-1840's biotic condition.
- Undertake a series of riparian planting programs with mana whenua, local community and respective care groups.
- Identify the waterways with naming signs and suitable cultural markers.

Te Whakatipuranga o Te Taiao | Healing of the Environment is a principle that is a call to action, to give back to the environment and continue to develop the reserves in ways that contribute to positive partnerships for the protection, enhancement and reinstatement of indigenous flora and fauna across Heretaunga Hastings District.

This principle guides Hastings District Council's Reserve Management Plans in their inclusion of Mātauranga Māori, as expressed by mana whenua, as a significant contributor to the appropriate reinstatement of taonga species.

Ahi Kā Roa *The Living Presence*

GOAL

The reserves are designed and managed to enhance the community's social and cultural wellbeing, alongside the reserves' environmental wellbeing.

KEY ACTIONS:

- Partner with mana whenua for the design, development and implementation of educational trails through the ngāhere urutapu indigenous forest and cultural landscape of Hikanui Pā, including cultural gateways, markers and points for signage boards.
- Provide cultural guidance and appropriate planting plans for Care Groups to participate in reinstating the pre-1840s ngāhere urutapu indigenous forest.

- Enhance a sense of place through community and mana whenua involvement in art, sculpture and interpretation within the reserves.
- Plant a fruit and nut forest.

Ahi Kā Roa | The Living Presence recognises that all parks and reserves have a unique shared mana whenua and community heritage. The natural features and location of each reserve attract various individuals, families, and groups of people who maintain strong connections with their local reserve.

Ahi Kā Roa | The Living Presence encourages and enables community participation and contribution to the reserves, specifically ensuring that the reserves are managed in a way that reflects their purpose and values. This principle also holds the aspiration that mana whenua may foster a sense of Ahi Kā through partnership and participation in the ongoing protection, enhancement, and reinstatement of indigenous flora and fauna.

Manaakitanga

Sharing our Experience

GOAL

The reserves are a place for enjoying and discovering the natural world and the unique cultural landscape of Hikanui Pā and the pre-1840 ngāhere urutapu.

KEY ACTIONS:

- Develop a connectivity and wayfinding plan to connect all reserves.
- Complete and formalise mountain biking tracks and walking tracks, inclusive of remediation for formal and informal tracks being decommissioned.
- Conduct an accessibility plan and make available points of access and access for those with disabilities or impairments.

Manaakitanga | Sharing our Experiences is a principle to guide the accessibility and enrichment of the visitor experience for people of all ages and abilities. This principle acknowledges the role of parks as places of holistic wellbeing and areas for enjoyment, relaxation, physical activity, education and environmental action. Each park has its own unique experience and this principle is critical to augmenting and enriching the experience for residents and visitors to the District.

Whai Oranga

Promoting Healthy Activity

GOAL

The reserves provide spaces for a range of active and passive activities within a high quality natural and culturally important environment; which supports the physical and mental well-being of the community.

KEY ACTIONS:

- Provide community access and opportunity to experience a range of natural values that reflect the pre-1840s significance of these sites.
- Provide for dedicated bike jumps area for a wide range of skills, within Tauroa Reserve. No dedicated jumps areas will be provided within the remaining reserves.
- Provide dog care amenity and promotion of good dog care etiquette through the reserves, inclusive of signage prohibiting dogs from Hikanui Pā.

Whai Oranga | Promoting Healthy Activity encourages the provision of passive and active opportunities for engaging in healthy activity. For some people healthy activity could be in the ethereal merits of flora to support mental and spiritual wellbeing, for some it may be physical activity for bodily wellbeing. Whether the activity is found in the design of playgrounds, sensory gardens, pathways, or outdoor fitness equipment, Whai Oranga Promoting Healthy Activity ensures that wellbeing is core to reserves management.

Kāwanatanga *Management and Partnerships*

GOAL

The reserves benefit from active and positive relationships with mana whenua, care groups, visitors and the community.

KEY ACTIONS:

- Promote the reserves as part of a wider Havelock North to Te Mata Peak recreation corridor.
- Enable ongoing mana whenua partnerships for designing and implementing projects within this plan. Maintain positive relationships with mana whenua for the lifetime of this Plan.
- Create a 'Care Group' or 'Friends of the Reserve Group' to provide an opportunity for volunteers to help with development and maintenance of each reserve.

Delivering the Vision

The reserves are a place for experiencing the unique cultural landscape of Hikanui Pā, enjoying and discovering the natural world, and undertaking a range of recreation activities.

The Draft Management Plan provides a staged approach to restoration of the reserves to an indigenous forest state, together with changes to the way Hikanui Pā is managed. Staging of works is required to achieve the vision in a way that respects the aspirations of mana whenua and the community and complies with the archaeological requirements, while protecting the biodiversity values of the reserves.

Recognition and enhancement of the cultural landscape is proposed, including cultural markers, signboards, recognition of taonga species, track names and viewshafts from Hikanui Pā to points of cultural importance. Track changes are proposed around Hikanui Pā to create a

“destination” with a boardwalk constructed over the pā interior, reducing the impact on the site of casual visitors and recognising the pā as a taonga within the reserves. This work is proposed to be undertaken in partnership with mana whenua, following the commencement of tree removals and revegetation on and around Hikanui Pā.

Due to the risk to archaeological features within Hikanui Pā, large exotic trees are proposed to be removed on and around the pā staged over the 10 year timeframe of the Draft Management Plan. The majority of mature trees across the reserves are proposed to be retained to provide shelter for regenerating indigenous species and to retain biodiversity values. Invasive weeds and exotic seedlings are proposed to be progressively removed, essentially creating a long-term “sinking lid” on large exotic trees in the reserves. Large trees will continue to be monitored and removed for management purposes, including safety of reserve users.

Revegetation of the reserves with indigenous species is proposed as an ongoing project across the timeframe of the Draft Management Plan, guided by an ecological restoration plan and building on the work undertaken by volunteers in recent years. While restoration of the indigenous forest to a fully-functioning indigenous forest system would require intergenerational efforts, it is proposed that this plan provides the framework for creation of an enduring ecological stepping stone.

Completion of the mountain bike track network is proposed, together with an increase in length of the walking track network, reduction of the shared path network and a jumps area in Tauroa Reserve as a short-term priority. Enhanced facilities including signage, play spaces, access and parking improvements, seating and a toilet facility are also proposed staged over the timeframe of the Management Plan.



What we expect to see

After
10 years

- Development actions listed in the Action Plan completed.
- Tree removals and other tree management works and revegetation completed on and around Hikanui Pā, together with tree removals as identified in the Arboricultural Report.
- Remaining mature exotic trees retained for biodiversity values, except where removal required for management purposes.
- Revegetation of indigenous species across the reserves.
- Removal of invasive weeds including invasive trees and exotic seedlings.
- Safe shared recreational use of the reserves by different user groups.

After
50 years

- An indigenous species-dominant forest, across all forest tiers.
- Exotic tree removals completed.

After
100 years

- A fully-functioning indigenous forest system.

Hikanui Pā and the Cultural Landscape of the Reserves

The Draft Management Plan recognises the reserves are of high cultural heritage value, given the presence of the two archaeological sites: Hikanui Pā and terraces. In addition, extensive investigation undertaken on behalf of mana whenua identified the reserves as being located within one of the last remaining stands of indigenous forest of the 1840s. While most of the current vegetation within the reserves is exotic, for mana whenua this discovery provides a unique and tangible connection to the history and heritage of the whenua extending over a millennia.

In recognition of the cultural heritage of the reserves and aspirations identified by mana whenua, the Draft Management Plan proposes:

- Restoration of the reserves to an indigenous forest state. This builds on existing work undertaken by volunteers in recent years, with an ecological restoration plan prepared with mana whenua to guide species choice and location. This signals a step change from previous management of the reserves as natural areas to a higher level of investment required to achieve the revegetation over time.
- Change to the management of Hikanui Pā and associated terrace, in recognition of the location of this unique taonga within a public reserve. An archaeological Concept and Management Plan for Hikanui Pā (CMP) has informed the Draft Management Plan. The CMP sets out Council's responsibilities under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act for management of the archaeological sites and makes recommendations for the future management of the sites, prepared in partnership with mana whenua and with guidance from Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga advisers.
- Cultural interpretation, including cultural markers, storyboards, protection of viewshafts from Hikanui Pa to points of cultural significance, identification of taonga species, naming of tracks after cultural landscape features, flora and fauna, and developing a shared cultural landscape with Te Mata Park.

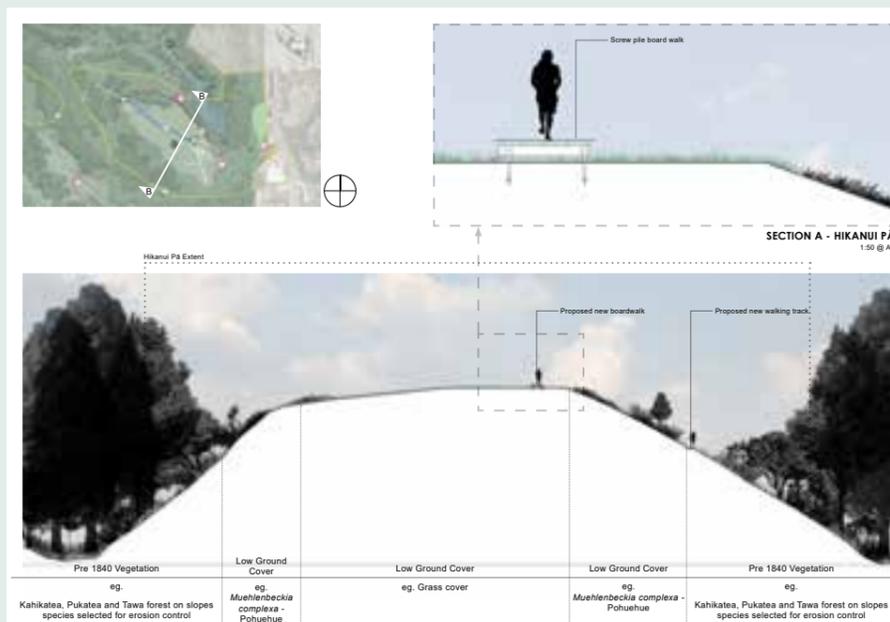


Entrance to Hikanui Pā and Transition Zone



Hikanui Pā interior

HIKANUI PĀ CONCEPT PLAN AND INDICATIVE CROSS-SECTION



The recommendations for Hikanui Pā are proposed to raise awareness of the pā within the reserve landscape and undertake measures to protect the archaeological features by:

- Enhancing the Hikanui Drive entrance as the cultural gateway to Tainui Reserve, with the construction of formal parking for vehicles; cultural markers; seating; and track improvements to improve accessibility to Hikanui Pā.
- Creation of Hikanui Pā as a 'destination' rather than a through-route, with the removal of the short northern track, placement of a boardwalk across the interior, and construction of a new connecting track near the kissing gate leading to the top of the steps to Fig Gully, with dogs prohibited from the interior of the pā. These measures will enhance the experience of visiting the pā and reduce the impact of casual visitors across the site.
- Removal of exotic trees from the pā interior and western slope as a priority (approximately 180 trees). Management of the trees around the remainder of the pā ridgeline will be undertaken as a longer term project and will result in the removal or reduction of additional trees (estimated 75 on the northern slope). Due to the plantation style planting in the reserve and dynamic environment, monitoring

will be undertaken for impacts on surrounding trees of the removals, and trees or stands of trees will be removed where considered necessary for the safety of reserve users and/or protection of archaeological features. The primary driver for the proposed removal of the trees is archaeological advice that proactive management of the trees is necessary to protect the archaeological features, given the ongoing risk from both extensive root systems and potential for uncontrolled tree fall. The tree removal process would involve erosion control measures particularly on the western slope and revegetation with archaeologically approved species to aid slope stability.

- Placement of signs providing more information about the site.

The proposed changes are illustrated in these concepts, with further detailed information found in the Draft Management Plan and supporting documents. All work would be undertaken in partnership with mana whenua and require an archaeological authority from Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga.

Proposed Track Network

The following Concept Plan identifies investment in the following key actions:

The community consultation process identified support for continued use of the reserves for recreation purposes, including mountain biking. The Draft Management Plan proposes completion of the mountain bike connection in Tainui Reserve, to enable users to use the reserves as a recreation corridor with Te Mata Park.

The main track changes proposed are:

- Construction of an uphill mountain bike track next to the downhill mountain bike track in the western valley of Tainui Reserve. Both tracks would connect to Hikanui Drive via the part of the reserve containing the reservoirs, avoiding impacts on culturally and archaeologically sensitive parts of the reserve.
- Conversion of the shared track in the western valley to a walking track.
- Simplification of the track network past the Keirunga Road carpark, with extension of the shared path to connect from the mountain bike tracks through to Keith Sands Grove.
- Path connection from Tanner Street to Tainui Reserve, across Keith Sands Grove.
- Retention of the mountain bike track in Tauroa Reserve and conversion of the shared track to walking only, with cyclists accessing Te Mata Park able to use the boardwalk.
- Formalisation of the dirt jumps in Tauroa Reserve, with a speed controlled entrance and fenced from the remainder of the reserve.
- Hikanui Reserve to retain the downhill mountain bike track and uphill mountain bike/walking shared track.
- Tanner Reserve to remain a walking only reserve.



Other Changes

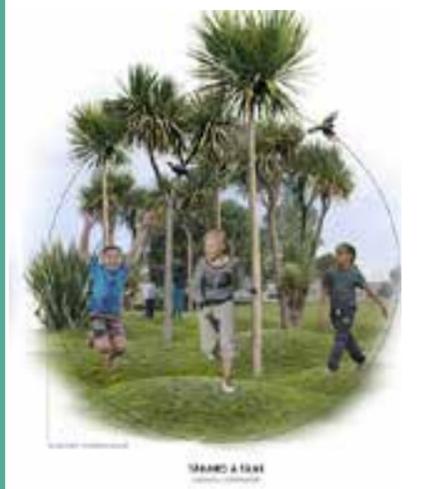
In addition to restoration of an indigenous forest across the reserves, management works around Hikanui Pā and track network improvements, other enhancements to the reserves are proposed:

Construction of play spaces in Tauroa and Tainui Reserve: enhancing the play opportunities in these natural environments. The cultural heritage of Tainui Reserve provides the opportunity for Ngā Ara Tākaro (Māori traditional play) utilising natural materials including those sourced from the reserve to create a space to explore history and place through play.

Access and parking improvements: including a carpark extension at Keirunga Road, formed parking at Hikanui Drive and formed parking spaces at Keith Sands Grove, together with a pedestrian connection to Tanner Street.

New and upgraded facilities: including wayfinding and information signage, park furniture and toilet facility in Tainui Reserve.

Ngā Ara Tākaro (Māori Traditional Play)



Nature Play



Te mahere whakatutuki me ngā angawā

Action List and Timeframes

NO.	POLICY	ACTION	SHORT TERM 1-3 years	MEDIUM TERM 4-7 years	LONG TERM 8-10 years
ALL RESERVES					
1	3.1 & 3.4	Revegetation of the reserves	■	■	■
2	2.8	Signage, including cultural markers, interpretation, information and wayfinding		■	
3	2.9	Park furniture	■	■	
4	2.12	Track repair and realignment	■		
TAINUI RESERVE AND KEITH SANDS GROVE					
5	2.12; 2.16; 3.1; 3.2; 4.1	Hikanui Pā Concept and Management Plan works	■	■	■
6	2.5	Ngā Ara Tākaro Māori traditional play space		■	■
7	1.5	Completion of mountain bike track network	■		
8	2.10 & 2.12	Keirunga Road entrance carpark & shared path extension	■		
9	2.2	Toilet facility		■	
10	2.10 & 2.12	Keith Sands Grove enhancements	■		
TANNER RESERVE					
11	2.11	Pedestrian connection to Tainui Reserve			■
12	2.5	Playground			■
13	2.11 & 2.3	Entrance enhancements			■
TAUROA RESERVE					
14	1.5	Dirt jumps	■		
15	2.5	Nature play nodes	■	■	
16	2.12	Tokomaru Drive track realignment	■		
17	2.10	Tokomaru Drive carpark			■
HIKANUI RESERVE					
18	2.12; 3.1; 3.4	Track realignment and revegetation as provided for in all reserves	■	■	■

* Subject to Annual Plan and Long Term Plan priorities.

Q&A

Why are we proposing to change the way the two archaeological sites in Tainui Reserve, Hikanui Pā and the terraces, are managed?

There are two registered archaeological sites in Tainui Reserve, Hikanui Pā and terraces on the ridgeline directly to the west of the pā ridgeline. Both sites currently have one walking track and large exotic trees growing on and around them, with limited signage.

The Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act sets out responsibilities for archaeological sites. In recognition of this responsibility, during preparation of the Draft Management Plan Council commissioned an archaeological report for both sites. The report identified that these areas are largely 'lost in the landscape' and have been subject to degradation over time, due to: extensive root systems of mature trees; tree failure; uncontrolled movement through the area; weather erosion; lack of understanding and information. The report identified that there needs to be a step change in how these areas are managed into the future.

A Concept and Management Plan was then developed with mana whenua and with guidance from Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga. The recommendations from this plan have been incorporated into the Draft Management Plan.

What changes are proposed to the track network?

During consultation we heard that the majority of the community supported the retention of mountain bike tracks in the reserves and wanted to see the network completed within Tainui Reserve. We also heard that having shared pathways for cycling and walking was contributing to conflict between some reserve users. In response to this, the most significant change will be completion of an uphill mountain bike track next to the downhill mountain bike track in the western valley of Tainui Reserve, with both tracks connecting to Hikanui Drive via the part of the reserve containing the reservoirs. This will:

- Enable users to complete a mountain bike loop within Tainui Reserve, avoiding the need to ride on roads;
- Complete the mountain bike recreation corridor with Te Mata Park via Hikanui Reserve;
- Enable avoidance of cultural and archaeologically sensitive areas within Tainui Reserve.

Other changes across the track network are proposed, including:

- Simplification of the track network at the Keirunga Road entrance, with an extension of the shared path across the carpark and closure of the mountain bike track connection and short walking track.
- Retention of the mountain bike track and conversion of the shared path in Tauroa Reserve to walking only (with the boardwalk the cycling option).
- Construction of a path connecting Tanner Street to Tainui Reserve.

Why are we proposing an indigenous forest?

The vision identified by mana whenua during consultation is to restore the reserves to their indigenous forest state, reinstating flora and fauna to the reserves that holistically supports improvement of water quality, establishes bird corridors, provides plants for customary harvest and use, and has an education focus.

Work on revegetation of the reserves has been undertaken by volunteers in recent years. This vision builds on that work, with the opportunity to build an enduring ecological stepping stone within the reserves. There are not many opportunities for revegetation on this scale in reserves in Hastings District, and this provides the opportunity to undertake measures to mitigate the impacts of climate change and contribute to retention of biodiversity within the District.

Over the 10 year term of the plan, the majority of mature exotic trees would be retained to protect regenerating indigenous forest and the existing biodiversity, with indigenous species chosen to ensure they are representative of the pre-1840s vegetation and are resilient to the changing climate.

It is proposed to work with mana whenua and the community to achieve this vision. Given the large scale of this project, external funding will be sought where possible to support the work.

What about work already being undertaken by the reserves care groups?

The Draft Management Plan acknowledges the work undertaken by Care Groups in the reserves and aims to build on this work to restore biodiversity to the land and water of the stream catchments. Council will work with mana whenua and the Care Groups to continue the indigenous revegetation with a focus on eco-sourced indigenous species.

What about dogs?

It is proposed to retain all the reserves as dog exercise (off leash) areas, with the exception of dogs being prohibited from the interior of Hikanui Pā.

What about play?

The residential area around these reserves currently does not meet level of service targets for play spaces. The natural area character of the reserves provides the opportunity to improve the level of service with unique areas focusing on nature play in Tauroa Reserve. In Tainui Reserve, an area of Ngā Ara Tākaro (*Māori traditional play*) is proposed which is similar to nature play, however pieces are designed using local knowledge and, if possible, materials sourced from the reserves.





What happens now?

Let's talk
Me kōrero tātau

Making a submission

The community can now make formal submissions either in support or opposition to any part of the Plan. A submission is your chance to tell us what you think of the Draft Management Plan.

Council respects that members of the community use and value the reserves for different reasons; and as such, will have different opinions on how the reserves should be managed and developed into the future; and what recreation activities, in their opinion, may or may not be acceptable. In reading this Draft Management Plan, Council encourages you to remember that parks and reserves in the District are for all members of the community to use and enjoy for recreation purposes. It is the role of Council to balance the diverse and varied needs of the community; and enable the reserves to continue to be used for a wide variety of recreation uses, today and into the future, provided that such activities can be undertaken without having an adverse impact on the key environmental and cultural characteristics of the reserves.

Submission forms are available at the following locations:

- Ground Floor, Hastings District Council, Lyndon Road, Hastings
- Hastings, Havelock North and Flaxmere Libraries
- Online at www.myvoicemychoice.co.nz

To make your submission as effective as possible, please state which section or policy number you are commenting on, whether you agree or disagree with it, explain your reasons for agreeing or disagreeing and state what you think is an appropriate change.

Please note, your submission, including your name, will be a public document, and attached in full to the hearing report for consideration by Council (your contact details will remain confidential).

Return your submission form:

ONLINE

www.myvoicemychoice.co.nz

EMAIL

parks@hdc.govt.nz

POST

Hastings District Council, Freepost
108623, Private Bag 9002, Hastings 4122

DELIVER

Hastings District Council, Customer Service
Centre, 207 Lyndon Road, Hastings

SUBMISSIONS
CLOSE: Friday
2 September 2022

Speaking at a hearing

As part of your submission, you can speak to your submission at a hearing. Speaking at a hearing gives you the chance to explain your submission to Council and present evidence that supports your written submission. It gives you the opportunity to talk to Council about your thoughts and suggestions before they make their decisions.

If you wish to speak to your submission at a hearing, please either tick the box on the submission form, or make sure you state this if you do not use the form.

If you have any questions please email parks@hdc.govt.nz

Council officers will be available at a drop-in event at Tainui Reserve on **Saturday 30 July 2022**, between **11am-1pm** to discuss any questions or concerns you may have. (In the case of wet weather, the event will be held at the Havelock North Function Centre.)

We look forward to your comments on this plan for these reserves.

MY VOICE
MY CHOICE



HASTINGS
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga