

Climate Action Grants Allocation Policy

March 2023

Objectives of the policy

In May 2019 Council declared a Climate Change Emergency. In June 2021 the Council adopted the [Climate Emergency Action Framework](#). The central vision of this framework is a thriving, vibrant and strong Kāpiti that has reduced its carbon footprint significantly, has prepared for the challenges and opportunities that come from responding to the climate crisis, and has transitioned to a low carbon future.

The Climate Action Grants are for initiatives that will benefit the Kāpiti Coast in one or more of the following areas:

- *enabling Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions reduction*
- *helping to create a culture of climate change action*
- *supporting mana whenua vision and priorities*
- *improving resilience within local communities*
- *supporting an equitable transition to low carbon living*

Mana whenua vision and priorities for the Kāpiti district, as outlined in the Councils' Long Term Plan 2021-2041, are:

- Kaitiakitanga – sustaining the environment and people
- Ūkaipōtānga – identity
- Whanaungatanga – connectedness
- Pūkengatanga – preserving, creating, teaching and knowledge
- Manaakitanga – supporting each other

Climate Action Grants Allocation Process

- Allocation of funding for the climate action grants will be via an annual contestable process which calls for expressions of interest/applications to identify potential recipients for the fund
- For applications seeking \$30,000 or more, grants allocation will be undertaken in a two-step process whereby applicants are required to submit a brief Expression of Interest (EOI) first. From the EOIs received, a panel of Council officers from the Sustainability and Resilience team, along with other relevant teams (eg Community Engagement, Economic Development, Parks and Open Spaces, etc) will select projects to proceed to the next application stage. Selected applicants will then be invited to submit a full application.

- Final approval of funding will be undertaken by the Climate Action Grants Allocation Committee, or the Strategy, Operations and Finance Committee.
- Grant application criteria and process will be reviewed annually. The relevant Council Committee will approve any changes resulting from these reviews.

Application process.

Full applications will be assessed via staff panel and then presented to the Climate and Environment Subcommittee (CES). The CES will make recommendations to The Climate Action Grants Allocation Committee, or to the Strategy, Operations and Finance Committee.

Key Criteria for Climate Action Grant Applications

Key criteria for project applications are outlined below. Further application requirements, eligibility criteria, and assessment considerations are detailed in the Climate Action Grant Criteria & Application Guidelines. Funding is only available for projects or portions of projects taking place within the boundaries of the Kāpiti Coast District.

The Climate Action Grants are open to iwi and hapū of the Kāpiti Coast, neighbourhood groups of at least 10 households, community groups, organisations, businesses of up to 30 employees, and educational institutions.

The key criteria for assessment of applications for the Climate Action Grants are:

- the project aligns with the Grant objectives
- the project will continue to offer benefits to the Kāpiti Coast District once Grant funding has been depleted
- the project proposal demonstrates equity in terms of project benefits being accessible and relevant across multiple community demographics
- the project proposal shows how success will be measured in relation to project aims and goals. Success must be quantifiable and able to be reported back to council

Other considerations

As part of the Councils' commitment to and partnership with mana whenua, applications which incorporate or refer to te ao Māori concepts in some way are encouraged.