



Economic Development Strategy 2025 to 2028 summary



Published: October 2025

Before you start



This is a long document.



It can be hard for some people to read a document this long.



Some things you can do to make it easier are:



- read it a few pages at a time
- set aside some quiet time to look at it
- have someone read it with you to support you to understand it.

What you will find in here

Page number:

	About this Easy Read4
	Kāpiti Coast economic growth from 2020 to 20239
	Challenges in Kāpiti12
	Opportunities in Kāpiti14
Plan	Our long-term plan20
	The vision for Kāpiti24

Page number:

	Focus Area 127
	Focus Area 231
	Focus Area 334
	Who we will work with to make changes38
	More information41

About this Easy Read



This Easy Read is from the Kāpiti Coast District **Council** – Me Huri Whakamuri, Ka Titiro Whakamua.



A **council** means the people who make choices about how to run an area like Kāpiti.



This Easy Read is a **summary** of the document called **Kāpiti Coast Economic Development Strategy**2025 – 2028.



Here a **summary**:

- is shorter than the main document
- tells you the main ideas.



An economic development strategy is a plan for economic growth in a region / area like Kāpiti Coast.



Here a **strategy** is a set of long-term plans that are made to reach a goal / goals.









Here **economic growth** is where there are more things in Kāpiti like:

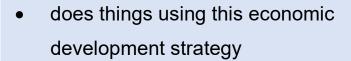
- jobs
- products / things being made to sell like:
 - o food
 - o art
- services like:
 - education
 - o healthcare.

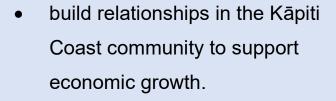
To make this strategy we worked with:

- our Economic Development
 Kotahitanga Board
- local businesses.











We call the Economic Development Kotahitanga Board **EDKB** in this Easy Read.



When you see **we / us / our** in this Easy Read it means:

the Kāpiti Coast District Council
 and



EDKB.



This Easy Read tells you about the plan for economic growth on the Kāpiti Coast from 2025 to 2028.

Kāpiti Coast economic growth from 2020 to 2023



Kāpiti had good economic growth from 2020 to 2023.



For example there were:

- more jobs in Kāpiti than in other places like Wellington
- fewer unemployed people than in many other places in Aotearoa New Zealand.



Unemployed is when you do not have a job.



In Kāpiti there are:

- many businesses
- many different industries.



Here **industry** is a group of businesses that:

- make the same kinds of things
- sell the same kinds of things
- do the same kinds of things.



An industry can be something like:

- banking
- farming.



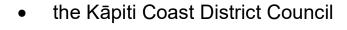


Our district / local area wants to better support the growth of:

- businesses
- industry.



The Economic Development Strategy 2025 – 2028 will be a guide to growing our economy for:





- the EDKB
- businesses
- the local community.

Challenges in Kāpiti



Here **challenges** are things that make doing something like a job harder.



There are some challenges to do the work set out in our economic development strategy.



These challenges are things like:

- there is not enough housing for people who need it
- climate change.



Climate change means big changes in the weather all over the world.



The challenges for the Kāpiti Coast are also things like:

- people not having good choices about the jobs they would like to do
- people not having the money to pay for the housing they need
- not having the right people to do jobs in Kāpiti in the future.





The **future** is a time that is still to happen.

Opportunities in Kāpiti



Here an **opportunity** is the chance to do something like get a job.



We asked our community what they want Kāpiti to look like in the future.

They told us they want to see a place that:

- is **sustainable**
- has environmentally friendly businesses.



Sustainable means doing something that will not hurt the **environment**.



The **environment** is everything that is around us like:

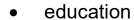
- plants
- animals
- water
- soil.

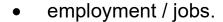


An environmentally friendly business does not harm the environment when it is doing its work.



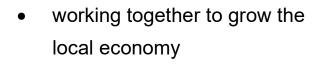
Our community also told us they want there to be good opportunities for everyone in:

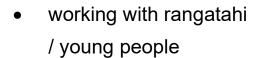


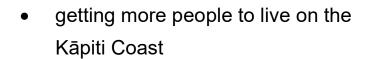


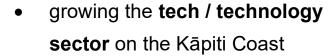


Opportunities set out in the strategy are things like:











supporting local businesses.













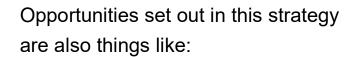
The **tech / technology** sector is an industry that designs tools to:

- sort out problems
- make life easier for people.

These tools can be things like:

- apps like Facebook
- computers / laptops
- the internet.





- making connections between businesses for example:
 - businesses like cafes/ restaurants

and



 making best use of Transmission Gully.

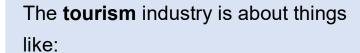












people visiting a place like
 Kāpiti on holiday

and

- the businesses supporting tourism like:
 - cafes / restaurants
 - o hotels / motels
 - o car hire places.





Transmission Gully is a motorway connecting Kāpiti to Wellington.

Now when travelling to Wellington it:

- takes less time to travel there
- costs less money to drive there.

Our long-term plan



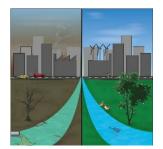
We made a long-term plan for 2024 to 2034.



This 10 year plan sets our strategic direction.



Here **strategic direction** is the main work we plan to do to follow our strategies like the:



- Economic Development Strategy
- **Emissions** Reduction Strategy.

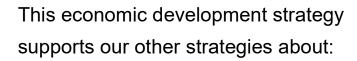


Emissions are gases that can cause climate change.

Emissions can be caused by things like driving cars that use petrol.







- health
- housing
- climate change
- the environment.



For example having a good economy supports people to have money to get the:

- housing they need
- healthcare they need.



To make things better for the future we looked at what has happened in the past.



We started our review in 2023.



Here a **review** is when you:

- check how things are going
- decide if anything needs to be changed.



To do our review we:

- worked with different groups of people like businesses
- looked for ways to make life better for people living on the Kāpiti Coast.

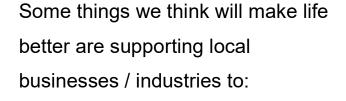


We found out what our:

- challenges are
- opportunities are.









- be sustainable
- be environmentally friendly
- move to using **solar power**.



Solar power is using the power of the sun to do the things like heat places.



Using solar power:





- costs less money
- is better for the environment.

The vision for Kāpiti



The **vision** of this economic development strategy is:



 to work with partners to support the growth of a strong Kāpiti
 Coast economy



- for the local economy to provide more opportunities to everyone living on the Kāpiti Coast
- for the local economy to support the wellbeing of everyone living on the Kāpiti Coast.



Here **vision** is what we hope something will be like in the future.



During our review we decided on 3 **focus areas** of work to make our vision real.



Here a **focus area** is 1 of the main things we want to do to reach our goals.



We will need to work together to reach our goals.

Each focus area will need work from:

- us
- businesses
- industry



 our economic development ecosystem.







Here an **economic development** ecosystem is:

the group of businesses working together

and

making the economy of our community better.



There are **priority actions** in each focus area to reach the goals we have set.



Here **priority actions** are the things that are most important to work on.

Focus Area 1



The goal of Focus Area 1 is to build a strong Kāpiti Coast economy.

This will be done by supporting local businesses / industry to work in ways that are:



- environmently friendly
- sustainable.





The 3 priority actions in Focus Area 1 are to:

- support each business / industry sector to grow
- work with businesses / industry so they know how to be sustainable
- build / grow Māori economic rangatiratanga / Māori leaders.











Changes we want from Focus Area 1

We will know if this focus area has made a difference when:

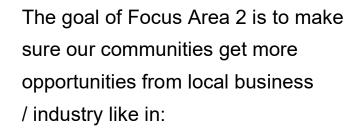
- there are more businesses in each business cluster
- people are making more money at their jobs
- there are more big events like the Kāpiti food fair that:
 - people go to on the KāpitiCoast
 - o make a lot of money
- there are more members of the Sustainable Business Network
 Pakihi Toitū o Kāpiti group.



Here a **cluster** is a group of businesses that do business in the same area like tourism.

Focus Area 2







- training
- careers / jobs.



The first 2 priority actions in Focus Area 2 are to:



- build / grow Māori economic rangatiratanga / Māori leaders
- get people from other areas to invest in businesses / industry on the Kāpiti Coast.



Here **invest** means putting money into something like a business to support it to grow.

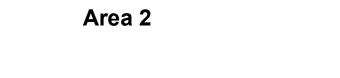


The third priority action for Focus
Area 2 is to make more opportunities
for people living on the Kāpiti Coast
like:

- being able to learn more skills
- getting the right training to be able to do the job they would like to do
- being able to get a job.







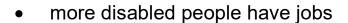


We will know if this focus area has made a difference when:

Changes we want from Focus



- there are more training opportunities on the Kāpiti Coast
- there are more people doing training on the Kāpiti Coast
- more Māori have jobs





- more peopled aged 15 to 24 years old are:
 - studying
 - have jobs



 more people aged from 55 to 65 years old have jobs.

Focus Area 3









The goal of Focus Area 3 is to let people know Kāpiti is an:

- **inclusive** community
- easy place to:
 - o invest in businesses
 - o do business.

Here **inclusive** is where everyone feels:

- valued like being listened to
- supported.



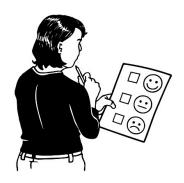






The priority actions for Focus Area 3 are to:

- support businesses when they are starting up
- make sure the rules around operating / running businesses / industry are:
 - o clear
 - easy to follow
- make sure Kāpiti is a place people want to visit when:
 - o on holiday
 - doing business.









Changes we want from Focus Area 3

We will know if this focus area has made a difference when:

- there are more businesses doing well on the Kāpiti Coast
- our survey tells us businesses feel supported by the:
 - o Council
 - o EDKB.

A **survey** is when people are asked questions to find out what they:

- think about something
- feel about something.





Answers to survey questions will tell us if more businesses:

- agree it is easy to do business on the Kāpiti Coast
- think that Council rules about doing business are easy to follow
- understand how to follow the rules.

Who we will work with to make changes



Strong economic ecosystems support communities to **thrive**.

Here **thrive** means that something like a business is doing very well.



Plans will be made each year to say what work should be done to reach our vision.



We will make rules to say how we will work with different groups to:

- reach our goals
- grow the Kāpiti Coast economy.



We need support to reach the goals of the strategy.



The work to make Kāpiti reach its vision is supported by:



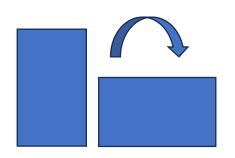
- the Council
- the EDKB
- the economic development ecosystem / community.



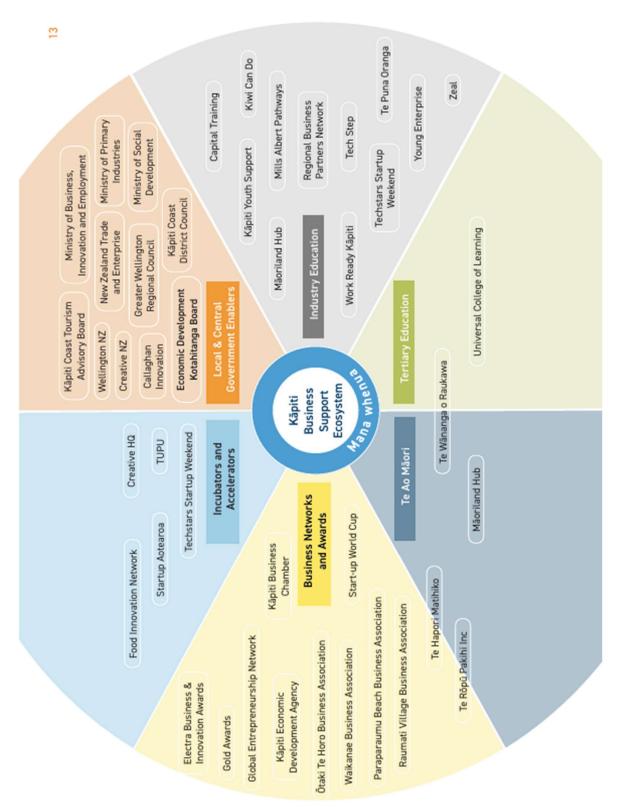
There is a diagram / picture on the next page to show you the Kāpiti Business Support Ecosystem.



It is **not** in Easy Read.



Turn this page on its side to read this diagram / picture.



More information



You can read the full **Kāpiti Coast Economic Development Strategy 2025 – 2028** at this **website**:

https://tinyurl.com/KCEDS2025to28



This website also has more information about the Kāpiti Coast District Council.



This website is **not** in Easy Read.



This information has been written by the Kāpiti Coast District Council – Me Huri Whakamuri, Ka Titiro Whakamua.

Some of the images used have been provided by the Kāpiti Coast District Council.



It has been translated into Easy Read by the Make it Easy Kia Māmā Mai service of People First New Zealand Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi.



The ideas in this document are not the ideas of People First New Zealand Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi.



All images used in this Easy Read document are subject to copyright rules and cannot be used without permission.



Make it Easy uses images from:



Photosymbols



Change Images



Huriana Kopeke-Te Aho



SGC Image Works



- T Wood
- Studio Rebeko
- Inga Kramer.