

Te Anamata Ā-Kai o Tō Tātou Tāone Our City's Food Future



**Nā tō rourou,
Nā taku rourou
Ka ora ai te iwi**

With your food basket,
and my food basket,
the people will thrive

An Action Plan working to achieve a sustainable, equitable, healthy, and resilient food system for Wellington City. This plan reflects Mana Whenua and Tūpiki Ora priorities, aspirations, and mātauranga.

You cannot separate kai from either community or whenua. To have a system that champions kai is to have one that champions community, and champions whenua. To look after the people means to look after the whenua.

**Kore Hiakai,
Mana to Mana**



Ngā ihirangi Contents

Hua Parakore - He horopaki Kaupapa Māori Kaupapa Māori context	1
Tō mātou wawata Our vision	2
Kā hua o te tukanga pūnaha The benefits of a systems approach	4
Te Mahere Kauneke The Action Plan	6
Aronga Matua 1 Focus Area 1: Everyone in Wellington has dignified and secure access to nutritious, affordable, and culturally appropriate food.	8
Aronga Matua 2 Focus Area 2: We are confident we have the whanaungatanga, community resilience, and planning to respond effectively to disaster, and emergencies.	12
Aronga Matua 3 Focus Area: Mana Whenua and Māori are activating kai and soil sovereignty in relation to the cultural landscapes.	16
Aronga Matua 4 Focus Area 4: Wellington's climate-responsible food system and culture is reversing the effects of climate change.	20
Aronga Matua 5 Focus Area 5: We enable a lively and prosperous local food economy.	24



For more background information
and context, including a glossary,
check out the [background document](#).

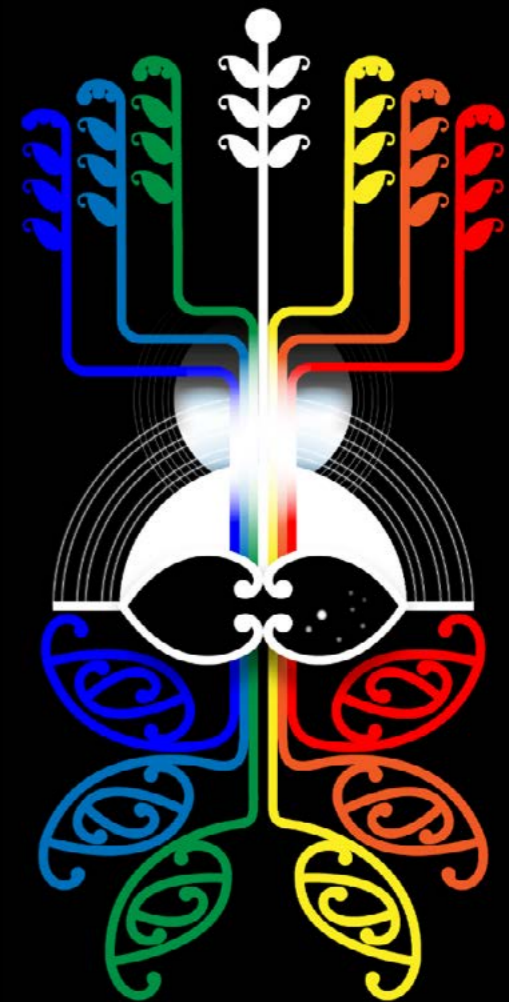
Hua Parakore - He horopaki Kaupapa Māori Kaupapa Māori context

This action plan adopts the
Hua Parakore framework
to amplify mana motuhake
and whanaungatanga
regarding Māori soil
and kai sovereignty.

Wellington City Council uses the Hua
Parakore framework in this action plan.
The council acknowledges that this
comes from Te Waka Kai Ora (TWKO)
and is a taonga steeped in mātauranga
where TWKO is the kaitiaki. The Hua
Parakore framework was embedded
in this work when Wellington City
Council engaged with Papawhakaritorito
Trust, and Dr. Jessica Hutchings,
in the development of kaupapa
Māori pathways that are embedded
with diverse Māori communities.

For more information on the process
and further context, we recommend
reading the [background document](#) and
[Māori Kai Sovereignty Wānanga notes](#).

More resources are available here:
wellington.govt.nz/sustainable-food.



Tō mātou wawata

Our vision

Wellingtonians can access **good food**, whilst supporting the social, environmental, cultural, and economic wellbeing for future generations.

Good food is...



Good for your health
Nutritious, variety of choices, accessible.



Good for the environment
Sustainably produced, regenerative practices, honouring kaitiakitanga.

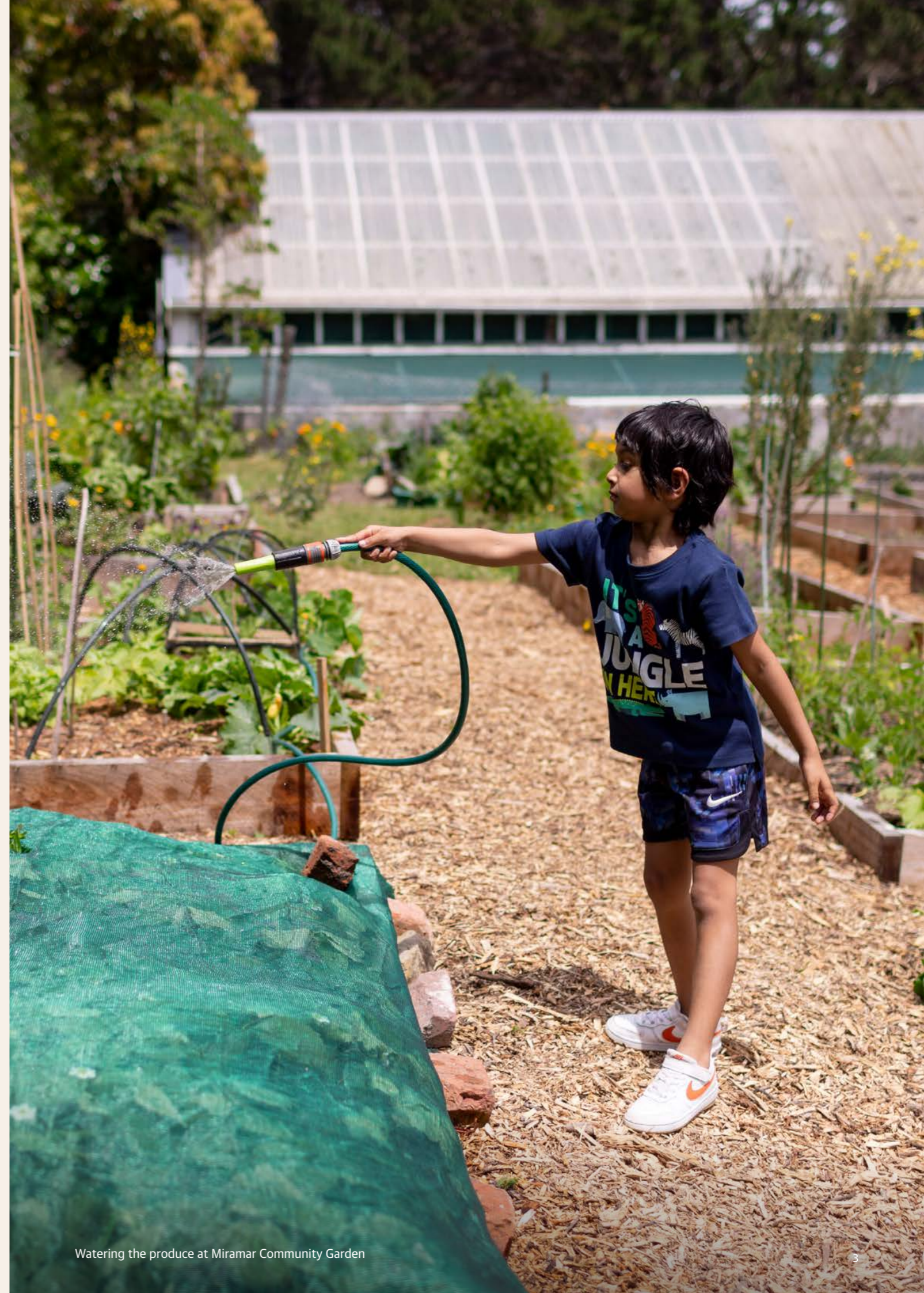


Good for your culture
Culturally appropriate, dignified access, sharing brings us together.



Good for the economy
Affordable, produced regionally, easily accessed.

At the centre of this vision is an unrelenting pursuit of wellness, of mauri ora.



Kā hua o te tukanga pūnaha

The benefits of a systems approach



Te Mahere Kauneke The Action Plan



Ā mātou whāinga Our outcomes

Equity	Resilience
Healthy & Thriving	Sustainability



Ā mātou aronga matua e rima me ngā putanga e whāia ana Our 5 focus areas

These 5 focus areas provide the framework for the Action Plan.



1. Everyone in Wellington has dignified and secure access to nutritious, affordable, and culturally appropriate food.



2. We have the whanaungatanga, community resilience, and planning in place to respond effectively to emergencies.



3. Mana Whenua and Māori are activating kai and soil sovereignty in relation to the cultural landscapes.



4. Wellington's climate-responsible food system and culture is reversing the effects of climate change.



5. We enable a lively and prosperous local food economy.

Tūpiki Ora alignment



Mana Whenua and Māori of Wellington have imagined their future and what the vision for this city could look like through Tūpiki Ora. If you see a red icon like this throughout the document, it references these aspirations and alignment with the Tūpiki Ora strategy.



Aronga Matua 1 | Focus Area 1



Everyone in Wellington has dignified and secure access to nutritious, affordable, and culturally appropriate food.

Goals:

- 1 Increased access to places and spaces to provide affordable, healthy food.
- 2 Increased opportunities for food-related infrastructure and production.

Progress measures

To come

Tūpiki Ora alignment



Te whakapakari pūmanawa
Building capability



Te whakatairanga i te ao Māori
Enhancing and promoting te ao Māori



He whānau toiora
Thriving and vibrant communities

Outcomes:

Equity

Resilience

Healthy & Thriving

What you'll experience:

"I will have the resources and community connections to access food that suits my culture and needs."

Committed and Recommended Actions

1.1 Motivate and resource people with the skills and education to increase their knowledge around food.

Timeframe: Short-term (by 2023)

By providing opportunities that increase capacity and skills in food access, nutrition, and security, we can support more resilient neighbourhoods. Wellington City Council uses a variety of methods to encourage the fair and sustainable uptake of food skills. We work with stakeholders, advocates, and our wider community to ensure good outcomes through events, service provision, social marketing campaigns, and providing advice and information.



IDEA Services helps to prepare food at Linden Kai Kitchen.

1.2 Co-create improvements to Wellington's food system for providing day-to-day support

Timeframe: Short-term (by 2023)

A core part of this action is guiding Wellington's food insecurity response and co-creating improvements to the existing system. We do this through partnerships with key players, especially those that allow for culturally relevant and accessible foods and practices. By identifying barriers to good and healthy food, leveraging partnerships to fill identified gaps and achieve new opportunities, we take an integrated approach to a resilient and equitable food system.

1.3 Activate food places and spaces in Te Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington.

Timeframe: Medium-term (by 2025)

A resilient city has multiple ways for its residents to obtain food. One of these is encouraging food spaces within the city boundaries through partnering with other landowners, businesses, and residents. This may include new developments, community gardens, temporary urban food spaces, and central city exemplar gardens. Having the ocean on our backdoor makes for easy access to various resources such as kaimoana, and we will actively investigate these opportunities. Supporting kaupapa Māori food production and infrastructure are additional opportunities that further support Council's Tiriti commitments. The Council will take an equity approach by analysing

which neighbourhoods will benefit most from activations in their area. We will investigate the opportunity to develop an urban agriculture and soil health specialist role to support this action.

1.4 Increase the diversity of people involved in harvesting, making, and sharing food in neighbourhoods

Timeframe: Long-term (by 2027)

Identifying, mapping, and evaluating local food initiatives supports Wellington City Council to better understand gaps and opportunities for neighbourhoods. Wellington has a growing network of community gardens that support the Council's social wellbeing goals. Researching further incentives to support public and/or community-led food initiatives provides further opportunities.



City Housing Rintoul Street Villas tenants and community supporters planting their sunflower seedlings as part of Bee Aware Month.

Case study Te Aro Pā

Important practice for descendants of Te Aro Pā, kai system innovation for the sea, streams, and soil is a historical and present practice in the city.

To sustain the community of Te Aro Pā, the harbour was utilised as a mātaimai, with iwi having at least seven waka for fishing and travelling upon the harbour. The Basin Reserve and an area known as Hauwai swamp also served as a source of mahinga kai such as eels, watercress and kōura.

An important influence on the gardening associated with Te Aro Pā was the Te Akaterewa Pā, a major pā for the Ngāti Hinewai hapū of Ngāi Tara. Located on the slopes of Te Ranga a Hiwi above where the Mt Victoria Tunnel and Wellington College now sit, resources surrounding Te Akaterewa Pā included garden sites such as Hauwai, Pukeahu, Ngā Kumikumi. These planting sites were all of significance to Te Aro Pā as they were utilised by Te Āti Awa / Taranaki Whānui centuries later.

In addition to these sites, by the early 1840s, the people of Te Aro had cultivated a total of 60-80 acres of land on the hills immediately to the rear of Te Aro Pā. Overall, these locations covered vast areas including Pukeahu, Omāroro (Vogeltown) and Paekawakawa (Island Bay).

The inhabitants of the pā moved seasonally from cultivation area to area, planting, tending and harvesting the crops.

These earliest gardens involved the clearing of forest to allow the regrowth of ferns, where bracken ferns were cultivated for their edible roots. Kūmara soon followed, becoming a crop of high importance, where the hills were terraced for their planting. Later, potatoes, melons and corns were planted within these areas.

These practices and places of the original inhabitants of Te Aro Pā cultivate both kai and mauri ora for people and place, and are areas for inspiration we can aspire towards today.



Te Aro Pa in 1841, viewed from the sea.
Hilliard, George Richard, 1801-1881. [Hilliard, George Richard] b 1801 :[Te Aro Pa] 1841.
Ref: A-113-023. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand. /records/22713215



Aronga Matua 2 | Focus Area 2



We are confident we have the whanaungatanga, community resilience, and planning to respond effectively to emergencies.

Goal:

- Wellington has a detailed and inclusive Emergency Food Provisions Response Plan

Progress measures

To come

Tūpiki Ora alignment



Te whakapakari pūmanawa
Building capability



He whānau toiora
Thriving and vibrant communities

Outcomes:

Equity

Resilience

Healthy & Thriving

What you'll experience:

"My food requirements are met in times of emergency."



Compassion Soup Kitchen and Pūrerehua23 organising kai for the community.



Committed and Recommended Actions

2.1 Benchmark Wellington's emergency response

Timeframe: Short-term (by 2024)

Through benchmarking the Council's food security activation, we will identify and support key partners and networks, especially those that allow for culturally relevant and accessible foods in an emergency food response. Leveraging our international partnerships with similar cities, we will share the Council's key learnings from the COVID-19 response and wider emergency food security activations, and seek inspiration to set up new methods of support.

2.2 Actively participate in global, national, regional, and local policy communities to ensure an inclusive emergency response.

Timeframe: Medium-term (by 2026) and ongoing

In October 2021, the Mayor completed a key part of this action by signing the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact (MUFPP). Joining this international network of cities actioning food system change allows us to identify,



Wellington City Council signs the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact on October 18 2021 as the first signatory city in Aotearoa New Zealand.

trial, and evaluate high priority ideas and good practice from global connections. Wellington City Council's Sustainable Food Network and the Aotearoa Food Policy Network are two examples of local networks we actively participate in. Leveraging these networks, we will help

implement projects to strengthen the emergency food support response and wider food system.

The actions of Focus Area 1 strongly support this focus area.

Case study

Baltimore's Short-term Plan for Food Access

Baltimore City, Maryland, is the 29th largest U.S. city with a population around 620,000. In Baltimore, structural racism is tied to historical policies and planning that led to communities with inequitable access to resources such as healthy food.

The April 2015 Baltimore Uprising highlighted, among many things, the ways in which a disruption can harm food security in Baltimore. It also highlighted the need to better coordinate city agencies and food suppliers. Historically, food provisions had little intervention by city government. The uprising provided an opportunity to learn where municipal agencies could assist with communication, coordination, and collaboration. As a short-term measure, the Office of Sustainability formed an Emergency Food Working Group, which drafted a thorough, community-based, and inclusive framework to collectively respond to the city and community's needs.

The Short-term Plan for Food Access highlights the need for detailed levels of coordination throughout local and central government, academia, emergency food providers, and the community to feed our city in times of shock and recovery.

Acknowledging the impact that the climate emergency will have on their residents' food security, Baltimore's Office of Sustainability designed a "food resilience planner". Their plans emphasise the need for short-term response for immediate action, as well as a long-term plan for food resilience.



Kaibosh team ready to help!



Buying fresh produce at the Harbourside Market.

Aronga Matua 3 | Focus Area 3



Mana Whenua and Māori are activating kai and soil sovereignty in relation to the cultural landscapes.

Goal:

- 1 Increased Mana Whenua and Māori-led kai and soil sovereignty projects.

Progress measures

To come

Tūpiki Ora alignment



Te whakapakari pūmanawa
Building capability



Te whakatairanga i te ao Māori
Enhancing and promoting te ao Māori



He whānau toiora
Thriving and vibrant communities



Tiakina te taiao
Caring for our environment

Outcomes:

Equity

Resilience

Healthy & Thriving

Sustainability

What you'll experience:

"Through kai and community, I feel a part of the whenua, awa, and moana near which I live".



Taranaki Whānui and Mountains to Sea gather for a wānanga about kaimoana that fills the coasts: seaweed!



Committed and Recommended Actions

3.1 To uphold the oranga of Te Ao Tūroa

Timeframe: Medium and Long-term (by 2025 & 2027)

Wellington is well-suited to enhance a healthy ecosystem given its dedication to local biodiversity. Areas to investigate include an integrated, ecosystem approach to reduce Council use of agrichemicals* while supporting regenerative Hua Parakore soil and composting practices (Action 4.1). Existing schemes have highlighted the following co-benefits to date:

- Healthier soil
- Soil carbon capture
- Increased biodiversity
- Enhancing cultural connections
- Community resilience
- Intergenerational knowledge sharing



Chef and kaumātua Joe McLeod foraging for pikopiko.

3.2 Support existing initiatives and continue to grow Māori Mahi Kai capacity and leadership in Te Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington

Timeframe: Short-term (by 2023)

By investing in diverse, intergenerational, educational, and leadership projects we support opportunities for Māori to learn about local cultural food histories and practices. Programmes for tamariki and rangatahi ensure the next generation has access to this knowledge. Enhancing support through a Māori-led Kai Sovereignty Network has the potential to create resilient networks and support the roll out of the action plan. Engaging with Mana Whenua to understand

and identify priorities is key. This is important across the Māori food system: Hine-Ahu-One (soils), Tangaroa (seas), and Te Wao Nui a Tane (forests).

3.3 Showcase and share information, pūrākau, and experiences about Māori kai sovereignty practices and current success stories

Timeframe: Short-term (by 2024) & Ongoing

There are many projects activating Māori kai sovereignty throughout the city. Creating a Māori-led storytelling and communications plan elevates historical, current, and new food stories and learnings about ngā Ātua while enhancing knowledge and awareness from existing programmes.

3.4 Uphold the mana of Te Tiriti o Waitangi in the implementation of this action plan

Timeframe: Short-term (by 2024)

With Tākai Here and Tūpiki Ora endorsed, Wellington City Council continues to take steps to uphold the mana of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Further opportunities to investigate food systems work includes undertaking a Tiriti-based formative evaluation process, supporting Tiriti partnership projects, establishing kaupapa Māori funding pathways, and developing a Māori-led Māori Kai strategy.

*The completion of this action depends on available funding

Case study

Papatūānuku Marae

Papatūānuku Kōkiri Marae is in South Auckland. This urban marae focuses on Hua Parakore Kaupapa and values in food production to support Māori food sovereignty practices.

Established in 1986, the marae has run extensive community gardens for 30 years on a hectare of land.

As part of the goal to encourage healthier lifestyles, they piloted certificate-level Kai Oranga programmes. Run in partnership with Te Waka Kai Ora, the programmes teach organic food production using traditional Māori values and ethics.

Oranga whenua, oranga tangata is at the heart of their vision and the marae is a space that is open to all. At Papatūānuku Marae they push back against fast food culture and capitalist food economies through the provision of fresh Hua Parakore kai and fish heads for whānau. They are growing the next generation of Hua Parakore food farmers through reo, tikanga and māra kai experiences, weaving kai and life-long learning into everything they do at the marae. The marae is well supported by the diversity of communities in South Auckland and are a key anchor in reigniting whānau back to the māra to grow kai, save seeds, reconnect with soil and the natural processes of Te Ao Tūroa through reo, tikanga and mātauranga.



Photo courtesy of Lionel Hotene, Kaitiaki Matua of Papatūānuku Marae.



Preparing seafood.

Aronga Matua 4 | Focus Area 4



Wellington's climate-responsible food system and culture is reversing the effects of climate change.

Goals:

- 1 Ease of access to, and increased infrastructure for composting.
- 2 Increased climate responsible food initiatives.

Progress measures

To come

Tūpiki Ora alignment



He whānau toiora
Thriving and vibrant communities



Tiakina te taiao
Caring for our environment



Composting at Kaicycle's urban farm.

Outcomes:

Equity

Resilience

Healthy & Thriving

Sustainability

What you'll experience:

"I have confidence that my food choices promote my wellbeing and are good for the environment."

Committed and Recommended Actions

4.1 Develop and implement models for citywide composting*

Timeframe: Short-term (by 2024)

Diverting food waste from landfill is an opportunity to minimise the greenhouse gas emissions of the food system in Te Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington. By investigating models for citywide composting, the Council can divert greenhouse gas emissions for households and the organisation while supporting soil health. The neighbourhood composting trial, along with analysis of the Para Kai Miramar Peninsula Trial, will provide valuable insight for a multi-model, city, or region-wide composting approach.

4.2 Safeguard highly productive soils across the regions

Timeframe: Long-term (by 2027)

In alignment with the Regional Food Strategy, we support the protection of highly productive soil in the region. The Council will support food resilience and systems through advocating for and investing in a strong Central City, denser metropolitan urban form, and sustainable transport infrastructure.

4.3 Wellingtonians can make climate-responsible choices in their food habits

Timeframe: Short-term (by 2024)

By promoting a variety of platforms and methods, Council can support a shift towards low emission and sustainable food habits. We will



Community crop and seed swap to share homegrown goodies.

continue to work with stakeholders, advocates, and the wider community through various levers such as food procurement and social marketing campaigns. By making this switch within Wellington City Council, we lead by example.

4.4 Take what you need, share any extra

Timeframe: Short-term (by 2024)

We want to reduce food going to the landfill. By creating campaigns, resources, and guides, we encourage a sharing culture in various sectors of the city. We will collaborate with key partners to activate further food-sharing initiatives and distribution of resources, especially on a neighbourhood scale.

*This action may adjust to align with the upcoming Wellington Region Waste Management and Minimisation Plan

Case study

Food Waste Collection in Austria

The capital of Austria, Vienna is an exemplar of a closed loop biowaste recovery system. With a strong directive to avoid biowaste going to landfill, they have three pillars to their resource recovery scheme: composting, anaerobic digestion, and biomass incineration.

The three pillars complement each other to recover and reutilise these resources. The City of Vienna notes co-benefits include enhanced food production, soil enrichment, and the protection of groundwater and climate.

Vienna has a population of 1.7 million. In densely populated urban areas, there are public bins for organic and green waste, with civic amenity sites to dispose of green waste. In Vienna's less dense zones, door-to-door collection is available. Enterprises producing large amounts of organic waste are also required to partake in kitchen waste collection.

Depending on the pathway, the waste collected is either transformed into energy, which is used in Viennese households, or processed to become compost. The compost created goes through a thorough quality assurance process to ensure it is supporting soil health. The compost is available for distribution, specifically to the city's food producers and Viennese residents.

By partnering with agricultural producers to use this compost, the city supports the farms to transition towards climate-friendly agriculture, reducing their greenhouse gas emissions through the creation of carbon sinks and protecting soil health.



Food scraps ready to be turned into nutrient-rich compost.



Two friends making a plant-based meal.

Aronga Matua 5 | Focus Area 5



We enable a lively and prosperous local food economy.

Goals:

- 1** Increased opportunities for career pathways within the food system.
- 2** Enable and increase kaupapa Māori initiatives.

Progress measures

To come

Tūpiki Ora alignment



Te whakapakari pūmanawa
Building capability



He whānau toiora
Thriving and vibrant communities

Outcomes:

Equity

Resilience

Sustainability

What you'll experience:

"The food and drink I buy has been sustainably produced in our region."



Gardeners plant silverbeet and parsley in front of Wellington's Railway Station.

Committed and Recommended Actions

5.1 Investigate and enable employment opportunities within the food system

Timeframe: Short-term (by 2024)

Investigate opportunities to further integrate living wage into food systems' models to support the food system to be more resilient and equitable. The Council supports opportunities for job pathways. This may include student internships, trade fellowships, or other opportunities.

5.2 Investigate and develop opportunities for localised and regionalised food purchasing for households

Timeframe: Long-term (by 2026)

We will analyse the current distribution of food in the city which will allow us to benchmark current distribution patterns. From there, we will create recommendations for next steps.

5.3 Develop kaupapa Māori pathways to contribute to Māori food resiliency

Timeframe: Medium-term (by 2025)

Enhancing kaupapa Māori pathways such as Māori food farming, food businesses, and kaimoana connections through education and training pathways (from Focus Area 3) has the potential to elevate the food resilience of iwi and Māori. Activating rangatahi Māori engagement and pathways into food systems' employment is another potential area for exploration.



Practitioner Arihia Latham sharing her knowledge on rongoā at the Bond Street Garden for Matariki celebrations.

5.4 Focus food economy initiatives in climate-responsible business models

Timeframe: Medium-term (by 2025)

Te Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington hosts many cafes, restaurants, and food entrepreneurs. Investigating opportunities to enable the shift towards climate-responsible business models is another key area in the food sector. In support of the Regional Food Strategy, we will advocate for support for regional farmers towards environmentally friendly farming practices which has potential to strengthen the regional agricultural economy.

The actions of Focus Area 4 strongly support this focus area.

Case study

Edible Canterbury

Christchurch aims to be the best edible garden city in the world, where all people have access to affordable, locally grown food to support healthy and active lifestyles.

They've created a network of food systems projects to encourage their residents to learn, eat, grow, and thrive together.

These projects are also economically sustainable, with models that allow for paid employment.

Alongside various community gardens, projects include:

Cultivate Christchurch, a regenerative urban agriculture social enterprise that sells produce to the public at markets and provides employment training internships to youth aged 16-25.

Roimata Food Commons, a community and food resilience project that focuses on an edible food forest.

The Addington Farm, a not-for-profit urban farm with a community supported agriculture (CSA) programme, meaning residents can buy produce from this farm. Their motto is "healthy soil grows healthy food to grow healthy community."

Ōtākaro Orchard, a living learning hub for growing food and a local food information centre to learn and share food-systems skills, with social enterprise café, office, and event space and HQ for their Food Resilience Network.



Image of Ōtākaro Orchard architecture plans, courtesy of Ōtākaro Orchard.



**Te toto o te tangata he kai, te oranga
o te tangata, he whenua, he oneone**
While food provides the blood in our veins,
our health is drawn from the land and soils.

