

**Committee Members**

Chair: Brett Cummings  
Cr Frank Dooley  
Cr Andy Campbell  
Cr Allan Birchfield

Cr Peter Ewen  
Cr Peter Haddock  
Cr Mark McIntyre

**Iwi Representatives**

Francois Tumahai (Ngāti Waewae)  
Jackie Douglas (Makaawhio)



WEST COAST  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

**PUBLIC COPY**

**Meeting of Resource Management Committee**  
***(Te Huinga Tu)***

**Tuesday, 4 June 2024**

**9.30am**

**West Coast Regional Council Chambers, 388 Main South Road,  
Greymouth**

**and**

**Live Streamed via Council's Facebook Page:**

**<https://www.facebook.com/WestCoastRegionalCouncil>**



# Resource Management Committee Meeting

## *(Te Huinga Tu)*

### AGENDA

#### *(Rarangi Take)*

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1. <b>Welcome</b> <i>(Haere mai)</i>	
2. <b>Apologies</b> <i>(Ngā Pa Pouri)</i>	
3. <b>Declarations of Interest</b>	
4. <b>Public Forum, Petitions and Deputations</b> <i>(He Huinga tuku korero)</i>	
5. <b>Confirmation of Minutes</b> <i>(Whakau korero)</i>	1
5.1 Minutes of Resource Management Committee Meeting 7 May 2024 <b>Matters Arising</b>	2
6. <b>Actions List</b>	10
7. <b>Chairs Report (verbal update)</b>	
8. <b>Reports</b>	13 – 156
8.1 Planning and TTPP Report	13
8.2 Alignment of TTPP with Te Whanaketanga	17
8.3 Update on Taylorville Resource Park Ltd Consent Process	24

**8.4** Air Plan Review 1: Air Quality and Home Heating Issues Report **28**

**8.4.1** *Presentation slides Air Quality and Home Heating Issues Report*

**8.4.2** *Presentation slides Health Impacts from Home Heating*

**8.4.3** *Presentation slides Indoor Air Quality: Home Heating and its Health Impacts*

**9. General Business**

**PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS**

**10. Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes**

**10.1** Minutes of Resource Management Committee Meeting  
7 May 2024

**Matters arising**

**11. Actions List**

**D. Lew**  
**Chief Executive**

### **Purpose of Local Government**

The reports contained in this agenda address the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 in relation to decision making. Unless otherwise stated, the recommended option promotes the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future.

### **Health and Safety Emergency Procedure**

In the event of an emergency, please exit through the emergency door in the Council Chambers.

If you require assistance to exit, please see a staff member. Once you reach the bottom of the stairs make your way to the assembly point at the grassed area at the front of the building. Staff will guide you to an alternative route if necessary.



**5 Minutes of Resource Management Committee Meeting 7 May 2024**

**Author** Sarah Tripathi, Governance Advisor

**Authorizer** Jo Field, Group Manager Office of the CE

**Public Excluded** No

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**Report Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to receive the minutes of the Resource Management Committee meeting of 7 May 2024.

**Recommendations**

***It is recommended that Committee resolves to:***

- 1. Confirm that the minutes of the Resource Management Committee meeting held on 7 May 2024 are a true and correct record.*

**Attachments**

Attachment 1: Minutes of the Resource Management Committee meeting held on 7 May 2024.

**THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 7 MAY 2024**  
**AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD,**  
**GREYMOUTH COMMENCING AT 10.10AM**

**PRESENT:**

B. Cummings (Chair), P. Haddock, F. Dooley, A. Campbell, A Birchfield, P. Ewen

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

D. Lew (Chief Executive), F. Tumahai (Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae), Jo Field (Group Manager Office of the Chief Executive), L. Sadler (Planning Team Leader), S. Morgan (Operations Manager), A. Pendergrast (Acting Corporate Services Manager (via Zoom)), S. Selvarajah (Acting Consents, Compliance and Policy Manager (via Zoom)), F. Love (Consultant (via Zoom)), S. Genery (Principal Planning & Reporting Officer), C. Barnes (Compliance Team Leader), J. Horrox (Manager Environmental Quality), K. Beets (Regional Catchment Coordinator), R. Williams (Chair, TTPP (via Zoom)), N. McGrouther (Consultant (via Zoom)), R. Barrow (EA to the Chief Executive), B. McMahon (Media)

**1. Welcome (*Haere mai*)**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and commenced the meeting with a prayer.

**2. Apologies (*Ngā Pa Pouri*)**

The Chair called for apologies. The apologies were received from Cr Mark McIntyre and Jackie Douglas.

**Moved** (Cummings/ Haddock) *that the apologies from Cr M McIntyre and J Douglas be received.*

*Carried*

**3. Declarations of Interest**

The Chair called for any declaration of interests. Cr Campbell declared interest relating to Wanganui.

**4. Public Forum, Petitions and Deputations (*He Huinga tuku korero*)**

There were no public forums or deputations.

**5. Confirmation of Minutes**

**5.1 Minutes of Resource Management Committee meeting 9 April 2024**



The Chair called for any corrections to the minutes. A correction to the agenda was noted, affirming that the minutes from the meetings held on 5 March and 29 January 2024 were accurate and confirmed.

Additionally, a correction was noted in the Chair's report for the 9 April 2024 minutes, which will be verified by the Governance Advisor.

**Moved** (Haddock/ Ewen) *that after the noted corrections the minutes of 9 April 2024 meeting are true and correct record.*

*Carried*

### **Matters Arising**

There were none.

## **6. Actions List**

The following was noted/updated on the actions list.

- Item 1 – Completed. Application to be submitted by 20 May 2024.  
The Council's request to DWC for funding the One Plan was under consideration. DWC's documentation was for a repayable loan at commercial interest rates, while the Council proposed a grant. As DWC did not accept grants, the application was not submitted, and the Council began discussions with DWC and prepared the grant application from scratch. The Council was responsible for finalizing and submitting the application. The draft was emailed to Councillors for review and finalization.
- Item 2 – Ongoing.
- Item 3 – Completed. To be deleted.
- Item 4 – Completed. To be deleted.
- Item 5 – Iwi members were to be appointed to the Regional Transport Committee. The CE stated that letters were sent to both Iwi Chairs, intending to appoint one member each from Ngati Waewae and Makaawhio. It was noted that F Tumahai would discuss this with P. Madgwick and report back to the CE.
- Item 6 – Ongoing.
- Item 7 – Ongoing.
- Item 8 – Ongoing.
- Item 9 – Completed. To be deleted.
- Item 10 – Ongoing.
- Item 11 – Ongoing.

It was noted that F Love will submit the grant application to DWC by 20 May 2024.

**Moved** (Haddock/Tumahai) *that the report be received.*

*Carried*

## **7. Chairs Report (verbal update)**

The Chair noted that it had been a busy time for all Councillors with the RD meetings. He added that most meetings were productive and had good outcomes. It was further noted that there were many misconceptions about Rating Districts, their operations, and the Council's role. The Council team faced difficulties reaching their meeting destination due to an unforeseen encounter with approximately 10 protestors. The RD meetings at Kongahu, Mokihinui, and Franz Josef went well. Significant progress was made, making future meetings easier, though there was still much work to be done.

The CE thanked Shanti Morgan and her team for their work as Acting Infrastructure Manager. Cr Haddock echoed this and also thanked the finance team for their efforts.

**Moved** (Ewen/ Campbell) *that the report be received.*

*Carried*

## **8. Reports**

### **8.1 Planning and TTP Report**

L Sadler spoke to the report and took the report as read.

The TUK submission on NPS for Natural Hazard Decision-making was discussed briefly.

A statement on page 13 of the agenda read: "National direction must require robust hazard assessment, and a strong risk-based approach in regional and district plans to provide decision-makers with the tools to decline, restrict, or manage development appropriately." Upon reviewing TUK's submissions, it was noted that while they consistently referenced a risk-based approach, it was not well defined. Clarification was sought on what was new in this statement.

It was observed that the Council's submission lacked strength in terms of mitigations, as the risk-based approach did not account for mitigations like the proposed hard protection structures for Westport. Questions were also raised regarding how these submissions were integrated into the TTPP plan, considering that the document had already undergone consultation.

It was observed that as the Council examined the influx of information, including numerous submissions and updates from the new government, it became evident that these factors would influence decisions made during the One District Plan process. Integration of this information into the TTPP was inquired and concern was

expressed about avoiding inadvertent setbacks. R Williams, Chief Executive TTPP responded to these concerns and stated that the Council must distinguish between the issues currently being heard by the Hearing Commissioners and the preparation of the plan. The concerns raised were thoroughly discussed during the plan's preparation phase.

Concerns were raised regarding the limited direct information from Central Government, mainly relying on news media reports. The Council was directed to review the papers from the TTPP Committee meeting of April 29, 2024, to clarify actions regarding current legislation, potential amendments, and the continuity of the Committee's work in the interim. The Regional Policy Statement mandated addressing most of these issues regardless. It was emphasized that the Council should review the papers from the previous TTPP Committee meeting, as they covered pertinent issues. All information, including meeting minutes, was accessible online.

The CE highlighted the Council's limited governance authority over policy formulation in the process. It was noted that the TTPP Committee composition comprised individuals appointed by the committee, not representing specific organizations and the TTPP Steering Committee lacked authority over the Commissioners, although representations could be made to them. Throughout the history of the RMA, councils have faced challenges in advancing their plans over 30 years. Despite prolonged plan development, councils have fulfilled legal obligations diligently. Various governments have introduced additional regulations, such as NPSS and NES. Pausing plan development due to these challenges would hinder progress. Councils must adapt efficiently and cost-effectively to accommodate new government initiatives. All TTPP Committee papers and minutes were available on the website, adhering to established standing orders, providing transparency and opportunities for community engagement.

S Selvarajah gave a presentation on "Pausing of the Freshwater Farm Plan Regulations Implementation" as part of the report. It was noted that the recommendation to the Committee was to approve the Council's decision to temporarily pause the implementation of the farm plan regulations until definitive government notice regarding any changes or amendments to the regulations was issued. The staff unanimously supported this recommendation.

Further discussion was held on the proposed variation for mapping Coastal Hazards in the proposed TTPP. It was noted that a new variation would be publicly notified, allowing people to submit their feedback. In discussions on coastal, flood,

seismic and other hazards, the Council was acquainted with New Zealand experts and their expertise was evaluated through their past work, performance in hearings and the Environment Court and independent peer review.

A discussion was held on the Draft Government Policy on Land Transport. It was suggested that this matter should be discussed in the South Island Transport Forum to align with other councils and present a unified stance. Cr. Haddock mentioned that Cr Ewen and himself would be willing to advocate for this point at the South Island Regional Transport Committee meeting in August 2024.

**Moved** (Haddock/ Ewen) *that the Committee -*

1. *Receives the report.*

*Carried*

**Moved** (Haddock/ Dooley) *that the Committee -*

2. *Approves WCRC pausing of the implementation of the Resource Management (Freshwater Farm Plans) and Regulations 2023 (FWFP) until any relevant government notice or new/amended regulations.*

*Carried*

## **8.2 Inaugural West Coast Regional Council Catchment Management Programme to Improve Surface Water Quality**

S Selvarajah spoke to the report.

N. McGrouther, with 20 years of experience in catchment management, was invited to present and discuss catchment management modelling and planning. It was noted that due to the pause on FWFP regulation, the Council collaborated with Poutini Ngai Tahu (PNT) to introduce the Catchment Management Program as a complementary tool for improving surface water quality. Water quality and parameters (including E. Coli, Phosphorus, Clarity, and Macroinvertebrates) were reviewed and presented. Leveraging the extensive database and legacy of data collection, catchments with the poorest scores were evaluated. The Council identified the top three with the most severe scenarios: Waimea Creek, Bradshaw Creek, and Baker Creek. It was noted that this programme was non-regulatory and fully voluntary.

N McGrouther provided a brief outline of the catchment programs, highlighting their farmer and community-led nature. Specific programs for each catchment will be created. NZ Landcare Trust Community Catchment Model was discussed. It was noted that customized programs will be developed for each catchment. The NZ Landcare

Trust Community Catchment Model was reviewed. According to the Council's Mana Whakahono a Roho Resource Management Iwi participation agreement, both Poutini Ngai Tahu (PNT) and the Council will collaborate to align their water and coastal management aspirations.

It was further noted that the proposed draft program will be initially consulted with Poutini Ngai Tahu (PNT) to gather feedback and input aimed at enhancing its effectiveness and aligning it with PNT aspirations and catchment values. It was noted that in 2023, \$1.5 million was received from the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) to implement the catchment program and FWFP. This funding is set to expire in 2025. If the program demonstrated effectiveness, the Council would consider it as a long-term measure to further enhance the region's surface water quality.

It was noted that more formal plan (with actions and timelines) will be presented to the Council. It was further noted that During the LTP workshops, it was indicated that in years 2 or 3 of the LTP, the Council would engage with the Councillors to gauge their interest in continuing this initiative even after the government funding ends.

A brief discussion ensued regarding 1080 testing for water catchment or drinking water. It was noted that if 1080 testing was required, it could be conducted depending on the operation and its stage in the consultation process.

**Moved** (Dooley/ Haddock) *that the Committee receives the report.*

*Carried*

## **9. General Business**

The TTPP was briefly discussed, emphasizing the importance of its completion to ensure uniform planning, and building consent rules across the West Coast. Additionally, a brief discussion took place on Whitebait Weirs.

R. Williams updated the Committee on the progress of TTPP. The Committee originated from a petition in 2015, which led to an investigation by the Local Government Commission and the appointment of a Reorganization Transition Board. R. Williams was appointed as an independent Chair in December 2018. Since then, the Committee has progressed steadily through its iterations. Monthly meetings were held over three years to address various issues and develop the current plan, which was notified and underwent hearings. Approximately halfway through the hearing process, the time and costs expended were slightly less than anticipated. It is expected that hearings will conclude by the end of the calendar year. R. Williams further noted that, barring any unforeseen delays, decisions and recommendations will be available to the TTPP Committee in the first quarter of the following year. Final decisions will then be made by

the TTPP Committee, with the possibility of appeals and mediation to follow. Efforts will be made to avoid matters going to the Environment Court, with mediation being promoted as a preferred approach. It is anticipated that mediation will take place between April and July (possibly August) of the following year, with the expectation that most, if not all, matters will be resolved by the current Committee before August 2025.

Cr. Dooley extended his gratitude to C. Barnes for promptly providing information for his inquiries.

The meeting was adjourned at 12.05pm.

**PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS**

**Moved** (Dooley/ Haddock) *that:*

1. *the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely – 10 and 11 (all inclusive):*

<b>Item No</b>	<b>General Subject of each matter to be considered</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>	<b>Ground(s) under section 7 of LGOIMA for the passing of this resolution</b>
10.1	Confidential Minutes of Meeting – 9 April 2024	The item contains information relating to commercial, privacy and security matters	To protect commercial and private information and to prevent disclosure of information for improper gain or advantage (s7(2)(a), s7(2)(b), and s7(2)(j)).
11	Actions List	The item contains information relating to commercial, privacy and security matters	To protect commercial and private information and to prevent

			disclosure of information for improper gain or advantage (s7(2)(a), s7(2)(b), and s7(2)(j)).
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2. *Darryl Lew be permitted to remain at this meeting after the public have been excluded due to their knowledge of the subjects. This knowledge will be of assistance in relation to the matters to be discussed; and*
3. *The minute taker also be permitted to remain.*

The meeting reconvened and moved into public excluded at 1.26pm.

.....  
Chair

.....  
Date

**6**

**Actions List**

**Author**

Sarah Tripathi, Governance Advisor

**Authorizer**

Darryl Lew, Chief Executive

**Public Excluded**

No

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**Report Purpose**

This report is a summary of items that require actions.

**Recommendations**

***It is recommended that the Committee resolves to:***

1. *Receive the report.*



## ACTIONS LIST

Item No.	Date of Meeting	Item	Officer	Update
1.	7 May 2024	<p>Grant application to DWC to be submitted by 20 May 2024.</p> <p>[Previous Action Items –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A delegation of MCI would attend the next DWC Board meeting, and Cr Dooley would be happy to assist with his knowledge in the matter.</li> <li>- Application to DWC to fund the cost associated to TTPP]</li> </ul>	CE	Completed. Waiting for their response.
2.	7 May 2024	Schedule the workshops for Regional Plan Committee issues and on effect of legislation changes/ new legislations.	Acting Planning and Science Manager	Roadmaps for Air Plan and Coastal Plan will be provided at the respective RMC workshops in June 2024.
3.	7 May 2024	To review the membership of the Regional Transport Committee.	CE	Awaiting response from Ngāti Waewae and Makaawhio.

Item No.	Date of Meeting	Item	Officer	Update
		The issue was raised regarding the potential for Iwi participation in the Regional Transport Committee during the RMC meeting of 29 Jan 2024. The CE and Council Chair to have discussion with the Iwi reps.		
<b>4.</b>	7 May 2024	To present a paper on the approach on Regional Pest Management Strategy.	Biosecurity Manager	This will be presented in July 2024 and will include the annual plan for the 2024/2025 FY for Biosecurity.
<b>5.</b>	7 May 2024	To present to the Committee the Coastal Plan Review issues and options paper in the next few months.	Acting Planning and Science Manager	Ongoing.
<b>6.</b>	7 May 2024	To provide detailed information to the Councillors around the consent applications awaiting sign-off from third parties.	Manager Compliance	Ongoing.
<b>7.</b>	7 May 2024	To investigate the delegation and/or deeds with WDC regarding the mining operations and noise issues/consents and update the Councillors.	Group Manager - Regulatory & Policy	Ongoing.
<b>8.</b>	7 May 2024	To provide further details regarding TRPL to Cr Ewen.	Manager Compliance	Completed. Email sent to the Cr Ewen on 12 April 2024.
<b>9.</b>	7 May 2024	To present a formal plan (with actions and timelines) to the Council on Catchment Management Programme to Improve Surface Water Quality	Catchment Coordinator	Ongoing.

## 8. REPORTS

<b>8.1</b>	<b>Planning and TTPP Report</b>
<b>Author</b>	Lillie Sadler, Acting Planning Team Leader
<b>Authorizer</b>	Darryl Lew, Chief Executive
<b>Public Excluded</b>	No

### Report Purpose

To update the Resource Management Committee on planning, TTPP and science developments.

### Recommendation

***It is recommended that the Committee resolve to:***

- 1. Receive the report.*
- 2. Accept the invitation from the three District Councils to support a joint West Coast submission on the funding of Emergency Works in the National Land Transport Fund.*

### Issues and Discussion

#### Planning

##### Resource Management Reform – first Amendment Bill

The Minister for RMA Reform, Hon Chris Bishop, wrote to councils on 30 April outlining the Government's intended changes to the Resource Management Act (RMA). The draft changes in the first Resource Management (Freshwater and Other Matters) Amendment Bill were introduced to Parliament on 23 May. They include:

- Exempting consent applications from having to demonstrate that their proposed activities follow the Te Mana o te Wai hierarchy of obligations set out in the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM), until the NPS-FM is replaced;
- Amending the Stock Exclusion Regulations to remove the requirement for stock exclusion in areas shown on the low slope map, and allow exclusion to instead be managed by freshwater farm plans and/or regional plan rules, based on risk;
- Repealing the Intensive Winter Grazing Regulations and associated conditions from the National Environmental Standards for Freshwater (NES-F), so these can be managed through freshwater farm plans;

- Aligning the consenting pathway for coal mining with the pathway for other mining activities in the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity (NPS-IB), NPS-FM, and the National Environmental Standards for Freshwater (NES-F);
- Suspending the NPS-IB requirement for councils to identify new significant natural areas (SNAs) for three years in district plans, to give enough time to review how they operate;
- Corresponding to the three-year hold on identifying SNAs, the date for public notification of changes to RPSs and plans to implement SNA identification is also extended to 31 December 2030. The Explanatory Note to the Bill also notes that existing SNA processes are preserved;
- Amendments to speed up the process to make or amend national direction, such as national policy statements and national environmental standards.

The Government intends that freshwater farm plans will provide an effective way to manage the impacts of farming activities such as intensive winter grazing and stock exclusion on freshwater in a risk-based and practical way.

The Government also intends to align the consenting pathway for coal mining with the pathway for other extractive industries, to give the coal industry more certainty.

This first Bill will focus on amendments that need to be progressed quickly in order to provide certainty to industry, councils and resource consent applicants.

Once the Bill passes its First Reading where the House debates and votes on the Bill, it will be referred to a Select Committee who will set the timeframe for public consultation.

Below is a link to the Bill:

<https://www.legislation.govt.nz/bill/government/2024/0047/latest/096be8ed81e47314.pdf>

#### Changes to funding of Emergency Works in National Land Transport Fund

The New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA)/Waka Kotahi is consulting on proposed changes to how Emergency Works are funded via the National Land Transport Fund (NLTF). The main changes proposed that will potentially affect the West Coast are to:

- Change the qualifying trigger for an emergency event attracting national Emergency Works funding from a 1:10 year event to a 1:20 year event;
- Reduce the enhanced funding that is made available for larger events, from the Council's normal funding assistance rate +20% down to +10%;

- Restrict provision of a bespoke funding assistance to only events where other Crown funding is made available (Buller relied on a bespoke funding assistance for the \$13.2m recovery from the February 2022 floods);
- Instruct Councils to consider in advance parts of the network that may not return to service or have an alternate approach to recovery and engage with communities on this.

The changes are proposed to take place from 1 July 2025. These are a substantial change for the West Coast Councils in that they create potential increased funding requirements from the individual Councils which have not been planned for in their Annual Plans, Long-Term Plan, or the Regional Land Transport Plan.

The three West Coast District Councils are preparing a joint submission on the proposed changes and invite the WCRC to be included.

Submissions close on 19 June.

### **TTPP**

The Hearing for Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori was held at Arahura Marae from 30 April 2024 until 2 May 2024, with 15 submitters speaking to their submissions at the hearing. A number of other submitters provided statements for the Hearing Panel to consider.

The next hearing topic is Mineral Extraction, and the Hearing for that will commence on Tuesday 28 May 2024 at the NBS Theatre in Westport. The second part of that Hearing will be held at WCRC Council Chambers on 11 June 2024.

At the TTPP Committee meeting on 29 April 2024, the Committee resolved to publicly notify the proposed variation for the mapping of Coastal Hazards in the Proposed TTPP. The Committee also resolved to limited notify the proposed Activities on the Surface of Water Variation (the 'Ports Variation'). These proposed variations are to be notified by the end of June.

### **Considerations**

#### **Implications/Risks**

There are no implications or risks arising from items in this report.

#### **Significance and Engagement Policy Assessment**

There are no issues within this report which trigger matters in the significance policy.

**Poutini Ngāi Tahu views**

No views were recorded on the matters covered in this report.

**Views of affected parties**

No parties will be affected by the subject matter of this report.

**Financial  
implications**

There are no current financial implications arising from items in this report.

**Legal implications**

There are no legal implications arising from the items in this report.

<b>8.2</b>	<b>Alignment of TTPP with Te Whanaketanga</b>
<b>Author</b>	Michelle Conland, Acting Project Manager TTPP; Lois Easton, Principal Planner
<b>Authorizer</b>	Darryl Lew, Chief Executive
<b>Public Excluded</b>	No

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### **Report Purpose**

To inform the Committee of the alignment of TTPP with Te Whanaketanga and the value it will provide to the West Coast region.

### **Report Summary**

Support is being sought from Development West Coast for funding by way of a grant for the development of Te Tai o Poutini Plan (TTPP).

As part of this grant process, an assessment of the alignment of TTPP with the goals of Te Whanaketanga was undertaken. Te Whanaketanga is the vision for the West Coast's future by 2050, which focuses on creating a sustainable, inclusive and prosperous future that is responsive to the unique challenges (wero) the region faces, including diversification, narrative perception, demographics, and resilience. Its strategic missions are aimed at building confidence, diversifying the economy, and strengthening communities.

This assessment identifies that TTPP is pivotal in realising Te Whanaketanga's aspirations by providing a detailed framework for economic development, environmental stewardship, and community resilience.

### **Recommendations**

***It is recommended that the Committee resolve to:***

1. *Receive the report.*

## Issues and Discussion

### Background

TTPP is a strategic planning document that will benefit the whole of the West Coast region. It will help cut down on compliance costs, business costs, and development barriers on the West Coast. It will boost the economic growth of the region.

Its strategic interventions complement Te Whanaketanga's missions directly, making it a crucial component of the overarching strategy. TTPP is pivotal in realising Te Whanaketanga's aspirations by providing a detailed framework for economic development, environmental stewardship, and community resilience.

### Current situation

Every city and district must have a district plan. The current plans require updating to meet current national policy and standards. TTPP will provide a consistent approach and enhance economic development and sustainability across the West Coast region, aligning seamlessly with Development West Coast's mission to foster economic growth and provide sustainable employment opportunities.

TTPP will specifically support the delivery of Te Whanaketanga in the following areas. There are three key missions of Te Whanaketanga and TTPP will assist with delivering on these outcomes.

### Economic Wero

#### Diversification

TTPP allows for various kinds of activities in different areas of the districts, as long as they meet the basic standards for amenity and environmental protection. This is different from the more limiting approach to zoning in the current District Plans and it encourages diversity and innovation in the economy.

#### Narrative

Knowing where development applications are more likely to get approved helps businesses and individuals plan for their future economic prosperity. This applies to planning decisions on existing sites, and especially to decisions to set up or enlarge new sites for rural, urban, commercial, and industrial subdivision, tourism activities, minerals extraction, infrastructure, and activities on private property.

Making TTPP operative quickly and efficiently (instead of taking a long time due to funding limits) will help create a positive image of the West Coast as "ready for business" with a clear and supportive regulatory framework.



**Demographics**

TTPP enables more variety of housing types than the current District Plans, which mainly focus on typical suburban housing. TTPP permits building more units on an existing property, smaller starter homes, town houses, apartments and assisted living for older adults. This acknowledges that affordable housing is a crucial way to draw young people and first home buyers to the West Coast, as well as to make sure that older adults can remain living in their communities.

**Resilience**

This is a key aspect of TTPP and is dealt with in several ways:

Making sure that future development happens in places that are not vulnerable to natural hazards – by using hazard overlays. This is also important for maintaining the trust of the insurance industry that future West Coast communities will be able to withstand hazards and be a reasonable insurance risk. The existing District Plans do not address natural hazards, and this has caused significant worries from the insurance sector about ongoing unsuitable development in hazardous places.

Zoning for gradual transition to safer locations – at Westport, where the whole town faces multiple hazards, rezoning of the Alma Road terrace and Cape Foulwind areas allows for progressive relocation of the town away from the most hazardous areas. The zoning approach supports the master planning work for Westport that the government is funding. The rezoning is also a critical requirement for infrastructure acceleration funding to be released.

Helping the fast recovery of essential services and infrastructure – TTPP has specific provisions that recognise the need for temporary infrastructure to be able to be set up without unnecessary delays.

**Mission One: Build Confidence**

The West Coast will have one District Plan that meets all the national and regional standards, which will create a more reliable and consistent regulatory environment. The same rules will apply throughout the whole of the West Coast. This will simplify cross-district business operations, promote growth opportunities, and reduce time and money costs with an efficient consenting process.

**Enhanced Regional Identity**

TTPP acknowledges the efforts that have been made to support the identity and transformation of the four main towns on the West Coast. These include the Greymouth CBD Redevelopment Plan, Hokitika and Westport Revitalisation projects and the Reefton heritage town approach. The new Town Centre Zone for these four

centres has rules that are customised for each centre to support the vision in these strategic documents.

TTPP also includes a variety of actions that will help the work of Development West Coast, Poutini Ngāi Tahu and others to enhance regional identity. This includes:

- Simplifying the existing District Plans' very complex and restrictive signage rules, to a much easier approach, with a lot of flexibility around tourism and community signage will remove an unnecessary layer of regulation.
- Specifically enabling pou whenua and other destination marker structures to be set up without resource consents – existing District Plans do not allow these structures and need resource consents.
- Recognising the significance of Punakaiki, Franz Josef and Fox Glacier as key tourism destinations with a Special Purpose Visitor Zone, that supports development with a high level of amenity and visual quality in line with the wider planning work for these townships.
- Allowing earthquake strengthening and safety upgrades of the important historic heritage buildings as a Permitted Activity. The existing District Plans currently need strict resource consents for these basic activities – we want people to be able to redevelop their heritage buildings, not be tangled in red tape.
- Allowing a more flexible approach to the development of alternative types of visitor accommodation, such as Air BnB, than the existing District Plans. This recognises that while motels and hotels are still important, small towns and the diverse range of tourism offers need to have visitor accommodation available as well. Currently a strict resource consent is needed for these activities in the existing District Plans in both Grey and Westland Districts.
- Allowing a broader range of "startup" type and home businesses within residential areas as Permitted Activities than the existing District Plans. This allows entrepreneurs to try out ideas and grow their businesses to a reasonable size before they need to decide whether moving into a dedicated zone or facility is needed.
- Having special purpose zones for mineral extraction. These are flexible zones that provide certainty for the industry that they can continue operations without re consenting – or where coal mining licenses are expiring, the need to get resource consents for the first time.

## **Mission Two: Strengthen and Diversify our Economy**

### **Realising our Natural Resources**

TTPP maps out where natural and cultural resources that are valuable and significant are located. It has assigned different zones to the public conservation estate to ensure that areas and stewardship land that are less important have a zone that clearly states that mineral extraction can be suitable in these areas.

The Mineral Extraction Zone and Buller Coalfield Zone also cover areas of public conservation land where the TTPP allows existing and planned mineral extraction activity.

For pest control, TTPP also specifically permits helicopter assisted activities, so that they do not face unnecessary restrictions.

### **Renewable Energy Solutions**

Making sure that there are specific measures that support the growth of both distributed renewable energy options and new renewable sources of power. These apply to the whole region (no matter what zone) and provide a lot of confidence for the sector across the West Coast.

### **Research Science and Technology**

TTPP zoning specifically provides for research, science and technology activities, not just in typical zones where these might be expected (e.g. industrial, commercial) but also on public conservation land and within the rural areas.

### **High Value Engineering and Innovation**

Through rezoning, TTPP has ensured that there is industrial land available in all the main centres to support the development or expansion of land available for engineering and manufacturing activities.

### **Food and Fibre Sector Optimisation**

TTPP recognises that primary industries and agriculture are the backbone of the West Coast economy. As far as agriculture, horticulture and pastoral farming goes TTPP takes a hands-off approach, with these activities enabled across the region. Specific provision in TTPP recognise the supporting importance of rural industry, and things such as provision of worker housing on farms, which are enabled.

**Mission Three: Strengthen our Communities****Housing**

There are a range of measures in TTPP that support this mission, including: TTPP enables the development of different kinds of housing that go beyond the standard suburban housing that the current District Plans mainly focus on. TTPP permits more units to be added on existing properties, smaller starter homes, town houses, apartments, and living arrangements for older adults that offer support. This acknowledges that affordable housing is a key factor in attracting young people and first home buyers to the West Coast, as well as ensuring that older adults can remain living in their communities. TTPP also involves significant rezoning around Greymouth, Westport and Hokitika for new residential land, as well as specific areas for the lifestyle type of living that is popular. This is aligned with the Infrastructure Strategies of the three Councils so that the infrastructure can be developed along with the rezoning. Aged Care Facilities are part of a new, flexible Hospital Zone. This will enable these facilities to upgrade and expand without unnecessary limitations.

**Healthcare**

TTPP has a new, flexible Hospital Zone. This zone covers the main hospital and medical centre facilities, as well as the smaller clinics in different settlements on the West Coast. This allows these facilities to grow and improve without the extra limits of the existing District Plans.

**Hapori and Business Education**

TTPP supports the expansion of education facilities within a wide range of zones, creating an enabling environment for these activities.

**Infrastructure, Resilience and Digital Connectivity**

TTPP enables the telecommunications infrastructure that underpins digital connectivity through specific provisions that are region-wide (regardless of zone) giving the sector a high degree of certainty across the West Coast.

**Considerations****Implications/Risks**

There are no risks associated with receiving this information.

**Significance and Engagement Policy Assessment**

There are no issues within this report which trigger matters in this policy.

**Tangata whenua views**

A representative from Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae and a representative from Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio are members of the Te Tai o Poutini Plan Committee. The Committee has full decision-making powers in relation to the governance aspect of TTPP.

**Views of affected parties**

TTPP is subject to a process under Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991. Submissions and further submissions have been received in relation to the plan. The hearing of submissions is currently underway.

**Financial implications**

There are no financial implications in relation to receiving this report. The TTPP Committee's activities, and the development of TTPP are currently provided for in existing budgets. Future costs are set out in the Long-Term Plan. Any alternative funding will reduce the reliance on funding from rates.

**Legal implications**

There are no legal implications in relation to receiving this report.

### 8.3 Update on Taylorville Resource Park Ltd Consent Process

**Author** Selva Selvarajah, Consultant

**Authorizer** Darryl Lew, Chief Executive

**Public Excluded** No

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#### Report Purpose

To provide an update on the process of the Taylorville Resource Park Ltd (TRPL) resource consent applications

#### Report Summary

TRPL has applied for a variation of the existing consent and two new applications to operate the landfill. Council continues to receive complaints related to the operation of the above landfill and there have been concerns by the Grey District Council (GDC) on the likely adverse effects on its water supply. With the permission from the applicant, Council has commissioned a report under s92(2) of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) which is currently being prepared by the Council appointed experts. Once the report is received, further information under s92(1) will be requested from the applicant. Under s95A(8b) given the proposed activities will have or are likely to have adverse effects on the environment that are more than minor the applications will be recommended to be publicly notified and heard and decided by the Council appointed independent commissioners.

#### Recommendations

***It is recommended that the Committee resolve to:***

1. *Receive the report.*

#### Issues and Discussion

##### Background

Resource consents RC-2021-0097-01 (land use consent) to undertake earthworks, including land-based gravel extraction to construct, operate and rehabilitate a demolition fill site at Taylorville and RC-2021-0097-02 (discharge permit) to discharge demolition waste to land at Taylorville were granted by West Coast Regional Council (WCRC or Council) on 6 August 2021 to Infrastructure Consultants at a site located at 377 Taylorville Road, Taylorville (map reference NZTM 1456983E, 5299373N).

Subsequently, several changes to consent conditions to deposit additional materials such as asbestos, shredded tyres/tyres, coal tar/coal pitch were granted by WCRC between 21 April and 7 October 2022.

In August 2022, subdivision and landfill consents were granted by GDC. On 22 September 2022 the WCRC consents were transferred to Taylorville Resource Park Limited (TRPL).

Between April and July 2023 Council received many odour and leachate discharge complaints. In July 2023 Council served abatement notices to cease odour and leachate discharges outside the boundary of the property. In September 2023 Council served notice to review consent conditions under s128.

At the end of 2023 Council considered enforcement action against TRPL's ongoing non-compliance of the consents. Following legal advice Council requested the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) to investigate and consider appropriate enforcement action. In January 2024, the EPA conducted extensive site investigation including collection and analysis of leachate samples. In March 2024, the EPA served an abatement notice on TRPL to direct all landfill leachates to lined and authorised pond or a facility by 14 June 2024.

In March 2024, TRPL applied for a variation (RC-2021-0097-V8) to the existing WCRC consent to gain Class-3 "managed fill" status and two new consents to discharge contaminants to water and air (RC-2024-0032-01 and RC2024-0032-02 respectively).

### **Current situation**

Although Council served a notice under s128 to review the consents, under s129(2b) since Council did not trigger notification of the consent review under s130 within 10 days of the review notice, the s128 notice has lapsed owing to lengthy and onerous s128 process information collation. Despite the lapse of the above notice, Council can still reconsider s128 review process as an option as such Council could serve another s128 notice as and when required.

As stated before, TRPL has applied for two new discharge consents and a consent variation. Given the scale of the proposal, Council could now consider all landfill related activities in a robust manner compared to the s128 review of the existing conditions, as such Council can be satisfied with proceeding with the consent process rather than s128 review process.

Based on the above approach, in April 2024 with the agreement of the applicant, Council commissioned a report under s92(2) to Pattle Delamore Partners Ltd (PDP) to require expert assessment of the applications and the activities. Under s92(2) the following criteria must be met to commission the report:

*"...(a) the activity for which the resource consent is sought may, in the authority's opinion, have a significant adverse environmental effect; and  
(b) the applicant is notified before the authority commissions the report; and  
(c) the applicant does not refuse, under section 92B(1), to agree to the commissioning of the report..."*

The anticipated timeframe for report completion by PDP was four weeks following the commissioning of the report which was 18 April 2024. On 24 May 2024, citing inadequate information to complete the report and the close proximity of the GDC water supply to the landfill which warranted high level of assessment, PDP requested additional information from TRPL in a 10-page letter. Owing to the scale of the proposal and in consultation with the applicant and WCRC staff, PDP is also planning a site visit for further assessment.

PDP experts also wait for a report on TRPL's water management system upgrade from their engineers which is expected to be completed by 31 May 2024. Based on the above report further information may be requested by PDP from TRPL.

### **Proposed future process**

As stated before, once the commissioning of the report is completed and upon reviewing of the report, Council could seek additional information under s92(1). After any additional information has been obtained, based on s95A(8b) and given the proposed activities will have or are likely to have adverse effects on the environment that are more than minor, the applications will be recommended to be publicly notified and heard and decided by the Council appointed independent commissioners.

## **Considerations**

### **Implications/Risks**

Given the past non-compliance by TRPL, any ongoing or future non-compliances are unable to be dealt by the current consent processes. Any non-compliances must be dealt by appropriate and timely Council enforcement actions while continuing with the robust consent process.



**Tangata whenua views**

Council staff have been in regular consultation with Poutini Ngāi Tahu (PNT) regarding TRPL's non-compliances, Council's and EPA's enforcement actions, TRPL consents reviews under s128 and the new consent processes. PNT has been concerned about the adverse effects of the landfill.

**Views of affected parties**

Council staff and the Chair have also been meeting regularly with GDC staff, Mayor and councillors and the concerned Taylorville local community. There have been significant concerns about the integrity of the landfill operation and any risks on GDC water supply. There have been calls to close the landfill.

**Financial implications**

Much of the consent process cost can be recovered from the applicant under s36 of the RMA. However, consultant and staff input to dealing with ongoing complaints and compliance issues may not be recovered unless costs are recovered under prosecution for processes related to prosecution.

**Legal implications**

Provided consent processes are robust and adhered to under the RMA there are little or no legal implications. Public notification of the variation and the two new consent applications is based on the adverse effects of the activities being more than minor. Commissioning a report under s92(2) which has been agreed to by the applicant has been based on the proposed activity having significant adverse environmental effect which further strengthens the public notification pathway under the RMA.

## 8.4 **Air Plan Review 1: Air Quality and Home Heating Issues Report**

<b>Authors</b>	Jonny Horrox, Manager Environmental Quality Teresa Thorp, Senior Policy Planner
<b>Authorizer</b>	Darryl Lew, Chief Executive
<b>Public Excluded</b>	No

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### **Report Purpose**

To brief the Resource Management Committee (RMC) about West Coast air quality and home heating issues to aid a statutory review of the Air Quality Plan.

### **Recommendations**

***It is recommended that the Committee resolve to:***

1. Receive the report.

### **Rationale: Legal and Regulatory**

- Regional Councils are responsible for managing air quality under the Resource Management Act (RMA) by controlling discharges of contaminants into air (s30(1)(f)); and by giving effect to the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Air Quality, NESAQ) Regulations, which prescribe ambient (outdoor) air quality standards for contaminants, such as particulate matter PM10, monitoring methods for ambient air quality standards and other requirements.
- The NESAQ Regulations 2004, as at 2020, are mandatory.
- Council's responsibilities for managing air quality are also provided for under other legislative and regulatory frameworks, such as the Land Transport Management Act and associated Land Transport Strategies.
- In addition, the Regional Air Plan must give effect to National Policy Statements, the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement, National Planning Standards, and the Regional Policy Statement under Section 67(3)(c) of the RMA.
- WCRC's Regional Air Quality Plan (operative 2002) is overdue for review under the RMA. The review process involves assessing the operative Plan's effectiveness and efficiency in managing air quality, identifying areas for improvement, and making changes to ensure the Plan is consistent with current

legislative and regulatory requirements and Council's direction. The RMA 10-year statutory requirement for 'commencing' Plan Reviews is the primary reason for starting the Air Plan Review process (s 79 RMA).

- The Council's Long-Term Plan 2021-31 commits Council to monitoring air quality (PM10) in Reefton and refers to progressing a review of the Air Plan.
- The Air Plan Review is divided into two parts. Part 1 focuses on air quality and home heating. Part 2 will focus on other air quality matters, such as point source discharges from trade and industrial premises, odour, dust, Green House Gas (GHG) emissions from industrial process heat, transport, and landfills.
- Consistent with good practice, and RMA s32 requirements for preparing and publishing evaluation reports, the Plan Review process will start by preparing an 'Issues and Options Report'. The issues for addressing air quality and home heating that will be covered by today's meeting will feed into subsequent meetings on the options; and a separate, and more detailed, Issues and Options Report, which will inform the required s32 evaluation report.
- The s32 evaluation report under the RMA must:
  - a. "examine the extent to which the proposed objectives are the most appropriate way to achieve the purpose of the RMA;
  - b. examine whether the proposed provisions are the most appropriate way to achieve the objectives, including identifying other reasonably practicable options, assessing efficiency and effectiveness of the provisions, and summarising the reasons for deciding on them; and
  - c. contain a level of detail that corresponds to the scale and significance of the environmental, economic, social, and cultural effects that are anticipated from the implementation of the proposal".

Refer to Attachment 1: Presentation slides Air Quality and Home Heating Issues Report (WCRC).

### **Paetae Kotahitanga ki Te Tai Poutini and Mana Whakahono ā Rohe**

1. The RMA Schedule 1 process for Plan Reviews requires Council to prepare a proposed policy statement or plan in accordance with any applicable Mana Whakahono ā Rohe.
2. Relevant provisions from the Paetae Kotahitanga ki Te Tai Poutini and Mana Whakahono ā Rohe RMA Iwi Participation Arrangement include:
  - Recognising the purpose and principles of the Partnership Protocol and RMA Iwi Participation Arrangement;

- Incorporating reference to the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 and Treaty of Waitangi Principles (partnership, mutual benefit, informed decisions, active protection) in planning instruments;
- Working together to ensure that culturally relevant environmental monitoring programmes are designed to address Poutini Ngāi Tahu interests and concerns;
- Working together to develop and refine processes, policies, a planning framework, instruments, and documents that support a Treaty partnership approach to resource management; and
- Supporting Hearing Commissioners approved by Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae and Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio into decision-making roles through Council practices and processes.

### **NESAQ Regulatory Framework**

1. Ambient (outdoor) NESAQ air quality standards for PM10 (particulate matter with a diameter of 10 microns or less) apply “at any place that is in an airshed; and in open air; and where people are “likely to be exposed” to PM10”.
2. The West Coast region has 2 airsheds: a “gazetted” airshed at Reefton and an airshed for the remainder of the region.
3. NESAQ Regulations for PM10:
  - Set ambient air quality standards (PM10 threshold concentration: 50 micrograms per cubic metre expressed as a 24-hour mean, 1 exceedance allowed in a 12-month period);
  - Specify monitoring requirements, monitoring methods, and processes for analysing air quality; and
  - Stipulate consequences for breaches, e.g., public notice and prohibit discharge from certain open fires in the area, and constraints on granting resource consents in a polluted airshed.
4. As to specific NESAQ Monitoring Requirements for PM10, Regional Councils must monitor the ambient air quality standard for PM10 if it is likely that the standard will be breached; and conduct that monitoring in that part of the airshed [West Coast wide excluding Reefton or Reefton] where:
  - a) there are people; and
  - b) the standard is breached by the greatest margin or most frequently, whichever is the most likely; and
  - c) using one of the four NESAQ monitoring methods.

5. NESAQ Regulations include a regulation for woodburners. All woodburners installed on properties less than 2 hectares after 1 September 2005 must comply with the following two woodburner standards:
  - a) a design standard (discharge less than 1.5 gram of particles for each kilogram of dry wood burnt); and
  - b) a thermal efficiency standard (>65% useable heat energy output to energy input).
6. There is no NESAQ Regulation for installing multifuel burners or 'coal-only' burners.

### **Air Quality and Home Heating Issues**

Home heating is the biggest contributor to Particulate Matter (PM10 and PM2.5) and air pollution on the West Coast. PM10 and PM2.5 affect human health.

The West Coast Regional Policy Statement, RPS (2020) identifies two issues concerning air quality. Issue 1 is particularly relevant to PM10 and home heating. (Issue 2 focuses on point source discharges to air, which will be addressed at a later stage).

"RPS Issue (10.1). In urban areas during winter time, emissions of particulate matter can potentially affect people's health. It is critical that people are able to keep warm in their homes while winter time particulate matter emissions are reduced to meet the NESAQ."

"RPS Objective (10.1). To reduce winter time particulate matter emissions to meet the NESAQ, while ensuring people's and communities' health and wellbeing is not compromised."

"RPS Air Quality Policy (10.1): "Where appropriate and practicable, use a range of regulatory and non-regulatory tools to reduce wintertime particulate matter emissions that also enable people to keep their homes warm during cold months."

"RPS Method (10.1): Provide education and advice on how particulate matter emissions can be reduced from domestic solid fuel burners."

"RPS Anticipated Environmental Results (10.1): Reduced particulate matter levels in winter in some urban areas."

### **Issues Development**

The air quality and home heating Issues outlined today have been identified since January 2024 by reviewing our Paetae Kotahitanga ki Te Tai Poutini and Mana

Whakahono ā Rohe RMA Iwi Participation Arrangement; assessing relevant legislation, national policies, regulations, the Regional Policy Statement (RPS), and the Regional Air Quality plan; analysing air quality related complaints and trends in consenting, monitoring data for the two West Coast airsheds, and socio-economic, energy and Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA) statistics and data for the West Coast; workshopping issues and options internally with the consents, compliance and science teams and externally with stakeholders; and providing regular progress reports on the issues and options to the CE.

Staff also investigated what other regional councils are doing in their Air Plans and undertook comparative research to see where we might be able to align our own Air Plan, where appropriate.

As to air quality and home heating, the Planning and Science Teams engaged with the West Coast Housing Steering Group (also referred to as the West Coast Housing Forum) to understand initiatives undertaken by them and how we could work together. (The Warmer Kiwi Homes division of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA) is a member of the Forum). WCRC has subsequently renewed its membership to the West Coast Housing Forum.

A full day councillor workshop on the Air Quality Plan Review Part 1 (Issues and Options for Home Heating) took place on Wednesday 15 May. Councillors were briefed about air quality and home heating issues to aid a review of the Air Quality Plan and invited to explore the issues. Dr Cheryl Brunton from Public Health spoke on the health impacts from home heating. Dr. Ian Longley, Principal Scientist Air Quality with NIWA presented on indoor air quality. Council staff presented on science monitoring, socio economic and energy related issues; and Members of the West Coast Housing Steering Group shared their experiences.

### **Regional Air Plan 2002 Issue Evaluation**

Issues identified in the 2002 Air Plan are relevant to the air quality review. In 2002, the operative plan identified inadequate information on air quality (and health) throughout the West Coast at the town and community level. (1994-95: exceedances of World Health Organisation (WHO) PM10 contaminant threshold averages in Reefton and Greymouth indicated the need for further monitoring).

The 2002 Air Plan is centred on 'non-regulatory provisions': PM10 guidelines; co-ordination with others especially health; promotion and advocacy, e.g., of financial incentives; and education. At a minimum, it needs to be consistent with relevant legislation, national policy statements and regulations, such as, the NESAQ.

## Current Issues

### Health Impacts from Home Heating

Refer to Attachment 2: Presentation slides Health Impacts from Home Heating (by Dr. Cheryl Brunton, Public Health).

### Indoor Air Quality

Refer to Attachment 3: Presentation slides Indoor Air Quality: Home Heating and its Health Impacts (by Dr. Ian Longley, Principal Scientist Air Quality, NIWA).

### The Science

WCRC air quality monitoring. WCRC has a small air quality monitoring program focusing on airborne fine particulate pollution. Until recently only one location was monitored – Reefton, since 2006. Additional locations have been assessed in the last three years, including Westport, Greymouth, Paroa, Cobden, and Runanga.

Reefton: Monitoring of PM10 began in 2006 at the primary school. In 2016, monitoring was relocated to Reefton Area School, with PM2.5 monitoring added in 2019. Two exceedances of the NESAQ PM10 threshold in 2020 means that Reefton remains a 'polluted' airshed.

'Emission inventory reports' for ambient (outdoor) particulate levels from various home heating devices suggest a significant drop in PM10 in Reefton from 2005 to 2012 and no significant change in PM10 from 2012 to 2019.

In 2019 multifuel burners were used by 62% of households and accounted for 87% PM10 emissions. Woodburners were used by 23% of households and accounted for 10% PM10 emissions, with open fires used by 4% of households (3% emissions). Remaining zero emission methods included oil, gas, and pellet (5% households), and electricity (44% households).

Greymouth, Paroa, Cobden, Runanga: Sampling in these locations was conducted in 2023. Measuring devices were not calibrated against a reference method so results were likely to be higher than actual; data is considered preliminary. Monitoring indicated poorer winter air quality (PM10 and PM2.5) associated with indoor domestic burners. Most will have breached WHO PM10 and PM2.5 air quality guidelines, with some sites in Greymouth likely to have breached NESAQ standards.

Westport: In 2022 and 2023 spatial studies were undertaken at multiple sites over winter to determine potential PM10 and PM2.5 hotspots within the town. As a result of the findings, a higher accuracy continuous unit (T640x) was installed to measure both PM10 and PM2.5 and data collected over winter last year (2023). Reference method testing (by way of weighed filtered daily) was used to determine correction

factors and better estimate PM10 and PM2.5 concentrations from the T640x results. Current results indicate that Westport is likely to meet the NESAQ, but not WHO thresholds. ‘Salt spray’ is often a significant but harmless component of measured particulates. Analysis indicates that some people are burning timber that is treated and has lead-based paint.

Refer to Attachment 1: Presentation slides Air Quality and Home Heating Issues Report (WCRC).

**Socio-Economic, Housing and Energy Security Issues**

There are both demand and supply side issues, which will be presented together with potential options at a later stage.

The West Coast Housing Steering Group shared their experiences, success stories and lessons learned about improving home heating for local communities on the West Coast at the Councillor workshop on 15 May 2024.

Refer to Attachment 1: Presentation slides Air Quality and Home Heating Issues Report (WCRC).

**Way Forward**

1. Going forward, the RMC will be invited to explore the issues and options; and suggest others.
2. The following table outlines an initial schedule for consideration. A project plan outlining the plan development process and timeframes will be submitted at the completion of all issues and options reports.

Phase 1: Develop Issues and Options Reports	
This report	Consider air quality and home heating Issues.
June 2024	Workshop options on air quality and home heating.
July 2024	Consider issues and options on air quality and home heating, suggest others, and go through a process of exploring the pros and cons (enabling factors for implementation and barriers) of various issues and options.
August 2024	Workshop the remaining air quality issues and options, such as point source discharges to air.
September 2024	Consider a draft issues and options report for the full review of the Air Plan.

**Considerations**



**Implications/Risks**

Economic, social, cultural, and environmental risks.

Costs of legal and regulatory compliance and consequences arising from any potential breaches of PM10.

Public communications, including website.

Community interest is likely to be high when the public becomes aware that work is commencing to review the Air Plan and identify issues and options for air quality (PM10) and home heating. The air quality monitoring results will be of particular interest to those living in urban areas where preliminary or confirmed wintertime air quality monitoring results indicate the national standard is not, or may not be, being met, or where people's health is affected by poor air quality.

While initial engagement is being undertaken, such as, with the West Coast Housing Forum, it is preliminary, informal and at the staff level.

**Significance and Engagement Policy Assessment**

There are no issues within this report which trigger matters in the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy. This Policy does not apply to RMA processes.

**Poutini Ngāi Tahu views**

Poutini Ngāi Tahu have been informed of the issues and options identification stage for the Air Plan review, and have been invited to engage in the review process.

**Views of affected parties**

Local communities and households are likely to be affected by or have an interest in the preparation of a new Air Plan and identifying issues and options for improving air quality while ensuring people are warm in their homes.

Consultation is required under the RMA during a plan review process and during the preparation of a proposed plan. Staff are well aware of the need to consult with potentially affected parties, communities and others.

**Legal implications**

Potential consequences from the 10-year RMA statutory plan review being overdue.

Potential consequences arising from the decision-making process.

It is suggested that Council formally retain legal support now and over the next 3-4 years to provide timely and sound legal advice and assistance on the review process and drafting a new Regional Air Quality.

**Financial implications**

There will be financial implications related to the planning, monitoring and information gathering stage; and implications related to the options considered.

**Long Term Plan – Science Monitoring Considerations**

Current staffing only accommodates Reefton.

Some additional specialist work undertaken using contractors via OPEX budget.

Annual high level science analysis has depended on Envirolink government funding.

Increase in minimum hours equivalent to 0.5 FTE required to maintain current air quality effort.

**Long Term Plan (LTP) – Policy Planning Considerations**

Whether to incorporate a level of service to monitor and maintain a Regional Air Quality Plan in accordance with relevant legislation and regulations while reflecting West Coast issues and opportunities.

Whether to include a LTP baseline, such as, statutory compliance for preparation, review, monitoring, reporting and implementation of the Regional Air Quality Plan.

**Other Resourcing Considerations**

The Draft Long-Term Plan 2024–2034: budget for science and policy planning for the RMA review and development of a new Regional Air Plan.

Mana Whakahono ā Rohe: partnership in planning processes and environmental monitoring.

Advocacy, Communication and Engagement.

Behavioural Change Programme (to support health, clean heating, and warm homes) through the West Coast Housing Forum.

Peer review, submissions, hearings, mediation, judicial review, any potential litigation.

**Attachments**

Attachment 1: Presentation slides Air Quality and Home Heating Issues Report (by WCRC Staff)

Attachment 2: Presentation slides Health Impacts from Home Heating (by Dr. Cheryl Brunton, Public Health)

Attachment 3: Presentation slides Indoor Air Quality: Home Heating and its Health Impacts (by Dr. Ian Longley, Principal Scientist Air Quality, NIWA)

# Air Quality & Home Heating Issues Report

**Presentation to Resource Management Committee**  
**Regulatory & Policy Planning, Science, and CEO**

# Objective

Brief RMC about air quality and home heating issues to aid a statutory review of the Air Quality Plan.



# Structure

1. Paetae Kotahitanga ki Te Tai Poutini
2. Legal and Regulatory Framework
3. Health Impacts from Home Heating (Dr Cheryl Brunton)
4. Indoor Air Quality (Dr Ian Longley)
5. Environmental Science
6. Socio-Economic, Housing & Energy Issues
7. Way Forward

# **Paetae Kotahitanga ki Te Tai Poutini & Mana Whakahono ā Rohe: Provisions Relevant to Plan Review**

- Recognise Purpose and Principles of Partnership Protocol and RMA Iwi Participation Arrangement
- Incorporate reference to Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 and Treaty of Waitangi Principles (partnership, mutual benefit, informed decisions, active protection) in planning instruments and measurement
- No specific regulatory provisions for Air Plan Review but provisions relevant to environmental monitoring and working together to develop and refine processes, policies, frameworks and plans
- Support Hearing Commissioners approved by Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae and Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio into decision-making roles through process and practice

# Overview: Legal & Regulatory Framework

1. Regional Councils are responsible for managing air quality under the RMA. (Other: Land Transport Management Act)
2. NESAQ Regulations 2004 (as at 2020), set a minimum level of health protection and monitoring requirements: they are mandatory
3. Consistency also required between the Air Plan and the Regional Policy Statement
4. The Operative Air Plan (2002) is currently up for review.
5. The 10-year RMA statutory requirement for 'commencing' Plan Reviews is the primary reason for starting this process

# Ambient (outdoor) NESAQ air quality standards for PM10 apply at any place:

- That is in an airshed; and
- In open air; and
- Where people are “likely to be exposed” to PM10

## The West Coast Region has 2 Airsheds:

1. “Gazetted” airshed at Reefton.
2. Airshed for the remainder of the region.



# NESAQ Regulations for PM10

1. Set ambient (outdoor) air quality standards:
  - PM10 Threshold: 50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  (24 hr mean)
  - 1 exceedance allowed in a 12-month period
2. Specify monitoring requirements, monitoring methods and processes for analysing air quality
3. Stipulate consequences for breaches, e.g., public notice & prohibit discharge from certain open fires in the area, constraints on resource consents in a polluted airshed

# NESAQ Monitoring Requirements for PM10

Regional councils must monitor ambient air quality standard for PM10 if it is likely that the standard will be breached; and conduct that monitoring in that part of the airshed [West Coast wide excluding Reefton or Reefton] where:

- a) there are people; and
- b) the standard is breached by the greatest margin or most frequently, whichever is the most likely; and
- c) using one of the four NESAQ monitoring methods

# NESAQ Regulation for Woodburners

All woodburners installed on properties <2 hectares after 1 September 2005 must comply with the following standards:

1. Design standard: discharge <1.5g particles/1 kg dry wood burnt; and
2. Thermal efficiency standard: >65% efficiency.

No NESAQ Regulation for installing multi-fuel burners or 'coal-only' burners



# Issues

## Define the Problem

# Air Quality and Home Heating Issues

- Home heating is the biggest contributor to Particulate Matter (PM10 & PM2.5) and air pollution on the West Coast
- PM10 and PM2.5 affect human health

## Issue Index Air Plan 2002:

- Inadequate information on air quality (and health) throughout the West Coast at the town and community level
- (1994-95: exceedances of WHO avgs in Reefton & Greymouth indicated need for further monitoring)
- Barriers: Cost of monitoring and actions required
- Responses therefore primarily 'non-regulatory': PM10 guidelines, co-ordination with others esp health, promotion & advocacy, e.g., financial incentives, education

# **Health Impacts from Home Heating**

(PM10, PM2.5, and Indoor Air Pollution)

Dr. Cheryl Brunton, Public Health

**Please see presentation slides**

# **Indoor Air Quality: Home Heating and its Health Impacts**

Dr. Ian Longley,  
Principal Scientist Air Quality – NIWA

**Please see presentation slides**



# **WCRC Air Quality Monitoring and WCRC Methods**

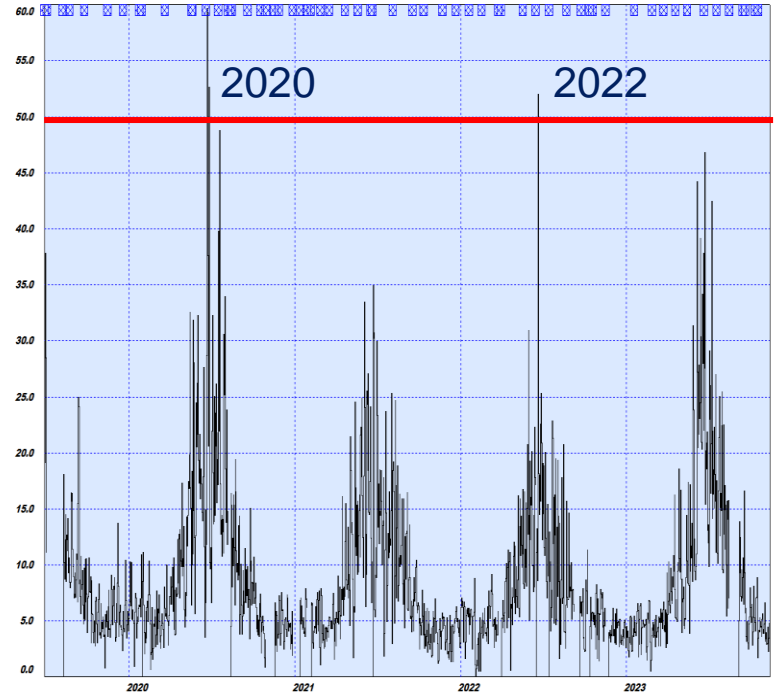
Jonny Horrox,  
Manager Environmental Quality, WCRC

## Covered in this section

1. Reefton fine particulate monitoring results and emissions inventories, 2006 - current
2. Greymouth, Cobden, Runanga, and Paroa preliminary fine particulate assessments 2023
3. Westport fine particulate monitoring, 2023 – current, and source apportionment work in 2023
4. What would be good to know to improve decision-making

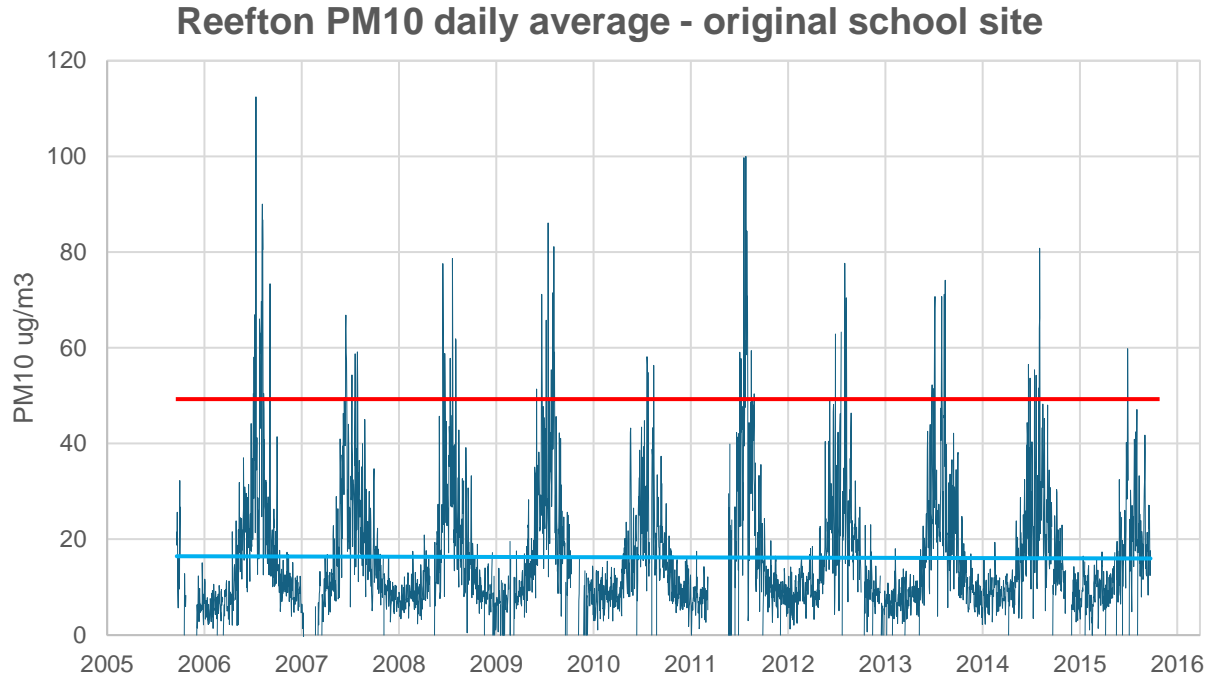
# Reefton Airshed – Current Situation

- Council has monitored PM10 since 2006 & PM2.5 since 2019
- 2 exceedances of PM10 threshold in 2020 so Reefton remains a ‘polluted’ airshed
- WHO PM2.5 air quality guidelines exceeded 2020-2023
- Winter 2024: Council aims to monitor at both the existing and 2016 sites



# Reefton Particulate Monitoring - Trend

No significant change in measured PM10 at original school monitoring site

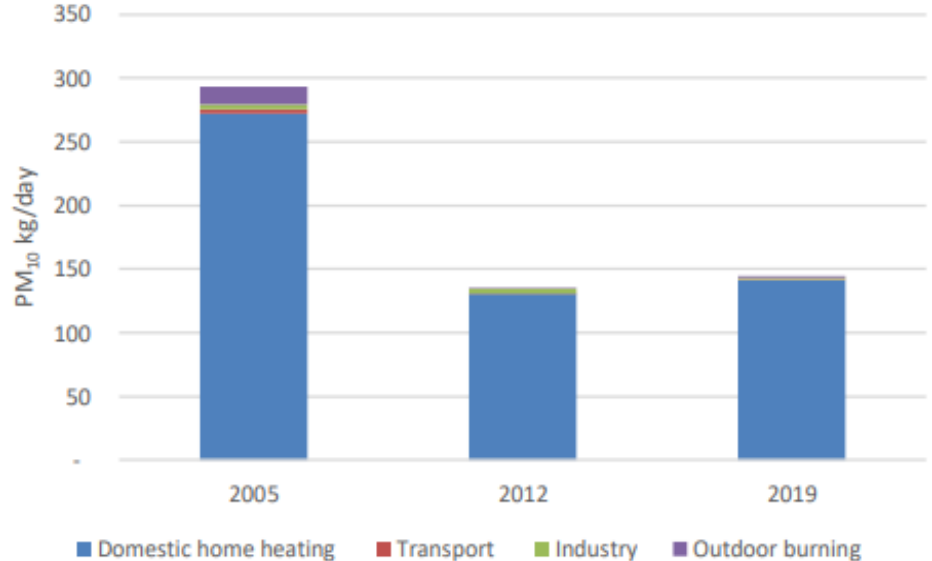


Blue line = trend

Red line = NESAQ PM10 threshold

# Reefton Emission Inventories: Surveys

- Emissions estimated from burning methods and fuel consumption, derived from household surveys
- A move to cleaner burning methods from 2005 to 2012
- An increase in daily use of wood & coal from 2012 to 2019
- No significant change in measured PM10 from 2012 to 2019



NIWA & Environet Surveys: 2005, 2012, 2019

# Reefton Update: 2019 Survey

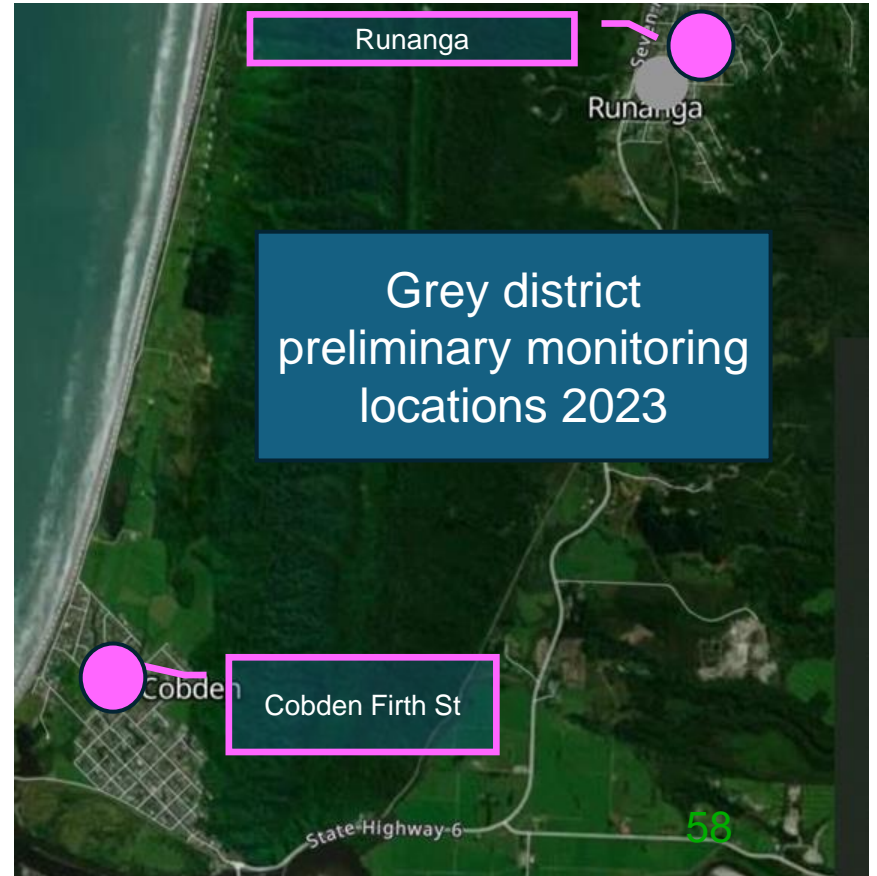
Multifuel burners	87% PM10 emissions, 62% households
Woodburners	10% PM10 emissions, 23% households
Open home fires	2006: 10% emissions wood & coal 2019: 3% emissions wood & coal, 4% households
Oil, gas, pellet	0% emissions, 5% households
Electricity for heating	44% households

## Preliminary Data using WCRC's Monitoring Method

# Greymouth, Paroa, Cobden, Runanga 2023

- Measuring devices were not calibrated against a reference method. Results are likely to be higher than actual; data is considered preliminary
- Monitoring indicates poor winter air quality and an issue with PM10 from indoor domestic burners
- Some sites are likely to have breached NESAQ threshold concentration for PM10 contaminants;  
Most will have breached WHO PM10 & PM2.5 air quality guidelines
- Future monitoring required using a NESAQ Monitoring Method for PM10

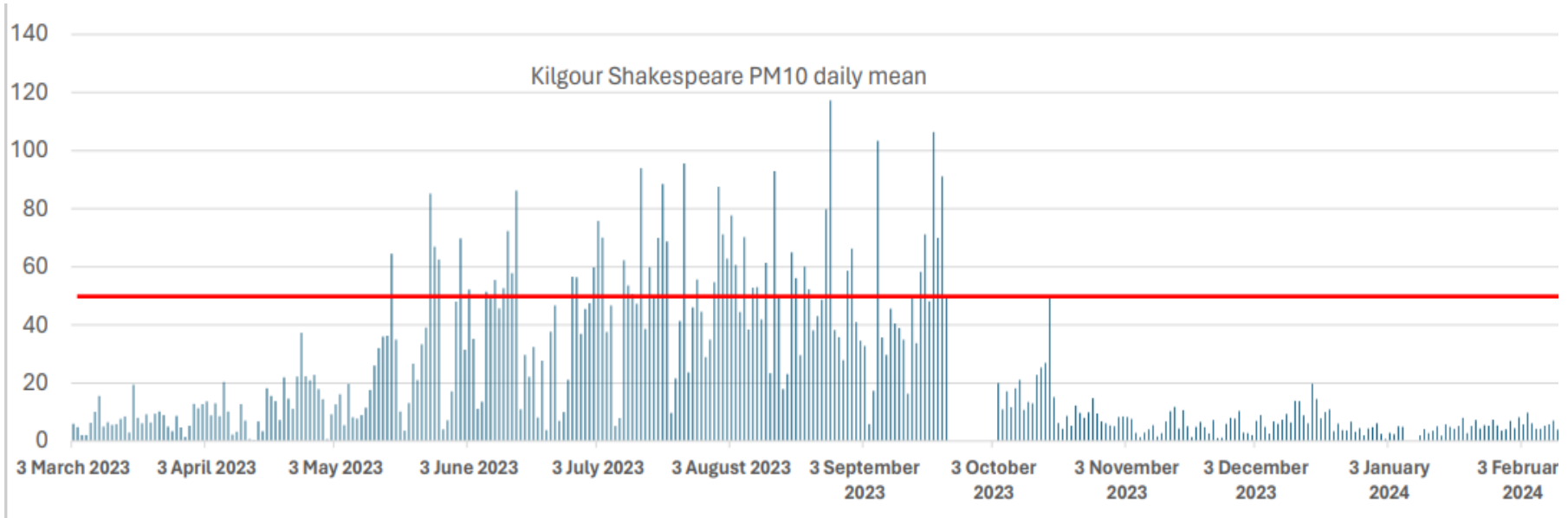
# Grey District: 2023





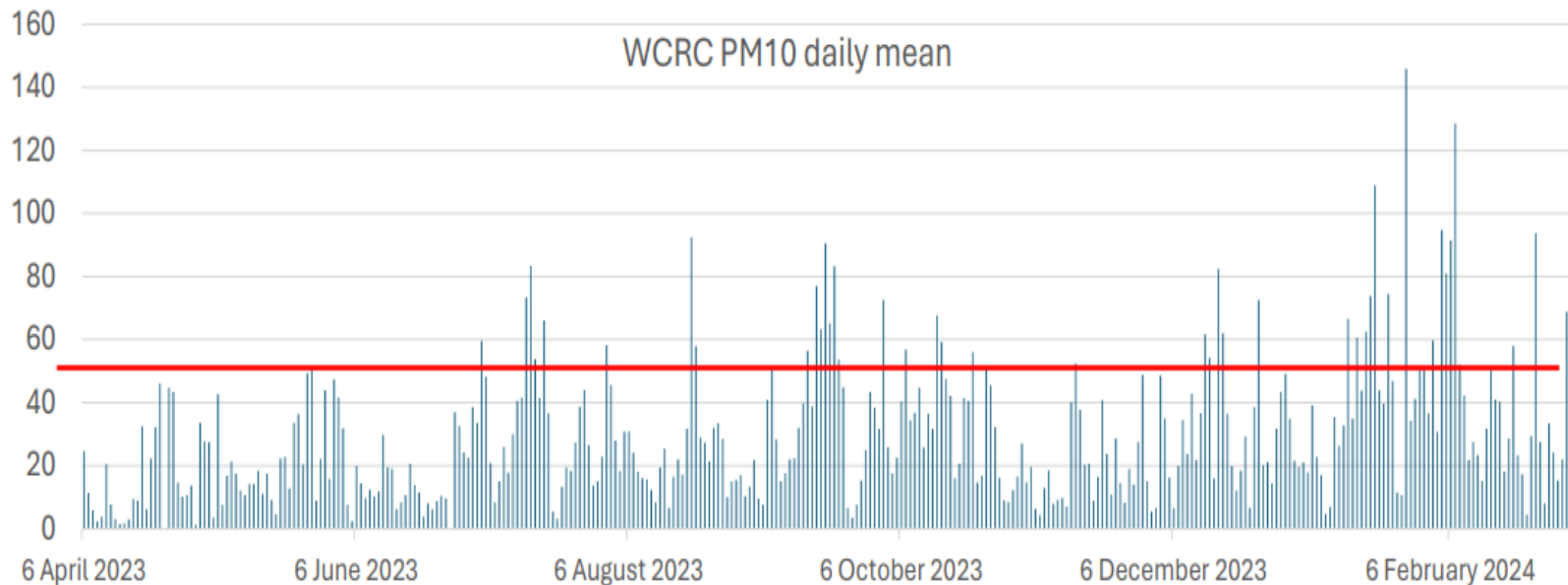
## Preliminary Data using WCRC's Monitoring Method

# PM10 Greymouth 2023



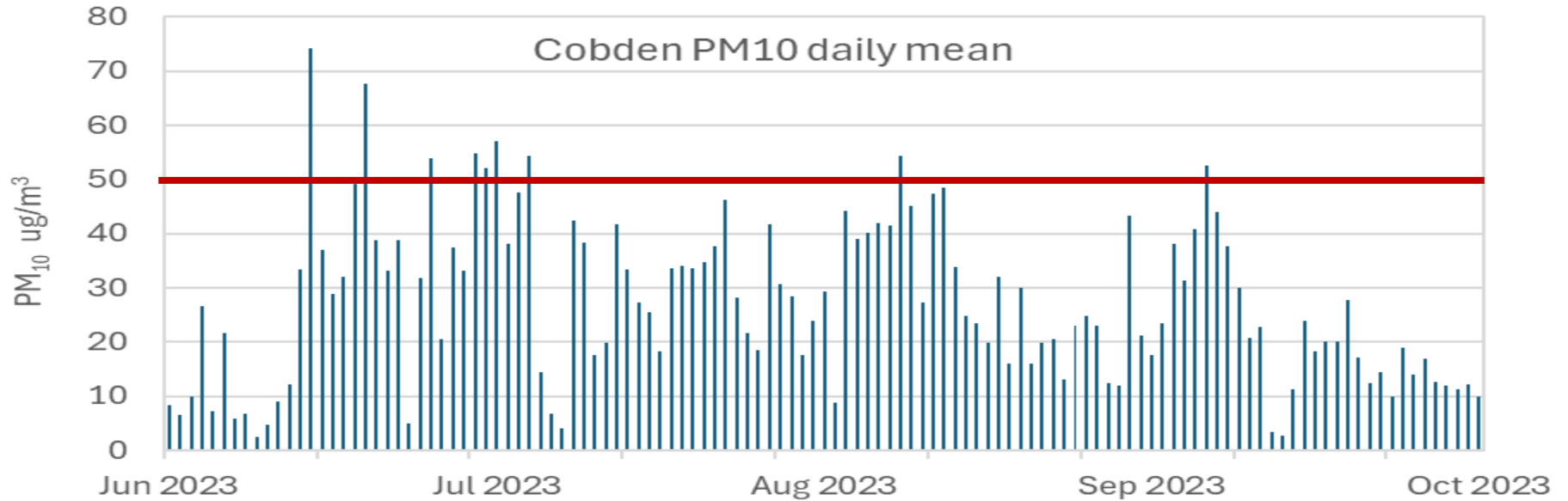
## Preliminary Data using WCRC's Monitoring Method

# PM10 WCRC Paroa 2023



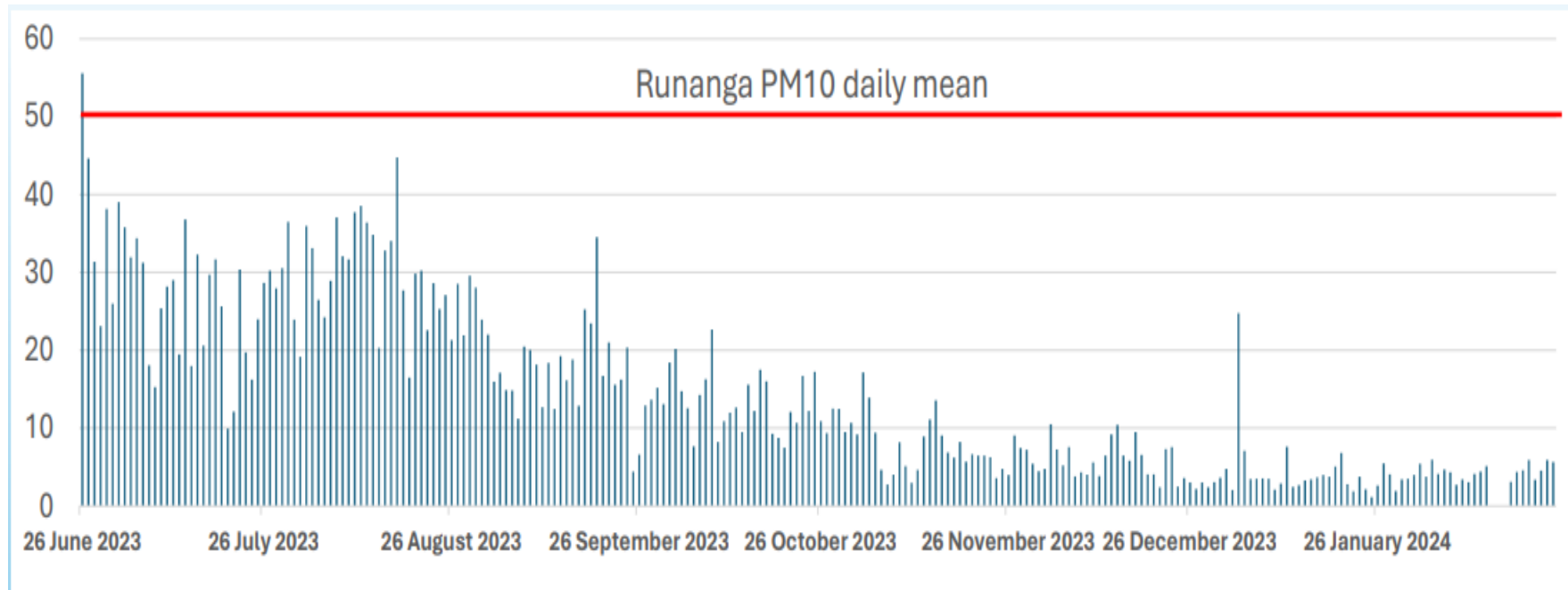
## Preliminary Data using WCRC's Monitoring Method

# PM10 Cobden 2023

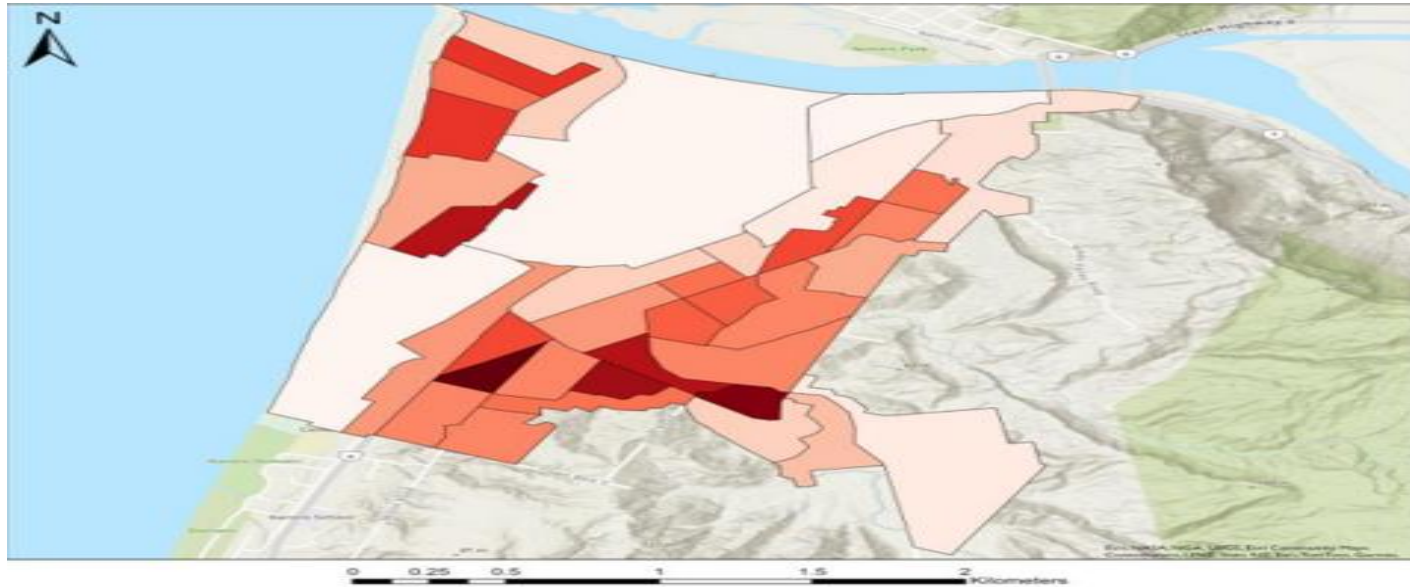


## Preliminary Data using WCRC's Monitoring Method

# PM10 Runanga 2023



# Greymouth Daily Winter Emission Density Map (PM2.5)



Based on 2023 household surveys

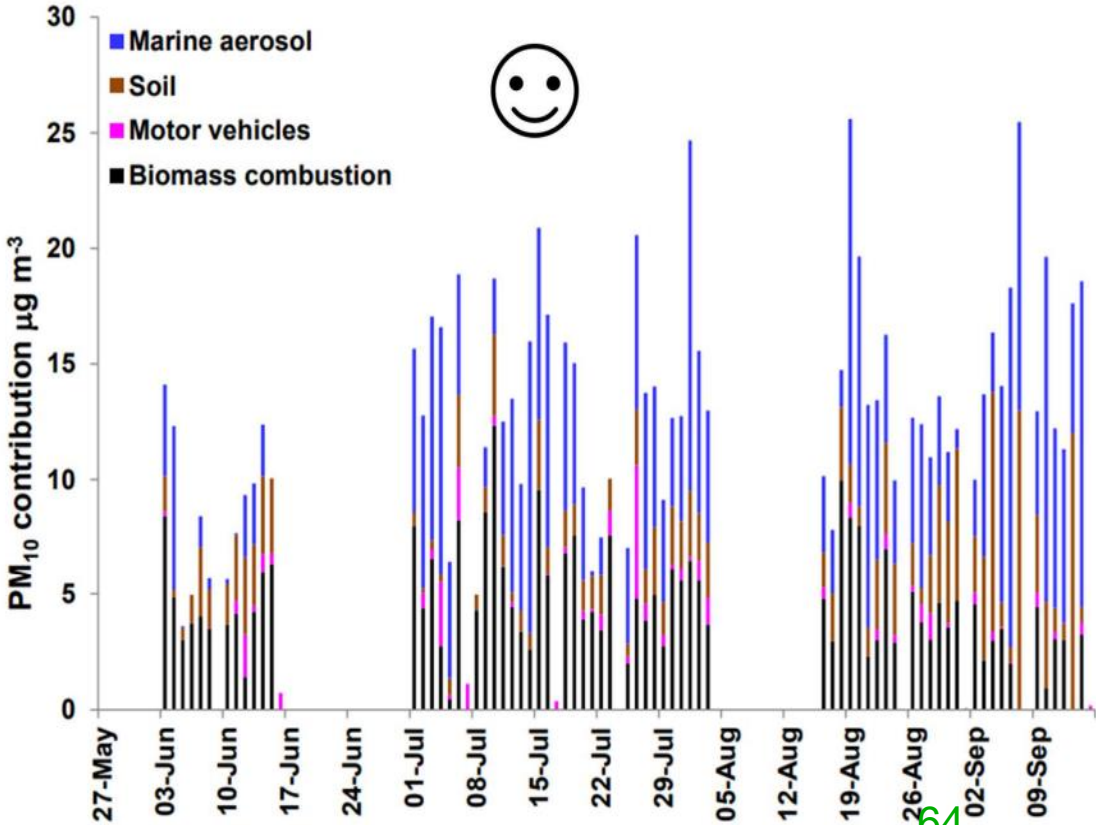
# Westport 2023

PM10 quality appeared reasonable: below NESAQ 50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  threshold in 2023

Give it another 12 months

Chemical analysis indicated people burnt treated timber (arsenic) and lead paint

WHO PM2.5 air quality guidelines exceeded



# Additional information to aid decision making:

Understanding levels and spatial distribution of fine particulate matter in main urban areas using required monitoring methods

Understanding installation and running costs of heat pumps, woodburners, multifuel burners at a local level, and respective of energy costs and social deprivation (warmth, hot water...)

Understanding household welfare and fuel poverty issues, including implications for iwi

A clearer understanding of where central government policy is heading

We've started some work on this...

# Sample National Home Heating Costs

## Heat pump

Installation      \$2550 (Unit \$1500, \$1050 install)

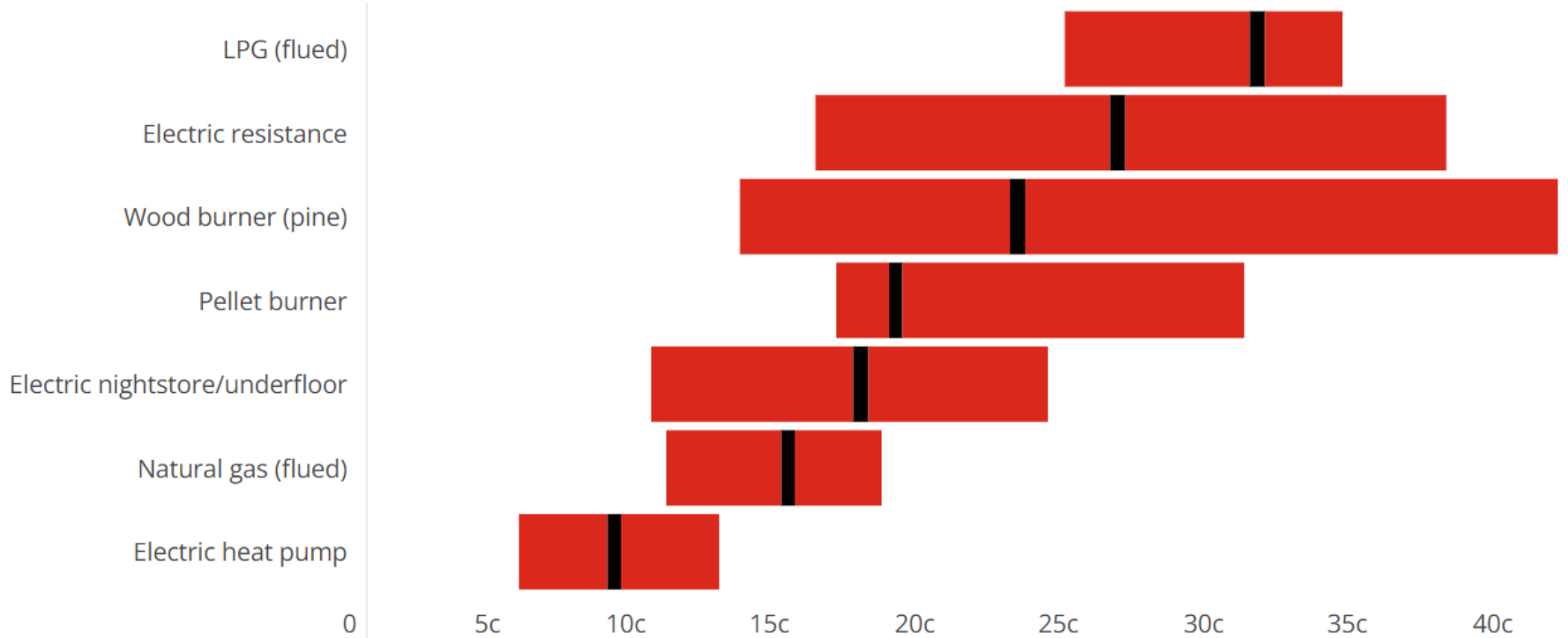
## Burner

Installation      \$4330 (Unit \$2830\*, Flue \$800, Consent \$700)

\* Woodburner LEB \$2250, ULEB \$3350, Multifuel \$2900



### Cost of one kilowatt of heat for one hour



**Guide: Bars represent max-min cost range. Black lines represent national median for 18 providers (ex West Coast). 2023 price data collected March-May 2024. Source: NGO Consumer NZ. Powerswitch covering 18 providers.**

# **Regulatory & Policy Planning Team, WCRC**

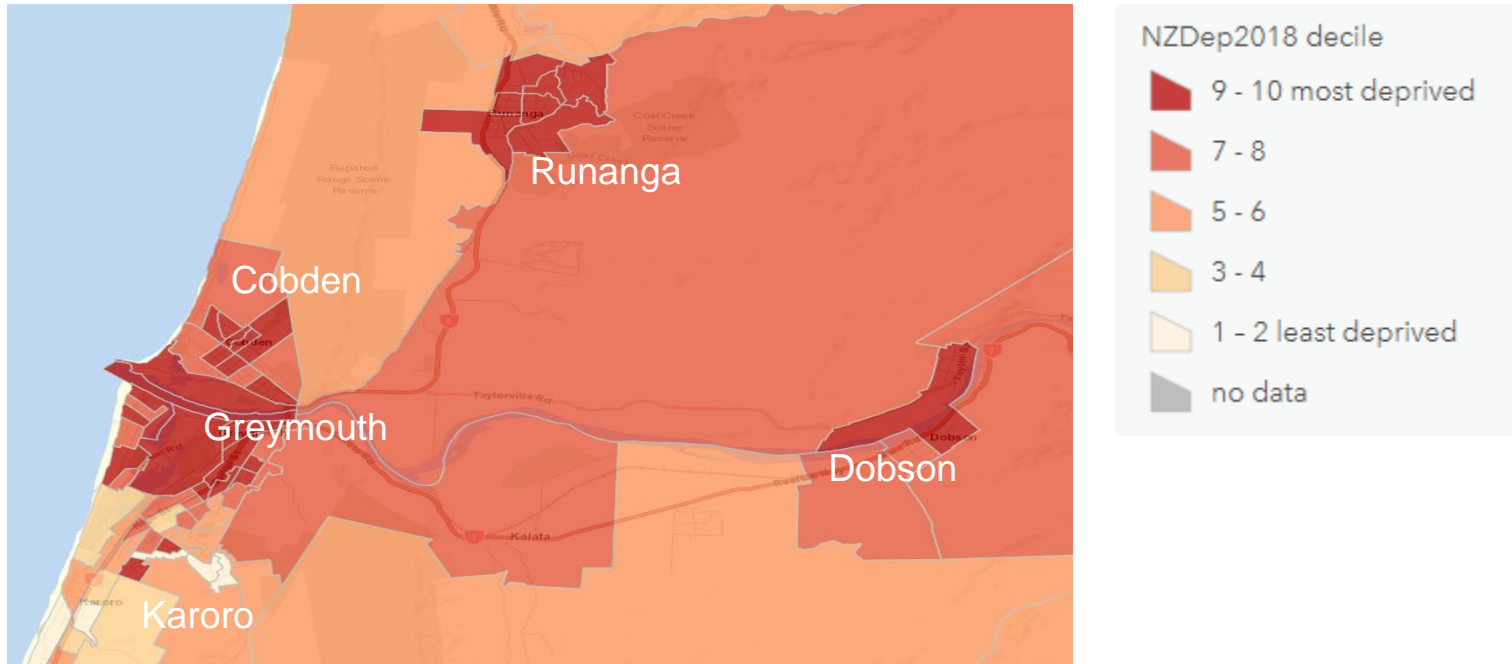
Economic, Social, Cultural, and Environmental Issues

Analysis of Air Quality Monitoring, Household Data  
and EECA Supports for the West Coast

# NESAQ: Highest likely exposure = Main Urban Areas

Area (SA2, Statistical Area 2) NZ Stats 2018	Population	Occupied private dwellings
1. Greymouth (Central, King Park, Marsden, Karoro, Rutherglen-Camerons)	5601	2319
2. Hokitika	2892	1317
3. Westport	1893	867
4. Cobden	1551	666
5. Arahura-Kumara	1223	528
6. Runanga	1185	522
7. Westland Glaciers – Bruce Bay	1074	519
8. Lake Brunner	1065	189
9. Barrytown	939	417
10. Reefton	927	453

# Deprivation levels Greymouth 2018



# West Coast Housing Forum Engagement

- Supported improvement of domestic heating >1,000 houses over 4 years
- EECA is a member of the Housing Forum
- EECA's Warmer Kiwi Homes programme going for >10 years
- Potential subsidy 80-90% (\$3,000), depends on situation.

## **EECA Grant Criteria:**

1. Must own and live in a home built before 2008.
2. You (the owner) must have a Community Services Card or live in an area identified as lower-income.
3. Your home does not have ceiling and underfloor insulation.
4. Heating restrictions: no existing heat pump, wood pellet or multifuel
5. Use EECA's 2 suppliers: Motueka or Christchurch

**MBIE (EECA) - Future responses to energy poverty pending:  
expect more detail in May budget**

# West Coast Housing Forum – EECA grants to individual households (2009-2024):

District	Number of households		Heating breakdown
	Insulated	Heated	
Buller	1600	213	202 heatpumps & 11 wood/pellet burners
Westport	718	123	(remainder rural)
Grey	1856	182	170 heatpumps & 12 wood/pellet burners
Cobden, Runanga, Dobson	756	93	(remainder rural – 0 for Greymouth)
Westland	317	41	40 heatpumps & 1 wood/pellet burners
Whataroa - Harihari	90	8	(remainder rural – 0 for Hokitika)

# Air Monitoring – Deprivation Index – EECA

NZ Stats 2018 (Stats Area 2)	Air monitoring, PM10, exceedances	Deprivation Index (9-10 most deprived)	Population	Occupied private dwellings (proxy for total households)	EECA supports provided % eligible owned homes (at least)	EECA Insulation support	EECA Heating support
Westport	0, 2023	9-10	1893	867	132%	718	123
Cobden	9, 2023	10	1551	666	83%	316	47
King Park	>60, 2023	9-10	1053	489	0%	0	0
Central Greymouth	8, 2023	10	978	402	0%	0	0
Buller Coalfields (inc Granity)	No monitoring	10	909	450	43%	153	30
Hokitika	No monitoring	6-9	2892	1317	0%	0	0
Marsden	No monitoring	6-9	1221	498	2%	7	7
Runanga (inc Dunollie & Rapahoe)	1, 2023 ex June winter	9	1185	522	71%	285	29
Reefton	2, 2020 1, 2022	9	927	453	88%	262	35
Dobson (inc Taylorville)	No monitoring	9	828	342	61%	155	17
Blaketown	No monitoring	7-9	810	372	63%	147	25
Karamea	No monitoring	9	714	384	27%	78	10

\* Air monitoring: PM10 exceedances (Preliminary data: used WCRC monitoring method)



## **Insights: Monitoring, data & analysis help identify where to focus**

- Limited understanding about implications for iwi, fuel poverty, hot water
- Inferences. Multi-faceted issues: need to improve quality affordable housing (increase supply; reduce consumer energy costs, mould & damp; support and enable people, inc youth, older persons, whānau, community); and reduce energy costs for suppliers and local households
- Most vulnerable may rent rather than own their own homes  
Warm healthy homes for renters – see Westport where criteria waived
- Incentives could be developed further, e.g., urban, deprivation index, iwi, relax EECA criteria and amend online eligibility checker, advance local trades, engage with energy providers (e.g., Energy Hardship Funds)
- Need for resourcing and co-ordination

**Key question: where to focus next?**

# Next Steps

1. Statutory & NESAQ: thresholds & monitoring methods
2. Issues: Health, Air Quality, Household & Energy Assessments
  - Monitor Airsheds / Assess Surveys (Emission Inventories)
  - Qualitative, Engagement & Analysis
  - Identify Hotspots & Potential Areas to Focus
3. Stakeholder Engagement
4. Explore the Options
5. Consultation
6. Determine Actions Required
7. Plan, Implement and Evaluate

# Process

1. Stakeholder engagement
2. Present options so RMC can go through a process of exploring the pros and cons (Enabling factors for implementation and barriers).
3. Invite RMC to explore the issues and options and suggest others in consideration of s32 evaluation report requirements.

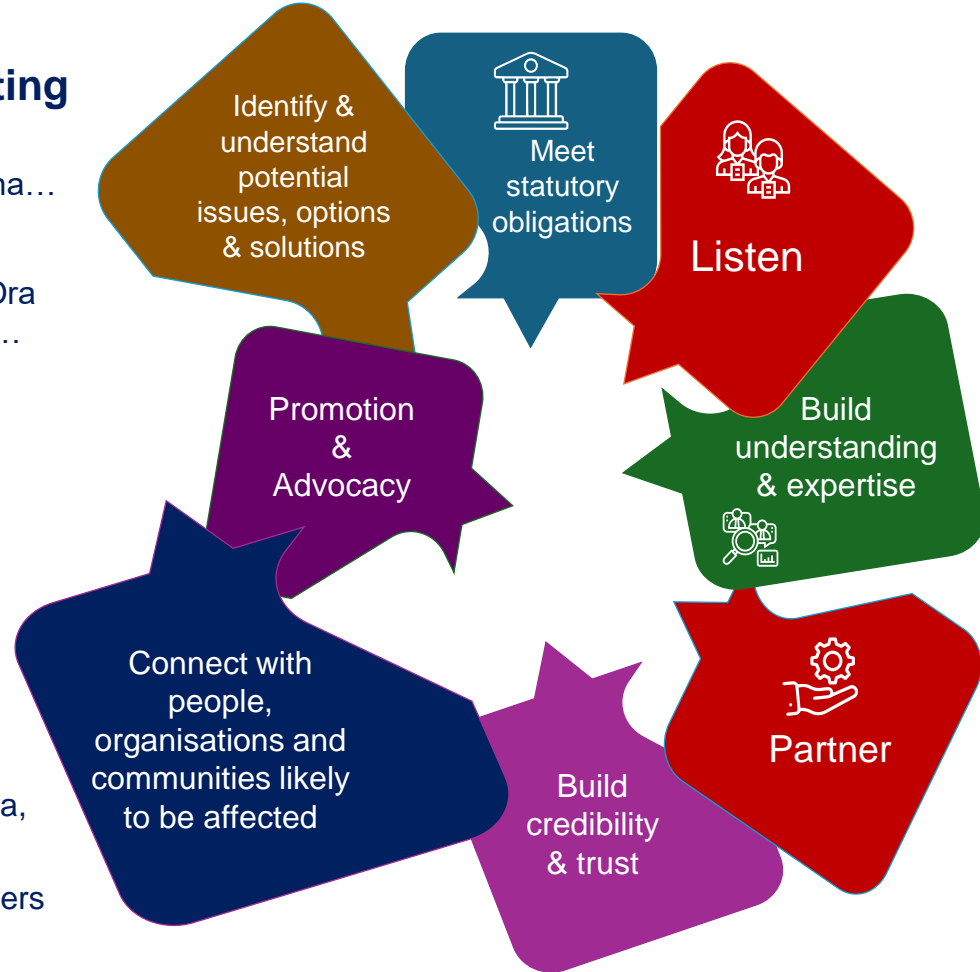
## **Note. Statutory RMA s32 obligation**

### **An evaluation report must:**

- a) Examine the extent to which the proposed objectives are the most appropriate way to achieve the purpose of the RMA;
- b) Examine whether the proposed provisions are the most appropriate way to achieve the objectives, including
  - identifying other reasonably practicable options (good practice is to also consider worst case and status quo scenarios),
  - assessing the efficiency and effectiveness of the provisions, and
  - summarising the reasons for deciding on them; and
- c) Contain a level of detail that corresponds to the scale and significance of the environmental, economic, social, and cultural effects that are anticipated from the implementation of the proposal

## Stakeholder Map: Air Quality & Home Heating

- **Community** Groups, Trusts & Reserve Boards, e.g., Greymouth; Runanga; Ahaura, Kumara, Taylorville, Moana...
- **West Coast Housing Steering Group**
- **Central Govt & agencies:** MSD, Public Health, Kāinga Ora (Homes and Communities), Te Puni Kōkiri, MBIE, EECA... BDC, GDC, WDC (TTPP)
- **Development West Coast**
- **Takiwā Poutini**
- **Poutini Waiora**
- **Academics, Scientists (GNS & NIWA) & Researchers**
- **NGOs, Civil Society, Faith Groups**
- **FENZ**
- **Funders** (Envirolink) and **Financial Institutions**
- **Energy Providers:** Westpower, Buller Electricity, Manawa, Straterra, Bathurst, BT, Francis Mining, etc.
- **Market:** Mitre 10; Point of Sale; Trades: Heatpump installers
- **Neighbouring Councils & Other Regional Councils**
- **Media**





# **Summary & Concluding Remarks**

# **Extra Slides**

## **Internal Work in Progress**



# Options



# Index

Identify Key Stakeholders to consider when exploring the options

1. Non-regulatory options
2. Regulatory options
3. Options for monitoring

# Non-Regulatory Options Regional Air Plan 2002

1. Maintain and enhance the mauri or life-force of the Atua Tawhirimatea – the spiritual guardian of the atmosphere
2. Brochures, mail drops, press releases, other promotional material
3. Liaise with TAs and interested groups: outputs & actions
4. Service delivery: provision of goods and services
5. Suggested economic instruments and financial incentives, including rates relief, bonds, tradeable permits

# Non-Regulatory Options Regional Air Plan 2002

6. Outline and recognize industry codes of practice
7. Consultation
8. Co-ordinate with public health and other relevant agencies  
—  
share & collect information, promotion, e.g., media releases
9. Maintain Air Quality Complaints Register  
and review annually

# Health Study: Air Pollution Health Risk Assessment for the West Coast

- Assessment could provide valuable insights into health impacts of air contaminants - indoor and outdoor - at Statistical Area 2 (by town and community); and provide an evidence-based report for funding.
- Sample objective: Provide an estimate of lifetime health impacts and costs on the population throughout the West Coast Region from indoor and outdoor exposure to air contaminants of public health concern, including particulates (PM10 and PM2.5), where concentrations may not be known and yet to be estimated from using wood, coal and multifuel burners.
- See 2023 ESR study Mount Manganui.  
Also potential EECA funding (notes)

# Science: Hotspot Identification

1. Provide updates to Council and the community as to current monitoring results, plus current and future projects.
2. Continue to evaluate new locations; and install monitoring instruments where required.
3. Use ongoing funded support, e.g., Envirolink, for technical advice.
4. Explore new funding avenues, e.g., central government.

# Other Options to Explore

1. Increase affordable insulated housing stock and build warmer homes
2. Wood heater/multifuel register - all wood/multifuel heaters registered by local government (record age and model of wood heater).
3. Wood heater/multifuel licensing - all people purchasing a new wood/multifuel heater need to undergo education and hold a 'Wood/Multifuel Heater licence'.
4. Wood/multifuel heater point of sale swap - mandatory removal of wood/multifuel heater and installation of heat pump when a property is sold.

# Other Options to Explore

1. Wood/multifuel heater buy back scheme - payments made to eligible households following the replacement of a wood heater with a heat pump.
2. Wood/multifuel heater replacement scheme - scheme where eligible households have upfront costs of wood heater removal and replacement covered.
3. Air quality/wood/multifuel heater burning notifications - a voluntary system that allows people to check the air quality and decide whether they will use their wood/multifuel heater.
4. Annual chimney and fire certificate.

# Other Options to Explore

1. Nationwide effort to reduce energy consumption  
(Need to address fuel poverty. >10% NZ household income on fuel to achieve satisfactory indoor environment: 21°C in living areas, 18°C other parts of house – could be higher on the West Coast)
2. NZ energy strategy: hydro & imported batteries

Drier seasons: increase in imported fossil fuels

Increase landfill business in remote areas for toxic batteries



# Innovation: Smart Homes

Household  
contribution to  
electricity demand  
management

Demand Flexibility  
and smart grid  
management

## Current



### Energy self-management

Households voluntarily reduce energy use at peak times, motivated by cheaper rates or an alert from an electricity provider.

### Demand response

Electricity company can remotely adjust the home's hot water cylinder through ripple control a few times a year when demand is highest.

## Smart home



### Demand flexibility

Connected smart devices communicate with the grid to seamlessly optimise the home's energy use on behalf of the consumer to save on their energy bills.

### Distributed energy resources

Roof-top solar and home battery systems optimise energy use and, at times, sell energy back to the grid.

# Heat Pumps: Running Costs

- According to **Gen Less**, a heat pump used 6 hours per day for 6 months of the year with an energy output of 6kWh will cost around \$400 per year to run. *[Ref: Greymouth Star, 23 May 2024]*
- Gen Less is supported by EECA (the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority). It's a government agency dedicated to mobilising New Zealanders to be world leaders in clean and clever energy use.
- Specific analysis is required of running costs for West Coast households, the number of heat pumps required per household and implications for hot water (wetbacks).

# Option: More Local Coal

- Coal is used extensively for fuel in most parts of the world.
- Burning coal produces about 15 billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> each year [IEA].
- Attempting to use coal without adding to atmospheric carbon dioxide levels is a major technological challenge.
- Considerations for Council... (see further suggestions in ppt notes below)
  - Turning the lights, hot water & heating off v fossil fuels
  - Export local coal to China. Supply local grid.
  - Corporate Social Responsibility (free fuel for vulnerable West Coasters & iwi)

- Economic, social and cultural rights are enshrined in law as fundamental human rights
- Local Government Act obligations:  
Economic, social, cultural and environmental well-being are interconnected
- “Other countries use their mineral sectors as cornerstones of their economy to support the sustainability of their regions, to increase resilience, and to boost prosperity.”
- Huntly power station uses coal to generate power
- Resource access and access to minerals is an issue.

# Innovation: More Local Coal for Energy Security

## Clean coal and innovative fossil fuel tech

### Sample Options for West Coast

1. Energy Security (resilience & equity): Not Nuclear, Hydrogen or import reliance; local jobs
2. New Technologies consistent with Sustainable Development Goals (LGA)  
Help reduce emissions from coal combustion, e.g., low NOx burners, selective catalytic reduction (SCR) systems, flue gas desulfurization (FGD) systems.
3. R&D Hub: Map coal resources, coal seam methane, saline aquifers, low emissions coal burner, whether combusting good quality local coal reduces emissions
4. New WC Power Station: connect to the grid (energy security from trade spikes, low hydro, a natural disaster (cyclone, earthquake in Huntly or Christchurch))
5. Coalbed Methane (coal seam gas): a primary clean energy source
6. Fit to Resilient Energy Mix (including renewables, hydro, geothermal)
7. Keep status quo or Do Nothing (also required to be explored under RMA)

# Finance

1. Tackle fuel poverty (for iwi, renters and low income).
2. Explore finance options and funding avenues, e.g., Central govt, climate emergency response fund subsidies for fuel poverty, and social tariffs
3. Grants and Interest free loans
4. Local 'top ups', e.g., DWC funding for community actions
5. Corporate Social Responsibility & Sustainability Goals, e.g., Buller Electricity, Westpower, Mitre 10
6. Support local trades to sell and install heat pumps
7. WCRC Healthy Homes Financial Co-ordinator to broker deals, finance and discounts (or engage with financial institutions)

# Promotion and Advocacy

1. Re-establish a West Coast wide policy and regulatory group for WCRC & DCs
2. Engage with West Coast Housing Forum
3. Promote financial incentives on WCRC website
4. Alexandra 1990s – medical health officer visited people in their homes to tell them about the health impacts of burning coal
5. Promote electricity, clean energy sources and low emissions coal burners through WCRC website (or other public sources?)

# Example: Greymouth Star – Regular Home Heating Features for Local Communities

**WINTER WARMTH APRIL 2024**  
All heating options covered

**WORKING SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES**

**BRIGHFIELD**  
Gas Meters Ltd

**Heating the home more efficiently**

**DAIKIN**

**Crawford**  
Heating & Refrigeration Ltd

**FOSTERS FIREWOOD**  
FREE DELIVERY WITHIN 30KMS OF KARATA YARD

## Home insulation, heating help for Runanga

Runanga people are being encouraged to come forward, as they may be eligible for heavily subsidised home insulation — and maybe even heating assistance.

The West Coast Housing Working Group and community group the Runanga Village People, with the assistance of EECA's Warmer Kiwi Homes programme, are forging ahead trying to get as many uninsulated homes in Runanga and Dunollie assessed as possible.

The Housing Working Group formed in 2020 with the express intention of addressing housing issues across the West Coast.

A key driver was making sure that Coasters have access to warm, and dry homes.

A pilot initiative was planned, based on

eligibility criteria, and the Runanga Village People were approached to help with the pilot in late 2023.

Assisted by Takiwa Poutini, they put together a newsletter and a stand at the Runanga Christmas Market, in December, to sign up as many people as possible for this initiative.

Over 20 people put their names forward to have their homes assessed.

Northern Ward Cr Kate Kennedy, the co-starter of the Runanga Village People, said there were more people in Runanga and Dunollie who would be eligible for assistance.

"We would really like as many people to access a warm, dry home as possible."

"We know that West Coasters are renowned

for being stoic, but if you need help, don't be shy, just ask."

Even if you have insulation it may be worth getting an assessment for your home as over time, insulation compresses, and becomes less effective at helping with the heating and cooling of your house. Assistance is retrofitted insulation where available, and possibly up to \$3000 for heating depending on the situation.

Better insulation leads to a more efficient home, with lower over all energy costs, which can be significant over time, especially now as we face future price rises and the cost of living crisis.

EECA's Warmer Kiwi Homes Project has started the assessment of homes in Runanga but

it is not too late to check if your home is eligible.

If you own your own home, it was built before 2008, and you live in a lower income area or have a community services card you may be able to receive an 80-90% subsidy for the fit out of insulation and/or heating assistance.

Due to the success of this project, it is now being rolled out to other areas.

If you live on the West Coast, you can check your home's eligibility and apply at: <https://www.eeca.govt.nz/co-funding-and-support/products/warmer-kiwi-homes-programme/>

If you live in Runanga you can contact Kate Kennedy at [runangavillagepeople@runanga.nz](mailto:runangavillagepeople@runanga.nz) or via the Runanga Village People Facebook page.

6 March 2024

24 April 2024



# Regulatory Options: New Regional Rules for Households

1. Low Emission Burners (LEB):  
Extend NESAQ for new woodburners to all burners, inc multifuel.  
'Emission factor' <1.5g/kg, and >65% thermal efficiency, for ALL domestic burners installed as part of new builds or replacements.
2. Ultra Low Emission Burners (ULEB):  
'Emission factor' <0.5g/kg, and enhanced thermal efficiency, for ALL domestic burners installed as part of new builds or replacements.
3. Building consent application process, e.g., authorized list of burners, chimney height & design, use and maintenance of equipment.

# New Regional Rules for Households

## 4. Work with DCs and Stakeholders

### Examples:

- Add 'phase out' timeframes for high emitting burners to DC checklist, LIMS, and building reports to help inform homeowners.
- Introduce a DC bylaw restricting certain burners, e.g., Rotorua.
- Introduce a 'point of sale' rule (houses being sold must have compliant burners), e.g., Rotorua bylaw.

## 5. Potentially regulate PM2.5

## 6. 'Phase out' older high emission solid fuel burners over time

# Regulatory Options: Housing & Energy

## Housing:

- Increase insulated and ventilated housing stock & build warmer more sustainable homes
- Smarter homes: demand flexibility, distributed energy resources

## Energy:

- Voluntary management of household usage and demand response (electricity switching)
- Increase local generation and supply (reduce consumer price)

# Regulatory Options

## Reduce electricity prices locally and increase supply

1. Scope 1, 2, 3 emissions and ESG reporting
2. Strengthen National Direction on Renewable Electricity Generation (REG) and Electricity Transmission (ET).
3. National Policy Statements (NPSs) for REG & ET, and new NES-REG (2023), proposed under the RMA in 2023
4. Streamline RMA to enable investment and new generation, e.g., fast track Waitaha and other hydro
5. Facilitate net exports to grid

# Regulatory Options

## Reduce electricity prices locally and increase supply

1. Use excess capacity at an affordable transmission cost
2. Enable small and community scale generation and 'distributed generation'
3. At least 50 yr consents for small hydro schemes, e.g., Haast & Inchbonnie
4. Targeted plans for iwi (e.g., see US EPA 'Advance' – notes below)
5. To keep power affordable, we need to be generating on the coast!

# Regulatory Options

## Reduce electricity prices locally and increase supply

Supply chain regulation, e.g., 'SOE kiwishare' or 'West Coast' share; Transpower:

- Reduce transmission costs.
- Affordability and asset reclassification (transfer pricing)
- Tests: reasonableness (justifiable outcomes), non-discriminatory, procedural regularity, public interest, social responsibility (a contestable market for small and remote operators)
- SOE Act (focus has been on efficiency but also has sustainability mandate, e.g., social well-being)
- Electricity Authority & Commerce Commission (consumer protection)
- Reform Electricity Industry Participation code  
e.g., Energy equity argument – zonal electricity pricing for remote areas

# Work in Progress: NESAQ Monitoring Requirements

- There are LTP and CAPEX & OPEX cost implications of being NESAQ compliant and choosing a NESAQ monitoring method, including cost of required instruments.
- Work is required to assess the requirements, options and costs.
- [There are several 'reference methods' for air quality monitoring; but only 1 US EPA reference method approved for NZ under the NESAQ for determining particulate matter as PM10 in atmosphere.
- NESAQ Sch 2 also specifies other permitted methods, e.g., one Australia/NZ standard uses a gravimetric method.]

# Monitoring Options 1

1. Prioritize NESAQ monitoring method as required by NESAQ regulations – where exposure is most likely (urban areas)
2. Prioritise NESAQ monitoring method for Greymouth, Cobden, & Paroa based on 2023 PM10 exceedances using WCRC monitoring method
3. Prioritise by TLA (rank Buller, Grey and Westland districts)
4. Prioritize based on NESAQ compliance, vulnerability and deprivation index (by Statistical Area 2) throughout the West Coast, e.g, King Park, Cobden, Central Greymouth, Hokitika, Marsden, Buller Coalfields, Runanga, Reefton, Dobson, Blaketown, Karamea
5. Use mobile monitoring equipment (rather than continuous monitoring) or drones – note exceedance and move to sample next site.



# Monitoring Options 2

1. Continue measuring PM in Reefton at Reefton Area School
2. Continue monitoring in Westport for 2024 then review
3. Install a T640x in central Greymouth in 2025. Either moved from Westport or additional via CAPEX (49K every two years)
4. Undertake annual comprehensive spatial survey. This year its central Greymouth (2024) to determine location for NESAQ compliant monitoring
5. Preliminary surveys in previously unmonitored locations e.g., Hokitika, Ross, Dobson in 2024
6. Current CAPEX, OPEX, and staffing can sustain three permanent NESAQ compliant sites, assessment of one additional location per/yr

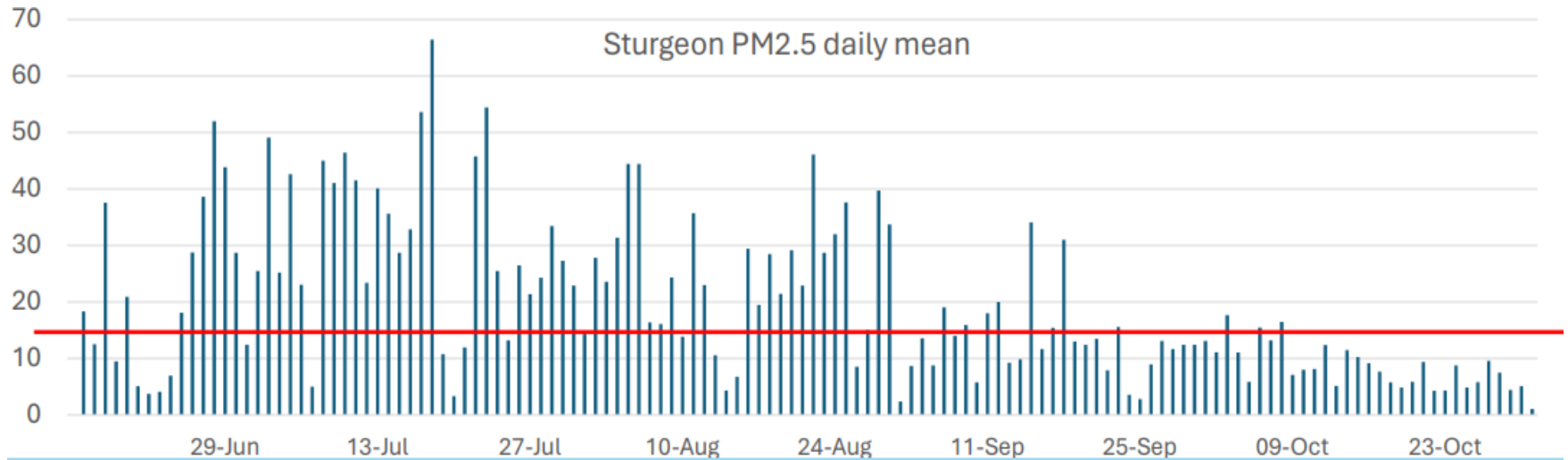
# Extra Science Monitoring Slides

Preliminary Data using WCRC's Monitoring Method

# Greymouth, Cobden & Runanga 2023

PM2.5 Exceedances

WHO Air quality guideline: 24 hr average - 15 ug/m<sup>3</sup>

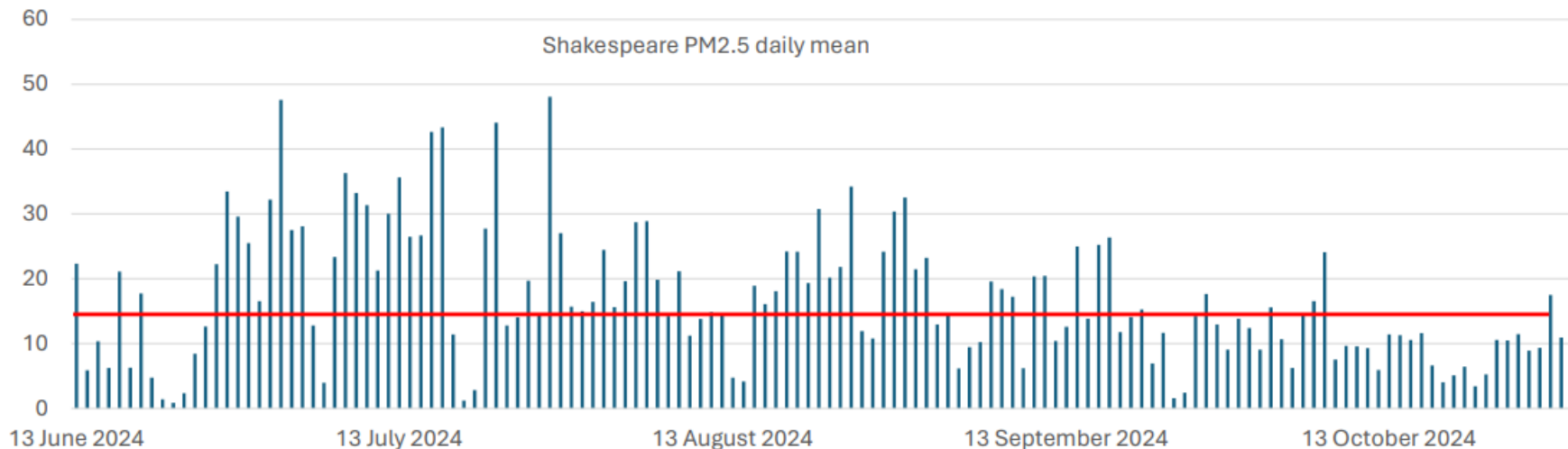


Preliminary Data using WCRC's Monitoring Method

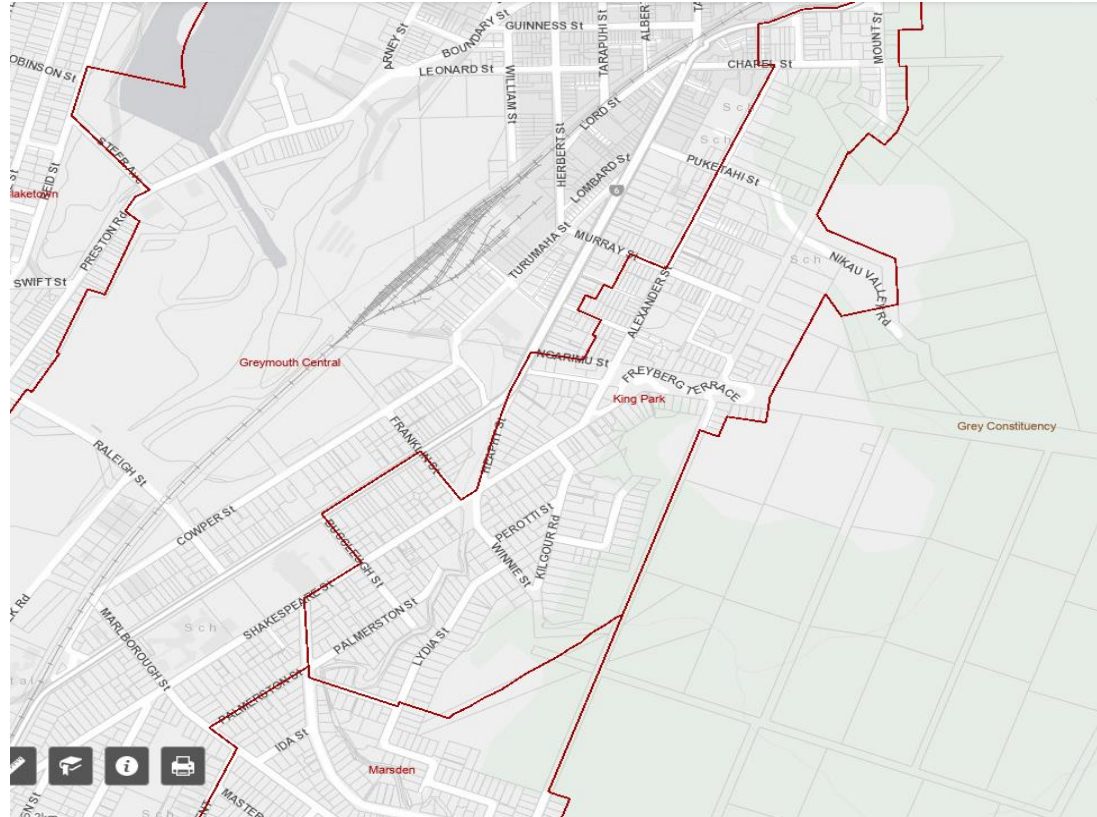
# Greymouth: Shakespeare Street 2023

PM2.5 Exceedances

WHO Air quality guideline: 24 hr average - 15 ug/m<sup>3</sup>



# FAQ: Where is King Park?

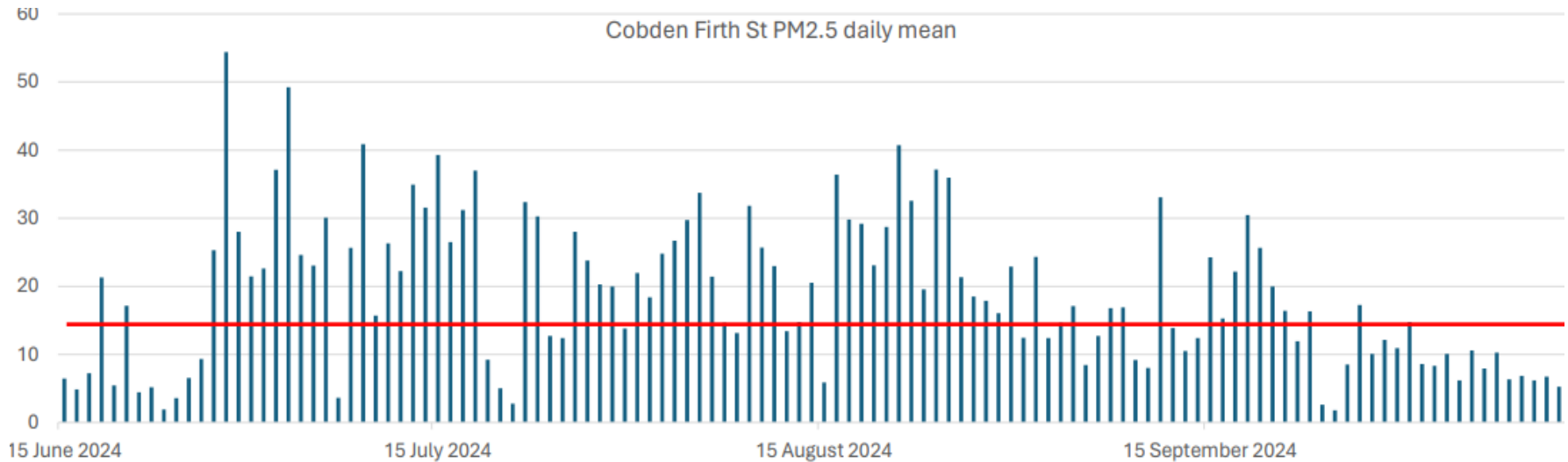


Preliminary Data using WCRC's Monitoring Method

# Cobden 2023

PM2.5 Exceedances

WHO Air quality guideline: 24 hr average - 15 ug/m3

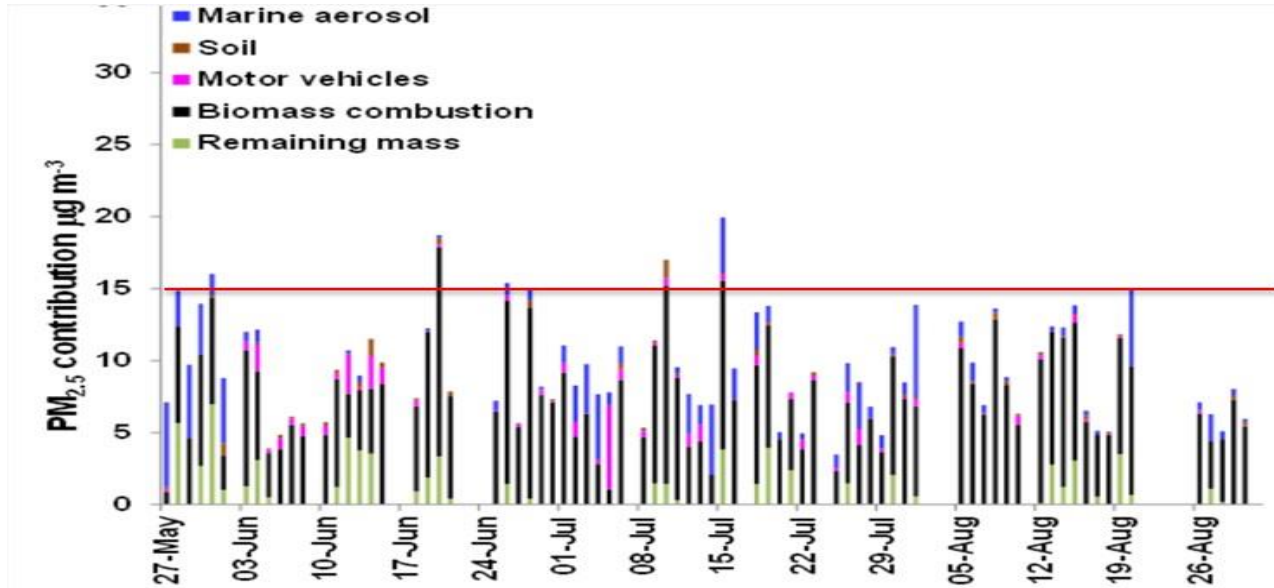


## Preliminary Data using WCRC's Monitoring Method

# Westport 2023

PM<sub>2.5</sub> Exceedances

WHO Air quality guideline: 24 hr average - 15 ug/m<sup>3</sup>



# Indoor Air Quality

**Dr Ian Longley**

Principal Air Quality Scientist, NIWA

Climate, Freshwater & Ocean Science



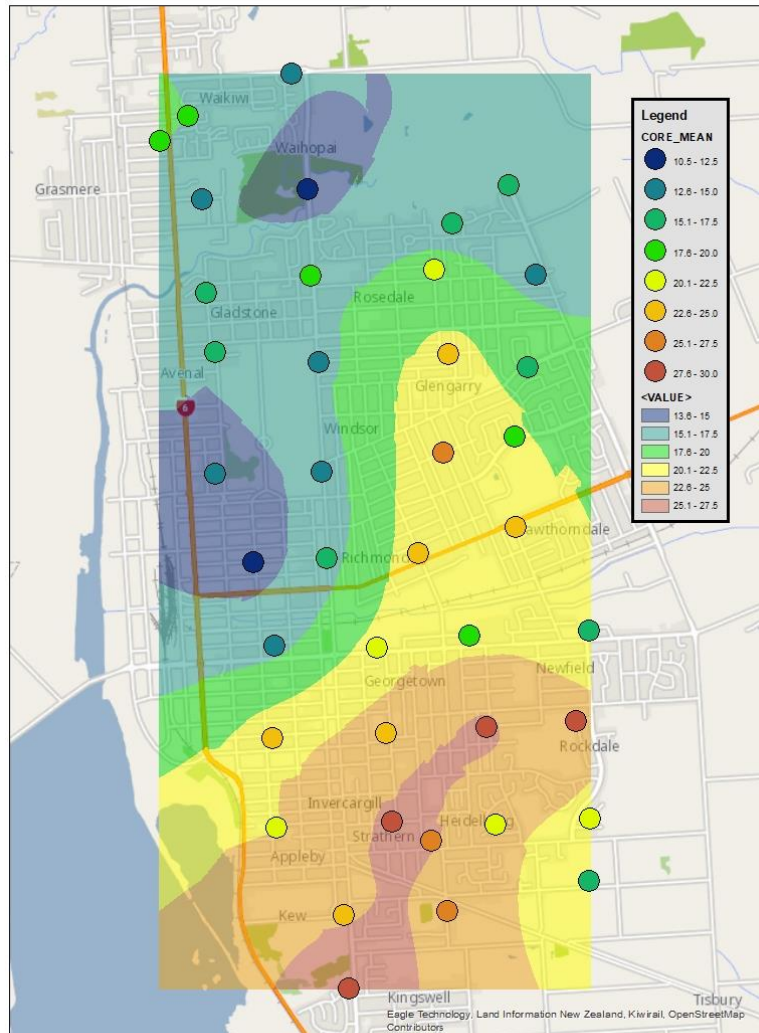
**NIWA**

Taihoro Nukurangi

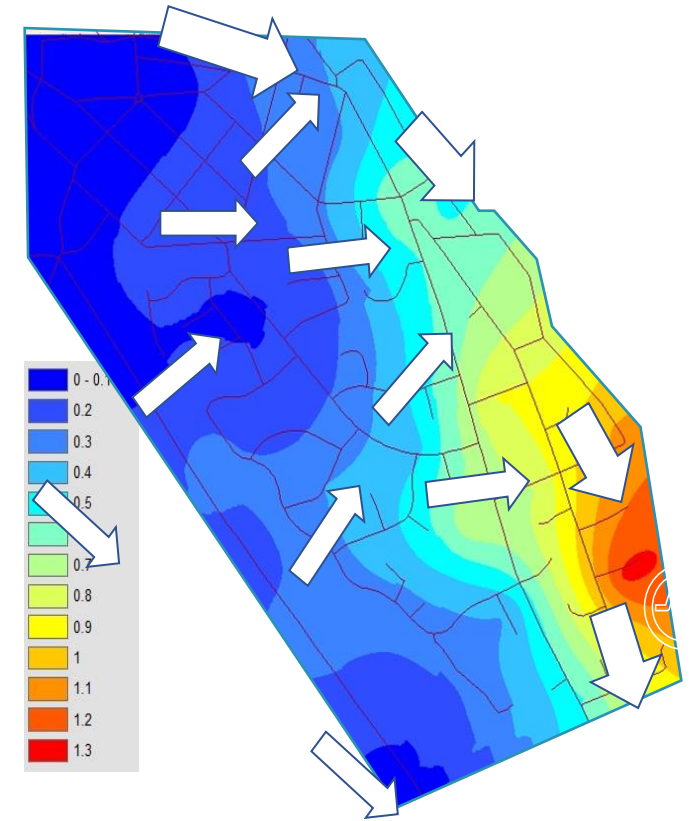
114



# Air quality (PM) can vary a lot within any town



- Due to
  - Emissions
  - Sheltering
  - Local air flows
- Some places are more vulnerable to poor air quality than others

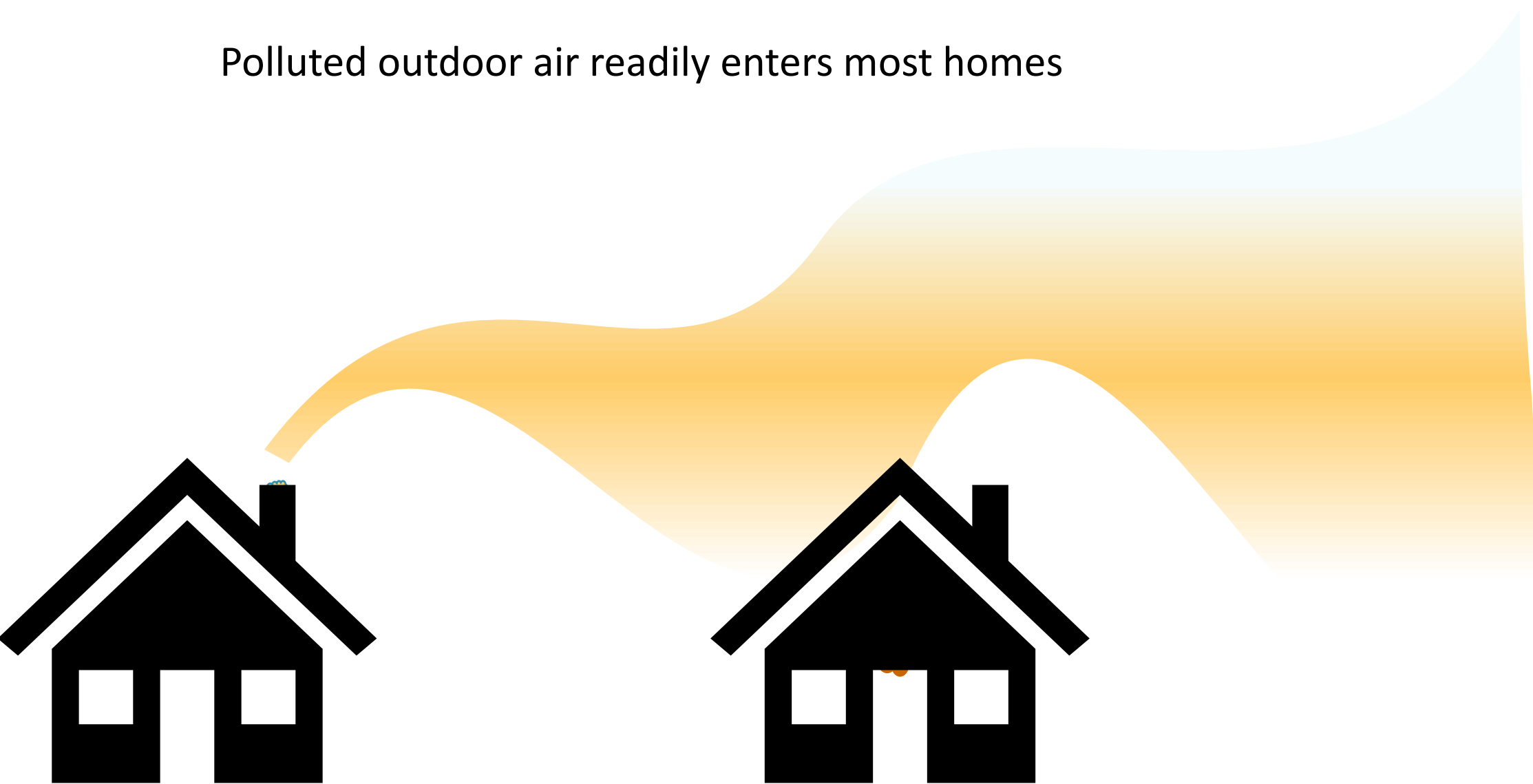




There's a 1000 times  
MORE dilution out here

There's a 1000 times  
LESS dilution in here

Polluted outdoor air readily enters most homes



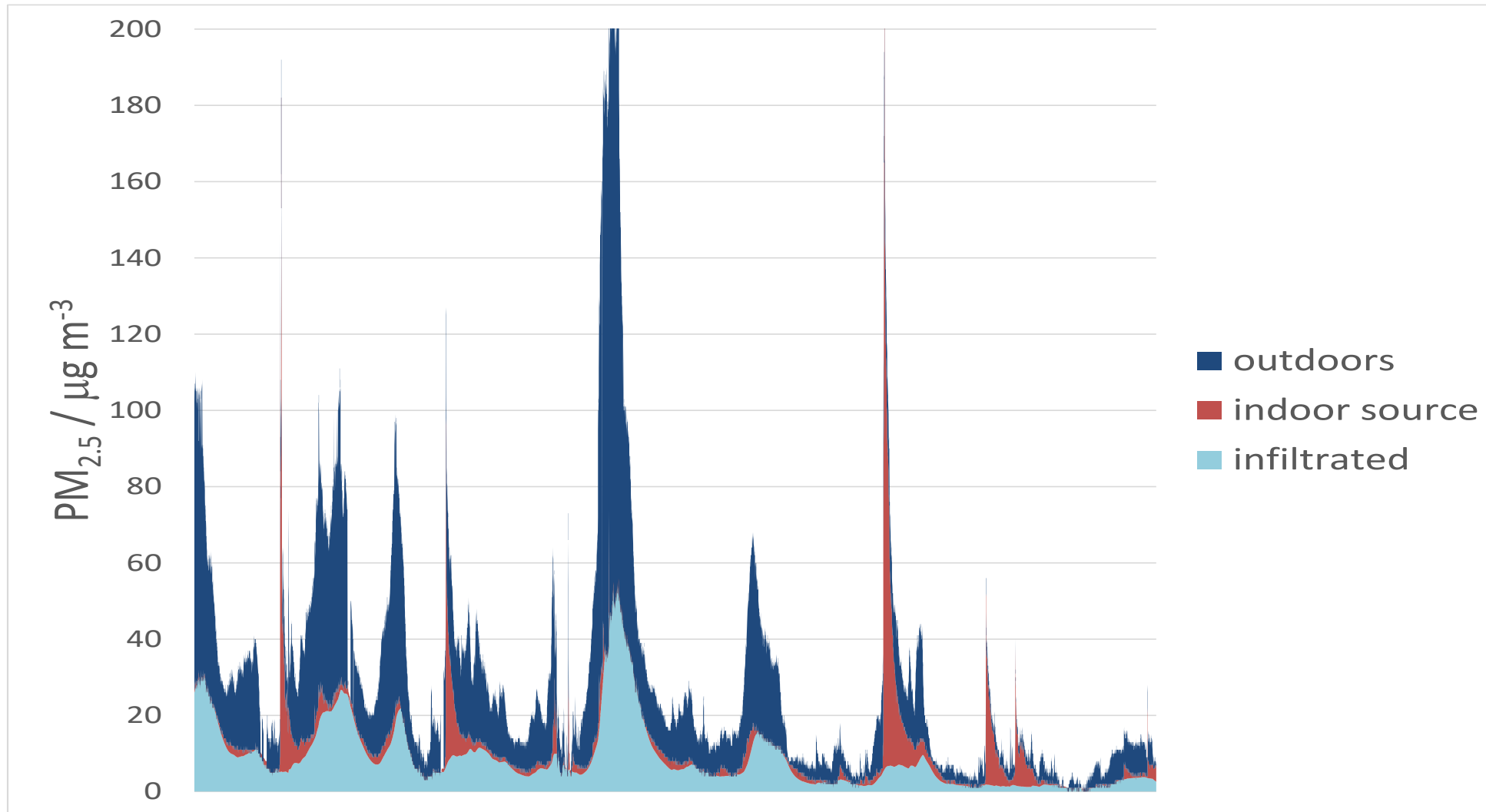
The better sealed the home  
the more likely polluted air will  
get trapped inside



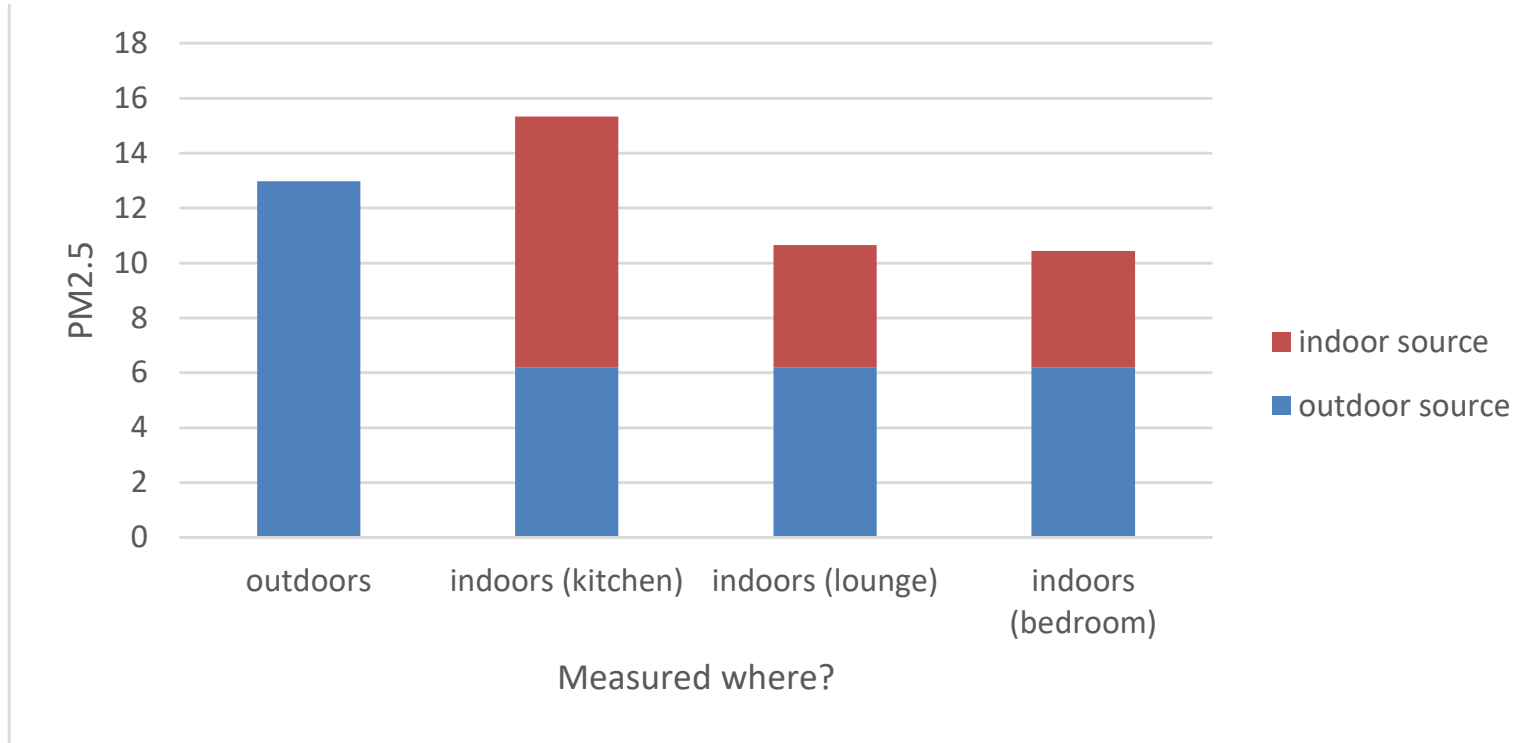
# Indoor PM comes from outdoor and indoor sources



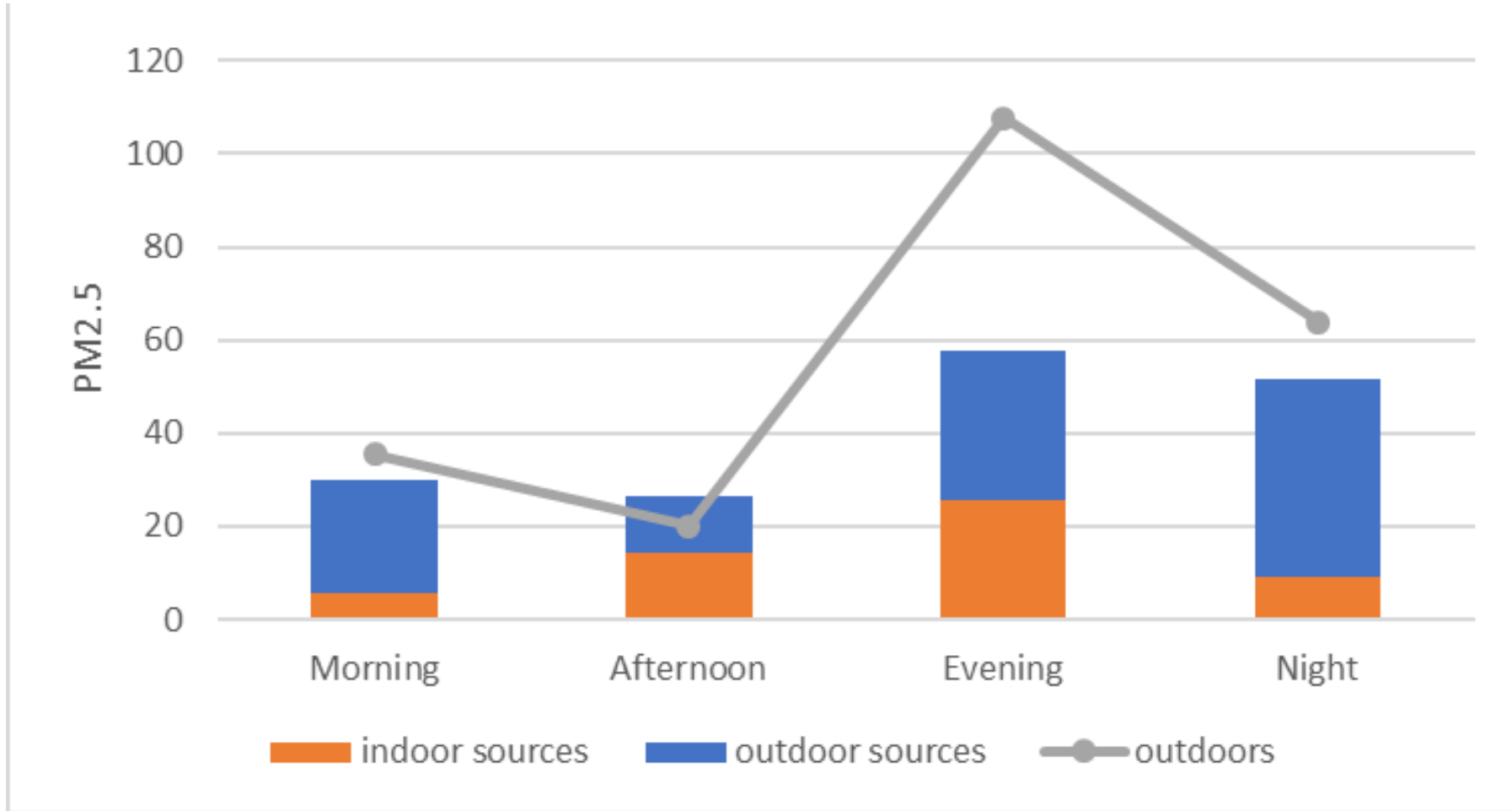
# Example of source identification for PM in a home in a solid-fuel-burning community



# Summary PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels in a typical home in a solid-fuel-burning community



- Being indoors providing ~50 % protection
- Indoor sources contribute extra 70 – 140 %






# What are the indoor sources?



Cooking emits  
particles into the air





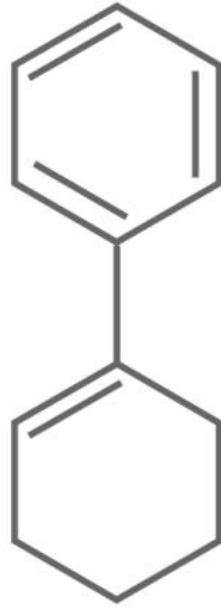
## Heater “leakage”?

- Very limited data suggests not common but may affect some homes significantly



Wood furniture  
Formaldehyde  
 $\text{CH}_2\text{O}$



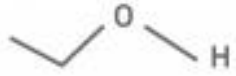


Carpet  
4-phenylcyclohexane  
 $C_{12}H_{14}$

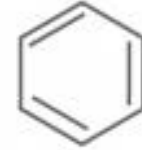
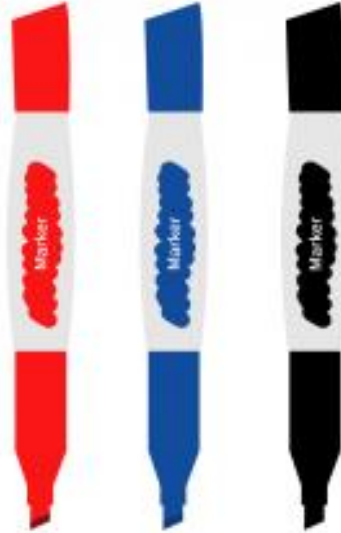




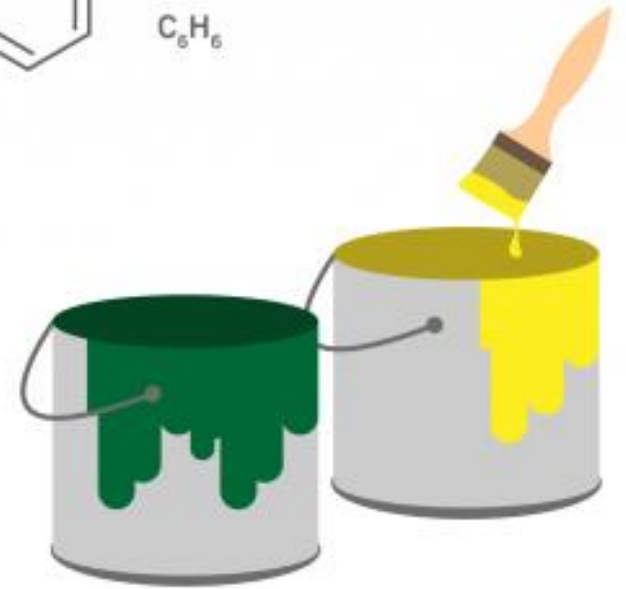
Makeup  
Acetone  
 $C_3H_6O$



Markers, art supplies  
Ethanol  
 $C_2H_6O$



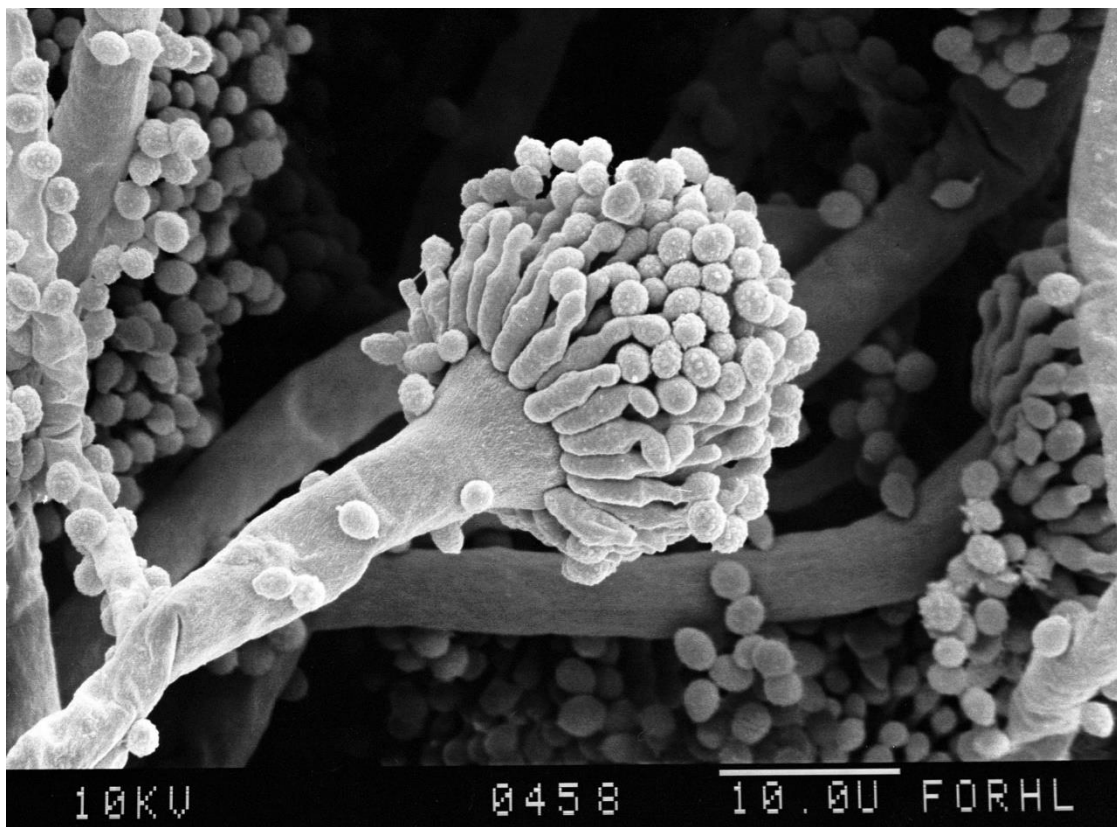
Paint  
Benzene  
 $C_6H_6$







# Damp air encourages mould



# Mitigation

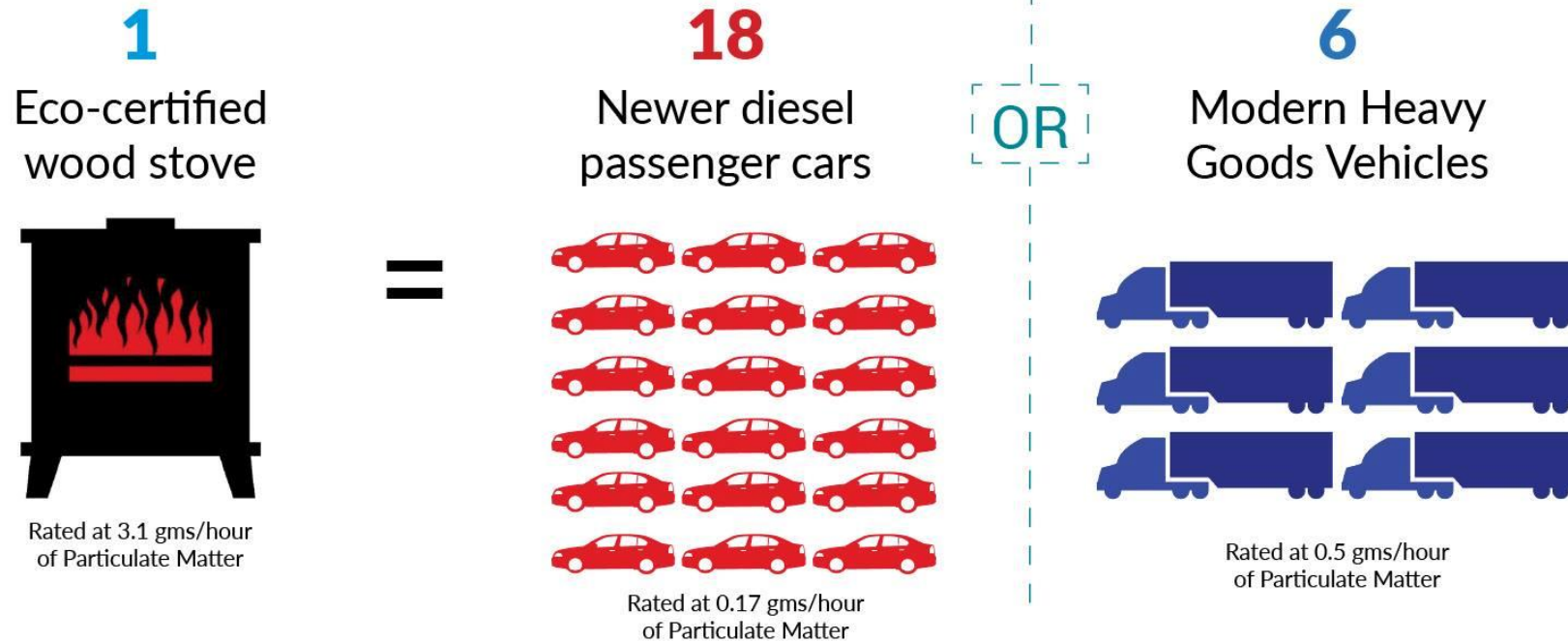
# Relative Emissions of Fine Particles



**VERY DIRTY**  **VERY CLEAN**

# All Wood Stoves Pollute

Even a perfectly-run, certified wood stove emits far more harmful fine particulates *per hour* than many diesel vehicles



Data from: "Potential Air Quality Impacts from Biomass Combustion", Air Quality Expert Group (UK), 2017

A wood stove would never pass vehicle emission standards (and in real world use they are known to emit far more than their rating).

Yet we allow them to run for hours on end, right where we live, play and go to school.

Climate, Freshwa



[www.breathecleanair.ca](http://www.breathecleanair.ca)

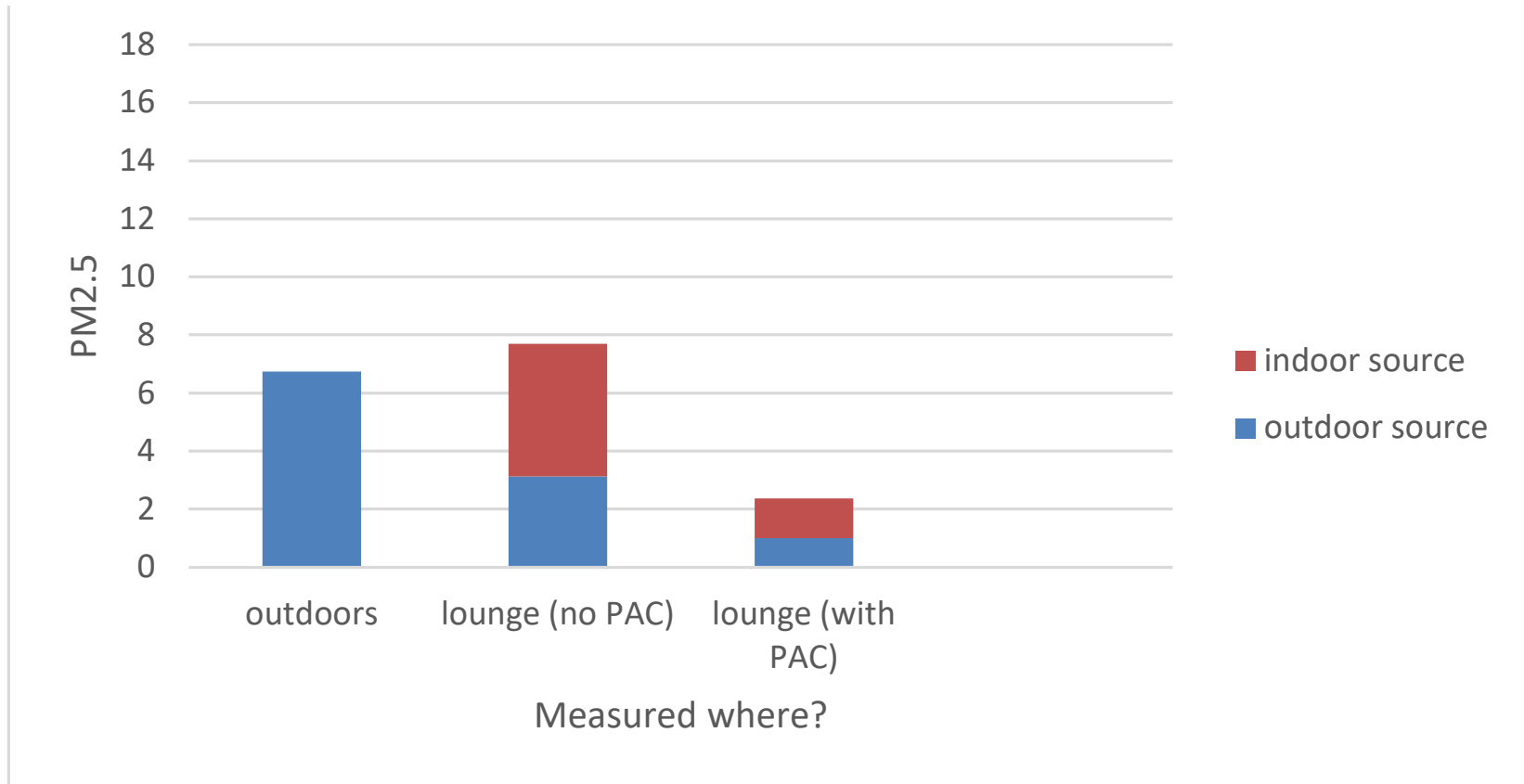


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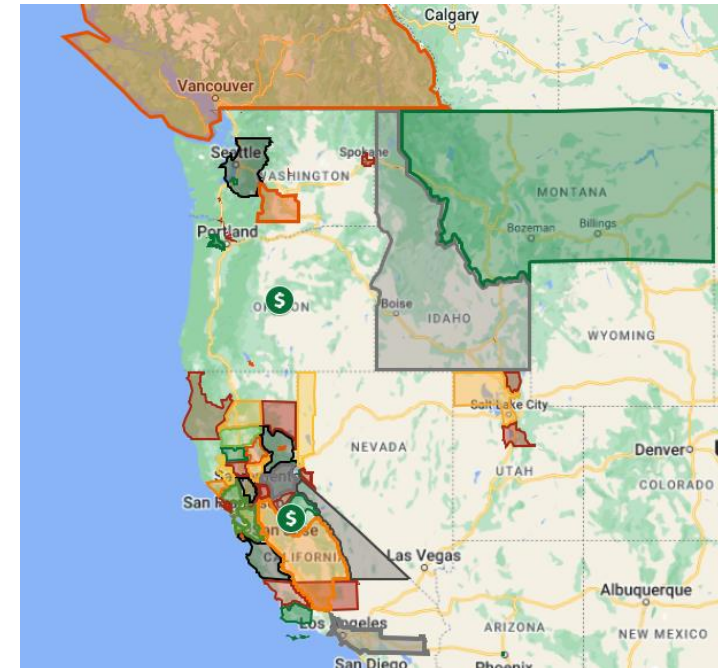
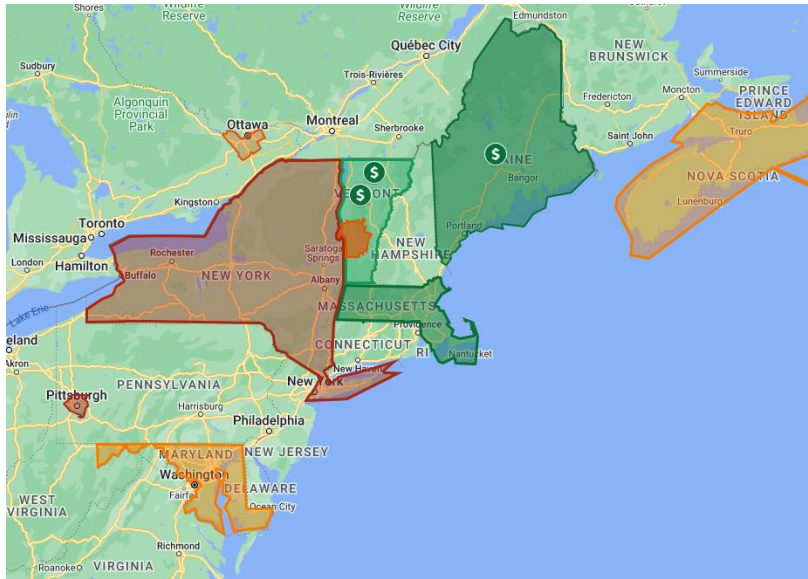
# PM from Home Heating - Mitigation

- Reduced emissions:
  - Don't burn
  - Burn better (dry wood, pellets, ULEBs)
  - Improve insulation
  - Chimney filtration
- Reduced exposure:
  - Higher chimneys
  - Improved or optimised ventilation
  - Use indoor air filtration

# Portable Air Cleaners reduce indoor PM by 50 – 90 % in NZ homes

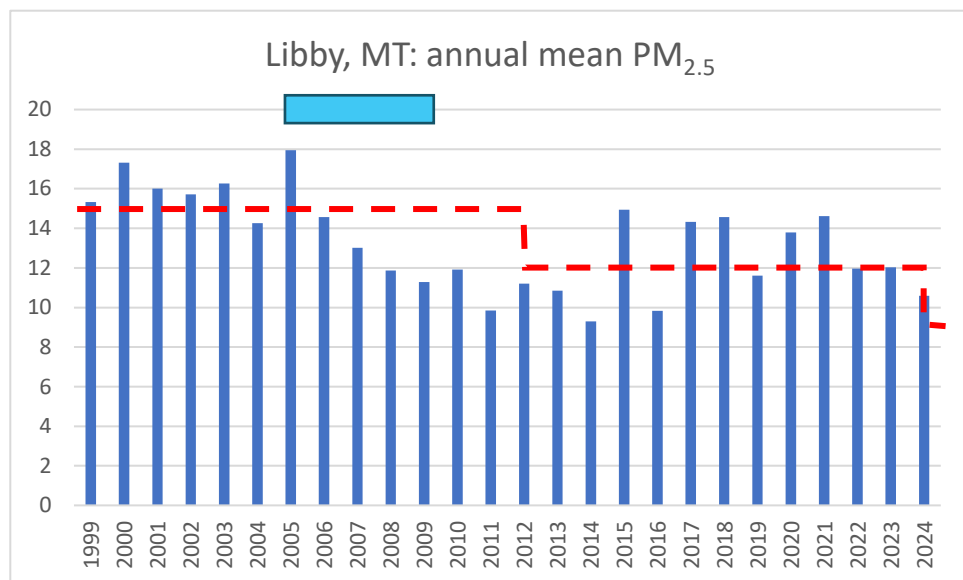


# Woodstove changeout programs in the North America



- Fully funded in some areas

# Libby, MT – a cautionary tale



- US\$1M fund to replace nearly all woodstoves over 3 years
- 72 % replaced with low-emission woodstove
- PM<sub>2.5</sub> dropped by ~30 %
- (small study suggested indoor PM dropped more)
- Libby still does NOT meet recently tightened US *annual* PM<sub>2.5</sub> standards
- Libby has NEVER met US *daily* PM<sub>2.5</sub> standards
- Should money have been spent on cleaner heat solutions?



# Thanks for your attention

# Health impacts of exposure to particulate air pollution

**Presentation to West Coast Regional Council workshop**

**Dr Cheryl Brunton, Medical Officer of Health, West Coast**

**15<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

# Introduction

- Clean air is vital for human health and wellbeing. New Zealand has good air quality in most places, most of the time
- We can smell, taste, feel and see when the air around us isn't clean
- Understanding how much air pollution people are experiencing (their exposure) is important to understanding potential health impacts

# Sources of air pollution in NZ

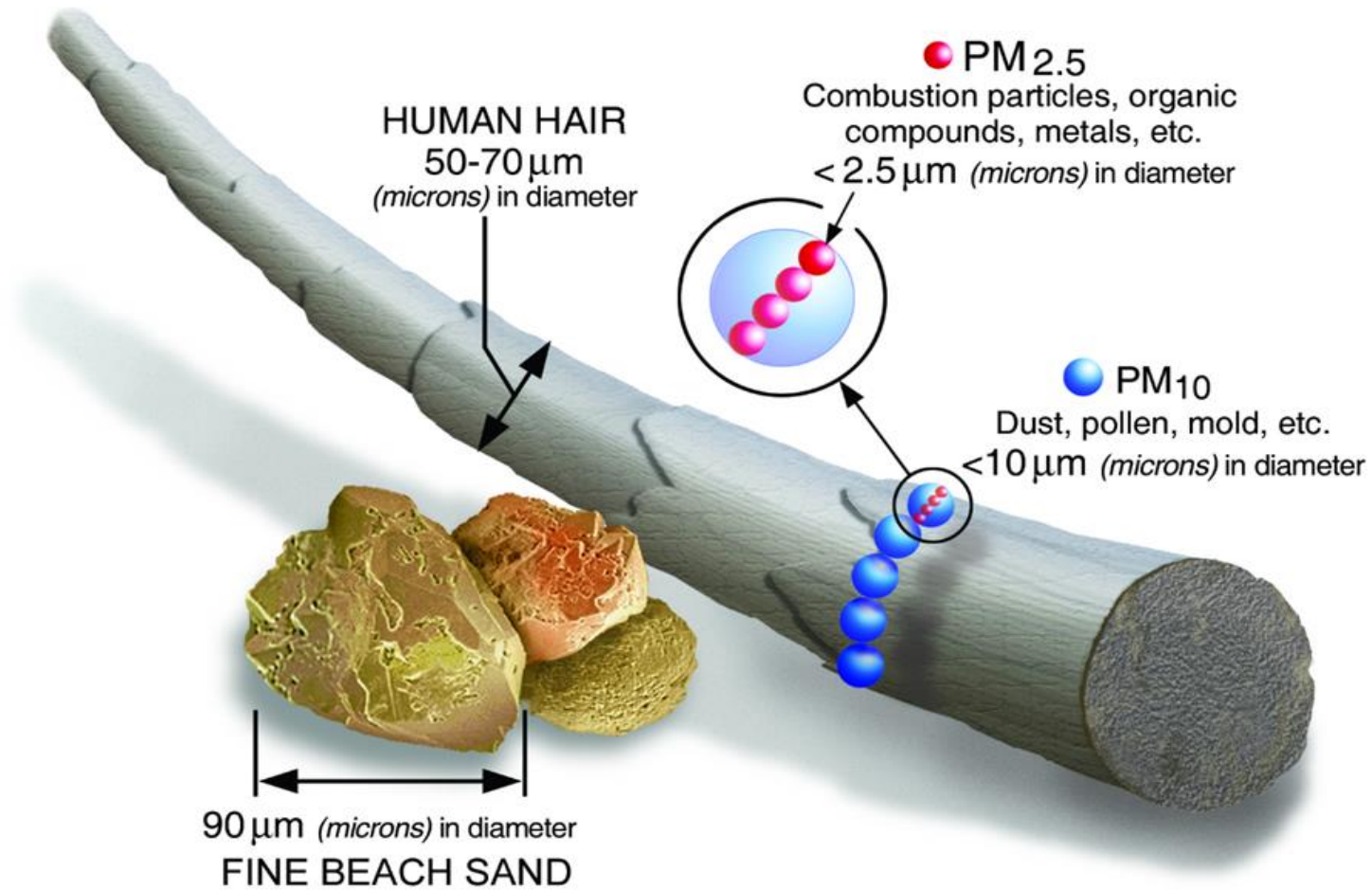
The main sources of air pollution in New Zealand are:

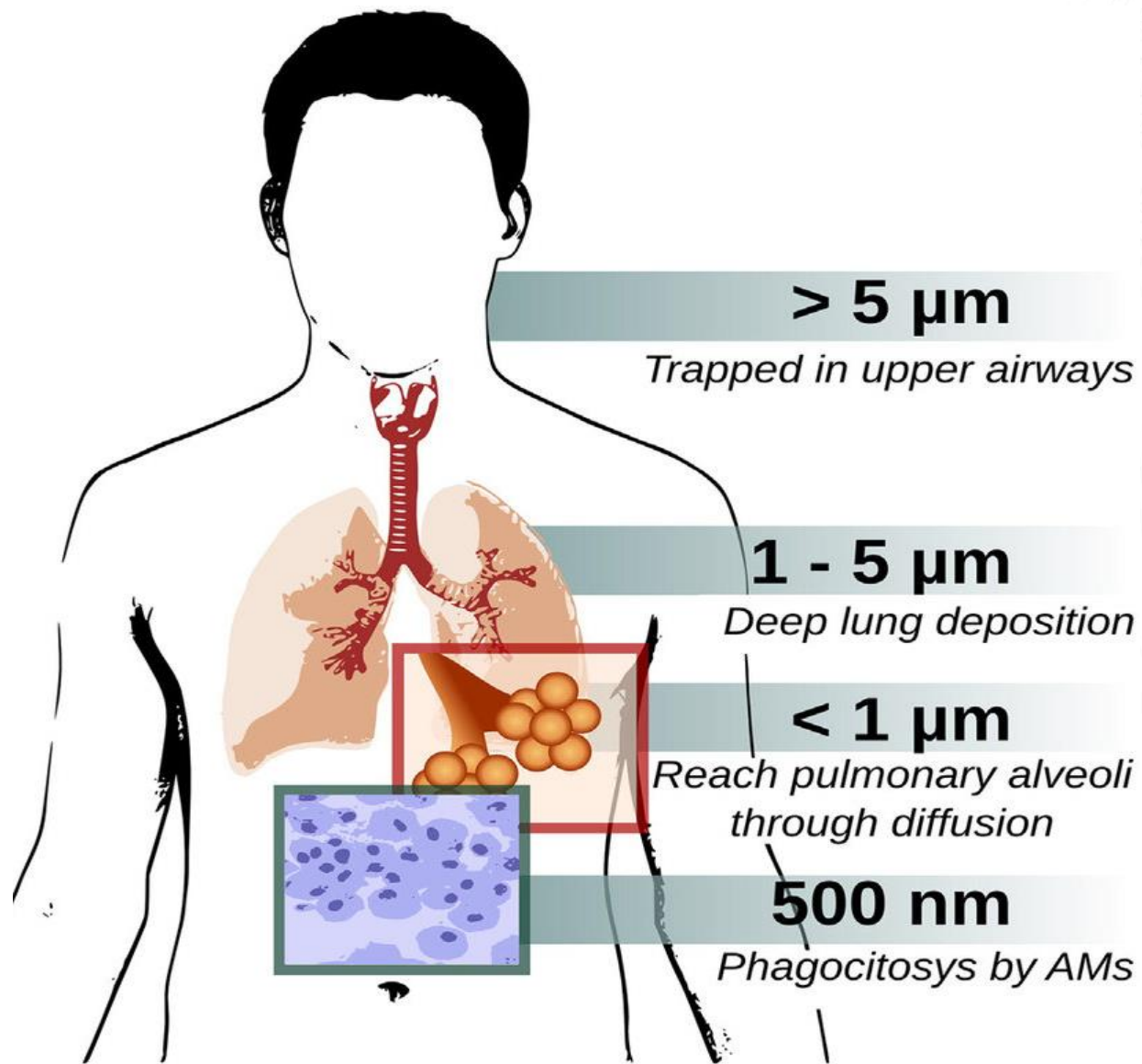
- wood and coal fires (for home heating)
- motor vehicles
- industry
- open burning
- natural sources

# Indoor air



# Particulates





# Health impacts of exposure to particulates

- Short-term and long-term exposure to  $PM_{10}$  and  $PM_{2.5}$  is associated with a wide range of health impacts
- Mild impacts include shortness of breath or coughing. More severe impacts include premature death from cardiovascular and respiratory problems and an increased risk of lung cancer
- Exposure to  $PM_{10}$  can also worsen asthma symptoms. Exposure to  $PM_{2.5}$  is associated with asthma, diabetes and adverse birth outcomes such as low birth weight, preterm birth and small-for-gestational-age births
- Children, pregnant women, the elderly, and people with pre-existing conditions such as cardiovascular or respiratory diseases are particularly vulnerable to health impacts from PM air pollution



# Who's vulnerable on the West Coast?

- On the West Coast, at the last census, there were
  - 5,604 people (17%) aged 15 and under
  - 6,204 people (19.6%) aged 65 and over
- There were 270 live births in the last year (2023)
- One in seven children and one in eight adults have asthma
- In the YTD since July 2023, the West Coast PHO's long term conditions programme has carried out annual reviews for
  - 392 people with COPD
  - 810 people with cardiovascular disease
- All these vulnerabilities are heightened by living in deprived communities

# HAPINZ 3.0

The updated HAPINZ study aimed to address the following:

- Pollutants: PM<sub>2.5</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub>
- Sources of air pollution considered: domestic fires, vehicle emissions, wind-blown dust, industry, and natural sources (sea spray/soil)
- Health outcomes: premature death, hospitalisations, restricted activity days, years of life lost, asthma
- Costs: social costs of air pollution
- Impacts: assessed at the national, regional, territorial authority and airshed level
- Investigate the impact on the total population, and on Māori and Pacific peoples.

<https://www.ehinz.ac.nz/projects/hapinz3/about-hapinz-3-0/>

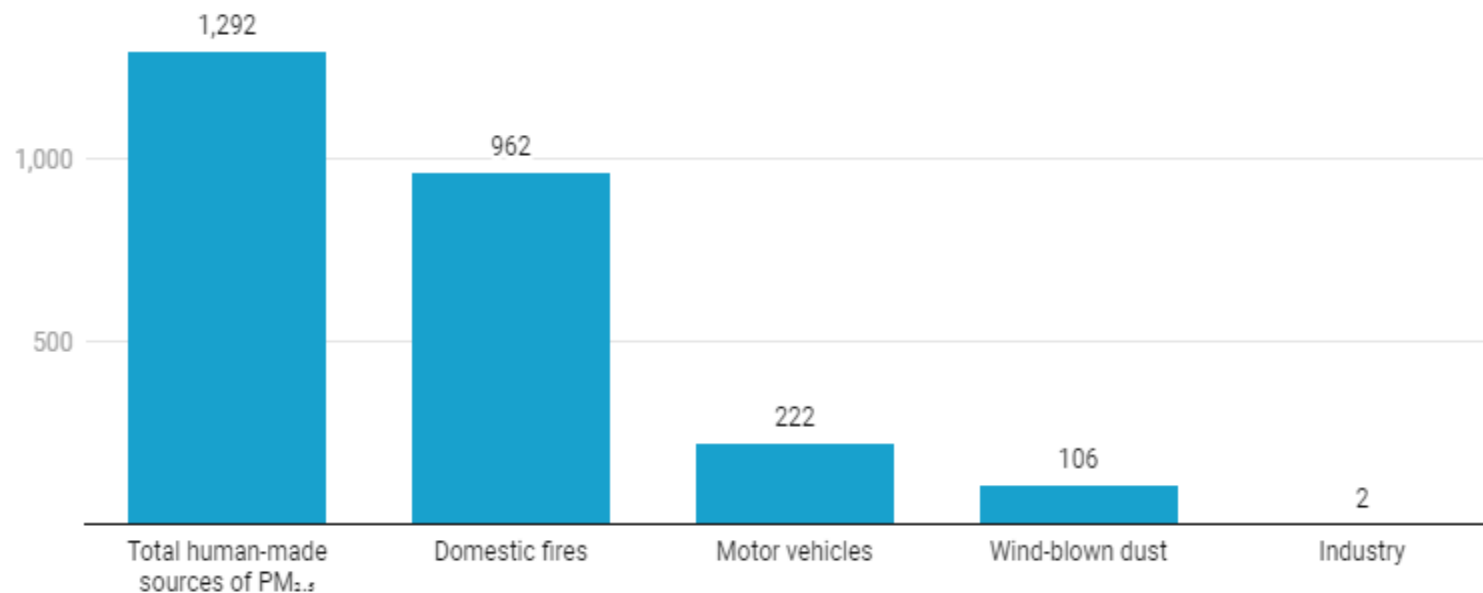
# For NZ as a whole

In 2016, human-made (anthropogenic) PM<sub>2.5</sub> air pollution in New Zealand caused an estimated:

- 1,292 premature deaths (in people aged 30+ years)
- 4,626 hospitalisations for cardiovascular and respiratory disease
- About 1.75 million restricted activity days (days on which people could not do the things they might otherwise have done if air pollution had not been present).
- If there was no PM<sub>2.5</sub> from human-made sources in New Zealand, then almost 1,300 deaths would have been avoided in 2016.
- The 1,292 premature deaths included 118 deaths among Māori, and 46 deaths among Pacific peoples.

# Domestic fires were the largest contributor to health impacts of PM<sub>2.5</sub>

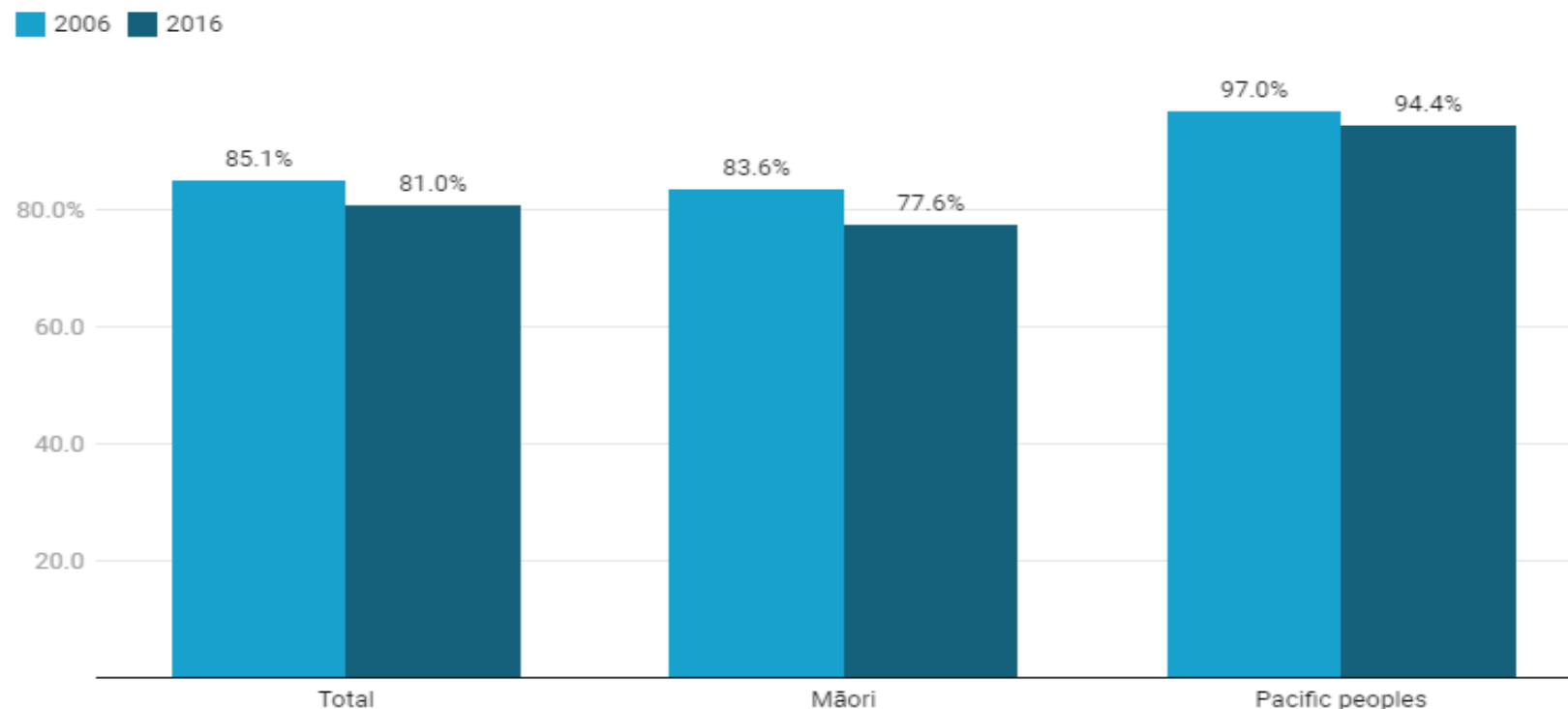
Figure 1: Number of premature deaths due to PM<sub>2.5</sub> air pollution in New Zealand in 2016, by source of air pollution (people aged 30+ years)



Source: HAPINZ 3.0 • [Get the data](#) • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

# Most NZers are exposed to PM<sub>2.5</sub> at greater than recommended levels

Figure 4: Percentage of population living in areas with PM<sub>2.5</sub> higher than the WHO 2021 guidelines (5µg/m<sup>3</sup>), total population and by ethnic group, 2006 and 2016



Source: HAPINZ 3.0 • [Get the data](#) • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

# HAPINZ Dashboard

<https://www.ehinz.ac.nz/projects/hapinz3/hapinz-3-0-dashboard/>

**HAPINZ 3.0 WEBSITE**

**Health and Air Pollution in New Zealand (HAPINZ) 3.0 Study**

The HAPINZ 3.0 study assessed the health impacts of air pollution in New Zealand for 2016. This dashboard lets you explore key findings from HAPINZ 3.0, by territorial authority.

You can explore:

- Health impacts from fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) and nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) in 2005 and 2016
- Health impacts by source of pollution (domestic fires and motor vehicles)
- Exposure to poor air quality (PM<sub>2.5</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub> above the World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines for 2005 and 2021), for the total population and for Māori and Pacific peoples
- Factors influencing air quality, including wood and coal fires for heating

Data are available for both counts and rates per population.

The HAPINZ 3.0 study was carried out by a team of researchers from several organizations, led by Dr Genta Kuscher (Emission Impossible Ltd). The results were published in July 2022.

\*Note on classification: Five quartiles have been used to classify the data. This type of classification is useful for showing rankings and central data and allows classes so that the total number of features in each class is approximately the same.

Share

**Health impacts from human-made (anthropogenic) air pollution | Premature deaths (among people aged 30+ years) | Premature deaths due to human-made PM<sub>2.5</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub> | Number of deaths (2016)**

Territorial Authority

- 1 - 7
- 8 - 14
- 15 - 29
- 30 - 55
- 56 - 920
- Not Available

**Download data**

Topic:

Health impacts from human-made (anthropogenic) air pollution

Premature deaths (among people aged 30+ years)

Premature deaths due to human-made PM<sub>2.5</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub>

Indicator:

Number of deaths

Date(s):

2016

**Territorial Authority | Number of deaths (2016)**

Auckland District	25
Auckland	880
Baker District	6
Canterbury District	5
Central Otago District	7
Central Otago District	16
Chatham Islands Territory	Not Available
Christchurch City	462
Dalby District	14
Devon City	128
Far North District	31
Goldstone District	33
Goa District	33
Grey District	12
Hamilton City	100
Headings District	28
Hawke's Bay District	33
Hokitika District	33
Horsemeat District	4
Invercargill City	74
Kaitiaki District	3

Clear All | Filter On

# West Coast deaths and hospitalisations

Premature Deaths (aged 30+)		Hospitalisations for cardiovascular and respiratory conditions		Hospitalisations for cardiovascular conditions		Hospitalisation for respiratory conditions	
All air pollution	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	All air pollution	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	All air pollution	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	All air pollution	PM <sub>2.5</sub>
27	16	79	47	37	28	42	19

# Other findings for West Coast

- **Restricted activity days due to PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure**  
15, 471
- **Social costs**  
All air pollution - \$125,028,761  
PM<sub>2.5</sub> - \$77,323,932



# Final thoughts

- Clean air is vital for human health and wellbeing
- Unhealthy air affects everyone who breathes
- The health impacts of particulate and other air pollution are significant
- Working together to reduce air pollution from domestic heating and improving air quality helps West Coasters





**Questions?**

**WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**To: Chair, West Coast Resource Management Committee**

*I move that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely – **item 10 and 11 (all inclusive)** due to privacy and commercial sensitivity reasons and that:*

- 1. Darryl Lew and Jo Field, be permitted to remain at this meeting after the public have been excluded due to their knowledge of the subjects. This knowledge will be of assistance in relation to the matters to be discussed; and*
  
- 2. That the minute taker also be permitted to remain.*

<b>Item No</b>	<b>General Subject of each matter to be considered</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>	<b>Ground(s) under section 7 of LGOIMA for the passing of this resolution</b>
10.1	Confidential Minutes of Meeting – 7 May 2024	The item contains information relating to commercial, privacy and security matters	To protect commercial and private information and to prevent disclosure of information for improper gain or advantage (s7(2)(a), s7(2)(b), and s7(2)(j)).
11	Actions List	The item contains information relating to commercial, privacy and security matters	To protect commercial and private information and to prevent disclosure of information for improper gain or advantage (s7(2)(a), s7(2)(b), and s7(2)(j)).