

6.17 NZTA Audits

The Whangarei District Council has been subject to several NZTA audits and assessments over the past two years. The results of these audits have generally been very positive with very few issues being raised.

A summary of these audits and the actions being undertaken in responses to any feedback is detailed below:

NZTA Partnership Assessment Tool (PAT)

Audit Date: October 2015

Auditor: Martin Taylor

Question	Issues	Risk Assessment	Recommendations	WDC Action
Q.1	Relationship Assessment	Low	Northland Collaboration (plus discussions around finances with Inland Freight route being removed from WDC network)	WDC has joined the Northland Transport Alliance and has agreed the savings with NZTA due to the handover of the Mangakahia/Otaika Valley route.
Q.2	Financial Management Assessment	Low-Medium	Lessons learned from last quarter 14/15 for financial management process. Lessons learned from Mill Nixon project CSA.	WDC is currently strengthening its financial forecasting both internally and with its contractors so that costs are kept within the budgets. WDC will develop projects to a more detailed design and have construction estimates before a funding application for
Q.3	Technical Assessment (Planning)	Low	None.	None Required
Q.4	Technical Assessment (Activity Management)	V. Low - Low	Ongoing improvements to AMP to demonstrate; best practice, value for money and business case approach. Deliver good practice with Minor Improvement programming and delivery. Dust monitoring equipment for Wright road to measure effect of intervention.	WDC is currently developing a business case in line with REG's best practice and value for money principles. WDC has developed and is delivering a prioritised Minor Improvements programme which targets improvements to high risk rural roads, high risk intersections, bridge replacements and resilience improvements. WDC is current working with NZTA using the dust risk assessment process.
Q.5	Technical Assessment (Capital Improvements)	Low-Medium	Business Case for LED improvement project. BCA for Whangarei Intersection improvement projects. Develop a robust project delivery plan to ensure completion of Cycleway projects before June 2018.	WDC is currently finalising its business case for the LED streetlight project. Being developed as part of the Whangarei Transportation Strategy business case. WDC has developed a detailed delivery plan for the Kamo UCP cycleway and is currently working through the Kiwirail approval process.

NZTA Technical Audit

Audit Date: February 2016

Auditor: Tony Lange

Question	Issues	Risk Assessment	Risk	Recommendations	WDC Action	Suggestions	WDC Action
Q.1	Network Management	Green		That Council implements the Present Value case study for improved option analysis available from the REG website (link above) That Whangarei District Council develops a policy for the management and control of stock crossings and ensures an audit programme is established to monitor compliance.	WDC has implemented the principals of the REG Present Value case study in its assessment of the 2016/17 rehabilitation programme. Council has in place a Stock Control Bylaw that details the requirements management of stock crossings. Council accepts the need for more auditing of existing crossings to push the upgrading and compliance.	That Council increase cross-fall at the interface between seal and unsealed surfaces to 5% to reduce maintenance costs.	WDC currently aims for a 6-8% crossfall on any interfaces between sealed and unsealed roads.
Q.2	Asset Management Plan and Land Transport Programme	Green		None	None Required	None	None Required
Q.3	Databases	Green		None	None Required	None	None Required
Q.4	Safety Performance	Amber	Low	That council adopt the practice of installing a "mountable culvert headwall" to mitigate the risk of run of road crashes as part of its renewal programme	WDC is incorporating mountable culvert headwalls and traversable side slopes in its renewals wherever practical.	That Council modify its night inspection criteria to include Council staff as part of the audit process	WDC will aim to incorporate council staff on the night time inspections.

NZTA Investment Audit

Audit Date: August 2016

Auditor: Yolanda Macale

Question	Issues	Risk Assessment	Recommendations	WDC Action	Suggestions	WDC Action
Q.1	Previous Audit Issues	Low	None	None Required	None	None Required
Q.2	Financial Management	Low	None	None Required	None	None Required
Q.3	Procurement	Medium	Incorporate a late tendering policy in all contracts, and expands the provision on late tenders in its procurement manual to include clear guidelines to staff on how to deal with late tenders.	WDC's standard contract specification template currently includes the appropriate late tender clause. WDC's procurement strategy is currently under review as part of the Northland Transport Alliance procurement strategy review. Clear guidelines outlining the process for dealing with late tenders will be included in the procurement strategy update.	WDC finalises its draft Contracts Procedures Manual Changes all reference to 'Transit New Zealand Competitive Pricing Procedures Manual' in its procurement manual and all ongoing and future contracts to 'New Zealand Transport Agency Procurement Manual'.	WDC will look to finalise its Contracts Procedures Manual. WDC will make this change to its standard contract template so that all future contracts will include reference to the 'New Zealand Transport Agency Procurement Manual'.
Q.4	Contract Management	Low	None	None Required	None	None Required
Q.5	Professional Services	Low	None	None Required	None	None Required
Q.6	Multi-Party Agreements	Low	None	None Required	None	None Required

Source: Whangarei District Council Transportation AMP 2018-2048