

JOB DESCRIPTION
Approved April 2025

Title & Reporting Relationships

Position Title: **Te Kaitohutohu Rautaki - Rangahau me te Kaupapa Here, Strategic Advisor, Research and Policy, Strategy and Growth (S&G)**

Grade: SP 16-17*
**appointment will be made pending skills, experience and the organisational needs at the time*

Reports to: Research and Policy Manager

Indirect Reports: As may be required pending the nature of a project or specific section of work programme

Purpose of the Group and the Position: The **Strategy and Growth Group** comprises: Strategy; Research and Policy; Strategic Development; District Planning, Resource Contents and Planning; and Building.

The Group is responsible for the policy, research and strategy work program, district planning, our response to coastal erosion, strategic property matters, strategic growth initiatives, strategic housing matters, economic development including tourism support activities, and resource and building consenting. The teams within this Group will work collaboratively together and across the organisation to ensure we support 'good growth' and that we work across the organisation and community to support sustainable development.

In this Group, the Strategic Advisor role works within the Research and Policy team to provide high quality advice and insights to our decision makers and the wider organisation that challenge our assumptions about tomorrow, to support better decision making today. The team works together to ensure that effective and fit for purpose research, policy formulation, and strategic planning.

The role will include the opportunity to contribute to a range of strategic projects and processes, develop and articulate clear strategic documents, advise on and facilitate the delivery of other Council led/partnered projects. It will also involve contributing systems-thinking and foresights to support the Districts sustainable growth into the future.

The role will require engagement with various stakeholders and communities of interest, working closely with the wider council

teams and other technical experts to deliver sustainable outcomes.

Key to success in this role will require being responsive, naturally adaptable, have effective and professional communication and relationship management skills, and the ability to work collaboratively across a range of teams within the organisation, joining the dots and finding the opportunities and simplifying complexity to make strategic concepts accessible to everyone.

This role is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective, co-operative, and professional working relationships with all stakeholders including:

Internal Customers:

- Research and Policy Manager
- Group Manager Strategy & Growth
- S&G Senior Management Team
- Other teams within the Strategy & Growth Group
- Chief Executive and SLT
- Staff from teams across the organisation

External Customers:

Wider stakeholders will also likely include:

- Our iwi partners - Te Ati Awa ki Whakarongotai, Ngāti Toa Rangatira, and Ngā Hapu o Ōtaki
- Greater Wellington Regional Council, and staff in other local authorities and government
- Local and Central Government agencies
- Business groups and leaders
- Community groups
- Specialist advisors

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES AND OUTCOMES

In the current local government environment, Council must be well positioned and supported to meet the current and future needs of our communities for good quality local physical and social infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is cost-effective for businesses and residents. The Council needs to be ready for, and respond appropriately to, changes in external operating environments (such as shifts in government policy), which in turn influences how we do things. The Council is working to be well-positioned not only to see what is coming but also to take opportunities to influence the shape of these externally driven changes.

We require all staff to demonstrate behaviours that underscore our commitment to build and maintain an organisation that is acknowledged and respected for being:

- Caring – we understand our customers' needs, share information and work as a team;
- Dynamic – we bring a can-do attitude to make it happen; and
- Effective – we get it right and deliver consistent, value for money services.

Staff will be aware of political sensitivities, support equal employment opportunities, and demonstrate an understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi within the context of a local authority.

Functional Key Requirements

Technical

The Strategic Advisor role will provide leadership through strategic advice and support on emerging issues, new initiatives and strategy development. The role will focus on leading and supporting the delivery of strategic projects that sit with the Research and Policy Team including but not limited to:

- the blueprint and masterplanning processes supporting Vision Kāpiti,
- the Ōtaki Priority Development Area, and
- the Policy and Research Work Programmes.

The role will be required to:

- Bring a systems-thinking focus to problem solving and exploration of opportunities.
- Provide robust advice on strategic issues to support decision making by the senior leadership team and elected members to ensure Council is well positioned to meet future challenges.
- Support programme and project management of complex and challenging work, bringing people, feedback and processes together and providing simple, clear and easy solutions to the table.
- Accurately and clearly communicate advice to internal and external customers and stakeholders.
- Contribute to the development of fit-for-purpose strategic documents and approaches across the organisation.

Personal Key Results

- Demonstrate commitment to organisational values through behaviour that is consistent with our caring, dynamic and effective approach to customer service.
- Establish and maintain effective and efficient working relationships with all stakeholders.
- Contribute collaboratively, positively, and effectively to the operation of the team, the Group, and the organisation as a whole.
- Take responsibility for your own self-development to enhance skills and knowledge applicable to current and future positions.
- Exhibit behavior which is consistent with the understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and its application for the Council.

Health and Safety

All employees have a responsibility to work towards keeping a safe and healthy work environment by following all safe work methods, identifying work place risks and hazards and using appropriate safety equipment. This includes but is not exclusive to demonstration of the following:

- Taking all reasonable steps to ensure your own safety at work, and that no action or inaction of yours while at work causes harm to any person or the environment;
- Reporting any risks and/or hazards you become aware of in the workplace;
- Observing all safety policies, procedures and precautions, including wearing and using the protective clothing and equipment;
- Notifying your manager/Group Manager/H&S Advisor immediately if you have an accident/incident/near miss at work and completing the required forms within 24 hours;
- Notifying your manager/Group Manager/H&S Advisor within 24 hours of filing any ACC claim for a work related accident or gradual process injury, and provide your manager/Group Manager/H&S Advisor with copies of relevant medical information specific to your claim; and
- Complying with all policies and procedures that are in place.

At the discretion of the Council, as part of a rehabilitation programme, you may be required to return to work to undertake such alternative duties as are available and are as reasonably within your capability and level of fitness as determined in consultation with a registered medical practitioner.

Essential Skills, Knowledge and Experience

- Bring a systems-thinking focus to problem solving and exploration of opportunities.
- High level of political nous and ability to exercise good judgement.
- Demonstrated strong analytical and problem-solving skills and comfortable working with ambiguity and able to bring structure to complex issues.
- Strong communication skills both oral and written.
- Demonstrated programme and project management experience, and in bringing people, feedback and processes together to provide simple, clear and easy solutions to the table to support getting things done.
- Effective interpersonal skills with a demonstrated commitment to customer service and willingness to and capability for working with a wide range of people within and outside the organisation.
- Demonstrated relevant experience working with local government and navigating agency and government perspectives.
- Demonstrated breadth and depth of knowledge and experience of related strategy and policy areas.
- Ability to maintain a wide network of relationships across the Council and relevant external stakeholders.
- Fantastic relationship management skills to build and maintain good, professional working relationships with key stakeholders and all customers.
- Effective time management skills and ability to work effectively without supervision and collaboratively as an effective team member.
- Holder of a current and valid NZ Drivers' licence.

OTHER INFORMATION

From time to time, the position holder may be required to perform other duties in conjunction with the role and which are reasonably within their experience and capabilities.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi

Kapiti Coast District Council has a responsibility to contribute to meeting obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Meeting our commitment to Te Tiriti will contribute towards creating an organisation that is grounded, dynamic and resilient and supports our organizational values of being Caring, Dynamic and Effective in how we work.

Staff will contribute to the promotion of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the involvement of Māori within the decision-making process for matters related to and important to them within the Council management processes and procedures.

Inclusion of Te Tiriti o Waitangi within all aspects of the role and its outcomes is necessary, while ensuring the engagement processes include appropriate mechanisms to meet the needs and aspirations of our hapori Māori, informed by our mana whenua partners – in an appropriate and safe manner.

To give effect to our responsibilities and achieve our respective outcomes – Tiriti training will be appropriate and organised through Te Rōpū Hononga ā-Iwi / Iwi Partnerships Group.

Civil Defence, Emergency Management and Business Continuity Duties

All staff of Kāpiti Coast District Council may be required to undertake Civil Defence and/or Emergency Management duties in the event of an emergency. (Training will be given as appropriate.) Staff will also be required to assist with maintaining business continuity in the event of a disruption to Council business and/or the impact of a pandemic by undertaking duties in accordance with how the Council responds to the interruption.

The Council likewise recognises the staff member's need to ensure their family's needs are adequately catered for.

Performance Review

Performance in this position will be assessed in terms of an agreed performance plan.

JD APPENDIX - GENERIC ORGANISATIONAL COMPETENCIES

Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All employees of the Council are expected to be leaders in supporting the Council's vision, role modelling the delivery of consistent high customer service levels to internal and external customers and championing Council values. • Leaders are expected to actively contribute to achieving the Council's aspirations with respect to the relationships with Te Āti Awa ki Whakarongotai, Ngāti Toa Rangatira and Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki; and be willing and able to provide thought leadership and quality advice to enable our elected members to make good decisions. • People Leaders are expected to: effectively build and maintain an engaged, healthy, thriving and high performing team; ensure their people are current in their knowledge of legislation and training is available to keep pace with best practice. • Ensure people policy and practices are consistently observed and implemented and opportunities exist for ongoing professional growth and development; ensure their people are consistently working collaboratively with other Council teams in the delivery of operational and strategic outputs; effectively manage day to day work output and timeframes; schedule and conduct regular team meetings to enable opportunities for team members to be informed and up to date in their areas and those areas that cross over with other teams. • Ensure individual team member performance is monitored, reviewed with appropriate and timely feedback, and written performance reviews are formally completed in a timely manner; ensure adequate provision of backup/cover for team members; establish an effective performance culture within their team, including ongoing performance appraisals with clear performance indicators and consistent standards. • Team Leaders/Supervisors/Managers are accountable for the leadership, support and coaching of their team members, the fostering of a teamwork approach to the delivery of both the team and the Group's outputs, and the identification of training and development as appropriate; enable, create and encourage linkages across the Council and the region for the benefit of all, the delivery of work programmes and the achievement of strategic priorities; embed strong leadership within their team and across the wider Council leadership group that drives increased diversity, engagement, capability and performance.
Legislative Compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep up to date with legislation/amended legislative frameworks and be able to demonstrate the application of such changes (in work and or communicate them to others).
Project Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effectively manage assigned projects to ensure on time and within budget, monitor and report regularly to manage risk and provide updates to key stakeholders. • Ensure documentation is current, available as required and is prepared using Council standard templates/documentation. • Ensure Council processes and procedures are complied with.

Customer Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain a professional, courteous, and helpful attitude to all customers (internal and external) ensuring communication is accurate, succinct and in a manner which promotes customer service excellence and demonstrates organizational values. • Always maintain confidentiality.
Teamwork	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate willingly and positively in the orientation, training and support of new staff in specific areas, providing coaching/buddy support as required. • Provide a contribution to or participate in any projects and initiatives within the Group/organisation where required and the opportunity arises. • Participate in initiatives and contribute suggestions as to improvements and/or efficiencies to enable ongoing quality improvement. • Demonstrate a collaborative working style and participate as a member of the team undertaking all tasks maintaining positive working relationships with other staff members and internal and external customers.
Financial Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all financial activity is conducted in accord with current policy and procedures. • Ensure you work within your financial delegation.
Monitoring and Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure any written reports are produced using Council standard templates and are provided within the required Peer Review timeframes. • Review, monitor and report on activity or projects as required by the manager.
Relationship Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build and maintain effective professional working relationship with all key stakeholders. • Build and maintain effective working relationships with other council staff members based on a collaborative, collegial and cooperative working style.
Information Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take responsibility for ensuring Council information is stored with the appropriate accessibility in the designated systems, using processes and tools as described in the current Information Management Policy.