

Director's message:



E rau rangatira mā tēnā koutou katoa. The entire Waikato region has been experiencing significant growth over the last decade. Cambridge, while traditionally a rural town, is now subject to the same pressures from urban growth that we have seen in Hamilton for some time. There is no sign of this growth slowing down either. While growth is exciting, it also comes with its challenges.

We are planning now to tackle the growth we expect to see and to ensure we have enough space in our schools for our students. This growth plan looks at Cambridge, southeast of Hamilton, and seeks to complement the other growth plans for the Waikato region, including Hamilton West and Te Kauwhata.

We know what is important for our Cambridge community. They have told us they value the natural environment and green space, the history and character of the town, and schools that are accessible and provide opportunities for walking and cycling.

I am very pleased to present the following plan for growth for Cambridge out to 2030. The plan, like our other Ministry growth plans, is holistic and incorporates community aspirations, wellbeing considerations and needs balanced with delivering equitable and excellent outcomes for all New Zealanders.

Noho ora mai

Paula Rawiri

Cambridge's growth story

Cambridge has been earmarked as a priority growth area for the Waikato region through the FutureProof Strategy¹. Since 2009, growth in Cambridge has surpassed expectations, and has now prompted a review of the District's growth strategy.

Greenfields development on the northwest periphery of the town is underway. Council already has the infrastructure in the ground, and is currently re-zoning additional residential land.

Statistics NZ projections show some growth in the Cambridge catchment. Layering the Stats NZ data with our local knowledge and insights, including Council data indicates an additional 7,100 people in Cambridge by 2027, and a doubling in size by 2050 to a population of 30,000². This means an additional 400-600 primary students and 500-1,000 secondary students will need to be accommodated in the urban network by 2031³.

¹ A combined growth strategy for Hamilton City, and Waikato and Waipa Districts.

² 'Waipa 2050 Growth Strategy', (October 2017)

³ 'Cambridge Area Report', (September 2017)

While the wider area is serviced by both rural schools and urban schools, it is the urban schools that are facing considerable pressure. Recently, growth in the Y1-6 population has been at or above the highest growth projections. The urban primary schools have had to managing growth in primary and secondary has been challenging over the past five years.

What have we done so far?

- We have been working with the school leadership in Cambridge for the last two years, both as a collective and as individual schools, on the strategies that can help manage the growth. All of the primary schools in Cambridge have enrolment schemes in place, as does the High School. We are exploring an enrolment scheme with another school.
- The primary school sites in town are reasonably well optimised, with limited options to add significant new capacity.
- Two additional teaching spaces for Cambridge East Primary (\$1 million) are currently under construction. Additional teaching space provision (\$9 million) for Cambridge High School is due to be constructed this year. The redevelopment will add 150 student places to the secondary network.

Planning for short-term growth (3 years)

- By 2021, we anticipate that capacity will need to be increased to accommodate an additional 140 student places in the primary network, a further 70 places at intermediate level, and about 270 student places in the secondary network.
- We know that the Middle School has already reached capacity and additional provision is required to meet the primary cohort coming through. At the primary level, both temporary and permanent accommodation is expected to be required in the next two Budget rounds to accommodate growth until a new school is opened in 2023 (at the earliest).
- But it's not just the schools in town that will grow. We expect that some of the rural schools close to where the planned growth is will also need new capital to increase capacity in the catchment.

Planning for medium-term growth (3-10 years)

By 2031, we expect an additional 400-600 primary and 500-1,000 secondary students within the catchment. Here's how we're planning for this growth:

- Acquisition for a new primary school site on the western side of Cambridge is currently underway. This may be a new primary school, or a relocation and expansion of the existing Hautapu School.
- We are planning to engage with the community later this year to determine what future primary and secondary provision might look like.

- We will engage with the Kāhui Ako and wider community in relation to community preferences and governance for any new schools.
- Significant investment will be required at secondary level between now and 2030. Early discussions are underway with both schools on a range of options. We are also looking to partner with Council for shared use of adjacent reserve land.
- We will continue to monitor rolls and collaborate with Waipa District Council to understand the uptake of future residential growth to ensure a proactive response to growth is provided;

Beyond 2030

Beyond 2030, the student population in the Cambridge catchment is anticipated to grow at a slightly slower rate. Long-term Council projections indicate that the same amount of growth is expected between 2027 and 2050 as is likely between 2018 and 2027.

Site acquisition undertaken to 2021 is anticipated to provide adequate schooling provision to 2043, however further capital expenditure for acquisition could be required post-2030 if the quantum of growth is higher than anticipated.

Māori medium

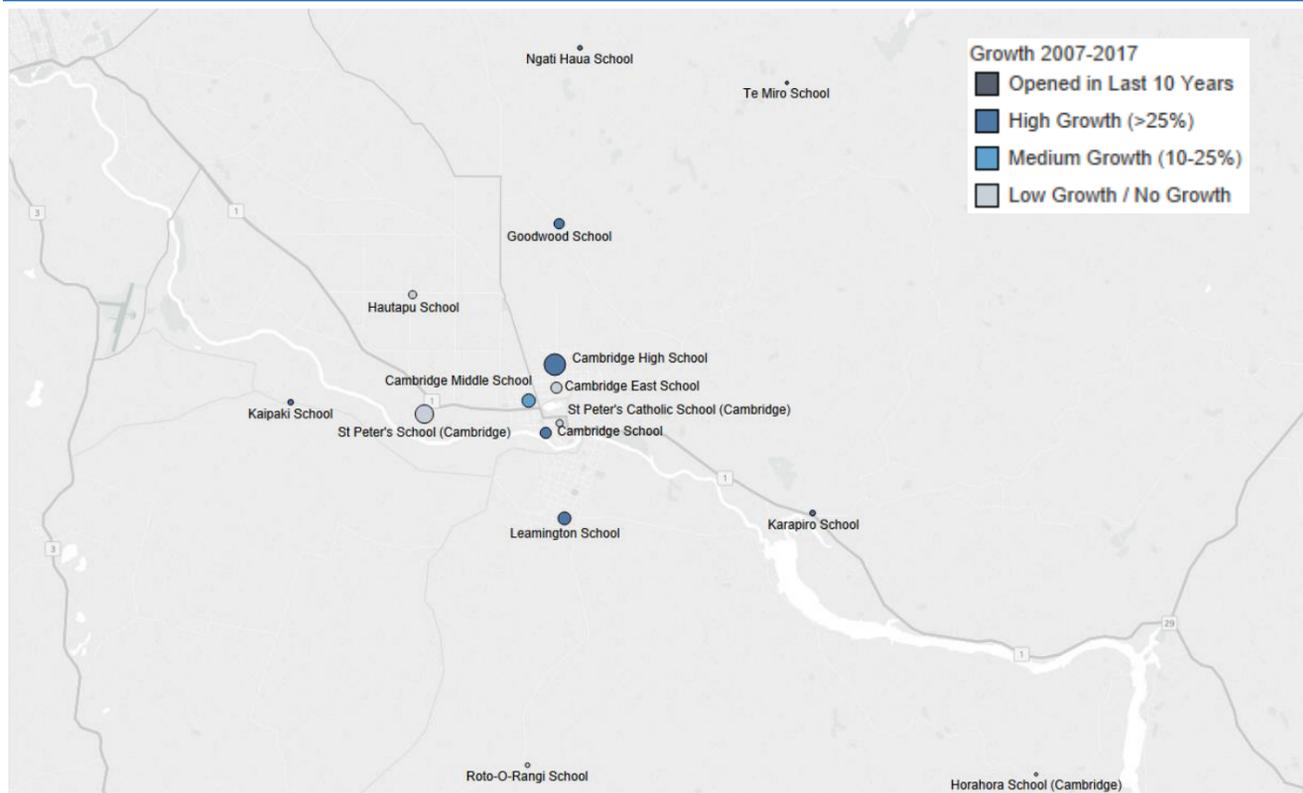
In the Cambridge catchment, there are two kōhanga reo and one Y1-8 kura. There are 93 taura enrolled at the kura. There is no provision for Māori medium beyond Y8 in the Cambridge catchment.

There is currently no network strategy in this area to support seamless provision of total immersion schooling from kōhanga reo to wharekura. We are beginning to look at a plan for Hamilton City that might provide direction for the Cambridge area.

Learning Support

The provision for children who receive ORS funding in the Cambridge catchment is limited. Currently those children enrolled with Patricia Avenue School in Hamilton require transport out of Cambridge for their primary schooling years. Cambridge Middle School is the only school in the catchment that hosts a satellite unit of Patricia Avenue School, and they support children from Y7-10. There are school managed learning support spaces at several other schools including Cambridge High School.

All new schools will be considered for provision for learning support space.



This growth plan covers the Cambridge area in the Waikato education region. In the Cambridge catchment there are 15 schools: 13 state, a state integrated, and a private school; 6 contributing primary schools, 6 full primary, a restricted composite, and 2 secondary schools. As at July 2018, this catchment had a combined **school roll of 5,592 students**, including 77 students in Māori Medium education and 41 ORS students.

What's influencing the Growth Plan

Population growth



» Local schools in established areas have been under increasing pressure from growth in the primary-aged population has been at or above highest growth projections.

Current network will reach full capacity



» The primary schools in Cambridge have experienced pressure on their capacity since at least 2014. Pressure on the secondary network will continue to mount as primary students move into secondary.

Existing site constraints



» Primary school sites are well optimised with limited opportunities for expansion. This challenge underpins our strategic plan for this catchment.

Here's what's already underway that's giving us a head start to meet growth in the region



» Enrolment schemes are in place at most of the schools in this catchment. We are exploring enrolment schemes with schools, as well as monitoring the rolls of other schools.



» We are looking for a site for additional primary school provision in the west of the catchment.



» Funded two teaching spaces at Cambridge East primary, and \$9 million for Cambridge High School redevelopment and capacity increase.

Growth Plan to 2030

2019

2022

2030



Acquire new primary site



Discussion on secondary schooling options



Potential new primary school



140 additional student places at primary by 2021
70 additional student places at intermediate by 2021
270 additional student places at secondary by 2021



» We will explore implementing and amending enrolment schemes as necessary as part of establishing the new primary school, and once the future provision of secondary schooling is determined.



Network solutions

» Develop and consider options with the Cambridge community for how secondary schooling could be structured in the future,



Roll growth funding

» Permanent and temporary accommodation is required at the primary and intermediate level to accommodate roll growth in the immediate term to accommodate growth until a new school is opened in 2023 (at the earliest).
» An additional 270 student places in the secondary network also need to be accommodated prior to 2021.



Establish New Schools

» Acquire new site for primary and assess whether this becomes a new primary school in west Cambridge, or a relocation of the existing Hautapu School.



Expanding Provision Type

» In Cambridge, there is no provision for Māori medium education beyond Y8.
» We are beginning work on a Hamilton City strategy for Māori medium that will provide direction for the Cambridge area.
» Specialist learning support facilities for primary-aged children are only available at Patricia Avenue School, meaning these learners must transport out of Cambridge for this education.
» Cambridge Middle School hosts a satellite of Patricia Avenue School for Y7-10 students.
» All new schools will be considered for provision for learning support space.