



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

30 June 2025

Te Oranganui delighted with 51% support of preferred option

Te Oranganui Trust is elated at the results of the Whanganui District Council survey regarding future plans for the site at 125 Grey Street, Whanganui.

Since the announcement to the public, Te Oranganui has been inundated with nothing but positive feedback and support from whānau, hapū, iwi, local and regional organisations, and the wider community.

We know this is because we are a strong organisation that has been in the community for over 30 years, and because the wider community can see the unique development opportunity that is being offered.

“We truly appreciate the support we have received and can see that a sizeable number of people from the community share our vision for a centrally located wellness hub for all. It is an idea that is growing on people as they realise this exciting possibility.”

More than 800 people took time to ensure complete the survey and to provide their views about the 125 Grey Street property. Fifty-one percent (51%) supported the deconstruction of the current buildings along with a long-term lease to a private developer. The overwhelming result from the public consultation is evidence of a community that is ready to move forward immediately without delay.

Te Oranganui hopes the same enthusiasm will be reflected in the decision by Whanganui District Councillors at the full council meeting on Tuesday, 15 July 2025.

Survey results;

- 51 percent supported deconstructing the buildings and leasing the site to a private developer. Many saw this as a practical way to move forward, with several backing a recently announced proposal by Te Oranganui for a wellness hub.
- 11 percent wanted to sell the land outright to a private developer.
- 4 percent favoured deconstructing the buildings but keeping the site in Council ownership for future use.
- 22 percent wanted to retain and refurbish the buildings believing them to be culturally and historically important. They suggested new uses – such as a hotel, gallery, or community hub. This option could cost up to \$12 million.
- 10 percent had other ideas – specifying potential uses of the sites such as public gardens, co-working spaces or mixed-use precincts.
- 1.5 percent said the council should do nothing.

See here for further information, <https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/Your-Council/News-and-Events/News/More-than-800-people-have-say-on-the-future-of-125-Grey-Street>

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