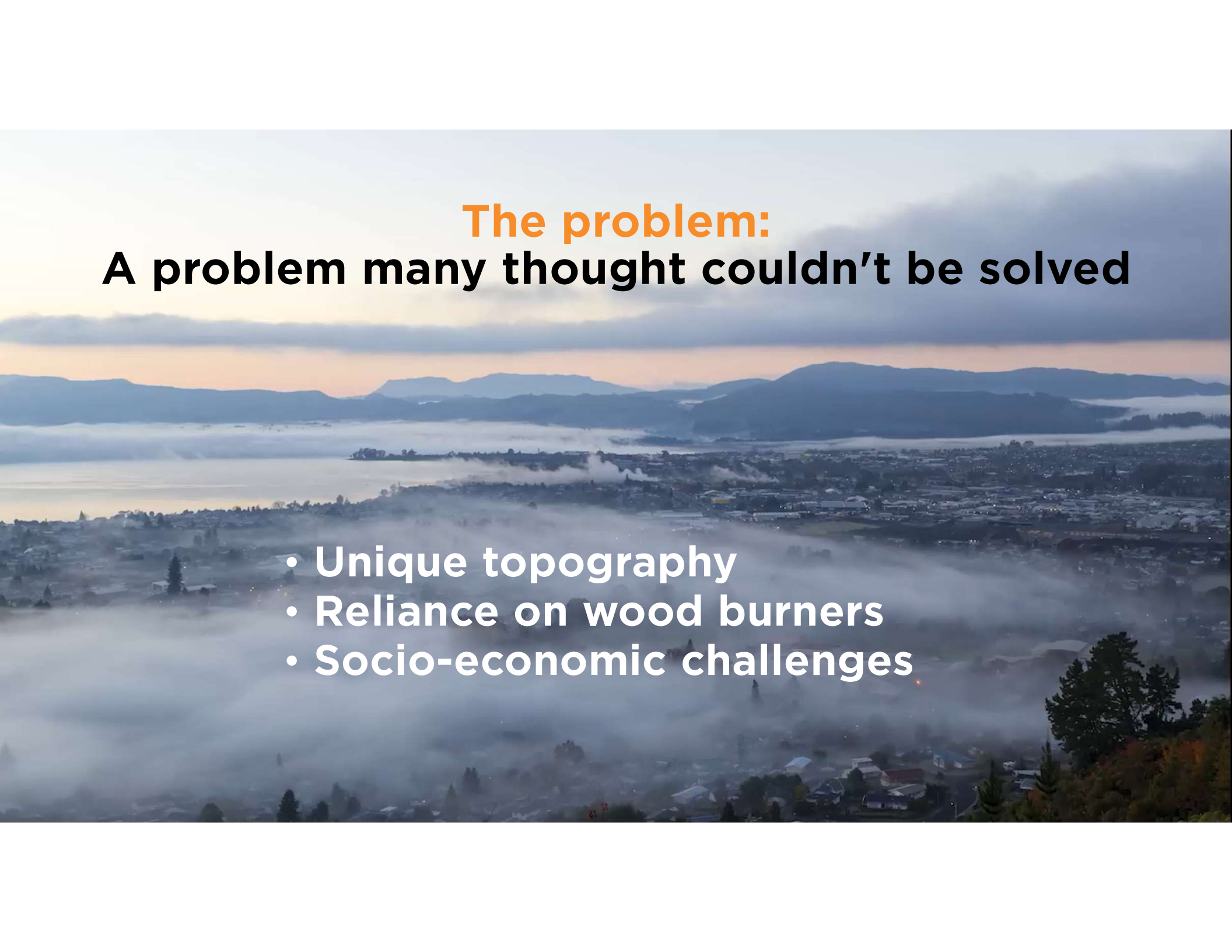




Cleaner Air for Rotorua

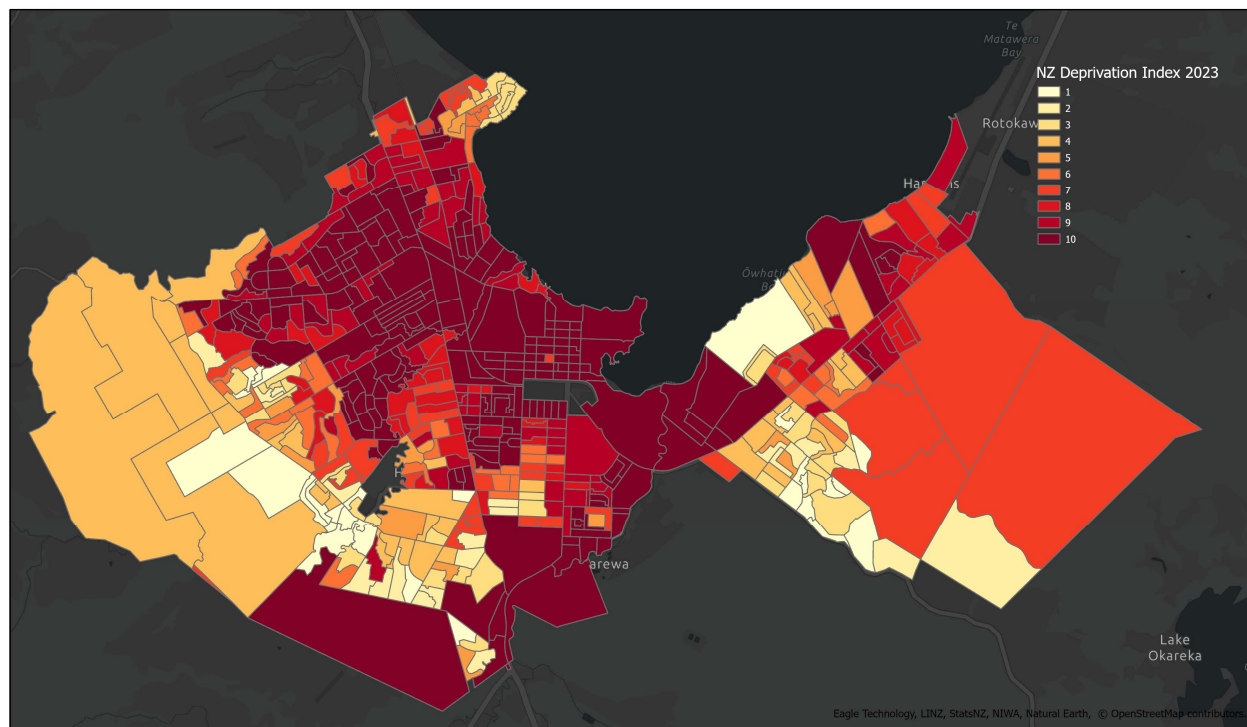
An aerial photograph of a coastal town, likely Victoria, British Columbia, at dusk. The town is nestled in a valley, and the entire area is shrouded in a thick, white fog or smoke that rises from the ground. In the background, there are rolling hills and mountains under a sky with soft, orange and pink hues from the setting or rising sun. The foreground shows some trees and the tops of houses, partially obscured by the low-lying fog.

The problem:

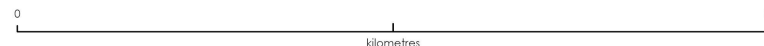
A problem many thought couldn't be solved

- Unique topography
- Reliance on wood burners
- Socio-economic challenges

Understanding the Rotorua Community



Rotorua Airshed: NZ Deprivation Index - 2023



zen_19775
Created 21/05/2026

Why it mattered: More than an environmental issue

Air pollution affects people throughout their lifetime

Pregnancy

- Low birth weight



Children

- Asthma
- Slower development of lung function
- Development problems
- More wheezing and coughs
- Start of atherosclerosis



Adults

- Asthma
- Coronary heart disease
- Stroke
- Lung cancer
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (as chronic bronchitis)
- Diabetes

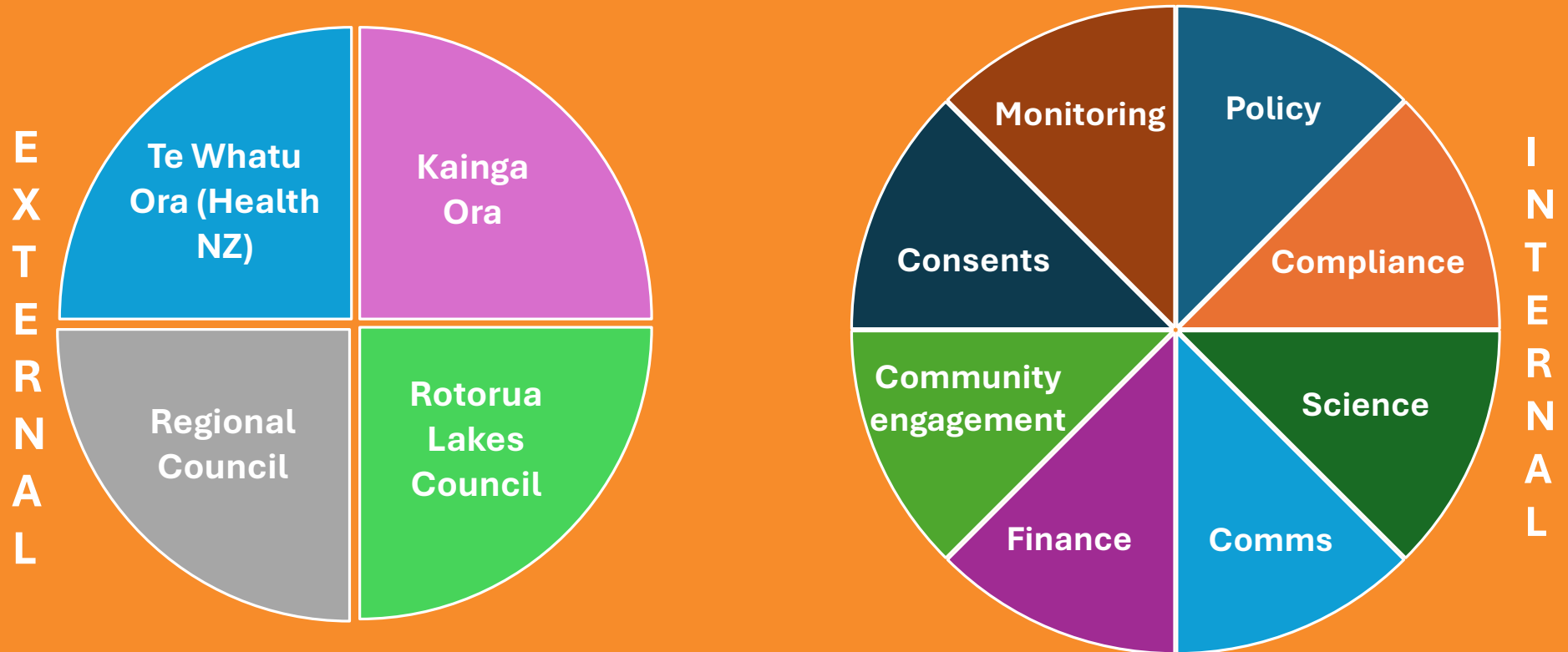


Elderly

- Accelerated decline in lung function
- Lung cancer
- Diabetes
- Dementia
- Heart attack, heart failure and strokes



A Shared response: Working together



The Strategy: The carrot and the stick

- A long game: New rules phased in
- Loans and grants used to support change



Come on Rotorua, let's clean the air.

THE HOT SWAP SCHEME

There is only one winter left to use pre-2006 wood/coal burners. Residents in the Rotorua Airshed can use Regional Council's Hot Swap Scheme to replace their old fire and insulation.

Rotorua has a wintertime air pollution problem mainly caused from the smoke from solid fuel burners, which in turn affects people's health. The older the burner, the more smoke it emits. Rotorua's old burners can be swapped for electric heating, gas and pellet fires, low and ultra-low emission wood burners.

Appliance supply and installation cost goes onto the property rates and can be paid back over ten years.

Some loans are interest-free and some are interest-bearing depending on the type of heating chosen.

To upgrade to the latest heating technology and stay warm this winter, get in contact with the Bay of Plenty Regional Council on 0800 HOT SWAP or visit www.cleanairrotorua.co.nz

Clean Air Rotorua

Come on Rotorua, let's clean the air.

There is just one more winter to use old wood burners before they become illegal.

Old solid fuel burners, multi-fuel burners and coal burners which were installed before September 2005 emit smoky matter into the air causing air pollution and contribute to people's health problems like respiratory issues and asthma. They will be illegal to use in the Rotorua Airshed 2020. Issues and asthma. They will be illegal to use in the Rotorua Airshed 2020.

Bay of Plenty Regional Council has two schemes to help you replace your old fire place with new clean, efficient heating.

To find out about our Low Income Heating Grant and the Hot Swap Scheme, call toll-free between the hours of 8 am to 5 pm, Monday to Friday on 0800 884 880 or visit cleanairrotorua.co.nz

Clean Air Rotorua

What's been done to clean the air in Rotorua?

Since 2010 solid fuel burner regulations have been supported by heating incentive schemes.

Property owners have installed over 5200 compliant wood burners	Property owners have installed 1065 zero emission heaters using the Hot Swap scheme	Over 620 owners have received free replacement heating	Over 1,100 old fires have been removed under the Rotorua Bylaw
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Since 31 January 2020 it is illegal to use any coal burning appliances and wood burners installed before 2006.

Clean Air Rotorua

BAY OF PLENTY REGIONAL COUNCIL
TO Rotorua



Turning Strategy into Action: One burner at a time

2005

8,500
older-style
burners
in use



2010

Rotorua
Air Quality
Control
Bylaw
introduced



**2010
to
2025**

Heating
and
insulation
upgrades
via grants
and loans



**2010
to
2025**

Approx
1,200
Kāinga Ora
home
upgrades



2020

Most
polluting
burners
banned

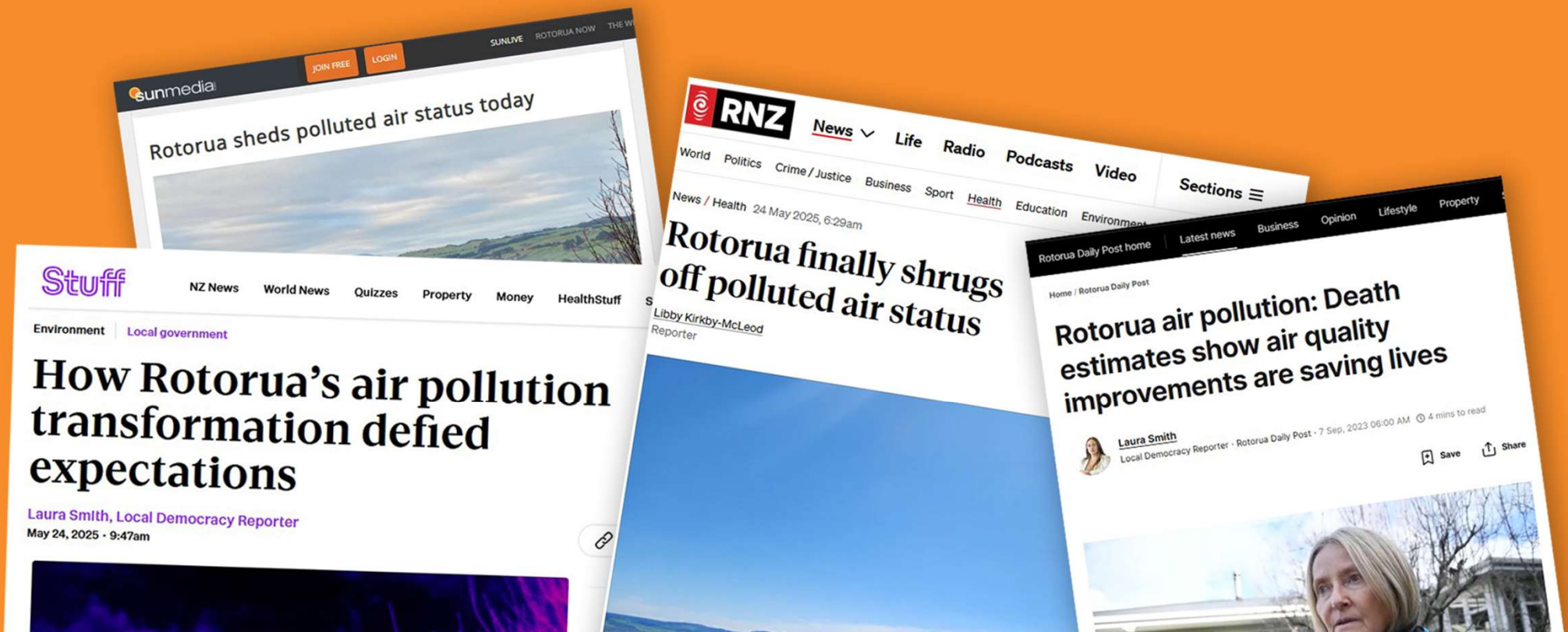


2025

Polluted airshed status
removed. 6,000+ burners
upgraded, less than 1,000*
older-style burners remain

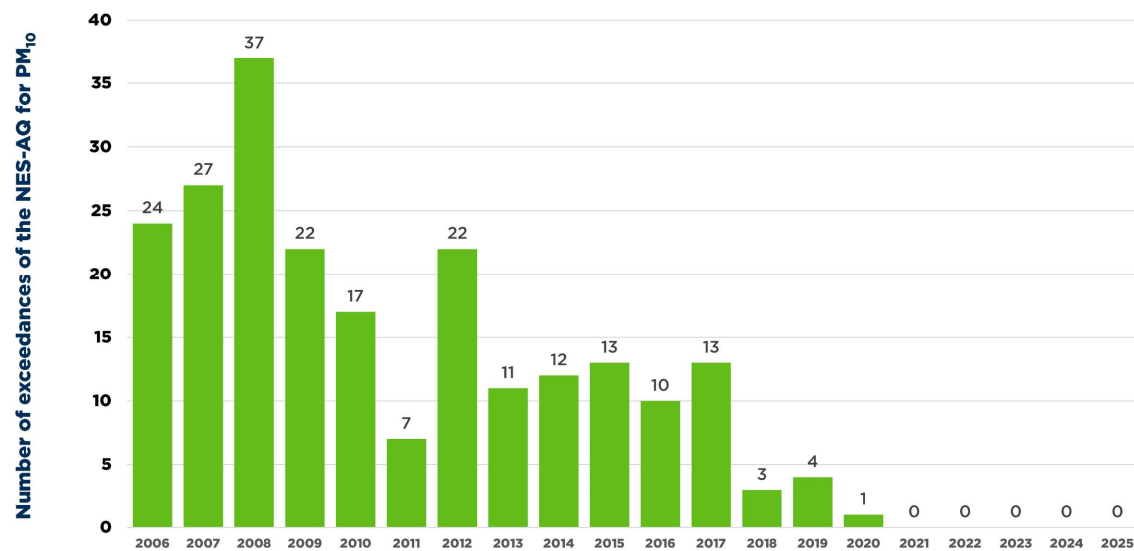


The impact



The results

**Number of exceedances at Edmund Road
of the national standards for PM₁₀**



RECIPE FOR IMPROVING AIR QUALITY

Ingredients

- ⇒ 5 cups Regulations
- ⇒ 2 cups Incentives
- ⇒ 2 cups Partnerships
- ⇒ 1 cup Agency Powers
- ⇒ A generous serving of Patience

Method

1. Establish strong regulations.
2. Support with incentives (optional).
3. Engage key partnerships.
4. Blend different agency powers (improve result).
5. Allow time for change.
6. Achieve cleaner air.

FROM THE
CITY AIR
KITCHEN

#CityAirQuality #UrbanPlanning #ScalableSolutions

An aerial photograph of a coastal town and harbor. The town is built on a peninsula, with a large green field and a baseball field in the foreground. The harbor is filled with water, and there are several islands and headlands in the background. A large orange text box is overlaid on the center of the image.

Any questions?