

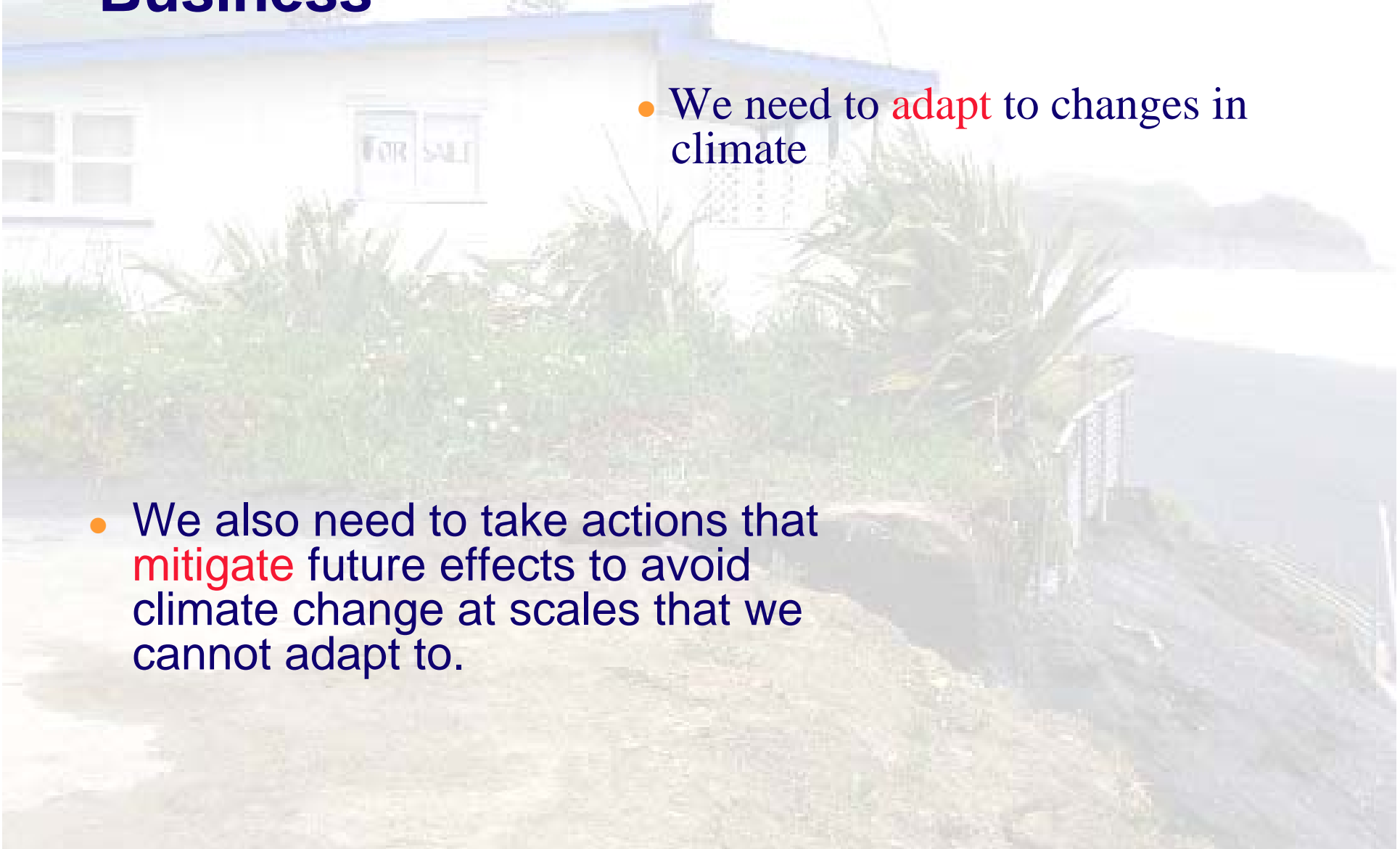
Climate Change: The Challenges for Councils

Jenni Vernon
Chairman

LGNZ Conference: *Investing in our future*
Dunedin, 17 July 2007

Adaptation and Mitigation are Core Business

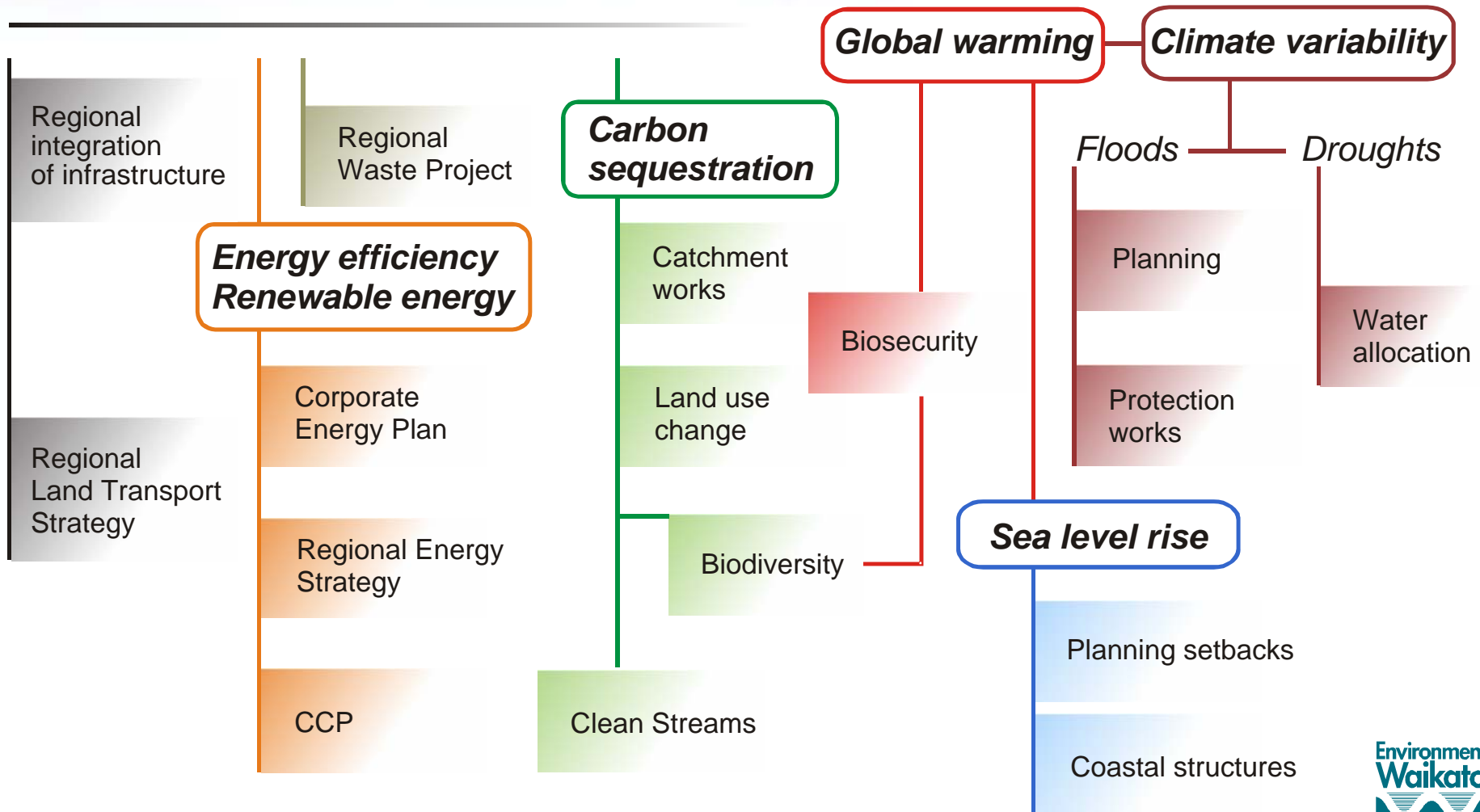
- We need to **adapt** to changes in climate
- We also need to take actions that **mitigate** future effects to avoid climate change at scales that we cannot adapt to.



Climate change and regional council activities

Mitigation

Adaptation



Tairua River: Kahikatea Estates



“Local government have to ensure that suburbs aren’t built on areas that might become new flood plains...”

Joint TCDC:EW Peninsula Project

At risk Coastal Infrastructure

Whitianga



The Public is expecting leadership

- The future of our communities depends on how we react to the new reality
 - A carbon constrained economy
- We will need to make some hard decisions
 - new costs and new economic opportunities
 - Some existing communities will probably have to move, others will require new infrastructure
- There will be new issues to address
 - Biosecurity threats
 - Biodiversity loss
 - Salt water intrusion of ground water resources