



Ordinary Council
Hui a te Kaunihera

Wednesday, 8 May 2024
Rāapa, 8 Haratua 2024

Totara Room, Whakatāne District Council
14 Commerce Street, Whakatāne
9:00 am

Chief Executive: Steph O'Sullivan

Publication Date: 3 May 2024

Live Streaming the Meeting - *Ka whakapāho mataora te hui*

Live Streaming the Meeting - *Ka whakapāho mataora te hui*

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The **public section** of this meeting will be Live Streamed via YouTube in real time.
The live stream link will be available via Council's website.

All care will be taken to maintain your privacy however, as a visitor in the public gallery, your presence may be recorded. By remaining in the public gallery, it is understood your consent is given if your image is inadvertently broadcast.

The opinions or statements expressed during a meeting by individuals are their own, and they do not necessarily reflect the views of the Whakatāne District Council. Council thus disclaims any liability with regard to said opinions or statements.

A Membership - *Mematanga*

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Mayor Dr V Luca

Deputy Mayor L N Immink

Councillor T Boynton

Councillor G L Dennis

Councillor A V Iles

Councillor W B James

Councillor J C Jukes

Councillor T O'Brien

Councillor J W Pullar

Councillor N Rangiaho

Councillor N S Tánczos

B Powers of the Council - *Ngā mana o te Kaunihera***B Powers of the Council - *Ngā mana o te Kaunihera***

The Council will meet Eight weekly to make decisions on all matters that cannot be delegated, that it has not delegated or that it has had referred to it by staff or a committee. Extraordinary Council meetings will be called when required in between the Eight weekly cycle for specific purposes such as hearing the Annual Plan submissions.

The powers that cannot be delegated by the Council are:

- a. the power to make a rate
- b. the power to make a bylaw
- c. the power to borrow money, or purchase or dispose of assets, other than in accordance with the long-term plan
- d. the power to adopt a Long-term plan, Annual plan or Annual report
- e. the power to appoint a Chief executive
- f. the power to adopt policies required to be adopted and consulted on under the Local Government Act 2002 in association with the long-term plan or developed for the purpose of the Local Governance Statement
- g. the power to adopt a remuneration and employment policy

The powers that can be delegated but which the Council retains:

- a. Approve the Council's recommendation to the Remuneration Authority for the remuneration of additional positions of responsibility for elected members and elected members expenses rules
- b. Approve the Local Governance Statement (called "A Guide to the Whakatāne District Council") produced following the triennial election of members
- c. Resolve those decisions required to be made by a local authority under the Local Electoral Act 2001 including the appointment of electoral officer.
- d. Determine whether or how to fill any extraordinary Council vacancies within 12 months of an election
- e. Review and make decisions on Council membership and the basis for elections through representation reviews
- f. Set the direction for the Long-Term Plan
- g. Hearing of submissions on the Long-Term Plan and, if required, the Annual Plan
- h. Appoint and discharge trustees, directors or office holders to Council's Council-Controlled organisations and to other external bodies
- i. Agree the final Statement of Intent for Council's Council-Controlled organisations
- j. Adopt the Half Yearly and Full Year Annual Report of the Whakatāne Airport
- k. Approve the purchase, sale and disposal of Council property
- l. Approve a proposed plan or a change to a District Plan under Clause 17 of the First Schedule of Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA); A1827586 April 2021 Page 14 of 37.
- m. Approve changes to the status or revoke the status of a reserve as defined in the Reserves Act 1977
- n. Authority to name or rename a reserve in accordance with the Reserves Management Plan;

B Powers of the Council - *Ngā mana o te Kaunihera* (Cont.)

- o. Authorise any unbudgeted expenditure that exceeds the delegation levels provided to officers, committees or other subordinate decision-making bodies of Council
- p. Approve recommendations from relevant Committees for new fees and charges for services provided, outside of the Annual Plan or Long Term Plan process.

Procedural matters exercised by Council:

- a. Receive minutes and recommendations, and make decisions on any recommendations from:
 - Standing Committees, Joint Committees and Joint Forums
 - Iwi Chairs Forum
 - Commercial Advisory Board
 - Toi Economic Development Agency
 - Any other Council appointed advisory board or forum with Council as the parent committee
- b. Consider any matters referred to it from any of the Committees, the Mayor, or Chief Executive.

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1 Prayer - *Karakia*

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2 Meeting Notices - *Ngā Pānui o te hui*

1. Live Streaming

The Whakatāne District Council livestreams Council and Standing Committee meetings held in Tōtara Room, within the Council building. The webcast will live stream directly to Council's YouTube channel in real time. The purpose of streaming meetings live is to encourage transparency of Council meetings.

By remaining in the public gallery, it is understood your consent has been given if your presence is inadvertently broadcast.

Please be aware the microphones in Totara Room are sensitive to noise, so please remain quiet throughout the meeting unless asked to speak.

2. Health and Safety

In case of an emergency, please follow the building wardens or make your way to the nearest exit. The meeting point is located at Peace Park on Boon Street.

Bathroom facilities are located opposite the Chambers Foyer entrance (the entrance off Margaret Mahy Court).

3. Other

3 Apologies - *Te hunga kāore i tae*

No apologies were recorded at the time of compiling the agenda.

4 Acknowledgements / Tributes - *Ngā mihi mihi*

An opportunity for members to recognise achievements, to notify of events, or to pay tribute to an occasion of importance.

5 Conflicts of Interest - *Ngākau kōnatunatu*

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Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as an elected member and any private or other external interests they might have.

The Elected Member Register of Interest is available on the Whakatāne District Council website. If you wish to view the information, please click this [Register link](#).

6 Public Participation - *Wānanga Tūmatanui*

At the time of compiling the agenda, there were no requests for public participation.

6.1 Public Forum - *Wānanga Tūmatanui*

The Council has set aside time for members of the public to speak in the public forum at the commencement of each meeting. Each speaker during the forum may speak for five minutes. Permission of the Chairperson is required for any person wishing to speak during the public forum.

With the permission of the Chairperson, Elected members may ask questions of speakers. Questions are to be confined to obtaining information or clarification on matters raised by a speaker.

6.2 Deputations - *Ngā Whakapuaki Whaitake*

A deputation enables a person, group or organisation to make a presentation to Community Board on a matter or matters covered by their terms of reference. Deputations should be approved by the Chairperson, or an official with delegated authority, five working days before the meeting. Deputations may be heard at the commencement of the meeting or at the time that the relevant agenda item is being considered. No more than two speakers can speak on behalf of an organisation's deputation. Speakers can speak for up to 5 minutes, or with the permission of the Chairperson, a longer timeframe may be allocated.

With the permission of the Chairperson, Elected members may ask questions of speakers. Questions are to be confined to obtaining information or clarification on matters raised by the deputation.

7 Reports - *Ngā Pūrongo*

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7.1 Council Long Term Plan 24/34 Deliberations



To: **Whakatāne District Council**

Date: **08, 09 and 10 May 2024**

Author: **H Keravel/Senior Strategic Policy analyst**

Authoriser: **S Perdia / Manager Strategy and Transformation**

Reference: **A2660706**

1. Reason for the report - *Te Take mō tēnei rīpoata*

The purpose of this report is to support the Council deliberations following community consultation. This is a key step towards finalising the Long Term Plan 2024- 34 (LTP) and the Supporting Policies and Proposals.

The report requests that Council formally receive all submissions made to the Council's Draft LTP and Supporting Policies and Proposals and sets out a process to deliberate over submission points raised to inform final decisions.

2. Recommendations - *Tohutohu akiaki*

1. THAT the Council **receive** the Council Long Term Plan 24/34 Deliberations report; and,
2. THAT the Council **receive** the 974 submissions to the Long Term Plan (LTP) available in Appendix 1 (volume 1 to 10); and,
3. THAT the Council **receive** the 25 submissions to the LTP Supporting Policies and Proposals included in Appendix 2; and,
4. THAT the Council **agree to receive** the 8 late submissions to the LTP and Policies and Proposals included in Appendix 3, in accordance with Council's Acceptance of Late Submissions Policy; and,
5. THAT the Council **receive** the social media summary report in Appendix 4; and,
6. THAT the Council **receive** the report of the Consultation Document's four key questions in Appendix 5; and,
7. THAT the Council **receive** the analysis of strategic themes from the LTP submissions in Appendix 6; and,
8. THAT the Council **note** the inclusion of the individual management recommendations within this report; and,
9. THAT the Council **provide direction** on rate levels and the associated work programme to inform the final LTP for audit and then adoption.

7.1 Council Long Term Plan 24/34 Deliberations(Cont.)**3. Background - He tirohanga whakamuri**

Council has been undertaking the process of developing a Long-Term Plan (LTP) since March 2023 when the LTP project plan was adopted.

This LTP has been described as one of the most challenging in decades as Councils all around New Zealand have grappled with how to manage the impact of deferred rates increases during Covid, followed quickly by record high inflation and interest rates meaning the cost to continue delivering the same services was significantly higher.

Council reviewed its vision, community and strategic priorities through a series of workshops and an LTP pre-engagement process. Council sharpened the pencil on its strategic priorities from eight down to five setting the framework for a thorough review of Councils Levels of Service (LoS) and opportunities for improvement.

From August through to the first budget in December Council reviewed the necessary policies and Strategies that support an LTP such as the Development Contributions Policy, Significance and Engagement Policy, Revenue and Funding Policy, Financial Strategy and Infrastructure Strategy. Additional to this Council received presentations from each Council Activity (or department) Manager discussing their current work programme, budget and future opportunities or projects.

Council reviewed over 200 project and staff resource requests which were trimmed down to around 30 ahead of the first budget prior to Christmas 2023.

Subsequent budget and work programme reviews between January and March of this year were seeking to find a delicate balance between necessary fiscal management, maintaining Levels of Service delivery and still enhancing the District.

On the 6 March 2024, The Environment, Energy and Resilience Committee (EER) approved a draft work programme and budget for community consultation, the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan Consultation Document.

3.1. Consultation

A month of formal consultation commenced on 12 March 2024 through to 12 April 2024.

Council received a high number of submissions, nearing 1000 formal submissions, across a wide range of topics. Submissions and hearings were from individuals and over 80 organisations representing members with diverse interests in education, art, sport, disability, age and the environment. Iwi and groups representing Māori views and interests were strongly represented.

The engagement plan for the LTP consultation process is outlined under section 5.2 of this report.

3.2. Hearings

On the 18 and 19 April 2024 the Council heard 68 oral submissions representing both individuals and organisations.

On the 2 May 2024, Council had its final hearings meeting with 12 people or organisations taking up the opportunity to come and speak to Council.

7.1 Council Long Term Plan 24/34 Deliberations(Cont.)

4. Deliberations – *Kaupapa*

The Council has received submissions from the community on the draft 2024-2034 LTP Consultation Document through multiple channels. Through the course of this meeting Councillors will deliberate on those submissions and make final changes to the LTP work programme and budget before it is submitted to AuditNZ for audit purposes, and then adopted by Council ahead of June 30, 2024.

4.1. Receiving Submissions

Councillors are asked through this report to formally receive all submissions from the community.

A separate submissions document is attached alongside this Report. They are the submissions received on the Long Term Plan (Appendix 1), the submissions on the LTP Policies and Proposals (Appendix 2), and Late Submissions (Appendix 3).

Council is asked to consider whether it wishes to receive late submissions. In accordance with Council's [Policy on Accepting Late Submissions](#) Council may accept late submissions, and should resolve to do so before the commencement of deliberations. In accordance with Council's policy, consideration must be given to ensure accepting the submission is still practical in terms of timeframe, its relevance to the process, that it won't create undue delay to the process and that it doesn't give any submitter more or less advantage over another submitter.

The staff recommendation is that the Council agree to receive the eight late submissions in accordance with Council's Acceptance of Late Submissions Policy as there is no reasonable reason to decline them.

Deliberations Process and Objectives:

Deliberations for the Long-Term Plan and supporting Policies are scheduled over the next three days, being 8 May, 9 May, and 10 May 2024. Through these meetings, Council will be asked to consider whether any changes, amendments, or new decisions are needed to finalise the Long Term Plan work programme and budget, and Supporting Policies, Strategies and Proposals.

The objectives of the Deliberations meetings (8, 9 and 10 May 2024) are:

- i. To receive submissions, including accepting late submissions.
- ii. Review management recommendations and make decisions on the four 'Key Questions' in the Consultation Document.
- iii. Review management recommendations and make decisions on the Key Themes that emerged from submissions.
- iv. Review management recommendations and make decisions on the draft LTP policies, strategies and proposals.
- v. Review management recommendations and make decisions regarding specific projects and funding requests from submitters.
- vi. Provide direction to management the level of rates and associated work programme they would like to see in the final Long Term Plan document for approval.
- vii. Make any other final decisions needed to complete the LTP.

7.1 Council Long Term Plan 24/34 Deliberations(Cont.)

4.2. Management Recommendations on the Four Key Questions

A full analysis with management comments are included in the attached Key Questions document (Appendix 5).

4.2.1. *Management recommendation on Question 1 – How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?*

Management determined that the recommendations in relation to Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub are more clearly articulated through a series of actions rather than a singular option presented through the consultation document.

Management recommendation: **THAT**

10. A stop/go decision making point be included as part of the 2027/28 Long Term Plan regarding whether to continue to budget for a major redevelopment of the Whakatāne War Memorial Hall in 2029 and 2030.
11. Council retains the budget allocated through the Draft LTP (Option 2) to show Council's commitment to co-funding the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub project.
12. A phased approach to the delivery of improvement works be emphasised with a focus on Health and Safety that will have a real impact on the functionality of the Hub within the next four years up to the value of \$7.8 million. Please refer to the list below for the capital works proposed to be carried out during the next four years (subject to further consultation).
13. Council finalise the master plan for the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub and as part of that process consider whether a separate indoor court facility in an alternative location maybe a more affordable long term solution to address the need for more indoor court space.
14. Council direct staff to develop an external funding plan and secure external funding before the next Long Term Plan is developed in 2027.
15. Council instruct staff to further progress discussions with parties that have shown a willingness to partner with Council to plan and deliver on the redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub including but not limited to:
 - i. Ake Chartered Accountants & Business Advisors – delivery of a High-Performance Sports Centre within Whakatāne;
 - ii. Te Uru Taumatua (Tūhoe) – investment partner – future and opportunities focused.
 - iii. Disabilities Resource Centre – provision of accessible spaces for all ages
 - iv. Existing clubs who own or lease facilities within the Hub.
 - v. Future users of the Hub who may have different aspirations for the recreational offerings that a re-developed facility will cater for.

4.2.2. *Management recommendation on Question 2 - How should we manage our foodwaste collection?*

Management recommendation: **THAT**

16. No kerbside foodwaste collection service be included in the 24/34 LTP noting that;

7.1 Council Long Term Plan 24/34 Deliberations(Cont.)

- This approach does not necessarily support keeping the 'status quo'; rather, it asks that resource be directed into encouraging behaviour change to reduce foodwaste and encourage forms of composting at home.
- Community feedback will be considered should central government revisit legislation in the coming years

As part of this recommendation, Council should consider a 're-run' of the subsidised home composting solutions (worm-farms/compost bins/bokashi units) campaign along with a major educational campaign on home composting with workshops, on-line videos and educational materials.

4.2.3. Management recommendation on Question 3 - How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Management recommendation : **THAT**

17. Council proceed with option 3 - closing the funding gap over six years.

Several submitters to this question raised the more general issue of the level of rates themselves, rather than the specific question of how rate increases should be smoothed / funded. In addition to the question of phasing of the gap, the call for additional cost-savings or cost-reductions, potentially impacting service levels, should be considered carefully by Council. Additional proactive measures are likely to be required at Council's direction to balance financial responsibility with service provision, reflective of residents' needs in these trying times.

4.2.4. Management recommendation on Question 4 - How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our District?

Management recommendation: **THAT**

18. Council proceed with option 2 – 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

Despite limited responses for other options, the original rationale of equitable distribution underpinning the recommended 20% reduction is reinforced. The argument for proportional charges based on property value is significant, advocating for equity versus the attribution of the uses of services.

Management recognises that there remains a concern here especially around superannuitants in high-value homes. We, therefore, believe additional emphasis should be made in our rates collateral highlighting access to the DIA rates rebate.

Based on the nature of responses we would separately recommend, following additional education campaigns on the implications of UAGC levels, that the potential for further change, or consideration of other options to attempt to address issues for low-income high-value-property superannuitants be incorporated in the rating review currently agreed to be conducted in 2024/25.

4.3. Management recommendations on key themes

Full analysis and management comments are included in the Key Themes document (Appendix 6) with rationale for the management recommendations.

4.3.1. Governance

Management recommendation: **THAT**

7.1 Council Long Term Plan 24/34 Deliberations(Cont.)

19. The submissions are considered and management comments noted; and,
20. That Council direct management to commission a review into the Long Term Plan communication process with particular regard to the effectiveness of council communication, the accessibility of information to the public, and the need for easier ways for community members to provide feedback and engage with council decisions. This review will also seek advice on the general legibility of the documents provided.

4.3.2. Financial

Management recommendation: **THAT**

21. The submissions are considered and management comments noted; and
22. Council continue to maintain oversight and reviews of expenditure for effective spend management through quarterly forecast reviews reported through Council committees, and,
23. The financial aspects as approved by Council's release of the consultation document remain unless additional direction from Council, as part of deliberations, changes the financial aspects and Council acknowledges the potential impacts on strategic outcomes and Levels of Service; and,
24. Council continue to work diligently in communicating to ratepayers the support options that are available to them such as rebates, payments term, and services or support available from social service partners.

4.3.3. Whakatane Boat Harbour Project

Management recommendation: **THAT**

25. The submissions are considered and management comments noted; and
26. As a shareholder, Council continues to closely monitor the Boat Harbour project through the Risk & Assurance Committee and regular reports to Council from its independent Board member.

4.3.4. Council Services (maintain essential services)

Management recommendation: **THAT**

27. The submissions are considered and management comments noted

4.3.5. Matatā Wastewater

Management recommendation: **THAT**

28. The submissions are considered and management comments noted; and,
29. The Council note the Matatā Wastewater Project is currently a high priority project included in the Draft LTP.

4.3.6. "Second Bridge"

Management recommendation: **THAT**

30. The submissions are considered and management comments noted; and,
31. Council note the Eastern Bay of Plenty Spatial Plan will define future land use patterns, including land transport network connections, and investigation for an additional river crossing.

7.1 Council Long Term Plan 24/34 Deliberations(Cont.)

4.3.7. *Climate Change*

Management recommendation: **THAT**

32. The submissions are considered and management comments noted; and,
33. Council continue the process to review the Climate Change Strategy and implement the Council-agreed work programme.

4.3.8. *Sullivan Lake*

Management recommendation: **THAT**

34. The submissions are considered and management comments noted; and
35. Council include budget within the LTP for the next 10 years to implement the management interventions for both Sullivan Lake and Awatapu Lagoon as recommended in the 2024 Sullivan Lake and Awatapu Lagoon Water Quality, Ecology and Options for Improvement reports prepared by Keith Hamill.

Budget impact:

- i. Sullivan Lake - proposed increase of \$360,000 over 10 years. (\$175,000 in year 1)
- ii. Awatapu Lagoon – proposed increase of \$375,000 over 10 years (\$75,000 in year 1)

4.3.9. *Disparity of Service Between Areas*

Management recommendation: **THAT**

36. The submissions are considered and management comments noted.

4.3.10. *Māori Relationships*

Management recommendation: **THAT**

37. The submissions are considered and management comments noted; and,
38. Council approves the Tarawera Awa Restoration Strategy Group's (TARSG) request for financial support, totalling \$70,000 for year 1 and \$50,000 for year 2, designated for the TARSG secretariat.

Budget impact:

- i. Additional Opex request of \$70,000 in Year 1 and \$50,000 in Year 2 to iwi resourcing budget.

4.3.11. *Transport*

Management recommendation: **THAT**

39. The submissions are considered and management comments noted; and,
40. Council continue with the transport programme proposed in the LTP, which focuses on Maintenance and Renewals and allows for some minor improvements spending to be focused on areas of priority (identified through our transparent prioritisation process); and,
41. Council direct staff to develop a bus shelter plan should budgets permit.

7.1 Council Long Term Plan 24/34 Deliberations(Cont.)

4.3.12. *Community Wellbeing*

Management recommendation: THAT

42. The submissions are considered and management comments noted; and,
43. Council advocate to Bay of Plenty Regional Council for increased public transport services and work with Waka Eastern Bay on possible alternative transport opportunities; and,
44. Council confirm its commitment to continue to pursue opportunities for mountain biking and cycle trails for the wellbeing of communities which will contribute to the health and wellbeing of communities and economic development of the District through increases in tourism.
45. Council direct staff to undertake a review of accessible parking options across Whakatāne should budgets permit. Current carparks cannot cater for rear access vans.

4.3.13. *Central government*

Management recommendation: THAT

46. The submissions are considered and management comments noted.

4.3.14. *Three waters*

Management recommendation: THAT

47. The submissions are considered and management comments noted.
48. Council engage with the community around 3W in 2024/5.
49. Council undertake a water rating and volumetric charging review to ensure equitable charging for those connected to a Council water scheme.
50. Council prepare a programme for participation in voluntary reform. Over and above BAU resourcing.

4.4. **Management Recommendations on LTP Policies and Proposals**

25 submissions were received on the supporting policies and proposals, including the Fees and Charges schedule. These can be found in Appendix 2.

Management recommendation: THAT

51. The submissions on policies and proposals are noted; and,
52. Council note that further consideration of the timing and scale of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub will make a significant change to the development contribution amount charged in the first three years of the LTP.
53. No other material changes to policies and proposals are required noting that non-material amendments to policies and proposals based on additional quality assurance reviews and external audit recommendations will be undertaken as part of the finalisation of the final draft LTP.

4.5. **Management Comment and Recommendations on Fees and Charges**

The majority of submissions on fees and charges were in response to the proposed introduction of fees to the Murupara Refuse Transfer Station. Management comments and recommendations are included for these submissions below.

7.1 Council Long Term Plan 24/34 Deliberations(Cont.)

4.5.1. *Murupara Refuse Transfer Station*

Management comments:

There is strong message in the submissions to continue with free dumping at Murupara Refuse Transfer Station (MRTS) and not introduce charges. All submissions appear to be from Murupara residents, however, management is aware of comments on council facebook (not captured here) from Whakatane residents who are against paying for the provision of MRTS.

Should council continue with a free service as a 'gesture of equity in overall services across the district', steps can be taken to control access and mis-use, including further emphasising residential waste only and issuing residents with a 'Residential Dumping Permit' provided on proof of local residency (one per household) with a defined applicable geographical area. However, this would still mean that MRTS is funded from general rates district wide, as would a 'token system' suggested by some submitters. This would also continue to be contradictory to a 'user-pays' principle as implemented at Whakatāne Refuse Transfer Station.

The term 'free-dumping' is misleading as the costs of operating MRTS are applied to all rateable properties and would account to approximately \$25 per property per annum. Applying a targeted rate to local properties to cover costs would probably not be acceptable to ratepayers, as overall costs about \$400K, about 1,364 properties would increase rates by around \$293 per property p.a. Those not using the service would probably strongly disagree with this solution.

Management recommendation: **THAT**

54. The submissions on Murupara Refuse Transfer Station are noted; and,
55. Fees and charges be introduced at the Murupara Refuse Transfer Station (MRTS) in alignment with those at Whakatāne from the 1st of February 2025 (see note below).

Budgeted upgrades of MRTS are required (whether fees are implemented or not) and these will take approximately 6 months. It is therefore recommended that the fees and charges are implemented from 1st February 2025. It should be noted that it generally costs more to deal with waste from MRTS than it does from Whakatāne RTS and income from fees is unlikely to cover the full costs of operating the facility. Should fees be introduced as recommended, a plan for how to address any increased fly-tipping or environmental degradation should be considered and communicated to the community.

4.5.2. *Other Fee and Charges Comments*

Management recommendation: **THAT**

56. Non-material amendments to fee and charges based on additional quality assurance reviews and external audit recommendations will be undertaken as part of the final LTP.

4.6. **Management Recommendations on Specific Funding Requests**

57. Film Bay of Plenty NZ - Seeking a total of \$62,500 per year.
 - \$30,000 for Film Bay of Plenty (FBOP) operational costs supporting current objectives and performance indicators in FBOP funding MOU. FBOP financial request represents an increase, yet it allows us to efficiently serve the region without the need for additional time-consuming funding applications, such as those with Creative Communities.

7.1 Council Long Term Plan 24/34 Deliberations(Cont.)

- \$30,000 for incentive, to be managed by a select committee (with potential to carry this forward into the next financial year, aligning with industry funding timelines). ☐
- \$2,500 to support the administration, creating contractual agreements, financial management, select committee, advertising and marketing, and running of the incentive grant

Management recommendation: **THAT**

58. The Council advise Film Bay of Plenty NZ to apply to:

- Council's Annual Grants and Leases Programme for a multi-year agreement,
- Council-managed and Creative Communities Scheme for smaller projects / funding assistance,
- Creative NZ for larger projects and events.

Note: Council-administered grants and funding rounds are advertised in advance. Applications are generally welcomed from organisations that provide services or support to the Whakatāne District community - particularly those that are charitable or not-for-profit.

Recommendations have no impact on current LTP Budget.

59. Sustainable Bay of Plenty Charitable Trust (SBOPCT)

Requesting funding of \$5000 per year for the duration of this LTP to cover some of SBOPCT organisation's operational costs, to allow SBOPCT to deliver events and to work collaboratively on sustainability issues in Whakatāne.

Management recommendation: **THAT**

60. The Organisation apply to Council's Annual Grants and Leases Programme for a multi-year agreement.

Recommendation has no impact on current LTP Budget.

4.7. Management Recommendations on Other General Requests

Management comments:

Requests that are either already included in the proposed LTP, covered through Key Themes (Appendix 6) or can be incorporated as part of current activity and service delivery without budget implications have not been included in the below table.

Enhancing the safety, wellbeing and vibrancy of communities <i>Me mātua whakanui i te marutau, te orange, me tew ana o ngā hāpori</i>
Introduce an 'Award for Service' to recognise local heroes - a certificate, a portrait for the Council Hall of Fame, and a small Mayoral award ceremony.
Partially or fully fund security patrols in town using the Harbour Endowment Fund as a landlord investment in protecting tenants and sub-tenants; in a partial-funding scenario, consider a targeted rate, or user pays system to fund the shortfall.
Develop Wally Sutherland building as an Arts Hub to provide a community meeting place, festival location, performance space, conference centre, office space and arts facility (co-funded with external private funding partners).

7.1 Council Long Term Plan 24/34 Deliberations(Cont.)

Enhancing the safety, wellbeing and vibrancy of communities <i>Me mātua whakanui i te marutau, te orange, me tew ana o ngā hapori</i>
Expedite and fund a process to remove rough sleepers and anti-social behaviour from town.
Review and consult on District Plan regarding social service activities being conducted from ground floor CBD premises in the long term.
A drop-in box at Council offices.
Hold more meetings like the ones held during the LTP consultation process – great opportunity for community to know Councillors and staff.
Consider a variation to the lease at 340/1 Harbour Road, Ōhope to enable the Lions Club to undertake maintenance and future proof their community work.
Install public rubbish bins and public toilets near the shops in Awakeri (one particular submitter offering to subdivide small piece of land for this purpose).
Add paid showers to public toilet facilities.
Purchase a portable access toilet for events.
Provide a toilet in Edgecumbe.
Provide 8 concrete-based plexicushion pickleball courts adjacent to tennis club.
Town bridge – wash, paint and remove fence on the bridge.
Provide for indoor netball courts in Poroporo with rugby fields.
Explore following options for Matatā: Picnic and seating facilities around Matata lagoon Further developing and showcasing walking tracks Promote and support English and Te Reo signage Review speed limits along Pakeha St + safe crossing for pedestrians
Consider facilitating the following with Ōtamakaokao Kaitiaki Trust: Bus shelter along Awatapu Drive Community centre/hub in Awatapu Support to develop 'Caring for Communities Emergency Plan'
Extend hours of animal control officers/rangers or provide further funding to employ 2 more animal control officers in Murupara.
Provide funding for employment-related costs of existing Animal Control Officers funded by Ngati Manawa.
Shaping a green district <i>Kia toitū te rohe</i>
Plant more trees.
A programme with schools, maybe in association with teacher Dave Dobbin on reducing emissions.

7.1 Council Long Term Plan 24/34 Deliberations(Cont.)

Enhancing the safety, wellbeing and vibrancy of communities <i>Me mātua whakanui i te marutau, te orange, me tew ana o ngā hapori</i>
Council audit of plastic use.
More EV chargers.
Establish an internationally recognised Dark Sky Reserve.
Waste transfer opportunity to create biproducts to therefore reuse within our network to reestablish, maintain and create new infrastructure.
Encourage and assist use of rainwater holding tanks.
Building climate change and natural hazard resilience, including our infrastructure <i>Me mātua whakakaha i te aumangea ki te huringa āhuarangi me ngā tūraru matepā taiao tae ana ki te hangaroto</i>
Purchase Otakiri Springs for future drinking water.
Development of a Business Continuity Plan with Chamber of Commerce.
Upgrade Ōhope shop front.
Streamline tiny homes – new source of rates and solution to housing problem.
Support with spatial planning for Eco-tourism venture with REKA.
Facilitating economic regeneration and responding to development pressures <i>Me mātua whakahaere i te tipuranga o te taiōhanga me ngā tonotono whare</i>
Maintenance dredging in harbour navigation channel (adjacent to yacht club).
Consider supporting accommodation for the ageing population including: Encouraging developers to establish retirement areas eg in Kawerau beside mountain view Advertise district as a retirement mecca Consider Māori-centric retirement village that upholds mana
Support development of a multi-use convention centre.
Consider selling the holiday park as not considered a core Council service.
Fund a feasibility study into a manufacturing facility for renewable energy technologies in Murupara/Galatea.

Management recommendation: THAT

61. Council consider the other General Requests as part of the Council Annual Plan process given current financial constraints by distributing them to relevant Activity Managers for processing.

4.8. Guidance on proposed rates

The Consultation Document proposed a 17.1% rates increase [net of growth] in year 1 mostly made up of reducing the historic operational funding deficit (“mind the gap”), inflation assumptions for 2025, additional borrowing costs and costs to address compliance requirements.

7.1 Council Long Term Plan 24/34 Deliberations(Cont.)

While submissions generally agreed with the strategic direction of Council, the majority expressed concern with the proposed rates increase and requested rates be kept as low as possible. Many highlighted hardship and concerns with the ability of households and businesses to meet additional financial pressures, whilst simultaneously including requests to Council for improvements and shifts to the way Council delivers its services.

Management have reviewed requests for funding and present to Council an option to reduce the rates impact in Year 1 down to approximately 16.0% [net of growth]. The adjustments required to make this further reduction possible are outlined in the following the tables:

Table 1: Strategies to reduce rates in year one affecting items included in management recommendations to the deliberation process:

Description	Impact	2025 Savings rates impact
Defer any proposed investment in Sullivan Lake management until year two of LTP – rates in year two affected accordingly	No investment in year 1	\$175K 0.30%
Defer any proposed investment in Awatapu Lagoon management until year two of LTP – rates in year two affected accordingly	No investment in year 1	\$75K 0.12%
Defer any proposed investment in the Tarawera Awa Restoration Strategy Group (TARSG) until year two of LTP – rates in year two affected accordingly	No investment in year 1	\$70k 0.11%

Table 2: Strategies to reduce rates in year one affecting items added into budget by Council prior to consultation on the draft LTP:

Description	Impact	2025 Savings rates impact
Delay Climate Change projects added in by Council pre-consultation	Delay of solar investigation/project to year 2	\$55k 0.09%
Delay Animal Control FTE added in by Council pre-consultation to 2026	No increase to animal control levels of service until 2026	\$90k 0.15%
Māori Relationships Strategy consulting fees added in by Council pre-consultation	Potential relationship risk and slower progress on Māori Relationships Strategy	\$50k 0.08%

Table 3: Strategies to reduce rates in year one affecting FTE requests in year one:

7.1 Council Long Term Plan 24/34 Deliberations(Cont.)

Description	Impact	2025 Savings rates impact
Delay FTE – Climate Change Role	Delay of person to lead strategy implementation/co-ordination, improve external engagement and partnerships to complement the existing internal/carbon reporting focused staff member.	-0.5 FTE
Delay FTE - Animal Control Officer #1	Delays to meeting expected levels of service for animal control	-0.5 FTE
Delay FTE – Transport Planner	<u>Delays ability to develop key strategic business cases in the Transport space.</u>	-0.5 FTE
Delay FTE - Waste Disposal	Delay in meeting compliance requirements, reporting and levy’s management.	-0.5 FTE
Delay FTE - Tourism and Cycleway Development Advisor	May lose temporary contracted staff member in this role. Delay developing destination cycleways. Period of no support tourism recovery, and development of new tourism products.	-0.5 FTE
Delay FTE - Māori Relationships Senior Advisor	Delays in delivery of Māori Relationships Strategy	-0.25 FTE
Delay FTE - Social Media Specialist	Delay in improving social media platforms to communicate council news, events, and initiatives to residents.	-0.5 FTE
Delay FTE - Organisation Development Lead	Delay increased capacity in human resource systems and policies with an increased focus on staff recruitment, staff development and retention.	-0.5 FTE
Delay FTE - Financial Services Continuous improvement lead	Delay improving the efficiency, effectiveness, and compliance of the function.	-0.5 FTE
Consolidated FTE Delay		-4.25 FTE \$425k 0.70%

Management recommend: **THAT**

62. The Council provide guidance to management on the rates increase they propose for the final Long Term Plan budget. If required, Council to outline the specific changes or areas for management to explore to meet the target rates level acknowledging the likely impacts on Levels of Service and strategic outcomes which will be highlighted in the final Long Term Plan report.

7.1 Council Long Term Plan 24/34 Deliberations(Cont.)

5. Options analysis - *Ngā Kōwhiringa*

Budget considerations options for inclusion in the final LTP 24/34 are included throughout this report. No other options have been identified relating to the matters of this report.

6. Significance and Engagement Assessment - *Aromatawai Pāhekoheko*

6.1. Assessment of Significance

The decisions and matters of this report are assessed to be of high significance, in accordance with the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy. They will inform the Council's final LTP and set the budget and work programme for the coming ten years.

The following criteria are of particular relevance in determining the level of significance:

- **Level of community interest:** the community has shown to have a higher level of interest in the issues that have been brought forward through submissions.
- **Rating impact:** Council's decisions in response to submissions received will determine the overall rate impact, but this report is part of a process to set rates.
- **Financial impact:** the submissions received refer to setting of rates, debt caps and cumulatively will impact on Council's Financial Strategy and affordability.
- **Consistency:** the submissions received will help to determine and prioritise Council's strategic direction and work programme.
- **Reversibility:** a decision to include something in a Long Term Plan is not a commitment from the Council to deliver on that project.
- **Impact on Māori:** the proposals in the LTP and those requested by the community will impact Council's deliverables, which may relate to land, water, sites, wāhi tapu, valued flora and fauna, and other taonga.
- **Impact on levels of service:** the proposals in the LTP and those requested by the community will set the levels of service proposed for the Council over the next ten years.
- **Impact on strategic assets:** the proposals in the LTP and those requested by the community will define the performance or intended performance of the Council's Strategic Assets.

In accordance with section 93A of the Local Government Act 2002, the Council must use the Special Consultative Procedure when adopting a Long Term Plan.

6.2. Engagement and community views

Consultation on the Long Term Plan and supporting policies and proposals opened on Tuesday 12 May 2024 and closed on Friday 12 April 2024.

A Combined Community Board hui was held on Tuesday 12 March to confirm engagement activities and offer resource bundles.

A range of communication and engagement activities were delivered throughout the consultation month, providing an opportunity for Elected Members to be out in the community talking to people and understanding the priorities and preferences of the community.

The following table outlines the activities delivered under the Long Term Plan Engagement Plan:

7.1 Council Long Term Plan 24/34 Deliberations(Cont.)

Method	Detail
Social media – LinkedIn, FB and Instagram	Posts on Facebook and Instagram, including videos and polls. Additional posts were done, promoting engagement events. A social media report is included in appendix
Boosted social media posts	Boosted social media posts were done on each of the question posts.
Social media polls	Polls were done for each of the questions on Facebook and Instagram.
Public notice – Whakatāne Beacon and Rotorua Daily Post	A public notice was printed in both papers to reach all areas of the district 8 March and 12 March.
Rotorua Daily Post advertisement	Third page advertisement was done Tuesday 12 March.
Whakatāne Beacon advertisements	Full-page Long Term Plan advertisements was published 13 March.
Centre spread in the Whakatāne Beacon	A centre spread advertisement was published in the Whakatāne Beacon on 20 March.
Ko Konei	Full page Ko Konei advertisement published 28 March in Whakatāne Beacon.
Emails to distribution lists	Targeted emails (start of consultation and a one week to go) were sent to various distribution lists, and staff utilised their networks to distribute the consultation material.
Letterbox drop	An LTP ‘snapshot’ brochure was delivered to every letterbox in the Whakatāne District, promoting the big issues and four key questions.
Media releases	Media releases have been distributed in the lead up to consultation and throughout, including 19 December 2023, 21 February 2024, 5 March 2024 and Thursday, 14 March and Thursday, 4 April.
Radio advertising	Radio campaigns were run on Radio 1XX and SunFM and translated in te reo Māori on Tumeke FM throughout the month.
Radio interviews 1XX and Sun FM	Six five-minute interviews were done throughout the consultation period and covered a raft of topics related to LTP.
Engagement events	We have piggy backed off several large scale events happening throughout the district, including Rangitaiki River Festival, Heart to Heart, Awakeri Top School, Awakaponga Pre Easter Market, Ngāti Manawa Festival, Ōhope Craft Market, Whakatāne Sunday market. A Community Conversation public meeting with a focus on Rex Morpeth Hub project was also added to the calendar of events as well as a Coastland Residents Hui, EPIC, Cafe Awa Korero me inu Kawhe, Te Hui a Pooti Māori/ Māori Constituents Hui, Toi Ohomai - Student LTP presentation and Q&A and Whakatāne Rangatahi Road Safety Event.

7.1 Council Long Term Plan 24/34 Deliberations(Cont.)

Method	Detail
Iwi engagement	A comprehensive programme of Iwi engagement happened before and during formal consultation.
Radio live crosses from events	As part of our partnering with Sun FM and 1XX we had several live crosses from the hero events we attended.
Community hui	Community hui were run in Galatea, Murupara, Wainui, Waimana and Tāneatua. This was a great way to get out and about into the satellite towns.
Business Breakfast	A business breakfast in association with EastBay Chamber of Commerce and panel was held on Tuesday 26 March for of business sector.
Social Sector meeting	We had a spot to talk LTP at the Social Sector meeting, which is an opportunity for practitioners in the social sector of the district to network and participate in community wellbeing focused discussions.
Grey Power	We attended a Grey Power, Whakatāne meeting to discuss all things LTP and answer questions members of the audience had.
Green Drinks	Sustainable Bay of Plenty and Whakatāne District Council jointly hosted a Green Drinks to discuss sustainability issues affecting our region. It was also a chance to loop it in with the LTP.
Static displays	Static displays, with submission forms and boxes, were set up in various Council facilities around the district.
Community newsletters	Articles were placed in Council's newsletter, Ko Konei, and community newsletters such as the Murupara Community Board newsletter.
Communications with key stakeholders	Targeted letters were sent to key stakeholders, including iwi representatives, schools, care groups and engaged entities from previous consultations.
Website	A comprehensive breakdown of the Long Term Plan consultation document was available on the Council website and included an embedded submission form.
Kōrero Mai	The Council engagement portal, Kōrero Mai, was used to capture formal submissions.
Digital advertising (NZME)	We did a range of digital advertising on NZME (NZ Herald).
Flags/banners	We had LTP flags made which were placed at Landing Road roundabout and at the bottom of the Ōhope Hill (Rex Morpeth side).
Internal – Whoogle, Better Together	Internal communication was done weekly.

7.1 Council Long Term Plan 24/34 Deliberations(Cont.)

Method	Detail
Staff 101 sessions	We held two staff 101 LTP sessions for those staff members who were unfamiliar with the LTP process or who were not directly involved with the process this time round. There was a good turn out to both sessions.
Activity Managers/Ambassador sessions	We held activity manager sessions in the lead up to the LTP to prep staff for consultation when they attended events.
Digital Screens	LTP information was up on our digital screen in customer services and library.
Digital Q&A	Digital Q&A on FB was done Thursday 4 April.
Focus groups	LTP information was shared amongst a number of focus groups for the diversity, equity and inclusion project, including: Older people – kaumātua, 12 March Young people – taiohi, 19 March Neurodivergent people - te hunga kanorau ā-roro, 26 March Rainbow community - hāpori takatāpui, 2 April Disabled people - tāngata whaikaha, 9 April Rural people - te hunga taiwhenua, 11 April
Youth Council	A presentation was made to the newly formed Youth Council on 25 March where we presented the LTP 101 presentation.

7. Considerations - *Whai Whakaaro*

7.1. Financial/budget considerations

The decisions of this report will impact the final LTP budget.

An overall LTP budget and the rating impact for communities across the district will be brought back to EER Committee on 23 May 2024 and finally to Council on 20 June 2024 for adoption.

7.2. Strategic alignment

The LTP is Council’s main strategic document and is a key strategic project for Council. The Strategic Framework includes Council’s vision, community outcomes and set of strategic priorities. It will be used in future Council reports’ strategic alignment section for the next three years.

7.3. Climate change assessment

Based on a climate change assessment, the decisions and matters of this report and the wider LTP process are assessed to have high climate change implications and considerations, in accordance with the Council’s Climate Change Principles. Climate Change has been a key consideration from the beginning of the LTP budget setting process. Building Climate Change and Natural Hazard Resilience, Including our Infrastructure and Shaping a Green District are identified as two strategic priorities

7.1 Council Long Term Plan 24/34 Deliberations(Cont.)

through the Council's LTP and there are numerous projects, services and proposals that Council is proposing. These will respond to and deliver on our Climate Change Targets as identified in our Climate Change Strategy.

The Council is currently reviewing the Climate Change Strategy and a number of the recommendations from LTP submissions align with the objectives and actions identified through the new Strategy. These include enhancing walking and cycling facilities, supporting and promoting solar installation, increasing flood resilience and adapting to climate change.

7.4. Risks

This report seeks to provide direction on the final LTP as a result of public submissions. The biggest risk would be with regards to public perception in terms of how Council responds to the feedback received. The deliberations process has been designed to ensure due consideration is provided to submissions received and a transparent process is followed to minimise this risk. However, as demonstrated through the range of submissions received, the community has different perspectives on the key decisions being made. Council will be considering community feedback in the context of all the information that Councillors have received over the past year.

There is still a timeframe risk for Council to meet the 20 July 2024 LTP adoption milestone. A project plan outlining how that date can be met is being followed, but the deliberations process, finalisation of the LTP and the Audit process required on the final LTP all impact the ability to deliver on the timeframes planned. The risk if the date is not met is directly connected to our ability to strike the rates and issue rates notices according to our usual timeframes that the community are familiar with and the administrative implications to fulfil this.

8. Next steps - *Ahu whakamua*

The next steps of the process towards completion of the final LTP is as follows:

Action	Timeframe
Deliberations	8/9/10 May 2024
EER Standing Committee approve final LTP to audit for Audit.	23 May 2024
Audit of LTP	27 May – 31 May 2024
Council adopt final LTP 2024-34, underlying information, and remaining supporting policies and proposals	20 June 2024
Back-up date for LTP adoption	27 June 2024
Additional back up for LTP adoption – last option before striking rates	11 July 2024

Attached to this report:

- Appendix 1 - LTP submissions
- Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions

7.1 Council Long Term Plan 24/34 Deliberations(Cont.)

- Appendix 3 - Late LTP submissions
- Appendix 4 - Social media report
- Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP
- Appendix 6 - 'Key Strategic Themes' for the LTP

7.1.1 Appendix 1 - LTP Submissions

7.1.1 Appendix 1 - LTP Submissions

The Long Term Plan Submissions documents (10 files in total) are released alongside this agenda.

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions


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7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 1	Responded At: Mar 13, 2024 08:24:59 am
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Mar 13, 2024 08:24:59 am
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

- Q1. **Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda** No, I do not want my name to be included on a publicly available agenda
-
- Q2. **Name (excluded from public agendas)** [REDACTED]
-
- Q3. **Name (included in public agendas)** not answered
-
- Q4. **Email address** [REDACTED]
-
- Q5. **Organisation (if on behalf)** not answered
-
- Q6. **Town/area of the district** Galatea/Murupara
-
- Q7. **Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on** Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25
-
- Q8. **Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy**
not answered
-
- Q9. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land**
not answered
-
- Q10. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land**
not answered
-
- Q11. **Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy**
not answered
-
- Q12. **Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25**
The introduction of fees for the Murupara Transfer Station would be incredibly detrimental to this small rural community. People would simply stop using the dump and start dumping more rubbish into the bush and along our rivers! I can tell you right now no-one in the Murupara and wider community area is going to pay those fees to use the transfer station. The cost of living is already exponentially painful, and the addition of this cost will not be welcomed. The area is already an incredibly low socio economic one, with a good portion of locals on the benefit or unable to work. At present the dump is a welcomed space for the community members to do the right thing and dispose of and recycle items responsibly, once you add ludicrous fees to this, it will simply stop the initiative to use it. It has always been a free service available to the community, and it must remain this way to ensure we can keep our forestry, rivers, lakes and surrounding areas clean and green.
-
- Q13. **Supporting Document** not answered

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 2	Responded At: Mar 13, 2024 15:18:04 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Mar 13, 2024 15:18:04 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

- Q1. Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda**

Yes, I would like my name to be included on a publicly available agenda

- Q2. Name (excluded from public agendas)**

not answered

- Q3. Name (included in public agendas)**

Kim Powley

- Q4. Email address**

[REDACTED]

- Q5. Organisation (if on behalf)**

not answered

- Q6. Town/area of the district**

Coastlands

- Q7. Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on**

Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25

- Q8. Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy**

not answered

- Q9. Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land**

not answered

- Q10. Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land**

not answered

- Q11. Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy**

not answered


- Q12. Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25**

We need the council to stop over spending. Let's prioritize work that needs doing and put off any extra projects that can wait. Rates are no longer affordable. Keep the rates increases in the single didgets.

- Q13. Supporting Document**


not answered

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 3	Responded At: Mar 13, 2024 16:55:58 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Mar 13, 2024 16:55:58 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

- Q1. **Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda** No, I do not want my name to be included on a publicly available agenda
-
- Q2. **Name (excluded from public agendas)** [REDACTED]
-
- Q3. **Name (included in public agendas)** not answered
-
- Q4. **Email address** [REDACTED]
-
- Q5. **Organisation (if on behalf)** not answered
-
- Q6. **Town/area of the district** Waimana
-
- Q7. **Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on** Development Contributions Policy
Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land
Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land
Revenue and Financing Policy
Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25
-
- Q8. **Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy**
We have no more money to give to council for rates.
-
- Q9. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land**
You guys are bleeding us dry.
-
- Q10. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land**
We can't afford to live with these rates increases.
-
- Q11. **Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy**
People will start loosing their homes due to these ridiculous increases.
-
- Q12. **Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25**
We are not an endless money pit for you all. We can not afford a rates increase. We have no spare money left as it is! Full stop.
-
- Q13. **Supporting Document** not answered
-

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 4	Responded At: Mar 14, 2024 09:33:11 am
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Mar 14, 2024 09:33:11 am
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

- Q1. Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda**

Yes, I would like my name to be included on a publicly available agenda

- Q2. Name (excluded from public agendas)**

not answered

- Q3. Name (included in public agendas)**

Jonnelle Main-McCall

- Q4. Email address**

[REDACTED]

- Q5. Organisation (if on behalf)**

The McCall Whanau

- Q6. Town/area of the district**

Awatapu

- Q7. Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on**

Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25

- Q8. Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy**

not answered

- Q9. Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land**

not answered

- Q10. Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land**

not answered

- Q11. Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy**

not answered

- Q12. Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25**


Stop spending on unnecessary wants. Listen to the people! User pays, you want you pay!

- Q13. Supporting Document**

not answered

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7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 5	Responded At: Mar 18, 2024 13:26:19 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Mar 18, 2024 13:26:19 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

- Q1. **Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda** No, I do not want my name to be included on a publicly available agenda
-
- Q2. **Name (excluded from public agendas)** [REDACTED]
-
- Q3. **Name (included in public agendas)** not answered
-
- Q4. **Email address** [REDACTED]
-
- Q5. **Organisation (if on behalf)** not answered
-
- Q6. **Town/area of the district** Galatea
-
- Q7. **Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on** Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25
-
- Q8. **Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy**
not answered
-
- Q9. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land**
not answered
-
- Q10. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land**
not answered
-
- Q11. **Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy**
not answered
-
- Q12. **Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25**
Please rethink the issue of putting charges in place for the murupara refuse centre. You can already see that the charges applied at the whakatane refuse are not working as you only need to drive down to whakatane and look at every area that a vehicle can stop to see the illegal dumping. Either driving the dam way or tahuna rd the illegal dumping is rampant. When these charges are brought in at murupara imagine what the surroundings will look like and the fees associated with having to do clean ups of the illegal dumping. My point is that we can already see that the whakatane dump fees are unachievable for some and when you take into account the low income and poverty people in our local area are living in they are not going to afford to dump there rubbish legally?
-
- Q13. **Supporting Document** not answered
-

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7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 6	Responded At: Mar 19, 2024 17:25:39 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Mar 19, 2024 17:25:39 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

- Q1. **Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda** No, I do not want my name to be included on a publicly available agenda
-
- Q2. **Name (excluded from public agendas)** [REDACTED]
-
- Q3. **Name (included in public agendas)** not answered
-
- Q4. **Email address** [REDACTED]
-
- Q5. **Organisation (if on behalf)** n/a
-
- Q6. **Town/area of the district** Whakatane
-
- Q7. **Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on** Development Contributions Policy
Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land
Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land
Revenue and Financing Policy
Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25
-
- Q8. **Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy**
The council needs to absorb these costs as they are the assets of the town. It is unfair to keep loading these costs on to developers that increase build costs for an asset they don't own. Developers are a needed activity is good for the town increasing rates take long term and more employment.
-
- Q9. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land**
Change to wording for Part 1: Rates Remission and Postponement for Financial Hardship to remove the five-year requirement. Changed to 'Council may take into consideration the length of time of ownership'. I Disagree as it will lead to ongoing unresolved issues. • Change to wording for Part 2: Rates Remission and Postponement for Financial Hardship to remove the seven-year requirement. Changed to 'Council may take into consideration the length of time. That decision is moving goal posts from 7 years or kicking the problem further away so no one has to take responsibility then as a result nothing happens. Make people accountable and do not change the policy.
-
- Q10. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land**
I do not support any changes to this policy
-
- Q11. **Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy**
I do not support any changes to this policy
-

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)


Q12. Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25

The Whakatane district council behemoth needs to boldly change they way it goes about management and charges. The increasing rates always based on last budget with a cost plus charge mentality without looking within the council operations for intensive cost savings. There are inefficient activities and inefficient people with council jobs that need to be removed or scaled back so council funds are not spent needlessly and as a result gaining rate savings. Council needs to minimise the political cultural and lobbyist aspects that incur extraordinary consultations and meetings for little benefit that can deliver considerable ratepayer savings as well.

Q13. Supporting Document


not answered

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 7	Responded At: Mar 22, 2024 18:51:05 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Mar 22, 2024 18:51:05 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a


- Q1. Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda** No, I do not want my name to be included on a publicly available agenda
-
- Q2. Name (excluded from public agendas)** [REDACTED]
-
- Q3. Name (included in public agendas)** not answered
-
- Q4. Email address** [REDACTED]
-
- Q5. Organisation (if on behalf)** not answered
-
- Q6. Town/area of the district** Whakatane
-
- Q7. Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on** Revenue and Financing Policy
-
- Q8. Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy**
not answered
-
- Q9. Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land**
not answered
-
- Q10. Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land**
not answered
-
- Q11. Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy**
The council financial management and planning leaves lots to be questioned and desired. The build-up to this shortfall has come a long way back. Not withstanding this they continue with indiscriminate spending and waste of ratepayers money. The need for accountability needs to be addressed have we not seen any visible spending cuts and cancelation of proposed capex budgets which is not required at present. To name a few, Council buildings, roading, Peace street , new round-about and many more. The proposed rates increase is a disservice to their community and people that voted for them. Vote of no confidence in council?
-
- Q12. Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25**
not answered
-
- Q13. Supporting Document** not answered
-

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 8	Responded At: Apr 03, 2024 13:20:42 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 03, 2024 13:20:42 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

- Q1. **Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda** No, I do not want my name to be included on a publicly available agenda
-
- Q2. **Name (excluded from public agendas)** [REDACTED]
-
- Q3. **Name (included in public agendas)** not answered
-
- Q4. **Email address** [REDACTED]
-
- Q5. **Organisation (if on behalf)** not answered
-
- Q6. **Town/area of the district** Murupara
-
- Q7. **Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on** Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25
-
- Q8. **Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy**
not answered
-
- Q9. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land**
not answered
-
- Q10. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land**
not answered
-
- Q11. **Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy**
not answered
-
- Q12. **Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25**
I am a rates payer and am AGAINST a fee added to the Murupara Recycle Centre, just to make Whakatane pretty.. You need to ask us rate payers if thats what we want as its our town.. If your going to put a fee there, then drop our rate.. Useless pricks..
-
- Q13. **Supporting Document** not answered

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 9	Responded At: Apr 03, 2024 14:33:44 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 03, 2024 14:33:44 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a


- Q1. **Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda** Yes, I would like my name to be included on a publicly available agenda
-
- Q2. **Name (excluded from public agendas)** not answered
-
- Q3. **Name (included in public agendas)** Troy sneddon
-
- Q4. **Email address** [REDACTED]
-
- Q5. **Organisation (if on behalf)** not answered
-
- Q6. **Town/area of the district** Murupara
-
- Q7. **Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on** Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25
-
- Q8. **Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy**
not answered
-
- Q9. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land**
not answered
-
- Q10. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land**
not answered
-
- Q11. **Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy**
not answered
-
- Q12. **Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25**
The damage that will be done will cost far more than what it currently costs the people of murupara are not the wealthiest of the district nor do they benefit like the coastal towns in the district I strongly oppose putting a charge on the murupara transfer station
-
- Q13. **Supporting Document** not answered
-

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 10	Responded At: Apr 03, 2024 14:46:45 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 03, 2024 14:46:45 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

- Q1. **Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda** Yes, I would like my name to be included on a publicly available agenda
-
- Q2. **Name (excluded from public agendas)** not answered
-
- Q3. **Name (included in public agendas)** Horomona Te Tomo
-
- Q4. **Email address** [REDACTED]
-
- Q5. **Organisation (if on behalf)** not answered
-
- Q6. **Town/area of the district** Murupara
-
- Q7. **Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on** Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25
-
- Q8. **Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy**
not answered
-
- Q9. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land**
not answered
-
- Q10. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land**
not answered
-
- Q11. **Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy**
not answered
-
- Q12. **Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25**
Murupara dump should remain free. In your fact sheet you say the rest of the Whakatane district is paying to keep our dump free? How much money from Murupara rate payers gone towards projects in Whakatane, Ohope and other districts? Because it sure as hell aint gone back into Murupara. Make the money we will no doubt end up paying because you have already made your mind up that this is going to happen we all know your jist going through the process. Put all the money we pay back into Murupara then maybe that will be fair. All the council does is take take take and what do we end up with? Shade sails over our shitty recycled playground? We dont even get a new playground for our kids, and yet Whakatane has a playground everywhere you go? If you want to charge us to dump rubbish at least give us something in return you rip off money hungry bastards.
-
- Q13. **Supporting Document** not answered

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 11	Responded At: Apr 03, 2024 17:37:06 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 03, 2024 17:37:06 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

- Q1. Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda**

No, I do not want my name to be included on a publicly available agenda

- Q2. Name (excluded from public agendas)**

██████████

- Q3. Name (included in public agendas)**

not answered

- Q4. Email address**

████████████████████

- Q5. Organisation (if on behalf)**

not answered

- Q6. Town/area of the district**

Murupara

- Q7. Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on**

Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25

- Q8. Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy**

not answered

- Q9. Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land**

not answered

- Q10. Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land**

not answered

- Q11. Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy**

not answered

- Q12. Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25**


Alguds to pay for a dump when the money is put back into Murupara, not taken away to Whakatane, so is paying for the dump making our rates cheaper or are we paying twice now, pay for the dump in our rates then pay again to actually use our dump. Nonsense

- Q13. Supporting Document**

not answered

Ordinary Council - AGENDA


7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 12	Responded At: Apr 03, 2024 22:09:08 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 03, 2024 22:09:08 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

- Q1. **Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda** No, I do not want my name to be included on a publicly available agenda
-
- Q2. **Name (excluded from public agendas)** [REDACTED]
-
- Q3. **Name (included in public agendas)** not answered
-
- Q4. **Email address** [REDACTED]
-
- Q5. **Organisation (if on behalf)** not answered
-
- Q6. **Town/area of the district** Muripara
-
- Q7. **Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on** Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25
-
- Q8. **Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy**
not answered
-
- Q9. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land**
not answered
-
- Q10. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land**
not answered
-
- Q11. **Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy**
not answered
-
- Q12. **Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25**
I don't think charge should be acceptable because it's going to cause more pollution to our area and bush if we are charged to pay for the dump
-
- Q13. **Supporting Document** not answered

Ordinary Council - AGENDA

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 13	Responded At: Apr 04, 2024 13:44:24 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 04, 2024 13:44:24 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

- Q1. Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda**

No, I do not want my name to be included on a publicly available agenda

- Q2. Name (excluded from public agendas)**

██████████

- Q3. Name (included in public agendas)**

not answered

- Q4. Email address**

████████████████████████████████████████

- Q5. Organisation (if on behalf)**

not answered

- Q6. Town/area of the district**

Murupara

- Q7. Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on**

Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25

- Q8. Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy**

not answered

- Q9. Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land**

not answered

- Q10. Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land**

not answered

- Q11. Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy**

not answered

- Q12. Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25**


Don't agree to fees and charges put on the transfer station here in murupara, we basically pay the same amount in rates as whakatane, and none of the money or mahi is put back in to the town. You can't expect a small town to pay over 2,000 \$ and rising might i add. in rates and be ok paying extra for the dump. Not to mention what having fees on the transfer station will have on the land. Stop being greedy!!!

- Q13. Supporting Document**

not answered

Ordinary Council - AGENDA

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 14	Responded At: Apr 07, 2024 14:47:36 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 07, 2024 14:47:36 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

- Q1. Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda**

No, I do not want my name to be included on a publicly available agenda

- Q2. Name (excluded from public agendas)**

[REDACTED]

- Q3. Name (included in public agendas)**

not answered

- Q4. Email address**

[REDACTED]

- Q5. Organisation (if on behalf)**

not answered

- Q6. Town/area of the district**

Murupara

- Q7. Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on**

Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25

- Q8. Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy**

not answered

- Q9. Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land**

not answered

- Q10. Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land**

not answered

- Q11. Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy**

not answered

- Q12. Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25**

Why should we have to pay to use our own dump? We don't see any improvements in our town from OUR rates money. So why should we need to pay for the little things in our town that we do have? For instance there is a massive pot hole outside of my families home, has been there for about 3 years now. Have the council come to fix it? Nope. The water also comes down the sloping road when it rains and floods our drive way, have the council come to fix it? Nope. They dont even mow along the ugly clump of dirt they have put up outside our house as a "barrier" between our road and the main road. It always gets half mowed when the council mow it. Nothing in our town is ever upgraded, we have had the same pool and same playground since i was a child and now my children have the same things. So where is the money going from our rates? Not on ANY upgrades to MURUPARA so why should we now have to pay MORE money out for something so our town can still see no improvements. I say absolutely NOT to fees being added to our dump! That is the LEAST we deserve from our rates money.

- Q13. Supporting Document**

not answered

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 15	Responded At: Apr 08, 2024 13:19:38 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 08, 2024 13:19:38 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

- Q1. Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda** No, I do not want my name to be included on a publicly available agenda
-
- Q2. Name (excluded from public agendas)** [REDACTED]
-
- Q3. Name (included in public agendas)** not answered
-
- Q4. Email address** [REDACTED]
-
- Q5. Organisation (if on behalf)** not answered
-
- Q6. Town/area of the district** Galatea
-
- Q7. Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on** Revenue and Financing Policy
Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25
-
- Q8. Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy**
not answered
-
- Q9. Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land**
not answered
-
- Q10. Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land**
not answered
-
- Q11. Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy**
As a business, we would never manage our business by continuing to borrow. That is not good business practice The council needs to provide ESSENTIAL services. If money is unavailable then the essential services should be the only spending allowed. Councils should not be borrowing to spend. Please do not spend money(100 million projected) on Rex more than park upgrade. This is never going to pay for itself. Families are struggling to make ends meet and projecting rate increases of 30 percent year upon year is unacceptable! We used to have rate rises under 10 percent for years . What makes 30 percent acceptable to council.
-
- Q12. Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25**
Increasing rates year upon year, with crazy increase projections such as 35 percent annually, is not sustainable. We understand things cost. I was unimpressed to hear 50 percent of roading cost is health and safety . Has health and safety become an out of control ideal that is unsustainable. Of course we want to have safe practiced buy some of the new requirements are going beyond. For example, requiring one truck in front and another truck behind a single man picking up rubbish on the roadside is extremely costly. 3 staff per hour and truck costs. Surely there is a more efficient system. Perhaps health and safetyneeds serious overhaul because it's no longer just making things safer it's making building roads twice as expensive.

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 16	Responded At: Apr 10, 2024 13:06:29 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 10, 2024 13:06:29 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

- Q1. **Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda** No, I do not want my name to be included on a publicly available agenda
-
- Q2. **Name (excluded from public agendas)** [REDACTED]
-
- Q3. **Name (included in public agendas)** not answered
-
- Q4. **Email address** [REDACTED]
-
- Q5. **Organisation (if on behalf)** not answered
-
- Q6. **Town/area of the district** Otakiri
-
- Q7. **Please indicate which financial policies you would like to provide feedback on** Development Contributions Policy
-
- Q8. **Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy**
See attached.
-
- Q9. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land**
not answered
-
- Q10. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land**
not answered
-
- Q11. **Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy**
not answered
-
- Q12. **Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25**
not answered
-
- Q13. **Supporting Document** https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/65f2249f1e0a38cfb4c353353d0296d07ba93de6/original/1712711171/6118fe90ad3101d9e4464368068871c5_Development_Contributions_Policy_submission.docx?1712711171

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

██████████ – Draft Development Contributions Policy 2024 submission

Thank you for the opportunity for lodge a submission on Draft Development Contributions Policy 2024 (DDCP) from Whakatāne District Council (WDC).

It is a difficult time for WDC in the face of financial pressures, such as WDC's Consumer Price Index (CPI) changes, inflationary pressures and the need for staff pay to match or be above inflation for those earning less than 100k, and the complexities that legislative change is bringing. These pressures are passed to our communities and whanau.

Ensuring that information is as accurate as possible and takes into account learnings and known data is important to guiding policy.

While undertaking a review of the DDCP, I noted a few things which may be beneficial to have revised or taken into account for the final DCP document.

-
- Information succinctness and clarity

The notified document is approximately 50 pages in length. Condensing this to be less than 25 pages (inclusive of appendices) would be highly desirable to reduce the difficulties that many members of the public will have to try and navigate and approach the policy.

- Further information and context

It isn't clear whether the population information and occupancy information takes into account the conclusions of the 2022 report "Homelessness in the Whakatāne District – A Situational Overview" produced by WDC, which found 480 persons identifying as homeless in the district. Based on the estimates of this DDCP of 2.7 persons per HEU, there's a current need for approximately 180 HEUs without any population growth. This information should be factored into housing growth projections or discounted from the population growth projects that is then used to calculate the number of Household Equivalent Units (HEU) required, which then flows to calculate the DC's payable for a new development.

- Alignment of definitions

In May 2024, WDC is required to adopt standardised definitions in the Whakatāne District Plan (WDP) which controls land use, development, and subdivision within the Whakatāne District. It will be beneficial to align definitions used in this DDCP to align with those in the Resource Management Act, Local Government Act, Building Act, and other higher order legislation or directive documents (such as the National Planning Standards), where appropriate.

- Availability of information

It is desirable for the documents referenced in the DDCP to be made available as a hyperlink, such as the "*Eastern Bay of Plenty Housing and Business Needs Research*" by MRCagney (July and September 2023). This document is heavily relied upon, but is not clearly available for review.

- Papakāinga

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

The DDCP identifies that the Policy does not apply to papakāinga housing development on Māori Land, unless it is connected to WDC reticulated services. This isn't explicitly clear about when a connection to WDC's reticulated services as being chargeable, so some correction to the wording may be useful.

The exemption of papakāinga from the DDCP is different to the current / prior DCP. It may be beneficial to retain a proportion of HEU being charged (e.g. a 0.25 HEU charge or limited to roading / transportation DCs) to help offset a proportion of development impacts. Being limited to roading or transportation DCs seems the most appropriate, as all land in the district will have access to the roading network, but not all developments will necessarily use the other services that are charged in the DDCP.

If papakāinga is to remain as fully exempt from the DCP, care will need to be taken to ensure that population growth associated with this is discounted from the growth assumptions used. Otherwise, WDC risks underestimating new HEUs, and therefore undercharging for developments, and requiring capital and development costs to be offset via rates or another means.

- HEU interpretation

Section 12.4 provides how to calculate HEUs in different scenarios, including:

c) For household units that are 75m² in gross floor area or less, the HEU shall be reduced based on the actual gross floor of the proposed household as a percentage of 75m². For example, a household unit of 60m² in gross floor area will be assessed as 0.8 of an HEU, being 80% of the size of a 75m² household unit.

It may be beneficial to have this align with the size of minor residential units (accessory building for habitation) in the WDP being 65 m².

Under 12.5 for HEU conversion factors, accommodation facilities may be complicated by residential lots which are able to develop an accommodation facility on a permitted basis (i.e. without resource consent), and delineation between impervious areas associated with each separate facility, particularly in a retro fitted situation, where two residential activities (residential unit and minor residential unit) may establish on a site, but converting to an accommodation facility incurs additional HEU charges for existing impervious surfaces. Guidance in this situation may be beneficial.

Further, there may be room for simplicity for accommodation units to specify that the 0.28 HEU per 100 m² of impervious area is in addition to a 0.5 HEU Stormwater charge for the base development / room.

- Information assumptions

The DDCP identifies that an expected increase of 3,388 people in the district, with an estimated additional 1255 units of accommodation being needed over the next 10 years. It goes on to say that:

The amount of land available for development will be considered as part of the Eastern Bay of Plenty Spatial Plan and subsequent review of the Whakatāne District Plan, starting in 2025.

...

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

The LTP 2024 -2034 does not yet include the full suite of capex projects required to meet the demand in the MRCagney report, and this will be more informed once the Spatial Plan is completed by December 2025, alongside the completion of the Waters Strategy (drinking water) and Open Spaces Strategy.

On this basis, this Development Contribution Policy will continue to seek contributions for projects that have been historically provided to meet growth and/or are currently planned to support growth at a rate consistent with what has occurred over the last three years.

Further, it states:

The Spatial Plan is not scheduled to be completed until the end of 2025, so this policy assumes that development will generally follow the pattern outlined in the District Plan for this next three-year period.

The policy identifies:

The Council will charge development contributions for new commercial and industrial development; or per subdivision lot for this purpose, as described below:

- *Water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure in Whakatāne, Coastlands, Bunyan Road, Huna/Shaw Road Structure Plan, and Ōhope or elsewhere if connected to one of these reticulated services.*
- *Roads and other transport infrastructure, including walking and cycling, throughout the Whakatāne District.*

However, it does not identify that Reserves or Community Infrastructure is to be charged throughout the district (or applicable area), and text should be added here to clearly state this.

Section 12.4 of the DDCP states that development of defined Structure Plan areas and infill potential and the location of existing residential zoned land in the Whakatāne District Plan and its capacity to meet future demand have been used to determine the total estimated HEUs for the Whakatāne District over the next ten years.

Section 12.4 of the DDCP identifies that WDC has had regard to the outcomes of the Eastern Bay of Plenty Spatial Plan to validate and moderate their estimates for HEUs to develop. While WDC will be involved in these discussions, it is also identified to be finalised in late 2025, so reliance on a document that is over 18 months away from publishing may be advantageous.

This section also identifies that knowledge of other potential housing or business investment such as papakāinga, iwi or Government-led housing initiatives have been used to validate and moderate their estimates for HEUs to develop. However, as noted under Section 4 of the DDCP, papakāinga developments are to be excluded from requiring DCs.

The DDCP states:

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

The number of additional HEU’s that is anticipated to be provided over the 2024-2034 period (10 years) is as follows:

- a) Whakatāne (south of the river) – 95 HEU’s in 10 years.
- b) Whakatāne (north of the river, including Coastlands/Opihi) – 200 HEU’s in 10 years.
- c) Ōhope – 50 HEU’s in ten years.
- d) Huna/Shaw Road Structure Plan Area and Kawarehe Trust land – 175 HEU’s in 10 years (recognising that 60 HEU’s have been built in the first stage of this development). Hence the complete Structure Plan area will comprise 235 HEU’s.
- e) Whakatāne District – 1,255 in 10 years or 2,048 HEU’s in 20 years.

Figure 1: Excerpt of anticipated growth in the DDCP

Based on the recent consents granted and Statistics New Zealand data from 2013 to 2018 (as available) and estimated growth in new residential zoned or serviced areas HEU figures have been estimated for 2021 - 2031 (10 years) as follows:

- a) Whakatāne (South of the river) – 95 HEU’s in 10 years.
- b) Coastlands/Opihi – 200 HEU’s in 10 years; 435 in 20 or more years.
- c) Ōhope – 50 HEU’s in ten years.
- d) Huna/Shaw Road Structure Plan Area – 200 HEU’s in 20 years (as per pre-development estimate in 2018).
- e) Whakatāne District – 1500 in 10 years or 2600 HEU’s in 20 years

Figure 2: Excerpt from the current DCP

Additionally to this, Council is required to undertake monitoring of housing figures under the National Policy Statement for Urban Development 2020.

Council has identified that in the northern part of the District it could provide approximately 687 dwellings through previously urbanised areas (infill and redevelopment) and previously undeveloped (greenfield) sites over the short, medium and long term.

Table 4: Whakatane Demand Assessment

Location	Estimated number of dwellings – short term (1-3 years), medium term (3-10 years)		
	Residential Zone	Deferred Residential Zone	Total
Whakatāne infill (incl. Urban Living Zone)	100		100
Ōhope infill	50		50
Bunyan Rd and Coastlands	80		80
Opihi	242		242
Opihi (Retirement village land)	105		105
Huna / Shaw Rd - Greenfield		110	
Total	577	110	687

Figure 3: Excerpt from the latest available NPS-UD quarterly monitoring dated June 2023

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7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

As was outlined by Section 4 and 12.4 that papakāinga development are sought to be exempt from the Policy, it should be made clear whether the expected development that has been taken into account in preparation of this DDCP is inclusive or exclusive of these expected papakāinga HEUs.

Additionally, there appears to be little change in the number of anticipated growth from various areas identified between the current and DDCPs. This is also seemingly different again from the numbers identified in the quarterly monitoring of urban development information required by the National Policy Statement for Urban Development 2020 (WDC info [here](#)).

12.8 of the DDCP states:

The total development contribution payable (DC) will be the Development Contributions Rate per HEU (A) times the Total HEUs for development (B)

Therefore, if WDC is inaccurate with their estimated development, insufficient DCs may be charged (noting that 12.5 states: *Units of demand will be reviewed when the policy is reviewed*). If WDC is inaccurate, it may mean that rates are required to offset costs that aren't recuperated via development.

- Review process

Section 22 identifies the monitoring and review aspect of the DCP – it may be helpful to have prior reviews referenced in the document, or the consultation page.

- Information errors

When reviewing the spreadsheet of figures, a couple of adding errors were found.

Reserves	Eve Rimmer Park	\$704,354
	Accessible Play Spaces	\$1,109,711
	Play Space Improvements	\$228,723
	Maraetōtara Improvements	\$19,110
	Wairaka Park Upgrade	\$161,057
	Murupara Park Improvements	\$325,334
	Aniwhenua Camp Water Supply Upgrade	\$79,027
	Bike Park/Pump Track	\$107,371
	Basketball facilities	\$164,190
		\$3,198,877

Figure 4: Excerpt from Appendix C

When adding this together, it gives a total of: \$2,898,877. This is a difference of \$300,000 from what is quoted and appears as if a project has been removed from the list, but the total hasn't been updated, or a result of human error with data entry. This will result in different DC charges per HEU.

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7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

Community Infrastructure	New Whakatāne Cemetery	\$2,819,409
	Whitehorse Drive Toilets	\$97,133
	Appenzell Drive Park Toilets	\$200,682
	Tāneatua Cemetery	\$126,443
		\$3,343,667
	Rex Morpeth Park	\$107,477,296
		\$10,820,963

Figure 5: Excerpt from Appendix C

When adding this together, it gives a total of: \$3,243,667. This is a difference of \$100,000 from what is quoted and appears as if a project has been removed from the list, but the total hasn't been updated, or a result of human error with data entry. This will result in different DC charges per HEU.

These points result in different charges for DCs. Although this isn't a significant difference for a HEU, it is concerning to find, and may mean that additional aspects of these figures should be subject to further scrutiny.

Further, it is unclear what the last line of this is in relation to, but it may be an addition of the bolded total figure of Community Infrastructure projects plus Rex Morpeth Park (but \$100,000,000 off – though this change is not carried over into the final contribution required).

- Location specific DCs

From reviewing the listed Reserve and Community Infrastructure projects identified in the DDCP, there are few projects listed for those outside of the Whakatāne / Ōhope area, even though this policy identifies that most HEUs to be established in the next 10 years are outside of the main development areas previously identified (Whakatāne north and south, Ōhope, and Huna/Shaw Road). Therefore, it may be disingenuous to be charging DCs on properties that will have significantly lower usage rates of the projects being funded.

It may be beneficial to show a new mapped area where these DCs are applicable to, unless further projects are to be added making these DCs relevant to other areas.

- Concluding

It isn't clear whether the population information and occupancy information takes into account the conclusions of the 2022 report "Homelessness in the Whakatāne District – A Situational Overview" which found almost 500 persons identifying as homeless in the district. Based on the estimates of this DCP of 2.7 persons per HEU, there's a current need for approximately 180 HEUs without any population growth.

Making future predictions with old or poor quality information can be quite difficult. It is unclear whether the population projections of the MR Cagney report takes into account for the DCP's discount to apply to papakāinga on Māori land, reducing the ultimate number of HEUs predicted. Further it is not clear where the immediate housing pressures identified in the WDC

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

produced location specific homelessness report has been factored in. Without these factors, it may lead to Council overpredicting expected HEUs that are DC chargeable, meaning lower revenue from developers to offset their effects and that other revenue sources are to subsidise these costs.

Adoption of a conservative stance on anticipated HEUs may be more accurate for the prediction and recoup a higher percentage of the capital costs for these projects. Otherwise, WDC risk making developments under a future LTP more costly or increasing reliance on rates to subsidise development expenses.

It is unclear whether the projected development figures will be able to recoup the costs identified by this DDCP and further review of anticipated development, and financial figures may be required. Should this not occur, this will likely result in rates funding capital works projects, rather than via developments that directly benefit from them. It may be beneficial to have an overall increase in the percentage of a project that is funded by development contributions (i.e. increase user pays fees) to offset rates subsidies for developments.

I appreciate the opportunity to lodge a submission on this process and hope that my submission and content is taken fully into account.

Ngā mihi nui,

██████████

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 17	Responded At: Apr 10, 2024 15:25:53 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 10, 2024 15:25:53 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

- Q1. **Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda** No, I do not want my name to be included on a publicly available agenda
-
- Q2. **Name (excluded from public agendas)** [REDACTED]
-
- Q3. **Name (included in public agendas)** not answered
-
- Q4. **Email address** [REDACTED]
-
- Q5. **Organisation (if on behalf)** not answered
-
- Q6. **Town/area of the district** Otakiri
-
- Q7. **Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on** Revenue and Financing Policy
-
- Q8. **Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy**
not answered
-
- Q9. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land**
not answered
-
- Q10. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land**
not answered
-
- Q11. **Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy**
See attached.
-
- Q12. **Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25**
not answered
-
- Q13. **Supporting Document** https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/e02d6849d721a6575d5ceaaae6ed0806e5e0aacf/original/1712719549/668c7a0bfc9d16aac34889e8924ced68_Revenue_and_Financing_Policy_2024_submission.docx?1712719549

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

██████████ – Revenue and Financing Policy 2024 submission

Thank you for the opportunity for lodge a submission on Revenue and Financing Policy 2024 (RFP) from Whakatāne District Council (WDC).

It is a difficult time for WDC in the face of financial pressures, such as WDC's Consumer Price Index (CPI) changes, inflationary pressures and the need for staff pay to match or be above inflation for those earning less than 100k, and the complexities that legislative change is bringing. These pressures are passed to our communities and whanau.

Ensuring that information is as accurate as possible and takes into account learnings and known data is important to guiding policy.

Below are matters which I believe may be useful for WDC to consider.

- Land banking targeted rate

A number of councils that have housing pressures have introduced to their rating schemes targeted rates for land banking properties. A land banking property is one that is residentially zoned in the Whakatāne District Plan and has services provided to it, so is prime for development. However, WDC's rating system is based around property value, which seems not to fully take into account development potential. Therefore, adopting a policy that is similar in nature to Auckland City Council, Wellington City Council or Christchurch City Council which has a higher targeted rate for land banked properties (such as those on Bunyan Road or the next stage of Shaw Road before the Berry Farm) may encourage development to occur, and increase housing availability within the district.

If this is adopted or that the framework is put in place, a consequential amendment should be made to the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies.

- Market neutrality principle

By maintaining market neutrality, WDC is perpetuating and reinforcing capitalist structures where private enterprise is prioritised over public interest. Such a policy will mean that the "market" is actually unduly influenced and mean that growth is stifled due to the lack of innovation to respond to Council's decisions and investments. Further, it would be highly unusual to see this working in the opposite direction. Removing this policy removes a limitation on community control and democratic decision-making in providing services, rather than relying solely on market mechanisms, meaning outcomes that are likely to be more socially equitable or just.

- User fees and charges cost recovery percentage

As has been identified in the FCP's principles and information regarding user Fees and Charges, a greater emphasis on cost recovery of particular services should be imposed. This will include changes to ensure that Resource Consents achieve a "High" or +70% user pays cost recovery. It should not be the place of the public to subsidise and socialise the costs of private development when they are not subject to the privatised wealth generation. There are other services provide by WDC which should also target a 70% cost recovery rate in the regulatory

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

area, such as building control. Private Plan Changes to the Whakatāne District Plan should be fully cost recoverable.

To ensure that this is achieved, appropriate staff charge out rates that are in line with other Councils should be set in place, and modifications of the Fees and Charges Schedule should be completed to ensure those teams are able to recoup expenses, and have additional funding to pay for staff.

I appreciate the opportunity to lodge a submission on this process and hope that my submission and content is taken fully into account.

Ngā mihi nui,


██████████

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 18	Responded At: Apr 12, 2024 06:30:09 am
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 12, 2024 06:30:09 am
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

- Q1. Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda** Yes, I would like my name to be included on a publicly available agenda
-
- Q2. Name (excluded from public agendas)** not answered
-
- Q3. Name (included in public agendas)** Lesley Martin
-
- Q4. Email address** [REDACTED]
-
- Q5. Organisation (if on behalf)** Myself
-
- Q6. Town/area of the district** Whakatane
-
- Q7. Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on** Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25
-
- Q8. Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy**
not answered
-
- Q9. Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land**
not answered
-
- Q10. Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land**
not answered
-
- Q11. Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy**
not answered
-
- Q12. Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25**
I really do not think this is the time to be hitting people in the Whakatane with any kind of increases. Times are tough at the moment, people are living hand to mouth....I am not saying the things you have planned are not good for the area, but it is all about the right time. And now is simply not the right time
-
- Q13. Supporting Document** not answered

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 19	Responded At: Apr 12, 2024 14:41:24 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 12, 2024 14:41:24 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

- Q1. **Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda** No, I do not want my name to be included on a publicly available agenda
-
- Q2. **Name (excluded from public agendas)** [REDACTED]
-
- Q3. **Name (included in public agendas)** not answered
-
- Q4. **Email address** [REDACTED]
-
- Q5. **Organisation (if on behalf)** not answered
-
- Q6. **Town/area of the district** Otakiri
-
- Q7. **Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on** Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25
-
- Q8. **Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy**
not answered
-
- Q9. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land**
not answered
-
- Q10. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land**
not answered
-
- Q11. **Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy**
not answered
-
- Q12. **Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25**
Changes to the proposed Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25 should be made to have staff charge out rates and costs of developer pays services (such as building and resource consents) to align with those from Western Bay of Plenty District Council. This is to ensure there is enough financial backing to be able to pay technical staff market rates and matching growth with CPI. Failure to do this will secure high staff turnover, or lack of qualified staff working for WDC.
-
- Q13. **Supporting Document** https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/f07d466aaa2a94fda432be4174da8f7569781f99/original/1712889510/0f42c36f76d7e094e3b5cc4997f345d5_Fees_and_Charges_2024_%E2%80%9393_submission.docx?1712889510

Ordinary Council - AGENDA

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

██████████ – Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25 – submission

Thank you for the opportunity for lodge a submission on the Fees and Charges Schedule from Whakatāne District Council (WDC).

It is a difficult time for WDC in the face of financial pressures, such as WDC’s Consumer Price Index (CPI) changes, inflationary pressures and the need for staff pay to match or be above inflation for those earning less than 100k, and the complexities that legislative change is bringing. These pressures are passed to our communities and whanau.

Ensuring that information is as accurate as possible and takes into account learnings and known data is important to guiding policy.

Below are matters which I believe may be useful for WDC to consider.

- Staff hourly charge out rates to align with Western Bay of Plenty District Council

I STRONGLY support that staff hourly charge out rates to align with Western Bay of Plenty District Council. This will mean that Council has increased cost recoveries for user pays services, such as resource consent and building consent processing. This will then mean that there is less subsidies from rates for private developments / that there is additional funds for staffing numbers, salaries, training, etc. This will mean that there is a better working environment for staff, and mean there is higher staff retention. As there is local precedent that these charge out rates are acceptable and this is in line with market charge out rates for local and private expertise in this field, so this should be implemented.

	Notes	2023/24 (\$)
Various charge out rates		
Group Manager		280.00
Environmental Consents Manager, Building Services Manager, Compliance and Monitoring Manager, Senior Managers (engineering, property, reserves), Land Development Engineering Manager		250.00
Team Leader Inspections, Team Leader Processing		225.00
Senior Consents Planner, Senior Building Control Officer, Senior Land Development Engineer, Professional Engineer, Senior Engineers (includes site inspections)		220.00
Building Control Officer, Consents Planner, Environmental Health Officer, Compliance Officer, Land Development Engineer		205.00
Building Warrant of Fitness Officer, Compliance and Monitoring Officer		180.00
Building Administrators, Consents Officers, Compliance Administrator Officers, Legal Property Officers, Property Officers, Reserves Officers, Engineering Officers/Technicians		150.00

Figure 1: Current WBOPDC staff charge out rates (ending June 2024)

- Fees and Charges Schedule to align with Western Bay of Plenty District Council

Council should explore and adopt changes to the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024 to align with those from Western Bay of Plenty District Council. Both Councils are undertaking the same services and therefore should be incurring similar costs. However, Western Bay of Plenty District Council is able to remunerate their staff at better rates, partly because of their Fees and Charges Schedule. As a user pays service, this affects developers, and typically isn't matters that should be subsidised by rates (e.g. building consents or resource consents).

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

I seek these changes as a result of the following reasons or observations:

- High staff turnover

I strongly seek that Council reviews staff turnover and retention rates compared to market averages and those of other councils, particularly that this matter is explored thoroughly, comprehensively and regularly by Audit and Risk.

I have had discussions with a large number of current and former staff who expressed discontentment with the way they and other staff are valued within the organisation. This is a significant risk factor, and means remaining staff are continually stressed filling the roles of staff that have left and are being replaced, and their replacement is trained and adjusted to the role. There are significant cost expenses to this practise, and this would be significantly offset by appropriately valuing staff to ensure that staff turnover is low.

- Staff remuneration

I strongly seek that Council reviews staff remuneration and position salary methodology. This is a factor of staff turnover, as salaries do not appear to be keeping in line with CPI (Consumer Price Index), nor are they in line with market expectations. In comparing the salary I had while I worked at WDC, to the job offer I have recently accepted, there is a 35% gap.

If remuneration does not keep in line with CPI or market salaries, it shall be difficult for WDC to attract suitably qualified or experienced staff, let alone retain them. This is a significant risk factor to WDC as an employer. For existing staff, their living situations will become more and more unpleasant or difficult, resulting in poorer work quality, and increased dissatisfaction. This is particularly concerning for those staff earning less than 75k per year.


Budget should be made to ensure that salaries can adjust with CPI and market rates. This may mean increasing staff charge out rates and user pays services (set via Fees and Charges Schedule).

I appreciate the opportunity to lodge a submission on this process and hope that my submission and content is taken fully into account.

Ngā mihi nui,

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7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 20	Responded At: Apr 12, 2024 16:18:00 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 12, 2024 16:18:00 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

Q1. **Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda** Yes, I would like my name to be included on a publicly available agenda

Q2. **Name (excluded from public agendas)** not answered

Q3. **Name (included in public agendas)** Don Richards

Q4. **Email address** [REDACTED]

Q5. **Organisation (if on behalf)** Positive Money New Zealand

Q6. **Town/area of the district** Whakatane

Q7. **Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on** Revenue and Financing Policy

Q8. **Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy**

not answered

Q9. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land**

not answered

Q10. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land**

not answered

Q11. **Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy**

See attached

Q12. **Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25**

not answered

Q13. **Supporting Document**

https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/7b6b6fa07f57ccd569dd307480ee48834627fdb8/original/1712895455/631895124f42de5f1112df3befd998a8_Positive_Money_New_Zealand_-_Financial_Policies.docx?1712895455

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

Submission on the Whakatane Revenue and Financing Policy

PositiveMoneyNZ

Submission on the Whakatane Revenue and Financing Policy

My name is Don Richards. I am a resident of Whakatane and the National Spokesperson for Positive Money New Zealand Incorporated (PMNZ), an independent, non-profit group advocating for monetary reform in New Zealand.

This submission forms part of a proposal by PMNZ to provide a viable funding model for water infrastructure as funding for water infrastructure is going to be a significant budget item in the next ten years and beyond.

The [Local Water Done Well](#) document states that it will be up to councils to decide what model they opt for to achieve financial sustainability and we therefore put this model forward for councils consideration.

PMNZ will be approaching other territorial and regional councils, Local Government New Zealand, the Local Government Funding Agency, the Infrastructure Commission and Water New Zealand to build industry support for our proposed funding model which follows:

Proposed funding model for water infrastructure

The Issue

The availability of finance has dogged meaningful water reform and this continues with the current Government's replacement for Three Waters, [Local Water Done Well](#).

It is difficult to understand how the following goals of Local Water Done Well will be achieved without a large injection of funding.

- Water services should earn sufficient revenues, either directly from users or from rates, to cover maintenance and depreciation of infrastructure
- Water services should not be a financial burden for councils. There should be sufficient levels of revenue ringfenced for investment in water assets. Councils shouldn't underinvest in water infrastructure to fund other services
- Pricing or charges for connection will be fair – for communities and councils.
- Councils will have to show they can meet the costs of infrastructure, including maintenance, depreciation and expected growth, so that pipes do not become a barrier to new development.

The Local Water Done Well document mentions borrowing from financial institutions as a way of funding repairs to water infrastructure. The issue is that some councils already have high debt levels.

The Local Water Done Well document proposes a model that would allow for three or more neighbouring councils to own a standalone entity. That entity would have the ability

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

Submission on the Whakatane Revenue and Financing Policy

to access long-term borrowing to invest in long-term infrastructure, without it impacting council balance sheets (so-called balance sheet separation).

While the debt would be off the councils' balance sheets and onto the standalone water entities, councils will still be left with large debt levels to service.

The Solution

The Local Water Done Well document states that it will be up to councils to decide what model they opt for to achieve financial sustainability.

Following is our model that will achieve the Local Water Done Well goals mentioned earlier and addresses the important issue of affordable public funding to support squeezed councils.

We propose using two trusted existing independent entities: the Infrastructure Commission (or a body similar to it, such as Crown Infrastructure Partners) and the Reserve Bank. Councils would submit projects to the Infrastructure Commission. The Commission's 10-year plan of priority projects would be sent to Parliament for review and approval, including a proposed 10-year funding contribution.

That funding contribution would be delivered to approved projects over the 10-year timeframe by the Reserve Bank through the purchase from councils of low interest bonds. This bond purchase would be similar to the Large Scale Asset Purchase (LSAP) programme during Covid where the Reserve Bank bought \$4 billion of Local Government Funding Agency bonds.

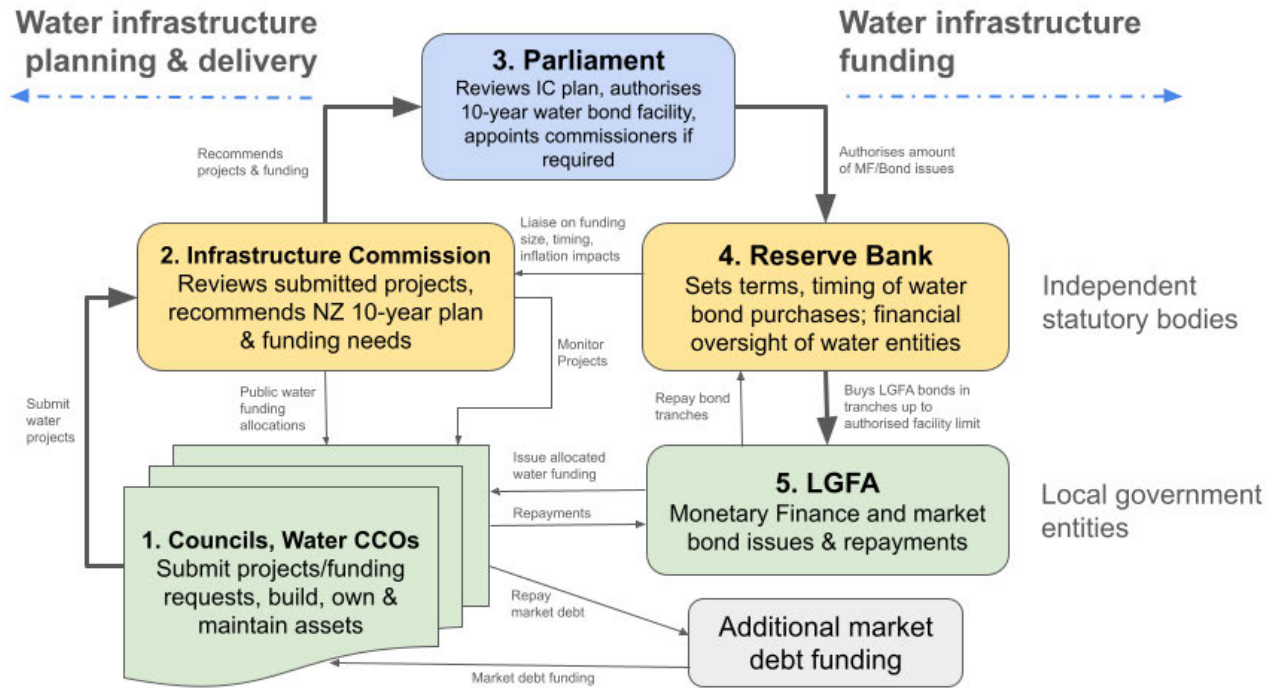
Councils would "top up" any shortfall via private market financing.

Benefits of the proposed model

- It provides long term certainty of projects and funding
- It retains local ownership and control of water assets
- It allows decisions about merging council water assets to be made on the basis of efficient regional planning and delivery, not the security demands of finance
- It delivers public funding at little cost to taxpayers while protecting them from credit risk
- It provides a mechanism to use the public funding contribution to boost finance available from private sources

Submission on the Whakatane Revenue and Financing Policy

Flow chart on how the model works



Proposed institutional design to support monetary financing of water infrastructure (Source: Positive Money NZ)

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)


Submission on the Whakatane Revenue and Financing Policy

Narration on how the model works

1. Councils plan and deliver water at a local or regional level and own the assets – this is what most people want, other than private financiers
2. Local water plans are submitted to the Infrastructure Commission (or a body within or similar to it, such as Crown Infrastructure Partners), reviewed, and “scored”, taking into account local, regional and national priorities
3. Based on the resulting 10-year water infrastructure plan, the Infrastructure Commission sends a recommendation to Parliament which includes a proposed 10-year public funding contribution
4. Parliament accepts or modifies the funding recommendation and it authorises a 10-year “Water Bond” facility, e.g. \$50 billion
5. Councils/CCOs (Council-Controlled Organisations) then bid for a share of this public funding to deliver projects included in the authorised list
6. In consultation with the Infrastructure Commission, the Reserve Bank assesses the bids and agrees to fill or partially fill requests for public funding (i.e. the right to issue Water Bonds up to each council/CCO’s approved limit)
7. Using the facility granted by Parliament, the Reserve Bank directly purchases approved Water Bonds issued by the Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA) during this 10-year period on behalf of its member councils and water CCOs. Any public funding will be ringfenced to specific projects, and unlike traditional government bonds, repayments will come from council water charges, not taxpayers.
8. Councils/CCOs retain the ability to raise finance from other sources to “top up” shortfalls in public funding or fund rejected projects. This includes issuing bonds via the LGFA to the private market and using other private financing sources.
9. The public debt would be subordinated to private funding (i.e. it would be second in line) to assist councils/CCOs in obtaining private finance
10. Parliament would have the right to appoint a water commissioner with significant powers to step in in the event of a council/CCO default of either public or private financing
11. Optionally, the Reserve Bank could serve as the financial regulator for publicly-funded water entities, monitoring those entities to ensure prudent financial management and highlight problems that might lead to default. It can recommend appointment of a commissioner to protect the interests of both the Crown and private bondholders.
12. The Reserve Bank would set the terms of the bonds it will purchase. A useful byproduct of this arrangement is that the Reserve Bank would directly control a fiscal tool that would complement its other tools in meeting its inflation mandate, e.g. by timing bond purchases to the availability of physical resources or varying interest rates or repayments with OCR changes. It can potentially use part of any interest rate premium above the OCR to fund a debt default insurance scheme.

Ordinary Council - AGENDA

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 21	Responded At: Apr 12, 2024 16:54:48 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 12, 2024 16:54:48 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

- Q1. **Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda** Yes, I would like my name to be included on a publicly available agenda
-
- Q2. **Name (excluded from public agendas)** not answered
-
- Q3. **Name (included in public agendas)** Diana & Brigid Ann
-
- Q4. **Email address** [REDACTED]
-
- Q5. **Organisation (if on behalf)** not answered
-
- Q6. **Town/area of the district** whakatane
-
- Q7. **Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on** Development Contributions Policy
Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land
Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land
Revenue and Financing Policy
Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25
-
- Q8. **Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy**
see attachment
-
- Q9. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land**
see attachment
-
- Q10. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land**
see attachment
-
- Q11. **Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy**
see attachment
-
- Q12. **Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25**
see attachment
-
- Q13. **Supporting Document** https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/78a055f3b58f403ad33164d9d9cbe7b361609622/original/1712897640/1f6faca662f087ee4faec4e4eedecfe8_CONSENT_NO_CONSENT_LTP_CLIMATE_POLICIES_Diana.docx?1712897640

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)
Whakatane

Whakatane District Council
14 Commerce Street
Whakatane

Attention: submissions@whakatane.govt.nz

Re: Long Term Plan 2024-34; Climate Change Strategy Review, Financial Policies

In regard to the above plan, review and policies, WE DO NOT CONSENT to the proposed rate increases or any additional borrowings.

In regard, to using our property Valuation Number: 07107 800 00 as collateral/security for any loans/debts WE DO NOT CONSENT.

Spending is extravagant. Economic times are hard within our District.

We DO NOT trust that Council/Council Staff are working in the best interests of ratepayers. Projects with cost over-runs, not being transparent, not managing properties correctly or project design errors.

There should be no race based policies; if it is good enough for one sector of the community it is good enough for all.

Development Levies – we should not have to pay for the pleasure to develop in Whakatane. Paying rates is enough.

Projects – if the people of Whakatane want a project badly enough, money should be raised privately by the people.

Population is on the decline with all cause mortality the highest NZ has known and birth rates have reduced significantly over the past couple of years. Based on current trends overseas we can expect all cause mortality to increase over the next few years.

Auckland City has joined Mayors worldwide in the C40 cities with ambitious targets by 2030 of 0kg meat consumption, 0kg dairy consumption, 2,500kcal per person per day, 0% household food waste, 75% reduction in supply chain food waste, 3 new clothing items per person per year, 0 private vehicles, 1 short-haul return flight (less than 1500km) every 3 years per person.

This could have significant impacts on our communities if it comes to fruition.

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

There is information out there that natural meat is very necessary for brain development and mental health. The fake meat being produced by Bill Gates collective has recently been found to have cancer cells, the risks to be identified. Fluoridation is found to affect mental cognitive abilities. We must not place 100% certainty on the narrative.

Climate Change policies should be reviewed on an ongoing basis and Council should be utilising their staff to seek knowledge and not just from Wellington. If one follows the narrative from Wellington, as per Covid, you may end up dead like a friend of ours after his third vax.

We as people are made of carbon, we need carbon to survive. Carbon which makes up 0.04% of the atmosphere is at 417ppm (June 2021), however if it reaches 200ppm the survival threshold for vegetation, that could be the extinction of man.

Yes the climate is changing, however it is not made by man in general but by geoengineering of a few to create fear, to steal from people. I call it 'designer climate' and there are over 1000 patents to modify weather. Council should be actively protecting our communities from the geoengineering that is occurring locally. Different states in the USA are now legislating against geoengineering, and the UN, WHO and WEF. If you want more information check out the documentary "The Dimming" and also "Climate: the Movie (The Cold Truth)".

We need a Council that will fight for the ratepayers and the community to ensure policies by unelected third parties are not taking over our country.

██████████

██████████

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 22	Responded At: Apr 15, 2024 14:57:47 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 15, 2024 14:57:47 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

- Q1. Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda**

Yes, I would like my name to be included on a publicly available agenda

- Q2. Name (excluded from public agendas)**

not answered

- Q3. Name (included in public agendas)**

L Tapara

- Q4. Email address**

[REDACTED]

- Q5. Organisation (if on behalf)**

not answered

- Q6. Town/area of the district**

Murupara

- Q7. Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on**

Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25

- Q8. Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy**

not answered

- Q9. Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land**

not answered

- Q10. Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land**

not answered

- Q11. Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy**

not answered

- Q12. Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25**

See attached

- Q13. Supporting Document**

https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/c41a0330e343f5da64cf3cce962a36f09c83da36/original/1713149866/530b94a6ccc11499c4acab53235bb280_L_Tapara.pdf?1713149866

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL LONG TERM PLAN 2024-34
- REVIEW OF FINANCIAL POLICIES 2024

Name*: L Tapara

Town/area of the district*: Murupara

Organisation (if on behalf):

*Privacy note: The information on this page (including fields above) forms part of your submission and will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda. Please leave any fields blank if you do not want this to be available on a public meeting agenda.

Before each comment please specify which financial policy you are commenting on.

Proposed Charges at the Murupara Refuse Transfer Station

- ID for ^{Ratepayers} (locals) and 5 free passes to use. Outsiders sneal in and use this facility!!
- Introduce a Worm farm for ^{+Green} food waste (no citrus & onions) and make money off Vermicast - Partner with Community
- Its a smaller facility with less resources than the Wtk transfer station. Go from charging nothing to charging half of Wtk's fees.

Fees and Charges

- \$300 for an ^{rearing} unregistered dog is a weeks shopping for a family. Its too much. \$85 to have dog put down by animal control voluntarily is too much.
- ^{Concervently} No education and Incentives for ^{dog} owners, especially the ones that register their dogs. Feed BIG SIGNS out re. rules.


Dirtbikes

Sort them out! They're ripping up Parks and getting away with it. Take away access to Park.

Need more space for your feedback?

Please add more pages and make sure your name and organisation (if relevant) are at the top of each page.

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 23 Login: Anonymous Email: n/a	Responded At: Apr 15, 2024 15:00:24 pm Last Seen: Apr 15, 2024 15:00:24 pm IP Address: n/a
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

- Q1. **Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda** Yes, I would like my name to be included on a publicly available agenda
-
- Q2. **Name (excluded from public agendas)** not answered
-
- Q3. **Name (included in public agendas)** Janice de Raad
-
- Q4. **Email address** [REDACTED]
- Q5. **Organisation (if on behalf)** not answered
- Q6. **Town/area of the district** Whakatane rural
- Q7. **Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on** Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25
- Q8. **Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy**
not answered
- Q9. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land**
not answered
- Q10. **Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land**
See attached
- Q11. **Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy**
not answered
- Q12. **Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25**
See attached
- Q13. **Supporting Document** https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/bb481769b8b9713e9f606218cd713d367a943676/original/1713150015/069326fe5f69eae915e991bc2ca443a3_Janice_de_Raad_FP.pdf?1713150015

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL LONG TERM PLAN 2024-34
- REVIEW OF FINANCIAL POLICIES 2024

Name*: Janice de Raad
Town/area of the district*: Hauārae Road
Organisation (if on behalf):

*Privacy note: The information on this page (including fields above) forms part of your submission and will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda. Please leave any fields blank if you do not want this to be available on a public meeting agenda.

Before each comment please specify which financial policy you are commenting on.

Fees & charges : Yes should be more charged to those who use it , and reduce rates elsewhere


Rates Remission = Postponement
Perhaps you could access our Strawman account since you are sending the account to a legal Fiction Dead Entity.

I am a Living Being..... not DEAD.

Need more space for your feedback?

Please add more pages and make sure your name and organisation (if relevant) are at the top of each page.

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 24	Responded At: Apr 16, 2024 12:20:32 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 16, 2024 12:20:32 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

Q1. Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda No, I do not want my name to be included on a publicly available agenda

Q2. Name (excluded from public agendas) [REDACTED]

Q3. Name (included in public agendas) not answered

Q4. Email address [REDACTED]

Q5. Organisation (if on behalf) not answered

Q6. Town/area of the district Murupara

Q7. Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25

Q8. Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy
not answered

Q9. Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land
not answered

Q10. Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land
not answered

Q11. Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy
not answered

Ordinary Council - AGENDA

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)**Q12. Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25**

I am concerned about the possibility of fees being charged to use the transfer station. While WDC recognise there will be an increase of illegal dumping and how it's going have huge impact on our ngahere and awa. Is this good enough though?- I don't see solutions from WDC to manage the cleaning up the illegal dumping. Does it become our problem? Murupara is a low socio-economic area as you are all aware. Our people will not be able to afford the fees, even more so in a cost of living crisis. Illegal dumping will become prevalent. How much does it cost for a Ute load of rubbish - a trailer load? A fridge, stove, washing machines etc - green waste? Would be helpful to know what we are going to be in for. I was part of the A Team - this team consisted of myself, my daughter and my sister. We were given an award from the WDC for the cleaning up of rubbish in our rohe. We would shift lounge suites, freezers, rubbish by ourselves no easy feat - 3 women and our children. We educated by posting on fb and we created an awareness of its not okay. I will mention too we had assistance from Murupara Service Centre, they provided gloves rubbish bags, bins and sanitisers to which we are grateful. Unfortunately we would not be prepared for the huge increase of illegal dumping that will happen once fees are introduced. Concerned residents will not be able to cope with the influx. Is it fair for WDC to expect residents to clean it up? What the A Team realised was if there was an area with rubbish dumped, it sent a message that it's okay for others to dump there also. Please reconsider introducing fees or are there other solutions that can be explored. What will those solutions look like? Will those solutions be in aligned and suit the Murupara community? Thank you so much for taking the time to read this email. Nga mihi nui [REDACTED]

Q13. Supporting Document

not answered

7.1.2 Appendix 2 - Policies and Proposals Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 25	Responded At: Apr 16, 2024 12:21:13 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 16, 2024 12:21:13 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

Q1. Name: Your submission will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda including your name. Please indicate if you do not want your name to be included with your submission on a publicly available agenda No, I do not want my name to be included on a publicly available agenda

Q2. Name (excluded from public agendas) [REDACTED]

Q3. Name (included in public agendas) not answered

Q4. Email address [REDACTED]

Q5. Organisation (if on behalf) not answered

Q6. Town/area of the district Murupara

Q7. Please indicate which financial polices you would like to provide feedback on Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25

Q8. Your feedback on the Development Contributions Policy

not answered

Q9. Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - All Land

not answered

Q10. Your feedback on the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies - Māori Freehold Land

not answered

Q11. Your feedback on the Revenue and Financing Policy

not answered

Q12. Your feedback on the Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25

I don't agree to charges enforced on the Murupara transfer station . My understanding of a transfer station is when items are placed at the station, then transferred to another station where everything is recycled into fuel or something else. If the transfer station is not cost affective then something else needs to be put in place which is not a charge fee. Imposing a fee will result to major roadside/parks areas, etc. littering/clean ups cost. When I think of "Responsibility" I don't think much of you as a council. Our town is falling apart because it is not looked after by you, yet you continue to increase our rates. On this note, most times I visit the transfer station with green waste is when I have to clean up your roadside street birches outside my house and the leaves that come off your trees that I have been complaining to use about for the last 4 years that make a total mess all over my lawn and roadside. I have no problem sweeping the mess your trees leave behind onto the road if it means I have to pay to dump your rubbish.

Q13. Supporting Document not answered

7.1.3 Appendix 3 - LTP Late Submissions

7.1.3 Appendix 3 - LTP Late Submissions

7.1.3 Appendix 3 - LTP Late Submissions(Cont.)

Please find my responses in **bold** below to the four specific questions that were on the online submissions form.

How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Option 1: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 35% external funding for major development works in 2028 and 2029.

Option 2: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 50% external funding for major development works in 2029 and 2030.

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

Option 2: Separate foodwaste collection for urban properties only.

Option 3: Separate foodwaste collection for all properties.

How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Option 1: Close the gap quickly (in one year) so we pay less in the future.

Option 2: Close the gap in the short-term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

Option 1: (Status quo) – 24% UAGC – \$927.50 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

Option 2: 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

Comments

The council should be standing up against government directives that result in increases to the rates burden on householders and should be proactively looking to implement the least cost option.

Food waste collection - is just one example of a government directive that has resulted in a grossly over complicated set of solutions. How many man hours went into devising those plans? Yet no indication of cost to process this food waste. Simple solution to use existing green bin. No larger waste bin needed, No changes needed to the existing waste collection timetable. No extra cost to the ratepayer.

Kind regards

Ordinary Council - AGENDA

7.1.3 Appendix 3 - LTP Late Submissions(Cont.)

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL LONG TERM PLAN 2024-34 - SUBMISSION FORM

Name*: JUDITH GEERLINGIS

Town/area of the district*: OHOPE BEACH

Organisation (if on behalf):

*Privacy note: The information on this page (including fields above) forms part of your submission and will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda. Please leave any fields blank if you do not want this to be available on a public meeting agenda.

<p>How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 1: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 35% external funding for major development works in 2028 and 2029.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 2: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 50% external funding for major development works in 2029 and 2030.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub</p> <p><small>Please refer to pages 24-26 of the Consultation Document for approximate costs and ratepayer contributions.</small></p>	<p>Your thoughts Stop unnecessary work on all council build we are still paying for the excess for the council building overspend. No more upgrades at present times All the massive blow on past & present projects are of major concern.</p>
<p>How should we manage foodwaste collection?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 2: Separate foodwaste collection for urban properties only.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 3: Separate foodwaste collection to all properties.</p>	<p>Your thoughts mixed food & green waste for all properties</p>
<p>How quickly should we close our funding gap?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 1: Close the gap quickly (in one year) so we pay less in the future.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 2: Close the gap in the short term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 3: Close the gap in the medium term (in six years) to ease the burden now.</p>	<p>Your thoughts Option 4: Close the gap in 20 years twenty years, Council needs to learn to budget within means No unnecessary at great expense No to the Marina toxic waste concern. Reduce excess staff & try cutting costs first!</p>
<p>How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 1: (Status quo) – 24% UAGC – \$927.50 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Option 2: 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p>	<p>Your thoughts Option 1 on the proviso all property owners pay it and there is no discrepancies in who can/can not afford to pay. Make it fair and equal. Sick of OHOPE being a cash cow. We are the only area within the council that are fully paid upon their rates. Council should make a greater effort to retrieve rates for the that don't pay or pay late</p>

Need more space for your feedback?

Please add more pages and make sure your name and organisation (if relevant) are at the top of each page.

Ordinary Council - AGENDA

7.1.3 Appendix 3 - LTP Late Submissions(Cont.)

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL LONG TERM PLAN 2024-34 - SUBMISSION FORM

Name*: Angela Saunders

Town/area of the district*: Whakatane

Organisation (if on behalf):

**Privacy note: The information on this page (including fields above) forms part of your submission and will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda. Please leave any fields blank if you do not want this to be available on a public meeting agenda.*

<p>How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 1: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 35% external funding for major development works in 2028 and 2029.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 2: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 50% external funding for major development works in 2029 and 2030.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub</p> <p><i>Please refer to pages 24-26 of the Consultation Document for approximate costs and ratepayer contributions.</i></p>	<p>Your thoughts</p>
<p>How should we manage foodwaste collection?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 2: Separate foodwaste collection for urban properties only.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 3: Separate foodwaste collection to all properties.</p>	<p>Your thoughts</p>
<p>How quickly should we close our funding gap?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Option 1: Close the gap quickly (in one year) so we pay less in the future.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 2: Close the gap in the short term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 3: Close the gap in the medium term (in six years) to ease the burden now.</p>	<p>Your thoughts</p>
<p>How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 1: (Status quo) – 24% UAGC – \$927.50 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Option 2: 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p>	<p>Your thoughts</p>

Need more space for your feedback?

Please add more pages and make sure your name and organisation (if relevant) are at the top of each page.

7.1.3 Appendix 3 - LTP Late Submissions(Cont.)

I submit the following feedback for consideration to improve our City and hopefully Council operation by savings and efficiency.

1. Cancel the Marina. This is not suitable for our city due to the horrendous expense of completing this project and the aftermath in the upkeep of this project. Getting rid of the contaminated area before construction begins is fraught with hazards and huge remediation costs. Each day these costs are going up. The continuous dredging of the river to keep the facility operating will be on going expense, if we can't dredge the Wairaaka Sandpit to facilitate safe entry and access to the River by marine vessels how are we going to get the river dredged it is also anticipated there will be IWI and Hapu opposition to this.

Please flag this costly project.

We also need a staff review for the whole District council. This is a matter of some urgency, as the Organisational pyramid will surely be inverted. Too many Chiefs to spoil the Broth in our case. I am sure they will be paid a fair exit parachute' which will be recovered and used for better purposes in the future.

Thank You

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dyke', is written below the 'Thank You' text.

7.1.3 Appendix 3 - LTP Late Submissions(Cont.)

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL LONG TERM PLAN 2024-34 - SUBMISSION FORM

Name*:

Town/area of the district*:

Organisation (if on behalf):

**Privacy note: The information on this page (including fields above) forms part of your submission and will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda. Please leave any fields blank if you do not want this to be available on a public meeting agenda.*

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<p>How should we manage foodwaste collection?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 2: Separate foodwaste collection for urban properties only.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 3: Separate foodwaste collection to all properties.</p>	<p><i>Your thoughts</i></p>
<p>How quickly should we close our funding gap?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Option 1: Close the gap quickly (in one year) so we pay less in the future.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 2: Close the gap in the short term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 3: Close the gap in the medium term (in six years) to ease the burden now.</p>	<p><i>Your thoughts</i></p>
<p>How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 1: (Status quo) – 24% UAGC – \$927.50 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Option 2: 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p>	<p><i>Your thoughts</i></p>

Need more space for your feedback?

Please add more pages and make sure your name and organisation (if relevant) are at the top of each page.

7.1.3 Appendix 3 - LTP Late Submissions(Cont.)

I submit the following feedback for consideration to improve our City and hopefully Council operation by savings and efficiency.

1. Cancel the Marina. This is not suitable for our city due to the horrendous expense of completing this project and the aftermath in the upkeep of this project. Getting rid of the contaminated area before construction begins is fraught with hazards and huge remediation costs. Each day these costs are going up. The continuous dredging of the river to keep the facility operating will be on going expense, if we can't dredge the Wairaaka Sandpit to facilitate safe entry and access to the River by marine vessels how are we going to get the river dredged it is also anticipated there will be IWI and Hapu opposition to this.

Please flag this costly project.

We also need a staff review for the whole District council. This is a matter of some urgency, as the Organisational pyramid will surely be inverted. Too many Chiefs to spoil the Broth in our case. I am sure they will be paid a fair exit parachute' which will be recovered and used for better purposes in the future.

Thank You



7.1.3 Appendix 3 - LTP Late Submissions(Cont.)

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL LONG TERM PLAN 2024-34 - SUBMISSION FORM

Name*: LORIE HICKSON

Town/area of the district*: WHAKATANE

Organisation (if on behalf):

**Privacy note: The information on this page (including fields above) forms part of your submission and will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda. Please leave any fields blank if you do not want this to be available on a public meeting agenda.*

<p>How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 1: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 35% external funding for major development works in 2028 and 2029.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Option 2: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 50% external funding for major development works in 2029 and 2030.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub</p> <p><i>Please refer to pages 24-26 of the Consultation Document for approximate costs and ratepayer contributions.</i></p>	<p>Your thoughts</p>
<p>How should we manage foodwaste collection?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 2: Separate foodwaste collection for urban properties only.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 3: Separate foodwaste collection to all properties.</p>	<p>Your thoughts <i>As most local residents have gardens & can compost@ home if the government doesn't require it we should not proceed.</i></p>
<p>How quickly should we close our funding gap?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 1: Close the gap quickly (in one year) so we pay less in the future.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 2: Close the gap in the short term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Option 3: Close the gap in the medium term (in six years) to ease the burden now.</p>	<p>Your thoughts</p>
<p>How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 1: (Status quo) – 24% UAGC – \$927.50 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 2: 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p>	<p>Your thoughts</p>

Need more space for your feedback?

Please add more pages and make sure your name and organisation (if relevant) are at the top of each page.

7.1.3 Appendix 3 - LTP Late Submissions(Cont.)

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL LONG TERM PLAN 2024-34 - SUBMISSION FORM

Name*: Marqreta Nicholson Steens

Town/area of the district*: Matata

Organisation (if on behalf):

*Privacy note: The information on this page (including fields above) forms part of your submission and will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda. Please leave any fields blank if you do not want this to be available on a public meeting agenda.

<p>How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 1: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 35% external funding for major development works in 2028 and 2029.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 2: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 50% external funding for major development works in 2029 and 2030.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub</p> <p><small>Please refer to pages 24-26 of the Consultation Document for approximate costs and ratepayer contributions.</small></p>	<p>Your thoughts R.M.P Buildings + Land is a finite space. It isn't able to sustain increasing multiple uses. Necessary maintenance + upgrades for existing users → fine. WDC should be looking for alternative venues that can accommodate population growth + needs, traffic congestion is a nightmare around R.M.P. during events.</p>
<p>How should we manage foodwaste collection?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Option 2: Separate foodwaste collection for urban properties only.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 3: Separate foodwaste collection to all properties.</p>	<p>Rural Properties shd be able to manage their own foodwaste/greenwaste</p>
<p>How quickly should we close our funding gap?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 1: Close the gap quickly (in one year) so we pay less in the future.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Option 2: Close the gap in the short term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 3: Close the gap in the medium term (in six years) to ease the burden now.</p>	<p>Your thoughts</p>
<p>How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 1: (Status quo) – 24% UAGC – \$927.50 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 2: 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p>	<p>Your thoughts Any property that is used for commercial gain, be it airbnb, home industry eg hair salon or farming etc should pay more rates than a property that is solely residential.</p>

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7.1.3 Appendix 3 - LTP Late Submissions(Cont.)

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL LONG TERM PLAN 2024-34 - SUBMISSION FORM

Name*: Walter Boyce

Town/area of the district*: Whakatane - Thornton

Organisation (if on behalf):

**Privacy note: The information on this page (including fields above) forms part of your submission and will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda. Please leave any fields blank if you do not want this to be available on a public meeting agenda.*

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<p>How should we manage foodwaste collection?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 2: Separate foodwaste collection for urban properties only.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 3: Separate foodwaste collection to all properties.</p>	<p>Your thoughts</p> <p>Reduce General waste collection to fortnightly on rural properties.</p>
<p>How quickly should we close our funding gap?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 1: Close the gap quickly (in one year) so we pay less in the future.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Option 2: Close the gap in the short term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Option 3: Close the gap in the medium term (in six years) to ease the burden now.</p>	<p>Your thoughts</p>
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7.1.3 Appendix 3 - LTP Late Submissions(Cont.)

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL LONG TERM PLAN 2024-34 - SUBMISSION FORM

Name*: Walter Boyce

Town/area of the district*: Whakatane - Thornton

Organisation (if on behalf):

**Privacy note: The information on this page (including fields above) forms part of your submission and will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda. Please leave any fields blank if you do not want this to be available on a public meeting agenda.*

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Please add more pages and make sure your name and organisation (if relevant) are at the top of each page.

7.1.4 Appendix 4 - Social Media Summary

7.1.4 Appendix 4 - Social Media Summary

7.1.4 Appendix 4 - Social Media Summary(Cont.)

Post Info	Comments	Insights
<p>How should we scale, stage and fund necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?</p>	<p>Tania Bruning We shouldn't. Can't even maintain the playgrounds you have now, riverbank/skatepark one is a mess! Safety padding all ripped up under the swing area and around other parts.</p> <p>Gray Innes Tania Bruning yep they need to go back to doing the basic council jobs and stop dreaming up new ones to waste rate payer's money,</p> <p>Morag Gibson Tania Bruning as far as rex morpeth grounds go I listened to an interesting report from Lesley Imminck this morn on 1XX and those upgrades are happening they been in the last 2 10 yr plans but they are doing in piece meal form the cost of upgrade is the full amount and when I thought about it they HAVE upgraded the path at side in this last financial yr, . It is in the plans for the next 3 to 4 yrs I think she said. What they need to do is either clarify it like this or work out and put in , in the ltp the amount for this term. There is a mtg at war memorial hall nxt tues 7 -.9pm run by council</p> <p>Jessica Steel Let's fund the long overdue and necessary Matata Sewerage, basic infrastructure, that we have already spent hundreds of thousands on consultation and testing for. This is a necessity not a luxury.</p> <p>Rangipare Belshaw-Ngaropo Jessica Steel Tautoko! The allocation of resources needs to be equitable across the region. Not just Whakatāne and Ohope.</p> <p>Mary Russell Surely the time has come for the council to concentrate on legally obliged actions i.e.. water, sewage, roading, etc. And I too would like the roof fixed in the War Memorial Hall.</p> <p>Blair Officer Cut back on Consultant fees and Termination of Contract costs. Be interested in knowing the cost of the guy you've got in for the flop of Harbour project you can't bring yourself to back out of</p> <p>Sheena Hohneck Nope! We pay rates to Whakatane District Council but we live an hour out of town and don't even use half the things we pay rates for 😞</p> <p>Johnny Hudson no other needs</p> <p>Ashley Norrish The Rex Morpeth recreation centre ? sound like we are being led into another expensive rebuild we cant afford...bit like getting the WDC building refurbishment that we were led to believe was needed to bring the building up to earthquake standards ? wasnt it really just to gut the building then rebuild with extravagant internal fittings beyond belief just to pander to the occupants when its really only for office workers comfort , not to try for a show piece for other councils to envy.</p>	<div data-bbox="1765 535 2270 1092"> <p>Post Impressions 3,486</p> <p>Post reach 3,324</p> <p>Engagement 342</p> <p>Interactions</p> <p>👍 5 ❤️ 2 😂 1 😱 0 😭 0 😡 1</p> <p>Reactions 7</p> <p>Comments 24</p> <p>Photo Views 13</p> <p>Link Clicks 3</p> <p>Shares 3</p> <p>Other Clicks 292</p> </div>

7.1.4 Appendix 4 - Social Media Summary(Cont.)

<p>How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?</p>	<p>Wayne Farrow Looks like pure gobbledegook to me! By pretending to care and propose to lower one part of the overall rates bill while still intending a massive percentage increase across the board is nothing but disingenious (sp?) at best. Time to wind back the "wish list" and concentrate what is really NEEDED in our community. We are in the throes of an economic downturn, so how do the occupants of the new Ivory Tower white elephant on Commerce Street propose that the average homeowner/ratepayer can afford to pay for their delusional schemes???</p>	
	<p>Liz Kingi By not increasing rates heck maaaaan!!</p>	
	<p>Freedom Forall Again Te Kaunihera ā rohe o Kawerau - Kawerau District Council When are you going to inform the people that on top of all this....Water meters are eventually coming to our homes too?? You guys know this. It's in your plans. It's part of the "Agenda." Creating poverty is the new norm for Councils.</p>	
	<p>Erika Anker We all have to live within our means, it's about time you do too. We can't afford you.</p>	
	<p>Russell Orr Property taxes (Rates) are not a wealth tax or capital gains tax .. please don't treat them as such. Where you are providing a service then those benefiting from that service should pay (user pays). If it is hard to ascertain who benefits then fair enough .. everyone pays on an affordability basis.. ie. those that can afford to pay more do so. Where you fall down is by using property valuations (capital value) as a means of judging affordability. A lawyer or accountant can make more profit operating from a property (office) in town with a low valuation than a kiwifruit orchardist with high valued land (cant grow kiwifruit without land) but making very little profit. If you consider that the capital gains on the land that the farmer might get justify the high rates then you are conflating property taxes with capital gains tax? The Government has not yet instigated a property gains tax .. why should you? Even if you were allowed to do that it should be based on the actual gains in value not just pure valuation without any consideration of equity. So how are you doing this?. By steadily reducing the UAGC which increases the amount of rates that are based on capital value and shifting the burden from low value properties to the higher value properties which are mainly rural land and high end urban homes in Ohope. Muriwai drive etc. This might be acceptable if it were general spending on roading and amenities but the rates increases are driven by the need to upgrade 3 waters infrastructure in the urban areas where they get all the benefit and rural areas none. Don't try to justify this policy by saying that we "all" benefit from investment in urban infrastructure and push the burden into the rural areas. We dont get any benefit because we fund out own, water, waste water and stormwater out here, we don't need to be funding the townies as well! Lets wind back the socialism huh? Socialists got kicked out of central government .. you keep this up .. and local government will be next?</p>	
	<p>Julie Allerby Hate to burst your bubble WDC but you have been telling us for how long that you have to increase our rates by so much to get all of these things done and now you are trying to give us the illusion that we have a say in how it's spent? 🤔 Well what is it? You are using it for all these expenses, or you have raised it by so much you have some to spare to put into other projects?</p>	
	<p>Robyn Atkins How about cutting back on the wasteful spending</p>	
	<p>Sarah Hanright Where is our council leading from the front? Have you heard anything the community you serve has been saying? No one can really afford this! What's going to happen when people just don't have the money for the rates bill? You are about to increase the number of families in your community that are living in povity how do you intended to combat that? New Zealands Economy does not have the resilience to handle a double figure rates rise. We are in a recession, you don't see wages, salaries or the superannuation rising so where do you expect people to find the money? Or is how these descions impact your community not your problem?</p>	

7.1.4 Appendix 4 - Social Media Summary(Cont.)

<p>How quickly should we close our funding gap?</p>	<p>Wayne Farrow So... If this proposed 38.6% increase goes through, with the following published % increases the next 9 years, let's take a look at the effect on my "average" property rates: Current annual cost = \$3341.10, year 1 increases to \$4630.76; Year 2 = \$4880.76; Year 3 = \$5115.10; Year 4 = \$5299.24; Year 5 = \$5537.71 Year 10 = \$6246.68 The current take from my single income household is \$64.25 per week, which at year 10 becomes \$120.12 per week, a total increase over 10 years of \$55.87 per week. And this is JUST District Council rates, Water, and Regional Council rates are extra on top of this, with 'who knows' what increases will be demanded by those entities as well. Way to go Te Kaunihera ā-rohe o Whakatāne - Whakatāne District Council Time to have a serious look at where that money is going, return to the "Core" functions and cut the excess "nice, but not essential" spending before us ratepayers are forced to sell up and find some caves up in the hills to live in. (P.S. What's the annual charge for a dirt-floored hovel, with no power or running water?)</p> <p>Lena Loeffelsender Option 3</p> <p>Morag Gibson Definitely myself would go for option 3 obviously 1 is optimal, but as I'm now on a fixed income cant afford these hikes, yes I'm about to apply for the rebate but that is only a limited amount</p> <p>Wini Geddes With the fall in building consents, new home buyers and ratepayers diminish. Try filtering out other major costs like staffing and OTT salaries. Hold off the marina Whakatane spend. Instead, collaborate with local industry business, rebuild infrastructure and support other worthwhile kaupapa that actually benefit the district at less cost to the ratepayer. "Balance".</p> <p>Roseanna Johnston Option three. Asking people to pay any extra than necessary is unfair with the Cost of Living Crisis. We have such little control Over the cost of most things that if we can reduce the impact the rates rises will have we should. Insurance has also had a huge increase in the last few years which puts lots of pressure on low to middle income home owners.</p> <p>Richie Harrison Why is the local council getting into debt when there making millions allready off struggling rate payers im not going to lie im struggling as it is with the price of everything has skyrocketing out of control come on no doubt most councilors are on close too 70 to over 100 thousand a year with perks come on the struggle is real nowadays and adding interest and penalties is not helping one bit</p> <p>Antoinette Sisam 9% last quarter was already a huge stretch for a lot of people. Bigger all the vanity projects and ensure our drinking water is sorted. All recreational facilities need to be shuffled down the priority list.</p> <p>Missy Wright BUILD SOME BUS STOPS FOR OUR TAMARIKI ☹️ DONT NEED A MARINA AND THE REX MORPH KAKA CAN WAIT 🙄</p> <p>Natalie Maree Option 4. Cancel everything you can of the upgrades to Rex Morpeth and the Marina build, use any money already set aside for those projects to pay as much as possible of the debt, and keep rate increases below 10%.</p> <p>Mawera Karetai Natalie Maree we are going to have a significant seismic event that will cause massive damage to homes, roads and infrastructure. Where do we put our families with young kids, our disabled, and our older people if the war memorial hall falls down? We have to have a safe space to put people. There is no where else. Think it through - look at the big picture.</p> <p>Jeanette Ann Mawera Karetai But the beautification of Rex Morpeth park, the boat marina and widening Keepa Rd for boaties will protect us how? Surely the ratepayer money being used for non essential projects would be better spent on core infrastructure services and other essentials such as slip/earthquake proofing our roads such as Gorge Rd- one more decent amount of rain or an earthquake and the hill will come down in several places there.</p>	<p>Post Impressions 5,258 Post reach 4,724 Engagement 848</p> <p>Interactions</p> <p>10 Likes 0 Hearts 2 Laughs 10 Wow 1 Sad Face 8 Angry</p> <p>Reactions: 31 Comments: 97 Photo Views: 25 Link Clicks: 7 Shares: 6 Other Clicks: 682</p>
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7.1.4 Appendix 4 - Social Media Summary(Cont.)

<p>Natalie Maree You make a good point Mawera. I guess that's where the 'everything you can' comes in. It does seem like there are a lot more planned upgrades to the Rex Morpeth area than just the War Memorial Hall. And the Marina will only benefit a small portion of our ratepayers.</p>
<p>Susan Keys I don't agree with any of the options. None of them are affordable by many</p>
<p>Liz Burns I think everyone also needs to consider that government led decisions have put a lot of financial pressure on the Councils in our country. The water upgrades are a government imposed directive, the waste collection changes are government led, and resource consent changes are government led. The government are creating new rules that are costing the council extra money and then this cost is being passed on to ratepayers. We need people to express their concerns to the council about cost increases but we also need to express our concerns to the government too.</p>
<p>Russell Orr There can be no justification for the 'equitable distribution' of urban infrastructure costs (water, wastewater, stormwater) to rural properties through a reduction of the UAGC. All this seeks to do is 'balance' the rates burden and this is unfair. I have to fund my own wastewater and water.</p>
<p>Russell Crowhurst Fast as possible, I'm happy with %38</p>
<p>Sharon Elizabeth Bakker Option 3 and better council priorities. Too many locals are struggling to meet the high rates as it is.</p>
<p>Lorreen Hartley Sell some assets to reduce debt or don't commit to projects</p>
<p>Kriska Waghorn-Otic None of it, and also slash the unnecessary posturing jobs in council. You are killing new home owners and young families on single incomes let alone everyone else. This is not the time to spending more money! Everyone needs to recover and keep their heads afloat, you're literally drowning people.</p>
<p>Sam Barr I think the frustration from the public comes when we see the unnecessary expenditure in a time when families in the community are doing it tough and struggling to make ends meet. Were the upgrades to the council chambers really essential? Are the upgrades to the war memorial hall really essential? Were all of the speed humps put in across Whakatane really essential? In tough economic times ratepayers tighten their budget and live with in there means - all the nice to haves and non essentials are forgone and only the essentials are taken care of. It is frustrating when it appears as though the council doesn't have the same approach - instead of cutting budgets and eliminating non essentials - rates are simply increased and passed onto families who are already doing it tough. Under the new government all of the public service organisations have been asked to evaluate all of their expenditure and make cuts by eliminating low value programs and non essential staffing roles - particularly back office bureaucratic roles. All govt departments have been asked to seek to find savings of 6.5-7.5%. Has the Whakatane district council undergone a similar analysis and review of all of its expenditure or has it simply plowed on as business as usual and just increased rates as the only solution?</p>
<p>Cindy Lee Sam Barr Yes, I totally agree that we need to see WDC making a real attempt at cost cutting and living within their means.</p>
<p>Liz Burns I am really disappointed that we have gotten into this position. Good financial management does not involve spending beyond your means. Interest rates have risen, so the cost of debt has increased. Interest rates could continue to rise. I believe that the council needs to look at the situation differently. Instead of discussing "closing the funding gap," we need to explore cutbacks in spending. I hope that people in our community will become more involved in local government to help us find creative solutions to get ourselves out of this mess we have found ourselves in. For instance, the council have a lot of work to do when we have periods of heavy rain, they have people out and about clearing drains etc. Why not ask for help from the community? We clear the drains on our street so that we don't get surface flooding. There are lots of people in the community that would be happy to do their bit to help our local area. There are probably other things that the community can help with too. Lets redirect the frustration we feel with the potential increases to a constructive conversation about how the community can support the council with cutting back spending.</p>
<p>Merle Young Why should the small rural towns pay for upgrades to Rex Morpeth park etc, we never use the facilities in town. And stop trying to be like other district councils, we are a poor region compared to most...just utilise what we have already, rivers, oceans, parklands!!</p>

7.1.4 Appendix 4 - Social Media Summary(Cont.)

<p>LeeTeeps Waaka Apihai-Farrell Is there consideration/option for mixed rates increase modelled through an equity lens measured on property value? Option 1 = Higher property value Option 3 = Lower property value</p> <p>Te Kaunihera ā-rohe o Whakatāne - Whakatāne District Council <i>Kia ora LeeTeeps Waaka Apihai-Farrell Yes - there is another key question we're asking about how we should distribute the rates required using the 'Uniform Annual General Charge (UAGC)' which is a fixed charge. This can be used for creating a more equitable distribution.</i></p>	
<p>Casey Magee I understand that the council isn't immune to inflation and it hurts them just as much as us , but are there mitigation factors in the long term plan to stop the rate payer from being the continual slush fund to solve the budget issues ? Household incomes aren't increasing anywhere near as fast as rates and at some point something has to give . Understand that increases have to happen but we cant sustain massive increases annually. If it has to be 17.1% now sure , but this feels like abit of a trend. What can be done to ensure we don't continually end up in this position?</p> <p>Te Kaunihera ā-rohe o Whakatāne - Whakatāne District Council <i>Kia ora Casey Magee You're absolutely right. This is the challenge all councils are facing due to the constraints of how we're funded. Local Government New Zealand recently released some information to highlight these challenges - https://www.lgnz.co.nz/.../drivers-behind-rates-rises.../</i></p>	
<p>David Ball Is there any point in responding when the council has shown that they won't listen to ratepayers? repeatedly rejecting feedback and doing whatever they want any way? Will all our responses get rolled into one document so you can then say "we only got one response"? you've done it before!!!</p> <p>Te Kaunihera ā-rohe o Whakatāne - Whakatāne District Council <i>Kia ora David Ball Great question. The Mayor and Councillors are definitely listening and keen to hear from as many people as possible. Their role is to make decisions on behalf of the community. To do this they need to weigh up what they know about how council works with what Whakatāne District communities want and need. Councils are continually being asked to do more with less so they have some really tough decisions to make now more than ever, given how broken local government's funding system is. All feedback is gathered and considered by the Mayor and Councillors before making final decisions.</i></p>	
<p>Julia Semmens You're bleeding us dry with a 38.6% increase! Don't you see what's going on around you people are struggling!! Not good enough Whakatane council!!!</p> <p>Te Kaunihera ā-rohe o Whakatāne - Whakatāne District Council <i>Kia ora Julia Semmens Council's preferred option is to ease the burden now: Option 3 - 17.1% This is what the draft budget has been based on.</i></p>	
<p>Julia Semmens 17.1% is still a heck of a lot of money for people to find!!</p>	
<p>Angie Shweetybaby But you arent listening to those who employ you ...we are saying that you SHOULDNT be going ahead with the marina or the Rex Morpeth fancy upgrades...Core services only...the water, storm and sewage is a core service...LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE! your survey has been deliberately misleading..by trying to trick people into choosing one of the options you want..where was the option to do none of what you are suggesting?</p>	
<p>Kriska Waghorn-Otic Julia Semmens I agree! That's out the gate. 7% ok but 17% as the minimum option wtaf.</p>	
<p>Jamie-Lee Fraser-Jones Julia Semmens I would LOVE to know WHAT council are doing to cut costs! Would love to see their expenditures ☹️ 13 odd mill for building referb was it? Jesus Christ. Option 4: ditch whk council and go under Kawerau.</p>	

7.1.4 Appendix 4 - Social Media Summary(Cont.)

How should we manage foodwaste collection?	<p>Martin Zonneveld Is general waste still taken to a landfill in the Waikato? If so, can a waste site closer to Whakatane be used to offset transport labour costs and truck emmission pollution ? The savings would be substantial one would think. If there was a food recycle dump or worm farms locally people could drop off waste. I personally have a compost bin for food waste so have no need for a pick up service.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px;"> <p>Post Impressions ⓘ 3,392</p> <p>Post reach ⓘ 3,041</p> <p>Engagement ⓘ 495</p> <p>Interactions ⓘ</p> <p>👍 5 🍷 0 😄 0 😮 0 😞 0 😡 1</p> <p>Reactions 5</p> <p>Comments 76</p> <p>Photo Views 12</p> <p>Link Clicks 8</p> <p>Shares 1</p> <p>Other Clicks 393</p> </div>
	<p>Richie Harrison Best option would be stick it in with the greenwaste n compost it for the community</p>	
	<p>Alicia Carter Richie Harrison, and keep picking up fortnightly. People who need more can buy an extra bin.</p>	
	<p>Te Awhiahua This works well in hamilton we have a food waste bin and it's collected weekly.</p>	
	<p>Sharon Burton I don't want more charges for something I won't be using!! I have a worm farm, and what I can't put in there...gets buried in the garden!!</p>	
	<p>Liz Burns Sharon Burton the changes are government led, so it would be wise to make your opinion known to our local MP. We need to understand that a lot of these changes that are costing us more are imposed by the government.</p>	
	<p>Naedene Stewart Can I swap my glass bin pick up for a foodwaste pick up? I've never ever put my glass bin out.</p>	
	<p>Liz Burns We used to have fortnightly collection of green waste and food scraps. Can fortnightly collection be considered to reduce the cost increase you are proposing?</p>	
	<p>Paula O'Sullivan we moved from whakatane to Christchurch 2 months ago. Christchurch Council has a green waste/foodwaste combined bin. it works well and makes sense. Also last night I attended a Love Food Hate Waste talk sponsored by the council. Loads of good ideas on food and how not to waste it.</p>	
	<p>Jonnelle Main-McCall No thank you, we have a compost and worm farm. Please stop with the unnecessary spending.</p>	
	<p>Jenny Lopez What are the outcomes, opportunities and challenges of either composting options? Seems to make sense to use the existing green bin. And a whole lot of education on any system. Other than \$\$ cost, what are we missing or getting outcome wise?</p>	
	<p>Steve Pickles Option 1 for us.However I did notice in the pamphlet that came today that we were going to need to change our general waste bin (at a cost to us). I don't see the need for this. Please consider trialling using the existing general waste bin, and for those that do need a larger bin (as it is proposed to be 2 weekly collection) then let them pay for the upgrade.</p>	
	<p>Steve Pickles thanks very much for the clarification. I appreciate your response 😊 Although I understand the reasoning, I still wonder whether there are a large number of smaller households who will comfortably cope with keeping the smaller bin - even at 2 weekly pickups. I still think it's worth considering. PS: No response needed</p>	
<p>Dot Jones If you take 20-30% out of our waste bin and put it in our green bin it still wouldn't fill our (already large) green bin. Therefore the green bin can remain on fortnightly collection. But it would mean our waste bin (which is only ever half full on a weekly collection) would only need collecting every other week now that you've reduced what goes in it by 20% and there would be no need for a larger waste bin either. This would actually save you money.</p>		

7.1.4 Appendix 4 - Social Media Summary(Cont.)

<p>Wayne Farrow Why does every option come with an increase in costs? Utilising the existing greenwaste bin in option 1 should not incur extra charges. What benefit will the ratepayer/user get for the additional \$35-45 when the bin is already there, and the fortnightly collection is already being made???</p> <p>Will there be an option available to "Opt out"? Many households already deal with green/food waste by home composting, and should not be financially penalised by the introduction of something they have no use for.</p> <p>Te Kaunihera ā-rohe o Whakatāne - Whakatāne District Council Kia ora Wayne Farrow 🗣️ if we go with option 1, the greenwaste/foodwaste bin will be collected weekly instead of fortnightly - this will incur extra processing and transport costs. Our truck drivers currently service 14,500 properties every week, so logistically, there is no way of them knowing who is paying for the service and who isn't. This means an 'opt-in' option isn't practical. The foodwaste collection will come as part of the 'kerbside service' package.</p>	
<p>Olivia Stubbs if only those opting in have council bins surely that surely that makes it pretty obvious who is paying and who is not.</p>	
<p>Sharnika Dowthwaite Question RE: Option 1..If we already have the green waste bins, why would there be an extra charge per year?</p> <p>Te Kaunihera ā-rohe o Whakatāne - Whakatāne District Council Kia ora Sharnika Dowthwaite 🗣️ If we put the foodwaste in with the greenwaste it will be collected weekly, which will incur extra costs - including processing and transport fees.</p>	
<p>Natalie Maree You've missed an option from that list. If this isn't required by law until 2027, and it's going to incur an increase in rates at a time of large cost of living increases, why is there not the option of delaying the rollout (and additional cost) until 2027?</p> <p>Te Kaunihera ā-rohe o Whakatāne - Whakatāne District Council Natalie Maree Kia ora Natalie, there can be some complexities around rolling out new Council services in the middle of the financial year (January), and it makes sense to take foodwaste out of landfill and turn it into a resource (compost) as soon as possible 🗣️</p>	
<p>Natalie Maree increase in costs for each household to make these changes 6 months earlier than required. There are a lot of changes that 'make sense' which aren't necessarily a financial priority for households.</p>	
<p>Lena Loeffelsender Option 1</p>	
<p>Blair Officer Composts</p>	

7.1.4 Appendix 4 - Social Media Summary(Cont.)

<p>Proposed Murupara Refuse Transfer Station Charges</p>	<p>Lindy Lou In Whakatane we pay to use the dump - it should either be all transfer stations are free or a all are user pays.</p> <p>Blair Officer So they've been getting a free dump? And we've been subsidising Murupara's refuse</p> <p>Emma Hale Blair i might be wrong but im a resident & feel we've been subsidizing whakatane for years ... look at whakatane & ohope flash compared to Murupara no1 cares about our rural towns yet we pay the same rates .. defs not getting value for money</p> <p>Tania Bruning What's the costing on having a free (or \$5) curbside pickup for larger items once a month? ... save ya picking it up a few weeks later after been dumped down a bank etc.</p> <p>Te Kaunihera ā-rohe o Whakatāne - Whakatāne District Council <i>Kia ora Tania Bruning, the purpose of the Refuse Transfer Station is to consolidate waste and make it more affordable to transport. The waste dumped at the Refuse Transfer Station isn't just large items, it's also bags of waste. If you run a truck from Whakatāne to Murupara and back to collect a few large items, it will be a lot more costly than combining it at the refuse transfer station. Unfortunately, it costs more than \$380 to deal with a tonne of landfill waste from the Murupara Refuse Transfer Station whether it's large or small items. These costs are currently funded from ratepayers district-wide, who may not actually produce the waste or use the facility.</i></p> <p>Daryl Murphy Are the fees gonna go back in to our town though.? I wouldn't mind paying rubbish fees if I see the funds going back in to our town.? 😊 or else I mind paying fees if it's gonna be for whakatanes benefits 🤔</p> <p>Te Kaunihera ā-rohe o Whakatāne - Whakatāne District Council <i>Kia ora Daryl Murphy, the fees will directly pay for the operation of the Murupara Refuse Transfer Centre and the disposal of the waste from that facility.</i></p>	<div data-bbox="1774 468 2237 982"> <p>Post Impressions 5,986</p> <p>Post reach 5,501</p> <p>Engagement 913</p> <p>Interactions</p> <p>23 8 0 1 3 2</p> <p>Reactions 2</p> <p>Comments 14</p> <p>Photo Views 55</p> <p>Link Clicks 51</p> <p>Shares 9</p> <p>Other Clicks 782</p> </div>
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7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP

7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP

7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP(Cont.)

Appendix 5 – Four Key Questions on the LTP

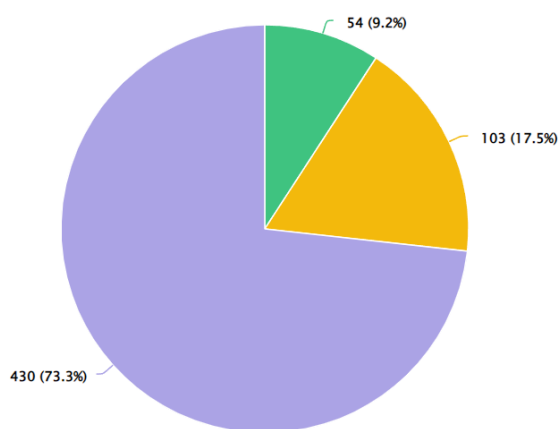
Question 1: How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Option 1: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 35% external funding for major development works in 2028 and 2029.

Option 2: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 50% external funding for major development works in 2029 and 2030. (Council's preferred option)

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

Figure 1: Submission tick box responses to this question:

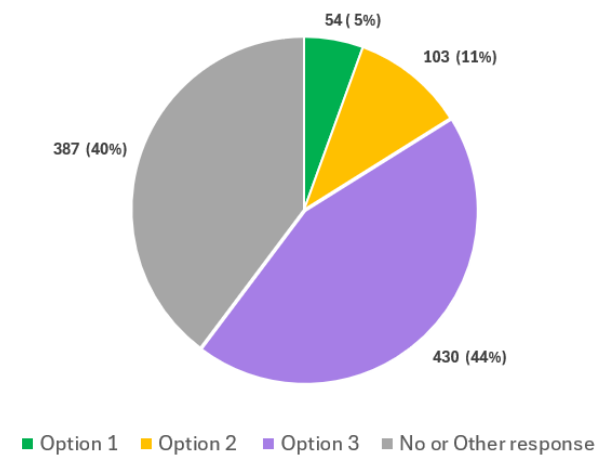


There were 587 tick box responses to the survey question as follows:

- 54 (9.2 %) for Option 1
- 103 (17.5 %) for Option 2
- 430 (73.3 %) for Option 3

7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP(Cont.)

Figure 2: Total number of submissions:



■ Option 1 ■ Option 2 ■ Option 3 ■ No or Other response
category include those that were against all proposed options, those that expressed negativity but did not tick anything, and other submissions.

In relation to the 974 submissions received:

- 54 (5 %) for Option 1
- 103 (11 %) for Option 2
- 430 (44 %) for Option 3
- 387 (40%) of submissions did not select Option 1, 2 or 3

Note: Submissions were received in various formats including emails and letters. The 387 "No or other response" is where an option to this question was not chosen; submissions in this

Overall comments analysis:

Summary: Common sentiments relating to this question included acknowledging the upgrade was necessary though not at this time or only through external funding, only making urgent or necessary upgrades such as health and safety and the maintenance of the building, and possibly phasing the development out in stages. A key theme is to defer or delay the re-development of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub due to present financial conditions and the need for other infrastructure works to be prioritised.

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7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP(Cont.)

A number of comments relating to this question were against using rates to fund the development of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub and the impact the project will have on overall rates increases. Comments discussed the current financial strain on the community and the impact Council rates are having, and requested the project be deferred or highlighted that no upgrades at all should happen (basic maintenance only). Submissions from individuals and groups noted that a complete 'do nothing' option should have been included as Option 4 in the consultation document. This is included in submissions from the following groups:

- Whakatāne Action Group
- Grey Power
- Chedder Valley Pottery
- Eastern Bay of Plenty Vintage Car Club.

A large number of submissions requested funding be prioritised to core infrastructure projects such as Matatā sewerage, all other three waters projects not included in the draft budget, roading and footpaths etc. It was noted that "in comparison to the other priorities, I believe this is a low priority." and that it is a "nice to have" which should be "considered when more other pressing infrastructure assets have been completed". These submissions also tended to not select any of the three options as part of their submission.

On the other hand, there were many submitters who expressed their thoughts on why the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub redevelopment was so important to the arts, recreation, events and sporting communities. These submitters selected Option 1 or 2 or provided additional comments on the importance of this project to themselves or the organisation they represent. These include submissions from the following groups and organisations who include many members:

- Arts Whakatāne
- Sport Bay of Plenty
- Toi EDA
- Disabilities Resource Centre
- Whakatāne Tennis Club and Pickleball Whakatane
- Whakatāne Museum Charitable Trust Board
- Tauranga City Basketball
- Whakatāne Youth Council
- Whakatāne Kahui Ako
- Apanui School
- Whakatāne High School Environmental Club
- Whakatāne High School Interact Club
- Netball Whakatāne Centre Inc
- Takitimu-Morete Whanau

7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP(Cont.)

- Eastern Bay Chamber of Commerce
- Ngā Taiwhakaea
- Te Uru Taumatua
- Marist Rugby and Sports Club and Eastern Bay Rugby.

Summary of arguments in favour of option 1: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 35% external funding for major development works in 2028 and 2029.

While in favour for option 1, many submitters expressed their concerns about the financial implications of the project, particularly in light of the current economic hardships faced by the community. Some advocate for delaying the redevelopment until economic conditions improve, while others stress the importance of prudent budgeting and cost management to alleviate the burden on ratepayers. One submitter stated that "it's not going to get cheaper the longer we wait and unlikely we will get new funding so we can enjoy the facilities sooner rather than later."

There was recognition that rates contributed a small proportion to the overall cost and that the cost would also be spread out to future users. "I think it's really important that this work goes ahead as soon as possible. The cost to ratepayers is a very small portion of total increases to rates and the benefits to the town of having better sporting and recreation opportunities are overdue and very important, especially to younger members of our community."

Submitters commented that "this group of facilities are essential to the growth and wellbeing of a cross section of our population who utilise the various facilities to meet recreational artistic and social needs. The Hub provides venues especially in sport for the families of ratepayers across our district many younger people travel from outlying districts to engage regularly in their passions which in turn have healthy and socially rewarding outcomes. This Hub is an essential asset for the district allowing its top performers in the arts and sport to achieve recognition while providing entertainment and recreational opportunities for the residents as they choose. Essential work should have priority for the Council as the ability to fund much of the work is via subsidies and other mechanisms it will have little immediate impact on rating."

There was acknowledgement of the benefit to sport and recreation in carrying out the upgrades as soon as possible. Sports New Zealand took an interest and provided a written submission, "acknowledging and thanking Council for its significant contribution to play, active recreation and sport", as well as it's "strong partnership between Sports NZ and Whakatāne District Council, evidenced by numerous programmes, projects and quality opportunities over the years." Sports NZ was in Support of Option 1, in that "the optimisation approach to the development is commended rather than demolishing the War Memorial Hall and building all new facilities." "The planned upgrade takes a long-term view to the renewal and redevelopment of the assets, which will be of value to future generations."

7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP(Cont.)

Te Whai Oranga | Recreation Aotearoa also submitted, and whilst encouraging a collaborative approach with people with disabilities, "supports the proposed investment in Active Recreation Infrastructure and services." Furthermore, Recreation Aotearoa "cautions against deferred maintenance and upgrades of playgrounds, specifically. It is essential that investments in public toilets, walkways and connecting green spaces are also implemented."

A commentator on behalf of a family were in support of Options 1 or 2, "opposed to the minimal option 3 - this presents a lost opportunity and would likely commit us to another generation of underwhelming facilities, that although well used, are increasingly not meeting our community expectations." They asked Elected Members to "please consider all the public sentiment and feedback that has been collective/provided over the years to get the project to this point and that is strongly supportive of the projects outcomes and be informed by a complete view." They pointed out that "over the past 20 years this project has always sat in the outer years of the LTP and has always pushed back and not been delivered" and that "the cheapest time to build is always now. Things only get more expensive over time with continued inflation." Please keep the long-term vision in mind when finalising this decision rather than a short-term reaction to the costs." "We can deliver an amazing project that is attractive, vibrant, inclusive, connected providing benefit for many people and for generations to come... Or... we could save ratepayers \$2.40 a week by taking the minimal option."

Summary of arguments in favour of option 2: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 50% external funding for major development works in 2029 and 2030.

Supporters of option 2 expressed varied opinions, ranging from those content with the current state of the Rex Morpeth Park to supporting the vision and the plans to upgrade. The majority of comments expressed that they agreed it was necessary to upgrade the facility, but that the Council should focus on trying to gain as much external funding as possible to take the funding burden off ratepayers, even if it means that the redevelopment had to be delayed. Others noted their scepticism about the availability and security of external funding.

Groups representing school aged tamariki and rangatahi emphasised the importance of the Hub and the need to carry out the redevelopment. The submission from Whakatāne Kahui Ako notes "Our schools and community require high quality resources so that we can come together to engage our students in their education. No school has the space to house hundreds of children for sports / cultural activities, as we can do at Rex Morpeth. We regularly use Rex Morpeth Park and the associated facilities. Issues for us include toilets, changing facilities (especially for our female students), ability / willingness to use the War Memorial Hall and the Little Theatre for The Arts and other activities."

Submissions emphasised the potential community and economic benefits of a revamped facility, citing the capacity to host events and attract tourism to the district. There were suggestions to collect membership fees to maintain the hub, or seek external funding from private organisations, as well as

7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP(Cont.)

opportunities for collaboration, asking "why not make this a hotel, sports and cultural hub that benefits multiple subgroups of the community."

There was interest from a number of organisations including the Whakatane Tennis Club, who commented that they would like to be part of ongoing discussions with Council. They expressed that "At this stage we have resisted organising tournaments due to facility limitations. We are positive about the proposed upgrades to Rex Morpeth Park but with a caveat that Council seeks full funding for the upgrades from outside sources. The proposed 50% funding requirements should be regarded as a minimum not a target."

There were comments from Toi EDA, who stated that they had "been approached to host significant events, ranging from sports to music. However, our current facilities limit our ability to fully engage in such opportunities, prompting us to support the upgrade and option 2." They felt that "Having an event venue of exceptional quality that accommodates various uses, sporting codes, and events is crucial for Whakatane and the wider Eastern Bay of Plenty region. Whakatane is a preferred destination for regional events spanning music, sports, culture, and the arts. Notably, it hosts the largest annual New Zealand Touch tournament, showcasing top-tier talent. Such events not only stimulate new business but also encourage families to consider settling in the sunny Eastern Bay of Plenty, where a balanced lifestyle of work and recreation is achievable. Additionally, it is worth exploring ways to bolster other venues and cultural destinations, such as Te Manuka Tutahi, to further enhance Whakatane's unique appeal. This collaborative effort can strengthen the regions distinctiveness and enrich its cultural landscape."

Summary of arguments in favour of option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub (highest number of responses)

Several submitters expressed that the redevelopment was not an immediate necessity, with one submitter stating, "spending should be restricted to what is essential only." In addition, comments were heavily in favour of keeping upgrades to a minimum such as only fixing necessary health and safety requirements. With the majority opinion to "carry out necessary maintenance" that is "only what is needed to ensure safe use and compliance." Some submitters that favoured option 3, strongly opposed the use of rates on the upgrades of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub.

There were suggestions to adopt a phased approach to the upgrades, and prioritising specific areas to improve over time. Some respondents specifically identified areas such as the toilets and utilities as opposed to the playgrounds and parks which some felt are currently fit for purpose. One commenter said "while I would like to see a full upgrade at Rex Morpeth, I feel we need to reduce our spend commitment and just do the necessary things for now. I would like to see Council have milestone points included, where the project could be stopped/paused at appropriate points, if the financial pressures become too much to continue the projects, don't want to see half-finishing projects due to financial over-commitment."

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7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP(Cont.)

There were suggestions of “the Hub generating its own income stream to cover maintenance and upgrades, based on user pays and advertising potential.” Furthermore, there was an acknowledgement that “this venue is an asset to Whakatāne and is a community hub of significance. There needs to be a level of investment to maintain the complex otherwise it will go into disrepair. Stage renovations and improvements overtime focusing on essential components first. Crowd funding could be a viable option.”

Submissions in favour of Option 3, most with additional comments similar to those outlined above, include group or organisation submissions from:

- Matata Residents Association
- Whakatane Kerala Community
- Film Bay of Plenty
- Te Runanga o Ngati Whare
- Te Runanga o Ngati Awa
- Whakatane Croquet Club
- Whakatane Roller Club Inc
- WHS Year 10 Puawaitanga
- Whakatane Arts Society.

Management Comment:

A significant number of submitters selected option 3 (carry out necessary upgrades) or a complete ‘do nothing’ option as their preferred option. The main reasons for this focused on the projected rates rises, the current economic climate and the need for other core infrastructure projects to be prioritised. Other submitters commented that they do not use the facility, consider it is adequate to meet the needs of the community or questioned if upgrades are actually needed.

Initial key users and wider community engagement, analysis of the engagement and development, testing and refinement of several master plan options was undertaken throughout 2023. Through this work three draft master plan options were developed and further refined with keys users at a workshop in August 2023. Community wide engagement for the three master plans and an enhanced status quo option was carried out for four weeks over September and October 2023. Input from the key users workshops and community engagement in September and October 2023 was used to refine the recommended master plan option, as presented to Councils Living Together Committee on 7 December 2023.

305 feedback submissions were received through the September 2023 community survey. The majority of respondents identified that some or all of the park’s facilities need upgrading. A number of clubs and

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7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP(Cont.)

organisations submitted, some clubs who were involved in the key users workshops did not make submissions as they felt their input had already been heard and the clubs/organisations who made submissions have made these on behalf of many others e.g. Paroa Sports Club submission notes that they represent a club of 400 (rugby and netball), Marist Rugby Sports Club and Eastern Bay Rugby Union represent over 2,500 players and 120 referees and coaches, Whakatāne Society of Arts and Crafts submission on behalf of 160 members, Edgecumbe Choir 50 members, Whakatāne Badminton 110 members. 364 Petition/submission signatures were received in relation to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub project, Council spending and requesting a bridge be built first. Some of the signatories also made individual submissions which are included in the 305 figure quoted above, the petitioners have not been verified or cross checked against other submissions received.

We agree that Council cannot afford to carry out major improvement works to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub now and that it cannot do them without securing a large portion of external funding. However, it is important to note that the rate funding attributed to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub re-development project (Options 1 and 2) will make up a small proportion of the overall allocated funding costs. Option 2 (preferred option) includes the majority of ratepayer funding in years 2029 and 2030, with 50% external funding required for the major works to be completed, as shown in the Option 2 budget Table 1 below.

For the year ending 30 June	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	LTP 10yrs
Total project cost (\$M)	\$1.1	\$2.2	\$2.2	\$2.3	\$48.9	\$49.7	\$0.3	\$0.3	\$0.3	\$0.3	\$107.5
<i>How it will be funded</i>											
External subsidies (\$M)	-	-	-	-	\$24.4	\$24.8	-	-	-	-	\$49.3
Development contributions (\$M)	\$0.1	\$0.3	\$0.3	\$0.3	\$6.5	\$6.6	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$14.2
Ratepayer contributions (\$M) ^	\$0.9	\$1.9	\$1.9	\$2.0	\$18.0	\$18.3	\$0.3	\$0.3	\$0.3	\$0.3	\$44.0
Average weekly rates increase *	3c	12c	17c	19c	77c	\$1.78	\$1.18	8c	7c	6c	\$4.45

Table 1: Draft LTP budget for Option 2 (Source: Long Term Plan 2024-34 Consultation Document)

RECOMMENDATION/S

Management determined that the recommendations in relation to Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub are more clearly articulated through a series of actions rather than a singular option presented through the consultation document:

1. A stop/go decision making point be included as part of the 2027/28 Long Term Plan regarding whether to continue to budget for a major redevelopment of the Whakatāne War Memorial Hall in 2029 and 2030.
2. Retain the Council retains the budget allocated through the Draft LTP (Option 2) to show Council's commitment to co-funding the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub project.
3. A phased approach to the delivery of improvement works with a focus on Health and Safety that will have a real impact on the functionality of the Hub within the next four years up to the value

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7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP(Cont.)

of \$7.8 million. Please refer to the list below for the capital works proposed to be carried out during the next four years (subject to further consultation).

4. Finalise the master plan for the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub and as part of that process consider whether a separate indoor court facility in an alternative location maybe a more affordable long term solution to address the need for more indoor court space.
5. Develop an external funding plan and secure external funding before the next Long Term Plan is developed in 2027.
6. Further progress discussions with parties that have shown a willingness to partner with Council to plan and deliver on the redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub including but not limited to:
 - a. Ake Chartered Accountants & Business Advisors – delivery of a High Performance Sports Centre within Whakatāne;
 - b. Te Uru Taumatua (Tūhoe) – investment partner – future and opportunities focused.
 - c. Disabilities Resource Centre – provision of accessible spaces for all ages
 - d. Existing clubs who own or lease facilities within the Hub.
 - e. Future users of the Hub who may have different aspirations for the recreational offerings that a re-developed facility will cater for.

The retention of the 2025 through to 2028 budgets will allow for physical upgrades to area of the Hub and preparation for redevelopment of the WWMH and a sports pavilion in particular. By 2028 this results in an average rates increase of 51c per rate payer per week. These are highlighted below and are a result of the full analysis completed through 2023 as part of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub master plan project. A number of the individual works will have the ability to attract external funding, including lighting for fields, children's play space, youth outdoor space and new sports pavilion. Without inclusion in the LTP (which shows a willingness of Council to co-fund) it will be difficult to obtain larger levels of funding for these and the wider redevelopment project. Not doing anything in relation to the children's playground and the Rugby Park grandstand will require the removal of these assets.

The recommended 2025 to 2028 capital works are outlined below, the ability to do these works are included within the Option 2 budget. This is not a set order of works and will be subject to further consultation and approvals.

- Finalise master plan of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub
- New Reserve Management Plan completed
- Design and consent new sports pavilion (or improvements to Rugby Park grandstand)
- Design, consent (if required) and construct children's play space (accessible playground for young and old to be considered)
- Design, consent (if required) and construct- outdoor multi-use youth space
- Economic business case
- Formalise car-parking from Domain Road entrance
- Improvements to access between Rugby Park and Rex Morpeth Park

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7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP(Cont.)

- Install new public toilets
- Remove phoenix palm trees
- Rugby Park - construct north/south cycle way and pedestrian path through area
- Rugby Park – lights, field improvements and relocation (if needed)
- Relevel and install drainage into athletics area
- Rex Morpeth fields – lighting, field improvements and relocation of fields (if needed)
- Rex Morpeth – move cricket wickets and nets (if needed)
- Relocate and increase car parking around Aquatic Centre and new play space
- External funding plan
- Confirm, design and consent WWMH upgrades (pending 2027 LTP decision)
- Secure external funding for WWMH upgrades (pending 2027 LTP decision)
- Increase car parking in other areas of Hub (in 2027-2030 depending on WWMH works).

The timing of the proposed major redevelopment works in 2029 and 2030 allows progression for the future management and funding of Council's three waters and roading infrastructure before making a decision on whether to proceed with any major redevelopment.

Those submissions in support of Options 1 and 2 include many groups and individuals that provide or support activities for all age groups, and in particular children and young people. These submissions highlight what areas require urgent upgrades and the need to provide suitable facilities to support the arts, events, recreation and sports and the importance of growing participation in these areas to support mental and physical well-being. Submissions also support upgrades to the Whakatane War Memorial Hall to ensure that the building is suitable to continue to be used as an emergency welfare centre. The importance of decisions to provide for future generations are also discussed, together with providing more opportunities and support for existing and new events and sports in this central location. The personal and economic benefits of the facilities within the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub, particularly when adequately provided for everyone of all abilities to use, are significant for our communities.

The Sport Bay of Plenty submission confirms *"The size, age, limited capacity, parking constraints and disparity between male and female amenities hinders the ability to host various events/tournaments and the whole community's ability to fully engage in play, sports and recreational activities. Redevelopment addresses these issues, providing the necessary space and modernisation to support a wider range of events and increase participation in sports and recreational activities for current and future generations. We would also like to champion the introduction of an accessibility-friendly playground, catering to all residents, regardless of their physical capabilities"*

The Whakatāne District Community Compass Quarterly Report, Q4 2023, highlights the largest age band in the District being 10-14 year olds (7.5%), 14.2% larger than the nation distribution. The 0-4 and 5-9 age bands follow closely behind and are higher than all other age bands. These are shown in Figure 2 below.

7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP(Cont.)

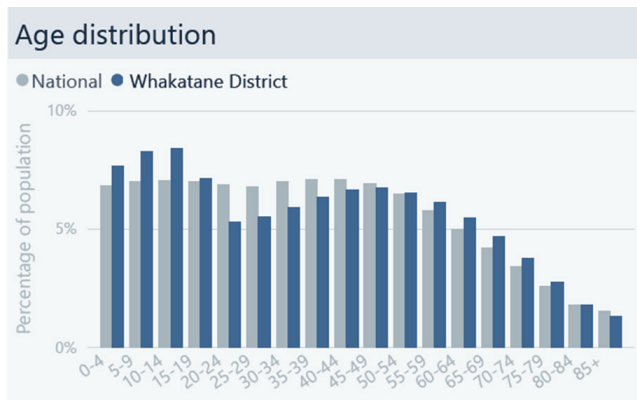


Figure 2: Whakatāne District Age Contribution (Source: Community Compass Quarterly Report)

Closing the door now on planning for the future of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub will only defer the problem and the cost to future generations of ratepayers. We recommend continuing to plan for the staged investment in the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub, a key community asset for the Eastern Bay of Plenty. Council cannot and should not do it alone, it must partner to plan, fund and deliver the improvements for the success of the project and for future generations.

7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP(Cont.)

Question 2: How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only. (Council's preferred option)

Option 2: Separate foodwaste collection for urban properties only.

Option 3: Separate foodwaste collection for all properties.

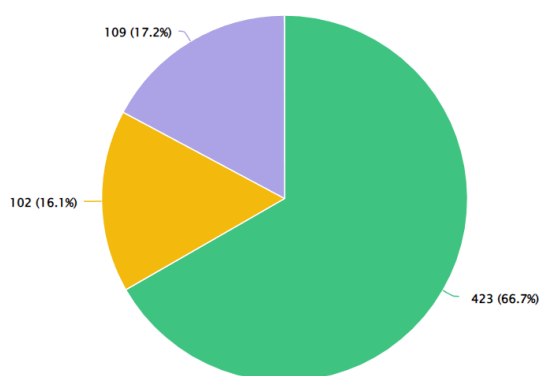


Figure 1: Submitter responses to this question:

There were 634 responses to the survey question as follows:

- 66.7 % are in favour of option 1
- 16.1 % are in favour of option 2
- 17.2 % are in favour of option 3

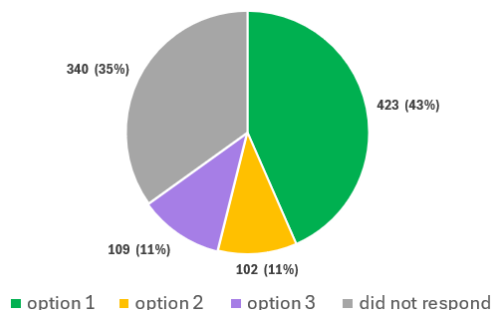


Figure 2: Total number of submissions received:

35% of submissions did not specifically respond to the question.

Note: this includes emails or letters that were submitted where people did not use the submission form or respond to the question.

Overall comments analysis

Summary: Overall, there's a strong emphasis on cost-effectiveness, environmental impact, and practicality in managing food waste, with varying perspectives on the most suitable strategies for waste

7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP(Cont.)

management. Common concerns included associated costs of these new services, and consequences of fortnightly general waste collections.

One common theme that emerged from submitters was the recommendation to advocate for home composting to reduce costs and provide more environmental benefits. This can be summarised by one submitter: "Households should be encouraged to compost their own food waste, if they don't wish to do that and they want food waste collection, then this should be on a user pays basis. As a family that composts our food waste and green waste, why should our rates fund those that don't?"

Another key theme that emerged from the submissions was the sentiment that submitters wanted Council to continue with the status quo and make no changes to the waste collection service. Although this option was not available for respondents to select, many respondents expressed satisfaction with the current waste disposal system and see that change should happen at residents' households rather than waste services. "I don't really like any of the options ... I compost food scraps and have a worm farm. Encourage the use of these district wide."

Summary of arguments in favour of option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only (highest number of responses)

Many submissions expressed concerns about the additional expenses associated with implementing a separate food-waste collection system. There was a clear emphasis on minimising costs and avoiding unnecessary financial burdens on ratepayers. One submission summarised this by stating his preference for "Mixed waste if there are cost savings to be had by collecting it together, assuming that there are no added costs to processing it mixed". It is also worth noting that many submissions also stated their preference for home composting (as opposed to options 1, 2 and 3) to reduce costs and be more sustainable.

There's a preference for simplicity and efficiency in waste management processes, "From what I hear on your radio ads, people cannot cope with putting the correct green and recycle in the correct bins, so why add more complication?" This option was commonly preferred as it reduces risks of accidental contamination by reducing the likelihood of error.

It was also common for submitters to note a preference for home composting and supported the need to reduce food waste – expressing the need to take actions to divert food waste away from landfills.

Summary of arguments in favour of option 2: Separate foodwaste collection for urban properties only.

Practicality, cost minimisation and environmental concerns were common themes from submitters in favour of option 2, with many submitters noting their support for a food waste collection system.

Regarding cost minimisation, it was often cited that food waste is unnecessary for many rural residents as they have their own composting system – this option reduces costs as it does not provide a service

7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP(Cont.)

(seen as unnecessary) for rural residents “as a rural ratepayer this is not a question that affects me, but it seems sensible to divert food waste away from landfill”. Although costs were a common concern, some of these submitters were willing to spend a little more to provide broader benefits to the community – thus supporting option 2, as they believe this option is worth the extra funding. “Option 1 sounds yucky, and option 3 will be too costly at this stage.”

Environmental concerns were also raised, including the potential for pollution, methane emissions from food waste, and the need to minimise the environmental impact of waste disposal. “I do not have food waste, but I imagine that it needs to be carefully handled and disposed of to minimise pollution and cross contamination.”

Summary of arguments in favour of option 3: Separate foodwaste collection for all properties.

Many submitters that selected this option highlighted the need for service equity, and weekly food collections. Although option 3 is the most expensive option, submitters still expressed a need to ensure that measures would be taken to minimise costs and rates increases.

There's a strong sentiment that if such services are implemented, they should be available to all residents, not limited to specific groups or areas. “Everyone is charged rates so everyone should be serviced with food waste collection”. Many of these submitters felt that equity of service was more important than the cost savings associated with the other options.

In addition to providing this service to all residents, many expressed a preference for weekly collection of food waste, citing concerns about managing waste accumulation, especially in households with larger families or young children. “They tried this in Hamilton with bucket collections every fortnight and after a few days in summer the buckets were reeking”.

Management Comment:

Leading into the LTP consultation period and based on guidance from central government, Council was working on the premise that we had to introduce kerbside foodwaste collections by January 2027. At the time, guidance from Central Government included; “By 2030, all district and city councils are to provide food scraps (or FOGO) collections to households in urban areas of 1,000 people or more. Councils with organics processing facilities nearby must provide a food scraps service by 2027”.

Council sought further clarification from Central Government who advised that these requirements were written in policy but not yet legislated and that; “The development of regulations is now awaiting

7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP(Cont.)

further decisions by the current Government. MfE understands that many councils are looking for clarity on the status of these policies to inform their long-term plans. We will provide further information as soon as possible." Unfortunately, no further information was provided by Central Government to guide the development of the LTP.

While 66.7% of respondents who answered a preference to this question chose Option 1 for a mixed foodwaste/greenwaste collection, approximately 50% of those also added comments that they would prefer no change and/or that council should alternatively concentrate on education and supplying home composting resources. Likewise, of the 35% of respondents that did not choose an option approximately 50% of these added comments along the same line. Overall, approximately 56% of respondents expressed the same sentiments.

As the kerbside foodwaste collections are not currently written in legislation and given the sentiments that arose through submissions indicating a strong preference to maintain the status quo, management's suggested response is to not include foodwaste collection in this LTP, and instead, conduct a program of education to encourage behaviour change to reduce foodwaste, and encourage home-composting.

Had there been an additional option in the consultation document as described above it is likely that that this would have been the preferred option with associated costs and rates increases of the new service being a strong determining factor. It is unfortunate that conflicting information was given from Central Government during the consultation period. It is also still unclear what the new government intend to do with the current policy on mandatory kerbside foodwaste collections which makes decision-making difficult.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that:

- No kerbside foodwaste collection service to be included in the 24/34 LTP noting that:
 - o This approach does not necessarily support keeping the 'status quo'; rather, it asks that resource be directed into encouraging behaviour change to reduce foodwaste and encourage forms of composting at home
 - o Community feedback will be considered should central government revisit legislation in the coming years

As part of this recommendation, Council should consider a 're-run' of the subsidised home composting solutions (worm-farms/compost bins/bokashi units) campaign along with a major educational campaign on home composting with workshops, on-line videos and educational materials. This will align with our strategic priority of 'Shaping a green district', by enabling households to take responsibility for and

7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP(Cont.)

minimise organic wastes 'at home'. Council can continue to compost greenwaste and provide kerbside collections to properties that currently receive the service and greenwaste drop-off facilities at our refuse transfer stations. Home composting also allows households to become more self-sufficient by producing their own compost. Such a campaign may require dedicated communications support for a period of time which could be resourced externally if required.

NB: This education campaign could be funded entirely from Waste Levy Funding Reserves and therefore has no rating impact (apart from staff time).

There is one major risk associated with this approach in that central government may legislate the policy for mandatory kerbside foodwaste collections in the future. However, any such future changes can be managed through the Annual Plan process. Should future mandatory collections be introduced, there is a risk that council may receive more backlash as we will have implemented a major campaign to support home composting of foodwaste. Should council proceed with this option we would also lose central government Waste Minimisation Funding for bin resources and roll-out and there is no guarantee that this would be given at a future date. Under the Option 1 scenario this funding is approximately \$76,500. However this could be funded from council's Waste Levy Funding at a future date.

7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP(Cont.)

Question 3: How quickly should we close our funding gap?

- Option 1: Close the gap quickly (in one year) so we pay less in the future.**
- Option 2: Close the gap in the short-term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.**
- Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.** (Councils preferred option)

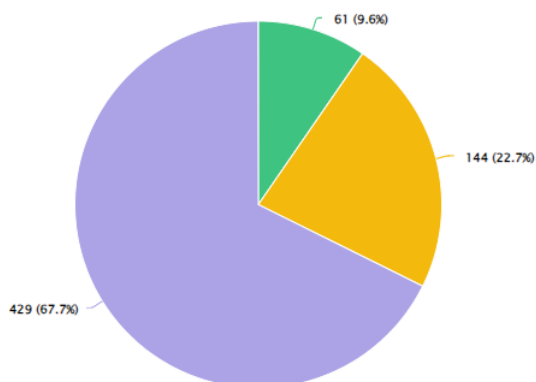


Figure 1: Submitter responses to this question:

There were 625 responses to the survey question as follows:

- 9.8 % are in favour of option 1
- 22.7 % are in favour of option 2
- 67.5 % are in favour of option 3

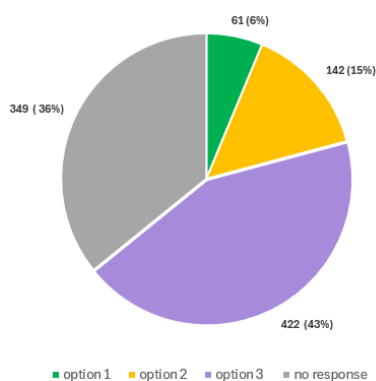


Figure 2: Total number of submissions received:

36 % did not specifically respond to the question. Note: this includes emails or letters that were submitted where people did not use the submission form or respond to the question.

Overall comments analysis

Summary: Across the board, there is a prevailing sense of frustration and dissatisfaction with the proposed rates increases to close the funding gap, particularly in light of the economic challenges faced by many residents within the district. Many submitters expressed deep concerns about the affordability of these increases, highlighting the strain they would place on individuals and families that are struggling

7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP(Cont.)

to make ends meet. There is a strong call for fiscal responsibility within the Council, with repeated demands for cost cutting, staff reductions, improved efficiency, and the prioritisation of essential services over 'nice to have' projects. In addition, a few submitters express concerns regarding the accuracy of the figures presented in the consultation document, though as we have contacted them their concerns appear to be around whether we have provided enough information of the causes of the gap and the costs of our services for the public to make an adequately informed decision.

Summary of arguments in favour of option 1: Close the gap quickly (in one year) so we pay less in the future.

Supporters in favour of option one advocated for avoiding the increase in debts from the other options and ultimately paying off debts sooner rather than later to avoid accruing interest and potential financial strain in the future. "Our funding gap has developed from past generations kicking the can. We need to close this gap while some of those generations are still in the workforce and can contribute. I don't want my kids to pay for my parents neglectful spending."

Submitters also urged Council to be mindful in its future spending under this option and to have better control of its costs. Concerns were raised about the risk of increased rates leading to higher rental costs and a rise in the overall cost of living, especially impacting those with lower incomes or dependent on benefits.

Summary of arguments in favour of option 2: Close the gap in the short-term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.

Numerous submissions highlight the significant challenges individuals face, especially in the current economic climate, indicating that the proposed rates increase could exacerbate financial burdens for residents already struggling with mortgages and rents. With one submitter stating "Most people I know barely can live week to week. Families are hurting. How can we/they keep paying."

However, there is acknowledgement of the necessity to address the funding gap to prevent passing on undue financial strain to future generations. "We are going to have to pay it, so it is best to do it quickly and get it done and dusted. I don't want us to repeat the mistakes of previous council-generations and leave the problems for the next generation. Short term pain for long term gain (for our children)." Many also emphasise the need to close the funding gap promptly to prevent further debt and stress the importance of reduced borrowing.

7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP(Cont.)

There is a general consensus on the need for cost-cutting measures within Council, including evaluating staff levels, reducing spending on non-essential projects and focusing on core services. "Look carefully at what adds value to community. Luxuries for a few are not fair to the majority."

Summary of arguments in favour of option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now. (highest number of responses)

Submissions advocating for option 3 highlight again the widespread concerns about the financial hardships faced by individuals in the current economic climate. "We are in a recession many people are losing their jobs and their homes and will struggle to pay rates if they are property owners. As the rates collected by the Council are a major source of income it is inevitable that rates will increase adding to the difficulties many will experience."

Many expressed the sentiment that essential maintenance projects should take precedence over costly upgrades and so-called "vanity" projects. There is a clear call for the Council to implement cost-cutting measures, including reducing unnecessary spending, improving efficiencies, and reducing staff numbers. The majority of submitters emphasised the need to limit the rates increases, particularly given the current economic challenges. They suggest that when economic conditions improve and interest rates decrease, the Council can then focus on addressing the funding gap. As one submitter put it, "Ease the burden now. Keep projects to maintenance only as the cost of living is high." And "Not worried about paying extra interest. Spreading out the increase is more important to me."

Some submitters saw option 3 as the "most sustainable and fairest system". It strikes a balance by alleviating current economic pressures while also addressing the critical need to close the funding gap to ensure that there is no burden on future generations.

Management Comment:

Management acknowledges the substantial support for option 3, acknowledging community concerns during the current economic strain. Our phased 6-year plan aligns with the majority's preference for reduced initial impact. Despite varied perspectives, option 3 is deemed the most viable, striving for fiscal prudence while alleviating short-term burdens.

7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP(Cont.)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Council proceed with option 3 – closing the funding gap over six years.

However, we recognise that a number of submitters to this question raised the more general issue of the level of rates themselves, rather than the specific question of how significant rate increases should be smoothed / funded. Therefore, in addition to the question of phasing of the gap the call for additional cost-savings or cost-reductions, potentially impacting service levels, should be considered carefully by Council. Additional proactive measures are likely to be required at Councils direction to balance financial responsibility with service provision, reflective of residents' needs in these trying times.

7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP(Cont.)

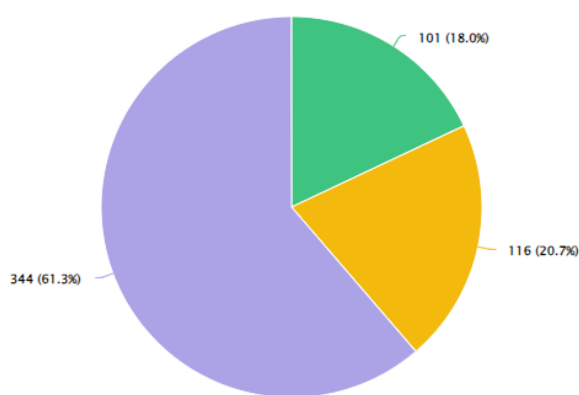
Question 4: How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

Option 1: (Status quo) – 24% UAGC – \$927.50 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

Option 2: 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1. (Council's preferred option)

Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

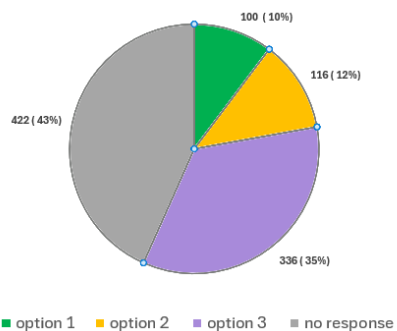
Figure 1: Submitter responses to this question:



There were 552 responses to the survey question as follows:

- 18.1 % are in favour of option 1
- 21 % are in favour of option 2
- 60.9 % are in favour of option 3

Figure 2: Total number of submissions:



43% of submissions did not specifically respond to this question.

Note: this includes emails or letters that were submitted where people did not use the submission form or respond to the question.

7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP(Cont.)**Overall comments analysis:**

Summary: It is important to acknowledge that some responses indicate submitters may not have fully understood the question, and either didn't provide comments or responded with uncertainty. Consequently, there are limited submissions that directly address the question asked and provide feedback on rates increases, rather than discussing how rates should be distributed.

Across all options, submissions reflect the economic pressures currently. Majority of submitters are opposed to the rates increases that are being proposed and stress their concerns about the affordability of this especially on lower income residents and pensioners.

Summary of arguments in favour of option 1: (Status quo) – 24% UAGC – \$927.50 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

Some submitters in favour of option 1 argue for a system where all ratepayers contribute equally to services, regardless of property value, with one submitter stating, "If we all use the same service, we should all pay the same to use that service." Others express contentment with the current proportions, suggesting that the system, while not always perfect, is generally acceptable. There are concerns raised around the impact of rate increases, especially on retirees and residents who have limited incomes and assets. Some argued that higher property values don't necessarily equate to higher disposable incomes, particularly for retirees.

Summary of arguments in favour of option 2: Option 2: 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

Only two written explanations were provided supporting responses received for this option, both emphasising that property value doesn't consistently indicate a homeowner's financial status. While some individuals live in high-value properties, they may not necessarily be financially secure, and vice versa. One respondent specifically voiced concern about the elderly potentially losing their homes due to high rates.

7.1.5 Appendix 5 - Four 'Key Questions' on the LTP(Cont.)**Summary of arguments in favour of option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1. (highest number of responses)**

Submissions in favour of option 3 reflect a common sentiment of urging the Council to avoid rate increases, with concerns that the increasing rates impact vulnerable groups like pensioners. Some submitters advocate for reducing non-essential spending and prioritising essential services.

One submitter stated "I believe the uniform annual general charges should be the last to be increase. As the increases should be on the capital value proportional charges as to make those with higher capital increases support the local council's development. This would also reflect the luxury of living in those high profiled locations."

Management Comment:

After analysing the responses, the prevailing sentiment highlights concerns about rate increases impacting vulnerable groups. Option 3, reducing UAGC to 16%, seems to have the high level of support, emphasising the need to shield pensioners in lower value properties and lower-income residents, but this is interpretive given the risk of confusion amongst responders.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Council proceed with option 2 – 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

Despite limited responses for other options, the rationale behind maintaining the recommended 20% reduction is reinforced. The argument for proportional charges based on property value is significant, advocating for equity versus the attribution of the uses of services. Management recommends proceeding with the planned UAGC decrease, adhering to the proposed adjustment for equitable distribution given the initial decision's rationale of Council in choosing the recommended option.

Management recognises that there remains a concern here still especially around pensioners in high-value homes, therefore we believe additional emphasis should be made in our rates collateral highlighting access to the DIA rates rebate.

Based on the nature responses we would separately recommend, following additional education campaigns on the implications UAGC levels, that the potential for further change, or consideration of other options to attempt to address issues for low-income high-value-property pensioners be incorporated in the rating review currently agreed to be conducted in 2024/25.

7.1.6 Appendix 6 - 'Key Strategic Themes' for the LTP

7.1.6 Appendix 6 - 'Key Strategic Themes' for the LTP

7.1.6 Appendix 6 - 'Key Strategic Themes' for the LTP(Cont.)

Appendix 6 - Key Themes

This appendix provides an analysis of other feedback provided from submissions received through the LTP consultation process. There are 14 key themes.

Key theme 1 – Governance

Summary of submissions:

There is consistent demand from submitters for transparency and accountability in Council decisions, particularly financial matters such as rates increases and spending allocations. Comments emphasise the importance of Councillors to represent community interests, to listen to public feedback, and make decisions that benefit everyone and not just a small number of people. Many community members feel that the Council doesn't listen to them and makes decisions without considering public input. There's a perception that Council management and some Councillors are disconnected from the community's challenges and concerns. There is also criticism of how proposals are presented to the Council, with calls for better alignment with strategic priorities, financial constraints, and community needs. Concerns are raised about the effectiveness of Council communication, the accessibility of information to the public, and the need for easier ways for community members to provide feedback and engage with Council decisions.

Opinions do vary regarding Council leadership, with some expressing confidence in Councillors and staff and some expressing their lack of trust. There were common comments around the number of staff employed at Council, high consultant costs and too many high paid salaries.

Submitters also urge the Council to prioritise essential services over non-essential projects and express their criticism of excessive spending on 'nice to have' projects such as Rex Morpeth, the Boat Harbour and the Council Building redevelopment. Concerns over the current economic environment are stressed and for the Council to recognise people in the district are struggling financially.

Management Comment:

Governance

Councillors are elected under the Electoral Act 2001, a principal of which being "fair and effective representation for individuals and communities".

Whakatane District Council elected members are also bound by a code of conduct. The code refers to the following "Values" of holding office; public interest, public trust, ethical behaviour, objectivity, respect for others, duty to uphold the law, equitable contribution, leadership.

These values complement, and work in conjunction with, the principles of s14 of the Local Government Act 2002 and the governance principles of s39 of the Local Government Act 2002.

If a person feels that a Councillor is not complying with the Electoral Act or the Code of Conduct listed above they can make a complaint to the Council Chief Executive in the first instance, or the New Zealand Ombudsman. They can also raise the matter with the Department of Internal Affairs.

Communication

Management will commission a review into the effectiveness of the Long Term Plan communication process with particular regard to the effectiveness of Council communication, the accessibility of information to the public, and the need for easier ways for community members to provide feedback and engage with Council decisions. We will also see advice on the general legibility of the documents provided.

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7.1.6 Appendix 6 - 'Key Strategic Themes' for the LTP(Cont.)Staffing

All roles are approved through the Council's Long Term Plan and/or Annual Plan process when a programme/project work plan and budget are allocated and agreed. We are obliged to comply with New Zealand Employment legislation, particularly the Employment Relations Act 2000.

Recommendations:

1. That submission comments are noted; and,
2. That Council direct management to commission a review into the Long Term Plan communication process with particular regard to the effectiveness of council communication, the accessibility of information to the public, and the need for easier ways for community members to provide feedback and engage with Council decisions. This review will also seek advice on the general legibility of the documents provided.

Budget impact:

No proposed change to current LTP budget.

Key theme 2 – Financial**Summary of submissions:**General financial management

There is general frustration and concern expressed through submissions about the financial management of the Council, particularly through the proposed rates increases and the perceived wasteful spending.

Many submitters feel financially strained, with rising costs and limited budgets, especially in the current economic climate with rising inflation and interest rate increases. There is clear concern that a further rate increase would exacerbate these difficulties.

There are calls for the Council to be more financially responsible, cut unnecessary spending, and to focus on essential services rather than "nice to have" projects. Many residents want the Council to prioritise infrastructure improvements like three waters and roading over Rex Morpeth Redevelopment and the Boat Harbour.

Some submitters also expressed concern over the number of staff employed by Council, the use of consultants and suggested that Council should reduce unnecessary positions and costs. Submitters also called for more transparency around projects and their associated costs and the decision-making process. There was emphasis that there should be clear transparency and accountability when it comes to the use of rate payers' money. There is a strong sentiment on fiscal responsibility, to work within budgets and avoid unnecessary debt.

Rates

Many submitters express worry about the affordability of rate increases, especially given wages are not increasing at the same rate and inflation and interest rates are high. There are concerns around the impact of this on households, particularly those on fixed incomes including the elderly. People fear that higher rates could lead to financial difficulties, potentially default on their rate, or must move out of Whakatāne. Many believe that now is not the right time to increase rates and suggest that large projects should be pushed out until the economic climate has improved.

Several submitters call for greater transparency in how rates are spent, including making it clear in Councils publications the costs of each activity and project.

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7.1.6 Appendix 6 - 'Key Strategic Themes' for the LTP(Cont.)

Some submitters suggest that Council should explore alternative funding sources, and reduce spending to take the burden of ratepayers. Some others suggest that Council adopt more of a user pays model for certain services.

Management Comment:General financial management

We diligently monitor finances through annual budgets and quarterly reviews by our Finance and Performance committee. Our spending aligns with elected members' priorities for essential services and future district maintenance. We understand the strain of inflation and compliance costs and commit to thorough cost reviews. Further reductions would require careful consideration and elected members' guidance to minimise impacts on community services and infrastructure.

Elected members review the prioritisation and distribution of capital expenditure, different submitters will have different perspectives of the priority of such investments. Removing investment in projects like Rex Morpeth, while reducing borrowing needs, and impacting rates slightly in years 7-10 of the LTP, it's not a significant factor in short term rate increases, which are primarily driven by other factors such as inflation over the last 4 years.

Rates

Our Long Term plan, annual plan, and annual reports do detail quite comprehensively the costs of activities and projects, albeit within a large document set based on legislated requirements, that we appreciate may make it hard to identify. We're available to assist ratepayers in navigating this information. Affordability-wise, rates have closely tracked household income increases across the district since 2010 (Source: Infometrics). We acknowledge rising costs and are here to support ratepayers facing hardship, facilitating access to government support and offering assistance through our rating team.

Recommendations:

1. That submission comments are noted; and
2. Council continue to maintain oversight and reviews of expenditure for effective spend management through quarterly forecast reviews reported through Council committees, and
3. The financial aspects as approved by Council's release of the consultation document remain unless additional direction from Council, as part of deliberations, changes the financial aspects and Council acknowledges the potential impacts on strategic outcomes and Levels of Service; and,
4. Council continue to work diligently in communicating to ratepayers the support options that are available to them such as rebates, payments term, and services or support available from social service partners.

Budget impact:

No proposed change to current LTP budget.

Key theme 3 – Whakatane boat harbour project**Summary of submissions:**

Throughout the submissions, there was a strong opposition towards the new boat harbour project. Many expressed concerns about the contamination of the proposed site and the associated costs of remediation. There is scepticism about the feasibility of the project due to the known contamination and doubts about whether it can be adequately addressed. Submitters are worried about the financial implications of the project, including the potential costs of ongoing maintenance, dredging, and the removal of contaminated soil. There's a perception that the project could become a financial drain on the Council and ratepayers. Several submissions argue that the Boat Harbour project should not receive public funding, as it primarily benefits a small part of the

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7.1.6 Appendix 6 - 'Key Strategic Themes' for the LTP(Cont.)

population. There's a belief that the project should be financed by private investors or user fees rather than ratepayer money. Some submissions propose alternative uses for the Harbour Endowment Fund and suggest redirecting funds to other projects that benefit the community more broadly. Suggestions include investing in flood protection, revitalising the CBD, or improving waterfront amenities. Submitters also express their frustration with the lack of consultation and transparency from the Council regarding the project. There's a call for greater community input and scrutiny of the project's costs and benefits.

Management Comment:

The Boat Harbour project is run by a limited liability company which is owned by four different shareholders who have appointed an independent Board of Directors. As a shareholder, Council has appointed an independent board member. This ensures that Council continues to have oversight of the project. Council does not operate or manage the project, but as a project partner/shareholder has governance accountability over the project.

The funding commitment from Council was \$9.6million for Boat Harbour construction. There are funding decision points where the Board of Directors for the Boat Harbour project would need come back to Council for approval. An example of this is where the project changes or the costs change.

There was knowledge of site contamination at concept stage when the funding application was made. Kanoa is making a contribution of \$4.7mil to remediate the contamination which was part of the original funding package.

The resource consenting process includes site management of contamination, and the project is currently working through understanding the nature and scale of contamination before developing a site management plan that will need to be approved by the Regional Council as part of the projects Resource Consent.

The project outcomes and benefits are the same as when the business case and funding application were made. What has changed is the likely cost to deliver, as with all projects it has also been impacted by inflation. Once the site remediation management plan is completed (this must occur as part of the land lease agreement and Resource Consenting process) then the Boat Harbour Board will need to turn its attention to re-evaluating project costs

Recommendations:

1. That submission comments are noted; and,
2. As a shareholder, Council continues to closely monitor the Boat Harbour project through the Risk & Assurance Committee and regular reports to Council from its independent Board member.

Budget impact:

No proposed change to current LTP budget.

Key theme 4 – Council services**Summary of submissions:**

Many people feel that the Council should prioritise essential services like water, sewage, roads, and waste management over non-essential projects such as the Rex Mopeth redevelopment and Boat Harbour, especially during this current economic climate and hardship. There is a strong sentiment against the proposed significant rate increases, particularly when people are already facing financial challenges due to high inflation and interest rates. Submitters request that Council reduce unnecessary spending, cut back on non-essential services and find ways to operate more efficiently. Submissions highlight the specific community needs it deems essential such as improved infrastructure, basic facilities like footpaths, housing, water, sewage systems, and overlooked areas like Matatā and Murupara.

7.1.6 Appendix 6 - 'Key Strategic Themes' for the LTP(Cont.)**Management Comment:**

This LTP includes a greater focus on investment in essential infrastructure than previous LTP's have had. Essential infrastructure is much broader than just Water, Wastewater, Roads, and Waste Management. It also includes infrastructure that supports community cohesiveness, and increases the economic wealth and wellbeing of communities as well. Rex Morpeth Park and the Boat Harbour are both transformational infrastructure projects, and as such we deem them to be essential.

Recommendations:

1. That submission comments are noted.

Budget impact:

No proposed change to current LTP budget.

Key theme 5 – Matatā Waste Water**Summary of submissions:**

Submissions regarding Matatā overwhelmingly highlight the urgent need for a sewage reticulation system. They report ongoing issues with septic tanks that are a major health concern, environmental hazard, and note the unpleasant odours. Many raise concerns about the impact on the local environment, particularly the contamination of waterways and public spaces. There are strong calls for Council to make this a higher priority including this submitter who states "As a resident of Matata, I would like to urge you to consider our need for a sewerage system as a priority."

Management Comment:

The submissions received on the draft LTP confirm the strong support for the Matatā Wastewater Project. This is already a high priority project for the Council and this is reflected in the draft LTP.

Recommendations:

1. That submission comments are noted; and
2. The Council note the Matatā Wastewater Project is currently a high priority project included in the Draft LTP.

Budget impact:

No proposed change to current LTP budget.

Key theme 6 – Second bridge**Summary of submissions:**

The construction of a second bridge was often requested throughout the submissions received. Majority of these submissions expressed that the second bridge would significantly improve safety during disasters like tsunamis by reducing congestion out of the town centre. One submitter stating "It would seem that the majority see the need for a second bridge above all else and this is something that we all had experience of three years ago during a tsunami warning that affected the whole town. Our coastline is now a red warning area and if

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7.1.6 Appendix 6 - 'Key Strategic Themes' for the LTP(Cont.)

disaster strikes any time there is going to be the possibility of severe loss of life as people struggle to get to safety."

However, there are a few voices opposing the idea of a second bridge, raising concerns about the cost and propose alternative solutions to address congestion such as promoting alternative modes of transportation like bicycles, buses, or a park and ride from The Hub. Others propose that the Pekatahi bridge should be upgraded and upgraded to two lanes.

Management Comment:

There is mixed support and opposition for the second bridge to be progressed. Mostly supported and many stating it's a very high priority. A lot of comments about Tsunami evacuation, however the current evacuation procedure clearly shows this should be to the escarpment, not over the current Landing Road Bridge, as a lot of SH30 is within the evacuation zone until past Thornton Road (<https://www.bopcivildefence.govt.nz/documents/?filter=Tsunami,Map,Whakatane>) further communications should be done with public to understand not to use Landing Rod bridge to exit Whakatane during Tsunami evacuation. However, the likely second bridge location further up river, would provide a suitable high ground, inland additional evacuation route.

There are comments about progressing other types of improvements to reduce the need/extend the timeframe until a second bridge is needed, and these are already underway and will continue (Active Whakatane Strategy and Programme, Public Transport etc, minor arterial route improvements such as Landing Road Roundabout (completed) Arawa/Hinemoa RAB (planned) etc).

Funding options as well as Waka Kotahi (such as tolling) will be considered as the project progresses. The development of a business case for an additional river crossing will establish the need for (and possibly the location of) an additional river crossing. This will inform decision-making as part of the transport connections across the Eastern Bay that will be solidified in the Eastern Bay of Plenty Spatial Plan.

Note there were numerous comments about Pekatahi Bridge (also sometimes referred to as the Taneatua or Single Lane Bridge). However, this is a NZ Transport Agency, Waka Kotahi asset that is outside of Council's direct control to maintain or upgrade. Council will continue to advocate for the community the importance of this bridge and the concerns raised by the community through these submissions. There are comments included about the provision of a second bridge in BOPRC's Regional Land Transport Plan. Confirming this is the same project that's why they appear similar. Part of the process for our Roading projects to obtain Waka Kotahi funding is for them to be included in the Regional Land Transport Plan that BOPRC produce in collaboration with us and other BOP Councils.

Recommendations:

1. That submission comments are noted; and
2. Council note the Eastern Bay of Plenty Spatial Plan will define future land use patterns , including land transport network connections, and investigation for an additional river crossing.

Budget impact:

No proposed change to current LTP budget

7.1.6 Appendix 6 - 'Key Strategic Themes' for the LTP(Cont.)**Key theme 7 – Climate change****Summary of submissions:**

Some submissions express various perspectives on climate change issues, including requesting more cycle lanes and footpaths to promote alternative methods of transports and reduce reliance on cars. There were multiple submissions that were concerned about the lack of funding allocated to climate change and that issues relating from climate change should be made a higher priority. There were on the other hand, scepticism about climate change.

Management Comment:

The climate change activity will look to deliver on the new Climate Change Strategy priorities, including a focus; on community education; encouraging more sustainable and low-emission community action; delivering a significant Climate Change Adaptation programme; supporting community initiatives through a contestable community fund in collaboration with partners; and embedding climate change further within Council projects and decision-making.

Many of the submissions received support the priorities identified through the Climate Change Strategy review and are included within existing budget allocations. This existing budget includes both the development of a Climate Change Activity of Council and dedicated resource (the 1.3% activity budget referenced), but also budget across Council activities for projects that will support climate adaptation and mitigation. For example, infrastructure projects to improve flood resilience or increase cycleways are not captured in the climate change activity.

Whilst Bay of Plenty Regional Council provide the public transport network throughout the region, and comments received will be passed on to the Regional Council, Whakatāne District Council does acknowledge the importance of having viable alternative transport options to help reduce transport emissions, as well as addressing other connectivity issues. Advocating for enhanced alternative transport solutions remains a key objective of the new Climate Change Strategy, including investigating the viability of alternative solutions (i.e. on-demand, alternative vehicles etc).

Recommendations:

1. That submissions comments are noted; and,
2. Council continue the process to review the Climate Change Strategy and implement the Council-agreed work programme.

Budget impact:

No proposed change to current LTP budget

Key theme 8 – Sullivan Lake**Summary of submissions:**

Many submissions collectively highlight concerns regarding the deteriorating condition of Sullivan Lake and advocate for urgent action from management. Concerns primarily revolve around the lakes water quality, overgrown vegetation and neglect that is making it a serious health risk. The Sullivan Lake Care Group stress the importance of implementing the recommendations outlined in the "Sullivan Lake Water Quality, Ecology and Options for Improvement" report. They also urge that Council need to prioritise the lakes improvement, emphasising its historical significance and community asset. Submissions also call for the Sullivan Lake to be included as a priority within the Long-Term Plan.

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7.1.6 Appendix 6 - 'Key Strategic Themes' for the LTP(Cont.)**Management Comment:**Sullivan Lake:

We will continue to support the Sullivan Lake Care Group to maintain, enhance and advocate for this environment. The quality of the water is extremely poor and is steadily degrading as highlighted in the 2024 "Sullivan Lake Water Quality, Ecology and Options for Improvement" report produced by Keith Hamill. This is further supported through numerous submissions received by the community to improve the quality of the lake's water environment. To improve the water quality of Sullivan Lake significant funding must be provided over the term of the LTP to implement the management interventions of Sullivan Lake as reported to the Living Together Committee on 29 February 2024 and to enable the investment in Keith Hamill's report.

Awatapu Lagoon:

Whilst fewer submissions were received for Awatapu Lagoon, it is equally important that budget be included over the term of the LTP to implement the management recommendations for the harvesting of macrophytes as recommended in Keith Hamill's 2024 "Awatapu Lagoon Water Quality, Ecology and Options for Improvement" report.

Matata Lagoon:

No Council funding is required as Matata Lagoon is not Council's asset. Our Three Waters Department have obligations relating to the management of the flood bays under our resource consent and an MOU signed in 2018 between Council and the Department of Conservation for which there are existing budget allocations.

The management of the Matata lagoon and surrounds will require review in the future given this area has been returned to Ngati Rangitihī as part of their Claims Settlement. Progress on the Tarawera River Strategy and the Awatarariki Restoration project will also be relevant to the future of the Matata Lagoon. As a key community asset Council staff will continue to take part in discussions with Ngati Rangitihī, the Matata Community and the Department of Conservation on the future of the Matata Lagoon and surrounding areas.

Recommendations:

1. That the submissions comments are noted; and,
2. Council include budget within the LTP for the next 10 years to implement the management interventions for both Sullivan Lake and Awatapu Lagoon as recommended in the 2024 Sullivan Lake and Awatapu Lagoon Water Quality, Ecology and Options for Improvement reports prepared by Keith Hamill.

Budget impact:

Sullivan Lake- proposed increase of \$360,000 over 10 years. (\$175,000 in year 1)

Awatapu Lagoon – proposed increase of \$375,000 over 10 years (\$75,000 in year 1)

Key theme 9 – Disparity of services between areas**Summary of submissions:**

These submissions highlight the sentiment that certain areas within the Whakatane District feel neglected in terms of Council services and infrastructure improvements, particularly in Matata, Edgumbe, Murupara, and surrounding rural communities. Residents want their voices to be heard and their concerns addressed by the

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7.1.6 Appendix 6 - 'Key Strategic Themes' for the LTP(Cont.)

Council. There's a call for more meaningful engagement and consultation processes to ensure that decisions reflect the needs and priorities of local communities.

Residents feel that their areas receive fewer services and amenities compared to Whakatane and Ohope, despite paying rates. Concerns include the lack of basic facilities, footpaths, and inadequate maintenance of public spaces.

There's frustration over rate increases and the perception that rural areas bear a disproportionate financial burden without receiving proportionate benefits. Residents feel that their rates contribute to improvements in more affluent areas rather than addressing local needs. There's a demand for greater transparency and accountability from the Council, with suggestions to prioritise spending on essential services and infrastructure projects that directly benefit the whole community.

Management Comment:

Council has made deliberate and intentional efforts in the last 5 years to ensure equity of spend across the District in rural and remote communities. Significant investment through our open places and spaces team in playgrounds and parks and reserves, infrastructure in the form of footpaths, walk and cycle ways, roading and three waters including back flow preventers (Murupara). We work with many communities to attract external funding such as the Eivers Park revitalisation in Te Teko, our community development teams work through development of community plans and associated actions plans, community board support and grants, and going forward we have allocated a substantial proportion of the Better Off Funding received from Central Govt was allocated through an equity lens to rural and remote communities. This includes Hono Hapori mobile vehicles to deliver services across the District, cycle way development across the Rangataikei plains, town development /infrastructure plans for Minginui & Murupara and other key emergency response programmes. Events, festivals and a substantial number of iwi led projects are also strongly supported by Council. In the coming LTP we anticipate a capital fund for town centre improvements (Whakatane and Kope) and a fund for town centre improvements in the wider district (Matatā, Murupara, Minginui, Tāneatua) over the next 10 years. This is in addition to Murupara water treatment upgrades, the Matatā Wastewater Project and Maraetōtara playground improvements. Further to the above, staff are preparing an analysis of urban versus rural investment in order to provide clarity to the community.

Community Plans are in place or underway in each of these areas. Community Board Discretionary Fund allocation process could be reviewed to ensure more equitable funding. Applications to other Council-managed funds are encouraged from community groups operating and/or providing services outside the main centre and 'funding kete' workshops are being held in these communities to upskill the people who make these applications. Rural Travel Fund assists sports teams that need to travel to compete in regular local sporting competitions outside school hours. Other targeted funds could be considered. The planned mobile Community Connections service Honoa Hapori may help bridge the information and service gap between the main township of Whakatāne and outlying townships and rural areas. Support for services such as Waka Eastern Bay can help with the transportation issues for more isolated communities, especially for disabled people. Council could consider having more staff working from satellite offices to increase our presence in more isolated communities.

Recommendations:

1. That submissions comments are noted.

Budget impact:

No proposed change to current LTP budget.

7.1.6 Appendix 6 - 'Key Strategic Themes' for the LTP(Cont.)**Key theme 10 – Māori partnerships****Summary of submissions:**

This theme relates to general comments that have been made about Māori Partnerships and submissions made by Iwi and other organisations. It should be noted that these submissions were specific and original submissions should be read.

Overall, there was many submitters expressing that Council should continue and do more to engage and work with Māori on projects throughout the District. With specific suggestions on initiatives such as establishing a community garden and composting area on the currently unused top rugby field in Matata being proposed.

The importance of engaging Māori in decision-making processes is highlighted, with a call for meaningful involvement and shared governance. Support for Māori wards and Māori representation in local governance, along with requests to retain Māori wards in response to central Government policy changes.

Alternative views were also shared, with a few submissions that are against the singling out of Māori and that all should be represented fairly.

Strong support is expressed for addressing wastewater issues in Matatā to protect health, enable growth, and restore environmental balance. The need for collaboration with government and other agencies to secure funding is highlighted.

Management Comment:

Based on the feedback provided regarding Māori partnerships and submissions made by Iwi and other organisations, we recommend that Council continue to prioritise and enhance its engagement with Māori communities in decision-making processes and project implementation across the district. This entails:

Meaningful Involvement and Shared Governance:

- Ensure that Iwi, hapu and whanau are actively involved in decision-making processes, fostering meaningful engagement and shared governance. MRS- Toi Kotuia outlines the value of IHW representatives that participate in forums and committees for the development and implementation of projects, policies and plans.
- Emphasise the importance of incorporating Māori perspectives, values, and aspirations into all levels of decision-making, from policy development to project execution.

Support for Māori Wards and Representation:

- Advocate for the continuation of Māori wards and representation in local governance structures, recognising the significance of equitable representation and the principles of partnership under Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- Respond to requests to retain Māori wards in response to potential policy changes at the central government level, ensuring that Māori voices continue to be heard and represented in decision-making processes.

Addressing Wastewater Issues in Matatā:

- Continue to respond to the strong community support for addressing wastewater issues in Matatā by prioritising efforts to protect public health, enable sustainable growth, and restore environmental balance.
- Collaborate with Iwi, Hapu and whanau at place to ensure relationships are enduring and the project moves ahead.

Balancing Perspectives:

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7.1.6 Appendix 6 - 'Key Strategic Themes' for the LTP(Cont.)

We acknowledge alternative views regarding the representation of Māori and ensure that all perspectives are considered in decision-making processes. However, we strive for fairness and inclusivity in governance structures and project initiatives, while also recognising the significance and legislative requirements of Te Tiriti.

TARSG

Further support required for the Secretariat. \$70k year 1 and \$50k year 2

The role is to support TARSG in engaging Iwi and non-Maori stakeholders, progress the external funding application, and to undergo cultural monitoring of Tarawera Awa in order to support TARSG and the Iwi collective to complete the Tarawera Awa Strategy Document and subsequent cultural monitoring plan.

BOPRC funding of River Strategy forums will expire. TARSG has no budget to support ongoing secretariat service. Settlement funding did not cover secretariat.

Specifics / potential projects:

- Māori Wards and Māori Voter drive
- Iwi Chairs – unlikely to remain with Governance in future.
- Capacity & Capability building for Iwi, hapu and whanau.
- Implementation of MACA (what does that look like – unknown)
- Advisory resources- (assist in drafting and advising on policies for Council). This could be existing roles, as they become vacant, JD adjusted to reflect the new skillset and expectation.
- Bilingual Signage for Matatā
- Matauranga Maori and its incorporation into our mahi (what is this and what does it look like) - direct alignment to Renewal of Consent project.
- Dedicated Iwi/hapu advisory groups to assist with plan, policies and strategies
- Business support via WDC activities, via Toi EDA and other.
- Maori Tourism
- Policy Hub- Explore opportunities to fund once funding has run out (next AP or LTP)
- TMONR Submission seeking FTE resource to project manage contact and projects between Council and TMONR
- TRONA submission- MACA- reinforces the need for us to resource this space. We currently have no legal team and rely on two tier 3 managers to manage this workload. There are some projects in this submission that align with our team and therefore we should be part of the discussion- Pohaturoa rock-Ophi- Mataatua Wharenui and Treaty settlements etc. Further enforces our teams need to be resourced adequately. FTE in Toi Kotuia to support Ngati Awa (this would be the entirety of that role

Ngati Whare submission requested support in the form of an FTE.

A number of other projects belonging to other teams would need support.

Ngati Manawa in their submission noted the community would be opposed to a range of cost increases in the form of dog charges, annual rates increases and refuse transfer station fees until town revitalisation commences. They also requested further support in the form of Iwi liaison person.

A number of other projects belonging to other teams would need support.

Number of projects outlined by submitters highlighted the need for our team to continue to support the relationships with Iwi and Hapu. OHIF, TARSG, Matata reticulation etc. This narrative supports our teams requirement for extra FTE.

Recommendations:

1. That submissions comments are noted; and

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7.1.6 Appendix 6 - 'Key Strategic Themes' for the LTP(Cont.)

2. Council approves the TARSG's request for financial support, totalling \$70,000 for year 1 and \$50,000 for year 2, designated for the TARSG secretariat.

Budget impact:

Additional Opex request of \$70,000 in Year 1 and \$50,000 in Year 2 to iwi resourcing budget.

Key theme 11 – Transport**Summary of submissions:**

Some submissions call for better speed management, and ask for measures such as speed cameras and judder bars, to address speeding issues. Various road projects are mentioned, including the need for a second bridge, upgrades to Pekatahi Bridge, and objections or support for specific roundabout projects like Shaw Road - Mill Road. Additionally, safety concerns are raised around Hillcrest and Gorge Road and request a roundabout. There are requests for the continuation of the seal extension program for rural roads like Kope Drain Road.

Submissions advocate for environmental sustainability in transport planning, including reducing car reliance and emissions. Some submissions also support continued investment in cycling infrastructure, including trail networks and slower speed limits to promote safe cycling for school children, elderly, commuters, and those with mobility impairments. They highlight the need for ongoing support for projects like the Mountain Bike Park.

Management Comment:

The proposed transport programme is well aligned with the items covered in the submissions.

Of note:

- The 'Waka Eastern Bay' submission has been noted and our team will link in with them to support where we can in our transport programme work.
- The WAI submission particularly regarding the current curtesy crossings in our district (and a few other similar submissions on this topic) and can confirm that we are aware of recent changes to design guidelines affecting some of these previously installed crossings and have included in our programme of improvement works allowance to review and prioritise upgrades where applicable.
- Consideration of investing in development of a bus shelter plan.

Recommendations:

1. That submission comments are noted; and
2. That Council continue with the transport programme proposed in the LTP, which focuses on Maintenance and Renewals and allows for some minor improvements spending to be focused on areas of priority (identified through our transparent prioritisation process); and,
3. Council direct staff to develop a bus shelter plan should budgets permit.

Budget impact:

No proposed change to current LTP budget.

7.1.6 Appendix 6 - 'Key Strategic Themes' for the LTP(Cont.)

Key theme 12 – Community wellbeing

Summary of submissions:

There is a proposal for an accessible playground and seniors' wellness park, collaborating with Disabilities Resource Centre for innovative concepts and advocating for community lead initiatives related to safety, wellbeing, and vibrancy. Support for investment in active recreation infrastructure with an emphasis on accessibility, collaboration with disabilities community, and ongoing consultation. There is a call for more support and opportunities for rangatahi. Suggestions include discounted rates for facilities and increased engagement with youth.

There are concerns about increased crime due to cost-of-living crisis and support for initiatives addressing homelessness and antisocial behaviour.

There are also multiple requests for additional and upgrades to public toilets across the District, with one submitter suggesting that we should have toilets and showers for the homeless to use like the facility in Napier City.

Management Comment:

Community Plans are community-led initiatives supported by Council (and others). Community Partnership Team works closely with Disabilities Resource Centre (DRC) and Whakatane Accessible and Inclusive (WAI). MOU with WAI will see increased collaboration as will Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy work currently underway.

Opening public toilets after hours has helped with some antisocial behaviours but sometimes exacerbates other issues / perceptions / concerns around public safety. Council can potentially assist with infrastructure and operations for WAKA EB service and support regional funding for these types of initiatives. Within the LTP there is a program of works to renew and improve public toilets with an investment of \$1.2million.

Whakatane District Youth Council provides assistance for members travelling from outside the main centre and has made connections into the existing Murupara youth group.

An Affordable Housing Strategy would provide guidance on a number of housing and homelessness-related issues. Council has Community Safety Advisor role who works closely with Police, agencies and organisations on issues related to public safety, road safety, homelessness and more. Recent expansion of Community Safety Camera system will assist with deterring and resolving some crime related activities.

Accessible Playground and Seniors Wellness Park and Recreation and Play Spaces

Improvements to existing play spaces to enable inclusivity, provide equal possibilities and accessible features for all users to play and interact have been identified and included through the LTP budget process. The provision of accessible play spaces has also been identified as a theme within our Open Spaces Strategy and we will consult with Disabilities Resource Centre, community groups and other external agencies regarding concepts for all age groups and to seek funding assistance. We will continue to support our sporting clubs with external applications to improve facilities that enhance active recreation and collaborate with external agencies eg Sport Bay of Plenty, Sport NZ and Basketball NZ to promote active recreation across the wider Bay of Plenty and across our District.

Mountain Biking Park and Active Whakatane

We will continue to support the Mountain Bike Club to seek opportunities to develop a recreational area for mountain biking. Whilst the club is seeking \$100,000 per year for the next 2 years, our Partnership Facilitation Fund of \$50,000 is available, largely for supporting the club through this process. It is important that Council's signals it's continued commitment to pursue opportunities for mountain biking and cycle trails which ultimately contribute to the increase in tourism to our District.

7.1.6 Appendix 6 - 'Key Strategic Themes' for the LTP(Cont.)**Recommendations:**

1. The management comments are noted; and
2. Council advocate to Regional Council for increased public transport services and work with Waka Eastern Bay on possible alternative transport opportunities.
3. Council confirm its commitment to continue to pursue opportunities for mountain biking and cycle trails for the wellbeing of communities which will contribute to the increase in tourism to our District.
4. Council direct staff to undertake a review of accessible parking options across Whakatāne should budgets permit. Current carparks cannot cater for rear access vans.

Budget impact:

No proposed change to current LTP budget.

Key theme 13 – Central government**Summary of submissions:**

There are several submissions that ask the Council to push back on central Government policies that burden local Councils. There's a concern that the Council may be too influenced by changing government ideologies and that it should prioritise the town's needs. Several suggestions are made to address financial challenges, including conducting a thorough review of expenditure to find savings, cut staff costs like central Government has, actively campaign for government financial support, and explore alternative revenue-generating opportunities.

Management Comment:

Whakatane District Council and its regional partners including neighbouring local authorities have been building stronger relationships with Central Government in recent years and have been actively involved in several proposed reform programmes such as the 'Future for Local Government' review. It is important that Councillors continue to focus efforts on advocacy through groups such as Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ), the Bay of Plenty (BOP) Mayoral Forum and Taituara. Additionally, Council is preparing to participate in national discussions around the current funding model for Local Government and regularly looks at best practice and benchmarking across the sector to ensure consistency in approaches to staffing and resourcing projects.

NB: Refer to key theme 'Governance' above for further comment on roles and responsibilities of Councillors in relation to Central Government.

Recommendations:

1. That submission comments are noted.

Budget impact:

No proposed change to current LTP budget.

7.1.6 Appendix 6 - 'Key Strategic Themes' for the LTP(Cont.)

Key theme 14 – Three waters

Summary of submissions:

Multiple submissions make comment on Three Waters – stating that this should be a high priority as it is an essential and core service that Council provides and that it has been under invested historically. One submission shares their thoughts on the importance of Council reducing demand of fresh water from reticulated supplies and that there should be more initiatives offered to households to install rainwater collection tanks, which would also help in emergency situations.

Management Comment:

This LTP includes a greater level of investment in Three Waters than has ever been captured in previous LTP's. This is a positive. There is a perception that because we cannot financially provide for the \$440 million that we are not investing appropriately in Three Waters. This is not accurate.

The state of the majority of our Three Waters infrastructure is moderate to good. We are in a better position than many Councils. Through the previous Government's stimulus funding programme we invested in CCTV hardware to inspect our reticulation networks, and over the last few years we have inspected a significant portion of our networks and have good condition data.

The other thing important to note is that the \$170 million capital programme for Three Waters is not only close to 50% greater than previous programmes, it is also a stretch for our current resourcing. So whilst it is true that there are financial constraints limiting the quantum of the programme, there are also delivery constraints based on levels of resourcing available.

Recommendations:

1. The submissions are considered and management comments noted.
2. Council engage with the community around 3W in 2024/5.
3. Council undertake a water rating and volumetric charging review to ensure equitable charging for those connected to a Council water scheme.
4. Council prepare a programme for participation in voluntary reform. Over and above BAU resourcing.

Budget impact:

A budget for Three Waters will be assessed in future LTPs as part of the Three Waters rating review. No impact to the early years of this LTP.

Annual budget of \$200,000 already included for participation and resourcing reform, however this has no rating impact.

7.2 Whakatāne Climate Pathway submissions pertaining to Long Term Plan deliberations

7.2 Whakatāne Climate Pathway submissions pertaining to Long Term Plan deliberations



To: **Whakatāne District Council**

Date: **Wednesday, 8 May 2024**

Author: **C Ball / Climate Change Project Manager**

Authoriser: **S Perdia / General Manager Strategy and Transformation**

Reference: **A2659592**

1. Reason for the report - *Te Take mō tēnei rīpoata*

The purpose of this report is to present to Council the submissions received on the draft Whakatāne Climate Pathway, which pertain to the Long Term Plan (LTP) budget setting process. This report includes analysis of submission requests that may have an LTP impact, to enable Council to consider these submissions as part of the LTP process. A separate report will be presented to Council in June regarding the relevant changes to the climate change strategy.

2. Recommendations - *Tohutohu akiaki*

1. THAT the 'Whakatāne Climate Pathway submissions pertaining to Long Term Plan deliberations' report be **received**; and
2. THAT the Council **consider**, as part of the Long Term Plan deliberations process, the submission points raised through the Whakatāne Climate Pathway that have budget implications.

3. Background - *He tirohanga whakamuri*

In March 2023, the Council commenced a project to review the Climate Change Strategy 2020-23. As part of the review process, the Council established a collaborative structure to facilitate the development of a community wide strategy. This process included the development of a Climate Change Steering Group to guide the strategy development, with members including representatives from local business, industry, community, and partners.

The strategy review has been underway alongside the development of the LTP, given the connected nature of the two processes, particularly with regards to budget requirements to deliver on climate change objectives. As a result, the LTP and Whakatāne Climate Pathway were consulted on alongside each other during mid-March to mid-April 2024.

4. Long Term Plan Deliberations – *Kaupapa*

The Council has heard from submitters to both the LTP and the Whakatāne Climate Pathway. In a separate report on this agenda, the Council is receiving all LTP submissions and will deliberate over submission points, to inform the final LTP.

7.2 Whakatāne Climate Pathway submissions pertaining to Long Term Plan deliberations(Cont.)

Alongside that process, this report presents all of the Whakatāne Climate Pathway submissions, and provides analysis where those submissions involve submission points that would have budget implications, and therefore need to be considered as part of the LTP process.

4.1. Climate Change Steering Group Recommendations

The purpose of the Steering Group was to make recommendations to the Council regarding the development of the Climate Change Strategy. As part of that role, the Steering Group will consider the submissions received to the Whakatāne Climate Pathway, and consider whether any of those submission points should be considered by Council as part of setting the LTP.

The Climate Change Steering Group is meeting on 8 May to consider whether to make recommendations to Council for consideration as part of your LTP process. Any recommendations will be tabled at the Council meeting of this agenda, on either Thursday 9 May or Friday 10 May 2024. The recommendations are likely to relate specifically to the submission points identified in appendix 1.

4.2. Finalising the Whakatāne Climate Pathway

Following Council's consideration of climate change within the LTP, the Climate Change Steering Group will consider any changes recommended to the final Whakatāne Climate Pathway. The Council will receive a recommendation from the Steering Group with regards to the final strategy in June 2024, alongside adopting the final LTP. These two documents continue to be developed concurrently, reflecting the connected and interdependent nature of these two processes.

5. Options analysis - *Ngā Kōwhiringa*

This report includes an analysis of all the submission points raised by submitters to the Whakatāne Climate Pathway, where a budget or LTP consideration is included. Appendix 1 outlines each of these requests, and Council will have the option to approve or decline each request. As noted above, a recommendation regarding the submission points will be provided by the Steering Group and tabled in the meeting.

Of the 102 submission points received on the draft Whakatāne Climate Pathway, approximately 35 submission points have potential LTP implications.

These 33 points can be generally categorised into 2 themes as outlined in section 5.1 below:

1. requests for general increase in funding to resource climate change work, both in the Council and with the community.
2. specific requests to support identified projects.

This report recommends that the Council consider these requests as part of the LTP deliberations.

5.1. Key themes from submission points to the draft Whakatāne Climate Pathway

i. General increase in Climate Change funding:

- Support for community fund (x7 submissions).
- Fund more active and public transport initiatives (x3 submissions).
- Resource climate change impact assessments for new developments (x2 submissions).

7.2 Whakatāne Climate Pathway submissions pertaining to Long Term Plan deliberations(Cont.)

- Resource for action with agriculture sector (x2 submissions).
- Include resourcing to ensure all Council decisions consider climate change (x2 submissions).
- General climate change budget increase (x2 submissions).
- Increase use of District Plan as a tool to address mitigation and adaptation (x2 submissions).
- Fund a coordinator.
- Fund adaptation.
- Include a Climate Change team.
- Include resource to support community transition.
- More mitigation related work to be included in the LTP.
- Resource a WDC audit and service for business community.
- Resourcing to deliver climate action into community.

2. Inclusion of funding for specific proposals

- Resourcing for solar panels on Council buildings and supporting community renewable energy (including solar at the airport) (x2 submissions).
- Consider alternative solution for Matatā Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- Consider impact of climate change on demand for War Memorial Hall for recreation.
- Fund a project to consider chimney smoke.
- Provide a park and ride ferry service across the Whakatane River.
- Reservoir and treat stormwater - use for recreation. Use of rainwater tanks.
- Weed control - through schools.
- Civil defence preparedness.

6. Significance and Engagement Assessment - *Aromatawai Pāhekoheko*

6.1. Assessment of Significance

The decisions and matters of this specific report are assessed to be of low significance in accordance with the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy. However, this report is part of broader processes to develop the LTP 2024-34, which is assessed to be of high significance, and a district climate change strategy which is assessed to be of moderate significance.

6.2. Engagement and community views

The Draft Whakatāne Climate Pathway has been consulted on alongside the LTP 2024-34 from 12 March to 12 April 2024, using the special consultative procedure under section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002. Feedback will be used to inform a final Strategy.

Considering submissions to the Whakatāne Climate Pathway is an important part of the LTP deliberations process to ensure Council has considered the community's views with regards to climate change, prior to finalising the LTP. A recommendation from the Climate Change Steering Group will also be tabled at the meeting.

The Council will receive final recommendations from the Climate Change Steering Group, deliberates on submissions and approves the final Climate Change Strategy in June 2024.

7.2 Whakatāne Climate Pathway submissions pertaining to Long Term Plan deliberations(Cont.)

7. Considerations - *Whai Whakaaro*

7.1. Financial/budget considerations

The costs associated with the development of the LTP and the Whakatāne Climate Pathway, are included within current budgets.

The financial consideration of the submission points raised by submitters have not been quantified. The proposed actions in the draft Whakatāne Climate Pathway had been considered as part of the LTP development, and the Actions included in the draft strategy indicate the 'financial impact' and whether the actions are currently funded in the LTP. The Whakatāne Climate Pathway will continue to be finalised alongside the finalisation of Council's LTP to ensure alignment where required.

7.2. Strategic alignment

Climate Change is a key component of the Councils' strategic priorities, identified through the LTP. The Whakatāne Climate Pathway is designed to replace the Council's current Climate Change Strategy. The proposed actions and strategic framework signify a shift in emphasis towards a response that sees the whole community working together to collectively respond to a District-wide issue.

7.3. Climate change assessment

This report is part of a project to review Council's Climate Change Strategy as well as setting Council's LTP 2024-34. This will ultimately have a significant impact on the way in which the Council, our partners and the wider communities respond to and prepare for the impacts of climate change. A climate change assessment of the development of a climate change strategy is assessed to have high climate change implications and considerations, in accordance with the Council's Climate Change Principles. Similarly, the LTP process is assessed to have high climate change implications and considerations, in accordance with the Council's Climate Change Principles. Decisions regarding funding through the LTP will impact the speed, scale and process by which Council and the District are able to transition to a low-emission economy and adapt to a changing climate.

8. Next steps - *Ahu whakamua*

Through the LTP deliberations on 8, 9 and 10 May 2024, Council will consider all submissions received and implications for climate change work within the LTP. The Council will also receive recommendations for the final Whakatāne Climate Pathway from the Climate Change Steering Group, who will have considered the feedback from the consultation process to inform a final Strategy. The final strategy will be brought back to the Council to adopt in June 2024.

Attached to this report:

- Appendix 1 – Whakatāne Climate Pathway submission points pertaining to the Long Term Plan.
- Appendix 2 – Whakatāne Climate Pathway submissions.

7.2.1 Appendix 1 - Climate Pathway submission points pertaining to the Long Term Plan

7.2.1 Appendix 1 - Climate Pathway submission points pertaining to the Long Term Plan

7.2.1 Appendix 1 - Climate Pathway submission points pertaining to the Long Term Plan(Cont.)

Appendix 1 - Whakatāne Climate Pathway submission points pertaining to the Long Term Plan

Sub #	Name	Potential recommendation to Council
3		Resource for action with agriculture sector
4		Resourcing for solar panels on Council buildings and supporting community renewable energy
5		Resource CC impact assessments for new developments
7		Resource for action with agriculture sector
		Resource a WDC audit and service for business community
		Resource CC impact assessments for new developments
		Fund more active and public transport initiatives
		Fund a coordinator or support community fund
8		Fund a project to consider chimney smoke
9		Resource CC impact assessments for new developments
11		General CC budget increase
		Fund more active and public transport initiatives
		Support for community fund
		Include resource to support transition
		Support for community fund
		Consider alternative for Matata Wastewater Treatment Plant
		Include a Climate Change team
13		Fund adaptation
14		Resource for action with agriculture sector
15	Trust Horizon	Support for community fund
		More mitigation related work to be included in the LTP
		Fund more active and public transport initiatives
16		Include resourcing to ensure all Council decisions consider climate change
17		General CC budget increase
22	Whakatane High School Enviro Club.	Resourcing to deliver climate action into community
		Support for community fund
		Provide a park and ride ferry service across the Whakatane River
23		Support for community fund
24		Include resourcing to ensure all Council decisions consider climate change


7.2.1 Appendix 1 - Climate Pathway submission points pertaining to the Long Term Plan(Cont.)

25		Reservoir and treat stormwater - use for recreation. Use of rainwater tanks. Weed control - through schools. Civil defence preparedness.
27	Sport Bay of Plenty	Consider impact of climate change on demand for War Memorial Hall for recreation
30		Invest in solar at the airport, on Council facilities, on homes and transition Council fleet to electric/hybrid
31		Include resourcing to ensure all Council decisions consider climate change Increased use of District Plan as a tool to address mitigation and adaptation
33	Climate Change Youth Panel	Support for community fund

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 1	Responded At: Mar 19, 2024 16:02:38 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Mar 19, 2024 16:02:38 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

Q1. Do you agree with the Vision, Goals and Targets? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a district?

No

Q2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions that your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

There is no climate catastrophe as you well know. Prove to us that there is.

Q3. Supporting documents not answered


Q4. Would you like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed? No

Q5. Name not answered

Q6. Area(s) of interest not answered

Q7. Email address not answered

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 3	Responded At: Mar 22, 2024 10:47:32 am
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Mar 22, 2024 10:47:32 am
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

Q1. Do you agree with the Vision, Goals and Targets? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a district?

In the vision, there could be more decisive word to replace 'shape', such as 'become', 'build' or 'create'. In terms of the targets, all 3 relate (or sound like they relate) just to adaptation, rather than mitigation. Doing what we can to minimise the climate change is important and needs to be a target (and this is also reflected in some of the actions in the action plan). Changing target 1 phrasing slightly to something like 'we all understand and are able to act on climate change and its impacts' means mitigation is also encompassed into the targets.

Q2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions that your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

Given the proportion of District emissions that come from agriculture, I am concerned about the associated target (#28) - it appears to have a small budget, a non-immediate time frame and a vague concept. I believe this target requires more time, financial and other resource investment.

Q3. **Supporting documents** not answered

Q4. **Would you like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed?** Yes


Q5. **Name** [REDACTED]

Q6. **Area(s) of interest**

- Transport
- Energy
- Waste
- Resilience
- Food
- Shopping

Q7. **Email address** [REDACTED]

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 4	Responded At: Mar 23, 2024 16:15:01 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Mar 23, 2024 16:15:01 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

Q1. Do you agree with the Vision, Goals and Targets? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a district?

I don't think the council has a place in "encouraging plant based diets" What about encouraging the use of renewable energy in new builds and alterations with subsidies etc? Adding solar panels etc to existing council buildings like the library and the aquatic centre?

Q2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions that your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

What about the impact of the increased Kiwifruit orchards in our area on our resources?

Q3. Supporting documents not answered


Q4. Would you like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed? No

Q5. Name not answered

Q6. Area(s) of interest not answered

Q7. Email address not answered

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 5	Responded At: Mar 24, 2024 21:24:46 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Mar 24, 2024 21:24:46 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

Q1. Do you agree with the Vision, Goals and Targets? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a district?

As a resident of Whakatāne I support the vision, goals and targets as described in the Draft Whakatāne District Climate Change Strategy 2024-27. Notwithstanding that statement, I have some concerns: 1. Relevancy. The Whakatāne District Council is not a signatory to the Paris Accords where the New Zealand National Determined Contribution was filed. Emissions Reductions is a matter for the New Zealand Government. This has been underlined by the fact I could not find any legislation in the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019 to be specifically mandated to the New Zealand Local Authorities. 2. Results are rather symbolic and not cost efficient. The Whakatāne District Council reported a footprint reduction of 928 tCO2e in the 2022/2023 year. Assuming 2 persons (FTE's) have been working within this space (this document; community consultations; these webpages) costs are far exceeding the value of the Carbon reductions if the council would have been awarded NZU's for their efforts. 3. Minor success in the grand scale of themes. Last year, Whakatāne Mill Limited completed a project, white water cleaning using a Save-All Discfilter, which yielded a 21306 tCO2e reduction of their footprint. This shows you should reductions leave to the real big emitters. The Whakatāne Council should focus on climate change adaption only: What about a policy regarding the multi million NZD dwellings in Ohōpe? They were consented but at a certain moment the Pacific Ocean will band at their front door and it becomes un-insurable. Who will foot the bill!

Q2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions that your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

One important issue I miss from the document regarding the specific goals for the Whakatāne District Council: Impact analysis of emissions for new zoning of housing. The council has proposed a new housing project around Julians Berry Farm. What I understand is that the council is planning for 200 additional dwellings about 5 km out of town. There is no impact analysis of the increase of emissions by planning such development at such a distance from all the town amenities. A small example: 200 dwellings. The average dwelling has 2 cars in New Zealand. The top 10 of sold vehicles in New Zealand are Utes and SUV's, not the most fuel efficient. For everything they need, they need to drive to town (schools, supermarkets, work possibly, hospitality) which is a 10km round trip. Assuming 4 trips a day for each vehicle and every trip consumes 1 kg of Diesel or Petrol. 200 dwellings = 400 cars = 1600 trips = 1600 kg each day = 4 tCO2e every day (1kg diesel = 2.68 kg CO2; 1 kg petrol 91 = 2.31 kg CO2 assuming 50% of the vehicles are diesel utes). This makes 1456 t CO2e every year and clearly exceeds the savings the council last year has made. My point is: If the council is serious about climate change it should not allow big developments outside town!!!!!!

Q3. **Supporting documents** not answered

Q4. **Would you like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed?** Yes

Q5. **Name** [REDACTED]

Q6. **Area(s) of interest**
 Transport
 Energy
 Waste

Q7. **Email address** [REDACTED]

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 6	Responded At: Mar 27, 2024 15:44:22 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Mar 27, 2024 15:44:22 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

Q1. Do you agree with the Vision, Goals and Targets? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a district?

No

Q2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions that your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

Before we even start talking about "Community Strategy", we have never agreed to this experimental path. We have not been given the full picture of what this means. In fact, we have only received the Long Term Plan submission part, with 3x objectives. Why haven't these documents on C.C. not been delivered? MISSING: 1. Scientific evidence on how NZ affects CO2 emissions worldwide, to cause raise of temperatures. 2. If you are using modelling to make assertions, please include the input data, history, and source. 3. Explanation text vocabulary: A. for each single Maori word; B. for each word used in each context, ie. "Adaptability; resilience; plant based; alternative; home audits and the rest of the "target" and "action plan" document need broad explanatory notes, since it is vague, confusing, repetitive, lack of scientific data (apart from whatever Bill Gates decides to invent). 4. No data provided to my previous submission, therefore a failure to provide facts and evidence, for increasing rates dramatically for the council. 5. Missing peer reviews of unbiased scientists. There is NO SINGLE SOURCE OF TRUTH if it's science. 6. Lack of evidence for this "immediate treath" - unless manmaid. 7. Absence of informative documentation on Geo engineering, Weather modification, Chemical trials and everything man maid that causes weather "bombs" in New Zealand, and the official and legal practices, taking place, to date and never ever mentioned, documented, democratically discussed. 8. "Holistic approach" please provide evidence what makes this strategy, holistic.

Q3. Supporting documents not answered


Q4. Would you like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed? Yes

Q5. Name [Redacted]

Q6. Area(s) of interest
 Transport
 Energy
 Waste
 Resilience
 Food
 Shopping
 Other (please specify)
 All of above

Q7. Email address [Redacted]

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 7	Responded At: Mar 29, 2024 21:53:02 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Mar 29, 2024 21:53:02 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

Q1. Do you agree with the Vision, Goals and Targets? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a district?

I agree with the vision, I think the purpose and goals are too focused on adaptation rather than prevention. I agree with the principals, but the councillors need to keep these at the forefront of their minds when they make all decisions. Actions speak louder than words. I feel the targets are not bold enough. I feel the elephant in the room is the agricultural emissions. I like how there is an action to encourage plant based diets. I would hope the council would lobby central government to change school lunches to plant based and support plant based food outlets to set up in the central city. I would like to see more water fountains and drink bottle stations in town and at recreational parks to discourage buying drinks in plastic bottles. Council could do an audit to see what products they use that can be changed to biodegradable ones and offer this service to businesses. Ie, using refillable metal pens or pencils instead of plastic. Re-cycling is not going to get us out of this problem. In fact, I hope there will be a movement away from consumerism in general and more towards a service based economy. With this in mind, the centre of town may look a bit depressing with many shops closed. I would hope they could be filled with services that are often located on the top floor of central buildings and then these top floors be rezoned for residential. I'm also concerned about land that is being currently used for growing plant based food being rezoned for housing such as the berry farm. I'd prefer higher density housing in town then the gradual creep outwards which is happening at the moment. I was disappointed with the small amount of families that could be housed in the new kopeopeo housing development. This was a prime opportunity to build up. I commend you on the work so far on encouraging biking. People wouldn't be complaining about needing a 2nd bridge if they got out of their cars and biked. They will get to enjoy our beautiful surrounds and climate, get healthy and do good for the environment. No brainer. Though they also want to feel safe so where ever possible the council should put in bike lanes or bike trails to get around town.

Q2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions that your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

I have a project that I am wanting to get off the ground which buddies up inexperienced and experienced gardeners together. From what I have experienced, community gardens do not do well in this area. Having your own garden, at your own whare, that you have ownership over with help from a guiding hand I think would work much better. Unfortunately, I am very busy with other projects so haven't quite got this off the ground yet, but I think with a co-ordinator,, a few small flat packed raised gardens and a few supplies donated from mitre 10 or bunnings, it could be transformational for people who would like to grow vegetables but don't know how and don't know where to start. Not only would it be good for the budding gardener, but would also create connections within the community. There could also be workshops held with all the buddies encouraged to come along, be educated, swap produce, seeds etc. I am part of a gardening group called "eastern bay of plenty sustainable gardening group". There are plenty of experienced gardeners in this group, and I'm sure many more experienced gardeners within whakatane who would be willing to help. Maybe the council can spare a few hours a week with one of their employees to be the co-ordinator for such an initiative??

Q3. **Supporting documents** not answered

Q4. **Would you like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed?** Yes

Q5. **Name** [REDACTED]

Q6. **Area(s) of interest** Food

Q7. **Email address** [REDACTED]

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 8	Responded At: Apr 01, 2024 17:35:13 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 01, 2024 17:35:13 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

Q1. Do you agree with the Vision, Goals and Targets? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a district?


I would like to have a plan for Whakatane urban area regarding day time chimney smoke Whakatane Council, I believe has none Refer me to Regional Council which ignore me because I do not live in Rotorua Oh Rotorua has bylaws Whakatane, I believe has none The Guardian Newspaper states Fireplaces and stoves are the now the largest single source of primary particle pollution in the UK greater than traffic and industry. About 40% of the UKs primary particle pollution comes from 7% of homes that burn solid fuel. Before the bush fires I have read similar articles in Australian newspapers

Q2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions that your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

Chimney smoke - especially day time chimney smoke Bad for the environment and public health Please refer to the Guardian newspaper regarding the dangers of chimney smoke Please read the scientific literature regarding the harm to the environment and community health

Q3. Supporting documents	not answered
Q4. Would you like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed?	Yes
Q5. Name	[REDACTED]
Q6. Area(s) of interest	Other (please specify) Chimney smoke Smoke free legislation
Q7. Email address	[REDACTED]

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 9	Responded At: Apr 02, 2024 12:09:21 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 02, 2024 12:09:21 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

Q1. Do you agree with the Vision, Goals and Targets? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a district?

Yes, as a whole I agree with the vision, goals and targets. I am currently working on a project based around local food economies so it was great to see targets around growing food at home, composting and supporting local growers.

Q2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions that your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

I think there could be a bit more focus on active/public transport and how our housing is designed. In particular, a focus on better urban design that allows for housing density (and the flow on effects on active/public transport) plus incorporation of climate resilient, energy efficient housing with productive green spaces for food production and increases in biodiversity. These requirements could easily be built into District and Long term plans, Development Codes or similar.

Q3. Supporting documents not answered

Q4. Would you like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed? Yes


Q5. Name [REDACTED]

Q6. Area(s) of interest

- Transport
- Energy
- Waste
- Resilience
- Food
- Other (please specify)**
Urban design and housing developments incorporating all of my other areas of interest.

Q7. Email address [REDACTED]

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 10	Responded At: Apr 04, 2024 06:16:26 am
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 04, 2024 06:16:26 am
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

Q1. Do you agree with the Vision, Goals and Targets? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a district?

Yes

Q2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions that your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

not answered

Q3. Supporting documents not answered


Q4. Would you like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed? Yes

Q5. Name [REDACTED]

Q6. Area(s) of interest Energy
Food

Q7. Email address [REDACTED]

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 11	Responded At: Apr 04, 2024 15:40:17 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 04, 2024 15:40:17 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

Q1. Do you agree with the Vision, Goals and Targets? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a district?

not answered

Q2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions that your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

how are you planning to do all this work with only 1.3% of the budget being given to climate change work in the LTP? Transport: how are you planning on supporting rural communities with public transport? Waste: Recycling is a waste of time - unless NZ provides correct infrastructure to do it onshore. Focus on plastic reduction and food waste. Plastic reduction is not as hard as it seems there are many people in the area who would love to get involved to educate the community on small lifestyle changes that aid in plastic/waste reduction Energy: transition to electricity from gas is not a viable option for many rural communities how do you aim to support them? Food based action: Council should be leading the way on plant based options yet regularly in meetings / community hui that have catering there continues to be no plant based options. why? Caterers these days should be used to providing more than a piece of fruit as a plant based option. Who are the community groups that support plant based eating? cause I'm pretty sure there are none in the area Can you encourage local cafes and restaurants in the area to provide more plant based options? Given the BOP of plenty is known for its food production it is wild to me that there is no farmers market here. A farmers market does not mean one stall at the whakatane sunday market. How can council support a start up of local growers coming together for a weekly farmers market? Waste water treatment plant: assist in removing the resource consent requirement for composting toilets. 65% of emissions coming from waste water treatment plants and council doesn't even provide sewerage to rural communities. It is an outdated concept that a composting toilet is gross and unsanitary. Matata could be a prime example as to why composting toilets could be encouraged instead of villainised Council led initiatives: why does council not have an in house sustainability/climate change team. The council is years behind other councils when it comes to taking positive climate change steps, adopting positive climate change policy, encouraging the community to make changes. The reflection of the decisions made in house is currently not setting an appropriate standard for communities looking for guidance and education

Q3. Supporting documents not answered


Q4. Would you like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed? Yes

Q5. Name [REDACTED]

Q6. Area(s) of interest
Waste
Food
Shopping

Q7. Email address [REDACTED]

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 12	Responded At: Apr 07, 2024 20:11:00 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 07, 2024 20:11:00 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

Q1. Do you agree with the Vision, Goals and Targets? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a district?

No, this is a complete waste of time, the climate changes as it always have over millions of years, the efforts to mitigate changes will make no difference and waste money and energy that could be better used elsewhere. Better to save money and bring the council budget under control. There is no emergency of existential threat, time to stop the hysteria.

Q2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions that your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

What's missing is some balance and common sense. Most research is heavily biased to follow one side of the story, anyone with an alternative idea is not being heard. There is no consensus, that is politics not science, and our mayor should know better, and resign and hand back his PhD

Q3. Supporting documents not answered


Q4. Would you like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed? No

Q5. Name not answered

Q6. Area(s) of interest not answered

Q7. Email address not answered

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 13	Responded At: Apr 09, 2024 09:43:36 am
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 09, 2024 09:43:36 am
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

Q1. Do you agree with the Vision, Goals and Targets? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a district?

No. You know as well as us that Climate Change is a Scam. It is another ploy to get taxpayers money. Nothing more.

Q2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions that your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

Do mitigation works on dams, flood zones. Over the last years Council has neglected to work on areas that are prone to flooding. This is nothing to do with so called "Climate Change".

Q3. Supporting documents not answered


Q4. Would you like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed? No

Q5. Name not answered

Q6. Area(s) of interest not answered

Q7. Email address not answered

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 14	Responded At: Apr 09, 2024 10:51:01 am
	Login: [REDACTED]	Last Seen: Apr 16, 2024 03:45:54 am
	[REDACTED]	IP Address: 103.54.224.4
	[REDACTED]	

Q1. Do you agree with the Vision, Goals and Targets? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a district?

The Whakatane District agricultural emissions are not ambitious enough. I agree that this is a difficult area to change, but difficulty is not a good enough excuse. I recommend that we make more ambitious 2040 and 2050 targets; specifically, 30% reduction by 2040 and 40% reduction by 2050 - this gives the district time to make and implement necessary changes.

Q2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions that your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

Reducing animal agricultural emissions should include "assisting beef and dairy farmers to transition to horticultural, forestry or orchard farms" that have a lower carbon footprint. Council also leases farmland and could include requirements for farmers to engage in sustainable practices (organic farming, no spraying, regenerative agriculture, or consider transitioning into horticulture or orchards).

Q3. Supporting documents not answered


Q4. Would you like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed? No

Q5. Name not answered

Q6. Area(s) of interest not answered

Q7. Email address not answered

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 18	Responded At: Apr 10, 2024 20:50:05 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 10, 2024 20:50:05 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

Q1. Do you agree with the Vision, Goals and Targets? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a district?

Yes

Q2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions that your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

Wdc plan to educate all new staff on this strategy and climate change. How are they educating the rest of the community? There is a disconnect between council and probably about 70% of the community. How do you plan to close this divide and educate others?

Q3. Supporting documents not answered


Q4. Would you like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed? Yes

Q5. Name [REDACTED]

Q6. Area(s) of interest
 Energy
 Waste
 Food
Other (please specify)
 Education. Use the schools and teachers to educate children but to also reach out to their whanau. Provide workshops and education opportunities to the community through school. Use incentives such as, want to lower your electricity or living costs? Etc

Q7. Email address [REDACTED]

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 19	Responded At: Apr 11, 2024 14:11:30 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 11, 2024 14:11:30 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

Q1. **Do you agree with the Vision, Goals and Targets? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a district?**

Please see attached submission

Q2. **What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions that your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.**

Please see attached submission

Q3. **Supporting documents**

https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/18047bb553385126336439de536c62ffd351e1b8/original/1712801333/6c56d337197fe6a9dd7b72e6aedc58d9_Sustainable_BOP_Submission_to_WDC_Climate_Change_Strategy_Review_2024.pdf?1712801333

Q4. **Would you like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed?**

Yes

Q5. **Name**

[REDACTED]

Q6. **Area(s) of interest**

Transport
Energy
Waste
Resilience
Food

Q7. **Email address**

[REDACTED]

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)The logo for Sustainable Bay of Plenty features the text "Sustainable" in a large, blue, sans-serif font, with "Bay of Plenty" in a smaller, teal font underneath. The text is enclosed in a rounded rectangular border with a teal-to-blue gradient. The logo is set against a background of a yellow bar with a wavy teal and blue line graphic below it.

Sustainable
Bay of Plenty

Submission by Sustainable Bay of Plenty Charitable Trust to Whakatāne District Council Climate Change Strategy Review

Do you agree with the Vision, Goals and Targets?

Yes. We are very supportive of the vision and goals. Working closely with local communities is the essential element that can meet those goals, so we encourage WDC focus on that aspect and then to invest in realistic, cost-effective solutions that will meet those communities' needs and support the transition to a low carbon district.

Regarding targets, we support the proposed targets, in the context that they are probably the most realistic approach under current national policy settings. However, we urge Council to closely monitor the Climate Change Commission's current consultations and reports on 2040 and 2050 targets, and the government's response to those reports, including updating ERP2 and 3 and setting the ERP4.

Putting it simply, it appears that the Commission is proposing lower levels of emissions across NZ in the half decades to 2025, 2030, 2035 and 2040, due to "methodological changes" and other "significant changes". If the government accepts the Commission's advice, that will presumably require WDC to re-calculate / refine its emissions targets.

Nonetheless, we support the principle that, in the absence of detailed (and somewhat expensive) analysis of Whakatāne District emissions on a sector by sector basis, aligning your targets with the official nationwide targets is the best approach.

The flip side of that approach is to closely monitor the District's emissions and compare the reductions that happen in Whakatāne to the nationwide trends. If there is strong misalignment, it would indicate that WDC should review the relevant targets and undertake more analysis to see whether specific factors relating to this District are resulting in lower or greater emissions reductions than the NZ average.

Along those lines, it is critical that there is regular and reliable data gathering at a local, regional and national level. We strongly urge WDC to push for regular BOP regional emissions footprints, broken down on a territorial authority basis. It makes no sense for each TA to undertake its own analysis.

We believe it is far more cost-effective for BOP Regional Council to contract that work on behalf of all BOP councils and we think that should happen on a regular basis. Our view is that this needs to be undertaken at least every 3 years (to fit in with and inform the LTP planning cycle), but ideally even more frequently if that will benefit councils.

Ideally, we think central government should mandate that and help fund it from ETS revenue.

Sustainable Bay of Plenty

www.sustainablebop.nz

Call: [REDACTED]

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)**Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a district??**

It could. That all depends on (a) what the Council does, (b) what you invest in, (c) the support from central government and (d) how your residents respond.

We think the Strategy provides the basis for council to significantly reduce its own emissions, so long as some key investments are made by WDC and partners. We also think it shines a clear light along the pathway that Whakatāne residents can tread on their way to becoming a lower carbon district.

One challenge will be the amount and timing of government support to enable things like a low carbon transport system – especially whether that can happen in time to meet 2030, 2040 and ultimately the 2050 targets. Transport projects funding, EV subsidies, and ETS settings are examples of government levers that may or may not be pulled at any particular point in time.

Regarding the response from community members, many people won't be interested in engaging on climate change at all. Additionally, there will be big disparities between people from some areas engaging and other areas not doing so, and there will be the usual (and understandable) confusion and/or uncertainty about climate issues - and in some cases outright opposition.

Our view is that the best response is to 'just keep walking' the path you have laid out in this Strategy, while engaging openly and transparently on any issues raised by local communities. Our experience running some climate workshops in Tauranga was that people with polarised views often ended up being able to coalesce around some areas of agreement – so long as everyone had a chance to (respectfully) air their opinions and to be treated with respect.

Of course that can be time consuming, but the payback might well be worth it if central government mostly leaves emissions reduction and adaptation up to councils and local communities. Getting community buy-in is vitally important, and we have been impressed with what we have seen in regards to WDC's approach.

What's missing?

This is a community strategy, so if there are actions that your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

We think this strategy covers off most aspects that need to be addressed. Despite or perhaps because it is not the longest climate change strategy that we have read, it is focused and 'cuts to the chase' on specific points, such as targets.

As always, Sustainable BOP Trust is keen to see a regional (and pan-regional) approach to climate change. While you have aligned with national goals and although WDC cannot single-handedly make regional alignment happen, WDC should continue to push for that approach - and continue to be a 'leader' in this space in the Bay of Plenty, alongside BOP Regional Council.

Overall, Sustainable BOP Trust strongly supports this Strategy and the work being done by Whakatāne District Council to reduce Council's emissions, to enable significant cuts in the District's emissions, and to create more sustainable, resilient communities.

We wish to speak to this submission at the hearings.

Sustainable Bay of Plenty
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)**About Sustainable Bay of Plenty Charitable Trust****Our Vision**

To be great ancestors.

Our Mission

Shaping sustainable outcomes through awareness, accountability and action.

Our Purpose

To make environmental, social and economic sustainability a key lens through which organisations frame and evaluate their strategic and operational decision-making.

We do this by:

- Raising awareness of sustainability issues
- Connecting sustainability stakeholders, including businesses, councils and communities
- Disseminating evidence-based analysis relating to sustainability issues
- Promoting and delivering sustainability education, discussions and events
- Supporting the development of a low carbon circular economy
- Promoting sustainable urban development and transport systems

We provide evidence, tools and support to encourage, enable and evaluate sustainable decision-making by community groups, businesses, iwi and hapu, local government and central government.

Our People


Glen Crowther is our Executive Director and together with an active and engaged group of trustees, each person contributes their unique experience and expertise. We have come together because we face an unsustainable and inequitable future.

The need for a strong sustainability organisation in Tauranga and the wider Bay of Plenty is clear. We have a housing crisis, our CO2 emissions have increased more than most other NZ regions, there is increasing social deprivation, we have water shortages, many of our region's waterways are polluted, Tauranga has the lowest mode share for public and active transport of any NZ metro, our urban planning has failed to meet the needs of our growing and aging communities, and engagement between Council and local communities is at an all-time low here in Tauranga.

We welcome partnership and collaboration with any other organisations or groups who share our kaupapa. Together with our supporters, we aim to create a more prosperous and sustainable future for Toi Moana | Bay of Plenty.

We are independent, non-partisan, and evidence-based. We advocate for a systemic approach based on the principles of equity and strong sustainability / Te Ao Maori.

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 20	Responded At: Apr 12, 2024 08:38:10 am
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 12, 2024 08:38:10 am
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

Q1. Do you agree with the Vision, Goals and Targets? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a district?

NO!

Q2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions that your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

focus on making the business of the WDC resilient before focusing on everything else. Do not get distracted by non core factors

Q3. Supporting documents not answered


Q4. Would you like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed? No

Q5. Name not answered

Q6. Area(s) of interest not answered

Q7. Email address not answered

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 21	Responded At: Apr 12, 2024 10:05:54 am
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 12, 2024 10:05:54 am
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

Q1. Do you agree with the Vision, Goals and Targets? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a district?

Generally I agree with proposals, but I think more information is needed.

Q2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions that your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

More information and discussion needed.

Q3. Supporting documents not answered

Q4. Would you like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed? Yes

Q5. Name [Redacted]

Q6. Area(s) of interest
Transport
Energy
Waste
Resilience
Food

Q7. Email address [Redacted]

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 22	Responded At: Apr 12, 2024 10:33:01 am
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 12, 2024 10:33:01 am
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

Q1. Do you agree with the Vision, Goals and Targets? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a district?


We think there are plenty of areas that need attention. We have concerns that your goals are very egocentric and look inwards to your own facility rather than applying exactly the same goals to our residents and helping them to achieve what you are putting in place for your buildings and facilities. Roll out the skills and opportunities to access equipment that allows you to reduce your energy use to all of your residents. Not just your own facility and staff. Your community goals focus on industry but do not show care and consideration for our residents and how they are able to interact with environmental opportunities in our region. We have concerns that putting bike EV chargers in places that have no security it will make ebike user less likely to use them. Put ebike chargers in places people are more likely to use them. Encourage teenagers to be EV users early - make chargers available where teenagers will be in town.

Q2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions that your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

We need support with changing transport options. Help us to use public transport. Bus tickets are difficult to access. In our rates letter allow the option for bus cards to be sent out to the residents then they can register online to activate and manage their funds on the card. Run education courses for residents on interesting ideas for land management and your planned initiatives. We need to be included in your plans not just told about about them then left out. How will we know if the key actions you planning for engaging with community groups is working. We want regular updates and evidence that you are doing this work during the process. Why are community groups doing all the work? You have come up with great ideas but how will you ensure they will be funded and given allowances for their volunteer time? There is a lot of expectation on community groups who are volunteers and can often only give time during weekends and after work. How will you achieve these goals without significant hours of commitment? We know community groups are already in small numbers so how will you ensure the goals can be met by community groups? We think a ferry to take people across the river just like the old ferry would be a great idea to stop vehicles coming into town. One park on the hub side will allow people to park then take the ferry across the river to stop at a number of places including the rose gardens to access Kope and schools and then the township at the information centre.

Q3. Supporting documents	not answered
Q4. Would you like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed?	Yes
Q5. Name	Whakatane High School Enviro Club. [REDACTED]
Q6. Area(s) of interest	Transport Waste Resilience
Q7. Email address	[REDACTED]

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 23	Responded At: Apr 12, 2024 13:49:50 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 12, 2024 13:49:50 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

Q1. Do you agree with the Vision, Goals and Targets? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a district?

Brilliant.

Q2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions that your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

Just one small thing. I believe there needs to be two more points to reduce transport emissions. One is to charge for long term parking in all Council owned properties. This will incentivise people to share cars and to use buses and bikes. Secondly I believe Waka Eastern Bay (WEB) is looking to get a car share app. The Council might help with some funding for that group for this initiative. I see hundreds of cars each day coming from Opotiki to Whakatane for work and there is no easy way for any driver to work out who else is travelling that route at that time and how they might team up to share costs and reduce fuel usage.

Q3. Supporting documents not answered


Q4. Would you like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed? not answered

Q5. Name not answered

Q6. Area(s) of interest not answered

Q7. Email address not answered

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 24	Responded At: Apr 12, 2024 16:17:15 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 12, 2024 16:17:15 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

Q1. Do you agree with the Vision, Goals and Targets? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a district?

The vision and goals are comprehensive and cover many aspects of adaptation and mitigation. Although the financial environment is challenging I feel we must keep moving forward and do our best with the resources available to us at this time. When resources improve, we will be able to invest in bigger more meaningful projects. In the meantime council needs to keep eyes wide open and grab any funding opportunities that present themselves in the climate space. Extreme weather patterns are not going away and neither is the ever increasing cost of the cleanup and the cost to lives and livelihoods. We have to be mindful that big insurance is watching this space carefully. The ongoing cost of Gabrielle is an estimated 16 billion and counting. If we sit idly by and hope insurance will pick up the tab in future events, we will learn about costs the hard way. Uninsured properties will not be mortgageable and property values that the wider economy relies on will collapse. When council is making decisions about development projects, ensure that you are taking into account your climate change strategy and the carbon footprint of the project and the ongoing footprint of the development lifecycle.

Q2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions that your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

Council needs to champion quality networking throughout the district, ie through chamber of commerce. Many businesses are also feeling the strain of minimum resources and as a result may not have time to do the necessary research. Climate change technology is fluid and fast paced. ie availability, price and function of EV smart chargers.

Q3. **Supporting documents** not answered

Q4. **Would you like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed?** No

Q5. **Name** not answered

Q6. **Area(s) of interest** not answered

Q7. **Email address** not answered

Ordinary Council - AGENDA

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

**Respondent No:** 25**Login:** Anonymous**Email:** n/a**Responded At:** Apr 12, 2024 16:19:20 pm**Last Seen:** Apr 12, 2024 16:19:20 pm**IP Address:** n/a**Q1. Do you agree with the Vision, Goals and Targets? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a district?**

it has addressed issues - perhaps there are more to consider - priority should be on preservation of life & property - clearer plan for what to do, where to go in case of flood/earthquake/landslide. how council activities, or lack of, are contributing to risk of landslide, flood, ocean rise, ocean pollution.

Q2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions that your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

get rid of all plastic in the environment - eg kerbside pipes that are being run over by cars and mowers - breaking and that plastic is entering the ocean; whipper lines for trimming vegetation are breaking and are everywhere, also entering ocean; plastic ties used for barriers; polystyrene, plastic used in construction; electrical wiring used by electrical contractors; lead weights used for wheel balancing; public discarding cigarette butts, bottle tops, plastic packaging, batteries, nappies, etc; plastic from car accidents; oil residue; vegetation control poison sprays; paint flakes; soap from idiots washing their cars on concrete driveways; etc. etc. etc. ONLY SOLUTION is to reservoir stormwater. it can then be filtered, treated, used for irrigation, for damping dry areas to prevent fire; for consumption; etc. The reservoirs could be used for recreational activities - cable water-skiing, canoeing, waterbikes, etc., thus providing employment, charging an entry fee for activities, thus revenue, and a monitored activity for locals and holidaymakers. OR perhaps the treated water could be channelled on to wildlife wetland restoration projects, that could be explored with hired canoes. Teach practical weed removal in senior schools - it is becoming an industry - we have reserves - ie the Toi are that needs to be preserved - it is 2 years away from total collapse - i and not many others are working our guts out trying to save it, it needs more skilled volunteers - areas that are safe enough to work on could be allotted to the various schools - other areas that are too dangerous should be weeded by skilled abseilers - they could be offered free accommodation and food, as per the 'WWOOF'er scheme, or, if the funds are available, employ suitably skilled abseilers. Failure to remove the weeds asap will result in erosion, landslide, loss of endemic native habitat, loss of the reason that holidaymakers visit here, resulting in lost revenue, if the loss must be viewed in economic terms. we have many unemployed and inactive people whose lives could be saved if they were encouraged to find a sense of purpose, healing, in caring for the NZ endemic plants - many that have anticarcinogenic properties, and are amongst the last remaining endemic plants on the planet. some are millions of years old - if we fail to save them, we are committing a major crime, and nobody will want to live here - they will shift to places where the focus on conservation is greater & the risk of flood, landslide and earthquakes, is less. ive read there is \$220,000 per annum allocated to weed removal - if so then why are there mature wattle trees spreading their seeds everywhere right on the Toi track? Same with privet - 4 or 5 mature trees right on the track spreading thousands of seeds every year, resulting in massive invasion of seedlings - every one of which will grow into a privet forest. Taiwanese Cherry, and Indian Hawthorn have been planted by the council itself - both amongst the worst invasive pest plants that are banned from sale/propagation/existence in other regions of NZ. The concerns i wish to discuss and act upon are a nationwide restructure of stormwater to prevent pollution of oceans, ocean rise, and failure/overloading of the stormwater, causing flooding, collapse and , as we saw in Auckland - the loss of 2 lives that were swept into & drowned in the stormwater system. Yes, it will require a massive amount of planning and possibly expense - although we are spending anyhow - perhaps there is a better way that hasn't been thought of? The stormwater was designed when there was a far less population and before plastic became the horrific issue that it is . It makes no sense to pipe water under the streets. In the meantime, volumes of rainwater from rooves can be reduced by guttering into a stable watertank, then used for watering gardens etc, thus reducing water entering the storm water system. The council should direct continuous information days on this technology - Kainga Ora should be using it in all their dwellings, being accessible to help with any questions. The tanks should be squat and sturdy enough and placed at a distance from buildings and be surrounded by decking or pergola to stop movement in an earthquake, & consequential damage. If roofing is unpainted, ie coloursteel, then water could be suitable for human consumption in times of earthquake, etc, that causes loss of water supply. Where people have swimming pools, the water could simply be guttered into the pool.

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

Q3. Supporting documents	not answered
Q4. Would you like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed?	Yes
Q5. Name	[REDACTED]
Q6. Area(s) of interest	Transport Waste Other (please specify) Stormwater; Flood avoidance; Clearer civil defence instructions - checking of the populations readiness, and what they are doing to reduce potential harm to life, damage to property, knowing what to do, where to go. Preparing the support services - perhaps those should have a rates component (fire, ambulance).
Q7. Email address	[REDACTED]

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

	Respondent No: 31	Responded At: Apr 18, 2024 14:39:03 pm
	Login: Anonymous	Last Seen: Apr 18, 2024 14:39:03 pm
	Email: n/a	IP Address: n/a

Q1. Do you agree with the Vision, Goals and Targets? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a district?

Dear WDC team Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Climate Change Strategy. The document reflects a lot of mahi and demonstrates that WDC is trying to take climate change mitigation and adaptation seriously. I hope my comments below can help move us more effectively along this path. Goals I would like to see the goals more focused. 1. We are empowered to act on the impact of climate change. 2. We are reducing our emissions and doing this in a just way. 3. We have adapted to reduce climate change risk. Goal 1 as currently written (“We all understand and are able to act on the impacts of climate change”) is problematic because it appears to drive an over-emphasis on education rather than on enabling. Education is a tool, but should not be the goal. Targets and Actions My primary request is the Climate Change Strategy: 1. Puts more emphasis on targets and actions relating to the decision-making functions of Council and use of existing WDC processes and functions to drive climate change mitigation and adaptation. 2. Sets priorities for actions so as to ensure that the most important actions, over which WDC has strong influence, don't get lost because of the many nice-to-haves/ actions over which Council has minimal influence. 3. Targets are more focused on outcomes that WDC can influence rather than education. I would like to see more attention given to using of the District Plan and Spatial Planning mechanisms as ways to reduce emissions, adapt to climate change risks, and provide resilience to climate change risks. We need to think much more creatively than just avoiding risky areas, and more proactively to open opportunities for the community to slowly shift to safer areas over the coming decades. I have provided some more detailed comment below. More detailed comments The document distinguishes between District-side Targets and WDC Organisational Targets. Some of the District-side Targets sit within WDC core responsibilities (e.g. food waste collection, implement Active Whakatāne Strategy), but many sit outside of WDC core responsibilities and overlap with other organisations responsibilities (e.g. energy efficiency). Some of the proposed actions may be better addressed at a regional scale than at a district level (e.g. Work with business sectors to build sectorial awareness to projected climate impacts). My concern with the District-side Targets is that it risks WDC undertaking activities for which it is poorly suited, and (of more concern) it appears to have missed important actions that is fully in the control of WDC. For example, there appears to be little use of the District Plan to mitigate climate change. There is no mention of speed reviews to make roads safer (a key reason why people don't use active transport). Use of the District Plan for adaptation appears limited to incorporating Community Adaptation Plans (166) and future development avoiding at-risk areas (170). The strategy appears to have missed use of District Planning mechanisms to build long-term resilience to climate change, flexibility to ensure buildings can be shifted to mitigate long term risks, reducing the need for car transport and ensuring new developments have genuine active transport options available. There appears to be no mention of spatial planning and little / no discussion on how we can slowly shift the population to high ground, with less risk of floods over the coming decades. Thank you again for your hard work developing this document. I look forward to seeing future developments. If possible, I would like to speak to the submission.

Q2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions that your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

not answered

Q3. Supporting documents not answered

Q4. Would you like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed? not answered

Q5. Name not answered

Q6. Area(s) of interest not answered

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY 2024-27

Whakatāne Climate Pathway

Name*: Melane (family Wineera)

Town/area of the district*: Whakatane

Organisation (if on behalf):

*Privacy note: The information on this page (including fields above) forms part of your submission and will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda. Please leave any fields blank if you do not want this to be available on a public meeting agenda.

1. Do you agree with the vision, goals and targets in the draft Whakatāne Climate Pathway? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a District?

No I do not agree!
There is no supporting evidence regarding climate change.
Dissenting voices are silenced.

EVs are an extreme fire hazard
Lithium is NOT environment friendly
Cobalt mining uses child slave labour
Humans are carbon-based are they not??

WE are the carbon they want eliminated!

2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

I want to see all the research council has done - studies, evidence etc that are not done by someone who is biased towards the net-zero agenda.

www.co2science.org

I want to be heard on this subject

3. Would like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed? Yes No

Need more space for your feedback?

Please add more pages and make sure your name and organisation (if relevant) are at the top of each page.

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

IER (HTTPS://WWW.INSTITUTEFORENERGYRESEARCH.ORG) COMMENTARY (HTTPS://WWW.INSTITUTEFORENERGYRESEARCH.ORG/TYPE/CC)

The Environmental Impact of Lithium Batteries

BY IER (HTTPS://WWW.INSTITUTEFORENERGYRESEARCH.ORG/ABOUT/IER-SITE-MANAGER/ARTICLES) (ARTICLES)

NOVEMBER 12, 2020

CONTACT THE EXPERT



During the Obama-Biden administration, hydraulic fracturing was accused of causing a number of environmental problems—faucets on fire, contamination of drinking water, etc.—but the administration’s own Environmental Protection Agency could not validate those accusations (<https://www.politico.com/story/2015/06/epa-report-fracking-no-drinking-water-harm-118643>). Now Biden is planning to transition the transportation sector to electric vehicles that are powered by lithium batteries and require other critical metals where China dominates the market. Mining and processing of lithium, however, turns out to be far more environmentally harmful than what turned out to be the unfounded issues with fracking.

In May 2016, dead fish (<https://www.wired.co.uk/article/lithium-batteries-environment-impact>) were found in the waters of the Liqi River, where a toxic chemical leaked from the Ganzizhou Rongda Lithium mine (<https://www.freetibet.org/lithium-tibet>). Cow and yak carcasses were also found floating downstream, dead from drinking contaminated water. It was the third incident in seven years due to a sharp increase in mining activity, including operations run by China’s BYD, one of the world’s biggest supplier of lithium-ion batteries. After the second incident in 2013, officials closed the mine, but fish started dying again when it reopened in April 2016.

Lithium prices double (<https://www.wired.co.uk/article/lithium-batteries-environment-impact>) between 2016 and 2018 due to exponentially increasing demand. The lithium ion battery industry is expected to grow from 100 gigawatt hours of annual production in 2017 to almost 800 gigawatt hours in 2027

(<https://www.wired.co.uk/article/lithium-batteries-environment-impact>). Part of that phenomenal demand increase dates back to 2015 when the Chinese government announced a huge push towards electric vehicles in its 13th Five Year Plan. The battery of a Tesla Model S, for example, has about 12 kilograms (<https://www.wired.co.uk/article/lithium-batteries-environment-impact>) of lithium in it; grid storage needed to help balance renewable energy would need a lot more lithium given the size of the battery required.

Processing of Lithium Ore

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

The lithium extraction process uses a lot of water—approximately 500,000 gallons (<https://www.wired.co.uk/article/lithium-batteries-environment-impact>) per metric ton of lithium. To extract lithium, miners drill a hole in salt flats and pump salty, mineral-rich brine to the surface. After several months the water evaporates, leaving a mixture of manganese, potassium, borax and lithium salts which is then filtered and placed into another evaporation pool. After between 12 and 18 months of this process, the mixture is filtered sufficiently that lithium carbonate can be extracted.

South America's Lithium Triangle, which covers parts of Argentina, Bolivia and Chile, holds more than half the world's supply of the metal beneath its salt flats. But it is also one of the driest places on earth. In Chile's Salar de Atacama, mining activities consumed 65 percent of the region's water, which is having a large impact on local farmers to the point that some communities have to get water elsewhere.

As in Tibet, there is the potential for toxic chemicals to leak from the evaporation pools into the water supply including hydrochloric acid, which is used in the processing of lithium, and waste products that are filtered out of the brine. In Australia and North America, lithium is mined from rock using chemicals to extract it into a useful form. In Nevada, researchers found impacts on fish as far as 150 miles downstream from a lithium processing operation.

Lithium extraction harms the soil and causes air contamination. In Argentina's Salar de Hombre Muerto, residents believe that lithium operations contaminated streams used by humans and livestock and for crop irrigation. In Chile, the landscape is marred by mountains of discarded salt and canals filled with contaminated water with an unnatural blue hue. According to Guillermo Gonzalez, a lithium battery expert from the University of Chile, "This isn't a green solution – it's not a solution at all."

China is among the five top countries (<https://www.usgs.gov/media/images/mineral-commodity-summaries-2020-cover>) with the most lithium resources and it has been buying stakes in mining operations in Australia and South America where most of the world's lithium reserves are found. China's Tianqi Lithium (<http://en.tianqilithium.com/>) owns 51 percent (<https://www.voanews.com/silicon-valley-technology/how-china-dominates-global-battery-supply-chain>) of the world's largest lithium reserve in Australia, giving it a controlling interest. In 2018, the company became the second-largest shareholder in Sociedad Química y Minera (<https://www.fuelsandlubes.com/tianqi-lithiums-purchase-of-sqm-shares-would-make-chinese-firm-worlds-largest-producer-of-lithium/>)—the largest lithium producer in Chile. Another Chinese company, Ganfeng Lithium, has a long-term agreement to underwrite all lithium raw materials produced by Australia's Mount Marion mine (<https://news.metal.com/newscontent/100913083/%5bsmm-express%5d-the-sale-of-shares-in-the-australian-mine-involves-57000-tons-of-lithium-concentrate-ganfeng-lithium-industry-to-obtain-half-of-the-shares/>)—the world's second-biggest, high-grade lithium reserve.

Recycling Lithium-Ion

In Australia, only two percent of the country's 3,300 metric tons (<https://www.wired.co.uk/article/lithium-batteries-environment-impact>) of lithium-ion waste is recycled. Unwanted MP3 players and laptops often end up in landfills, where metals from the electrodes and ionic fluids from the electrolyte can leak into the environment.

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

Because lithium cathodes degrade over time, they cannot be placed into new batteries. Researchers are using robotics technology developed for nuclear power plants to find ways to remove and dismantle lithium-ion cells from electric vehicles. There have been a number of fires at recycling plants where lithium-ion batteries have been stored improperly, or disguised as lead-acid batteries and put through a crusher. Not only have these batteries burned at recycling plants, but auto makers are seeing battery-related fires leading to vehicle recalls and safety probes. In October, U.S. safety regulators opened a probe into more than 77,000 electric Chevy Bolts (https://www.wsj.com/articles/auto-makers-grapple-with-battery-fire-risks-in-electric-vehicles-11603099800?mod=hp_lead_pos4) after two owners complained of fires that appeared to have begun under the back seat where the battery is located.

Because manufacturers are secretive about what goes into their batteries, it makes it harder to recycle them properly. Currently, recovered cells are usually shredded, creating a mixture of metal that can then be separated using pyrometallurgical techniques—burning—which wastes a lot of the lithium. Alternative techniques, including biological recycling where bacteria are used to process the materials, and hydrometallurgical techniques which use solutions of chemicals in a similar way to how lithium is extracted from brine are being investigated.

It is estimated that between 2021 and 2030, about 12.85 million tons (https://www.autonews.com/china/china-pressed-hike-battery-recycling-amid-ev-boom?utm_source=china&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20201105&utm_content=article8-readmore) of EV lithium ion batteries will go offline worldwide, and over 10 million tons of lithium, cobalt, nickel and manganese will be mined for new batteries. China is being pushed to increase battery recycling since repurposed batteries could be used as backup power systems for China's 5G stations or reused in shared e-bikes, which would save 63 million tons of carbon emissions from new battery manufacturing.

Cobalt Extraction Also Poses Environmental Problems

Cobalt is found in huge quantities in the Democratic Republic of Congo and central Africa where it is extracted from the ground by hand, using child labor, without protective equipment. China owns eight of the 14 largest cobalt mines (<https://www.voanews.com/silicon-valley-technology/how-china-dominates-global-battery-supply-chain>) in the Democratic Republic of Congo and they account for about half of the country's output. While China has only 1 percent (<https://www.voanews.com/silicon-valley-technology/how-china-dominates-global-battery-supply-chain>) of the world's cobalt reserves, it dominates in the processing of raw cobalt. The Democratic Republic of Congo is the source of over two-thirds of global cobalt production, but China has over 80 percent (<https://www.mining.com/chart-chinas-stranglehold-on-electric-car-battery-supply-chain/>) control of the cobalt refining industry, where raw material is turned into commercial-grade cobalt metal.

Like lithium, the price of cobalt has quadrupled (<https://www.wired.co.uk/article/lithium-batteries-environment-impact>) in the last two years.

Conclusion

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

Environmentalists expressed unfounded concerns about fracking, but they need to be worried about replacing fossil fuels in the transportation and electric generating sector with electric vehicles and renewable energy where lithium, cobalt and other critical metals are needed to produce these technologies. Mining, processing, and disposing of these metals can contaminate the drinking water, land and environment if done improperly as seen from several examples. And, since China dominates the global market, it just switches what once was U.S. reliance on the Middle East to U.S. reliance on the People's Republic.

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7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY 2024-27

Whakatāne Climate Pathway

Name*: SUZANNE WILLIAMS

Town/area of the district*: WHAKATANE

Organisation (if on behalf): I WISH TO BE HEARD.

*Privacy note: The information on this page (including fields above) forms part of your submission and will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda. Please leave any fields blank if you do not want this to be available on a public meeting agenda.

1. Do you agree with the vision, goals and targets in the draft Whakatāne Climate Pathway? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a District?

YES, IF & WHEN THEY TRANSLATE INTO ACTION - BY THE COUNCIL, NOT JUST BY THE COMMUNITY, WHICH IS ALL YOU ARE PROMOTING. I WANT THE COUNCIL TO SERIOUSLY CONSIDER USING THE OUTER AREA OF THE AIRPORT LAND TO PRODUCE SOLAR POWER - IT SEEMS * TO ME IDEAL - AROUND 60 HA. - IS THIS CORRECT? - UNUSED NOW, AND ISN'T THE AIRPORT LOSING US MONEY?

(WHY WAS NO SOLAR POWER INSTALLED AT THE TIME OF THE VERY EXPENSIVE REVAMP OF THE COUNCIL BUILDINGS?)

* A SUBSIDY FROM COUNCIL ON SOLAR HOUSE INSTALLATIONS WOULD BE GREAT, EVEN IF SMALL. [COUNCIL SHOULD BE]

2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

COUNCIL CLIMATE PATHWAY TELLS US THAT: ACTION!!!!

- ? WE WILL ACT WITH URGENCY
- ? WE WILL BE PART OF THE SOLUTION
- ? WE WILL BUILD RESILIENCE TO A CHANGING CLIMATE - WHEN! HOW!

THERE ARE NO SPECIFICS - THE WEBSITE IS FULL OF EDITION WOOD & FANCY TALK!

* PLEASE CAN WE HAVE AT LEAST SOME CONVERSION OF THE VEHICLE FLEET TO HYBRID OR PLUG IN SOLAR ELECTRIC?

* COUNCIL SHOULD INVESTIGATE WHAT CAN BE DONE ABOUT HUGE WASTEWATER EMISSIONS

3. Would like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed? Yes No

Need more space for your feedback?

Please add more pages and make sure your name and organisation (if relevant) are at the top of each page.

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

Whakatāne Climate Youth Panel – Submission to Draft Whakatāne Climate Pathway 2024-27

1. Do you agree with the vision, goals and targets in the draft Whakatāne Climate Pathway? Is this strategy setting us on the right pathway as a District?

Support having a separate target for agriculture, surprised it makes up such a large percentage of our District's emissions. Note that while it is important to address these emissions, actions mustn't negatively impact the economy.

Support community actions, but important that the community can easily find the actions on Council website. Make actions bite-sized, simple easy actions, things that people can actually do. Maybe promote actions like the TV ads, 1 action people can take. Keep It Super Simple (KISS).

Really good to have small targets – larger targets could lead to losing momentum and running out of steam when not achieved. Good to set short term and detailed targets, being realistic and smaller localised targets focus energy and attention.

The targets for the Council should be more ambitious than the District targets. Council needs to set an example and Council has a lot more control over organisation action to make changes.

2. What's missing? This is a community strategy, so if there are actions your whānau, community or organisation are working towards that you think should be included, please let us know.

How can action be taken in schools? Needs a teacher to lead, make things happen in the school. Would be good to have a carbon footprint for the school emissions, so students can see what the school is emitting and work towards reducing it.

Would be good for Council to work with schools to encourage action. Students like to get involved when it involves action – for example popular lunchtime club planting trees, but not so popular if just talking about stuff. Tie into Enviroclub, encourage Youth Council to work with schools to deliver some of the actions, or Council helps encourage all schools to take action. Needs to be something active and simple, with specific deliverables.

Important to have data collected on a regular basis to be able to see progress being made. For example, the district footprint is 3 years old – can Council encourage BOPRC to get data more frequently? Will need data in 2027 to see if we've achieved target.

3. Would like to get involved in climate action or be kept informed?

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

Yes - Youth Panel want to keep going and action the deliverables.

We would like to be heard in support of this submission.

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

9 April 2024

Whakatāne District Council
Private Bag 1002
WHAKATĀNE 3158



5 Richardson Street,
PO Box 567,
Whakatāne, 3158
0800 323 800
07 307 0893
trusthorizon.org.nz

Dear Councillors

RE: CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Climate Change Strategy for the District. Trust Horizon is a local Charitable Trust (and large discretionary funder in the EBOP region with close to \$50M granted since our inception) whose mission is transformational investing in our community. We support the positive steps and leadership role the Council is taking to prepare for current and future challenges such as:

- Supporting communities to decarbonise,
- Reducing climate vulnerability, and
- Achieving the transition in an equitable way.

In this letter we provide feedback on areas that align closely with the purposes of our Trust and where there is opportunity to collaborate in support of community decarbonisation.

Trust activities supporting decarbonisation

To achieve the climate targets for the region will require collective action from individuals, businesses, Councils and communities. Below are some of the ways we as a Trust are contributing to the vision - Mahi tahi/working together to shape sustainable, low emission, climate resilient hāpori/communities.

As a Trust we have been actively supporting the district to decarbonise for over 20 years. Our longstanding home insulation grants to homes in deprivation have insulated over 8,000 homes - increasing whānau wellbeing whilst saving households 16% on their energy costs¹ and emissions. Since 2022 our support has been extended to include heatpumps with 530 installed across the EBOP, these are 80% more energy efficient than wood/gas, save over \$350 on energy costs per year and reduce emissions by around 12 tCO₂e over 15 years².

We also support community organisations and the Council with grants to transition away from fossil fuels and improve their energy efficiency examples include upgrading electricity supplies, LED lighting, insulation, heatpumps and other energy-efficient technologies.

Additionally, we are able to support organisations with low-interest loans for initiatives such as solar PV or fleet electric vehicle transition that are commercially viable but have high upfront costs, making them unaffordable for many community groups. With financing the transition often cited as a significant barrier³ we would welcome opportunities to support community owned solar or similar initiatives and have recently invested in Lodestone who

¹ <https://www.eeca.govt.nz/insights/eeca-insights/warmer-kiwi-homes-research-and-evaluation/>

² <https://www.rewiring.nz/electric-homes-report>

³ <https://www.energy-transitions.org/publications/financing-the-transition-etc/>

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

will soon commission the district's first solar farm (underscoring the technology's commercial viability).

We recognise it is important to show leadership and viable pathways to decarbonising. We have set the goal of reducing our own scope 1 and 2 emissions by 60% - and are on track to do so this year.

Community-led engagement

We support the climate pathway's focus on Collective Action and Community-led Actions, in addition to actions the Council itself needs to take to affect mitigation and adaptation. To support local communities and grass-roots initiatives the Trust could provide up to \$50k matched funding towards a Contestable Fund for Community-led Climate Change initiatives. Other Districts in NZ are already operating similar funds seeking to drive systems change.

Active and Public Transport

The Trust continues to be supportive of initiatives that would result in greater use of active and public transport options. The Ministry of Transport (MoT) and Kōi Tū's recent deliberative democracy work on the Future of Transport showed high levels of interest in both of these areas when participants were asked what the future of transport should focus on⁴. With close to 50% of household emissions⁵ coming from transport Council should look at all its policy options to accelerate action in this area⁶.

Win-win Council Initiatives

Over the last 3 years the Council has made material reductions in its non-transport energy emissions. However, more needs to be achieved in other emissions areas and the transition accelerated to achieve the targets set. As can be seen from the examples and reference material included above, a significant number of these transition initiatives save money (reducing the rates burden for current and future generations, particularly if they are financed appropriately), are good for the environment/community wellbeing and reduce future climate risk. Given this win-win situation it is unclear why more of these initiatives do not appear in the LTP, instead the focus and narrative is on spending (with its associated emissions) to adapt to the impacts of climate change and maintaining the current level of climate service. We strongly encourage the Council/Councillors to re-review the climate positive and financially prudent projects proposed⁷ and consider how to fund and execute these expediently for the benefit of our community and ratepayers.

⁴ <https://informedfutures.org/the-future-of-transport-in-aotearoa-nz-who-should-pay-for-what-report-on-deliberative-minipublics/>

⁵ <https://www.rewiring.nz/electric-homes-report>

⁶ https://www.otago.ac.nz/_data/assets/pdf_file/0021/315264/turning-the-tide-on-active-transport-report-710135.pdf

⁷ Solar Feasibility Scoping Study, 2023 and WDC Natural Gas Elimination Feasibility Report, 2022

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

Overall, we support the Council's proposed climate strategy and encourage Council to follow the framework's principles and act with more urgency to achieve the outcomes sought and deliver on the principles of the strategic framework. We are very happy to engage and share our views in more detail as part of the submission process.

On behalf of Trust Horizon



Derek Caudwell
Trust Horizon Chief Executive

Please note Derek is also Chair of the WDC's Climate Change Steering Committee, and these views represent Trust Horizon alone.

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

Hi I'm [REDACTED] I am 11 years old and I like cricket, running, playing with my toys and drawing.

Since before I started going to school I've been trying to get councils to take action for the climate in Hamilton where I used to live, and now that I am in Whakatāne I am continuing this work here. I've been planting trees and protesting at school strikes for a long time now and I am worried it is all for nothing. I live in Whakatāne where it is really hot and sunny, and it might change with climate change. Also we live close to the sea and it could get flooded, and I don't want that for me or for any other people. I want to live a good, long life.

And I need your help to do that. Help me, help you, help all!

So, please make sure that ALL decisions you make in council are thought through and ensure the climate is protected.

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)**Whakatāne District Council
Draft Climate Change Strategy Submission****10 April, 2024**

Tēnā koutou

Thank you for the opportunity to input into Whakatāne District Council's Draft Climate Change Strategy.

Climate change is not something readily associated with sport, recreation and play. However, as a regional sector advocate and influencer, Sport Bay of Plenty sees a unique opportunity to support this strategy and encourage action from the sport, recreation and play sector that will help both mitigate and develop community resilience to climate change.

We therefore commend Whakatāne District Council's commitment to developing a community climate strategy that encourages a locally-led and collaborative approach.

Sport Bay of Plenty supports the strategy's vision and goals.

We agree that 'Mahi tahi/working together' is critical to bringing this community strategy to life. As part of this mahi tahi approach, we encourage Council to consider play, active recreation and sport enablers, providers and participants as a key part of community alongside households and businesses.

The proposed goals of the Climate Change Strategy are applicable to the sport, recreation and play sector in several ways:

- By understanding the risks and impacts of climate change our sector will be more likely to respond with proactive actions and resilience. The downstream benefit is that physical activity opportunities in our communities are less vulnerable to climate change and extreme weather events.
- Cyclone Gabrielle, the Auckland floods and the wet weather of 2023 highlighted vulnerabilities for our sector, including sport clubs who were underinsured, and spaces and places closed to physical activity due to a lack of resilience to extreme weather events or above average rainfall.
- Those events in 2023 also demonstrated the valuable role physical activity can play in helping communities recover from extreme events. Sport events, and access to recreation and play, were key to supporting the mental wellbeing of

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)

communities in Hawke's Bay, Tairāwhiti and Auckland immediately after and during recovery.

- Sport Bay of Plenty has also learnt from our own carbon reduction action plan that big gains can be made by intentional changes. In the past 18 months we have switched to hybrid vehicles and seen a 25% reduction in our organisation's carbon emissions. We intend to carry the learnings and experience of our carbon reduction plan across our sector to encourage similar action.

Sport Bay of Plenty supports the strategy's targets and sees opportunities to work with the physical activity sector to help reach these aims.

There are several targets identified in the strategy that have relevance to the physical activity sector, and that could also be amplified by working with our sector and community groups such as sport and recreation clubs. We therefore encourage Council to consider the community sport, recreation and play sector, alongside households and businesses, in the actions proposed in the strategy.

Why consider the sport, recreation and play sector in the strategy?

The relevance of considering the physical activity sector in the strategy becomes apparent when looking at [potential implications of climate change on sport, recreation and play](#):

- Demand for indoor facilities may rise due to disruptions from extreme weather, water shortages for ground preparation and heat-stressed participants.
- The viability of outdoor sports could come under risk due to water shortages, increased prevalence of grass diseases due to rising temperatures and therefore rising costs to maintain fields.
- Sea level rise, the salination of ground water and erosion will affect coastal play, recreation and sport spaces, and facilities such as surf clubs.
- Rising insurance costs will impact sports clubs and, if costs are passed on to participants, heighten cost as a barrier to participation.

How the sport, recreation and play sector can help Council reach its targets

Examples of how Council's actions could be amplified, and therefore targets met earlier, include:

- *Active transport*: Sport Bay of Plenty can provide insights from our Voice of Rangatahi surveys, and other regional and national sources, to help Council understand the motivations and barriers for active transport and therefore ensure active transport decisions and actions are more likely to have the intended impact.

7.2.2 Appendix 2 - Climate Pathway Submissions(Cont.)



- *Solar energy*: Considering opportunities for collaboration and working with other partners to encourage and incentivise community groups such as sports clubs to install solar or transition from gas to electricity.
- *Locally relevant, engaging and accurate information*: In addition to the actions associated with this target, we would encourage Council to extend and tailor educational material, local climate projections and risk assessment information to community groups such as sports clubs. Together we could then encourage community groups to consider their vulnerabilities, support their decision-making and climate actions, and enhance climate change resilience in the community sport, recreation and play sector.
- *Community adaptation plans*: Building climate resilience amongst sport, recreation and play providers can ensure physical activity and the associated wellbeing benefits continue despite climate changes or extreme weather events. We therefore encourage the inclusion of local sport, recreation and play providers on Community Action Groups.

Thank you for the opportunity to input into Council's Draft Climate Strategy. We are happy to be involved in further discussions regarding the strategy as it progresses.

Nākū noa, nā

Heidi Lichtwark
Chief Executive, Sport Bay of Plenty

Sport Bay of Plenty contact

If Council requires further information or clarification on this submission, please contact:

[Redacted contact information]