



RANGITIKEI
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Making this place home.

ORDER PAPER

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Thursday, 16 May 2024
Time: 9.30am
Venue: Council Chamber
Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street
Marton

Chair: HWTM Andy Watson

Deputy Chair: Cr Dave Wilson

Membership: Cr Brian Carter
Cr Gill Duncan
Cr Richard Lambert
Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa
Cr Coral Raukawa
Cr Jeff Wong
Cr Simon Loudon
Cr Greg Maughan
Cr Fi Dalgety
Cr Paul Sharland

For any enquiries regarding this agenda, please contact:

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Locations:	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; vertical-align: top;"> <u>Marton</u> Head Office 46 High Street Marton </td> <td style="width: 33%; vertical-align: top;"> <u>Bulls</u> Bulls Information Centre Te Matapihi 4 Criterion Street Bulls </td> <td style="width: 33%; vertical-align: top;"> <u>Taihape</u> Taihape Information Centre 102 Hautapu Street (SH1) Taihape </td> </tr> </table>	<u>Marton</u> Head Office 46 High Street Marton	<u>Bulls</u> Bulls Information Centre Te Matapihi 4 Criterion Street Bulls	<u>Taihape</u> Taihape Information Centre 102 Hautapu Street (SH1) Taihape
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Notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Meeting of Council of the Rangitikei District Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Rangitikei District Council, 46 High Street, Marton on Thursday, 16 May 2024 at 9.30am.

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AGENDA

1 Welcome / Prayer

2 Apologies

3 Public Forum

No Public Forum

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of items on this agenda.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

That, taking into account the explanation provided why the item is not on the meeting agenda and why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting, [enter item number](#) be dealt with as a late item at this meeting.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Confirmation of Minutes

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Reason for Report

1.1 The minutes from **Ordinary Council Meeting held on 18 April 2024** are attached.

Attachments

1. **Ordinary Council Meeting - 18 April 2024**

Recommendation

That the minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 18 April 2024 [**as amended/without amendment**] be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the electronic signature of the Chair of this Committee be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

MINUTES

UNCONFIRMED: ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Thursday, 18 April 2024

Time: 9.00am

Venue: Kokako Street Pavilion
Taihape

Council Chambers
Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street
Marton

AND

Present

HWTM Andy Watson
Cr Dave Wilson
Cr Gill Duncan
Cr Richard Lambert
Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa
Cr Coral Raukawa
Cr Jeff Wong
Cr Simon Loudon
Cr Greg Maughan
Cr Fi Dalgety

In attendance

Mr Kevin Ross, Chief Executive
Mrs Carol Gordon, Group Manager- Democracy and Planning
Mr Dave Tombs, Group Manager- Corporate Services
Ms Gaylene Prince, Group Manager- Community
Mr Jarrod Calkin, Economic Wellbeing Lead
Ms Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor
Ms Janna Isles, Corporate Planner
Mr Paul Sharland

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Unconfirmed

1 Welcome / Prayer

His Worship the Mayor opened the meeting at 9.00am and Cr Hiroa read the Council prayer.

The Mayor congratulated Mr Sharland on being the successful candidate in the Southern Ward By-election and thanked him for attending the meeting today even though he is not officially sworn in as councillor yet.

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/092

That apologies be received from Cr Carter.

HWTM/Cr G Duncan. Carried

3 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Cr Hiroa declared a conflict of interest in relation to submission 421 from Mokai Patea services.

Cr Loudon declared a conflict of interest in relation to submission 433 from Felicity Wallace and the Interested Residents of Marton.

4 Reports for Information

4.1 Hearing of Submissions on the Long Term Plan 2024-2034 and Simultaneous Consultation

Commentary is included below.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/093

That the report 'Hearing of Submissions on the Long Term Plan 2024-2034 and Simultaneous Consultation' be received.

Cr Hiroa/Cr S Loudon. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/094

That the meeting be adjourned until 11.00am or until Councillors physically return to the Marton Council Chambers.

HWTM/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Long Term Plan 2024 (and simultaneous consultation) Submission Hearings for the Long-Term Plan 2024-34 and Simultaneous Consultation documents:

- Draft Revenue and Financing Policy
- Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25
- Draft Rates Remission Policy
- Draft Significance and Engagement Policy
- Draft Development Contributions Policy

Submission number and name	Submitter's Organisation	Summary of topic and context	Summary of key questions posted by Elected Members and responses
(400) Mary Haggie	Taihape Netball Centre	<p><u>Taihape Netball Courts</u></p> <p>Tabled document was received – Netball New Zealand Outdoor Court Specifications and Guidelines August 2013.</p> <p>Ms Haggie spoke of the opportunities missed for the netball and tennis courts in Taihape.</p> <p>That due to a series of errors and not addressing the known flooding problem at the courts this has caused the courts to be unsafe and has resulted in the courts wearing down faster.</p> <p>Taihape Netball is looking for the removal of the stormwater drain and relevel of the underlying surface and recoating of the courts.</p>	<p>Cr Dalgety: How much has been spent so far on the courts?</p> <p>Answer: Taihape Netball has spent \$55,000 with other funding received for the remainder.</p> <p>Cr Maughan: What has the communication been like between Council, contractors, and Taihape Netball?</p> <p>Answer: That there had been communication but unsure the specifications of the courts were made clear. Taihape Netball was under the belief that the drain would be removed.</p> <p>Cr Wilson: Would the estimate of costings in the submission be able to be provided to councilors?</p> <p>Answer: This was a verbal quote from the contractor.</p> <p>Cr Duncan: Were the specifications set out by Netball New Zealand in the tabled document adhered to?</p> <p>Answer: No</p>

			<p>Cr Loudon: Where does the blame sit?</p> <p>Answer: It sits across the board, including with Taihape Netball. However, it does not sit with the contractor.</p> <p>Cr Loudon: What was Taihape Netball doing this season?</p> <p>Answer: That they were going to do the best they could with the courts, for example reducing places where people can stand to mitigate injuries.</p> <p>Cr Wong: How many courts do you play on?</p> <p>Answer: There are four courts but only three with hoops.</p>
(287) Ken Bellamy		<p><u>Taihape Town Hall</u></p> <p>Tabled document was received - Taihape Town Hall and Library Plans and Taihape Grandstand.</p> <p>Proposing to demolish a substantial part of the Taihape Town Hall to remove the earthquake prone areas of the building.</p> <p><u>Taihape Grandstand</u></p> <p>Requesting underneath the grandstand six more changing rooms with independent showers in each room.</p>	<p>Cr Dalgety: If the library were to be removed where should it be?</p> <p>Answer: It should be relocated to a new building in town if needed</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: Where did the plan come from?</p> <p>Answer: The plan is from archives with an overlay of what is suggested, using his own building experience to inform the suggestions.</p> <p>Cr Maughan: Should the façade be removed?</p> <p>Answer: Under this proposal it would be removed.</p> <p>Cr Duncan: The earthquake strengthening report didn't say anything about the library being earthquake prone and asked for clarity.</p>

			<p>Answer: Where the library connects to the townhall is a problem and there is a large cost associated with this.</p> <p>Cr Duncan: Is the only solution in the plan to demolish the library?</p> <p>Answer: There are two options. One being that the library is cut away from the building and pushed back. Or remove the library and relocate.</p> <p>Cr Dalgety: Is there any historical value in the building.</p> <p>Answer: The line goes upstairs, and this is staying, everything else would need to be removed. The front of the hall will be removed in these plans.</p> <p>Cr Hiroa: The money saved with this project equal to council investing in a new development.</p> <p>Answer: Yes</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: Are the showers in the Nga Awa block insufficient?</p> <p>Answer: Yes, there are only four changing rooms and there can be up to eight teams on the park.</p>
<p>(378) Angela McIntyre</p>		<p>Tabled document was received - PowerPoint presentation.</p> <p><u>Weather Modification</u></p> <p>Requested that Council should say no to Central Government regarding weather modification and chem trails.</p> <p><u>Roading</u></p> <p>Requested that Council provide a turning bay in Ōhingaiti especially due to the</p>	

		<p>congestion during events at McIntyre Reserve.</p> <p>The designated speed camera area should be banned as it blocks driver’s vision.</p> <p><u>Otara Bridge</u></p> <p>There were concerns of maintenance on the Otara bridge. Pictures were provided to councillors.</p> <p>Ms McIntyre also noted her experience as an ambulance driver and the importance the bridge has to the community, for example her granddaughter who is unwell and has medical events is at risk if the bridge is not open and available.</p>	
<p>(405) Peter Kipling-Arthur</p>	<p>Taihape Community Board</p>	<p><u>Roading</u></p> <p>Acknowledging that the Taihape Community Board has spoken to Council previously on this item.</p> <p>Council has worked hard with Waka Kotahi in terms of Utiku slip and requests that council keep the pressure on.</p> <p>Mr Kipling- Arthur is concerned about the cost of paperwork for subcontractors relating to health and safety.</p> <p><u>Taihape Grandstand and Civic Centre</u></p>	<p>Cr Duncan: Does the Gretna corner have the potential for a fatality?</p> <p>Answer: Yes, board members have observed a near miss with four cyclists.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: What is the current status of the maintenance of the Taihape Grandstand.</p> <p>Answer: That there has been no fundraising locally due to no MOU or communication. Council has signalled maintenance work on the grandstand in the past six months.</p> <p>Cr Hiroa: What is needed for the MOU for the Taihape Grandstand.</p>

		<p>That the Taihape Community Board appreciate the communication in this area.</p>	<p>Answer: In terms of the Heritage Subcommittee for the grandstand no MOU progress has been made prior to 2023. At this stage there is only maintenance work from council.</p> <p>Cr Dalgety: Are more changing rooms needed at the Grandstand?</p> <p>Answer: Unable to comment on this and would suit someone better from the rugby club to answer.</p>
<p>(421) Judith McDonald</p>	<p>Mokai Patea Services</p>	<p><i>Cr Hiroa noted a conflict of interest regarding this submission.</i></p> <p>Cr Wong noted that he is the health trust president.</p> <p><u>Taihape Wellness Project</u></p> <p>Seeking support from council on two matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of the grounds as a joint venture opportunity. This is because council has resources in this area. • Loan from council on competitive terms if this is needed. At this stage the funding shortfall is unknown. 	<p>His Worship the Mayor: What is the timeframe for opening and is this on track?</p> <p>Answer: They are waiting for consent for the Tamariki wing and corridor which is expected in the next month. Other areas are less labour intensive and therefore would like to be in the building by the beginning of next year.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: Who lodged the consent?</p> <p>Answer: This has been completed by our architects noting that this is an old hospital with a crown interest.</p> <p>Cr Raukawa: What is the coverage of the health services from the organisation?</p> <p>Answer: The entire site is housing the Rural Health Centre and the Taihape Health Trust. Mokai Patea services will remain on their footprint in Hautapu Street but the Whanau Ora service will move to the new site.</p> <p>Cr Loudon: What would the loan be needed for?</p> <p>Answer: The loan, if needed, would be for the capital deficit. The operational costs will be covered, but due</p>

			to the increasing costs of the building it is not clear yet the funding required.
The meeting adjourned at 10.01am and returned at 11.10am in the Marton Council Chambers.			
(408) Richard White		<p><u>Streetscape Revitalisation Marton</u></p> <p>That Marton needs to have a town that attracts people to come. The streetscape can be a catalyst, and this requires leadership from council, especially in relation to earthquake prone buildings.</p>	<p>Cr Loudon: What does revitalising look like?</p> <p>Answer: Paint is underrated and can be the best return on investment especially as capital can become big and expensive.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: How do you feel about spending money on private property?</p> <p>Answer: Even the painting of poles on the council building have made a big difference.</p>
(303) Jo Rangooni		<p><u>Marton Swimming Pool</u></p> <p>The swimming pool costs outweigh the benefits, as it keeps young people well occupied and active.</p> <p><u>Rubbish and Recycling</u></p> <p>The need for education for the community to reduce rubbish and the impact the rubbish has on the environment.</p> <p><u>Streetscape Revitalisation Marton</u></p> <p>Traffic data would help to inform this decision.</p>	<p>His Worship the Mayor: Your submission included concerns of the affordability of rates and yet you want to keep the pool open.</p> <p>Answer: Unable to comment due to any specific information on hand to support this answer.</p> <p>Cr Wilson: Does Ms Rangooni use the pool?</p> <p>Answer: She used to but not anymore and therefore is advocating for others.</p>
(282) David McMillian		<p>Tabled document - PowerPoint Presentation</p> <p><u>Kerbside Collection</u></p>	<p>Cr Lambert: What about the recycling and the costs associated with the contamination.</p>

		<p>Suitability of rubbish bins for kerbside recycling and requested that council considers a crate approach.</p>	<p>Answer: If you don't have someone in Council doing compliance inspections the problem will continue.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: If staff see contamination in a crate, then they would just leave it.</p> <p>Answer: Yes, that is correct.</p> <p>Cr Dalgety: What is your expertise in this area?</p> <p>Answer: Involved with waste management and did work at Ruapehu District Council and then Manawatu District Council and was sub-contracted to Rangitikei District Council. Currently working at Horowhenua District Council.</p> <p>Cr Raukawa: Can you explain the answer given on the Marton Streetscape Revitalisation?</p> <p>Answer: That looking at cost savings and that this cost should sit with the owners of the businesses</p>
(312) Justin Adams		<p>Noting errors in the policies and financial statements due to AI.</p> <p><u>Huntermere Community Committee</u></p> <p>There should be a targeted rate of \$4 for the Huntermere Community Committee to extend their work. Mr Adams is prepared to pay this cost if necessary for the first year.</p> <p><u>Marton Swimming Pool</u></p> <p>There should be further investigation on excessive subsidy of the pool use.</p> <p><u>Streetscape Revitalisation Marton</u></p>	<p>Cr Hiroa: Can you explain about the ideas listed in your submission?</p> <p>Answer: That while not councils' responsibility, council can guide a path towards certain areas. There are things Council can push in a certain direction to get things moving.</p> <p>Cr Duncan: Can you expand on the idea of beautifying green space?</p> <p>Answer: As an overall approach you don't need to spend a lot of money this could just be artworks.</p> <p>Cr Loudon: What do prudent debt levels look like?</p>

		<p>That there are other concerns for economic growth in the district. This is not work for council staff as this lies with the shop owners.</p>	<p>Answer: Would need further information to give a concrete number but wouldn't like debt interest payments of rates at 5% and would encourage finding other alternatives to fund rather than just the ratepayer.</p>
<p>(320) Tania King</p>	<p>Sport Whanganui</p>	<p><u>Marton Swimming Pool</u></p> <p>There is strong support to open the pool year long and that Sport Whanganui can help enable this. There is an active wellbeing team outside of Whanganui to help clients access the pool, specifically clients with compromised health and need low impact activity alternatives.</p> <p>Sport Whanganui has been in contact with schools and these relationships that have indicated that they want the pool open as they currently go to Fielding and Whanganui to access pools.</p>	<p>Cr Wilson: Is the social return on the activity swimming or general activity?</p> <p>Answer: This activity is in general not swimming specific.</p> <p>Cr Lambert: What is Sport Whanganui's involvement with the Marton Pools?</p> <p>Answer: That this a long-term involvement and can assist with advocating schools to use the pool and the marketing of the pool in the region. Sport Whanganui also manages an activation fund that can provide funding for equipment.</p> <p>Cr Hiroa: If the service was to be rolled out to Hunterville and Taihape pools, would Sport Whanganui be interested in this?</p> <p>Answer: Sport Whanganui advocates for facilities to be open for the community particularly for health clients and schools.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: What does Sport Whanganui think about a user pay option.</p> <p>Answer: That schools will be disadvantaged by user pays. Sport Whanganui does receive funding applications from schools to subsidise the cost.</p>

			<p>Cr Loudon: What was Sport Whanganui’s experience with Whanganui District Council and management of their pools?</p> <p>Answer: Sport Whanganui did manage the pools in Whanganui and the contribution from the council was significant</p> <p>Cr Duncan: How would Sport Whanganui feel about trialling the opening of the pool for three years?</p> <p>Answer: That a feasibility study would be worthwhile. The importance is with the marketing and making the community aware that the pool is open for the year.</p>
<p>(347) John Bligh</p>		<p>Councillors and those present held a minutes silence as part of Mr Bligh’s submission.</p> <p>Tabled document was received.</p> <p><u>Civil Defence</u></p> <p>Requested a full independent review of civil defence be carried out by an independent person.</p> <p>The Bulls Community Centre civil defence changing from Clifton School to Te Matapihi Hall.</p> <p>Te Matapihi is not a suited building for civil defence centre and that this is the same for other civil defence centres in the district.</p>	<p>Cr Duncan: Are you asking Council to complete a civil defence review?</p> <p>Answer: No, that Council should complete an independent report.</p> <p>Cr Loudon: What is the award on the table?</p> <p>Cr Loudon read the inscription for the award that was received following the 2004 floods.</p>

		His Worship the Mayor stopped the submission and went to questions from councilors.	
The meeting adjourned at 12.10pm and returned at 1.00pm.			
(436) Simon Wall (Zoom)	Apollo Projects	<p>Mr Peter Beggs, CE Apollo, was in attendance for the submission.</p> <p><u>Capital Projects</u></p> <p>Design and build is a good option for project delivery for the Rangitikei District council.</p> <p><u>Marton Swimming Pool</u></p> <p>Encourage this to be open all year round and improvement of community wellbeing.</p>	<p>Cr Loudon: How many other councils Long-Term Plan have you submitted to?</p> <p>Answer: It is anticipated that it will be between 10-15 submissions but this is the first Council hearing.</p>
(433) Long-Term Plan Felicity Wallace	Interested Residents of Marton and the Rangitikei	<p><i>Cr Loudon declared a conflict of interest with this submission.</i></p> <p>Sally Patrick was in attendance.</p> <p><u>Development Contributions Policy</u></p> <p>The group want to see the district grow but not at the cost of the environment. The Central Hawkes Bay development contribution policy is a good example.</p> <p><u>Marton Swimming Pool</u></p> <p>Supports opening the pool yearlong to secure staff and support swimming skills, specifically for school aged children.</p>	<p>Cr Wilson: What was meant about the statement that without a contributions policy this would lead to empty sections and no facilities?</p> <p>Answer: That the new developers contribute to the cost of facilities, and this could support council funds, currently council is not receiving this.</p>

		<p><u>Streetscape Revitalisation Marton</u></p> <p>The mainstreet should be better maintained and cleaned. It was requested that that there should be a survey of all building owners as part of the consultation.</p> <p>There was concern an upgrade could be disruptive and that the bigger issues lie with the maintenance of the buildings along the street.</p>	
<p>(433) Simultaneous Consultation Felicity Wallace</p>	<p>Interested Residents of Marton and the Rangitikei</p>	<p>Sally Patrick spoke to this submission.</p> <p><u>Significance and Engagement Policy</u></p> <p>Currently this policy focuses on engagement and not the determination of what is considered significant to Council.</p> <p>Ms Patrick spoke of her experience and the need for the community to be sufficiently informed.</p>	<p>His Worship the Mayor: Are there any policies that you have found that are good examples?</p> <p>Answer: Gisborne or Tairawhiti determines significance thoroughly and is easy to read.</p> <p>Cr Wilson: Is the submission on the Significance and Engagement policy or the implementation of the policy?</p> <p>Answer: The policy gives application and therefore both.</p>
<p>(393) John Vickers</p>		<p><u>Streetscape Revitalisation Marton</u></p> <p>That the main street tidy up would not achieve what Council wants and that it is a slow process.</p> <p><u>Marton Swimming Pool</u></p> <p>The background on the Marton swimming pool was that it was built for competitions and for summer only.</p>	<p>His Worship the Mayor: What would you like council to do with the general rate?</p> <p>Answer: That having a targeted rate means the community have to think more about what they are asking for from council.</p> <p>Cr Loudon: How do you see transformation on the Marton Mainstreet?</p> <p>Answer: That people are needed in the buildings.</p>

		<p><u>General Rate</u></p> <p>This is an issue where capital value is not evenly distributed on the general rate.</p>	
(433) Willy Abraham		<p><u>Rubbish and Recycling</u></p> <p>Mr Abraham has worked in waste management for a long time and spoke of the waste transfer station.</p> <p>Mr Abraham advocated that council is able to locally service the transfer station and that there is expertise in this area in the district.</p>	<p>Cr Maughan: What is better wheelie bins or crates?</p> <p>Answer: The wheelie bins in Auckland are not working whereas crates deliver only 2% contamination.</p>
(417) Nigel Belsham and Richard White	Business Rangitikei	<p><u>Streetscape Revitalisation Marton</u></p> <p>The organisation is new but has been needed for the district.</p> <p>It is imperative that the streetscaping proceeds as it has been on the table for a long time.</p> <p>If council invests this would be a catalyst for business owners to work on their own buildings.</p>	<p>Cr Dalgety: How do you feel about Council investing in private buildings?</p> <p>Answer: That this is not necessarily about this project as this is solely about streetscape.</p> <p>Cr Wilson: Should this be a targeted rate?</p> <p>Answer: This is a district wide initiative and Marton is only the first. Therefore, the rate should be district wide.</p> <p>Cr Maughan: Can you explain more on the comment in the submission about the corner buildings?</p> <p>Answer: It feels like a U-turn from council to leave the corner buildings.</p>
(432) Greg Carlyon	Tutaenui Stream Restoration Society	<p><u>Tutaenui Stream</u></p> <p>That there has been fantastic work by volunteers and council support. The</p>	<p>Cr Hiroa: What do you think about the relationship of the group and council has become more positive?</p>

		<p>society is requesting \$10,000 for continued work.</p>	<p>Answer: It has been driven by learning the needs of each groups and understanding the restrictions from council.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: Should the \$10,000 come from the district wide parks and reserves fund?</p> <p>Answer: Yes, because it benefits the whole district.</p> <p>Cr Loudon: What is now happening with the work on the stream?</p> <p>Answer: This will be part of the coming work.</p> <p>Cr Lambert: Is there any pest management?</p> <p>Answer: There is pest management in place and volunteers undertake the work associated with this.</p>
(427) Carolyn Bates	<p>Marton Community Committee</p>	<p>Mr David Christison spoke to this submission.</p> <p><u>Marton Swimming Pool</u></p> <p>The cost for pools is a concern and would prefer a user pays approach.</p> <p><u>Rubbish and Recycling</u></p> <p>The preferred approach is to use crates rather than wheelie bins. It was requested that Council complete good research as part of the implementation.</p> <p><u>Streetscape Revitalisation Marton</u></p> <p>There are concerns of the corner buildings.</p>	<p>Cr Wong: Does the committee support a trial of opening the swimming pools?</p> <p>Answer: Yes, or even a pass people pay that guarantees incoming funds.</p>

		The committee suggested a one way road through the CBD to make it safe and increase parking.	
(428) Carolyn Bates		<p><u>Significance and Engagement Policy</u></p> <p>Ms Bates questioned how often council engages with the community.</p> <p><u>Development Contributions Policy</u></p> <p>There needs to be an indication from council about the funding received.</p>	<p>Cr Hiroa: Can you explain the comment about the Māori ward attendance?</p> <p>Answer: That when looking at the attendance schedule there have been occasions where Cr Hiroa and Cr Raukawa have not attended meetings. His Worship the Mayor stopped the submission.</p>
(430) Long Term Plan Gretta Mills		<p>Tabled document was received- UN Sustainable Goals</p> <p>It was requested that for future submissions that there is a clock for submitters.</p> <p><u>Gender Equality</u></p> <p>Ms Mills noted the importance of gender equality in government as the UN has failed to address it.</p>	<p>Cr Loudon: Has Ms Mills considered the social benefits of the pool being opened?</p> <p>Answer: Ms Mills has not used the pool in years but it may benefit from a subscription for users to cover the cost.</p> <p>Cr Duncan: Should Council trial a run of the pool being opened?</p> <p>Answer: Council should have the information and data on this already.</p> <p>Cr Duncan: Can you expand on our responsibility and other funded organisations in you submission?</p> <p>Answers: Governments need to look at their funding structure and whether it is fair to women.</p>
(430) Simultaneous Consultation Gretta Mills		<p><u>Development Contributions Policy</u></p> <p>There is no transparency on what is agreed on by council and developers.</p>	<p>Cr Wilson: Are you aware that we have implemented agreements?</p> <p>Answer: Ms Mills is aware they are agreed on by the CE but Council is not transparent on what these agreements are.</p>

			<p>His Worship the Mayor: How would you see us documenting that process of these agreements?</p> <p>Answer: Look at other councils for examples.</p> <p>Cr Wong: Do you see any draw backs from implementing a developer’s contribution?</p> <p>Answer: Developers are creating further needs at the expense of ratepayers.</p>
<p>The meeting adjourned at 2.52pm and returned at 3.15pm</p>			
<p>(429) Ian Strathan/Tim Matthews</p>	<p>Federated Farmers</p>	<p>Laura Morrison was in attendance.</p> <p><u>Increases in Costs</u></p> <p>There is an increase cost of living and the impact this is having on farmers. Council should reduce expenditure to the rate of inflation.</p> <p>The UAGC needs to be updated as the spread of rates is not equitable.</p> <p><u>Forestry Differential</u></p> <p>Request that the there is a forestry differential of four times due to the impact forest harvesting is having on the roads.</p>	<p>Cr Wilson- Where should council reduce expenditure?</p> <p>Answer: There is a lot of areas that can be cut in the Long-Term Plan. For example, delaying the building in Marton or the roading contractors might be able to negotiate a better price.</p> <p>Cr Loudon- Other trucks use the roads and forestry harvesting is every few years, is there any investigation of the road usage over that time period and how does it compare to forestry?</p> <p>Answer: It’s about the intensity of the road use from forestry and the cumulative effect from forestry which is different than farming.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: In the past we’ve had pre-engagement, what has the impact of this been?</p> <p>Answer: The Revenue and Financing policy is out of date especially for the UAGC.</p> <p>Cr Duncan- In the process how do we compare on the UAGC?</p>

ITEM 6.1 ATTACHMENT 1

<p>(425) Tim Matthews</p>		<p><u>Forestry Differential</u></p> <p>Other councils have higher differentials such as Wairoa. This is similar to the Rangitikei District.</p> <p><u>The Revenue and Financing Policy</u></p> <p>This is out of date and needs reviewing. It would be beneficial to go back to the basics and start again.</p> <p><u>Roading</u></p> <p>Unfortunately, Higgins are not achieving what they said on the Rangitikei Network. Noting a concern that there is a lack of transparency on what they are expected to do in their contract.</p>	<p>Answer: We can provide this information to you.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: Should the Forestry differential be on the general rate or the roading rate.</p> <p>Answer: On the roading, there is the possibility for a differential on the general rate.</p> <p>Cr Raukawa: What does the performance measure of roading look like?</p> <p>Answer: Could look at culvert depth of the road but roading engineers can come up with a better measurement.</p> <p>Cr Wilson: Supportive of targeted rates?</p> <p>Answer: Need to look at that and this comes back to the Revenue and Financing policy.</p> <p>Cr Dalgety: How many times would you like the grader to go up?</p> <p>Answer: When it needs it.</p>
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The meeting closed at 3.47pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on .

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Chairperson

7 Reports for Decision

7.1 Deliberations Report - 2024-2034 Long Term Plan

Author: Janna Isles, Corporate Planner

Authoriser: Katrina Gray, Manager Strategy and Development

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 To provide a summary of the process followed to develop the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan and provide an analysis of the submissions received on the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan for Councils deliberation. 2:08 pm

2. Context

- 2.1 The Long Term Plan (LTP) describes the activities of Council, how they will be undertaken, how they will be funded, and outlines the benefits of providing those activities to the community. The purpose of creating a Long Term Plan spanning 10 years is to provide Council with the means to meet the needs of the community currently, and in the future.
- 2.2 A successful LTP will balance the ambitions of the district, while delivering the needed core infrastructure, and providing other core services. Completing an LTP every three years allows Council to review the current LTP and update it to realign it to meet changing priorities, respond to any changes in the known state of infrastructure, and respond to any changes in relevant legislation.

3. Process

- 3.1 The content of the draft LTP was developed through a significant number of workshops held by Council over 2023 and the beginning of 2024.
- 3.2 Council adopted the consultation document *Where's it @ Rangitikei* along with the draft Long Term Plan 2024-34 and other supporting documents on 29 February 2024 prior to the consultation period, running from 8 March 2024, ending on 7 April 2024 at 5pm.
- 3.3 The oral hearing was held in Taihape and Marton on 18 April 2024.
- 3.4 During deliberations Council will decide what will be included in the final 2024-34 LTP.
- 3.5 Following deliberations, the final LTP will be audited prior to Council adoption on 27 June 2024.

4. Topics for consultation

- 4.1 There were three key choices highlighted for consultation:
 - Key Choice 1: Marton pool
 - Key Choice 2: Kerbside collection
 - Key Choice 3: Marton main street upgrade

- 4.2 Council also consulted on a number of other items as simultaneous consultation, which can be found in following reports within this agenda.
- 4.3 The options Council consulted on for Key Choice 1: Marton Pool were:
 - Option 1: The Marton pool would remain only open on a seasonal basis.
 - Option 2: From 2024/25 the Marton pool would open all year round.
- 4.4 The options Council consulted on for Key Choice 2: Kerbside collection were:
 - Option 1: We roll out three bin kerbside collection in one go starting January 2027.
 - Option 2: We stagger the provision of a recycling bin (issued in January 2027) and an organic waste bin (issued in January 2030). Residents need a separate contract for disposing of their general waste.
- 4.5 The options Council consulted on for Key Choice 3: Marton main street upgrade were:
 - Option 1: Streetscape revitalisation for Marton.
 - Option 2: Status quo – do not invest in streetscape revitalisation for Marton.
- 4.6 Further detail on these topics and the options presented can be found in the deliberations report under separate cover.
- 4.7 Other topics raised by submitters have been grouped by activity group in the deliberations report.
- 4.8 The submissions which raised issues relevant to the simultaneous consultations can be found in relevant reports on the agenda for this Council meeting.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 Consultation on *Where's it @ Rangitikei Long Term Plan 2024-34* was conducted in accordance with the special consultative procedure as required by the Local Government Act 2002.
- 5.2 During the consultation period Council aimed to increase engagement and reduce as many barriers as possible that might stop people from being able to engage in the process. The methods used for consultation are outlined below.
- 5.3 A summary of the consultation document was placed in the District Monitor on 14 March 2024.
- 5.4 The summary provided in the District Monitor was also posted to all rural ratepayers as many rural properties do not receive the local paper.
- 5.5 Council posted 16 posts on Facebook during the consultation period including 4 reels. An additional on 6 posts were also made as pre-engagement, prior to the consultation period. All Facebook content was also put on Instagram. Comments posted on Facebook are not formal submissions, however they can be valuable to give an insight into the views of many people, including those who many not typically submit on Council consultations. The comments relevant to the LTP have been collated and can be found in an attachment to this report.

5.6 The Facebook and Instagram summaries below provide statistics on the reach of the social media posts. This year Council was able to reach a large number of people, and received significant interaction across all posts.



5.7 The Consultation Document and supporting information were distributed across the district at Council offices, information centres and libraries.

5.8 Council held 14 consultation events at the following locations:

- Marton
- Bulls
- Mangaweka
- Scotts Ferry
- Pukeokahu
- Koitiata
- Mataroa
- Tutaenui
- Papanui
- Ohingaiti
- Omatane
- Taoroa
- Taihape
- Ratana

5.9 Council also attended the following Council Committee and Community Committee meetings to provide information about the Long Term Plan:

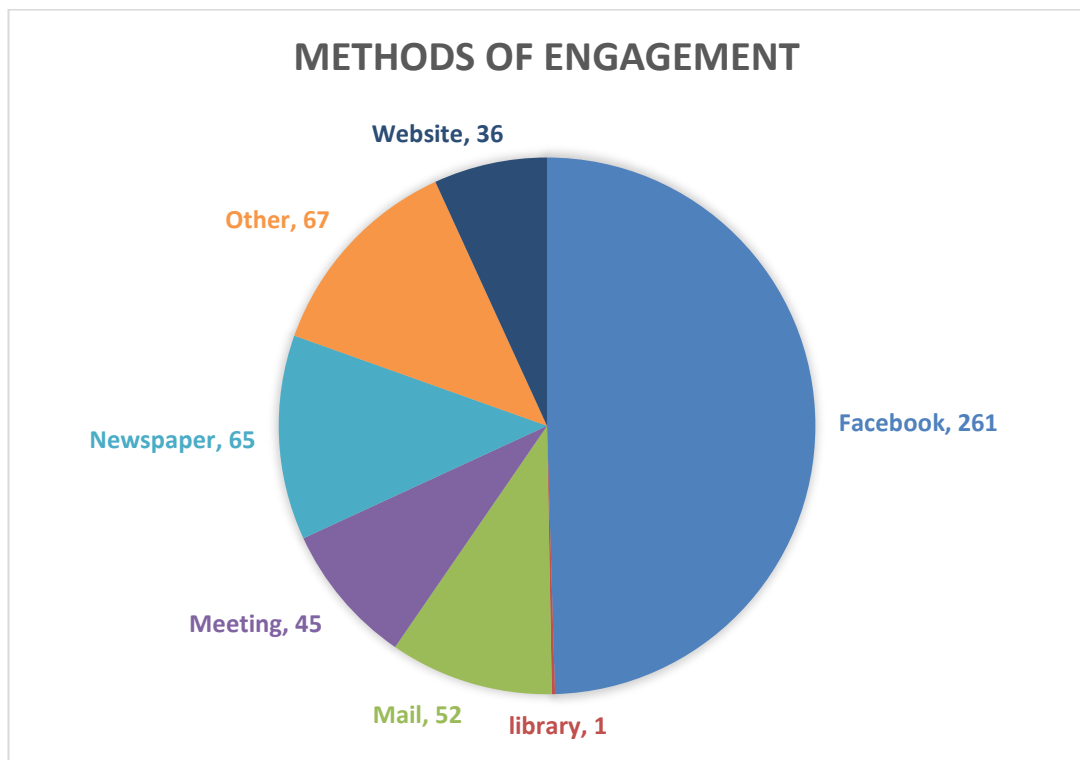
- Hunterville
- Turakina
- Marton
- Bulls
- Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa
- Youth Council

6. Consultation results

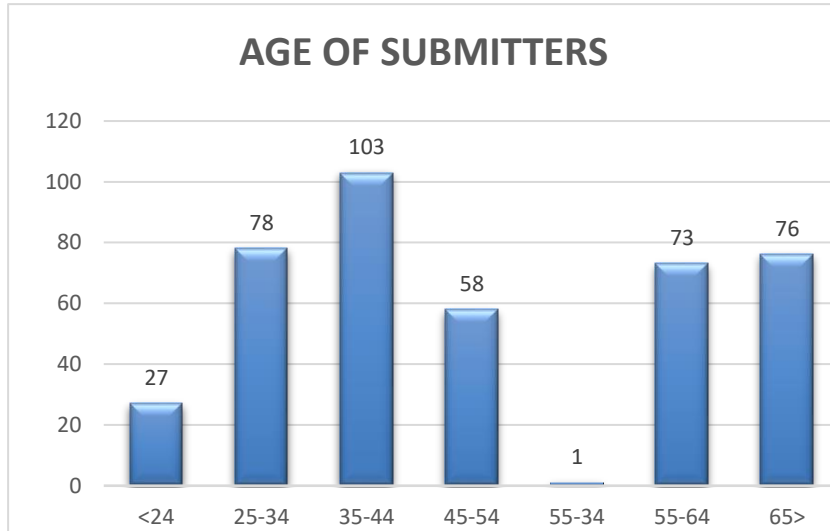
6.1 Council received 454 written submissions on the Long Term Plan. This compares with 254 on the 2021-2031 LTP and 172 on the 2018-2028 LTP.

ITEM 7.1

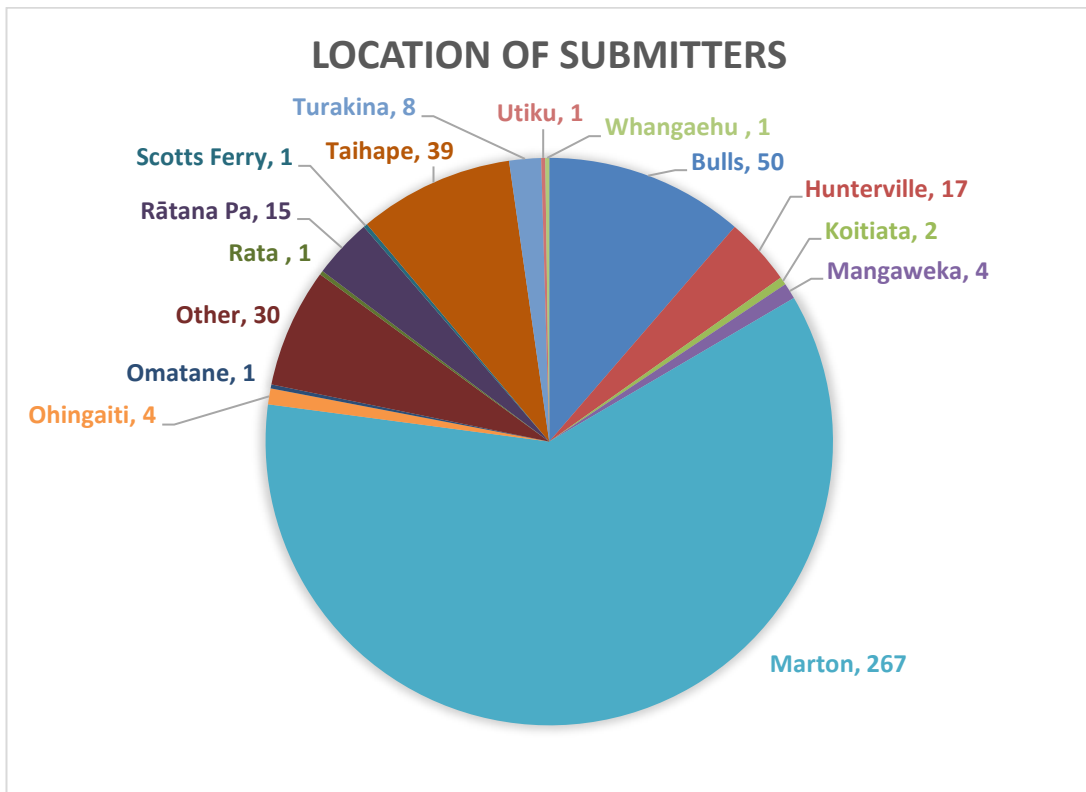
- 6.2 Twenty three (23) submitters spoke to their LTP submission at the oral hearing held on 18 April 2024. Five (5) of these submitters attended the hearing in Taihape, the remaining 18 attended the hearing in Marton.
- 6.3 The deliberations report provided under separate cover provides greater detail and analysis of each issue Council is considering as well as issues raised by submitters on topics that were not part of the specific consultation topics.
- 6.4 Submitters were given the option to identify how they heard that Council was consulting on the LTP. Some submitters choose not to respond to this question, while other submitters identified multiple methods. This chart shows that Councils various methods of providing information reached many people. The use of Facebook appears to be particularly successful with over half of submitters identifying that they heard about the LTP consultation on this platform.



6.5 The submissions received were made by a people in all age ranges. The age distributions shows that Council was successful in reaching people of all ages through different consultation methods.



6.6 Submitters were also given the option of identifying where they live. This chart shows that Council was successful in reaching people across the district during consultation. The majority of submitters identified that they live in Marton. This is to be expected due to two of the key choices being Marton based.



7. Financial Implications

7.1 The decisions made during deliberations may have an impact on rates and debt depending on what is resolved at this meeting.

8. Impact on Strategic Risks

8.1 There is a risk that trust and confidence in council is tarnished. This year Council has received the largest number of submissions Council have ever received, as well as a significant amount of online engagement. This demonstrates the interest the community has in this LTP, in particular, the key topics keeping in mind the context of the current financial concerns of the community. During deliberations, Council will have to carefully consider all submissions and the wider view of the community and weigh up the varying opinions to come to a decision on what is best way forward for the entire community.

9. Mana Whenua Implications

9.1 Iwi were approached by Council to see if they would like Council to hold an information session in a location that suited iwi. A consultation event was held at Ratana, that was attended by those from Ratana. Nearing the closing date of consultation Mokai Patea identified that they would like a meeting with Mayor Watson, however this meeting was unable to be held due to not being able to organise a time that Mayor Watson was available, that suited Mokai Patea. All other iwi informed Council that they did not require a meeting.

9.2 Officers are not aware of mana whenua implications associated with this report.

10. Statutory Implications

10.1 Council is required to adopt a Long Term Plan every three years. Deliberations are part of this process and must be complete in time to adopt the LTP before statutory deadlines. Council has followed the process required, including the special consultative procedure outlined in the Local Government Act 2002.

11. Decision Making Process

11.1 Deliberations are part of the consultation process that must be followed before the final Long Term Plan 2024-34 can be adopted. Following deliberations, Officers will make any updates to the 2024-34 Long Term Plan prior to Audit NZ undertaking the final audit. The LTP will then be presented to Council for adoption at the 27 June 2024 Council meeting.

Attachments:

1. **LTP 2024 Submissions Volume 1 (under separate cover)**
2. **LTP 2024 Submissions Volume 2 (under separate cover)**
3. **LTP 2024 Submissions Volume 3 (under separate cover)**
4. **LTP 2024 Submissions Volume 4 (under separate cover)**
5. **LTP 2024 Submissions Volume 5 (under separate cover)**
6. **Officer analysis of submissions (under separate cover)**
7. **Facebook comments on key choices (under separate cover)**

Recommendation 1

That the report ‘Deliberations Report - 2024-2034 Long Term Plan’ be received.

Recommendation 2

That Council receive all submissions made to the Long Term Plan 2024-2034 including the late submissions received prior to this report being published.

Recommendation 3

That Council acknowledges all submissions made to the draft Long Term Plan 2024-2034 and thank all submitters for their participation.

Recommendation 4

With regard to officer comments made in response to submissions as listed in in the attachment Officer Analysis of Submissions, Council has considered the Officer comments and accepts them with amendments / without amendments [delete one], noting they will be Council’s response to submitters.

Recommendation 5

EITHER

That Council maintains the removal of \$222,000 from year 1 onwards in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan associated with Key Choice 1, Option 1 - The Marton pool would remain only open on a seasonal basis.

OR

That Council includes \$357,000 from Year 1 of the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan to implement Key Choice 1, Option 2 Marton pool - from 2024/25 the Marton Pool would open all year round.

Recommendation 6

EITHER

That Council approves the rates increase and impact on debt outlined in Option 1 in the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan to implement Key Choice 2, Option 1 - roll out three bin kerbside collection services in one go starting January 2027.

OR

That Council approves the rates increase and impact on debt outlined in Option 2 to be included in the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan to implement Key Choice 2, Option 2 - stagger the provision of a recycling bin (issued in January 2027) and an organic waste bin (issued in January 2030).

Recommendation 7

EITHER

That Council approves the budget of \$2.1 million in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan to implement Key Choice 3, Option 1 – Streetscape revitalisation for Marton.

OR

That Council removes the budget of \$2.1 million in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan associated with Key Choice 3 and does not implement the streetscape revitalisation project for Marton.

Recommendation 8

That Council continues/does not continue [delete one] funding \$10,000 per annum to the Tūtaenui Stream Restoration Society to maintain the Marton B & C Dams, also known as the Tūtaenui Reserve, through the life of the Long Term Plan 2024-34.

Recommendation 9

That Council does/does not [delete one] purchase materials required for the Bulls and Districts Historical Society to replace the roof of the Bulls Commemorative Centre.

Recommendation 10

That Council does/does not [delete one] contribute up to \$50,000, building alterations to the pool area of the building if required, and a waiver of building consent fees to cover the courtyard between the pool offices and the Rangitikei Active Gym.

Recommendation 11

That Council does / does not [delete one] consider toilet amenities at Walker Park, Bulls.

7.2 Analysis of submissions and adoption of the Development Contributions Policy

Author: Katrina Gray, Manager Strategy and Development

Authoriser: Arno Benadie, Chief Operating Officer

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 To provide an analysis of submissions and present the draft Development Contributions Policy to Council for adoption.

2. Context

- 2.1 Council consulted on the draft Development Contributions Policy simultaneous to the 2024-34 Long Term Plan. Consultation was open from 8 March 2024 to 7 April 2024. The oral hearing was held on 18 April 2024. Consultation was undertaken in accordance with Section 82 of the Local Government Act.
- 2.2 The Development Contributions Policy sets out the purpose for which development contributions are required. Council's policy remained unchanged and is that Council does not charge development contributions.

3. Submissions

- 3.1 Four submissions on the Draft Development Contributions Policy were received. Two submitters in their Long Term Plan submissions also made comment on the draft Development Contributions Policy.
- 3.2 Gretta Mills (DC #001), Carolyn Bates (DC #002), Felicity Wallace - Interested Residents of Marton and Rangitikei (DC #003), Lynne Sheridan (DC #004).
- 3.3 The following Long Term Plan submitters also made comment relevant to the Development Contributions Policy – Raewyn Turner (#330), Gregory Smith (#416), Interested Residents of Marton and Rangitikei (#433).
- 3.4 Submissions are attached (**under separate cover**).

4. Summary of submissions and officer comment

Council should be requiring development contributions

- 4.1 Submitters DC #100, DC #003, DC #004, #433 request that Council require developers to pay development or financial contributions through the development contributions policy.
- 4.2 Submitter #004 does not support the current approach of using development agreements.
- 4.3 Submitter DC #003 notes that developer contributions are common throughout New Zealand.
- 4.4 Submitter #330 believes that developers should be making some contribution to infrastructure.
- 4.5 Submitter DC #004 suggests that analysis of what other Councils use to calculate the value of contribution is required and consult on the revised policy.

- 4.6 Submitter DC #004 Suggests that should the developer require a new service in excess of what Council can supply, the developer will need to pay Council the cost of increasing the supply of that service or develop their own.
- 4.7 Submitter DC #004 Suggests contributions should apply to housing, industrial and commercial developments. The submitter suggests contributions should be taken for key infrastructure services such as water, wastewater, stormwater and roads.
- 4.8 Submitter #416 acknowledges that developers provide improvements in infrastructure, but this ties into the existing infrastructure which are not always capable of taking the extra load without mitigation. The submitter states that part of not collecting development contributions should mean that there are mitigations for influent into the infrastructure, and some other form of improvement such as for roading and streetscape.

Officer comment

- 4.9 Council's current approach is that development agreements are entered into with developers on a case-by-case basis for individual developments if those developments require additional infrastructure to service them. The benefit of this approach is that costs associated with growth from large developments are assessed at the time of development and agreements reached with developers regarding upgrades and costs. This approach is used to negotiate the best outcome for the wider community and is considerably more flexible than a development contributions policy.
- 4.10 Developing a development contributions policy, is a prescribed process. Council may only charge development contributions for the cost of capital expenditure identified in the Long Term Plan that is required to meet the increased demand associated with growth. The values calculated from other local authorities are not relevant as they will be calculating their contributions based on their own capital budgets and growth assumptions.
- 4.11 Officers agree that development contributions are common throughout New Zealand.

Rationale for not requiring a policy

- 4.12 Submitter DC #001 in referencing section 3.1(i) of the policy, considers that there has been significant development in the district and no development contributions have been required. The submitter considers that every new development requires infrastructure including three waters, roading and community facilities. The submitter does not think existing ratepayers should have to subsidise these growth pressures.
- 4.13 Submitter DC #001 in referencing section 3.1(ii) of the policy the submitter does not support attracting developers if they are only attracted because they do not have to pay development contributions.
- 4.14 Submitter DC #003 The submitter asks what evidence Council has to support the statement "*Council's current network infrastructure is unlikely to need significant expansion to cope with projected residential or business demand*".

Officer comment

- 4.15 These submission points reference the explanatory comment in the policy which reads as follows:

"This policy reflects (i) the extent of development occurring in the District and (ii) the view that such a policy might give the District a comparative advantage in attracting

developers. Council's current network infrastructure is unlikely to need significant expansion to cope with projected residential or business demand".

- 4.16 Submitters are correct that there has been residential growth in recent years. The extent of development occurring in the district is variable. Recent urban growth has been focused in the south of the District, generally in Marton and Bulls. While there has been anecdotal information regarding demand in Taihape, new development has been limited. Council's Community Spatial Plan, Pae Tawhiti Rangitikei Beyond outlines three development scenarios with varying levels of growth throughout the district.
- 4.17 Growth in the Rangitikei is highly volatile, with recent market constraints reducing the viability of planned developments. Section prices are lower in the Rangitikei than neighbouring districts, which is a key part of attracting new residents. There is a risk that introducing development contributions could impact the financial viability of new developments.
- 4.18 The 2021—31 Long Term Plan did not attribute any planned capital expenditure for the three waters or roading to increased demand. This meant that development contributions could not be required. For the 2024-34 Long Term Plan there are minimal planned capital projects for the infrastructure network associated with growth components that development contributions could be charged for. The majority of the major infrastructure projects planned in the Long Term Plan are required to meet changing legislative requirements (rather than increased demand).
- 4.19 The cost of developing and then administering a development contributions policy, which requires specialist expertise, would not justify the limited costs that could be sought through such a policy.
- 4.20 Council is also continuing to work through additional modelling of the three waters network to better understand network capacity. This further information will be used as part of developing the 2027-37 Long Term Plan. Officers note the need for a development contributions policy would be re-assessed at that point.

Cost to existing ratepayers

- 4.21 Submitter DC #003 considers the policy is unfair to existing ratepayers who should not have to pay costs associated with development.
- 4.22 Submitter DC #003 is concerned about Council's approach to using developer agreements while increasing rates for the community.

Officer comment

- 4.23 Council's approach to using developer agreements means that where a development is likely to cause increased costs associated with infrastructure outside of the development, Council is able to negotiate with the developer around those costs. This approach is flexible and means Council can get the best result for the community, while not imposing unnecessary costs on developments.

Transparency

- 4.24 Submitter DC #004 To increase transparency and integrity of Council's reputation. So that the community can feel secure in knowing that there has been a fair contribution to the assets that belong to the community. Have a clear understanding of the cost for a developer to connect to existing services.

Officer comment

- 4.25 Officers note concerns regarding transparency for residents. Developers are required to pay for the infrastructure within the development site and connections into Council's network. Costs associated with any required network upgrades are negotiated with the developer.

Clarity of the policy

- 4.26 Submitter DC #002 Raises questions about the policy and states they are confused about who is paying who. The submitter considers this is an example of poor communication with ratepayers. The submitter asks what other councils do.

Officer comment

- 4.27 A Development Contributions Policy can require developers to pay a fee that contributes towards the cost for infrastructure required to support growth. Council's approach has been to not require contributions to be paid and instead, to develop an agreement with developers on a case-by-case basis if the proposal is likely to cause infrastructure costs on the wider infrastructure network. It is noted that developers pay for the cost of infrastructure inside of the development.

Miscellaneous

- 4.28 Submitter DC #001 makes comment related to the Marton Rail Hub project. They are concerned that Council paid for the rezoning of land from rural to industrial. The submitter states that the area will need access to three waters and infrastructure, including power. The submitter also makes general comments about their concerns about the effects of the proposal.
- 4.29 Submitter DC #003 - Rangitikei struggles to attract developers with substantial funds. Continuing to require a small number of ratepayers to subsidise developers perpetuates a downward cycle. The submitter argues that developers should pay their way.

Officer comment

- 4.30 Officers note the comments related to the Marton Rail Hub. The plan change process is outside of the scope of this policy, as development contributions are not able to be used to pay for plan making processes. Should the area need to be serviced, a developer agreement would be entered into with the developer should there be a resulting impact on the wider network.
- 4.31 Officers note that part of the rationale of not requiring development contributions is to attract developers to the district.

5. Summary officer comment

- 5.1 Creating a development contributions policy is a prescribed process set out in the Local Government Act 2002. To have such a policy a clear understanding of the costs of infrastructure associated with population growth are required. The 2024-34 Long Term Plan identifies only minimal capital costs associated with growth that could be incorporated into a development contributions policy. The time, expertise and cost required to develop a development contributions policy would outweigh the potential benefits that could be gained through implementing such a policy at this stage.

5.2 There is significant work underway in the modelling of Council's three waters networks, which will assist in gaining further information to support capital budgets for the 2027-37 Long Term Plan. Officers recommend that the need for a development contributions policy is reconsidered in 2026 prior to the development of the 2027-37 Long Term Plan.

5.3 The Development Contributions Policy is attached (**under separate cover**).

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no financial implications associated with deliberations on the draft Development Contributions Policy. The impacts of this Policy have already been incorporated into the 2024-34 Long Term Plan.

7. Impact on Strategic Risks

7.1 There are no impacts on Council's strategic risks.

8. Mana Whenua Implications

8.1 There were no submissions received from mana whenua. Officers are not aware of mana whenua implications associated with the Development Contributions Policy.

9. Statutory Implications

9.1 The policy was developed in accordance with the requirements of Section 102 (Funding and financial policies) and 106 (policy on development contributions or financial contributions) of the Local Government Act 2002

9.2 Consultation was undertaken in accordance with Section 82 (principles of consultation) of the Local Government Act 2002 as required by Section 76AA (Significance and Engagement Policy) of the Local Government Act 2002.

10. Decision Making Process

10.1 Council consulted on the draft Development Contributions Policy in accordance with legislative requirements. The degree of significance for this decision is considered to be moderate. The draft Policy continue the status quo approach in not requiring development contributions. Consultation on the draft Policy has occurred in accordance with legislative requirements and Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

Attachments:

1. **Submissions – simultaneous consultations (under separate cover)**
2. **Development Contributions Policy (under separate cover)**

Recommendation 1

That the report 'Analysis of submissions and adoption of the Development Contributions Policy' be received.

Recommendation 2

That Council reconsiders the need for a full development contributions policy in 2026 as part of the development of the 2027-36 Long Term Plan.

AND

That the Development Contributions Policy be adopted.

7.3 Analysis of submissions and adoption of the Significance and Engagement Policy

Author: Katrina Gray, Manager Strategy and Development

Authoriser: Carol Gordon, Group Manager - Democracy & Planning

1. Reason for Report

1.1 To provide an analysis of submissions and present the draft Significance and Engagement Policy to Council for adoption.

2. Context

2.1 Council consulted on the draft Significance and Engagement Policy simultaneous to the 2024-34 Long Term Plan. Consultation was open from 8 March 2024 to 7 April 2024. The oral hearing was held on 18 April 2024. Consultation was undertaken in accordance with Section 82 of the Local Government Act.

2.2 The Significance and Engagement Policy the document that Council uses to determine the significance of decisions and what community engagement will occur for different issues. The existing Policy has been reviewed, with changes made to make it easier to use.

3. Submissions

3.1 Three submissions were received on the Draft Significance and Engagement Policy. In addition, one submitter made a comment regarding the Significance and Engagement Policy in their Long Term Plan submission.

- Sally Patrick, Interested Residents of Marton and Rangitīkei (SE #001), Carolyn Bates (SE #002), Lynne Sheridan (SE #003), Raewyn Turner (LTP #330).

4. Summary of submissions and officer comment

Submission point	Officer comment
<p>Submitter SE #001 requests additional detail is added to the policy to provide increased transparency regarding decision making processes and to better inform communities of their legislative rights.</p>	<p>Section 76AA of the Local Government Act 2002 sets out the content required for the Significance and Engagement Policy.</p> <p>1 <i>The purpose of the policy is—</i></p> <p><i>(a) to enable the local authority and its communities to identify the degree of significance attached to particular issues, proposals, assets, decisions, and activities; and</i></p> <p><i>(b) to provide clarity about how and when communities can expect to be engaged in decisions about different issues, assets, or other matters; and</i></p> <p><i>(c) to inform the local authority from the beginning of a decision-making process about—</i></p> <p><i>(i) the extent of any public engagement that is expected before a particular decision is made; and</i></p> <p><i>(ii) the form or type of engagement required</i></p>

Submission point	Officer comment
	<p>The draft Policy has been developed by a local government engagement expert to provide a plain English approach to meeting the purpose above. The Policy is focused on assessment of significance and public participation. It does not focus on Council decision-making processes as set out in Section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002.</p> <p>No changes are proposed in response to this submission point.</p>
<p>Submitter SE #001 considers that the concept of significance should be placed as equal importance to the community engagement and consultation part of the policy.</p>	<p>The draft Policy is split into two parts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Significance 2. Participation <p>The section related to significance comes first in the Policy and covers the content required. Officers consider that the section of significance is given equal importance as the participation part of the policy.</p> <p>No changes are proposed in response to this submission point.</p>
<p>Submitter SE #001 states that the parts of the policy relevant to significance need to be more robust. They suggest the inclusion of frameworks and examples that demonstrate how significance will be assessed in decision making, and what residents should expect when the significance threshold is triggered. They request the specifics of S82A of the LGA are included.</p>	<p>In their oral submission, in response to a question from Elected Members, the submitter noted Gisborne as a good practice example. The Gisborne Significance and Engagement Policy has an appendix with the “Significance and Assessment Guidance” Significance and Assessment Guidance” <u>Significance and Engagement Policy-2021.pdf (gdc.govt.nz)</u></p> <p>Officers note that the criteria are similar to what is proposed in the Rangitikei Policy. There are no additional criteria in the Gisborne Policy that Officers consider would add value to the Rangitikei document. The Gisborne policy also includes text describing higher versus lesser significance. Officers do not consider that these sections would add value to the Rangitikei Policy.</p> <p>Section 82A of the Local Government Act 2002 sets out ‘Information requirements for consultation required under this Act’. This section applies for consultation that is conducted in accordance with Section 82 of the Act. This section states the documents that must be made available during the consultation period. Officers do not consider that adding information from this section into the Significance and Engagement policy would add value. Attempting to focus too much on the legislation risks reducing the plain English approach taken to the drafting of the draft Policy.</p> <p>No changes are proposed in response to this submission point.</p>
<p>Submitter SE #001 suggests non-strategic assets are identified and</p>	<p>Strategic assets are required to be identified, as decisions impacting these are more likely to have a high degree of</p>

ITEM 7.3

Submission point	Officer comment
parallel processes under legislation are explained.	<p>significance. The strategic assets identified also have implications under other sections of the Local Government Act 2002 (e.g. section 97 that outlines that certain decisions can only be taken if provided for in the LTP). All assets not identified as strategic assets in the Policy would be, by exclusion, non-strategic.</p> <p>No changes are proposed in response to this submission point.</p>
<p>Submitter SE #001 requests that Council include within the assessment process analysis of whether the issue, proposal, decision or matter is likely to generate wide public interest and whether the degree to which the proposal/decision can be reversed.</p>	<p>The matters identified for consideration when assessing the degree of significance of a decision already include the community impact/interest (district-wide or localised). In addition, consideration of the future interests of the community and district is also listed.</p> <p>Officers do not consider the degree to which the proposal/decision can be reversed is needed as a consideration. Many of the decisions Council’s make are permanent, such as a decision to invest in new infrastructure. The permanency of these decisions does not make those decisions significant.</p> <p>No changes are proposed in response to this submission point.</p>
<p>Submitter SE #002 considers the level of importance is variable depending on personal perspectives. This submitter considers that Council only does what it has to when necessary and encourages more sharing of information.</p>	<p>The level of importance of an issue will be variable depending on the situation. The draft Policy provides factors that should be considered when determining the significance of a decision (page 3). These will be documented in Council reports which set out the legislative requirements and rationale for determining the level of significance.</p>
<p>Submitter SE #002 considers there needs to be a less formal approach and information should be more easily accessible.</p>	<p>There are a range of engagement methods used depending on the consultation. Information is provided in a range of formats. More recently Council has used a less formal approach to developing facebook videos to encourage community engagement. This approach has been highly successful.</p>
<p>Submitter SE #002 considers the website is hard to use and provides examples of information they have not been able to find. They specifically request on organisation chart. They reference this issue back to page 4 “ensuring access to any documents or information needed”.</p>	<p>Council’s website has been judged very highly and positively by ALGIM (Association of Local Government Information Management Ltd).</p> <p>The organisation chart is not a public document. Officers recommend the submitter contact Customer Experience for an assistance in sourcing information from Council’s website.</p> <p>No changes are proposed in response to this submission point.</p>
<p>Submitter SE #002 provides supportive comments regarding recent videos on facebook.</p>	<p>The comments are noted and will be shared with relevant staff.</p>

Submission point	Officer comment
<p>Submitter SE #002 notes a typo on page 3.</p>	<p>Officers note the typo and have suggested a correction.</p>
<p>Submitter SE #002 considers Council should take input for annual or long term plans at any time. They consider this aligns with “being flexible about how your views can be shared”.</p>	<p>Officers note that anyone can provide suggestions for feedback to Council through the year. This can be to Officers or to Elected Members. Early feedback is particularly useful when groups are requesting funding. However, formal submissions need to be provided once documents associated with annual or long term plans have been released. This will ensure that people submitting have the background information needed to have their say in an informed manner.</p> <p>Being flexible around how people share their views includes the form such as online, hard copy or over the phone.</p>
<p>Submitter SE #002 raises concerns about meeting attendance by Māori Ward Councillors in relation to the input of Māori into decision-making section.</p>	<p>Meeting attendance is not relevant to the Significance and Engagement Policy.</p> <p>It is important to also note – that all elected member attendance is made public each month through the Mayor’s Report; and that often elected members may be absent from a meeting due to other commitments that they have outside of their Council role.</p>
<p>Submitter SE #002 raises concern about timeframes for consultation in relation to text regarding the special consultative procedure on page 6. This submitter considers that only one month to give input is not helpful because many groups meet only monthly, and committees/boards meet every second month. The submitter considers consultation timeframes lead to people believing that Council actively works to hide operations.</p>	<p>The Special Consultative Procedure, including consultation timeframes, are set out in Section 83 of the Local Government Act.</p> <p>Comments regarding timing of committee/board meeting are noted. It is not always possible to run consultation periods to cover the timing of these meetings.</p> <p>All relevant consultation material is provided online and is accessible from Council’s service centres.</p>
<p>Submitter SE #003 questions how the community will identify when deviations from Council policy have occurred (section 80 of the Local Government Act), noting there is no requirement for council to have a register of such decisions. The submitter specifically requests: A Deviations from Policy register is created and updated as a living document. The Significance and Engagement Policy is updated – “deviations from significance and engagement policy”</p>	<p>In accordance with Section 80 of the Local Government Act, Council is required to identify decisions that are inconsistent with any policy adopted by Council. The scope of this requirement is much wider than the Significance and Engagement Policy.</p> <p>The inconsistency of the decision must be identified when the decision is made, which unless as part of a public excluded item will be publicly available.</p> <p>There are limited instances where Section 80 applies, and Officers do not consider there is a need to have a register to track such decisions.</p>

ITEM 7.3

Submission point	Officer comment
is listed in level of significance for all decisions on page 3.	
<p>Submitter SE #003 suggests the following additional words (underlined) on page 4 for clarity “Engagement is where the Council provides opportunities for you to ‘have your say’ as an input to decision making <u>(ie., this might be before and /or after the draft document is compiled)</u>”.</p>	<p>The Significance and Engagement Policy identifies the difference between engagement and consultation. Engagement occurs as an input to decision-making, and when compiling a document, prior to the draft document being compiled. Consultation is where a draft decision is made e.g, draft document is compiled. Therefore, Officers do not recommend the requested change is made as it does not align with the differences between engagement and consultation. However, to increase clarity, Officers recommend that the following wording is updated to remove the words ‘or final’.</p> <p><i>“Engagement is where the Council provides opportunities for you to ‘have your say’ as an input to decision making (ie before a draft or final decision is made).</i></p>
<p>Long Term Plan submitter #330 believes that there is still a lack of quality consultation. The submitter notes that they are highly intereted in what is happening in their town, they ask what is happening district wide as it impacts the whole region.</p>	<p>The submitter’s comments are noted. The Significance and Engagement Policy identifies how and when the community wants to engage.</p>

5. Financial Implications

5.1 There are no financial implications associated with deliberations on the draft Significance and Engagement Policy.

6. Impact on Strategic Risks

6.1 There are no impacts on Council’s strategic risks. Having a Significance and Engagement Policy supports the strategic risk “Trust and confidence is tarnished” by making Council’s approach to determining significance and engaging with the community transparent.

7. Mana Whenua Implications

7.1 There were no submissions received from mana whenua. The Significance and Engagement Policy contains a section related to input of Māori into decision-making and Council’s statement on the development of Māori capacity to contribute to decision-making.

8. Statutory Implications

8.1 The policy was developed in accordance with the requirements of Section 76AA of the Local Government Act 2002 (Significance and Engagement Policy).

- 8.2 Consultation was undertaken in accordance with Section 82 (principles of consultation) of the Local Government Act 2002 as required by Section 76AA (Significance and Engagement Policy) of the Local Government Act 2002.

9. Decision Making Process

- 9.1 The degree of significance for Council's deliberations is considered to be moderate. The level of community interest has shown to be low, there are no issues with Council's ability to act in accordance with statutory principles, the Policy will not adversely impact community wellbeing or climate change and there are minimal risks associated with the decision. Consultation on the draft Policy has occurred in accordance with legislative requirements and Council's existing Significance and Engagement Policy.

Attachments:

1. **Significance and Engagement Policy (under separate cover)**

Recommendation 1

That the report 'Analysis of submissions and adoption of the Significance and Engagement Policy' be received.

Recommendation 2

That the Significance and Engagement Policy is adopted [as amended/without amendment].

7.4 Analysis of submissions and adoption of the Rates Remission Policy

Author: Katrina Gray, Manager Strategy and Development

Authoriser: Dave Tombs, Group Manager - Corporate Services

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 To provide an analysis of submissions and present the Rates Remission Policy to Council for adoption.

2. Context

- 2.1 Council consulted on the draft Rates Remission Policy simultaneous to the 2024-34 Long Term Plan. Consultation was open from 8 March 2024 to 7 April 2024. The oral hearing was held on 18 April 2024. Consultation was undertaken in accordance with Section 82 of the Local Government Act.
- 2.2 The Rates Remission Policy is required under section 102 of the Local Government Act 2002. The policy provides for remission of rates under specific objectives and criteria. Changes were proposed to the Policy for Earthquake-Prone buildings.

3. Submissions

- 3.1 No submissions were received on the draft Rates Remission Policy. One submission point related to the draft Rates Remission Policy was raised in Long Term Plan submissions.
- 3.2 Submitter #430, Gretta Mills noted their support for the proposed rates relief for earthquake prone buildings but considers this to be “too little too late”.

4. Officer comment

- 4.1 Submitter comments in support of the Rates Remission Policy are noted. The section regarding earthquake-prone buildings has been in effect for several years.
- 4.2 Officers recommend the Policy is adopted without amendment (**Attachment 1 – under separate cover**).

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no financial implications associated with adopting the Rates Remission Policy. Provision has already been made in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan for remissions under the draft Policy.

6. Impact on Strategic Risks

- 6.1 There are no relevant strategic risks associated with adopting the Rates Remission Policy.

7. Mana Whenua Implications

- 7.1 There were no submissions received from mana whenua. Officers are not aware of mana whenua implications associated with the draft Rates Remission Policy.

8. Statutory Implications

- 8.1 The Policy was developed in accordance with Section 102 (funding and financial policies) of the Local Government Act 2002.
- 8.2 Consultation was undertaken in accordance with Section 82 (principles of consultation) of the Local Government Act 2002 as required by Section 102 (Funding and financial policies) of the Local Government Act 2002.

9. Decision Making Process

- 9.1 The adoption of the Rates Remission Policy is considered to have moderate significance. Council has met consultation required for adoption of the Rates Remission Policy in accordance with legislation and Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

Attachments:

1. **Rates Remission Policy (under separate cover)**

Recommendation 1

That report 'Analysis of submissions and adoption of the Rates Remission Policy' be received.

Recommendation 2

That the Rates Remission Policy be adopted.

7.5 Analysis of submissions and adoption of the Revenue and Financing Policy

Author: Dave Tombs, Group Manager - Corporate Services

Authoriser: Dave Tombs, Group Manager - Corporate Services

1. Reason for Report

1.1 To provide an analysis of submissions and present the Revenue and Financing Policy to Council for adoption.

2. Context

2.1 Council consulted on the draft Revenue and Financing Policy simultaneous to the 2024-34 Long Term Plan. Consultation was open from 8 March 2024 to 7 April 2024. The oral hearing was held on 18 April 2024. Consultation was undertaken in accordance with Section 82 of the Local Government Act.

2.2 The Draft Revenue and Financing Policy sets out Council’s approach for funding the services it delivers. The following changes were proposed:

- Part A of the policy was updated to refer to the principles of the preamble of the Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993.
- In Part B the relative split in funding sources for some activities was updated.
- The key was refined for the matrix in Part B.
- A new Appendix 1 was attached.

3. Submissions

3.1 No submissions were received on the Revenue and Financing Policy. Council did however receive two submissions on the Long Term Plan 2024-34 that commented on the Revenue and Financing Policy - John Vickers (#393), Tim Matthews (#425).

4. Summary of submissions and officer comment

Submission point	Officer comment
<p>Submitter #393 has concerns about the use of the general rate. The submitter states that in a district with uniform geography and land valuation it is not an issue, but Rangitikei does not fit that model.</p>	<p>Amending or removing the general rate would require a separate round of consultation should council require such a review. If Council does wish to do a review, Officers would recommend that it occurs during the preparation of the 2025/26 Annual Plan.</p>
<p>Submitter #425 expected the Revenue and Financing Policy to hold more reasoning for the forestry differential, and notes that the carbon farming forest may cause a re-examine of the policy.</p>	<p>The Policy is a ‘high level’, largely principles-based Policy. Council issued a significant volume of information regarding the forestry differential when it was introduced. All differentials are subject to ongoing oversight, especially where relevant conditions change that may have an impact.</p>

5. Officer comment

5.1 Subsequent to the Consultation, Officers have identified two (largely cosmetic) enhancements to the Policy that are incorporated in the Tables in Part B and Appendix 1 of the version attached for Approval:

5.1.1 the 'Property' activity has been renamed 'Real Estate'; and

5.1.2 the 'Community Awards' activity has been added.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no financial implications associated with adopting the Revenue and Financing Policy. The 2024-34 Long Term Plan finances have been developed in alignment with the draft Policy.

7. Impact on Strategic Risks

7.1 There are no impacts on strategic risks.

8. Mana Whenua Implications

8.1 There were no submissions received from mana whenua. Officers are not aware of mana whenua implications associated with the Revenue and Financing Policy. Part A of the Policy was updated to reflect the principles of the preamble of the Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993 as required by legislation.

9. Statutory Implications

9.1 The Policy was developed in accordance with Section 102 (funding and financial policies) of the Local Government Act 2002.

9.2 Consultation was undertaken in accordance with Section 82 (principles of consultation) of the Local Government Act 2002 as required by Section 102 (Funding and financial policies) of the Local Government Act 2002.

10. Decision Making Process

10.1 The adoption of the Revenue and Financing Policy is considered to have moderate significance. Council has met consultation required for adoption of the Revenue and Financing Policy in accordance with legislation and Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

11. Attachments:

1. Revenue and Financing Policy (under separate cover)

Recommendation 1

That the report 'Analysis of submissions and adoption of the Revenue and Financing Policy' be received.

Recommendation 2

That the Revenue and Financing Policy be adopted.

7.6 Analysis of submissions and adoption of the Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25

Author: Katrina Gray, Manager Strategy and Development

Authoriser: Carol Gordon, Group Manager - Democracy & Planning

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 To provide an analysis of submissions and present the Schedule of Fees and Charges to Council for adoption.

2. Context

- 2.1 Council consulted on the Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges simultaneous to the 2024-34 Long Term Plan. Consultation was open from 8 March 2024 to 7 April 2024. The oral hearing was held on 18 April 2024. Consultation was undertaken in accordance with the Special Consultative Procedure set out in Section 83 of the Local Government Act.
- 2.2 The Schedule of Fees and Charges sets out user chargers for a range of Council services. Key changes to the 2024/25 charges included:
- A blanket increase of 3.9% on the majority of fees to cover CPI increases.
 - A change to the way building consent fees for domestic/residential small projects.
 - The per tonne rate for solid waste refuse charge has been increased by CPI plus an additional \$10 to align with the increase in the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) Levy.
 - The chargeable items for waste disposal have been increased by CPI and then rounded up to the nearest dollar for cash handling purposes.
 - Adjustments have been made to the chargeable items for solid waste disposal. These changes have been made to reflect the true costs of disposing these items.

3. Submissions

- 3.1 No submissions were received on the Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25. No submission points related to fees and charges were raised in Long Term Plan submissions.

4. Officer comment

- 4.1 No changes are required from submissions, however, Officers have identified the need for minor changes for;
- Dog registration fees; and
 - Hire of the Turakina Domain

Dog registration fees

- 4.2 The late payment fees were initially calculated incorrectly and have since been updated to meet the requirements of the Dog Control Act 1996. The changes are very minor. In addition, the microchipping fee is proposed to be reduced which is better aligned with

actual costs of microchipping and a desire to encourage microchipping. These changes are shown as tracked.

Turakina Domain

- 4.3 Bookings and charges for the Turakina Domain were previously managed by the Turakina Reserve Management Committee. However, this Committee was not re-established for the current triennium following advice from the Chair. The key event that uses the Turakina Domain is the annual Turakina Highland Games. The fee has traditionally been set by the former Reserve Management Committee at \$100. Officers recommend that the fee for use of the area is set at the same charge as for the Hunterville Domain. This is a fee of \$247 for a one-off exclusive use. The Highland Games may be eligible for a fee reduction of 50% under Council's Policy for Reducing or Waiving Fees for Use of Council Facilities, as it is an event which has free entry to residents.
- 4.4 Officers recommend the Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25 is adopted with the suggested changes from section 4 of this report (**Attachment 1 - under separate cover**).

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 Setting fees and charges is a key part of Council's financial strategy. The anticipated revenue from the proposed fees and charges has been incorporated into the Long Term Plan budget.

6. Impact on Strategic Risks

- 6.1 There are no impacts on strategic risks associated with adopting the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25.

7. Mana Whenua Implications

- 7.1 Officers are not aware of any mana whenua implications associated with the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25. There were no submissions received from mana whenua.

8. Statutory Implications

- 8.1 Statutory requirements have been followed in the consideration of fees and charges including:
- Local Government Act 2002 section 150
 - Building Act 2004 section 219
 - Resource Management Act 1991 section 36
- 8.2 Council has consulted on the Fees and Charges following the Special Consultative Procedure set out in Section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002.

9. Decision Making Process

- 9.1 Council consulted on the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25 in accordance with legislative requirements. The degree of significance for this decision is considered to be low. There were no major changes to the fees and charges for 2024/25. The additional changes for the dog registration fees and for the Turakina Domain are able to be set by Council resolution and are not required to be consulted on in accordance with Council's Significance and Engagement Policy as their significance is low.

ITEM 7.6

Attachments:

- 1. Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/2025 (under separate cover)**

Recommendation 1

That the report 'Analysis of submissions and adoption of the Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25' be received.

Recommendation 2

That the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25 be adopted.

8 Meeting Closed