# **Zone 3 Meeting – New Plymouth**

# 27 April 2023

#### Remits for 2023 Conference

#### 1 Manawatu

Strengthening and re-developing within the time frames is likely to result in vacant sites and abandoned buildings.

They have strengthened 12 buildings with heritage value, which add positively to the Feilding community but are not commercially viable. They have 'priority thoroughfares' identified and are concerned towns will be destroyed by council policy rather than an earthquake. They wish to encourage a compromise solution: responsible, timely, maybe requiring strengthening or make safe parapets/verandas.

## 2. Horowhenua

Regarding the rates rebate scheme. They consider collaboration with MSD should be possible to confirm incomes.

- 1. Raise level of eligibility
- 2. Income data sharing process
- 3. Data share between councils
- 4. Any rebate be indexed to the CPI going forward.

#### Hastings Disaster Overview

Main issue - No Communication

Recovery Phase – Locality Plans

8 died, 300+ evacuations, 103 houses red stickered, 730 yellow stickered (in 3-4 days), 16 bridges gone, 28 need repairs, 600 culverts, 100km roads, 1000 slips, tonnes of silt to deal with (much of it contaminated). Going to take at least 10 years. Importance of local Radio station – Fact vs Fiction

Weekly newsletter became important source of truth.

Now people want to urgently know what their future looks like – Insurance – can they rebuild - schools Top 3 priorities for Central Govt: where can rebuild -how support primary sector to replant – mental health & wellbeing. Lessons for Emergency Management: Communication, communication, communication. How power wifi. Need black box with radio & generator.

## Gisborne

7<sup>th</sup> time Civil Defence Emergency in 18 Months. Importance of Resilience of Infrastructure. Managed retreat possible. Huge costs.

Hon Kieran McAnulty, Minister of Local Government New Zealand sent an apology.

# New Plymouth

Treasury Climate Economic and Fiscal Assessment 2023 Presentation / Mayor Neil Holdom

Oil/gas contribute to 38% of Region's economy. Taranaki has highest GDP per capita in NZ.

Considers physical climate impacts, impact of transitioning to a low emissions economy especially given price of food & energy up.

Need to decarbonise smartly: Clarify areas affected, how food production is effected and how land use & agriculture is affected. If don't find the right balance some sectors will be left behind.

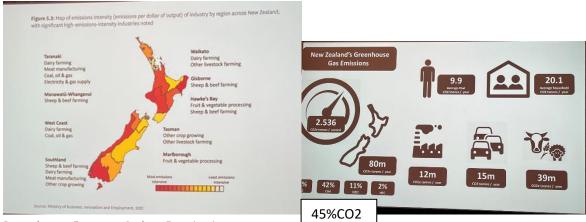
Need Just Transition of the workforce.

How incentivise? Eg low emissions bus, prove safe corridors to walk/scooter.

How get food producers to diversify.

Importance to consider equity ie if struggling to put food on the table an EV car is not an issue.

Message Adapt or Perish yet there is no coherent plan.



Ruapehu - Focus on Carbon Farming impact

Our food basket at risk. Sheep&Beef \$400/ha EFS vs \$1600/ha carbon farming

#### Simon Watts - National Party

Reset relationship LG -> CG, challenge the hierarchy should be a partnership & play to each others strengths.

FFLG: scope of services, people capability. Public want LG to be doing stuff. Rates alone are not a sustainable revenue source.

Water: Not one size fits all but need safe water quality. Need strict economic regulation.

## **Asset Management Presentation**

Karen Frew, General Manager Electricity, Powerco

Need to clearly identify scope & outputs.

Cost -> Risk -> Assessment -Rank risk. What is important. What need to guide investment.

Understand trade off – how know what doing? Know what not doing.

Don't be conservative – Be transparent & communicate the risk.



# Day 2: Around the Regions: Opportunities and Challenges (5 minutes per Council)

# Horowhenua -7.9% Rate increase

Going through LTP Amendment. Revaluations 150% incr Land Value; 50-60% incr Capital Values.

Limited resilience. Waitarere Surf Life Saving Club due to accretion since 1960's now can't see beach.

Cost of Audit – Budgeted \$183k Cost \$283k. Raised \$104K donations to Tararua & HB.

# Ruapehu – 8%

\$60 mill debt. RAL under voluntary administration. \$100 mill in Revenue @ risk for District. Chateau Closed 1/23. Developing cycleways.

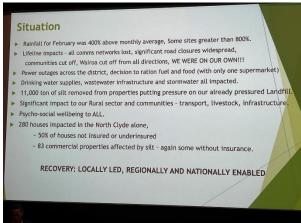
# Wanganui- 8.2%

Awarded Unesco City of Design. Sargent Galley due to open 4/24. Port Project is a key focus. Challenged by EQ prone buildings/carbon farming/conscious of social division/global angst re Cost of living/Homelessness.

#### New Plymouth

Has developed alternative revenue streams eg philanthropists. Building \$5.5mill playground.

#### Wairoa



Impact on the people becomes deeply personal especially the elderly & uninsured. Bigger impact than Bola. What to do with rubbish/silt – landfill can't cope.

By day 6 staff were absolutely exhausted so such a relief to have assistance from outside the region.

#### Taranaki Regional Council

Need Freshwater plans done by 2024. Flood controls, restore native biodiversity, predator free, coastal management. Transport 40% increase in use of Connector bus. Focus on environmental education.

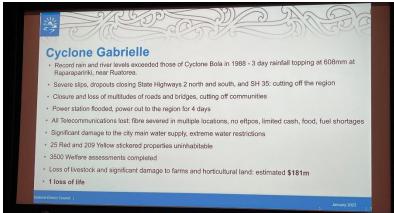
#### Palmerston North

Spending \$3.3bill on Te Utangonui – Central NZ Distribution Hub (\$8bill project) 600ha being developed in 3 stages (22 nodes) over next 3 years.

#### South Taranaki – 7.19%

Business Park - Te Ramanui o Ruaputahanga (\$16 million) The Foundry – co-lab space & \$3.8mill new 6000cubics water reservoir

#### Gisborne



#### Horizons -7%



Considering long term viability of some stock bank assets ie vs giving rivers more space to go where want to go. Will have NZ's first fully Electric City bus fleet in 2024. Increased bus frequency to every 15mins & have had 180% increase in usage. No diesel buses by 2035.

LTP has strong Climate Focus & integrating river management.

#### Stratford 8.5%

Working towards Stratford 203; significant CG funding to upgrade town centre in next 18 months. \$7.8 million grant from Transport Choices Programme (when applied thought they might get \$300,000), Bike Park & new Aquatic Centre completed (46,254 people through the doors in 6 months)

#### Hawkes Bay 8.7%

Approx ½ time on BAU. Significant Kaianga Ora developments. Not great landlords.

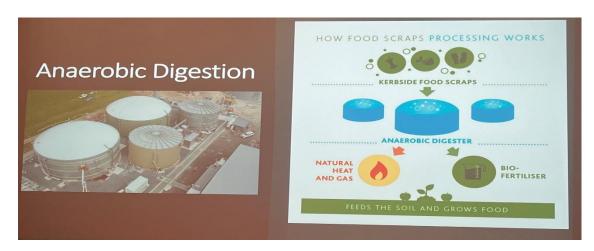
#### Manawatu

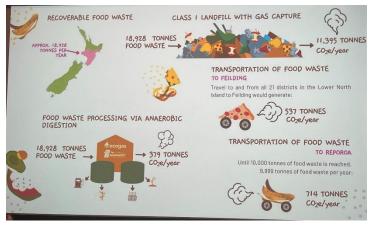
After cyclone lost 3 bridges, 15 roads closed. Working on LTP – plan re population growth: 2010-20 av 1.6% pa, estimate 1% next 10 years & 0.7% following two decades. Weakening Ag employment. Positive impact from Ohakea. 40% of District is Class 1-3 land.

#### Food Waste Facility for Lower North Island in Manawatu

Waste Management plan – circular economy

Organic waste to energy via anaerobic digestion. MDC partnering with Ecogas who have Reporoa facility. Applying to MfE Waste Minimisation Fund for \$10 million.





#### First Gas Co

Carbon based fuel > biogas > food waste to gas > hydrogen. Will be manufacturing hydrogen by end of 2023. Duel Strategy 1) Safety + efficiently -> reliability 2) carbon intensive is not great for the world a) build green as ( hydrogen) bio gas. In mid-term still relatively expensive. In Denmark 60% gas from cow manure. Nat gas -> bio gas. Creates jobs and encourages other energy options eg windfarms

LGNZ Update

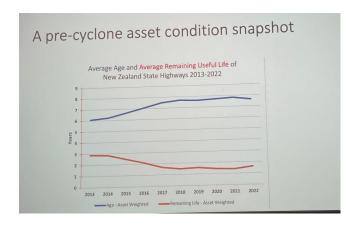
Susan Freeman-greene

Stuart Crosby, President LGNZ

Risk if Government response is not locally led.

# Issues for discussion

- As a new chair with a number of new members due to join the board how would you like to engage with our sector? Rehette S
- How do we as a sector support you and what messaging would you like to see from LGNZ going out to all political parties leading into the election? Sam B
- We have concerns the updated GPS will not be accompanied by additional funding to sustainably achieve the desired outcomes – how do you think local government could positively contribute to policy development in the short, medium and long term? Stuart B
- Given the current funding constraints we see managed retreat of roading infrastructure is inevitable. What structures or processes do you think could be put in place to ensure consistency and equity across all of the country? Andy W
- We have an ongoing issue with lack of alignment between our LTPs and your RLTPs – can you help us understand the constraints that have led to this misalignment of budget timings and how we might look to close them? Neil H
- You will be aware of growing concern about contractor performance, capability, consistency – how is your organisation looking to lift performance in the short, medium and long term – Rehette S



Climate Presentation / Chair Facilitated Q&A Rod Carr, Chair Climate Change Commission

Mitigation progress – not on track – might not meet targets.

CCC has 19 recommendations: Include:

Fast tracking installation of charging stations but local substations cant cope

Renewals – windfarms, geothermal etc. Allow fast consenting @ pace& scale we need.

Stop burning coal by the end of the decade – except for steel making.

Forestry in general is good but not an effective tool to get to carbon zero by 2050. Expect a collapse in price by mid-2030's because of new technologies and ½ emissions not in scheme. Should limit land that qualifies for ETS. If leave as is, will accelerate planting with limited forest management. Fire risk & undermines our ability to meet targets.

Need to reward lower emitting practises.

Need r & d.

Need to "fix" in a way that is sustainable – ensure "just transition" – go on a sustained journey to reduce emissions and take communities with you.

Need targets, plan, clear direction & policy to reduce uncertainty.