



Rangitikei District Council

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Rangitikei
UNspoilt...

Policy/Planning Committee Meeting

Order Paper

**Thursday, 12 March 2015,
1.00 pm**

**Council Chamber, Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street, Marton**

Website: www.rangitikei.govt.nz

Email: info@rangitikei.govt.nz

Chair

Cr Lynne Sheridan

Deputy Chair

Cr Richard Aslett

Membership

Councillors Cath Ash, Angus Gordon, Rebecca McNeil, Soraya Peke-Mason
His Worship the Mayor, Andy Watson (ex officio)

Please Note: Items in this agenda may be subject to amendments or withdrawal at the meeting. It is recommended therefore that items not be reported upon until after adoption by the Council. Reporters who do not attend the meeting are requested to seek confirmation of the agenda material or proceedings of the meeting from the Chief Executive prior to any media reports being filed



Rangitikei District Council

Policy and Planning Committee Meeting

Order Paper – Thursday 12 March 2015 – 1:00 p.m.

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The quorum for the Policy/Planning Committee is 4

At its meeting of 28 October 2010 Council resolved that 'The quorum at any meeting of a standing committee or sub-committee of the Council (including Te Roopu Ahi Kaa, the Community Committees, the Reserve Management Committees and the Rural Water Supply Management Sub-committees) is that required for a meeting of the local authority in SO 2.4.3 and 3.4.3.'

1 Welcome

2 Apologies/Leave of absence

3 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, be dealt with as a late item at this meeting.

4 Confirmation of minutes

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Policy/Planning Committee meeting held on 12 February 2015 be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

5 Chair's report

A report is attached.

File ref: 3-CT-15-1

Recommendation

That the Chair's report to the Policy/Planning Committee's meeting on 12 March 2015 be received.

6 Issues proposed for Council-initiated District Plan Change

A memorandum and section 32 evaluation is attached

File: 1-PL-2-4

Recommendations

- 1 That the memorandum 'Rural/Rural Living Zone Feedback and section 32 Report' be received'.
- 2 That the Policy/Planning Committee endorses the proposed rule changes for the District Plan as outlined in the Section 32 Report as amended/without amendment, presented to the meeting on 12 March 2015 and attached to the minutes of the meeting.

7 Workshop session – Rules Reduction

The Rules Reduction Taskforce has been formed to advise the Minister of Local Government and other Ministers of opportunities to remove "loopy property rules and regulations that are stopping people from getting on with the job". This initiative is a reflection of the

Government's view that there is a great deal of frustration from people looking to build, redevelop or make home improvements, who are being held back by confusing, costly rules which have long since lost their relevance. Local Government New Zealand is preparing a submission and has invited local authorities to contribute to that and make their own submissions direct to the Taskforce.

The Taskforce has started holding public meetings, promoting these through its Facebook page ([facebook.com/cutredtapenz](https://www.facebook.com/cutredtapenz)).

Worksheets will be provided to the meeting to assist in determining those rules and regulations which Council would wish to see altered or abolished.

8 Activity management templates

The Activity Management Templates for Community Well-Being, Community Leadership and Environmental & Regulatory Services for February 2015 are attached.

File ref: 5-EX-4

Recommendation

That the Activity Management Templates for Community Well-Being, Community Leadership and Environmental & Regulatory Services for February 2015 be received.

9 Review of Policy on Development Contributions

A memorandum is attached.

File 3-PY-1-4

Recommendation

1. That the memorandum 'Review of policy on development contributions' be received
2. That the Policy/Planning Committee recommends to Council that:

EITHER

the current policy on development contributions continue unchanged and that consultation occur simultaneously with the Consultation Document for the 2015/25 Long Term Plan

OR

consideration be given to preparing a policy on development contributions which requires such contributions to assist with increased demand for network infrastructure, reserves or community infrastructure resulting from growth.

10 Update on legislation and governance issues

A report is attached.

File ref: 3-OR-3-5

Recommendation

That the report 'Update on legislation and governance issues' to the Policy/Planning Committee's meeting of 12 March 2015 be received.

11 Draft regional passenger transport plan

A presentation will be provided to the meeting. A draft submission will be prepared for Council's meeting on 26 March 2015 taking into account discussion at the Committee meeting and subsequent feedback by Elected members.

12 Update on the 2015-25 Long Term Plan (March 2015)

A report is attached.

File ref: 1-LTP2015-2

Recommendation

That the report "Update on 2015 -25 Long Term Plan (March 2015)" be received.

13 Updates on the Town Centre Plans for Marton, Taihape, Hunterville and the Implementation of the Bulls Town Centre Plan

A report is attached.

File ref: 1-CP-7-5

Recommendation

That the memorandum 'Update On The Town Centre Plans for Marton, Taihape, Hunterville and the implementation of Bulls Town Centre Plan - March 2015' be received.

14 Update on Communications Strategy

A report is attached.

File ref: 3-CT-15-1

Recommendation

That the report 'Update on the Communications Strategy' to the Policy/Planning Committee's meeting on 12 March 2015 be received.

15 Update on the Path to Well-Being Initiative and other community development programmes – March 2015

A memorandum is attached.

File ref: 1-CO-4

Recommendation

That the memorandum 'Update on the Path to Well-Being Initiative and other community development programmes – March 2015' be received.

16 Walking/Cycleway along the Rangitikei River – a possible WW1 commemoration project?

The Chair will discuss her ideas about this possible project at the meeting.

17 Late items

18 Future items for the agenda

19 Next meeting

Thursday 9 April 2015, 1.00 pm

20 Meeting closed

Attachment 1

Rangitikei District Council

Policy/Planning Committee Meeting

Minutes – Thursday 12 February 2015 – 1:00 p.m.

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Present: Cr Lynne Sheridan (Chair)
 Cr Cath Ash
 Cr Richard Aslett
 Cr Angus Gordon
 Cr Rebecca McNeil
 His Worship the Mayor, Andy Watson

In attendance: Mr Michael Hodder, Community & Regulatory Services Group Manager
 Mr Johan Cullis, Environmental & Regulatory Services Team Leader
 Ms Denise Servante, Strategy and Community Planning Manager
 Ms Katrina Gray, Policy Analyst
 Ms Samantha Whitcombe, Governance Administrator

Tabled documents: **Item 8** Draft submission on the cost recovery section of the proposed regulations under the Food Act 2014

1 Welcome

Then Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Apologies/leave of absence

That the apology for absence from Cr Peke-Mason, and the apologies for leaving early from Cr Ash and Cr McNeil, be received.

Cr Sheridan / Cr Aslett. Carried

3 Confirmation of order of business

The Chair indicated that there would be no change to the order of business from the set out in the agenda.¹

4 Confirmation of minutes

Resolved minute number	15/PPL/001	File Ref
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That the Minutes of the Policy/Planning Committee meeting held on 13 November 2014 be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Cr Aslett / Cr Ash. Carried

5 Chair's report

The Chair spoke briefly to her report, asking the Committee for their views on a potential review of the Rates Remission Policy and Ideas to support economic development within the District. Main points during discussion were:

- The current policy aims to assist diversification and start-ups – do more established businesses need a rates remission or are there other way to recognise the stronger contribution to the local economy and local employment?
- Path to Well-being Initiative is a good conduit for information flows – could gain a deep economic perspective by forging stronger links with CRIs, Massey, Forest Research and Beef & Lamb.

The Committee asked for a report to its April meeting which would examine the approaches other councils took with rates remissions to stimulate business activity.

¹ Subsequently, item 9 was taken after the afternoon tea break, with item 7 resuming after that. Items 12, 13, 14 and 15 were not considered as the meeting was closed at the conclusion of item 11 because the meeting no longer had a quorum.

Resolved minute number **15/PPL/002** **File Ref** **3-CT-15-1**

That the Chair's report to the Policy/Planning Committee's meeting on 12 February 2015 be received.

Cr Sheridan / Cr McNeil. Carried

6 Proposed District Plan Changes - Commercial Zone Feedback and Rural/Rural Living Zone Discussion

Ms Gray spoke to the report and gave a brief overview of the outcome of the workshop session at the last Committee meeting. She then facilitated a workshop session on the items proposed for a Council initiated Plan change.

Resolved minute number **15/PPL/003** **File Ref** **1-PL-2-4**

That the memorandum 'Proposed District Plan Changes - Commercial Zone Feedback and Rural/Rural Living Zone Discussion' be received.

Cr Gordon / Cr Aslett. Carried

Resolved minute number **15/PPL/004** **File Ref** **1-PL-2-4**

That the Policy/Planning Committee endorses the proposed rule changes for the District Plan as outlined in the Section 32 Report, as amended, presented to the meeting on 12 February 2015 and attached to the minutes of the meeting.

Cr Gordon / Cr McNeil. Carried

Cr McNeil left Chambers 2.57 pm / 3.00 pm

The meeting was adjourned for afternoon tea 3.10 pm / reconvened 3.18 pm

9 Dangerous and Insanitary Buildings Policy Review

Ms Bannister spoke briefly to the report, highlighting the proposed changes to the policy made through the review process. The Committee asked consultation to specifically include local builders.

Resolved minute number **15/PPL/005** **File Ref** **3-PY-1**

- 1 That the report "Dangerous and Insanitary Buildings Policy Review" be received.
- 2 That the proposed Dangerous and Insanitary Buildings Policy, Statement of Proposal, Summary of Information and Submission Form be recommended to Council for formal adoption for public consultation using the special consultative procedure prescribed by the Local Government Act 2002.

Cr Aslett / Cr Ash. Carried

6 Proposed District Plan Changes - Commercial Zone Feedback and Rural/Rural Living Zone Discussion continued...

The workshop session reconvened after item 9.

7 Activity management templates

Ms Servante and Mr Cullis spoke briefly to the activity management templates for Community Well-Being, Community Leadership and Environmental & Regulatory Services.

Resolved minute number **15/PPL/006** **File Ref** **5-EX-4**

That the Activity Management Templates for Community Well-Being, Community Leadership and Environmental & Regulatory Services for November and December 2014, and January 2015 be received.

Cr Aslett / Cr Gordon. Carried

8 Update on Legislation and Governance issues

Mr Hodder spoke to the report focusing on the cost recovery section in the proposed regulations under the Food Act 2014 and narrated a PowerPoint presentation to explain these.

Resolved minute number **15/PPL/007** **File Ref** **3-OR-3-5**

- 1 That the report 'Update on legislation and governance issues' to the Policy/Planning Committee meeting of 12 November 2014' be received.
- 2 That, with respect to the Cost recovery section of the proposed regulations under the Food Act 2014, the Policy/Planning Committee requests the Mayor sign the Committee's submission (with any amendments following consultation with the Deputy Mayor and Chief Executive) and have it included for information in the agenda for the 26 February 2015 meeting of Council.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Sheridan. Carried

Cr Ash left Chambers 4.15 pm / 4.20 pm

Cr Ash left the meeting 4.32 pm

10 Submissions to the Draft Policy on Disposal of Surplus Lands and Buildings

Mr Hodder spoke briefly to the report.

Resolved minute number	15/PPL/008	File Ref	3-PY-1-13
1	That the memorandum 'Submissions to the Draft Policy on Disposal of Surplus Lands and Buildings' be received.		
2	That the Policy/Planning Committee recommends to Council that the draft Policy on Disposal of Surplus Lands and Buildings be adopted without amendment.		

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Gordon. Carried

11 Update on the 2015/25 Long Term Plan (February 2015)

Resolved minute number	15/PPL/009	File Ref	1-LTP2015-2
1	That the report "Update on 2015 -25 Long Term Plan (February 2015)" be received.		
2	That Policy/Planning Committee endorses the Engagement Plan for the 2015/25 Long Term Plan.		

Cr Gordon / Cr Aslett. Carried

Cr McNeil left the meeting 4.53pm (leaving the Committee without a quorum)

16 Late items

There were no late items.

17 Future items for the agenda

Discussion item on a potential review of the Rates Remission Policy

Discussion on cycleway/walkway along Rangitikei River as a possible World War 1 commemoration project.

18 Next meeting

Thursday 12 March 2015, 1.00 pm

19 Meeting closed

4.53 pm

Confirmed/Chair: _____

Date: _____

Unconfirmed

Appendix 1

Section 32 Evaluation Report

Commercial Zone

1 Scale and Significance Assessment

- 1.1 The scale and significance of the proposed changes are attached. The vast majority of the changes are considered to have a low scale and significance, therefore, the analysis and detail required reflects this assessment.

2 Evaluation of the objective

- 2.1 Current objective:

Enable a diverse range of activities within commercial zones and encourage adaptive reuse of existing buildings.

- 2.2 The objective for the Commercial Zone is not proposed to be amended. It is considered that the objective is appropriate for the needs of the District and adequately portrays the desired direction for commercial activities in the District. It is considered that the analysis provided in the 2010 section 32 Evaluation Report is still relevant and does not need to be expanded upon in this report.

3 National Environmental Standards

- 3.1 There are considered to be no National Environmental Standards Relevant to the proposed changes.

ACTIVITY SETBACK – MANUFACTURING AND RESIDENTIAL ACTIVITIES

4 Background to the Issue

Rule	Current Wording
Activity Setback Rule B4.2-1	Residential or manufacturing activities located within the retail shopping core must not be located within 10 metres of the front boundary at ground floor level.

- 4.1 The intent of this rule to protect the integrity of the retail area of the CBD. However, the occupation pressures within the District do not create the circumstances that this rule is intended to prevent (e.g. manufacturing and residential activities seeking to operate in the main retail areas).
- 4.2 A key issue is with the definition of a manufacturing activity, which incorporates a very broad range of activities. An example of this is a clothing store which also does a little bit of dressmaking (an activity which would be classified as manufacturing). The

effect would be that the clothing store would need resource consent to enable the dressmaking activity to occur within 10 metres of the front boundary.

- 4.3 It is considered that the current rule does not adequately reflect the objectives of the Commercial Zone, as it reduces the ability for the adaptive reuse of existing buildings and reduces the range of activities which may occur.

5 Options to consider

- a) **Status Quo** – Keep the setback distance of 10 metres from the front boundary. This rule would ensure the worst case scenario of a large scale manufacturing business opening up in the CBD would not be permitted. However, may require smaller manufacturing businesses which are desirable in the CBD to gain resource consent to undertake the activity.
- b) **Remove the Rule** – This would increase the flexibility of development within the commercial areas. However may result in residential or any manufacturing activities to occur in the main streets at ground level commercial space in the CBD of the District's towns, which would ideally be occupied by retail activities.
- c) **Amend the distance/measurement** – The setback of 10 metres from the front of the site is fairly large for many premises throughout the District. Rather than being setback by a distance, there could be a setback based on a partition wall. This would ensure the separation of manufacturing and residential activities, while providing for flexibility as to where this wall may be located.
- d) **Exemptions for small operators** – Small scale manufacturing operations, such as; one to three person operations for activities such as; shoe repairs, clothing repairs, jewellery making could be exempt from meeting manufacturing setbacks. This would ensure that small scale activities which are not likely to create adverse effects, and could even provide positive effects are not restricted to undertake their activities behind a partition wall.
- e) **Definition** – Amend the definition of manufacturing so it does not capture small scale operators. This could add clarity to the issue, however, could result in a very complex and hard to interpret definition.

6 Preferred option

- 6.1 It is considered that removing the rule could create a risk whereby key retail space is occupied by residential or manufacturing activities. It is preferable that there is a rule to restrict this occurring, however, that the rule is more flexible than the current provision. It is considered that amending the definition of the manufacturing activity would lead to an overly complex definition, and that the simpler solution is to exempt small scale manufacturing activities within the proposed rule.
- 6.2 Proposed draft rules

Residential activities located within the retail shopping core must be suitably screened from the front boundary at ground floor level, so that the activity cannot be viewed by customers.

Manufacturing activities within the retail shopping core must be screened from the front boundary at ground floor level. Small businesses with three or less permanent full-time employees working at the site are exempt from complying with this rule.

ACTIVITY SETBACK – LANDSCAPING

7 Background to the Issue

Rule	Current Wording
Activity Setback B4.2-2	Where any site adjoins a Residential Zone, a 3 metre landscaped setback from the adjoining boundary is required.

- 7.1 The rule seeks to enhance amenity values between commercial areas and residential areas. However, there are a large number of areas where the Commercial Zone adjoins the Residential Zone, where no landscaping between the zones has been provided. These areas would not need to provide a landscaped setback from the adjoining boundary.
- 7.2 The rule would only come into effect for new development on a commercial site, where a site has not been developed for commercial use before, and is adjoining the residential zone.
- 7.3 The issue with this rule is that the planting strip it can take up a significant proportion of a commercial site, especially a skinny site. The rule, as it is currently worded, does not provide for any height requirements, which means that screening would not necessarily be provided to adjoining residential neighbours.

8 Options for addressing the issue

- a) **Remove the Rule** - There would be no requirement for a landscaped setback between commercial and residential zoned land for new commercial developments.

Removing the rule would enable commercial developments to occur in a less restricted manner next to residential areas. This would be beneficial for businesses looking to invest in the town. However, there is the risk of tensions occurring between the two activities if an appropriate setback from the residential activities does not occur. This has the potential of diminishing the amenity of the existing residents.

- b) **Status Quo** - Keep the required landscape setback, so in the event where there is a new commercial development adjoining residential zoned land, the amenity of the adjoining residents will be somewhat protected.

The purpose of the current rule is to provide a setback between commercial and residential activities, to ensure the amenity of the residential areas are maintained. However, by providing no minimum height requirement for the landscaped setback, the business could, in effect, purely plant some small grasses as its landscaped setback. This does not necessarily provide screening between the two sites.

- c) **Amend the Rule** - The landscaped setback is amended so that a screening fence (or planted area) is required, as well as, a building setback of 3 metres.

It is considered that a setback between commercial and residential activities is appropriate to ensure amenity of neighbouring residents. However, it is considered that a 3 metre landscaped setback may remove a significant portion of a site from productive use. It is considered that a building setback would be a more appropriate solution for the District, with a requirement to provide vertical screening between the two properties. This would enable the space between the building and the residential lot to be used for other productive purposes, e.g. parking, vehicle access.

9 Preferred option

- 9.1 The preferred option is to amend the rule. It is considered that by amending the rule, commercial development will not be as restricted, while amenity values for surrounding residents is maintained. It is considered the risk of amending this rule is low. There are currently a large number of commercial sites that adjoin residential sites which do not have the required landscaped setback and are not creating issues for surrounding residents. The potential for development in the District is low, it is considered that the amenity of residents is more likely to be affected by a lack of development and maintenance of commercial areas.

9.2 Proposed rules

Where any site adjoins a Residential Zone, a 3 metre building setback from the adjoining boundary is required.

Where any site adjoins a Residential Zone, a suitable fence, screening or site planting between the two activities, on the commercially zoned property is required. The fence, screening or site planting shall have a height between 1.8m and 2 metres.

VERANDAS

10 Background to the issue

Rule	Current Wording
Pedestrian verandas within the Retail Shopping Core	In the case of retail activities within the retail shopping core which may be set back from the road frontage, a veranda must be provided along the main frontage of the buildings where pedestrians gain entry to the building, or where practicable, in any other case.

- 10.1 This rule seeks to ensure that pedestrians within the retail shopping core are protected from the weather by a continuous row of verandas. However, the rule exempts non-retail activities from complying with this rule, where a building is set back from the road frontage.

11 Options for addressing the issue

- 11.1 **Status Quo** – keep the existing rule. For buildings set back from the road, verandas are only required for retail activities. This would ensure that the activities which create more pedestrian traffic provide shelter for pedestrians.
- 11.2 **Amend rule** – amend the rule so that all buildings within the retail shopping core are required to have a veranda. This would ensure the continuity of shelter and consistency within the retail shopping core for local communities.

12 Preferred option

- 12.1 The preferred option is to amend the rule so that all buildings within the retail shopping core are required to have a veranda, regardless of what activity is occurring inside and whether they are set back from the road.

- 12.2 Proposed rule:

All permanent buildings within the retail shopping core which may be set back from the road frontage shall provide a veranda along the main frontage of the building where pedestrians gain entry to the building.

CARPARKING

13 Background to the issue

Rule	Current Wording
Number of On Site Vehicle Parking Spaces Required	Where a building is constructed, reconstructed, altered or added to, or any activity is established on a site or in a building or other structure, the parking provisions and standards in Table B9.7 apply.

- 13.1 This rule seeks to ensure that businesses are providing appropriate parking options for their customers. There is currently no provision in the Plan to require a planted separation distance to ensure the amenity values of the urban areas are retained.

14 Options for addressing the issue

- a) **Status Quo** – keep the existing parking provisions which do not require businesses to provide a green strip. This will result in the choice of the location and barriers between the car parking area and the road/footpath being left up to the developer.

- b) **Add a new rule** – Add a new rule which requires the planting of a green strip between the car parking area and the road/footpath. This option would potentially increase the amenity of the of the town centres in the case that buildings are demolished and rebuilt with parking at the front of the site.

15 Preferred option

15.1 The preferred option is to implement a new rule that requires a planted strip of 1.5 metres between the parking area and the footpath.

15.2 Proposed rule:

Any onsite parking area within the Retail Shopping Core which comprises 5 or more parking spaces, must have, adjacent to their boundary with any road or footpath a green strip of at least 1.5 metres wide.

16 Environmental, economic, social and cultural effects

	Benefits	Costs
Environmental	Significant developments which cannot meet the provisions can be assessed through a resource consent process.	If significant levels of development begin occurring, the rules might be too permissive to prevent adverse effects occurring.
Economic	Increasing flexibility for setbacks can help stimulate development, potentially increasing employment and economic growth.	Businesses are still required to provide a building setback and manufacturing setback which may inhibit the development of some sites. This could reduce the options for new businesses setting up and reduce opportunities to provide for economic and employment growth.
Social	The greatest risk for the community is abandoned commercial areas, creating areas for unsocial behaviour and unsightly structures.	If a significantly large development occurs near a residential area, Council is reliant on the developer designing the activity so that amenity values for nearby residents are maintained (over and above the required setback and screening).

Cultural	There are not likely to be cultural effects	There are not likely to be cultural effects
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17 The risk of acting or not acting

- 17.1 The risk of not acting on the proposed rule changes is that new economic activity in the District is reduced due to the need for resource consent to breach the rules. This is especially important for small scale local businesses that are less likely to have the resources and experience to enter into the consent process.
- 17.2 The risk of acting is that the requirements on businesses in the commercial zone are reduced, therefore, if development in the District increases, the amenity of residents is less protected. Data from Statistics New Zealand shows the District in a steady decline, therefore, this situation is considered to be unlikely.

18 Appropriateness of the provisions (policies and rules)

- 18.1 It is considered the proposed changes to the provisions are appropriate for the District. The District is declining and needs to provide every opportunity to stimulate economic growth and development. The commercial zone is one of the main areas where this can occur.
- 18.2 By providing a flexible approach to development in the Zone, while maintaining a small number of permitted activity standards, economic development opportunities will be maximised, while the amenity values of residents are retained.

Attachment 2

Policy /Planning Committee – Chairperson’s Report

March, 2015

The year is moving quickly along and with it will come numerous plans and meetings. I have endeavoured to highlight several matters that we will be considering today.

Draft Regional Public Transport Transport Plan –this is a statutory document prepared to meet the requirements of the Land Transport Management Act 2003. It acknowledges that access and mobility issues are significant for residents in rural areas which are too small to support traditional scheduled bus services. The Plan commits to maintaining regional services (such as the shopper services from Taihape to Wanganui/Palmerston North and the Marton-Palmerston North commuter service) and to continue subsidizing ‘excluded services’ such as the St John Marton shuttle. However, the main emphasis of the Plan is on scheduled bus services in Wanganui and Palmerston North. The Plan anticipates that central government subsidy will reduce from 53% to 51% by 2017/18.

<http://www.horizons.govt.nz/getting-people-places/planning-and-road-safety/regional-public-transport-plan/>

Rules Reduction Taskforce – is charged with advising the Minister of Local Government and other Ministers of opportunities to address unnecessary/poor performing local legislation.

<https://www.govt.nz/browse/housing-and-property/renovating-and-building/rules-reduction-submissions/>

The focus is on;

1. Identifying high value opportunities to improve regulation/ legislation administered by local authorities.
2. Identifying regulation that is not fit for purpose.

Local Government New Zealand is planning to use LGNZ Zone meetings to inform their submission to the Taskforce. It is about regulation that causes Council frustration to administer.

Long Term Plan – Councilors will be aware of the forthcoming consultation for our Long Term Plan, I would encourage you to attend as many of these meetings as you can. This is another opportunity to also build our relationships with the ratepayers of our district.

Field Horsetail Project - The Rangitikei Horsetail Group will have a presence at the Central District Field Days next week. There will be a display and information available at the ‘Horizons’ site. Later in the year (early November) another Field day will be held to promote public awareness and update everyone on the work involved in identifying a suitable biological control. The Rangitikei Horsetail Group was established in 2012 with the help of funding (received in July 2013) from our regional community (via pledges \$100,000) and the Sustainable Farming Fund (316,000). This is a three year project. To date three Field days have been held on local farms and scientists (Landcare) have identified potential insects that might be suitable. Further analysis is currently in progress.

The next **Councillor Street Table** will be held on 28 March in Broadway. Thank you Cr Ash and Carolyn Bates for their attendance.

Councillor Lynne Sheridan

Attachment 3

MEMORANDUM

TO: Policy/Planning Committee

FROM: Katrina Gray

DATE: 5 March 2015

SUBJECT: **Rural/Rural Living Zone Feedback and Section 32 Evaluation Report**

FILE: 1-PL-2-4

1 Introduction

1.1 At its 12 February meeting, the Committee discussed the following issues surrounding the Rural Living and Rural zones:

- Boundary setbacks
- Dwelling separation
- Signage
- Shelterbelts

1.2 This memorandum summarises the feedback received from the Committee and the proposed changes to the District Plan. The proposed changes are also discussed in the section 32 evaluation report attached as Appendix 1.

2 Boundary Setbacks

2.1 Current rules:

Rule	Current Wording
Rural Zone	
Building Setback	B7.1-1 All buildings, except those used for intensive farming must not be located any closer than: a) 20 metres from any side or rear boundary; b) 5 metres from any road boundary; c) 10 metres from any boundary with an existing state highway.
Rural Living zone	
Building Setback	On sites that contain 5,000m ² or more, all buildings must not be located any closer than: a) 20 metres from any side or rear boundary; b) 5 metres from any road boundary; c) 10 metres from a boundary with an existing state highway. On sites less than 5,000m ² all buildings must not be located any closer than: a) 5 metres from any side or rear boundary; b) 5 metres from any road boundary; c) c) 10 metres from a boundary with an existing state highway.

- 2.2 The Committee reached a consensus that the appropriate side/rear boundary setbacks were 5 metres for buildings and 20 metres for dwellings. This would ensure privacy and amenity of dwellings are retained, while not unduly restricting primary production activities, which often require accessory buildings.
- 2.3 The Committee also agreed that it would be beneficial to include a recession plane rule, to ensure very tall buildings do not create adverse shading effects on adjacent properties. It was agreed that these rules should be consistent throughout both the Rural Living and Rural zones.
- 2.4 These changes are reflected in the proposed rules given below:

All buildings, except new dwellings and those used for intensive farming¹ must not be located any closer than:

- a) 5 metres from any side or rear boundary;*
- b) 5 metres from any road boundary;*
- c) 10 metres from any boundary with an existing state highway.*

New dwellings must not be located closer than:

- a) 20 metres from any side or rear boundary;*
- b) 5 metres from any road boundary;*
- c) 10 metres from any boundary with an existing state highway.*

All buildings, parts of buildings and structures must be contained within a recession plane starting 2 metres above the existing ground level at each site boundary and then projecting inwards at a 45 degree angle.

3 Dwelling Separation

3.1 Current rule:

Rule	Current Wording
Dwelling Separation	New dwellings must not be located closer than 100 metres from any existing dwelling.

3.2 Discussion regarding dwelling separation rule centred on whether this rule should apply between existing dwellings in the Residential Zone and new dwellings in the Rural Zone.

3.3 The response from the Committee was divided. The diversity of views was as follows:

- The rule should apply, requiring a 100 metre dwelling separation between new dwellings in the Rural and existing dwellings in the Residential Zone. It

¹ Intensive farming activities require resource consent, the boundary setback will be assessed during this process.

was considered that residents in the Residential Zone on the rural fringe often value their rural outlook, which could be compromised if a dwelling was built close to their boundary.

- The separation rule should be reduced to 60 metres. This would ensure there is separation between the residential and rural dwellings, but not unduly constrain owners of rural properties adjoining the residential zone from developing their site for residential use.
- The dwelling should comply with the setback rules of the adjoining zone. E.g. a 3 metre setback from the residential zone boundary.

3.4 The Committee was not able to reach consensus on the issue, so it was agreed that the issue would be considered at a later time. Therefore, this issue is not considered as part of the attached section 32 evaluation report.

4 Signage

4.1 Current rules:

Signage B1.11	Must relate to the activity or service provided on site (allowed 2 signs of 4m ²). Real estate sign or temporary sign ² (allowed 4 signs of 2m ²).
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4.2 Discussion about signage reached a general consensus that local businesses should be able to advertise their businesses on state highways, within a set distance of their business, or the main intersection to turn off to the business and subject to density requirements.

4.3 It is proposed that signage relating to the activity provided on site remains as a permitted activity, however, that restricted discretionary matters of consideration are added. These could restrict Council's discretion to a range of factors such as; density, size, proximity to the business, density of signs in the area and contribution to economic, social or cultural development and the siting of the signs.

4.4 In addition it is proposed that a policy is added, specific to signage, which provides guidance for signage applications.

4.5 The proposed policies:

Allow, with appropriate maintenance, the display of advertising signage for businesses located within the Rangitikei District, which are within 10km from the related business in the Residential, Commercial and Industrial Zones or within 5km from the main intersection where customers are required to turn off for businesses in the Rural and Rural Living Zones, and limit the density of signage and number of signs

² A temporary sign is – one which is displayed for no longer than 3 calendar months in any one year.

per property on state highways to ensure the rural character and amenity of the area is retained.

Avoid signage on state highways which do not relate to business or activities occurring within the Rangitikei District.

4.6 Examples

4.7 If the following signs were to apply for consent under the proposed rule/policy structure they would more than likely have the following result:

- Peach teats – resource consent may be declined because the sign does not relate to a business based in the Rangitikei District.
- McDonalds sign before Mangaweka – resource consent may be declined as it is outside of the proximity guidance in the proposed policy.
- Soul Food – resource consent would more than likely be granted as the sign would meet the proximity considerations specified in the proposed policy.

5 **Shelterbelts**

- 5.1 There is no current rule which restricts the planting of shelterbelts (other than restrictions where they might cause shading of sealed roads).
- 5.2 Discussion surrounding shelterbelts focused on whether shelterbelts should have a required boundary setback and whether a boundary setback could be effectively enforced.
- 5.3 The general consensus from the Committee was that there should be provisions to ensure good management and maintenance of the shelterbelt. It is considered that a Permitted Activity Standard requiring 'suitable' maintenance could not be easily enforced.
- 5.4 A potential solution would be to implement a Permitted Activity Standard requiring a 5 metre boundary setback for shelterbelts, with those who wish to be closer requiring resource consent. As part of the consent application a condition requiring annual maintenance could be imposed. However, this solution does not address the issue of enforceability of the rule over the long term.
- 5.5 A further suggestion was the requirement for shelterbelts to meet the recession plane requirements. Requiring shelterbelts to comply with recession plane requirements may also have some challenges with enforcement, however, if breaches are found, the solution, of requiring the trees to be trimmed to meet the requirement would be simpler than requiring their removal.
- 5.6 There is scope within the Property Law Act 2007 (section 333) to deal with shelterbelts creating issues between property owners. The Act enables neighbours to apply to the district court for the removal or trimming of the trees if they are able to show the trees are a risk to health and safety, create issues with in the growing of crops or the use or enjoyment of their land.

- 5.7 At this stage no changes have been included in the section 32 report as part of the changes to the Rural Zone rules.

6 Conclusion

- 6.1 The Committee agreed that it would be appropriate to amend the rules in the Rural and Rural Living zones to require a 5 metre boundary setback for buildings and 20 metre boundary setback for dwellings. In addition the recession plane requirement would be added to ensure very tall buildings in these zones did not create adverse shading on adjacent properties.
- 6.2 The Committee could not reach a consensus on the dwelling separation requirements, therefore, this issue will be revisited at a later stage.
- 6.3 The Committee was generally accepting of the need for local businesses to advertise on state highways, subject to conditions. It was considered that the most effective method of implementing these requirements is through the addition of restricted discretionary matters of consideration and the addition of new policies.
- 6.4 The Committee recognised the need for good maintenance of shelterbelts to ensure they do not cause nuisance to adjoining property owners. There is the potential to implement a Permitted Activity Standard requiring a 5 metre boundary setback or to implement a recession plane requirement. However, the issues surrounding enforcement of these provisions remains unsolved. No new rules related to shelterbelts have been recommended at this stage.

7 Recommendations

- 7.1 That the memorandum 'Rural/Rural Living Zone Feedback and section 32 Report' be received'.
- 7.2 That the Policy/Planning Committee endorses the proposed rule changes for the District Plan as outlined in the Section 32 Report [as amended/without amendment] presented to the meeting on 12 March 2015 and attached to the minutes of the meeting.

Katrina Gray
Policy Analyst

Appendix 1

Section 32 Evaluation Report

Rural and Rural Living zones

1 Scale and Significance Assessment

- 1.1 The scale and significance of the proposed changes are attached. The vast majority of the changes are considered to have a medium scale and significance, therefore, the analysis and detail required reflects this assessment.

2 Evaluation of the objectives

- 2.1 Current objectives:

Maintain the largely primary production qualities of the Rural Zone and manage land use so that character and amenity values are not compromised.

Ensure that activities dissociated from primary production or meeting the needs of rural communities are minimised, and, where those activities do occur, manage them to avoid or mitigate potential conflicts with primary production activities. Ensure that activities dissociated from primary production or meeting the needs of rural communities are minimised, and, where those activities do occur, manage them to avoid or mitigate potential conflicts with primary production activities.

Maintain the outstanding natural features and landscapes recognised within the Plan and protect them from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development.

- 2.2 The objectives for the Rural and Rural Living Zones are not proposed to be amended. It is considered that the objective is appropriate for the needs of the District and adequately portrays the desired direction for the Rural and Rural Living areas. It is considered that the analysis provided in the 2010 section 32 Evaluation Report is still relevant and does not need to be expanded upon in this report.

3 National Environmental Standards

- 3.1 There are considered to be no National Environmental Standards Relevant to the proposed changes.

BUILDING SETBACK

4 Background to the Issue

Rural Zone	
Rule	Current Wording
Building Setback	<p>B7.1-1 All buildings, except those used for intensive farming must not be located any closer than:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 20 metres from any side or rear boundary; b) 5 metres from any road boundary; c) 10 metres from any boundary with an existing state highway.
Rural Living Zone	
Building Setback	<p>On sites that contain 5,000m² or more, all buildings must not be located any closer than:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 20 metres from any side or rear boundary; b) 5 metres from any road boundary; c) 10 metres from a boundary with an existing state highway. <p>On sites less than 5,000m² all buildings must not be located any closer than:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 5 metres from any side or rear boundary; b) 5 metres from any road boundary; c) 10 metres from a boundary with an existing state highway.

- 4.1 The intent of the current 20 metre side or rear boundary setback in the rural zone is to provide for rural amenity, increase separation between activities, and maintain the open space nature of the rural environment. The same intent is set in the Rural Living Zone, apart from small sites of less than 5,000m², where the setback is reduced to 5 metres, to provide for small sites where a larger setback is not possible.
- 4.2 The main issue with this rule is that a 20 metre setback often results in sheds being located in the middle of paddocks (this is especially the case for smaller lots). In addition, some smaller sites are not able to comply with this rule as their site is not large enough. Therefore, to construct a building or extend their dwelling, resource consent is required.

5 Options considered

- a) **Status quo** – Retain the required 20 metre setback. This would ensure a 20 metre setback between any buildings and neighbouring properties.
- b) **Require different setbacks based on lot size** – mirror the existing rules for the Rural Living Zone for the Rural Zone. Require a setback of 20 metres on larger sites, but reduce the setback requirement to 5 metres on smaller sites. This option would address the issue of smaller land owners not being able to develop their properties. However, the issue of developing larger properties close to boundaries would remain.
- c) **Reduce the setback** – Reduce the setback from 20 metres to 5 or 10 metres. This would increase the flexibility for landowners to use and develop their properties. However, may decrease the separation of residential and rural activities from adjoining neighbours.
- d) **Differentiate between dwellings and buildings** – require a 20 metre setback for dwellings, however, reduce the setback for other buildings to 5 metres. This would ensure that primary production activities would be able to occur fairly unrestricted, while residential activities remain separated and privacy and amenity values are retained.
- e) **Setback based on a recession plan** – the recession plane acts to ensure that inappropriate shading of adjacent properties does not occur. However, for the typical sized shed, would provide for only a small boundary separation distance.

6 Preferred option

Differential between dwellings and buildings and recession plane setback

- 6.1 It is considered that the intent of the objectives and policies would be more adequately reflected if the boundary setback is reduced to 5 metres for buildings, but remains at 20 metres for dwellings, and a recession plane requirement is also introduced.
- 6.2 This would ensure primary production activities can occur with no undue restriction, while adjacent land owners are protected from shading in the event a very tall building is proposed. A 20 metre dwelling setback will ensure rural amenity and privacy are retained. It is considered that these rules should apply to both the Rural Zone and the Rural Living Zone. Although lot sizes are generally smaller in the Rural Living Zone, it is important that amenity values and privacy between dwellings are retained.

6.3 Proposed rules – applying to both zones

All buildings, except dwellings and those used for intensive farming¹ must not be located any closer than:

- a) 5 metres from any side or rear boundary;*
- b) 5 metres from any road boundary;*
- c) 10 metres from any boundary with an existing state highway.*

New dwellings must not be located closer than:

- a) 20 metres from any side or rear boundary;*
- b) 5 metres from any road boundary;*
- c) 10 metres from any boundary with an existing state highway.*

All buildings, parts of buildings and structures must be contained within a recession plane starting 2 metres above the existing ground level at each site boundary and then projecting inwards at a 45 degree angle.

Benefits	Environmental Ensures separation between buildings and dwellings from adjoining properties. Economic Allows primary production activities to occur with limited controls. Social Ensures that privacy and amenity for residents is retained. Cultural N/A
Costs	Environmental Buildings may be constructed closer to adjoining boundaries. Economic Resource consent will be required to breach the setback requirements. Social Reducing the setback for buildings could result in rural activities occurring closer to adjoin properties, potentially increasing conflicts. Cultural N/A

¹ ¹Intensive farming activities require resource consent; the boundary setback will be assessed during this process.

Effectiveness	These rules clearly articulate the expected outcome, therefore, should be easily implemented and effectively provide for rural activities, which ensuring amenity is retained.
Efficiency	Retaining the Permitted Activity Standards ensures the efficient implementation of the Act, ensuring that development can occur without undue restriction, while ensuring that amenity values are retained.
Appropriateness	The rule allows for the development of rural and rural residential activities, while minimising the potential for conflicts to occur between adjoining land owners.

SIGNAGE

7 Background to the Issue

Rule	Current Wording
Signage B1.11	Must relate to the activity or service provided on site (allowed 2 signs of 4m ²). Real estate sign or temporary sign ² (allowed 4 signs of 2m ²).

- 7.1 The issue with the signage rule is that the current objectives and policies not provide sufficient guidance regarding the desired outcome of the signage rules.
- 7.2 The main concern is the visual pollution an array of signs on the state highways and arterial roads create, and the negative impact this may have on the amenity for passing tourists. In addition, there is some concern that signage is being used to detract from business in the next town in favour of one further on.

8 Options considered

- a) **Status Quo** – retain the existing rules which require the signage to relate to the activity on site. If these rules are required to be breached then the consent would be assessed in relation to the general effects on amenity and open space character of the area.
- b) **Amend the Permitted Activity Standard** – to make it more permissive for businesses within the Rangitikei District to advertise their businesses.
- c) **Introduce Restricted Discretionary matters of consideration** – this would allow business owners certainty over the matters Council will consider as part of the resource consent application.

² A temporary sign is – one which is displayed for no longer than 3 calendar months in any one year.

- d) **Add a new policy** – The implementation of a new policy would provide increased strategic guidance and could better support the intention for the implementation of the rules.

9 Preferred option

9.1 *Introduce new restricted discretionary matters of consideration and new policies.*

9.2 The combination of these options will ensure strong strategic guidance on the erection of signage, and provide greater direction when considering resource consent applications for signage in the Rural Zone.

9.3 Proposed matters of restricted discretion

- *Maintenance*
- *Size*
- *Siting*
- *Cumulative effect and the potential effects on the amenity of the area.*

9.4 Proposed policies

Allow, with appropriate maintenance, the display of advertising signage for businesses located within the Rangitikei District, which are within 10km from the related business in the Residential, Commercial and Industrial Zones or within 5km from the main intersection where customers are required to turn off for businesses in the Rural and Rural Living Zones, and limit the density of signage and number of signs per property on state highways to ensure the rural character and amenity of the area is retained.

Avoid signage on state highways which do not relate to business or activities occurring within the Rangitikei District.

Benefits	Environmental Restricts the erection of signage, so that the natural space character of the rural environment is retained. Economic Allows for local businesses to advertise (through a consent process). Social Ensures that amenity for residents is retained. Cultural N/A
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Costs	<p>Environmental There will be signage in the rural area, somewhat reducing the aesthetic properties of the rural environment.</p> <p>Economic Resource consent will be required to breach the setback requirements.</p> <p>Social The character and amenity of the environment may be somewhat reduced by signage.</p> <p>Cultural N/A</p>
Effectiveness	The rules and policies clearly articulate the expected outcome, therefore, should be able to be implemented consistently and effectively to achieve the desired outcome.
Efficiency	Adding in the restricted discretionary standards ensures that the matters Council will consider are clearly set out. This will minimise the amount of information required to be provided with resource consent applications.
Appropriateness	The rule provides for local businesses to advertise their services/activities (subject to consent), while ensuring that rural amenity and character is not compromised.

10 The risk of acting or not acting

- 10.1 The risk of not acting on the proposed rule changes is somewhat low. The risk of leaving the boundary setbacks at 20 metres would be that development is reduced due to the perceived increased requirements if resource consent is required. The number of consents for a boundary setback breached increased from one consent in 2012 (under the previous 5 metre setback rule) to six consents under the new 20 metre setback rule.
- 10.2 The risk of implementing the proposed signage rules, could be an increase in signage in the Rural Zone. By providing better guidance on the key considerations for any signage consent applications, then local businesses will be able to advertise (subject to meeting consent requirements), while generic advertising from outside of the Rangitikei District is minimised. In addition, the proposed signage rules reduce the risk of sign clutter in the Rural Zone.

TEMPLATE – SCALE AND SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT FOR S 32 EVALUATION REPORT

Criteria	Consider the following if relevant	Comment	Ranking of Scale/Significance (high, medium, low)
The degree of shift from the status quo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addressing an existing or new RM issue New management regime Minor/major change in policy/rule framework Scale of regulatory impact Changing existing objectives 	<p>Addressing an existing RM issue Altered management regime Medium level of significance for the rule framework Scale of impact – throughout the whole District. Not changing existing objectives</p> <p>Signs – although potentially a large shift from current rules, will be a minimum shift from the implementation of the existing rules. Setbacks – small degree of shift from the status quo for ancillary buildings.</p>	Medium
Who will be affected and by how much	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Degree of public interest Level of interest/impact on Maori/ iwi Likely degree of impact on Part 2 matters Degree proposal will address community outcomes How many people will be affected Degree of impact on private property 	<p>Degree of public interest – medium Level of impact on Maori – low Impact on Part 2 matters – low Has the potential to affect a large number of residents over time Medium degree of impact to private property</p>	Medium
The geographic scale or reach of the issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Localised or wide ranging? Level of distribution or equity effects (i.e. degree to which costs and benefits will accrue to many or a few) 	<p>Wide-ranging reach Costs will be for adjoining land owners – potential loss of amenity Benefits will be to landowners – increased flexibility for development for private property owners.</p>	Medium
The degree of policy risk, implementation risk or uncertainty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential acceptability Extent to which options are novel/unprecedented Quality of evidence base Certainty of benefits/costs 	<p>Policy risk is low/medium Options are not novel Evidence base is low Benefits/costs are hard to quantify</p>	Low/medium

Attachment 4

COMMUNITY WELL-BEING GROUP OF ACTIVITIES 201/15			Feb-15
Performance measures in LTP/Annual Plan			
What are they:	Targets	Progress for this reporting period	Planned for the next two months
Provide opportunities to be actively involved in partnerships that provide community and ratepayer wins	A greater proportion (than in the previous year) of the sample believe that Council's service is getting better: 37% in 2012, 30% in 2013, 16% in 2014	The survey was prepared and distributed to 2,000 residents and 170 stakeholders throughout the District.	Survey to be completed.
Requests for Service			
What are they:	Completed on time	Completed late	Overdue
None			
Other Levels of Service			
What are they:	Targets	Progress for this reporting period	Planned for the next two months
Maintain information centres in Taihape and Bulls, the gateways to the District	Develop a one-stop shop in Bulls through colocation of Library and information centre.	On track - see regular reports prepared for Policy/Planning Committee, Council and Bulls Community Committee as necessary.	Concept designs due to be completed and signed off by Council for inclusion in the draft LTP
	Commission earned - aggregated across Bulls and Taihape - information only	November 2014 \$920.64 (\$1052.26 2013) December 2014 \$880.69 (\$819.94 2013) January 2015 \$630.25 (\$1639.82 2014) February 2015 \$1149.32 (\$1367.16, 2014)	
	Visitor contacts recorded monthly for Bulls and Taihape - information only	Bulls February 2015, 573 (513, February 14), Taihape February 2015, 473 (644, February 14)	
Contract with local organisations to provide a range of information, such as community newsletters, for local distribution	Through MOU arrangements and work plan	Regular bi-annual meeting of MOU agencies took place in early February. Work programmes in preparation. Quarterly reports to end of December 2014 mostly received.	Outline of work programme to be included in draft LTP
Maintain a website that provides information about Council and community services and activities	www.rangitikei.govt.nz	Council's website is currently being redesigned.	Website to be live
Contract with local organisations to provide a website that is a gateway to the District, with links through to more local web pages, with information about living in the District and social media opportunities.	MOU with Rangitikei Tourism to maintain www.rangitikei.com	As above	Outline of work programme to be included in draft LTP
Contract with local organisations to develop and deliver events, activities and projects to enliven the towns and District	Through MOU arrangements and work plan	As above	Outline of work programme to be included in draft LTP
Contract with local organisations to support, encourage and facilitate business investment within the towns and District	Through MOU arrangements and work plan	As above	Outline of work programme to be included in draft LTP
Facilitate at least an annual opportunity for community organisations to apply for funding under the various grant schemes administered by the Council	Through the Community Initiatives Fund, Creative Community Funding Scheme and Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund	F/P committee began a review of the criteria for the Community Initiatives Fund.	Creative Communities (second round) to be undertaken. Community Initiatives criteria to be reviewed.
	Publish the results of grant application process to a Council-run forum show-casing the results of grant application processes where successful applicants provide brief presentations and are open to questions	Nothing further to report at this stage	To be arranged

Major programmes of work outlined in the LTP/Annual Plan			
What are they:	Targets	Progress for this reporting period	Planned for the next two months
Appropriate range of well-used Council and community facilities and services	Proactively seek out opportunities for collaboration and support/facilitate inclusive partnerships to deliver more services in the community	On track - see regular reports prepared for Policy/Planning Committee, Council, Taihape Community Board and Marton Community Committee as necessary.	Ongoing
Contract with Horizons to provide access to a full-time Emergency Management Officer	Maintain contract with Horizons and meet agreed level of service as defined in the triennial work plan	On track	
Arrange regular planning and operational activities	Participate in group and national exercises to test and develop readiness	No activities during this period	
Host and chair bi-monthly meetings of Rangitikei Emergency Management Committee	6 meetings held per year	No meeting held this month	
Provide fully trained and adequately resourced volunteer personnel who are in a position to respond to rural fire call-out with the minimum of delay	At least two crews (8 people) at all times	No new recruits	
Community Partnership Activity	Delivery of Partnership Board Action Plan	Nothing further to report at this stage	Ongoing
	Delivery of agreed work programme with MOU agencies	Quarterly reports due 22 February for first six months of 2014/15 - mostly received. MOU arrangement agreed with Ngati Hauiti.	Quarterly reports due 22 May for first nine months of 2014/15
Other programmes of work identified in e.g. activity management plan / major contracts			
What are they:	Targets	Progress for this reporting period	Planned for the next two months
Facilitation of Path to well-being theme groups	Marton and Taihape Connections	Meeting held with MSD Community Investment Regional Manager. Whanganui DHB representation secured for Charter Board.	Marton Community Charter to be progressed
	Community database of contacts available on-line	Database training for Information Centre staff is ongoing.	
	Youth Action Plan	On going	Completion of MSD projects. Work on sustainable funding for youth activities in Marton and Taihape. Prepare application for MYD funding 2015/16.
	Positive Ageing Strategy	Follow on project proposal prepared and submitted to Whanganui DHB.	Agree and implement follow-on proposal.
	Treasured Natural Environment Theme Group	Nothing further to report at this stage	River Accord progressed
	Buoyant District Economy	Dates secured for inaugural meeting of Theme Group (March 24)	Re-establish theme group, achieve some consensus for Rangitikei Growth Strategy
Strategic Water Assessment	Further investigations as a result of stage 1	On track	Develop stage 2 projects for inclusion in Rangitikei Growth Strategy
Kensington Road	Review options for full use of site as a transport hub, aim to sell completely.	Nothing to report	

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP GROUP OF ACTIVITIES 2014/15			Feb-15
Performance measures in LTP/Annual Plan			
What are they:	Targets	Progress for this reporting period	Planned for the next two months
The Council to provide leadership to the District and make sensible and prudent decisions	Completion of annual plan actions on time: 92% of Annual Plan actions substantially undertaken or completed during the year, all groups of activities to achieve at least 80% of identified actions	Nothing to report this period	
	Completion of capital programme: 90% of planned capital programme expended, all network utilities groups of activities to achieve at least 80% of planned capital expenditure	Nothing to report this period	
Requests for Service			
What are they:	Completed on time	Completed late	Overdue
General enquiry	None		
Row Labels	Email/Telephone	In Person	Not Provided
Animal Control	9	5	3
Building Control	1	0	0
Council Housing/Property	0	0	0
Culverts/Drainage	0	0	1
Environmental Health	0	0	5
Footpaths	0	0	2
General enquiry	2	0	2
Halls	1	0	0
Parks and Reserves	0	0	0
Public Toilets	0	0	0
Road signs	0	0	0
Roads	3	0	0
Roadside Vegetation/Trees	1	0	2
Stormwater	0	0	0
Street Cleaning	0	0	0
Street Lighting	1	0	0
Swimming Pools	0	0	0
Vehicle Crossings	0	0	0
Waste	0	0	1
Water	0	3	0
Grand Total	18	8	16
Other Levels of Service			
What are they:	Targets	Progress for this reporting period	Planned for the next two months
Assurance that Council has sound planning for a positive future for the District, taking into account all reasonable and realistic projections	Follow its Public Participation (Consultation) Policy in assessing the impact of its decision-making and involving affected parties appropriately	Reports have been prepared for Council Committees and Boards, and not reported elsewhere. as follows: AIN (Community Gardens in Bulls)	Ongoing
The Council to be a strong and successful advocate for the District's interests	Be an obvious participant in discussions within the sector and central government on key matters affecting the Rangitikei	F/P committee considered issues to include in submission to Funding Sources for Local Government discussion document.	Submission to be made. Watching brief on likely submission to regional LTPs.
Community Boards which are responsive to local needs and improve the nature of Council's local facilities and service delivery	Provide full administrative support for Community Boards for bi-monthly meetings, with officer reports when appropriate, and opportunities to participate in strategic workshops	Taihape and Ratana Community Boards met during February.	Ongoing
Community Committees which are responsive to local needs and able to liaise successfully with the Council	Provide secretarial assistance for Community Committees' bi-monthly meetings and opportunities for members to participate in strategic workshops	Bulls, Turakina, Marton and Hunterville community committees met during February.	Ongoing
Collaborative and productive relationship between Council and tangata whenua	Develop well-serviced and functional relationship with Te Roopu Ahi Kaa and in addition, develop relationships with individual Iwi, hapu and the Ratana community	Te Roopu Ahi Kaa met during February.	Ongoing

Major programmes of work outlined in the LTP/Annual Plan			
What are they:	Targets	Progress for this reporting period	Planned for the next two months
Strategic Planning Activity	Annual Report 2013/14	Completed.	
	2015-25 Long Term Plan	Work has been undertaken on the financial statements for inclusion in the draft 2015-25 LTP.	Aim to have CD and draft LTP adopted for consultation by end March.
	Policy and Bylaw review (as per Policy work schedule)	The submissions and deliberations on submissions for the Policy on Disposal of Surplus Land were considered at P/PL committee and the policy adopted at Council in February.	Ongoing
	Review Governance arrangements for shared services	Nothing further to report	Ongoing
	Comprehensive review of Council's reserve funds		
Other programmes of work identified in e.g. activity management plan / major contracts			
What are they:	Targets	Progress for this reporting period	Planned for the next two months
Statutory Policy review	Development of recreational parks and reserve management plans	Nothing to report this month	Ensure actions have been undertaken where appropriate.
	Review Schedule of Fees and Charges	Due again in May 2015	
	Review statutory policies for LTP	Nothing to report this month	Preapre consultation documents for Revenue and Financing Policy
	Develop Local Approved Products Policy	Completed	
	Review Dangerous and Insanitary Buildings Policy	Policy adopted for consultation in February.	Consultation during March. Oral submissions scheduled 30 April 2015
Non-statutory Policy Review	Contaminated land (initially to analyse how the current budget is used, followed by discussion paper on contaminated land in the district and issues needing consideration)	Nothing to report this month	Ongoing
	Reviews of the operational policies for Roading specifically: Footpaths and Vehicle Crossings policy, Unformed Roads policy, and the development of policies to address the standard of access to the last property on any road, to guide the removal and replacement of street trees and to recover costs towards renewal of the roading network from heavy users	Scoping report prepared and considered by Council on costs of heavy vehicle use on Council roads. Council agreed to ah olding position pending report due from national working group in 2017.	Outstanding review on policy of standard of access to last property on a road.
	Review the Heritage Strategy	No further progress.	Make a start on this through Wanganui District Council contract.
	Develop and implement Community Housing strategy for inclusion in 2015-25 LTP	Nothing to report this month	Ensure completely encapsulated in draft LTP and associated budgets.
	Develop an Arts Strategy and an Iconic Events Strategy	Meeting of Enjoying Life in the Rangitikei Theme Group scheduled for March	Ongoing
	Earthquake prone building policy review	Nothing to report.	Unlikely to be reviewed this financial year.
	Dog Owner Policy	Completed	
	Noxious weeds (analysis of problems on Council land including road reserves - background for deciding the long-term operational programme with Horizons and REG)	Nothing to report this month	Budgetary provision is included in the LTP for an ongoing programme with REG in line with the proposals received by Council during a presentation frm the Horizons team (October 2014).
Bylaw Review	Dog Control Bylaw	Completed	
	Water Services bylaw	This piece of work has been postponed. It is not expected to be completed this financial year.	
Communications	Develop and implement communications strategy	Monthly update provided to Policy/Planning Committee	

ENVIRONMENTAL AND REGULATORY SERVICES GROUP OF ACTIVITIES 2014/15			Feb-15
Performance measures in LTP/Annual Plan			
What are they:	Targets	Progress for this reporting period	Planned for the next two months
Provide a legally compliant service	At least 92% of the processing of documentation for each of Council's regulatory and enforcement services is completed within the prescribed times	Consent processing times for the reporting period 100% . A breakdown is as follows: BC1 9 out of 19 within time frame, 1 Subdivision and 0 Land use consent granted this month.	Business as usual
	Accreditation as a building consent authority maintained	Maintained	Business as usual
Provide responsive compliance officers	Improvement in timeliness reported in 2013/14 (88% completed, 77% completed in time) NB for 2012/13: 99% were completed and 64% were completed in time	84 RFS received, 78 completed and 76 (97%) completed within time.	Business as usual
Requests for Service			
What are they:	Completed on time	Completed late	Overdue
Animal Control	56	9	10
Animal Control Bylaw matter	1	0	0
Animal welfare	1	0	0
Attacks on animal	0	2	0
Attacks on humans	1	1	0
Barking dog	4	2	6
Dog Property Inspection (for Good Dog Owner)	1	2	2
Found dog	8	0	0
Lost Animal	10	0	0
Microchip dog	0	0	0
Property Inspection - Animal Control Problem	0	0	0
Rushing at human	1	0	0
Rushing at animal	0	0	0
Stock worrying	0	0	0
Wandering stock	9	1	0
Wandering/stray dog	20	1	2
Building Control	1	0	0
BCA Complaint	0	0	0
Dangerous or unsanitary building	0	0	0
Property inspection	1	0	0
Environmental Health	17	4	5
Abandoned Vehicle	0	0	0
Dead animal	0	0	0
Dumped rubbish (Outside town boundary)	3	0	0
Dumped rubbish (within town boundary)	2	1	0
Fire Permit - urban (restricted fire season only)	0	0	0
Fire Permit - rural	0	0	2
Food premises health issue	0	0	0
Livestock issues (non-impound)	0	0	0
Noise - day and night	9	0	1
Pest Problem	1	0	0
Recycle Bins	0	0	0
Smell or Smoke	0	0	0
Untidy/overgrown section	2	3	1
Vermin	0	0	1
Totals for group	74	13	15

Other Levels of Service			
What are they:	Targets	Progress for this reporting period	Planned for the next two months
Minimal regulatory control	Allow maximum level of exemption where	1 Granted, 0 Declined	Business as usual
District Plan (and other) review processes conducted frugally	Give effect to the reviewed District Plan and monitor any issues potentially resolved through a Council-initiated plan change	P/PL committee have discussed potential plan change required for issues on commercial and rural/rural living zoning	Business as usual
Major programmes of work outlined in the LTP/Annual Plan			
What are they:	Targets	Progress for this reporting period	Planned for the next two months
Other regulatory functions	Give effect to provisions of enacted Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act		Business as usual
	Give effect to the provisions of the Food Bill,		Business as usual
Major programmes of work outlined in the LTP/Annual Plan			
What are they:	Targets	Progress for this reporting period	Planned for the next two months
Building Consents	Report on number of building consents processed, the timeliness and the value of consented work	19 processed for January, 19 completed on time, 100%. Value of work \$889,139	Business as usual
	Code of compliance certificates, notices to fix and infringements issued.	CCC issues 10 , NTFs 0, Infringements 2	Business as usual
Resource Consents	Report on number of land use consents issued and timeliness, and for subdivision consents and timeliness, and for section 223 and 224 certification and timeliness, abatement and infringements issued.	s221 - 0, s223 - 2 issued 50%; s224 - 2 issued 100% ; 0 Land use and 1 Subdivision consent issued this month 100%; Infringement Notices 0	Business as usual
Dog Control	Report on number of new registrations issued, dogs impounded, dogs destroyed and infringements issued.	3 New Dog Registration, 7 Dog Impounded, 3 Dogs Destroyed, 0 Infringements Issued	Business as usual
Bylaw enforcement	Narrative on enforcement action taken	Litter infringements - 6 -	Business as usual
Liquor Licensing	Report on number and type of licences issued and timeliness of process.	1 Renewal Off Licence, 4 Renewal Manager Certs, 5 Special Licences issued, 1 Club Licence issued	Business as usual

Attachment 5



MEMORANDUM

TO: Policy/Planning Committee

FROM: Michael Hodder, Community & Regulatory Services Group Manager

DATE: 6 March 2015

SUBJECT: **Review of Policy on Development Contributions**

FILE: 3-PY-1-4

Section 102(1) of the Local Government Act 2002 requires every local authority to adopt a policy on development contributions or financial contributions. Section 106(6) requires such a policy to be reviewed at least every three years using a consultation process that gives effect to the requirements of section 82. The 2014 amendment to the Local Government Act introduced a number of detailed provisions on requiring development contributions. These require closer documentation of the circumstances justifying the use of development contributions and provide a mechanism for a developer to object.

Section 197 of the Act includes these definitions:

“Development” means—

(a) any subdivision, building (as defined in section 8 of the Building Act 2004), land use, or work that generates a demand for reserves, network infrastructure, or community infrastructure; but

(b) does not include the pipes or lines of a network utility operator

“Development contribution” means a contribution—

(a) provided for in a development contribution policy of a territorial authority; and

(b) calculated in accordance with the methodology [prescribed in Schedule 13]; and

(c) comprising—

(i) money; or

(ii) land, including a reserve or esplanade reserve (other than in relation to a subdivision consent), but excluding Māori land within the meaning of Te Ture Whenua Maori Act 1993, or

(iii) both.

Council’s current policy (last reviewed in 2012 in conjunction with the 2012/22 Long Term Plan) is not to have development contributions. This reflects (i) the small 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 expansion to cope with additional demands as a result of subdivision or expanded commercial or industrial enterprises. No financial contributions are required in the operative District Plan.

If the Committee considers that the current policy should continue, it would be appropriate to recommend that to Council, with a view to consulting on it at the same time as the proposed Schedule of fees and charges for 2015/16, the revenue and financing policy, and *What's the Plan Rangitikei?* (the Consultation Document for the 2015/25 Long Term Plan).

Recommendations

1. That the memorandum 'Review of policy on development contributions' be received
2. That the Policy/Planning Committee recommends to Council that:

EITHER

the current policy on development contributions continue unchanged and that consultation occur simultaneously with the Consultation Document for the 2015/25 Long Term Plan

OR

consideration be given to preparing a policy on development contributions which requires such contributions to assist with increased demand for network infrastructure, reserves or community infrastructure resulting from growth.

Michael Hodder
Community & Regulatory Services Group Manager

Attachment 6



Rangitikei
COUNCIL

REPORT

SUBJECT: **Update on Legislation and Governance Issues**

TO: Policy/Planning Committee

FROM: Michael Hodder, Community & Regulatory Services Group Manager

DATE: 5 March 2015

FILE: 3-OR-3-5

1 Executive summary

- 1.1 This update notes legislative and regulatory changes in the past two months which impact on the Council's operations.
- 1.2 Amendments to the Resource Management Act are expected into Parliament soon.
- 1.3 The Ministry for the Environment is proposing an amendment to the National Environmental Standard for telecommunications facilities.
- 1.4 The Psychoactive Substances Authority considers implementing the new testing regimes could mean no new substances can be marked for another five years.

2 Resource Management Act

- 2.1 An Amendment Bill is anticipated being introduced into Parliament later this month. The objective will be to improve the balance between environmental protection and growth and development – including a strong housing supply.

3 Proposed changes to the National Environmental Standards for telecommunications facilities

- 3.1 The National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities came into effect on 9 October 2008. They are regulations made under the Resource Management Act 1991 and cover:
 - an activity (such as a mobile phone transmitter) that emits radio-frequency fields is a permitted activity provided it complies with the existing New Zealand Standard (NZS2772.1:1999 Radio-frequency Fields Part 1: Maximum Exposure Levels 3kHz-300GHz);

- the installation of telecommunications equipment cabinets along roads or in the road reserve is a permitted activity, subject to specified limitations on their size and location;
 - noise from telecommunications equipment cabinets located alongside roads or in the road reserve is a permitted activity, subject to specified noise limits;
 - the installation of masts and antennas on existing structures alongside roads or in the road reserve is a permitted activity, subject to specified limitations to height and size.
- 3.2 Activities that do not qualify as permitted activities under the regulations continue to be managed by local councils through the existing rules in their district plans under the Resource Management Act 1991.
- 3.3 Earlier this month the Ministry for the Environment released a discussion document *Proposed amendments to the national environmental standards for telecommunication facilities*.¹ The proposal is to make deployment of cables governed by the Standards rather than the various district plans, provide greater flexibility in (a) the installation of mobile support structures and antennas and (b) the location of replacement cabinets (whether for a fixed or mobile network). *Appendix 1* contains photos of types of telecommunications equipment which would no longer require resource consent.
- 3.4 The operative District Plan does not apply zone rules to network utilities, which are subject only to the requirements of section B1.12 of the Plan. The proposed changes are being checked against these requirements: if they are not compromised a submission to the discussion document may not be warranted.

4 Proposed regulations under the Food Act 2014

- 4.1 As noted in the last update to the Committee, in January 2015 the Ministry for Primary Industries released its proposals for regulations under the Food Act 2014. These detail the Ministry's prescription on the elements of a food safety system and the way in which food businesses will be "verified" (audited) to determine whether they are managing food safety risk appropriately. The relevant documents are at <http://www.mpi.govt.nz/news-and-resources/consultations/proposals-for-regulations-under-the-food-act-2014/>
- 4.2 A presentation will be provided to the Committee meeting. A draft submission will be prepared for consideration at Council's meeting on 26 March 2015,

¹ The discussion document is at <http://www.mfe.govt.nz/sites/default/files/media/RMA/nestf-discussion-document-final.pdf> Submissions close on 17 April 2015.

taking account of the discussion at the meeting and subsequent feedback from Elected Members. The closing date for submissions is 31 March 2015.

5 Psychoactive substances

5.1 Recently Local Government New Zealand provided advice from a briefing by the Psychoactive Substances Authority that:

- retail regulations are still expected to be gazetted around May;
- it may be more than five years before a new testing regime will be in place (and no psychoactive products are expected before then);
- there will not be a generic psychoactive policy for councils that choose not to adopt their own Local Approved Products Policy (as there is for liquor, under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012).

6 Recommendation

6.1 That the report 'Update on legislation and governance issues' to the Policy/Planning Committee's meeting of 12 March 2015 be received.

Michael Hodder
Community & Regulatory Services Group Manager

Appendix 1

Types of telecommunications facilities no longer requiring resource consent

Light-pole antenna



Source: Photo supplied by Vodafone NZ Ltd

Street cabinets



Source: Photo supplied by 2degrees NZ Ltd



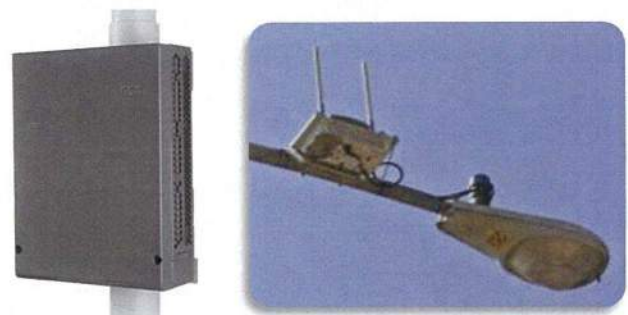
Source: Photo supplied by Vodafone NZ Ltd

Duct and cable installation



Source: Photos supplied by Chorus NZ Ltd

Small-cell units



Source: Photos supplied by Vodafone NZ Ltd

Attachment 7

REPORT

TO: Policy and Planning Committee

FROM: LTP Project Team

DATE: 05 March 2015

SUBJECT: **Update on 2015-25 Long Term Plan (March 2015)**

FILE: 1-LTP2015-2

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report is to provide an update to the Committee on progress with the 2015-25 Long Term Plan (LTP) project.

2 Background

- 2.1 Councils are required by the Local Government Act 2002 to prepare a Long Term Plan (LTP) and to review this every three years. Over the past year the Project Team have been working on all elements of the LTP and has provided regular updates through this Committee.

3 Consultation Document

- 3.1 In January 2015 Councillors received a draft of Council's Consultation Document (CD) - *"What's the Plan Rangitikei ...?"* and a presentation highlighting the key items in the CD. This first draft was also sent to Audit NZ for their feedback. A further presentation was given to Council at their February meeting which provided a recap of the Big Picture; indicated the draft budget position based on the initial financial modelling; and the forecast rating position.
- 3.2 A detailed review is in progress over projected income and expenditure, for consideration by Council (and by Audit NZ).

4 Public Consultation and Engagement Process

- 4.1 Council adopted a Significance and Engagement Policy in November 2014. The engagement plan template has been used to outline the proposed engagement plan for the Long Term Plan, a copy of this is attached.

5 Next Steps

- 5.1 Work on refining and finalising the Consultation Document, the draft Long Term Plan document, including the financials will continue over the next month, in consultation with Audit NZ. It is intended that a final version of the Consultation Document and

draft Long Term Plan will be provided to Council for adoption at the 26 March Council meeting. Following the adoption of these documents, the public consultation process will begin on 1 April 2015, with submissions closing on 1 May 2015. Hearing of submissions will take place on 7 and 8 May.

6 Recommendation

- 6.1 That the report "Update on 2015 -25 Long Term Plan (February 2015)" be received.
- 6.2 That Policy/Planning Committee endorses the Engagement Plan for the 2015-25 Long Term Plan.

Carol Downs
LTP Project Team Coordinator

Appendix 1

Appendix 1: Schedule of Elected member engagement; as at 5 March 2015

	Community Committees/Boards	Te Roopu Ahi Kaa	Finance and Performance	Policy/Planning	Assets/Infrastructure	Council
Jul-14			Councillor workshop on financial forecasts, rating scenarios, etc.	Review of Levels of Service	Review of Levels of Service	
Aug-14	Levels of Service	Levels of Service and relevant Policy Review (e.g. Policy on Māori capability to contribute to decision-making)	Review R and F Policy	Policy review complete		Early community engagement (public meetings)
Sep-14			Activity level budgets	Draft of key choices/'consultation document' outline	Draft AMPs	Early community engagement (public meetings)
Oct-14	Key choices/right debate	Key choices/right debate				
Nov-14			First cut of financial forecasts	Finalise key choices for 'consultation document' and forecasting assumptions	Final AMPs	
Dec-14						Pre-exposure draft of Consultation Document (CD) and LTP available to Councillors
Jan-15						Walkthrough of exposure draft of CD and LTP
Feb-15						Council reviews financials
Mar-15						Council adopts CD and draft LTP
Apr-15	Make submission	Make submission				
May-15						Council considers submissions on CD
Jun-15						Council adopts final 2015/25 LTP

When	Workstream	Task	Done
Mid-late 2013	Project Management	Project team established	✓
	Project Management	Check systems and resources	✓
	Project Management	Prepare project plan	✓
	Project Management	Discuss plan with Audit	
	Council/Committees/Boards engagement	Council engagement / induction	✓
Early 2014	Strategic Review	Environmental scan	✓
	Strategic Review	Strategic Activity planning and review	✓
	Council/Committees/Boards engagement	Council direction setting	✓
	Council/Committees/Boards engagement	Stocktake of Existing Strategy, Policy and Plans	✓
	Council/Committees/Boards engagement	Review of Growth Strategy & other forecasting assumptions	✓
Mid 2014	Public/community engagement	Prepare engagement strategy	✓
	Strategic Review	Levels of Service Review	✓
	Asset or Activity Management Plans	Asset Activity Plan review	✓
	Project Management	SOLGM self-assessment ('health check')	✓
	Council/Committees/Boards engagement	Community outcomes review	✓
	Public/community engagement	Early engagement (if any)	✓
	Council/Committees/Boards engagement	Infrastructure strategy	✓
	Council/Committees/Boards engagement	Financial Strategy	✓
Late 2014	Council/Committees/Boards engagement	Policy review	✓
	Project Management	Initial discussions with audit	✓
	Preparation of Financial Forecasts	Financial forecasts	✓/X
	Project Management	Preparation of draft Plan	✓
	Public/community engagement	Preparation of CD and consultation approach	✓
Early 2015	Project Management	Formal audit	✓/X
	Project Management	Peer review, quality control and assurance	
	Council/Committees/Boards engagement	Council decision-making	
	Public/community engagement	Formal SCP consultation	
Mid 2015	Project Management	Final LTP document	
	Project Management	Formal audit	
	Project Management	Project debrief	

Appendix 2

Appendix 2

Proposed Engagement Plan – Long Term Plan

Project description and background

The Local Government Act 2002 requires all Councils to let their communities know what they are planning to do over the next 30 years, but in particular the next 10 years – through their Long Term Plan (LTP). Rangitikei District Council will engage with its community through its Consultation Document for the LTP – “What’s the Plan Rangitikei ...?”, which summarises the documents that make up the complete LTP.

Engagement objectives

Within the Consultation Document a number of key choices are outlined to the community, and it seeks input directly on these issues and choices the Council and Community face over the next 10 years. The community is asked to submit on these key choices and also given the opportunity to provide comment on anything else they want, both verbally and written, through the formal submission process.

The Council encourages the community to read the Consultation Document and hopes to receive a record amount of feedback, through the submission process.

During the process of drafting the LTP, the Council has considered a number of options in relation to various activities of Council, including:

- future funding for roading*
- declining population*
- ensuring rates are affordable for our community*
- compliance requirements*
- run-down or under-used community and leisure facilities*
- rejuvenation of our Town Centre Plans*
- earthquake-prone buildings*

Within the key choices section of the Consultation Document specific options are put to the community on these issues for their input.

Timeframe and completion date

Council is required to adopt its final Long Term Plan by 30 June 2015. Council will consult with its community through the Consultation Document “What’s the Plan Rangitikei...?” during April. Submissions will be considered during May and changes will be made to the Long Term Plan to reflect the outcome of the submission process before the final adoption of the LTP.

See also the schedule of elected member engagement (regularly updated).

Communities to be engaged with

Council intends to revisit the rural communities it engaged with in August and September 2014 (as part of the early consultation process). It will also use the opportunity to provide information to Community Boards and Community Committees through their scheduled meetings, as well as hold public meetings, where appropriate.

Council will directly engage with its key stakeholders, including Federated Farmers, NZ Police, Government Departments, tangata whenua (through Te Roopu Ahi Kaa and specifically with Ngati Apa and Mokai Patea).

Engagement tools and techniques to be used

“What’s the Plan Rangitikei ...?” will be produced in hard copy and made available in libraries, service stations, information centres, supermarkets, doctor’s surgeries, high schools and public meetings. An electronic copy will be placed on Council’s website along with the ability to make a submission online.

Community newspapers will feature key sections from the Consultation Document and encourage readers to obtain a full copy of the CD and make a submission.

Council’s current regular publications - Rangitikei Line e-newsletter and the Rangitikei Bulletin will be used as channels to communicate key parts of the consultation document and to encourage submissions.

Resources needed to complete the engagement

The Consultation Document – “What’s the Plan Rangitikei ...?” is the basis for public consultation, a submission form will be provided as part of this document and also produced online. A powerpoint presentation will be produced for use at public meetings and Community Committee/Board meetings.

Communication planning

Key messages will be taken from the full Long Term Plan and the Consultation Document. A schedule of meetings will be collated and distributed widely to Councillors, staff and the community.

Basis of assessment and feedback to the communities involved

Once all submissions have been received, both written and verbal these will be included as part of the consideration of the final Long Term Plan document, which Council will adopt before 30 June 2015. Council summarises its consideration of submissions (including reasons for decisions taken) and provides a copy of this to each submitter as well as making it generally available.

Project team roles and responsibilities

Team member	Role and responsibilities
Michael Hodder	Project sponsor
Carol Downs	Project leader
Carol Downs	Print media
Carol Downs	External messaging, communications

Team member	Role and responsibilities
Anna Dellow	IT/logistics needs

Attachment 8



MEMORANDUM

TO: Policy/Planning Committee

FROM: Kevin Morris

DATE: 4 March 2015

SUBJECT: **Update on the Town Centre Plans for Marton, Taihape, Hunterville and the Implementation of the Bulls Town Centre Plan**

FILE: 1-CP-7-5

This memorandum provides an update on the development of Town Centre Plans for Marton, Taihape, Hunterville and the implementation of the Bulls Town Centre Plan.

1 Background

- 1.1 Council has engaged Creative Communities International to facilitate the process to develop the Marton, Taihape and Hunterville Town Centre Plans. Creative Communities is an urban design company that uses a place-based approach to urban planning. They worked successfully in Bulls with a community based Steering Group to guide the development of the Bulls Town Centre Plan which Council adopted in late June 2014.

2 Marton

- 2.1 The Steering Group has met twice since the last update.
- 2.2 At the meeting held on 10 February 2015 the Steering Group agreed to run a public art competition for funkifying buildings in the town centre. Three private buildings in Broadway, the Marton Library and the Rural Fire Depot on High Street have been suggested as potential canvas. Details of the competition were finalised at a subsequent meeting. The competition will run from 2 March to 27 March. The prize is a tablet computer and the winner also has a chance for their design to be put into effect.
- 2.3 At that meeting, the Steering Group also agreed to recommend the final draft Town Centre Plan to the Marton Community Committee.
- 2.4 On its meeting on 11 February, the Marton Community Committee recommended the final draft plan to Council for adoption and this recommendation was accepted by Council at its meeting on 26 February. The final draft Marton Town Centre Plan will now form part of the documentation for consultation through the draft 2015-25 LTP.

3 Taihape

- 3.1 The Taihape Town Centre Plan Steering Group provided a report and recommendations on the final draft Town Centre Plan to the Taihape Community Board on 4 February 2015. The Taihape Community Board recommended that Council adopt the final draft Taihape TCP taking into account the recommendations from the Steering Group. This was accepted by Council on 26 February.
- 3.2 The final draft Marton Town Centre Plan will now form part of the documentation for consultation through the draft 2015-25 LTP.
- 3.3 The Taihape Community Board also agreed to the recommendation from the TCP Steering Group that it go into recess once the final draft TCP was recommended to Council for adoption.
- 3.4 Finally, the Taihape Community Board requested that Council facilitate a process between the Memorial Park Users Group and Clubs Taihape to develop workable options for recreation facilities at Memorial Park, with the view to enabling inclusion of preferred options in the 2015-25 LTP. It is envisaged that an external facilitator will be engaged to assist in this process.

4 Hunterville

- 4.1 The Hunterville Town Centre Plan Steering Group held a very successful working bee on 21 February 2015 with a makeover of Queens Park. This is the first stage for implementation of the Hunterville Town Centre Plan.

5 Bulls

- 5.1 The Bulls Steering Group is nearing completion of its place-making projects in the town centre. The most recent addition is the painted planter boxes outside the Rat Hole. Work is also being undertaken with members of the RSA to refurbish the seats at the Cenotaph. The Steering Group has agreed to stay active until a decision is made on the location of the multi-purpose facility and will remain available to the Bulls Community Committee as an action group for further place-making.
- 5.2 The Community Youth project led by Jayme Anderson is progressing slowly. A change to the original sites for the cube sculptures is being investigated.
- 5.3 The Bulls Advisory Group (working on the concept plans for the multi-purpose centre) met on 24 February and was provided with an update from the Chief Executive on the concept plans from Architecture Workshop and Creative Communities.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 That the memorandum 'Update On The Town Centre Plans for Marton, Taihape, Hunterville and the implementation of Bulls Town Centre Plan - March 2015' be received.

Kevin Morris
Policy Team

Attachment 9

Update on Communications Strategy

This regular report provides the Committee with an update with progress on the Council's Communications Strategy and media and communication activity.

Update on Action Plan – January 2014 to 28 February 2015

<i>Action Description</i>	<i>Expected Completion</i>	<i>Lead Responsibility</i>	<i>Status</i>
Review and update service information	June 2014	Executive Officer (Carol Downs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Included as part of an IT/IS review undertaken in July, awaiting the agreed actions from that report.
Investigate the potential use of social media for the dissemination of information	August 2014	Executive Officer (Carol Downs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An RDC Facebook page was created in January.
Develop the Council intranet as the primary internal business support tool	Ongoing	Information Management Officer (TBC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work is being done to re-design an appropriate intranet page, this will be progressed after the Internet project has been completed.
Develop and implement Corporate Identity guidelines to reinforce our professionalism	September 2014	Executive Officer (Carol Downs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Uniform Policy was introduced earlier this year, and most key frontline staff and those working "in the field" now wear corporate uniforms.
Develop the Council website as the primary customer/resident self-help tool	Ongoing	Information Management Officer (TBC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently underway, stage 1 hoped to be completed by the end of March.
Review Communications Strategy once changes to the Local Government Act 2002 have been confirmed	October 2014	Executive Officer (Carol Downs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commenced – changes to the consultation for the LTP are being taken into account and actioned.
Provide Elected members and staff with training to ensure appropriate standards are maintained	Ongoing	Executive Officer (Carol Downs)	

<i>Action Description</i>	<i>Expected Completion</i>	<i>Lead Responsibility</i>	<i>Status</i>
Key staff to have undertaken appropriate communications training	Mid 2015	Executive Officer (Carol Downs)	
Investigate and implement (where appropriate) the most effective ways of communicating within and beyond Council	Ongoing	Executive Officer (Carol Downs)	

Activity During February

- Issue 12 of the Rangitikei Line e-newsletter - February
- Rangitikei Bulletin published following February Council meeting

February Media Activity

The table below outlines the media activity during February, including printed media articles and website activity:

- Rangitikei Bulletin – published at the end of February in Rangitikei Mail, Central District Times and District Monitor
- 25 articles relating to Council appeared in local papers, during February, as outlined in the table below. Of these 1 was positive, 6 were negative and 18 were neutral.

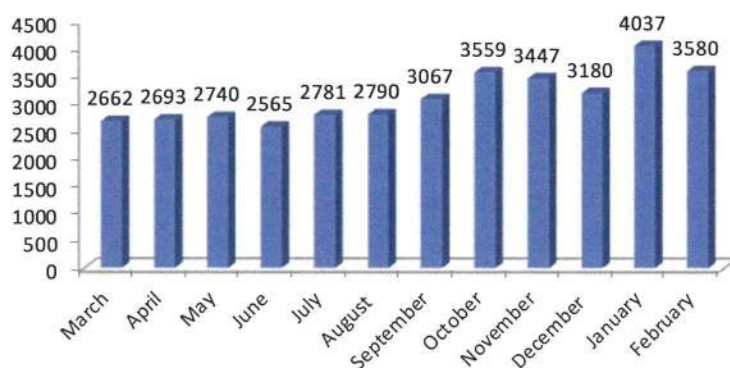
Date	Media Channel	Article Heading and Topic
5/2/15	Wanganui Chronicle District Monitor x 2	<p>Cost-cutting ideas praised (Councils nationwide are facing an increasing funding shortage, but RDC has been praised for being quick out of the blocks in tackling the problem)</p> <p>Three hour water protest (a rural ratepayer was unhappy that her water tank was empty and she has to pay for extra water when she already pays water charges in her rates)</p> <p>At the Council Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skate parks to grow (extensions to both Taihape and Marton skate park to be included in the next LTP) • Looking at Council flats • Big works planned at Ratana
6/2/15	Manawatu Standard	Fire to smoulder another week (Rural fire attended a fire in a forestry block on Santoft Road and it isn't expected to fully extinguish until early next week)
7/2/15	Manawatu Standard	Big blaze near Bulls finally tamed (the same fire that rural fire attended has been extinguished completely)
10/2/15	Wanganui Chronicle Central District Times	<p>Costly battle to contain 40ha forest blaze over (the same fire that rural fire attended has been extinguished completely)</p> <p>Rural resident 'dirty' over rates (a rural ratepayer was unhappy that her water tank was empty and she has to pay for extra water when she already pays water charges in her rates)</p>
12/2/15	Wanganui Chronicle District Monitor	<p>Landfill concerns are off the agenda (many of the concerns about the proposed Bonny Glen landfill near Marton will not be considered as part of the resource consent hearing which begins in fielding next week)</p> <p>At the Council Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rates remission for new unique business (Van Dijk Ltd. Village milk received a grant for rates remission for this year only) • New non-urgent building charge (RDC has decided to double the cost to \$564 for reviewing non-urgent building work carried out without consent has risen) • Impact of forestry trucks (Options for recovering the costs of damage to roads from forestry harvesting will be looked at some time in the future)
14/2/15	Wanganui Chronicle	Two differ on Taihape future (Town Centre Plan for Taihape)
16/2/15	Manawatu Standard Wanganui Chronicle	<p>Landfill expansion hearing set to begin (Hearing - Midwest Disposals)</p> <p>"Insult" as hearing changes location (Cr Soraya Peke-Mason has</p>

Date	Media Channel	Article Heading and Topic
		slammed a decision to hold the hearing for the Bonny Glen Landfill outside the district)
18/2/15	Wanganui Chronicle Manawatu Standard	Company expects tougher rules in landfill expansion (Hearing - Midwest Disposals) Landfill height discussed at hearing (Hearing - Midwest Disposals)
19/2/15	Wanganui Chronicle District Monitor x2	Submitters not given time slots at hearing (Hearing - Midwest Disposals) Disappointed at Bonny Glen hearing move (Cr Soraya Peke-Mason has slammed a decision to hold the hearing for the Bonny Glen Landfill outside the district) Toilets subject of submission (the need for redevelopment of the public toilets in Marton is the subject of a submission to RDCs LTP)
20/2/15	Wanganui Chronicle	Landfill must pay its share say locals (locals believe if Bonny Glen Landfill is expanded then the owners must pay fair price for the damage its trucks do to Rangitikei Roads)
21/2/15	Wanganui Chronicle	Landfill hearing adjourned (The Bonny Glen hearing has been adjourned until Tuesday 24 at 2pm)
24/2/15	Wanganui Chronicle	Fears over toxic waste if landfill expanded (Leachate from the Bonny Glen Landfill could make Marton's wastewater sludge too toxic to be trucked back to the landfill for disposal)
25/2/15	Manawatu Standard	Landfill extension opposed
26/2/15	Manawatu Standard x3 District Monitor x 1	Bonny Glen submission fails to gain any traction Loos 'embarrassing' (the Rangitikei District Council has been asked if it is spending enough on the maintenance of its public toilets) Leisure spend woes (Council's community and leisure budget of \$750,000 only seeing \$150,00 spent) Bonny Glen dump hearings continue

Website Statistics

Activity on Council's website for February:

Website Visits 2014-15



In February 56% of those who visited Council's website were new visitors to the site.

Top Council Webpages Visited (February)

1. Home page
2. Cemeteries
3. Rates
4. Solid Waste

Top Six Geographical Locations Visiting the Website (February)

1. *Auckland
2. Palmerston North area
3. *Wellington
4. Christchurch
5. New Plymouth
6. Whanganui

* note smaller areas can be recorded as Auckland or Wellington

Carol Downs
Executive Officer

Attachment 10



Rangitikei
UNSPOILT...

MEMORANDUM

TO: Policy/Planning Committee

FROM: Samantha Whitcombe

DATE: 6 March 2015

SUBJECT: **Update on the Path to Well-Being initiative and other community development programmes – March 2015**

FILE: 1-CO-4

1 Background

- 1.1 In consultation with the Chair of the Policy/Planning Committee, this report identifies meetings that have taken place involving members of the Policy Team through the Community Partnerships activity, focussing on the Path to Well-being initiatives. Added commentary is provided where necessary.
- 1.2 This report also covers applications for external funding as required by the Policy on external grant applications made by Council.

2 Meetings

What?	When/Where?	Why?
Rotary Club	2 February Marton	Guest speaker (at last minute) to present on conference.
Rangitikei Heritage Group	3 February Huntermville	Bi-monthly meeting. Discussion on WW1 DVD, local projects, Rangitikei Weekend.
Safe and Caring Community Theme Group	4 February Taihape	Regular 6 weekly meeting. Final report of Positive Ageing Strategy for 2014. In addition, the group would be keen to develop a role in the delivery of the Healthy Families initiative.
Monthly Networking Group	4 February Taihape	Monthly networking meeting – reported on Positive Ageing Strategy.
Nathan Kane, HYPE Academy	13 February	Contract review meeting.

	Marton	
Southern Rangitikei Health networking Meeting	16 February Marton	Monthly networking meeting.
Centennial Park Steering Group	19 February Marton	Meeting to discuss implementation of refurbishment project.
Jon Buchan, Whanganui DHB	23 February Whanganui	Meet and greet for DHB representative to Marton Community Charter Board.
Greg Carlyon	24 February Marton	Update on projects ant Rangitikei College to encourage more community use of school facilities.
Nathan Cross, DIA	24 February Marton	Assessment officer interview regarding application for Swim-4-All funding.
Debbie-Jane Villiamu, Healthy Families Team Leader	24 February Marton	Discussion re implementation of Healthy Families initiative in Rangitikei potential for dedicated health promotion resource to be introduced.
Marton Community Charter Board meeting with Iria Pene from MSD Community Investment	25 February Marton	Meet and greet with new regional commissioner for Community Investment to discuss engagement with Marton Community Charter Action Plan.

3 Comment

Path to Well-being conference

- 3.1 Follow up meetings have been arranged in March for the Buoyant Economy Theme Group and the Enjoying Life in the Rangitikei Theme Group.
- 3.2 Feedback from the conference indicated that one of the things that delegates most appreciated was the opportunity to hear national and international speakers in the District. The Committee is asked to consider whether it would be worthwhile to consider half-day or evening seminars for the District when suitably qualified speakers on relevant topics are available.

Marton Community Charter

- 3.3 The Relationship Manager for MSD Community Investment secured a meet and greet with the new Commissioner covering Rangitikei for the Community Investment section, Iria Pene. As in the past following meetings with the Deputy Chief executive of MSD, Murray Edridge, the feedback was positive both about the Charter Action Plan, the relationships in place and the role of the Youth Club in the network of service provision for young people in Marton.

Healthy Families

- 3.4 Healthy Families is an initiative from the Ministry of Health to address serious health issues such as obesity and diabetes with a range of health promotion activities in various settings (schools, workplaces etc.). The programme is taken from the Healthy Victoria programme in Australia and is being translated into a New Zealand setting. Whanganui DHB area has been selected as a pilot area and the contract has been awarded to Te Oranganui, the iwi health provider in Whanganui. Delivery will be decentralised as much as possible through the DHB area (Wanganui, Ruapehu and Rangitikei District Council areas). The Strategy and Community Planning Manager has been taking part in the project leadership group. The programme is in early days at the moment and the team at Te Oranganui are keen to build on what is already in place in the District.

4 External Funding Applications

- 4.1 Youth Clubs: A funding application was prepared from Whanganui Community Law on Council's behalf for the Todd Foundation for the Marton and Taihape Youth Clubs.
- 4.2 Swim 4 All: The application to the Whanganui Community Foundation was successful. The application to Lottery Community Committee is still pending. The applications made to the New Zealand Community Trust and Pelorus Trust were declined, and the application to Pub Charity was withdrawn at the request of the Southern Rangitikei Schools Cluster Group.

5 Recommendations

- 5.1 That the memorandum 'Update on the Path to Well-Being initiative and other community development programmes – March 2015' be received.

Samantha Whitcombe
Governance Administrator

Appendix 1

Fund	Project description	How much	Desired outcomes and milestones	Lead Agency	Council role	Policy Team Role	Final report due
MSD - Quality Services and Innovation Fund	Taihape Community Connections; to develop better collaborative and referral practices amongst local health and social service providers, collation and provision of information about services within Marton.	\$120,000	Central information resource, improved access to services	Taihape Community Development Trust	Support Agency	Prepared application, project steering group: no reporting responsibilities	Dec-13
Environment, heritage and WWI commemorative projects Lottery Fund	Repair and renewal of WWI memorials across the District	\$16,333	Completion of restoration of memorials	Marton RSA	Project Manager	Prepared application, project management, will support RSA to report back to funder	Nov-15
MYD - Youth Development Fund	Youth Action Plan	\$24,000	Delivery of four youth-led civic projects: one each in Marton, Bulls, Taihape and District-wide	RDC	Lead agency, fund holder	Prepared application, holds funds, manages project, employment of youth development officer (possibly contracted out), reports to funder. In kind support from Council. Cash support from Council Youth Strategy: \$9,000.	Jun-15
Lottery Community Facilities Fund	Renewal of Shelton Pavilion in Centennial Park	\$100,856	Refurbishment of Shelton Pavilion in line with Park Management Plan	RDC	Lead agency, fund holder	Prepared application, holds funds, manages project, reports back to funder	Jul-15

Fund	Project description	How much	Desired outcomes and milestones	Lead Agency	Council role	Policy Team Role	Final report due
PowerCo Trust Whanganui	Renewal of Shelton Pavilion in Centennial Park	\$10,000	Refurbishment of Shelton Pavilion in line with Park Management Plan	RDC	Lead agency, fund holder	Prepared application, holds funds, manages project, reports back to funder	Jul-15
Whanganui Community Foundation	Renewal of Shelton Pavilion in Centennial Park	\$10,000	Refurbishment of Shelton Pavilion in line with Park Management Plan	RDC	Lead agency, fund holder	Prepared application, holds funds, manages project, reports back to funder	Declined
Pub Charity	Swim 4 All	\$10,000	Swimming lessons for Primary School aged children in the Rangitikei District	RDC	Lead agency, fund holder	Prepared application, holds funds, manages project, reports back to funder	Withdrawn
Whanganui Community Foundation	Swim 4 All	\$10,000	Swimming lessons for Primary School aged children in the Rangitikei District	RDC	Lead agency, fund holder	Prepared application, holds funds, manages project, reports back to funder	Jan-16
Pelorus Trust	Swim 4 All	\$10,000	Swimming lessons for Primary School aged children in the Rangitikei District	RDC	Lead agency, fund holder	Prepared application, holds funds, manages project, reports back to funder	Declined
NZ Community Trust	Swim 4 All	\$10,000	Swimming lessons for Primary School aged children in the Rangitikei District	RDC	Lead agency, fund holder	Prepared application, holds funds, manages project, reports back to funder	Declined
KiwiSport	Swim 4 All	\$5,000	Swimming lessons for Primary School aged children in the Rangitikei District	RDC	Lead agency, fund holder	Prepared application, holds funds, manages project, reports back to funder	Submitted for consideration (Dec 2014)

Fund	Project description	How much	Desired outcomes and milestones	Lead Agency	Council role	Policy Team Role	Final report due
NZ Community Trust	Repair and renewal of WWI memorials across the District: specifically Memorial Hall, Marton	\$16,333	Completion of restoration of memorials	Marton RSA	Project Manager	Prepared application, project management, will support RSA to report back to funder	Submitted for consideration (Feb 2015)
Todd Foundation (and other potential funders to be identified)	Marton Youth Club	\$15,000	To prepare the Youth Club to take part in the Marton Community Charter	RDC	Lead agency, fund holder	Prepared application, holds funds, manages project, reports back to funder	Submitted for consideration (Feb 2015)
as at 03/02/2015	Confirmed	\$357,522					