

Policy and planning Chairman's report march 2020

Good afternoon and welcome to the meeting today. When reading today's order paper I see that we are going out for a consultation on dangerous and insanitary buildings, and we will also very soon be preparing for our three yearly LTP process along with its inevitable consultation and deliberation process. I raise these processes as they require a great deal of contact with ratepayers outside of the normal daily contact for our staff, and in these interesting times of the easily transmissible and sometimes fatal covid19 corona virus, I wonder if our policy and processes are really up to the task of providing both a safe and productive workplace, and also providing a clear and efficient consultation and submission process. Have we really got the right technology and in the right mix? Ultimately we can only control what we have active management over, but I wonder if now is the time to grasp the nettle with respect to upgrading our electronic communication systems so that person to person contact is limited wherever possible. I know that most councils in New Zealand will be asking similar questions, surely we could work collectively, even within our local neighbours to find potential solutions, do we need a policy around this or will common sense prevail?

Angus Gordon

Chairman.

TABLED DOCUMENT

Tabled at Policy Planning
on 19 March 2020