

Rangitikei District Council

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**Rangitikei**  
UNSPOILT...

# Strategic Planning & Policy Committee Meeting

## Order Paper

Thursday, 27 October 2011  
to follow Council meeting

Council Chamber, Rangitikei District Council  
46 High Street, Marton

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**Chair**  
Cr M Jones

**Deputy Chair**  
Cr E Cherry

**Membership**  
His Worship the Mayor  
Councillors: R Aslett, J Byford, M Fox, S Harris,  
D McManaway, S Peke-Mason, R Peirce, L Sheridan, A Watson

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**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

## Strategic Planning & Policy Committee Meeting

Order Paper – Thursday 27 October 2011 – To follow Council

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The quorum for the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee is 6

At its meeting of 28 October 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 Apologies / Leave of Absence**

## **2 Confirmation of order of business**

### **Recommendation**

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.

## **3 Chair's report**

A report will be tabled.

### **Recommendation**

That the Chair's report to the Strategic Planning & Policy Committee meeting of 29 September 2011 be received.

## **4 Management report**

A report is attached.

File 5-EX-4

### **Recommendations**

1. That the management report for October 2011 be received.
2. That direction is given to officers to include [or not include] a crossing over the railway line between Gordon Crescent and Toia Street, Marton, at an estimated cost of \$47,700 in the draft 2012/22 Long Term Plan for public consultation.

## **5 Three-month Financial Review (July-September 2011)**

A report will be tabled.

### **Recommendation**

That the Financial Review July-September 2011 be received.

## **6 Three-month Statement of Service Performance (July-September 2011)**

A report will be tabled

### **Recommendation**

That the Statement of Service Performance July-September 2011 be received.

## **7 District Plan Review – Post-Submission Phase**

A report is attached.

File 1-PL-3

### **Recommendation**

That the report “District Plan Review – Post Submission Phase” is received.

## **8 Pound and Kennelling Requirements**

A report is attached.

File 2-RE-1

### **Recommendations**

- 1 That the report on pound and kennelling requirements be received.
- 2 That the Crofton oxidation ponds be the preferred site for the proposed new district dog pound.
- 3 That the Chief Executive be authorised to develop a detailed design brief and seek tenders for the construction of a dog pound similar to that established by the Nelson City Council and, in accordance with Council’s procurement policy, provide a recommendation to a subsequent meeting of the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee.

## **9 Green Plum Group**

Representatives from the Group will be in attendance at 2.00 pm to provide a brief presentation.

## **10 Review of funding and financial (and other) statutory policies as part of the development of the 2012-22 Long Term Plan**

A report is attached.

File 1-LTP-8

### **Recommendations**

1. That the report, “Review of funding and financial (and other) statutory policies as part of the development of the 2012-22 Long Term Plan” be received.
2. That the Council adopts the Development contributions or financial contributions policy [as amended], the Rates remission policy [as amended], the Rates remission for Māori freehold land policy [as amended], the Significance policy [as amended] and the Statement on the development of Māori capacity to contribute to Council

decision-making policy [as amended] for consultation in conjunction with (and, where necessary, inclusion in) the draft 2012-22 LTP.

## **11 Update on the LTP**

A report is attached

File 1-LTP-8

### **Recommendation**

That the report 'Update on 2012-22 Long Term Plan (October 2011)' be received.

## **12 Late items**

## **13 New items proposed for future meetings**

## **14 Next meeting**

24 November 2011

## **15 Meeting closed**

# **Attachment 1**



# REPORT

**SUBJECT:** Management Report – October 2011

**TO:** Strategic Planning & Policy Committee

**FROM:** Clare Hadley, Chief Executive

**DATE:** 20 October 2011

**FILE:** 5-EX-4

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## **1 Staffing**

- 1.1 Matthew Patterson, Liz Whitton and Rebecca O’Neil have started as Information Officers. These appointments, together with extended hours for Sara-Jane Sowden, have brought the libraries and information centres back to full strength.
- 1.2 Rebecca Tayler is back with the Policy Team.
- 1.3 Hisham Razzack (Assets Manager - Waste) and Rachel Carr (Team Leader, Infrastructure Support) have been recently recruited by Manawatu District Council to be part of the shared services team.

## **2 Health and Safety**

- 2.1 No issues to report.

## **3 RNZAF 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations**

- 3.1 The RNZAF will celebrate its 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2012. Earlier this month it held an event to outline the programme of activities it is proposing, and to seek community involvement.
- 3.2 The programme will run between 22 January and 25 April 2012 at events across New Zealand. Details can be found on [www.airforce.mil.nz](http://www.airforce.mil.nz).
- 3.3 Relevant to this region is the open day at Ohakea planned for 31 March 2012. RNZAF anticipates 30-50,000 visitors will visit for the ground and air displays.
- 3.4 Bronwyn Meads, Bulls Town Centre Coordinator, was present at the meeting, and will facilitate community interaction with RNZAF Ohakea.

## **4 Information compiled under Council’s initial Earthquake-Prone Buildings Policy**

- 4.1 Two enquiries have been received about the status of the ‘list’ compiled under the original policy adopted in May 2006. One is from ANZ/National concerning

their buildings in Taihape and Marton. Quotable Value (QV) has requested a copy of the full list.

- 4.2 The policy was amended in 2009, and made building owners financially responsible for undertaking structural assessments (and the timeframes for completing strengthening work or demolition were extended). Earlier this year, the policy was again amended, when the requirement for an identification and evaluation process of potentially earthquake-prone buildings was removed.
- 4.3 The information gathered was a first attempt to comply with the original policy. It was to be a desktop review of Council files to assess which buildings could be earthquake-prone, followed by a brief visual inspection where necessary, followed by an initial evaluation of performance in an earthquake based on information obtained by using the New Zealand Society of Engineers' Initial Evaluation Method – all at Council cost. The work is an incomplete assessment; it is tentative – buildings which could be earthquake-prone; it covered buildings in the central business areas of Taihape, Mangaweka, Hunterville, Marton and Bulls but it isn't district wide; no property owner has yet been informed of its existence; and no information from it has been included on a Land Information Memorandum (LIM) report.
- 4.4 There are no grounds for withholding this information either from building owners or generally. However, the nature of the work done means that it falls outside the scope of what section 44A of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act requires to be disclosed in a LIM, but it would be reasonable to attach a general note for all properties in the central business areas of the main towns noting the existence of this information. We are seeking advice from the Department of Building and Housing on the wording for this.
- 4.5 In summary, the information compiled under Council's original Earthquake-prone buildings policy will be fully disclosed to the relevant property owners; LIMs for all properties in the central business areas of Taihape, Mangaweka, Hunterville, Marton and Bulls (whether assessed or not) will be annotated to alert the existence of this information; and this information will be fully disclosed to QV and available on the Council's website.

## **5 Railway line between Gordon Crescent and Toia Street, Marton**

- 5.1 Officers have contacted KiwiRail to consider the feasibility of installing a crossing between the two streets. KiwiRail has not expressed any concern over the installation of the crossing and is currently considering an application for a deed of grant for the crossing (requesting additional information on proposed lighting, controls and more specific details on the location of the crossing).
- 5.2 In order to successfully complete the crossing, Council will need to construct:
1. a footpath from Gordon Terrace to the railway land of 40m

2. a fence on the boundary between the walkway and 8 Gordon Street of 40m
  3. a footpath across the railway land (including two stormwater culverts) of 24m
  4. if Council does not want people walking along the road, a footpath along Toia Street of 130m
  5. a flag light at the railway crossing, on the edge of the road reserve, including power supply.
  6. barriers and tactile paving leading up to the railway lines
- 5.3 An engineer's estimate to complete the above work is \$47,700. This proposal would be detailed in the draft LTP if the Committee agrees to officers continuing to work with KiwiRail.
- 5.4 The deed of grant which KiwiRail issues in such circumstances will require Council to pay an annual administration fee of \$300. It contains an indemnity requirement which is being checked with the Council's insurers to see whether any additional cost would arise if the proposed crossing was made. The deed also allows KiwiRail to require notices, warning devices etc. to be installed at Council's expense (although if Council decided not meet the requirements it could terminate the agreement for the deed of grant, subject to any reinstatement of the railway land which KiwiRail might require).

## **6 Variations to major contracts during the month**

903 – Roothing. The sole variance is the start of cost adjustment factors for cost fluctuation increases to rates.

907 – Parks and Town Maintenance. There were no variations.

## **7 Recommendations**

- 7.1 That the management report for October 2011 be received.
- 7.2 That direction is given to officers to include [or not include] a crossing over the railway line between Gordon Crescent and Toia Street, Marton, at an estimated cost of \$47,700 in the draft 2012/22 Long Term Plan for public consultation.

Clare Hadley  
Chief Executive

Progressive record of attendance of Elected Members at meetings of Council and Committee meetings and Council workshops, July 2011-June 2012

	14-Jul-11	14-Jul-11	28-Jul-11	28-Jul-11	11-Aug-11	25-Aug-11	25-Aug-11	8-Sep-11	8-Sep-11	29-Sep-11	29-Sep-11	29-Sep-11	29-Sep-11	13-Oct-11	13-Oct-11
	Council	Workshop	Council	SP&P	workshop	Council	SP&P	Workshop	Council	Workshop 1*	Council	SP&P	Workshop 2	Workshop	Council
Mayor Chalky Leary	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Cr Richard Aslett	apols	apols	apols	apols	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Cr Jan Byford	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	apols	apols
Cr Ed Cherry	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Cr Michelle Fox	apols	apols	yes	yes	yes	apols	apols	apols	absent	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Cr Sarah Harris	apols	apols	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	apols	apols	yes	yes	yes	yes	apols	apols
Cr Mike Jones	yes	yes	yes	yes	apols	apols	apols	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Cr Dean McManaway	apols	apols	apols	apols	apols	apols	apols	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	partly
Cr Soraya Peke-Mason	yes	yes	yes	yes	apols	apols	apols	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Cr Richard Peirce	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Cr Lynne Sheridan	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Cr Andy Watson	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes

*Partly* denotes late arrival or early departure resulting in attendance at less than 50% of the meeting or workshop

*Other LG* denotes attendance at another local government or related meeting, as listed below

\* Chief Executive's performance review, facilitated by consultant

# **Attachment 2**



# REPORT

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TO: Strategic Planning and Policy Committee

FROM: Rebecca Tayler

DATE: 18 October 2011

SUBJECT: **District Plan Review – Post-Submission Phase**

FILE: 1-PL-3

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## 1 Background

- 1.1 On 29 October 2009, the Council resolved to undertake a full statutory review of the District Plan, and adopted 26 resolutions to guide the review. The Chief Executive was delegated responsibility for leading the review, and reporting back to Council regularly on progress.
- 1.2 The District Plan is a statutory requirement under the Resource Management Act 1991 (the Act), and the Council must complete a full review of the Plan at least once every 10 years (section 79(1)(c)). The review must be conducted in accordance with Schedule 1 of the Act.
- 1.3 The Proposed District Plan was notified on 28 October 2010, with 207<sup>1</sup> submissions received. A summary of submissions was made available on the Council's website and in the libraries throughout the District. Further submissions (in accordance with clause 7(1)) closed on 16 May 2011, and 59 were received.
- 1.4 The Council must give its decision on provisions contained in the Proposed District Plan and matters raised by submitters within two years of notification, i.e. by 28 October 2012 (Schedule 1, cl 10 (4)(a)) and publicly notify these decisions.

## 2 Summary of submissions

- 2.1 As outlined in the previous District Plan Review update report (23 June 2011), the key issues raised in submissions were wind farms (renewable energy), zoning, jetboating on the Rangitikei River and outstanding landscapes. A spectrum of views were presented on each of these issues (both for and against), and demonstrated that the proposed plan is likely to provide a good platform on which to work through the issues raised by submitters.

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<sup>1</sup> Initially counted as 208, but one submission was a double up.

against), and demonstrated that the proposed plan is likely to provide a good platform on which to work through the issues raised by submitters.

### 3 Post-submission process

- 3.1 Council officers are preparing for pre-hearing meetings with submitters where there is likely to be agreement reached through this mechanism, or where a meeting between the Council and submitters will be useful to clarify issues to be brought to the hearing. The outcome of each of these meetings will be provided in a report to the relevant hearing panel.
- 3.2 The pre-hearing meetings will be the first step towards working through the District Plan review post-submission process. The key steps proposed for the post-submission process are outlined in the table below, along with an indicative timeframe for completion:

Task	Timeframe
Pre-hearing meetings	Nov-Dec 2011
Confirm contracting and appointment process for Hearing Panel Commissioners	Nov 2011
Appointment of Hearing Panel Commissioners	Jan-Feb 2012
Hearings of District Plan submissions	Feb-May 2012
Decision reports to Council	Jun-Jul 2012
Advice to all submitters and notification on decisions	Aug 2012

### 4 Next steps

- 4.1 Submitters to be involved in pre-hearing meetings will be contacted in early November. All other submitters will be advised of the proposed hearing dates, and will be asked to confirm that they still wish to be heard. This will allow a schedule of hearings to be developed for the hearing panels.
- 4.2 A contract for services and appointment process for Hearing Panel Commissioners is being developed, and will be presented for Council approval in November. The contract for services will be reviewed by John Maassen (Cooper Rapley) to ensure it meets Council's needs, and is legally compliant. The recruitment of Hearing Panel members is proposed to be undertaken during December 2011 and January 2012.

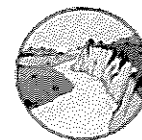
## **5 Recommendations**

5.1 That the report “District Plan Review – Post Submission Phase” is received.

Rebecca Tayler  
Policy Analyst



# **Attachment 3**



**Rangitikei**  
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# REPORT

**SUBJECT:** Pound and Kennelling Requirements  
**TO:** Strategic Planning and Policy Committee  
**FROM:** Steve Costelloe, Environmental Services Team Leader  
**DATE:** 17 October 2011  
**FILE:** 2-RE-1

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## **1 Executive Summary**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present issues, requirements and recommendations relating to the provision of pound facilities for the animal control activity.
- 1.2 There are statutory requirements for local authorities to provide pound facilities, but these need not be owned or operated by the Council. They must provide a safe environment for staff and the impounded animals (including the management of waste).
- 1.3 The current facilities used in Marton are unsatisfactory and a new pound (based on the specification developed in Nelson City) is proposed, to be erected on land near the Crofton oxidation ponds. Other options (upgrading the present facilities, relying solely on Manawatu and Wanganui District Councils, contracting with local kennelling operations or vets) are not considered to be viable.
- 1.4 Land at the Marton oxidation ponds at Crofton would provide a suitable site for a new purpose-built facility.
- 1.5 The next step is to complete a detailed design brief and secure tenders for the erection of a new pound on that site, proceeding on the basis as set in Council's procurement policy. Once the analysis of quotations is complete, a recommendation will come to Council.

## **2 Background**

- 2.1 At its meeting on 12 May 2011, Council resolved (11/RDC/080) to include a capital provision of \$250,000 in the 2011/12 Annual Plan for a dog pound in the district, noting that no expenditure would be committed until a comprehensive report had been presented to, and approved by, Council. This recognised that the current facilities used in Marton are unsatisfactory.

- 2.2 Council is required by both the Dog Control Act 1996 (section 67) and the Impounding Act 1955 (section 3) to provide pound facilities. This provision may be in the form of Council-owned facilities or those supplied under contract either by neighbouring authorities or commercial interests.
- 2.3 The quality of the facilities is impacted by requirements laid down in the Animal Welfare Act 1999, Animal Welfare (Dogs) Code of Welfare 2010, Dog Control Act 1996, Impounding Act 1955, Animal Welfare (Temporary Housing of Companion Animals) Code of Welfare 2010 and, as such facilities constitute a place of work, they also fall under the authority of employment legislation relating to health and safety.
- 2.4 Impounding for dogs is currently provided in two ways: locally in Marton by a private arrangement with a breeder/trainer of dogs, and longer-term by the staff and facilities of the Manawatu and Wanganui District Councils. In both instances, Council pays fees for the time animals spend in the pound.
- 2.5 Rangitikei District Council is currently working within a shared service arrangement providing animal control services across both districts. Animal Control Officers employed by RDC but primarily based in MDC are responsible for the daily cleaning, stocking and management of the Feilding pound.
- 2.6 Facilities are also required to hold livestock whose owner(s) cannot be identified or which escape on a number of occasions. A paddock with some simple yards and a loading ramp would suffice: the Impounding Act requires local authorities to retain stock for a period for at least seven days from the time of advertising. In practise, this usually equates to 14 days allowing for administration and publication lead times. Once this period has passed stock are able to be auctioned to recover costs. At present, Council relies on co-operation from local farmers to make a paddock available when the need arises.

### **3 Options**

#### **3.1 Status quo**

- 3.1.1 The current facilities do not provide a safe working environment nor do they provide a level of care necessary to address Council's obligations under earlier mentioned legislation. These are privately owned, and not suitable for upgrade.

#### **3.2 Cease to use Marton facility relying on Wanganui and Feilding facilities.**

- 3.2.1 The residence time of a dog in the pound can vary from as little as an hour to an indefinite period if the dog becomes the subject of litigation.
- 3.2.2 It is not uncommon for a dog that has been delivered to Wanganui to be claimed and returned within 24 hours. At best, such a journey, including

administration time at the pound, is one and a half hours. In practice, it is typically around two and a half hours.

- 3.2.3 For longer term impounding the use of a remote facility is a feasible option. However it is rarely known at the time of impounding as to how long the dog will remain in the pound.
- 3.2.4 It is not acceptable to leave a dog in a vehicle for a period in the hope of another event making the journey more economically viable.
- 3.2.5 Construction of temporary holding pens at the Marton and Taihape office would ease the situation but may cause problems in terms of barking and waste nuisance to staff and surrounding property occupiers. Additionally, the behaviour of some dog owners is such that the holding of dogs at the offices might create a safety issue for staff.

### 3.3 Establish a contract with local kennel operators or vets.

3.3.1 Hunterville and South Rangitikei vets were approached as were the operators of private boarding kennels and The Rangitikei Hunt. However, limited interest only was expressed. Reasons given were:

- disease risks: The vaccination history of impounded dogs is not known and the risk to other dogs of introduced disease is considerable.
- the nature of some of the “clientele” could be detrimental to the nature of their business and the health and safety of their staff.
- Potential security issues posed by dog owners attempting to liberate their dogs “afterhours” and from the vets’ perspective additional concerns in relation to the value and dangerous nature of medicines falling into the wrong hands.
- Council’s pound needs to be a 24 hour facility. Nocturnal comings and goings would be too disruptive for commercial kennel owners.

3.3.2 It was suggested that the construction and operation of the pound might provide a commercial opportunity. However this may introduce complexities into the shared services arrangement with MDC for animal control. However, should this arrangement cease and/or RDC staffing resources require, contracting out of all or part of Council’s animal control responsibilities could be investigated. Having an established pound facility would assist this if the need arose.

### 3.4 Purpose-built new facility

3.4.1 A wholly new facility enables the current requirements around animal and staff safety to be addressed. This is the most effective way of adopting good practice designs implemented by other local authorities.

3.4.2 Given the inadequacies of the present facilities, the inefficiencies from relying on pounds in Manawatu and Wanganui Districts, and the reluctance by local kennel operators and vets to manage a pound on Council's behalf, a new facility seems the most viable option.

3.5 In addition, a new facility provides the opportunity for more formal arrangements to be developed for the holding of livestock.

#### **4 Available sites**

4.1 Pound facilities need to be convenient, and therefore cost effective, allowing easy access and at the same time sufficiently remote for security reasons and to limit impact on neighbouring activities.

4.2 Discussions with Council's Property Manager have identified Marton's Crofton oxidation pond site as being favourable. This site has a number of advantages:

- Already in Council ownership, therefore no additional land costs.
- Adequate space for both a pound building and yards for livestock.
- Logistically appropriate, close to the main dog population in the District.
- Relatively secure and discrete.
- Adjoining land used for kennelling by the Rangitikei Hunt, therefore not introducing a new activity to the area.
- Proximity to the oxidation ponds allows for a lower cost for waste management.
- Existing provision of water and electricity.
- Existing road/accessways of a high standard.

4.3 The construction of the pound would be subject to the requirements of the building and resource consent process.

#### **5 LTCCP**

5.1 No provision was made for an upgraded pound facility in the 2009/19 Long Term Plan.

#### **6 Costs**

6.1 Other territorial authorities have been very helpful by providing quality information about their new structures. This assistance has included two

complete sets of plans along with photographs which will be made available at the meeting.

- 6.2 Manawatu District Council's pound was built in 1985, upgraded in 2006 and is due for a further upgrade. Currently this facility is deemed inadequate to house a proportion of the dogs impounded. These dogs are lodged with either the SPCA or a private provider incurring costs. Indications from Manawatu District Council are that the upgrade is necessary to comply with animal welfare requirements and a budget provision of \$60,000 is being considered.
- 6.3 Provision of a quality facility at this stage should prevent expensive "upgrades" at a later stage.
- 6.4 The facility constructed by Nelson City (plans and photographs to be made available), is a little larger and more elaborate than our needs require. Nelson City Council budgeted \$250,000 with the project being completed 10% under budget.
- 6.5 Ruapehu District Council has also recently developed a new facility and arrangements are being made to conduct an inspection and meeting to gain further knowledge. Plans and drawings have also been made available by Gisborne District Council.
- 6.6 This research suggests that the budget provision of \$250,000 should be sufficient to secure an adequate new facility which will meet the District's needs for many years. The next step is to develop a detailed design brief and go to tender. This will establish whether Council is able to achieve its outcomes for a lesser cost.

## **7 Recommendation**

- 7.1 That the report on pound and kennelling requirements be received.
- 7.2 That the Crofton oxidation ponds be the preferred site for the proposed new district dog pound.
- 7.3 That the Chief Executive be authorised to develop a detailed design brief and seek tenders for the construction of a dog pound similar to that established by the Nelson City Council and, in accordance with Council's procurement policy, provide a recommendation to a subsequent meeting of the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee.

Steve Costelloe  
Environmental Services Team Leader



# Appendix 1

## Appendix – statutory requirements for impounding

DCA – Dog Control Act 1996

IA – Impounding Act 1955

AW – Animal Welfare Act 1999

1	DCA	<p><b>s67 Provision of pound facilities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Every territorial authority, either singly or jointly with any 1 or more other territorial authorities, shall make such provision as is necessary for the proper custody, care, and exercise of dogs impounded, seized, or committed to its custody or the custody of a dog control officer or dog ranger under this Act, and for that purpose may—             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) establish, maintain, and operate a dog pound either separately or in association with any pound established under any other Act:</li> <li>(b) enter into an agreement with any person, upon such terms and conditions as it thinks fit, for that person to provide proper custody, care, and exercise for such dogs.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
2	IA	<p><b>s3 Establishment of public pounds</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Every local authority shall provide and maintain a public pound, which shall be properly fenced and enclosed and so adapted as to keep stock infected with any contagious disease separate and apart from other stock: Provided that—             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Any 2 or more local authorities may jointly provide and maintain a public pound upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon:</li> <li>(b) Any local authority may, if it so desires, provide and maintain more than one public pound:</li> <li>(c) if a Minister of the Crown is the local authority, nothing in this section imposes on that Minister any obligation to provide and maintain a public pound.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
3	AW	<p><b>s10 Obligation in relation to physical, health, and behavioural needs of animals</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The owner of an animal, and every person in charge of an animal, must ensure that the physical, health, and behavioural needs of the animal are met in a manner that is in accordance with both—             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) good practice; and</li> <li>(b) scientific knowledge.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
4		<p><b>s12 Animal welfare offences</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A person commits an offence who, being the owner of, or a person in</li> </ul>

		<p>charge of, an animal,—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ (a) fails to comply, in relation to the animal, with <u>section 10</u>; or</li><li>○ (b) fails, in the case of an animal that is ill or injured, to comply, in relation to the animal, with <u>section 11</u>; or</li><li>○ (c) kills the animal in such a manner that the animal suffers unreasonable or unnecessary pain or distress.</li></ul>
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# **Attachment 4**



**Rangitikei**  
UNUSUALLY...

# REPORT

**SUBJECT:** Review of funding and financial (and other) statutory policies as part of the development of the 2012-22 Long Term Plan

**TO:** Strategic Planning and Policy Committee

**FROM:** Denise Servante, Senior Policy Analyst

**DATE:** 14 October 2011

**FILE:** 1-LTP-8

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## **1 Executive Summary**

1.1 This report is to review the funding and financial (and other) statutory policies which the Local Government Act (LGA) 2002 requires Council to adopt, although generally not as part of the 2012-22 Long Term Plan (LTP).

1.2 As any change to these policies usually requires the use of the special consultative procedure, it is expedient to carry out a review in conjunction with the development of (and formal consultation on) the LTP.

1.3 This report excludes the revenue and financing policy, the liability management policy and the investment policy, which are already under separate consideration.

### 1.4 Key Issues

There are no major amendments proposed for any of the policies under review. Some clarification is suggested for the rates remission policy, particularly the inclusion of Council owned and occupied properties in the policy to reflect local government current practice.

### 1.5 Major recommendations

The report recommends that the development contributions policy, the rates remission policy, the policy on the remission of rates on Maori freehold land, the significance policy, and the statement on the development of Maori capacity to contribute to Council decision-making and are adopted [as amended] for consultation in conjunction with (and, where necessary, inclusion in) the draft 2012-22 LTP.

## **2 Context**

2.1 Section 102 of the Local Government Act (LGA) 2002 requires that Council adopts certain funding and financial policies. These include the revenue and financing policy, the liability management policy and the investment policy, which are being reviewed through a separate process associated with the development of the Financial Strategy and are not considered in this report.

2.2 The other funding and financial policies required by section 102 are:

- Development Contributions or Financial Contributions Policy
- Rates Remission Policy
- Rates Remission for Māori Freehold Land Policy, and
- Significance Policy
- Statement on the development of Māori capacity to contribute to Council decision-making

2.3 In addition:

- section 90 of LGA 2002 requires Council to adopt a policy on significance and (clause 11 of Schedule 10) include a summary in this LTP; and
- section 81 requires Council to establish and maintain processes to provide opportunities for Māori to contribute to the decision-making processes of the local authority; and consider ways in which it may foster the development of Māori capacity to contribute to the decision-making processes of the local authority and (clause 8 of Schedule 10) include a statement on this in the LTP.

2.4 These policies have various review periods outlined in LGA 2002. They may be amended at any time subject to the special consultative procedure. The draft LTP provides the opportunity to review and amend the policies during the special consultative procedure as part of the LTP process.

2.5 These policies are taken in turn in the following sections of this report. They are attached in the appendix with any proposed amendments highlighted as mark-ups.

## **3 Policy on development contributions or financial contributions**

3.1 Council is empowered under section 198 LGA 2002 to require a development or financial contribution to be made when a resource or building consent is granted for development within the District or when an authorisation for a service connection is granted.

3.2 The development or financial contribution must be set aside and used only for new assets or assets of increased capacity if as a consequence of the

development, the territorial authority incurs capital expenditure to provide appropriately for reserves, network infrastructure or community infrastructure.

- 3.3 Council is required to adopt a policy on development contributions or financial contributions which summarises and explains the capital expenditure identified in the long-term plan that the local authority expects to incur to meet the increased demand for community facilities resulting from growth. The policy must also outline a raft of other checks and balances to ensure that the contribution is used only for the purposes given in section 3.2 above.
- 3.4 In the past, Council has taken the view that since the District is not experiencing growth, it therefore cannot justify development or financial contributions. The District Plan allows for developers to be responsible for making the connection from the development to the network utility but assumes that existing infrastructure will have the capacity to accommodate the demands from new development.
- 3.5 As an example, it is worth considering the impact on Ratana of any new development, given that Council is considering major upgrades to both water and wastewater systems serving that community. The water and wastewater upgrades are not being required because of the proposed housing development and, although the proposed development is being taken into account in the design parameters for the upgrades, they are unlikely to be materially affected by it. Therefore, in this instance, a development contribution would not be justified.
- 3.6 Given the above, no material change to the current policy on development contributions or financial contributions is proposed.

#### **4 Rates Remission Policy**

- 4.1 The current policy, developed under section 109 of the Local Government Act 2002, provides for remission of rates under six specific objectives and criteria:
1. Development
  2. Community, sporting and other not-for-profit organisations
  3. Multiple toilet pans
  4. Penalties
  5. Land affected by natural calamity
  6. Land protected for natural conservation purposes

This report suggests that the policy be amended on two counts.

- 4.2 Firstly, a minor amendment to clarify that the remission to community, sporting and other not-for-profit organisations applies to land occupied by these organisations, where that occupation includes a responsibility for the rates. The current policy states the land must be owned by such an organisation. However, the intent of Council is to make provision for these organisations if

they incur responsibility for rates whether or not they own the rating unit in question.

- 4.3 The amendment will also require these organisations to pay rates if the land/rating unit is leased to a third party which does not meet the requirements for rates remission i.e. is not a community, sporting or not-for-profit organisation.
- 4.4 Secondly, good practice in the local government sector suggests that for administrative efficiency, Council should not be charging rates for buildings/property that it owns and occupies. Standard policy phraseology has been introduced, adapted from the Stratford District Council statutory policy manual.
- 4.5 The amended policy therefore provides for remission of rates under seven specific objectives and criteria:
1. Development
  2. Rangitikei District Council owned and occupied properties
  3. Community, sporting and other not-for-profit organisations
  4. Multiple toilet pans
  5. Penalties
  6. Land affected by natural calamity
  7. Land protected for natural conservation purposes
- 4.6 It is useful to note that Council may develop a rates postponement policy which, like the rates remission policy, is optional. Previously Council has considered that this is properly the business of banks and financial lending institutions and has declined to adopt such a policy because the cost impacted on other ratepayers. No change is suggested at this time.

## **5 Rates Remission for Māori Freehold Land Policy**

- 5.1 The current policy, developed under section 108 of the Local Government Act 2002, was discussed at Te Roopu Ahi Kaa at its meeting in September 2011. The Komiti recommended that Council continue with the current policy on rates remission on Māori freehold land<sup>1</sup>.
- 5.2 Given the above, no material change to the current policy on rates remission for Māori freehold land is proposed.

## **6 Significance Policy**

- 6.1 The Significance Policy is a statutory policy provided for in Section 90 of the Local Government Act 2002. Its purpose is to define the local authority's

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<sup>1</sup> 11/IWI/028

general approach, and specific criteria used, to determining the significance of proposals and decisions in relation to issues, assets, or other matters. This includes transfer of ownership of strategic assets to or from the local authority. The Significance Policy is required to be summarised for the LTP.

6.2 In the lead up to the 2009-19 LTCCP, the decision was taken not to review the Significance Policy. It was recognised that the Policy should be simplified. However, at the time the decision was made to summarise the Policy for inclusion in the LTCCP to achieve that simplicity<sup>2</sup>.

6.3 There have been some changes to the legislation since 2009. For example, whereas a decision to transfer the ownership or control of a strategic asset to or from the local authority must still be done through the LTP<sup>3</sup>, there is no longer that requirement for decisions 'to construct, replace or abandon a strategic asset'.

6.4 Currently, strategic assets comprise:

- Community housing
- Road network, street-lighting,
- Wastewater networks and treatment plants in Ratana, Bulls Marton, Hunterville, Mangaweka and Taihape
- Water treatment, storage, and supply networks in Ratana, Bulls Marton, Hunterville, Mangaweka and Taihape
- Stormwater networks in Ratana, Bulls, Marton, Hunterville, Mangaweka and Taihape
- Recreation facilities
- District libraries
- District cemeteries

6.5 Council has decided to review its Leisure and Community Assets group of activities, including community housing, recreation facilities and cemeteries. Recommendations arising from this review will lead to rationalisation or divestment of these assets, including by implication through discontinuing with depreciation funding, could be deemed significant.

6.6 Suggested amendments to the Policy have been included in the appendix to achieve the desired simplification in the Policy document. Whether or not the wording in the Significance Policy is amended for simplicity, it would be appropriate to draw attention to the implications of the Leisure and Community Assets review during the special consultative procedure phase of the 2012-22 LTP.

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<sup>2</sup> The summary is included on page 159 of the 2009-19 LTCCP

<sup>3</sup> Section 97(1b) Local Government Act 2002.

## **7 Statement on the development of Māori capacity to contribute to Council decision-making**

- 7.1 There is no statutory time for reviewing the statement on development of Māori capacity to contribute to Council decision-making processes, nor is a mechanism prescribed for its review. Clause 8 of Schedule 10 of LGA 2002 requires the Council in its LTP to 'set out such steps as [it] intends to take..', and so the statement clearly needs to be reconsidered each LTP.
- 7.2 The current statement, developed under section 81 of the Local Government Act 2002, was discussed at Te Roopu Ahi Kaa at its meeting in September 2011. The Komiti recommended that the statement on development of Māori capacity to contribute to Council decision-making continue to be included in the 2012-22 LTP<sup>4</sup>.
- 7.3 Given the above, no change to the current statement on Development of Māori capacity to contribute to Council decision-making is proposed.

## **8 Recommendation**

- 8.1 That the report, "Review of funding and financial (and other) statutory policies as part of the development of the 2012-22 Long Term Plan" be received.
- 8.2 That the Council adopts the Development contributions or financial contributions policy [as amended], the Rates remission policy [as amended], the Rates remission for Māori freehold land policy [as amended], the Significance policy [as amended] and the Statement on the development of Māori capacity to contribute to Council decision-making policy [as amended] for consultation in conjunction with (and, where necessary, inclusion in) the draft 2012-22 LTP.

Denise Servante  
Senior Policy Analyst

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<sup>4</sup> 11/IWI/029

# *Appendix 1*

## DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS OR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS POLICY

<b>Policy Title:</b> DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS POLICY	
<b>Date of Adoption:</b> 15 July 2004	<b>Resolution for LTCCP:</b> 04/RDC/154
<b>Review Date:</b> none	
<b>Statutory reference for adoption:</b> Local Government Act 2002 s102 (4)	
<b>Statutory reference for review:</b> none	
<b>Included in the LTCCP:</b> yes	
Date Amended or Reviewed	Resolution
<b>Included in the LTCCP draft 2006:</b> 24 November 2005	05/RDC/426
<b>Adopted in the LTCCP 2006:</b> 29 June 2006	06/RDC/193
<b>Included in the LTCCP draft 2009:</b> 9 March 2009	09/RDC/098
<b>Adopted in the LTCCP 2009:</b> 25 June 2009	09/RDC/233
<b>Included in the LTP draft 2012:</b> Date to be confirmed	Council resolution to be confirmed

The Council's present policy is to not require development contributions.

Sections 197-211 of the Local Government Act 2002 introduced a regime enabling the territorial authority to charge development contributions when a resource consent or building consent is issued or a service connection is required. Development contributions are only intended to be required to meet the cost of capital expenditure required as a result of growth.

The District is not experiencing population growth. Thus, there is no capital expenditure proposed in the LTCCP to meet increased demand for community facilities resulting from growth.

However, specific growth in some areas may need additional capital expenditure. The District Plan provides for financial contributions. Typically these are limited to the cost of physical infrastructure necessary to serve an approved subdivision. The Council's District Plan does not require land or cash for reserves. The Council's District Plan can be viewed at the Council offices in Marton and Taihape, its libraries, and on the Council web site [www.rangitikei.govt.nz](http://www.rangitikei.govt.nz).

## RATES REMISSION POLICY

<b>Policy Title:</b> RATES REMISSION POLICY	
<b>Date of Adoption:</b> 15 July 2004	<b>Resolution:</b> 04/RDC/154
<b>Review Date:</b> none	
<b>Statutory reference for adoption:</b> Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 s85	
<b>Statutory reference for review:</b> none	
<b>Included in the LTCCP:</b> yes	
Date Amended or Reviewed	Resolution
<b>Included in the LTCCP draft 2006:</b> 24 November 2005	05/RDC/426
<b>Adopted in the LTCCP 2006:</b> 29 June 2006	06/RDC/193
<b>Included in the LTCCP draft 2009:</b> 9 March 2009	09/RDC/098
<b>Adopted in the LTCCP 2009:</b> 25 June 2009	09/RDC/233
<b>Included in the LTP draft 2012:</b> Date to be confirmed	Council resolution to be confirmed

This policy remits rates under ~~six~~seven specific objectives and criteria:

1. Development
2. Rangitikei District Council owned and occupied properties
- ~~2-3~~ 3. Community, sporting and other not-for-profit organisations
- ~~3-4~~ 4. Multiple toilet pans
- ~~4-5~~ 5. Penalties
- ~~5-6~~ 6. Land affected by natural calamity
- ~~6-7~~ 7. Land protected for natural conservation purposes

This policy is in addition to the statutory provisions for fully non-rateable land provided in Schedule 1 of the Local Government Act 2002.

### 1. Rates Relief for development

#### Objective

To assist the economic development of the Rangitikei and to increase the variety of goods and services able to be obtained in the Rangitikei.

#### Conditions and criteria

As provided by section 85 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, the Council will consider the remittance of rates (other than Uniform Annual

Charges) to any business or businesses that wish to establish and operate as a business which in the view of the Council:

- is a new type of business or a type of business which does not compete with any existing business within a recognised zone or area; and
- operates from premises, which are regarded as commercial, i.e. as distinct from residential.

2. Rates Remissions on Rangitikei District Council owned and occupied properties

Objective

To enable the Rangitikei District Council to be cost neutral in regard to other ratepayers whilst being administratively efficient.

Conditions and Criteria

This part of the policy applies to rating units owned and occupied by the Rangitikei District Council.

This part of the policy does not apply to rating units that are owned by the Rangitikei District Council but are leased to a third party and the terms of the lease provide for rates to be paid by the Lessor.

3. Rates remissions for Community, Sporting and other Not-For-Profit Organisations

Objective

To facilitate the ongoing provision of non-commercial community services and non-commercial recreational opportunities for the residents of the Rangitikei District.

Conditions and criteria

This part of the policy applies to land owned or occupied by a charitable organisation, (by or in trust for any society or association of persons, whether incorporated or not) which is used exclusively for the free maintenance and relief<sup>1</sup> of persons in need<sup>2</sup>, or provides welfare, sporting, recreation, or

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<sup>1</sup>An Institution will be treated as carried on for the free maintenance and relief of the persons to whom this clause applies if;

(a), those persons are admitted to the institution regardless of their ability to pay for the maintenance or relief; and

(b) no charge is made to those persons or any other persons if payment of the charge would cause those persons to suffer hardship.

<sup>2</sup>Persons in need are defined as persons in New Zealand, who need care, support, or assistance because they are orphaned, aged, infirm, disabled, sick or needy.

community services. The policy does not apply to organisations operated for private pecuniary profit.

#### Full Remission

To qualify, land –

- must be owned and occupied by an organisation, whose object or principal object is to promote generally the arts or any purpose of recreation, cultural, health, education, or instruction for the benefit of all the residents or any group or groups of residents of the District, and who are responsible for the rates; and
- does not fit within the definition of non-rateable land under schedule 1 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002; but
- is not leased to a third party and the terms of the lease provide for rates to be paid by the Lessor.
- excludes land in respect to which a club licence under the Sale of Liquor Act 1989 is for the time being in force.

The Council will grant the following rates remission:

- 100% on all rates other than rates for utility services.
- 50% on rates for utility services (water supply, sewage disposal, and stormwater).

#### Partial Remission

To those organisations in respect to which a club licence under the Sale of Liquor Act 1989 is for the time being in force the council will grant the following rates remission.

- A remission of 75% on all rates other than rates for utility services.

#### Application Information

Organisations making application for the first time must include the following in their application:

- statement of objectives or charter document; and
- financial accounts; and
- information on activities and programmes; and
- details of membership or clients; and
- any other information that supports the application in relation to the eligibility criteria

#### 34. Remission of rates set on Multiple Toilet Pans

##### Objective

To recognise that many properties with multiple toilet pans are not fully utilised and offer some relief to those rating units so affected.

#### Conditions and criteria

Where the Council has set a rate per number of water closet and urinals (toilet pans) within the rating unit or part of the rating unit the Council will remit the rate according to the following formula:

- The first two pans will receive only one charge
- 3-10 toilet pans: 50% of the value of the Fixed Annual Charge for each pan
- 11+ toilet pans: 75% of the value of the Uniform Annual Charge for each pan

### 45. Remission of Penalties

#### Objective

To enable the Council to act fairly and reasonably in its consideration of rates that have not been received by the Council by the Penalty date.

#### Conditions and criteria

- Unless there is an element of error on the part of the Council or the Council staff, then any application for penalty remission is declined unless remitted as part of a payment plan.
- The Finance Leader is delegated the authority to remit one instalment penalty in cases where the rate payment history of the property occupier over the last five years (or back to purchase date where property has been occupied/owned for less than five years) shows no evidence of previous late payment and the instalment was received within 10 working days of the penalty date.
- The Finance Leader is delegated the authority to remit one instalment penalty if the owner/occupier of the property enters into a Direct Debit payment plan for the next instalment.

### 56. Remission of rates on Land Affected by Natural Calamity

#### Objective

To assist ratepayers experiencing extreme financial hardship due to a natural calamity that affects their ability to pay rates.

#### Conditions and criteria

This part of the policy applies to a single event where erosion, subsidence, submersion, or other natural calamity has affected the use or occupation of

any rating unit. The policy does not apply to erosion, subsidence, submersion, etc that may have occurred without a recognised major event.

The Council may, at its discretion, remit all or part of any rate assessed on any rating unit so affected by natural calamity.

The Council will set the criteria for remission with each event. Criteria may change depending on the severity of the event and available funding at the time. The Council may require financial or other records to be provided as part of the remission approval process.

Remissions approved under this policy do not set a precedent and will be applied only for each specific event and only to properties affected by the event.

## 67. Rates remission on Land Protected for Natural Conservation Purposes

### Objective

To provide rates relief to property owners who have voluntarily protected land of natural conservation purposes; to protect and promote significant natural areas; and to support the District Plan where a number of these features have been identified.

### Conditions and Criteria

Ratepayers who own rating units which include significant natural areas, including those identified in the District Plan, and who have voluntarily protected these features, may qualify for remission of rates under this part of the policy.

Land that is non rateable under section 8 of the Local Government (Rating) Act and is liable only for rates for water supply, wastewater or refuse collection will not qualify for remission under this part of the policy.

Applications must be made in writing. Applications should be supported by documentary evidence of the protected status of the rating unit, e.g. a copy of the covenant or other legal mechanism.

Applications for the remission will be considered by officers of the Council acting under delegated authority from the Council.

In consideration of any application for rates remission under this part of the policy, Council will consider the following criteria:

- The extent to which the protection of significant natural areas will be promoted by granting remission of rates on the rating unit;
- The degree to which the significant natural areas are present on the land, and

- The degree to which the significant natural areas inhibit the economic utilisation of the land.

In granting the submissions for land protected for natural conservation purposes, the Council may specify conditions that must be met before remission is granted. Applicants will agree in writing to these conditions and agree to repay the remission if the conditions are violated.

Council will decide remissions on a case-by-case basis; remissions will usually be applied to the value of the rating unit or proportion of a rating unit that contains the areas of significant natural flora.

The Council may agree to an on-going remission in perpetuity provided the terms and conditions of the voluntary legal mechanism applying to the feature are not altered.

## RATES REMISSION POLICY FOR MAORI FREEHOLD LAND POLICY

<b>Policy Title:</b> RATES REMISSION POLICY FOR MAORI FREEHOLD LAND	
<b>Date of Adoption:</b> 15 July 2004	<b>Resolution:</b> 04/RDC/154
<b>Review Date:</b> none	
<b>Statutory reference for adoption:</b> Local Government Act 2002 s102 (4)(f), 102(5)(a), 108	
<b>Statutory reference for review:</b> none	
<b>Included in the LTCCP:</b> yes	
Date Amended or Reviewed	Resolution
<b>Included in the LTCCP draft 2006:</b> 24 November 2005	05/RDC/426
<b>Adopted in the LTCCP 2006:</b> 29 June 2006	06/RDC/193
<b>Included in the LTCCP draft 2009:</b> 9 March 2009	09/RDC/098
<b>Adopted in the LTCCP 2009:</b> 25 June 2009	09/RDC/233
<b>Included in the LTP draft 2012:</b> Date to be confirmed	Council resolution to be confirmed

### 1. Introduction

The policy provides for the fair and equitable collection of rates from Māori freehold land, recognising that certain Māori-owned freehold lands have particular conditions, features, ownership structures or other circumstances determining the land as having limited rateability under legislation. This policy also acknowledges the desirability of avoiding further alienation of Māori freehold land.

Māori freehold Land is defined by section 5 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 as "land whose beneficial ownership has been determined by the Māori Land Court by freehold order". Only land that is the subject of such an order may qualify for remission under this policy.

Note: The policy applies to unsold land affected by the Māori Affairs Amendment Act 1967, which provided for Māori land owned by not more than four persons to be changed to General land. While this amendment was repealed in 1973, those blocks that had been changed remained as General land and therefore could be subject to compulsory sale to recover rate arrears.<sup>3</sup> The onus for identifying this status to the Council lies with the land owners.

<sup>3</sup> Te Puni Kokiri is currently working with the owners of the remaining titles to make them aware of the status of the land. In addition, Te Puni Kokiri and the Māori Land Court intend undertaking a programme to identify all Māori land titles affected by the Amendment and communicating this status of the titles to the current owners.

## 2. Objective

The objectives of this Policy is to provide rates relief for Māori freehold land in multiple ownership and to recognise, support and take account of:

- facilitating any wish of the owners to develop the land for economic use;
- the presence of Waahi Tapu that may affect the use of the land for other purposes;
- the importance of associated housing in providing Kaumātua support and enhancement for Marae;
- the importance of the land for community goals relating to:
  - the preservation of the natural character of the coastal environment;
  - the protection of outstanding natural features; and
  - the protection of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna.
- matters related to the legal, physical and practical accessibility of the land;
- land that is in and will continue to be in a natural and undeveloped state.

## 3. Conditions and Criteria

In order for a property, or part of a property to qualify for a rates remission under this policy it must meet all of the required criteria and at least one of the optional criteria:

The required criteria are

- Māori Freehold land as defined in the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, and
- in multiple ownership, defined as two or more owners, and
- unoccupied.

Occupation for this policy is where a person/persons do one or more of the following for their significant profit or benefit:

- leases the land to another party, or
- permanently resides upon the land, or
- de-pastures or maintains livestock on the land, or
- undertakes significant commercial operations.

Under this policy land must not be occupied as defined above unless the land and its housing is used to contribute to the Kaumātua support and enhancement of the Marae under the optional criteria below:

The optional criteria are:

- Development of the land for economic use. If any land is to be developed for economic use, particularly if it will provide employment for local Māori, a rates remission will be considered. This remission will decrease in proportion to the property increased economic use through development. Plans of the development and financial projections will be required to support application under this criterion;
- The presence of Waahi Tapu that may affect the use of the land for other purposes. A rates remission will be considered on a property or part of a property where the use of that property is affected by the presence of Waahi Tapu.
- Where houses are in the vicinity of the Marae the Committee will consider representations for rates remissions, considering the contribution to the Kaumātua support and enhancement of the Marae;
- Used for preservation/protection of character or coastline, outstanding natural features, significant indigenous vegetation and habitats of indigenous fauna. Applications under this criterion need to be supported by an existing Department of Conservation or Regional Council Management Plan, (e.g. in the Department of Conservation Coastal Management Plan for the area);
- Accessibility Issues. If it is difficult to legally, physically or practically access a property, a rates remission will be considered. Examples of accessibility issues are:
  - The property is landlocked by properties owned by other people/entities.
  - Access is legally available by paper road or easement but the road does not exist.
  - A road ends or passes a property but a river, ravine, cliff or other impediment prevents practical access.
- In a natural and undeveloped state, and will continue to remain in such state.

If the property is in and will remain in a natural and undeveloped state and there is no significant financial income, a rates remission will be considered.

#### 4. Process of Application and Consideration for Rates Remission under this policy

##### Applications

On application to the Rangitikei District Council, consideration will be given for the remission of rates on Māori freehold land under this policy.

The application for rates remission under this policy shall include:

- details of appropriate contacts;
- details of property and occupancy;

- the condition(s), as listed in Section 4 of this policy, under which the application is made;
- any relevant information to support the application, such as historical, ancestral, cultural, archaeological, geographical or topographical information;
- details of the financial status of the land supported by full financial statements;
- a copy of any agreements or licenses to operate on the land; and
- a declaration stating that the information supplied is true and correct and that any changes in circumstances during that period of rate remission will be notified to the Council.

5. Consideration of Applications by Māori Land Rates Remission Committee

All applications for rates remission under this policy shall be considered and decided upon by the Māori Land Rates Remission Committee. The Māori Land Rates Remission Committee is to consist of three Council members and three Tangata Whenua, most likely Te Roopu Ahi Kaa members.

Any decision as to whether any land or part thereof meets or continues to meet the qualifying criteria shall be made by the Māori Land Rates Remission Committee.

Six Year Duration

Any remission of rates granted under this policy will generally apply for a six-year period.

In order to align with the Council's Long Term Council Community Plan cycle all remissions will be reviewed in January 2009 and six yearly after that review.

If the use of a property changes within the period the owners will notify the Council immediately and the remission status of the property will be reviewed.

Any changes of rates remission status will be effective from the date the property use changed.

Right of Appeal to Full Council

If an applicant considers the decision of the Māori Land Rates Remission Committee is not correct they may appeal to the full Council.

6. Māori Land Rates Remission Committee can consider properties without Application by Owners (i.e. Committee-generated Applications)

If a property could apply for a rates remission but the owners have not applied for the remission, the Committee can consider the granting of a remission of rates under the criteria outlined in section 4 of this Policy.

An example of the situation where this Committee-generated application could apply is where the presence of an unregistered urupa is publicly known but an application has not been made as the owners are geographically dispersed.

7. Rate and Penalty Arrears Write Off

Intention to Write Off Rate Arrears and Penalties

For a number of landlocked properties considerable rate arrears have accrued over the past decade due to an inability of the property to sustain the rates assessed. Council intends to write off these arrears, on a case-by-case basis, once the Committee has approved a Māori land rate remission for individual properties.

Committee can recommend arrears write off to Council

When considering a Māori land rate remission the Committee is to assess any rates and penalty arrears on the property. If these arrears have resulted from the inability of the property to sustain the rates, the Committee is to recommend to Council that the arrears be written off.

8. Right to change conditions and criteria

The Council reserves the right to add to delete or alter in any way the above conditions and criteria from time to time.

When making such changes Council will follow its consultation policy and ensure affected parties are engaged in the change process.

9. No postponement of rates

Nothing in this policy is to be taken as providing or implying a policy providing for the postponement of rates on Māori freehold land.

## SIGNIFICANCE POLICY

<b>Policy Title:</b> SIGNIFICANCE POLICY	
<b>Date of Adoption:</b> 29 July 2004	<b>Resolution:</b> 04/RDC/174
<b>Review Date:</b> none	
<b>Statutory reference for adoption:</b> Local Government Act 2002 s90	
<b>Statutory reference for review:</b> none	
<b>Included in the LTCCP:</b> yes	
Date Amended or Reviewed	Resolution
<b>Included in the LTCCP draft 2006:</b> 6 April 2006 - unchanged	06/RDC/098
<b>Adopted in the LTCCP 2006:</b> 29 June 2006	06/RDC/193
<b>Included in the LTCCP draft 2009:</b> 9 March 2009	09/RDC/098
<b>Adopted in the LTCCP 2009:</b> 25 June 2009	09/RDC/233
<b>Included in the LTP draft 2012:</b> Date to be confirmed	Council resolution to be confirmed

This policy is provided in accordance with section 90 of the Local Government Act 2002. The Act states that every local authority must adopt a policy setting out—

- that local authority's general approach to determining the significance of proposals and decisions in relation to issues, assets, or other matters; and
- any thresholds, criteria, or procedures that are to be used by the local authority in assessing the extent to which issues, proposals, decisions, or other matters are significant.

The policy adopted must list the assets considered by the local authority to be strategic assets.

Objective:

Purpose

The significance policy is designed 1) To enable and enhance local decision-making and action. It will achieve this by helping Council to identify and recognise issues, proposals, decisions or other matters which are significant and/or involve the district's strategic assets.

2) To enable Council to identify the most appropriate form of consultation to undertake in the consideration of issues, proposals, decisions or other matters which are significant and/or involve the district's strategic assets, in accordance with its

Public Participation (Consultation) Policy. ~~significant issues that the Rangitikei community regard as significant and wish to be consulted on.~~

**Objective:**

~~To ensure that the Rangitikei District is fully consulted and able to actively participate in the consideration of issues, proposals, decisions or other matters which are significant and/or involve the district's strategic assets.~~

Policy Content-Conditions and Criteria

The Rangitikei District Council will determine the significance of any decision, by making judgments according to the likely impact of that decision on:

- the current and future social, economic, environmental, or cultural well-being of the district or region:
- any persons who are likely to be particularly affected by, or interested in, the issue, proposal, decision, or matter:
- the capacity of the local authority to perform its role, and the financial and other costs of doing so

~~In assessing the extent to which issues, proposals, decisions or other matters are significant the Rangitikei District Council will use the following procedures and criteria:~~

- ~~An issue, proposal or decision will be significant if in the Council's judgment it has a high degree of importance in terms of any of the factors listed above.~~
- ~~An issue, proposal or decision will be significant if it concerns a transfer of ownership or control, or the construction, replacement or abandonment, of a strategic asset group listed in this policy.~~

The following thresholds will also be used by Council to help determine if specific proposals and decisions are significant:

	<b>Significant</b>	<b>Not significant</b>
Impact on Council's direction in terms of its strategic objectives	Major and long term	Med-Low
Change from Council's current level of service	Major and Long term	Med-Low
Level of public impact and or/interest	Major and/or District Wide	Med-Low
Impact on Council's capability (non cost), to continue to provide existing services	Major and Long term	Med-Low

It is the Council's judgment as to whether a matter is significant. A matter will be significant if in Council's judgment one or more of the criteria fall into the significant column.

~~Council will follow its consultation policy to decide on the appropriate form of consultation for each proposal according to its significance.~~

Advice on the significance of each decision will be received through the Council report format.

### Strategic Assets

According to section 5 of the Local Government Act, a "strategic asset, in relation to the assets held by a local authority, means an asset or group of assets that the local authority needs to retain if the local authority is to maintain the local authority's capacity to achieve or promote any outcome that the local authority determines to be important to the current or future well-being of the community; and includes—

(a) any asset or group of assets listed in accordance with section 90(2) by the local authority; and

(b) any land or building owned by the local authority and required to maintain the local authority's capacity to provide affordable housing as part of its social policy."

Significant decisions in relation to strategic assets will be those decisions that affect the whole asset group and not individual components, unless that component substantially affects the ability of the Council to deliver the service.

It is the principle of provision of the service not individual roads, parks, etc., that make these asset groups strategic.

### **Groups of Strategic Assets:**

- Community Housing (Refer definition of strategic asset in s5 LGA)
- Road network, street-lighting,
- Wastewater networks and treatment plants in Ratana, Bulls Marton, Hunterville, Mangaweka and Taihape
- Water treatment, storage, and supply networks in Ratana, Bulls Marton, Hunterville, Mangaweka and Taihape
- Stormwater networks in Ratana, Bulls Marton, Hunterville, Mangaweka and Taihape
- Recreation facilities
- District libraries
- District Cemeteries

~~Any decisions relating to the maintenance of an asset in accordance with the Activity Management Plan are not considered significant decisions: they are the normal business of the Council.~~

**STATEMENT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF MĀORI  
CAPACITY TO CONTRIBUTE TO COUNCIL DECISION-  
MAKING POLICY**

<b>Policy Title:</b> STATEMENT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF MĀORI CAPACITY TO CONTRIBUTE TO COUNCIL DECISION-MAKING	
<b>Date of Adoption:</b> 9 March 2009	<b>Resolution for LTCCP:</b> 09/RDC/233
<b>Review Date:</b> none	
<b>Statutory reference for adoption:</b> Local Government Act 2002 schedule 10	
<b>Statutory reference for review:</b> none	
<b>Included in the LTCCP:</b> yes	
Date Amended or Reviewed	Resolution
<b>Included in the LTCCP draft 2009:</b> 9 March 2009	09/RDC/098
<b>Adopted in the LTCCP 2009:</b> 25 June 2009	09/RDC/233
<b><u>Included in the LTP draft 2012:</u></b> <u>Date to be confirmed</u>	Council resolution to be confirmed

**1. Introduction**

Clause 5 of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 requires that the Council outline any steps it might take to foster the development of Māori capacity building to contribute to its decision-making processes, over the period covered by this plan.

The key provision in the Local Government Act 2002 regarding the Council's relationship with Māori is section 81 which requires all councils to fulfil three primary tasks:

- a) Establish and maintain processes to provide opportunities for Māori to contribute to the decision-making processes of the local authority; and
- b) Consider ways in which it may foster the development of Māori capacity to contribute to the decision-making processes of the local authority; and
- c) Provide relevant documentation to Māori for the purposes of the above two paragraphs.

**2. The Memorandum of Understanding: Tutohinga**

The Memorandum of Understanding, initially signed in 1998, recognises the fundamental role of Iwi in the District and the essential partnership between Iwi and the Rangitikei District Council.

The Memorandum was subject to review during 2004, to bring it into line with legislative change that had occurred since its inception and to provide opportunity for further input from the signatory parties. Changes made included the recognition that Te Tiriti o Waitangi is the starting point for Iwi and Hapu to determine their relationship with the Crown, its agencies and the Rangitikei District Council; acknowledgement of the tino rangatiratanga of each signatory Iwi and Hapu, arising from their Mana Whenua, when speaking for their respective areas; the inclusion of a representative from the Ratana community<sup>4</sup>; not dissolving the Komiti after each triennial election but requiring notification within 3 months of each election, its recommended members, and incorporating a provision for development of capacity building in decision-making with specified roles for both partners.

Additionally, Te Roopu Ahi Kaa acknowledged that there would be an ongoing need for capacity building and that the Komiti would bring recommendations to the Council as the need arose. It was further recommended that Council should call upon Te Roopu Ahi Kaa for its capacity building [in respect of kaupapa Māori].

All parties committed to reviewing the Memorandum, of Understanding: Tutohinga at the same time as each Representation Review. This work will commence in August 2012.

### **3. Building on current strategies**

Following initial reporting to Te Roopu Ahi Kaa in July 2004, the Komiti recommended that an Induction Programme following the Elections be held for Komiti members and that they also contribute to the induction of new Council members. Following the 2007 elections, a session in the induction programme was provided for representatives of the Komiti to explain its role and outline some of its key issues.

To meet the obligations under s.81 of the Local Government 2002, the above processes have been translated into action in a variety of ways, but particularly through the development of a strategic plan for Te Roopu Ahi Kaa (first adopted in December 2006 and reviewed annually). This plan identifies a number of actions to achieve three goals – building stronger relationships between Council and Te Roopu Ahi Kaa, building stronger relationships between Council and Iwi, hapu, whanau and Māori communities, and building cultural awareness.

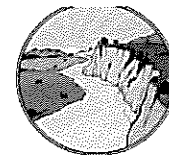
The Council and Te Roopu Ahi Kaa expect that the strategic plan will be the principal mechanism for consolidating and extending the engagement of Maori in Council's decision-making processes. Progress with the plan is reviewed at each bi-monthly meeting of the Komiti.

Reflecting the intention of the Memorandum of Understanding: Tutohinga, the Council and Te Roopu Ahi Kaa are committed to looking for more effective ways to ensure that Māori are well informed, have an ability to have input into processes and, when they do so, understand the reasons for the Council's response.

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<sup>4</sup> This Maori community also elects a Community Board at the triennial local government elections.

# ***Attachment 5***



**Rangitikei**  
UNUSUALLY...

# REPORT

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TO: Strategic Planning and Policy Committee

FROM: LTP Project Team

DATE: 18 October 2011

SUBJECT: **Update on 2012 -22 Long Term Plan (October 2011)**

FILE: 1-LTP-8

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## **1 Executive Summary**

1.1 This report is to provide an update to Councillors on progress with the 2012/22 Long Term Plan (LTP) project, particularly the work done on the asset management plans, the Path to Well-being conference and the Business and District promotion activity .

## **2 Background**

2.1 The accumulated background information is presented in the endnote to this report.

## **3 Current issues**

3.1 Councillors have met in workshop on 29 September and 13 October. The issues discussed were:

- Key strategic issues from the draft Asset Management Plans.
- Initial consideration of the review of the economic development plan commissioned, in the light of other activity particularly the work of the town co-ordinators and the youth employment and business support officer.
- Application of moving to a District-wide rate for water to Bulls ward. This will feed into further work<sup>1,2</sup> and is not discussed in this report.

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<sup>1</sup> Not least, the financial strategy has been included in the order paper for the Community Boards and Committees during the October meeting cycle. Feedback will be collated during late October.

<sup>2</sup> In addition, the Project Team had a pre-consultation meeting with Federated Farmers' regional president, Tim Matthews. Mr Matthews focussed on:

- Emphasising the review of the revenue and financing policy as the basis for the fairest attribution of benefit (and thus rates), in particular rural fire, civil defence, district promotion and water;
- Recommending a common approach with Wanganui and Ruapehu Districts in addressing impact on rural roads from logging operations;
- Suggesting consideration of the 'boxed differential' used by Wanganui District Council;
- Requesting reconsideration of the 'Southern Water Scheme'

- 3.2 In addition, a further draft of the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan was considered at Strategic Planning and Policy Committee on 29 September and approved for pre-consultation. The Plan has been put on the website and a summary of the waste minimisation activities included in the monthly communication.
- 3.3 The Project Team have reviewed the non-financial policies and the outcome is presented elsewhere on the Order Paper.
- 3.4 The Path to Well-being conference took place in Marton on 6 October and the theme groups will be undertaking follow up work during October and November.
- 3.5 Finally, a further communication has been prepared for the local media summarising the options for waste minimisation and the business and District promotion activities.

#### 4 Strategic issues for draft Asset Management Plans

- 4.1 Copies of the network utilities presentations are attached as Appendix 1. The key strategic issues for the asset management plans are summarised below.

Network utility and AMP driver:	Key issues
<p><b>Roading</b></p> <p>To maintain the roading network to current levels of smooth travel exposure</p>	<p>The overall condition of the network is good. The network has a smooth travel exposure of 97%. This may be difficult to maintain as long term financial subsidies are to remain stagnant (cost increases).</p> <p>Operating cost pressures including cost fluctuations for the second and third years of the three year NZTA funding round and unbudgeted expenditure for e.g. damage caused by forestry harvesting traffic and storm events resulting in emergency works expenditure being absorbed into fixed budgets.</p> <p>Decrease in the Financial Assistance Rate (FAR) from NZTA from 59% to 58% at the beginning of the 2012 – 2013 financial year.</p>
<p><b>Water</b></p> <p>To renew the current reticulation and treatment systems progressively to meet national quality standards in an affordable, rolling programme</p>	<p>Investment in network modelling of schemes to manage the asset on a performance basis rather than relying on age of asset data.</p> <p>Changing compliance requirements: some upgrade required for process water (backwash water) disposal</p>

	<p>for all schemes excluding Marton.</p> <p>Ratana Water Treatment Plant Upgrade to remedy existing deficiencies in water quality, filters, treatment and storage.</p> <p>Protection of source water catchments will be an issue for the next LTP.</p>
<p>Wastewater</p> <p>Aiming for compliance in an affordable and sustainable way.</p>	<p>Non-compliance with existing consents in all waste water treatment plants (WWTP): Taihape, Hunterville, Ratana, Bulls and Marton (in some cases significant non-compliance). In all cases working with Horizons to achieve consent compliance.</p> <p>Most WWTP consume large amounts of energy. More attention is being given to the selection of processes that conserve energy and resources</p> <p>Compliance issues of the majority of the septic tanks in Koitiata (an estimated 80% of the on-site systems are failing).</p>
<p>Stormwater</p> <p>To renew the current reticulation and treatment systems progressively to meet national quality standards in an affordable, rolling programme</p>	<p>Recent rainfall patterns testing capacity and capability of the existing system.</p> <p>Traditional stormwater management methods will be required to meet increasingly higher standards. (Proposed One Plan)</p> <p>Operating Costs – challenge to maintain existing levels of service on a set budget.</p> <p>The public expectations of levels of service increase with each heavy rainfall event.</p> <p>The public expectation that rural flooding events will be resolved by RDC (eg Koitiata &amp; Marton West flooding events).</p> <p>Clarification of areas of responsibility between RDC and Horizons responsibility (old catchment board responsibilities now rest with Horizons).</p>

4.2 In the Community and Leisure Assets area, asset management planning is being developed to take into account recent discussions over community housing and

community halls and buildings. Further work is required in the activities of parks and green spaces, swimming pools and cemeteries. A workshop is planned with Councillors for a later date.

## **5 Business and District promotion**

- 5.1 Council commissioned a review of its current economic development activities. The report was circulated without officer comment for information to Councillors. Initial officer advice was that the report provided useful background information but was unlikely to affect Council's existing view that there is very little that can be done at a District level to directly impact on macro-indicators such as Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) or the share of this GDP held by any particular sector.
- 5.2 Council activity in this area will continue to focus on providing "effective infrastructure and attractive towns that entice growth". This will be achieved by:
- Ensuring that the utility networks are developed and maintained to the standard required for economic and business development
  - Promoting the District as a place to visit and to live, by providing information for visitors and residents on a range of services, activities and attractions – through the information centres
  - Making grants to key stakeholder organisations such as the town coordinators and Rangitikei Tourism, to deliver to Council's agreed levels of service
  - Supporting events and activities that add to the vibrancy of its towns, for example, through the Community Initiatives Fund.

## **6 Community Partnerships – Path to Well-being**

- 6.1 The half day conference took place at Arahina Function Centre, Marton on 6 October with 115 delegates from 56 agencies and businesses attending. The aim of the discussions and workshops was to promote the well-being of the Rangitikei communities through more collaborative, inter-agency working. Delegates were welcomed with a whakatau from Ngāti Apā as the tangata whenua for the Marton rohe.
- 6.2 The Chief Executive gave a keynote speech outlining the background to the initiative and key achievements during the last 18 months. These included:
- Promotional website to help recruitment/grow the District
  - Community database of contacts available on-line
  - Professional development opportunities and mentoring
  - Most recently the Community Response Model initiative looking at the delivery of social services, initially focussing on family and community services
  - Rural Safety event focussing on men's health at Ratana
  - Supporting the Health Expo at the Marton Harvest Party

- Neighbourhood support extension to Taihape through an innovative collaboration between Rotary, Police, Maori Wardens and Older and Bolder
- Brought the Real New Zealand Festival to Rangitikei with events in our gateway towns of Taihape and Bulls, the lining of our main streets with flags and a project to divert motor homes off the state highways and into our main town of Marton
- Funding secured to ensure that all year 5, 6, 7 and 8 students across the District get free swimming lessons

6.3 Chris Shenton, Land Assets Co-ordinator for Te Runanga o Ngāti Apā, spoke as Chair of the Treasured Natural Environment theme group. He spoke about some of the challenges facing those interested in supporting and sustaining our natural environment, not least that sometimes the interests of different stakeholders can seem to be opposing. The theme group has identified the Rangitikei River as the focus for its initial project – a community-led River Forum to bring together all these disparate interests and try to understand how at a community level, all groups' aspirations can be met whilst protecting and enhancing this natural asset. The River Forum will have its inaugural meeting on 2 November at 5.30 pm at the Rangatira Golf Club.

6.4 Five workshops were repeated three times, providing delegates with the opportunity to attend three. The summaries presented in final plenary were:

- Lisa Cardosi, Lyttelton Timebank gave a Q and A session about Timebanks. Basically they are a database system whereby individuals within communities can exchange skills on an equitable time basis. Lisa outlined the benefits of timebanks – building personal confidence and community cohesion. She also outlined how the timebank can be used to mobilise a community based support network during emergencies. A hui of Timebanks will take place in Lyttelton next week<sup>3</sup> and representatives from two local initiatives, Project Marton and Project HYPE will attend to bring back ideas for the Rangitikei District.
- Lesley Leary, Rangitikei Tourism, shared with delegates recent moves from a co-ordinated group of agencies within the Rangitikei aimed at better promoting the District to outsiders. The workshop identified three key opportunities to be exploited: the amazing natural assets and landscapes, the wonderful educational facilities making Rangitikei a great place to raise a family and the opportunity to market the District and its many tourism operators more effectively.
- Debbie Priston, Manager of Manchester House Social Services, and her colleagues Tima and Sheryl from the Rural Outreach Service, talked about the positive impact of a regular face-to-face to prevent isolation and poor access to services affecting the well-being of rural people. The service used to

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<sup>3</sup> 14-16 October 2011

operate in the Rangitikei also and the conference expressed support for the notion of re-establishing it here.

- Elaine Reilly, Chief Executive of Vision Manawatu, talked through the early analysis of the Business Retention and Expansion survey undertaken by the Buoyant Economy Theme Group. Three support initiatives were mentioned, firstly the importance of opportunities for businesses to get together and network, secondly training and support to tackle business planning and skills shortages and thirdly, participation in regional business partnerships.
- Melissa White, Relationship Manager for the Ministry for Social Development led workshops on inter-agency collaboration with the emphasis on multi-service hubs or centres. Melissa had asked participants to put themselves in the shoes of a young person aged 15-25 to look at the difference that a youth centre could make to that person's life. The message was that inter-agency collaboration is not an end in itself but must always focus on the benefits to those who are receiving the services.

6.5 The next steps will be to take the notes from the day to the Partnership Board and the active theme groups for input into the Community Partnerships activity management plan for the draft LTP.

## **7 Recommendation**

7.1 That the report "Update on 2012 -22 Long Term Plan (October 2011)" be received.

Gaylene Prince  
Customer Services Team Leader  
LTP Project Manager

Denise Servante  
Senior Policy Analyst

Endnote:

- 1 In November 2010, Councillors held an away day to look at the urgent and important strategic issues for the District. Strategic Planning and Policy Committee confirmed these in early December 2010:
  - Aging (and surplus) infrastructure, particularly community assets and facilities;
  - Local health and educational services;
  - Green waste recycling;
  - Earthquake-prone buildings;
  - Attracting and retaining sustainable businesses in the District, and exploring innovative ways of doing business;
  - Applying technology to drive operational efficiencies and improved services to the community;
  - Rates affordability.
- 2 These (and other) issues were work-shopped with Community Boards, Community Committees and Te Roopu Ahi Kaa during March/April and reported upon during the June meeting cycle. No major new issues were raised. However, the importance of particular key projects within particular communities was highlighted.
- 3 In line with the process undertaken in developing the 2009-19 LTCCP, a programme of monthly workshops has been included in the elected members' meeting schedule from February 2011 onwards. Monthly reports have gone to Strategic Planning and Policy Committee which confirm decisions based on workshop input.
- 4 Workshops in February, March, April, June, July, August and September 2011 considered:
  - Projections from Statistics New Zealand around the changing demographics of the District, particularly focussing on a ten year vision for Rangitikei as a place for retirees and young people, and for the relationships between Council and iwi
  - Corporate Assumptions
  - The principles that would underpin a community engagement strategy for the current LTP
  - Providing guidance to staff for consultation over the Leisure and Community Assets Group of Activities and subsequently, for the group Activity Management Plan
  - Amendments to the Groups of Activities
  - Those activities where Levels of Service would remain unchanged and those where Levels of Service would be subject to wider consultation
  - The legislative requirements relating to the mandatory Financial Strategy and began to explore Councillors' preferences with respect to financial management principles
  - Options for consideration in the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan and subsequently a draft for pre-consultation

- Providing guidance to staff to prepare first and second drafts of a Financial Strategy
- Agreeing the details and budgets for pre-consultation around the major issues
- Reviewing the Revenue and Financing Policy, particularly looking at the split between general and targeted rates and initial models for a District-wide rates scheme for utilities
- Providing guidance to staff on the roading programme to be submitted to NZTA for 2012-15.

5 The Strategic Planning and Policy Committee confirmed the current set of six community outcomes to be adopted for the 2012-22 LTP planning cycle<sup>4</sup>.

6 A pre-consultation plan has been prepared in conjunction with the Community Boards and Committees for implementation during September and October.

7 Regular communications have been prepared for the local newspapers:

- A half-page introducing the LTP process and timeline, along with an advert for the Orlando's Focus Group (12 July)
- A half-page outlining progress against the previous LTCCP (20 July)
- A four-page spread outlining the key pre-consultation items and focussing on the leisure and community assets (8 August)
- A full-page spread outlining options in the roading and grants activities (13 September)

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<sup>4</sup>11/SPP/049